

Annual Report for the Town of Embden, Maine for the  
Fiscal Year of 2023



# Annual Report

2024 Annual Town Municipal Election held Friday,  
March 1st at the Embden Town Office

10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Open Town Meeting held Saturday March 2nd at the  
Embden Community Center 10 a.m.

# Town Information

We welcome all of the residents of Embden to attend and observe our annual Town meetings. In addition to the annual Town Meeting, held on March 2, 2023 this year, the Selectperson's and other Board meetings are an excellent way to witness how your representatives conduct Town business and the processes they use to make decisions that impact our community. All meetings are held at the Embden Town Office unless otherwise noted. For updates and other useful information, please check out the Embden Town website at [www.embden.maine.gov](http://www.embden.maine.gov).

## **Embden Town Town Meeting**

Saturday March 2, 2024

Beginning at 10am

Embden Community Center

## **Monthly Meetings:**

### **Select Board Meeting**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:15pm

### **Planning Board Meeting**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7pm

### **School Board Meeting**

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month

## **Town Business Hours:**

### **Select Board**

Thursday 5:30 – 6pm

### **Code Enforcement Officer**

Thursday 1 – 4pm (and by appointment)

### **Assessors**

Upon request

### **Town Office**

809 Embden Pond Road, Embden ME 04958  
Phone (207) 566-5551 Fax (207) 566-5553

Monday	9AM-4PM
Tuesday & Wednesday	9AM-4PM
Thursday	1PM-6PM
Friday	9AM-4PM

Closed on RSU #74 School Cancellation Days due to weather events.

## **Norridgewock Transfer Station**

(Available to all residents with a transfer sticker which can be obtained at no cost from the Town Clerk)

Sunday - Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	9:30am - 6pm
Thursday	9:30am - 6pm
Friday	9:30am - 6pm
Saturday	7:30am - 4pm

ANNUAL REPORT COMPILED BY:

Christine Sockwell, Town Clerk/Treasurer/Registrar of

Voters COVER PHOTO: Christine Sockwell / Mill Stream

COVER DESIGN: Sarah Craig



# In Honor Of Eleanor June Ketchum

Eleanor was born on June 18, 1930, in Bingham. Her mother was Marie Wentworth Ketchum Cross, and her father was Wilber Ketchum. Her stepfather was Willard "Buster" Cross.

On May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Eleanor passed away at her home, Wentworth Farm in Embden. She was ninety-two years old.

Eleanor loved animals. She grew up with work horses and dairy cows. She and her mother moved to Wentworth Farm at an early age to care for her grandmother. In the winter she would go with Buster to the woodlot in the morning with a team of horses. They would come back home for lunch, then go back to the woodlot for the afternoon. In the summer she would go with her Uncle James "Jimmy" McGrath to a small farm in Embden near the Solon Bridge. Uncle Jimmy was running a steam shovel digging the canal. At that farm was a pony that she would spend the day with.

In 1948 she graduated from Anson Academy. After that, Eleanor spent a short time in Wiscasset Aunt Emily Wentworth McGrath, Uncle Jimmy, and Cousin Jane McGrath. She then came back to Embden to spend the rest of her life.

Eleanor never married. She did enjoy babysitting for "the twins" Claude and Claudia Dutton. Later her cousin Jane had two boys John and Stephen. When they were young, they could not say "Eleanor", so she became "Nana". Most of the family called her "Nana" for the rest of her life. She enjoyed taking John and Stephen on road trips to Santa's Village, Story Land, and Six Gun City in New Hampshire.

For 36 years Eleanor worked for the Anson Stick Mill.

In 1997 Eleanor became the first E-911 Addressing Officer for the Town of Embden. She also served as the Embden Health Officer and was a member of the Embden Planning Board.

John Wentworth Smith



# Representatives to the State & Federal Government

## **Somerset County Commissioner**

Joel Stetkis  
41 Court Street  
Skowhegan, ME 04976  
(207)399-7801  
Email: [joelstetkis@outlook.com](mailto:joelstetkis@outlook.com)

## **Governor Janet T. Mills**

1 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 287-3531  
Fax (207) 287-1034  
Email: [governor@state.me.us](mailto:governor@state.me.us)

## **State Senate**

3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0003  
(207) 287-1540 or (800) 423-6900

## **State House of Representatives**

2 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1400 or (800) 423-2900

## **Maine State Senator**

Russell Black  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1505  
Email: [legislature.maine.gov/senate](mailto:legislature.maine.gov/senate)

## **Maine State Representative**

Larry Dunphy  
PO Box 331  
North Anson, ME 04958  
(207) 399-4963  
Email: [Skime2@tds.net](mailto:Skime2@tds.net)

## **U.S. Representative Dist. 2**

Jared Golden  
Washington D.C. Office  
1223 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-6306  
Website: <https://golden.house.gov/>

## **U.S. Senator Susan Collins**

Augusta Office  
68 Sewall Street, Room 507 Augusta,  
ME 04330  
(207) 622-8414  
Washington D.C. Office  
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202)224-2523  
Website: <https://www.collins.senate.gov/>





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

Dear Maine Resident:

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you,

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

Janet T. Mills  
Governor

SUSAN M. COLLINS  
MAINE

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

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
Vice Chair  
HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
LABOR, AND PENSIONS  
SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to serve the people of Maine in the U.S. Senate, and I welcome this opportunity to share an update on issues important to Maine and America.

One of my priorities for 2023 has been to improve the appropriations process in Congress – the way it decides how to spend taxpayer money. I took over as the Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee last year. Along with Chair Patty Murray, we decided the best change we could make was not to do something new. Instead, it was to do something old – that is, go back to the regular and transparent committee process that we used to have.

Part of restoring this process included holding 50 public Committee hearings, which allowed for input from senators on both sides of the aisle. As a result, for the first time in five years, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed all twelve of its funding bills on time. This was done with strong bipartisan support. In fact, seven of them passed unanimously.

Now, we need to work with the House of Representatives to pass these twelve bills and turn them into laws.

These bills contain funding for a wide range of Maine priorities, including support for the workforce at Bath Iron Works and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, our lobster industry, infrastructure improvements, affordable housing, biomedical research, veterans, and heating assistance programs like LIHEAP. These bills also contain nearly \$590 million in Congressionally Directed Spending for 231 projects throughout the State of Maine. These projects would help promote job creation, expand access to health care, and improve public safety, infrastructure, and important resources in communities across all 16 counties of our state. I will continue to work to get these bills signed into law in the new year.

On October 25, the horrific mass shooting in Lewiston claimed the lives of 18 Mainers and injured 13 others. In response, I led Maine's Congressional Delegation in requesting an independent investigation by the U.S. Army Inspector General into the events leading up to the shooting. On December 15, the Under Secretary of the Army wrote to inform me that such an investigation will take place, and the Army Inspector General has instructed her team to immediately begin preparing to conduct this investigation. While nothing can undo the events of October 25, I will continue to work to understand what happened and what could have been done differently, and to find answers for the victims, survivors, and their families.

No one works harder than the people of Maine, and this year I honored that work ethic when I cast my 8,855th consecutive roll call vote.

As we look ahead to 2024, I remain committed to addressing the concerns of Maine families and communities. If you need assistance or wish to share your thoughts, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of my six state offices.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1440  
TTY: (207) 287-4469

**Larry Dunphy**

PO Box 331  
North Anson, ME 04958  
Cell: (207) 399-4963  
[skime2@tds.net](mailto:skime2@tds.net)

January, 2024

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am honored by the opportunity to serve as your state representative for District 72 in the Maine House of Representatives for the 131st Legislature. The Second Regular Session of the Legislature got underway on January 3. Legislative committees are expected to debate approximately 635 bills this session.

In order for me to represent you, I encourage you to provide me your thoughts on all the issues that are important to you. Using the legislative homepage: [Legislature.Maine.Gov](http://Legislature.Maine.Gov) you can monitor all legislative proposals being worked on at the State House. From here you can browse bill summaries and roll call votes, view session and public hearing schedules, listen to committee hearings or watch live streaming video of the House and Senate. You can also access committee hearings via Zoom, where you can observe or testify on a bill

During this Session, I continue to serve on the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. As we all know, Maine's high energy costs are crushing household budgets and discouraging businesses from expanding or relocating to our state. I am committed to fighting for a state energy policy that works for all Mainers and will oppose all efforts to increase the price of energy.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as your elected representative. If you have an interest in receiving my regular e-newsletter updates, please send along your email address to [skime2@tds.net](mailto:skime2@tds.net) to be added to my distribution list. Also, please never hesitate to call me at **399-4963** to keep me updated on your questions and concerns. It is through your input that I can best represent the interests of our region in the Maine Legislature.

Again, thank you for providing me the honor of serving you in Augusta!

Respectfully,

Larry Dunphy  
State Representative



**Senator Russell Black**  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0003  
(207) 287-1505

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your State Senator. I am humbled by the trust you have placed in me to be a voice for you, your family, and our community in Augusta. I can assure you I will continue to work tirelessly on your behalf.

The First Regular and First Special Sessions of the 131<sup>st</sup> Maine State Legislature were notable as there were over 2,600 legislative bill requests and 2,019 of them were officially printed as Legislative Documents (LDs). No legislature this century has had as many LDs printed during its first year.

One area of success was in the Highway Fund. In the past, the Highway Fund has been supported through gasoline taxes, which have been declining for years due to more fuel-efficient and electric/hybrid vehicles, and bonding. However, we now have created a sustainable source of funding to maintain our transportation infrastructure. This is done by dedicating 40% of the 5.5% vehicle sales tax and 40% of the sales and use taxes collected by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. It is predicted to raise more than \$200 million for infrastructure each biennium.

The Second Regular Session will begin in January 2024. I am eager to discuss the issues important to all of you. I have heard from many of you regarding the biggest concerns you are facing, including increasing energy costs, child care, education, housing, inflation, child welfare, mental health and substance abuse, workforce development, and crime, among others. As your State Senator, I will continue to do all I can to advocate for your priorities in Augusta.

Again, thank you for electing me to serve you in the State Senate. The 131<sup>st</sup> Legislature has a great deal more work to do. However, I believe that if we come together, there is nothing we can't accomplish. Please feel free to contact me by calling (207) 287-1505 or emailing me at [russell.black@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:russell.black@legislature.maine.gov) if you have comments, questions or if you would like assistance in navigating our state's bureaucracy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Russell Black".

Russell Black  
State Senator





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

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. It's an honor to continue serving as your representative in Congress, and I take the responsibility very seriously. I appreciate the opportunity to update you on what I've been working on behalf of the people of the Second Congressional District.

Maine's heritage industries are the backbone of our state's economy. That is why one of the first bills I introduced in this Congress was the *Northeast Fisheries Heritage Protection Act*, which would prohibit commercial offshore wind energy development in Lobster Management Area 1 (LMA 1) in the Gulf of Maine. LMA 1 was identified by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) as a potential commercial offshore wind site. LMA 1 is a critical and highly productive fishing ground for a variety of sea life, including lobster. Prohibiting offshore wind development in LMA 1 would help to avoid conflict with the New England commercial and recreational fishing industries. Additionally, the bill would initiate a federal study on the environmental review processes of any relevant Federal agencies for offshore wind projects in the Gulf of Maine.

I also continue to advocate on behalf of our veterans and those providing care to our former service members. The current pay for VA employees in the Kennebec and Penobscot counties does not reflect the critical services they are providing. As the oldest state in the nation, with the fifth highest veteran population, Mainers rely on the services offered at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities. That's why recently, Senator Collins, Senator King, Representative Pingree, and I called on the Biden Administration to increase locality pay for VA employees in Kennebec and Penobscot counties. The level of care received is impacted by job vacancies, and the high turnover rate among its healthcare workforce is often the result of pay and compensation issues, which is further exacerbated by the increased cost of living.

Lastly, I'm excited that Mainers are continuing to reap the benefits of the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law* (BIL). Recently, millions of dollars in grants have been awarded across the state, including \$35 million through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Culvert Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) program to conserve spawning and migratory habitats for native fish species in Maine, \$460,000 through the Airport Infrastructure Grant (AIG) program for the Princeton Municipal Airport, Stephen A. Bean Municipal Airport, and Dexter Regional Airport, and nearly \$8 million through the Buses and Bus Facilities Program for Bangor's bus system. These investments are critical to ensuring Maine's infrastructure and will help to ensure Mainers and businesses across Maine are connected.

Regardless of the year, one of my top priorities is ensuring I'm accessible to you. My staff and I can help answer questions about and navigate federal programs; find resources in Maine; and resolve issues with Medicare, Social Security, the VA, and other federal agencies and programs. We are here to help:

- **Caribou Office:** 7 Hatch Drive, Suite 230, Caribou, ME 04736. Phone: (207) 492-6009
- **Lewiston Office:** 179 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, ME 04240. Phone: (207) 241-6767
- **Bangor Office:** 6 State Street, Suite 101, Bangor, ME 04401. Phone: (207) 249-7400

I look forward to building on momentum from recent legislative wins for Mainers and continuing to work on your behalf in 2024. Do not hesitate to reach out and voice an opinion on legislation, let us know about local events, or seek assistance navigating federal agencies or programs. It's an honor to represent you in Congress, and I wish you a healthy and prosperous year to come.

Respectfully,

Jared F. Golden  
Member of Congress

# Spirit of America Award 2024

Betty Pratt has always been a giver, so when something needed to be done, she did it, and she still does.

She is now retired from working in Education for 51 years. She taught gym at Skowhegan Middle School for 38 years, and at Oakland Middle School for 13 years where she taught students, one on one, for the in-school detention program. Betty's favorite job. She took care of her students who needed clothing by taking them shopping.

Betty's mom, a very independent woman, lived to be 100 years old. Betty did things for her mom, helped her mom when she was ill and was always there when she needed her. No doubt Betty is a very independent woman like her mom.

One of Betty's first experience's in Embden was to attend the Annual Town Meeting in the early 50's with her husband Dick. When they entered the Town Hall and sat down, she noticed all the men sat on one side and the women sat on the other side. Betty sat with her husband. There was a break for lunch and when they returned to the hall the men and women sat together. She and Dick started something new.

Betty has served the Town of Embden in many ways.

She was on the Select Board for two terms. While on the board she worked on the Rural Water District Committee, the SAD #74 District Reorganization Committee, and the town donation list.

She has been instrumental in the management and activities at the Embden Community Center. She serves on the Embden Community Club board as Vice President. She has been a sous chef at the monthly dinners, as well as one of the buyers of food for the dinners and the County Sundays. She also cooks and works the Country Sunday's. She is always the one to volunteer to be at an event if people using the center need the kitchen.

Betty is also a Ballot Clerk for all elections that take place in town.

She was very involved in the petition drive regarding the CMP Corridor as well as being a member of the Broadband Committee.

We can count on her to say it like it is and always being there to help! So, with that said, THANK YOU Betty for all you do for the citizens of Embden. Congratulations on receiving the Spirit of Amerca Award.

## Selectboard Letter

Greetings neighbors, reflecting on 2023, what a wild weather year? The likes of which the area has not seen in many years, if ever. That said, we need to tip our hats to our summer and winter public works contractors along with the supporting office staff, firefighters, and volunteers who helped keep the community members safe. Equally impressive, the follow-up efforts to bring the area back to normalcy after the storms. We are very fortunate to have such hard-working people. Great job Embden!

Now to the business content that you the inhabitant/taxpayer is or should be concerned with... We are presenting a relatively flat budget this year other than a few areas of identified staffing needs as well as some cost increases in our contracted services with other agencies, and contractors. Realizing these are out of our control, along with the increases at the County and School levels, our Board has presented what we feel is a responsible and transparent budget in this report. If there are any questions about the budget before the annual town meeting, please contact the Town Office, and one of us will follow up.

In conclusion, we are so very encouraged and thankful for things to come for our municipality. From the group of energetic parents who want to build the communities' youth offerings, to the Community Center's continued offerings, to the staff who has handled the growth of the town, and to the non-residents who support our town without having a considerable amount of influence but trusting us to do the right thing. We are truly blessed, Thank you!

Sincerely,

Town of Embden Selectboard



Janice Welch

# Elected & Appointed Town Roles

Elected Boards		Elected Officials	
<b>Board of Select Persons</b>		<b>Tax Collector</b>	
Charles Taylor, Chair	2025	Ruth Blake	2026
Wayne McLaughlin	2026		
Janice Welch	2024	<b>Road Commissioner</b>	
<b>Assessor</b>		Michael Witham	2024
Shirley Bartlett	2024	<b>Town Clerk/Treasurer</b>	
<b>RSU# 74 School Board</b>		Christine Sockwell	2024
Kevin Sousa, Jr	2025		
Eric Ewing	2024		
Robert Lightbody	2026		

## Appointed Boards

Planning Board		Board of Appeals	
Leo Mayo, Chair	2025	John Duff, Chair	2024
Ann Bridges, Secretary	2028	Mary Keenan	2024
Kelly Bragg	2026	Dale Mullin	2024
Myles Durkin	2024		
Randy Caldwell	2027		
Charles Pease, Alternate	2024		
Anthony Sparrow, Alternate	2024		

## Appointed Officials

Animal Control		E-911 Addressing	
Robin Wilkey	2024	Christine Sockwell	2024
<b>Registrar of Voters</b>		<b>General Assistance</b>	
Christine Sockwell	2025	Charles Taylor	2024
<b>Local Plumbing Inspector</b>		<b>Health Officer</b>	
Robert Lightbody	2024	Leo Mayo	2024
		<b>Code Enforcement</b>	
		Terriann Lamontagne	2024



# Town Clerk's Report

To the Citizens of Embden,

Statistics from 2023 for the Town of Embden:

## Sporting Licenses issued in 2023

Resident Superpack	4
Resident Hunting & Fishing Combo	19
Resident Hunting	2
Resident Fishing	13
Resident Archery Hunting	2
Nonresident Archery Hunting	1
1-Day Fishing	2
Nonresident 7-Day Fishing	1
Nonresident Season Fishing	5
Nonresident 15-Day Fishing	1
3-Day Fishing	2
Nonresident Hunting & Fishing Combo	3
Resident Bear Hunting	1
Migratory Waterfowl Upgrade Card	1
Spring/Fall Turkey	1
Saltwater Fishing Registry	2
Resident Over-70 Lifetime License	3

In 2023 Embden welcomed four "New Bundles of Joy"

Congratulations to the families!!!

Best wishes to the four couples that got married in 2023!!!!

Licensed dogs: 82

I am beginning my fifth year as Clerk/Treasurer/Registrar here in Embden. The time has gone so fast!!! I could not be happier. I love this town and am very honored to be part of it. This is not just a job for me, it has become part of who I am. Thank you to the residents of Embden for making this Town the special place it is!

With sincere gratitude,

Christine Sockwell

Clerk/Treasurer/Registrar

*In Memory of Embden Residents  
Who Passed in 2023*

Ainsworth, Douglas W.	72	10/26/2023
Caplin, Charles Thomas	53	09/19/2023
Clark, Barry Benedict	76	05/03/2023
Cookson, Richard K	67	03/12/2023
Dymond, Charles A.	75	08/05/2023
Graf, Pamela H	74	03/01/2023
Greene, Frederick H. Sr.	74	03/01/2023
Grover, Ronald	38	02/14/2023
Ketchum, Eleanor June	92	05/06/2023
MacLean, John T	95	06/14/2023
Rounds, Diane H.	90	01/26/2023
Soosman, Adam E.	54	01/04/2023
Stevens, Clayton R Jr	87	06/11/2023
Witham, Ellery G.	75	03/08/2023



# Tax Collector's Report

Dear Taxpayers and Residents of Embden,

As you all know, we changed to an annual tax payment, what you might not know is, it worked out well for most of you. Many have said they like it because one payment is easier, and they do not have to remember the second payment. A few were caught off guard and thought they had more time to pay the taxes. Overall, it has been a success for collecting more tax money efficiently and sooner. As of January 25, 2024, ninety six percent has been collected for the 2023 commitment of \$3,388,106.66, more money than in past years at this time.

If you are late paying your taxes please send extra money for the interest, because interest automatically accrues daily. If the amount you send is more than the amount due, it will go towards your next year taxes. If you would like to know the exact amount, please call the office. I can also give you the amount due for any postmark date you choose.

Embden has many new residents. While some have owned their properties for years and have decided to improve them and retire here, others have moved here because they experienced or heard good things about Embden. This influx of residents has brought many new registrations of vehicles, snowmobiles, ATVs, and boats, bringing more excise and agent fee money to the town.

I want to remind you that I would like your phone number and/or your email information to put in the computer system, in case I or anyone in the office needs to contact you.

One thing I tell you every year is, "I love my job!" It is because of all the wonderful fun caring people of Embden, the great people in the office I work with, and all the nice support people I talk to on the phone from the state and business entities. I also very much enjoy the challenge of my job as Tax Collector.

Thank you everyone. I promise I will always do my best for you!

My warmest regards,  
Ruth  
Embden Tax Collector



# 2023 Tax Assessor's Report

## ASSESSMENTS:

COUNTY TAX	\$602,379.14
MUNICIPAL APPROPRIATION	\$1,370,276.00
EDUCATIONAL APPROPRIATION	\$1,943,356.00
OVERLAY	(\$165,003.20)
<b>TOTAL ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>\$3,751,007.94</b>

## DEDUCTIONS:

STATE REVENUE SHARING	\$130,920.13
HOMESTEAD REIMBURSEMENTS	\$67,666.33
BETE REMBURSEMENTS	\$16,107.22
OTHER REVENUES	\$478,214.00
<b>TOTAL DEDUCTIONS</b>	<b>\$692,907.68</b>

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<b>TOTAL ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>\$3,058,100.26</b>
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To the Residents of Embden,

I want to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as your Assessor. I have enjoyed working with the Select Board, ladies in the town office, residents, and taxpayers.

The Maine Legislature provides Property Tax Relief through many different programs. The applications, instructions, and other information regarding property tax relief can be found on the State of Maine Revenue Services website. Applications are also located in the town office.

**All applications MUST be received by April 1<sup>st</sup> to take effect in 2024.** Also, please inform the assessing office by April 1<sup>st</sup> of any changes to the buildings on your property since last year.

Respectfully,

Shirley Bartlett, CMA  
Embden Assessor



# Road Commissioners Report

## **Residents and Taxpayers of Embden,**

As your Road Commissioner, it has been an honor to continue serving my hometown throughout the year of 2023. I want to thank the Select Board, Town Clerk, and all sub-contractors for their continued assistance this year.

We had a busy year in 2023, starting out with sweeping and grading of the town roads. The Williams' Hill portion of the Moulton Road was repaved, as well as the end of the Bert Berry Road heading to the Concord town line. Late in the season we were also able to resurface the existing paved portion of the Dunbar Hill Road.

Many resident culverts were replaced over the summer, allowing for better water flow on many town roads. Ditching was also started on the East Shore Road and the Concord Corner Road in July.

It has been a tremendous year for weather impactation in our area. In May, we suffered from heavy rain, flooding, and winds that allowed FEMA to assist us with road repair. In December, we had a catastrophic weather event that affected our state, fortunately for our town we were less affected than other surrounding areas. We spent the week repairing numerous washouts and removing tree debris throughout the town.

In 2024, we will be focusing on paving the Barron Road, which has not been repaved in over 20 years. We will also be focusing efforts to finish repairing a portion of the East Shore Road.

I want to thank you again for letting me serve the town this past year, and I look forward to serving you in 2024.

Sincerely,  
Michael E. Witham  
Town Road Commissioner



## Road Commissioner's Financial Report

<b>Payroll</b>	Michael Witham	<b>\$8,576.98</b>
	Charles Taylor/FEMA	<b>\$250.00</b>
	Christine Sockwell/FEMA	<b>\$250.00</b>
	FICA/Medicare	<b>\$694.00</b>
<b>Hot Top</b>	Mattingly Products	<b>\$182.32</b>
<b>Cold Top</b>	The EZ Street Company	<b>\$1,126.00</b>
<b>Culverts</b>	Ware-Butler	<b>\$25,364.24</b>
<b>Gravel</b>	Michael Witham d.b.a.	<b>\$70,705.00</b>
	Charles Nickerson	<b>\$16,189.80</b>
	William Redmond Trucking	<b>\$2,256.76</b>
<b>Hay</b>	Michael Witham d.b.a.	<b>\$1,330.00</b>
<b>Equipment Rental</b>	Eagle Rental	<b>\$2,663.92</b>
	Eric Creamer	<b>\$400.00</b>
	Skowhegan Equipment and Tool	<b>\$713.00</b>
<b>Calcium</b>	Paris Farmer	<b>\$6,780.00</b>
<b>Contracts</b>	Michael Witham d.b.a.	<b>\$133,328.06</b>
	Belanger Tree Care	<b>\$6,170.00</b>
	Roderick Trucking	<b>\$9,920.00</b>
	Shelden Brown	<b>\$2,850.00</b>
	Fine Line Paving	<b><u>\$125,237.00</u></b>
		<b>\$414,987.45</b>

# Town Of Embden

## PLACING/PLOWING SNOW INTO OR ACROSS TOWN WAYS & TOWN MAILBOX POLICY

Its wintertime and many people are occupied with issues related to snow removal. The large volume of snow recently fallen can present problems for homeowners as they try to clear their driveways. The Town of Embden is concerned with preventing and removing obstructions, such as snow, from accumulating on town ways. In fact, a number of statutes provide for the town to deal with obstructions.

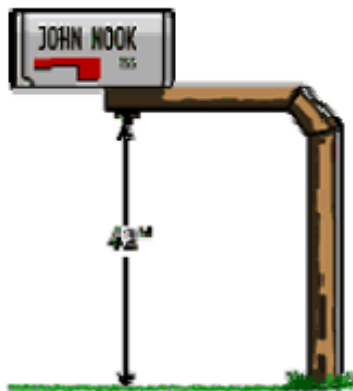
(Title 29-A: Motor Vehicles, Chapter 21, Subchapter III: Protections of Ways §2396 **prohibits any person from placing in the public way snow or slush that has not accumulated there naturally.** A violation of this section and 29-A M.R.S.A. §103 and §104 state that the exclusive penalty for which is a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$500, suspension of a license, or both.)

**Please do not shovel, blow snow, or have your driveway plowed into or across the road. This is prohibited by law and can cause serious traffic hazards. If possible, it is best to place snow on the side of your driveway opposite (i.e., downstream from) the direction traveled by the plow. Snow on that side of your driveway will be carried by the plow away from your driveway rather than back into your driveway.**

Broken mailbox posts may happen during a snow storm, even though our plow drivers take all precautions to avoid striking them with the wing of the plow.

*Some tips on placement of mailboxes that will help to minimize the chance of damage:*

- Place reflective material on the side of the box visible to approaching traffic, also, 4” high letters to identify the address is recommended to assist emergency vehicles.
- Mailbox post size must not exceed 4” by 4” for a wooden post or 2” diameter for a steel pipe post for roadside barrier safety. Posts that are more substantial in construction are considered “deadly fixed objects” and are not permitted within the Town Way.



Mailbox to have 42 inch ground clearance

- Mailboxes should be installed at least 42 inches high to provide clearance for the plow wing as shown in the above picture. We recommend the use of an extended arm type of post with a free-swinging suspended mailbox as also shown on the above picture. This allows snowplows to sweep near or under boxes without damage to supports and provides easy access to the boxes by carrier and customers.



Locate mailbox on side of driveway away from approaching traffic

- Above you will find a sketch showing the recommended location for your mailbox. Placing the mailbox on the side of your driveway away from approaching traffic will allow our driver to properly clear the roadway and to get as close as possible to your mailbox to minimize the amount of shoveling you will have to do to clear the mailbox for the postal carrier.
- For uncurbed roadways set the mailbox back at the far edge of the road shoulder to provide the maximum possible roadway clearance. For curbed roads the face of the mailbox should be 8-12 inches back from the curb face.

Your participation and cooperation in complying with the above will be greatly appreciated by your rural carrier, postal service and the Town of Embden. If you have any questions, please call the Embden Town Office at 566-5551.



# Code Enforcement Report

Greetings Residents and Taxpayers:

I would like to thank everyone for a wonderful year. Serving the Town of Embden has been a pleasure.

This year has been the busiest year yet. Please come and see the Code Enforcement Officer before you start building anything. You may need additional permits along with a building permit. All shoreland projects will require a permit. I am in the office on Thursdays from 1 to 4pm. The rest of the time is spent out in the community.

It has been a pleasure serving the fine folks of Embden!

Respectfully,

Terri Lamontagne, CEO



# General Assistance Report

During the Calendar year, Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2023, the Town of Embden had three General Assistance applications. The results of those applications are as follows:

Case #001-2023: Kerosene/Heating.....\$589.00

Case #002-2023: DNQ

Case #003-2023: Burial Expenses.....\$1,025.00

Total GA expended in 2023.....\$1,614.00

70% DHHS reimbursement to the Town of Embden.....(\$1,129.80)

Total expenditure from Surplus.....\$484.20

\*The Town also received \$355.60 additional funding from DHHS in November of 2023 based on State Fiscal Year 2022 expenditures.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles E. Taylor

General Assistance Officer



## **E-911 Addressing Report**

In 2023 we spent a total of \$541.45 purchasing road signs and the brackets. Since we have a problem with road signs be disappearing, we decided to start selling one-sided Katie Crotch Rd and Embden Pond Rd signs. The plan is to help offset the cost of replacing signs. It has worked!! We made a profit of \$10.00 per sign. In 2023 we sold 35 signs. That is \$350.00 we were able to put back into the budget!!!!

Come on by if you need a unique gift for someone or maybe yourself!!

Christine Sockwell

## **Local Plumbing Inspector Report**

It was an average year for issuing and inspecting Plumbing and Septic Systems.

With new sales and building additions, properties were in need of expanding their leach fields to accommodate the extra use. I would like to thank everyone for their cooperation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leo Mayo LPI #1009

## **Board of Appeals Report**

During 2023 there were two requests for variances within the shoreland zone brought to the Appeals Board. Both requests were denied as neither could meet the “undue hardship” criteria of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance 16 H (2) (c) (ii). The following served as board members:

Mary Keenan      566-0631

Dale Mullin      635-3385

John Duff      566-5722

Update training is planned for 2024 members.

Chairman,

John Duff

## 2023 Embden Planning Board Report

Once again, the Planning Board has had a busy year. The Board reviewed and issued 44 permits for the construction of residences, garages, repairs, renovations and additions to existing buildings, replanting of vegetation and driveway construction. The Board also approved one subdivision bordering the Fahi Pond Road and Eames Road. There were two (2) "After the Fact" permits. Since the first of the year, the CEO to issue permits outside of the shoreland zone relieving a great deal of pressure off the Board.

In January, 2023 the Board undertook the task of drafting an amendment to the Embden Shoreland Zoning Ordinance dealing with docks. At the March town meeting the town approved the following amendment **Section C.(1) as follows: No permit is required for a temporary dock benefitting a single-family residential parcel.**

The Planning Board was also given the task of drafting an amendment to the Embden Shoreland Zoning Ordinance dealing with large dock systems and an ordinance for solar arrays. Drafts have been submitted to the Selectboard for their action.

Please remember that before you start **any** construction, you should contact the Code Enforcement Officer to see if a building permit is required, **especially if construction is within 250 feet of a body of water.** Any construction within the town that is over 200 sq. feet requires a building permit.

Please be sure when submitting an application to Terri Lamontagne, Code Enforcement Officer, that all the requirements have been submitted with the application with the appropriate filing fee, and the required number of copies of the application. **Pictures of the site involved are required with all applications.** If you have owned the property less than two years, a copy of your recorded deed **must** accompany the application. An incomplete application only delays the process. Once again, this year, the Board had to hold multiple meetings due to lack of and/or inaccurate information and measurements on several applications. Once Ms. Lamontagne has completed the site review, she will submit the application with attachments at the Board's next meeting.

**An application must be received by the CEO or the Town Clerk by the last Thursday of the month in order to be considered at the following month's Planning Board meeting.**

Board members and terms are:

Leo Mayo, Chairman	March, 2025
Kelly Bragg	March, 2026
Randy Caldwell	March, 2027
Ann Bridges, Secretary	March, 2028
Myles Durkin	March, 2024
Anthony Sparrow, alternate	March, 2024
Charles Pease, alternate	March, 2024

Planning Board meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Embden Town Office.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Ann C. Bridges*  
Ann C. Bridges, Secretary



## Embden Travelers Snowmobile Club

Find us on Facebook

The Embden Travelers Snowmobile Club was created to provide recreation, enjoyment, and entertainment for the residents of Embden and others when using the snowmobile trails. The organization consists of volunteers that build and maintain all that is necessary to support this non-profit activity this year consisting of 35 miles of trails. In support of this effort, the Club thanks the residents of Embden for approving the monetary support of this organization. The ETSC is usually supported annually by a state grant, family and business memberships, as well as donations and fund raisers. These funds are used to build and repair bridges, and to fuel and maintain our equipment. Our trail system provides access to North New Portland, Pleasant Ridge and the Interconnecting Trail to Solon and North Anson leading to the 14,000 miles of trails in the State.

At the time of this writing (January 15, 2024) Embden Pond may be frozen over, but it can't be very thick. I'm not testing it. The extreme weather issues caused by snow, rain and varied temperatures caused flooding conditions multiple times that have not been seen for decades. I estimate the water level in Embden Pond was 29" above the dam on December 19<sup>th</sup>! The challenges posed by trail and bridge washouts lingers. We thank those that have volunteered on the trails this fall and early winter. The last flood damaged bridge is being repaired on the trail around Sandy Pond at this time. There are minimum logging operations, and all trails should be passable and marked, given serviceable snow. The current cold temperatures and snow squalls should provide a new base for the trail system. Please ride, glide, slide and shoe with caution and respect. We are looking forward to the annual Snow Fest with the Embden Pond Association on February 17th.

Normally, we have a potluck the third Saturday in October, the second Saturday of December and meet as necessary January through April. Membership (\$30.00/family) is open to everyone. Contact Membership chairperson Amy Champany (566-5097) or, Vice President John Duff (566-5722) for an application.

It is with great respect that the ETSC extends appreciation to the landowners of Embden, Concord Township and North Anson who grant us permission for the use of their land for the purpose of snowmobiling. Without their support, the activity would not be enjoyed locally.

John Duff, Embden Travelers S. C.

## Embden Travelers Snowmobile Club



## Embden Historical Society Report -- 2023

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

The Town House was cleaned May 8 (inside along with the grounds) as is done annually. This year minor repairs were done to the building. The north wall was scraped and painted together with touch-up of the east wall, all thanks to John Bigelow.

Our \$1,000.00 Scholarship was awarded in June to Hunter Souza who was very appreciative. The actual funds are not dispersed until January when the recipient completes the first semester and provides satisfactory grades to the Historical Society. *Scholarship guidelines: Any Embden resident who is graduating or has graduated from high school, is eligible to apply. Priority consideration is given to students who are pursuing a career in the "helping professions". Fields such as, but not limited to medicine, health care, education, social work, law enforcement, counseling, clergy, public administration, and non-profit positions.*

In November we received an anonymous donation of \$2,000.00 to be applied to the Scholarship fund. That is a very gracious donation, and we would like to give that person(s) credit as it is surely appreciated.

Two brothers from Washington State and Virginia had been actively searching for and have located an 1800's Spaulding ancestor in Embden. They have donated a significant sum of money to the Embden Historical Society in order to digitize several of Embden's early town record ledgers that will eventually be searchable. This is a huge gift and benefit to the town!

Thanks to the conscientious efforts of John Bigelow, 15 of Embden's cemeteries were cleaned, weed wacked and mowed 3 times a year prior to the holiday weekends.

This year he installed a fence at the Chick Cemetery, fixed fence posts at Pleasantdale and Ayer Cemeteries, cleared the brush alongside the Cragin Cemetery and improved the access at the Moulton Cemetery. The Berry, Hodgdon, Cragin and Pierce-Purinton cemeteries are maintained by volunteers.

The fence of the Wells plot at the Hodgdon Cemetery was straightened and new iron rods were installed and painted.

We toured the Hodgdon, Pleasantdale and Thompson Cemeteries. We scheduled 2 workdays at the Thompson Cemetery. Stones were straightened, brush was cut, and trees were removed adjacent to the cemetery.

Albert Stehle has been repairing gravestones in town cemeteries piece-meal over the last several years. This year he finished work at the Pleasantdale Cemetery. He repaired stones at Thompson and Ayer Cemeteries also and is going to repair stones at the Moulton Cemetery.

Landowners have been very cooperative approving access to the cemeteries and allowing us to cut trees.

The Society had 71 paid members and 1 honorary member. Please feel free to attend as many of the programs that interest you. If you would like to join the Society, please mail dues of \$5.00 per person to: Bob Donovan, 547 Dunbar Hill Road, Embden, ME 04958.

**2024 schedule:** (Meetings at 6:30 p.m.; Program at 7:00) at the Embden Town House:

May 9, 2024 (Rain Date: May 10): Clean Town House and Grounds

June 10, 2024: Downeast Genius: Why Maine Had So Many Inventors By: Earl Smith



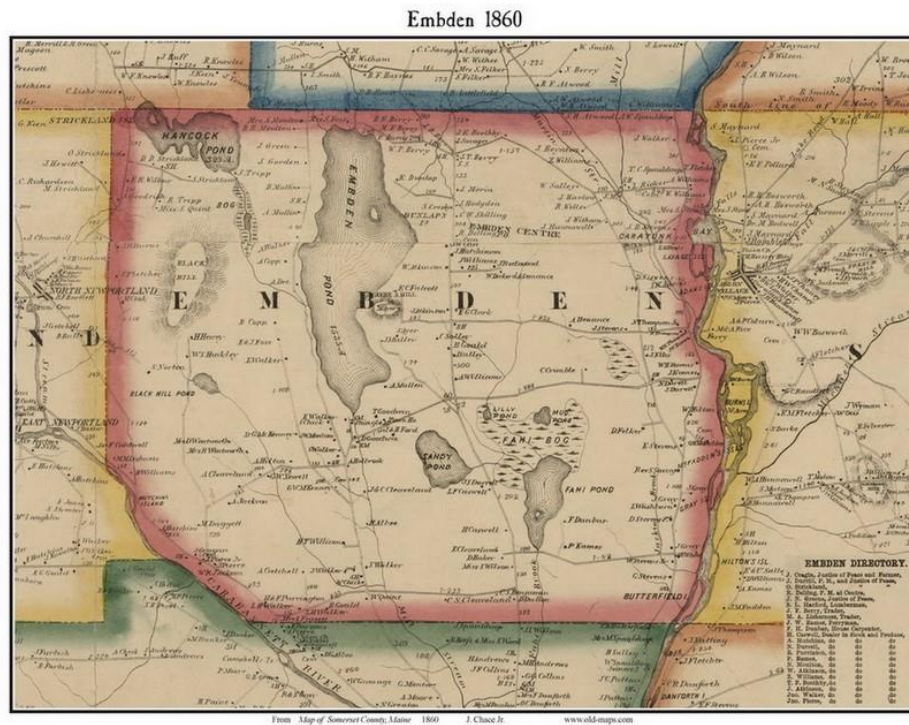
# Embden Historical Society Report -- 2023

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

- June 24, 2024 at 1:00: Tour some of Embden's 19 cemeteries By: Bob Donovan  
July 8, 2024: Forestry Diseases, Burls & Birds Eye Maple, etc. By: Jim Ferrante  
Aug. 12, 2024: Willi Irish in Character as Mercy Lovejoy, 19<sup>th</sup> Century Pauper  
(Donations accepted for the Washburn-Norlands Living History Center in Livermore.)  
Aug. 16, 2024 at 8:00 at Town House: Cemetery Headstone Workday  
Sept. 9, 2024 Women on Arnold's March By: Sara Donovan  
Sept. 13, 2024 at 8:00 at Town House: Cut trees at a cemetery lead by Bob Donovan  
Sept. 23, 2024 at 7:00 at Embden Community Center: Executive Committee meeting to line up speakers for 2025  
Oct. 14, 2024: Woodsman's Tools of Yesteryear By: Larry Witham & Jeff McAllister  
Nov. 11, 2024: Harvest Fest (Potluck)

Carol Dolan, President

612-8887 or [mcdolan@roadrunner.com](mailto:mcdolan@roadrunner.com)



## 2023 Boston Post Cane



The Embden Historical Society proudly presented the Boston Post Cane to J. Alden Stevens on July 23, 2023 at the Embden Town House with 15 members, friends and family in attendance.

Alden was born in 1930 in Skowhegan to Lester and Alice (Getchell) Stevens. In 1960 he married Hilma Peary and they had 5 children: Robert, Penny, L.G., Lisa and Lory. Alden has lived in Embden since 1960 and has been on the Assessor Board and was a Selectman. He worked for Foss Buildings of Athens, did carpentry with Taisto Maki and run concrete for Frank Bedard. He enjoys fishing at Rock Pond and the many friends he has made there.

In 1908 Edwin A. Grozier, Publisher of the Boston Post newspaper, gave over 700 canes to the New England States, excluding Connecticut as the Post did not circulate in that state. Of the 700 canes, there were 431 towns in Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts that had them. The canes were made of ebony with a gold band to be presented to the oldest living resident in the respective towns. This was in part to boost the sales of the newspaper. (Not every town received them, so we can be proud that Embden did!) Some reports say that it was intended to be given only to men. The Embden Historical Society reviewed the practice to honor the oldest resident without respect to sex.

The original cane for Embden was lost over the years, however the Embden Historical Society arranged to have a replica constructed in 2000.

For more information or if you'd like to be put on the monthly email of upcoming meetings, please contact...

Carol Dolan, President  
612-8887 or [mcdolan@roadrunner.com](mailto:mcdolan@roadrunner.com)



# The Embden Community Center

Shockingly another year has come and gone. Many things are occurring at the Embden Community Center and things are always changing.

The Thrift Store has helped several families who lost their homes through fire or flood. Connie and Pam invited those people to come to the store and get anything they needed for free. The rest of our patrons enjoy going through the store and interacting with the lovely ladies who donate their time and energy making it a pleasant experience.

The sewing group enjoys the companionship of being together and making things for themselves as well as donating to groups in need. If your interested in a new hobby join the fun on Wednesday morning.

Country Sunday is on the second and the 4<sup>th</sup> of each month. Dave and Leah Mayo have built up a large following of both musicians and supporters. The audience will sing along at times, while others love to dance to the old-time music. Often the stage is overflowing with musicians! All have commented on the heat pumps that were installed last year, they helps keep the heat more consistent during the winter, and cooler during the summer.

The Yoga groups meet several times a week. If you are not sure which group to join Cyndia can guide you.

Beth Agren has been working in the library and making it easy to find just what you are looking for.

The food cupboard is small but mighty. It has aided many and is strictly a volunteer project. Many who come in for different activities drop of food. If you have extra in your pantry, please think about donating. The food cupboard is open whenever the Embden Community Center is open.

This year Larry Witham, our community dinner chef of twelve years has decided to hang up his apron. Our loss will be great. An entrée, veggie, bread, dessert, and drink for just ten dollars allow many to come for fine dining. Bruce and Ruth will still be doing the steak tip dinner that everyone raves about. Helpers Lois, Charlie, Mary, Rita, Parker, Amy, and Betty will pick up the slack while looking for a new chef. Are you interested????

Wayne McLaughlin is the president of the Embden Community Center Club. He is always ready to book the space for the occasions our citizen's request, receptions, weddings, family gatherings, and memorial services to mention a few. Wayne is always ready to help set up the gym for different activities. He checks the center almost daily to keep things in working order.

If you are interested in being a volunteer for any events, please get in touch with Wayne.

Enjoy this new year, and we hope to see you at our events.



## Embden Pond Association Report

Mother nature sure had some fun with us this year. She deprived us of sunny warm days and delivered multiple rain and wind events. The Embden Pond community saw its share of devastation. High water levels beyond what has been seen in many years, if at all, brought damage to the shoreline properties and caused erosion making our crystal-clear water murky. Folks had damage to docks and water everywhere, including basements. At one point the water level was 25.5 inches over the dam. The winter of 2023 was not much better with little snow and warmer than usual temperatures. The shoreline community is a strong and resilient bunch, and we made the best of a bad situation. Neighbors helping neighbors is what we do.

On the bright side we did have a few successes with two of our newly formed programs. Our Lake Smart program got off to a great start with several property inspections. This program offers lake owners a free lakeside inspection to offer guidance on shoreline management that would decrease run off while maintaining native plants. This program is one the State of Maine offers to help improve the quality of Maine's lakes. Embden Pond has always been ranked extremely high in water quality and instituting this program will keep us one of the cleanest lakes in Maine. The second new program started this year was our Courtesy Boat Inspection. Volunteers and paid helpers at the public boat launch inspected every boat entering the lake looking for invasive plants that have hitched a ride from other lakes. Boats, trailers, and live wells were inspected to be sure nothing got in our lake that could cause harm. Embden Pond is invasive plant free, and we want to keep it that way.

I know myself and this entire community is looking forward to 2024 to set new records for great weather, health, and fun on Embden Pond.

Ernie Falcone



# Embden Pond Association Report





# Madison Library



To the Citizens of Madison:

The library was busy, as always. Story times, book clubs and summer programs were all well attended. Library checkout totals were consistent with recent years. Total checkouts for 2023 were as follows:

Print books	12,010 (-1404)
Ebooks	1,508 (-285)
Digital audiobooks	795 (+139)
Total	14,313 (-1550)

These totals illustrate that while actual usage dipped a bit for print and ebooks, audiobook usage increased, probably because people were back on the road, having adventures, bringing their books with them.

We hosted two summer programs, one for elementary school children, the other a junior readers book club. Average attendance for the younger group was 31 people—21 children and 10 adults—with 5-6 middle schoolers attending book club each week. Attendance for the younger group increased, while the book club held steady.

Story time continued to be offered every Tuesday at 10AM. Average attendance for story time was 3 children and 2 adults. Life is busy. Many different families attend when they can; not every family attends every week. All children are welcome but stories are geared toward ages 3-8.

The Madison Christmas Celebration was held on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. We gave out books and gift bags to children during regular business hours; all 100 bags we had prepared were gone by 11:30AM! We made up 25 more and they were soon gone as well. Then, we gave out bookmarks, candy and book sale books! In all, over 200 children and their families visited the library. Many families took photos in front of our Christmas tree and visited the children's room. Four new cards were issued and scores of books were checked out. Success!

After waiting out the winter, the dome restoration project began with the removal of the windows on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Exterior dome restoration began on September 5<sup>th</sup>, and the windows were reinstalled later in October. The work was beautifully done, to National Park Standards, as is necessary since the library is on the National Register of Historic Places. The library has been here for over a century; here's to another 100 years!

We have a very generous community. As always, my thanks to the patrons and taxpayers of Madison, Anson, North Anson, Starks, and Embden and to our trustees. Your generous financial support and timely advice is much appreciated, especially during the many challenges we have all faced these past few years.

## **Business hours are as follows:**

<b>Monday through Friday</b>	<b>9AM – 5:30PM</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9AM – 2:00PM</b>

Rest assured, we will continue to provide library services—in whatever forms they may take—to the people of Madison and its surrounding towns. We serve the community of readers!

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Forbus  
Head Librarian

Stewart Public Library  
37 Elm Street  
P.O. Box 177  
North Anson, Maine 04958  
635-3212

Website: [www.stewartpub.lib.me.us](http://www.stewartpub.lib.me.us)  
Email: [stewpub1@gmail.com](mailto:stewpub1@gmail.com)  
Facebook: [facebook.com@libnansonme](https://facebook.com/libnansonme)



Stewart Public Library (SPL) is an all-volunteer, full-service local library with 501(c)3 status. Serving Anson and Embden residents and all R.S.U. #74 students, the collection of books, audiobooks, CDs and DVDs are available for two-week lending periods. Public computers are available during open hours. Library hours are posted on the portable sign, on the website and the Facebook page. Wi-Fi is available 24/7. A large selection of large print books are available.

The website had 4,328 visits from 2,696 unique visitors. SPL had \$9,500 from towns, \$7,481 in donations for income, plus donations for the building fund. This year's Book Sale was held on the last Saturday of June at the Carrabec High School lunch room. We contributed financial booklets from Money Monsters to CCS summer program. Our expenses totaled \$14,008. Volunteers worked over 750 hours; if paid at minimum wage would equate to another \$10,350 in expenses. The value of the library usage calculates to \$18,947. Statistics for all Maine libraries can be accessed by Googling 'Maine Library Annual Report Statistics.'

2023 Desk Volunteers: Glenna Blazic, Betsy Burpee, Alyson Duff, Kathy Falcone, Angela Larlee, and Emily Quint. A sincere thank you for your dedicated service! Volunteers Glenna Blazic, Betsy Burpee, John & Alyson Duff, Pam & Eric Ewing, Jeff & Matthew Ladd, Angela Larlee, Angela, Jeanne Moore; Mitchell, Emily, Scott & Shannon Quint; Trevor Russell, Beverly Tripp served on special projects. Thank you to Cory Partridge and Randy Caldwell for their help during the power outage. A special thanks to all the individuals who donated their time, money, services and books. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,  
Stewart Public Library  
Emily Quint, Volunteer Librarian/Director  
Mitchell Quint, Pres., Stewart Library Association



**SECRET BALLOT ELECTION**

**Friday, March 1, 2024**

**And**

**TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

**Saturday, March 2, 2024**

To Ernest Falcone, resident of the Town of Embden, in the County of Somerset, State of Maine,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the town of Embden in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Embden Town Office in said town on Friday, the 1st day of March, A.D. 2024, at nine and forty-five o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Article 2 as set out below, the polling hours therefore to be from ten o'clock in the forenoon until six o'clock in the evening;

And, to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at the Embden Community Center in said town on Saturday, the 2nd day of March 2024 A.D., at ten o'clock in the morning, then and there to act on Articles 3 through 39 as set out below, to wit:

**Article 1:** To elect a moderator, all municipal officers, and school committee members are required to be elected.

**Article 2:** To elect municipal officers and school committee members as are required to be elected.

Nominated Candidates:

Selectman, three-year term: Jan Welch

Selectman, three-year term: Carroll Chapman

Town Clerk/Treasurer: Christine Sockwell

Road Commissioner, one-year term: Michael Witham

RSU #74 School Board Director, three-year term: Eric Ewing

**Article 3:** To see if the Inhabitants will accept the following tax assessment and collection related questions:

A. To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Tax Collector and Treasurer to apply any property tax overpayment of less than \$50 to that person's next year's property taxes.

B. To see if the Inhabitants will vote to authorize citizens to pay their property taxes in one installment, due and payable 45 days after commitment or by September 15, 2024, whichever comes first and to charge interest at the rate of 8.5% per annum on unpaid balances after due date.

C. To see if the Inhabitants will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506 and pay 0% interest on these prepaid taxes.

D. To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate from overlay to pay tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year 2024 pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A Section 710.

E. To see if the Inhabitants will vote to set the interest rate of 2% to be paid by the Town on abated taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A Section 506-A.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 4.** To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Selectmen to procure a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) for the purpose of paying municipal indebtedness; such note to be repaid during the current fiscal year from taxes paid during the municipal year.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 5.** To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Municipal Officers to apply for, accept, and expend grant money available from the State of Maine, Federal Government, or other organizations for any public purpose when they deem it to be in the town's best interest and needed matching funds are available within the current budget.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 6.** To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount of the previous annual budget during the period from January 1, 2025, to the Annual Town Meeting.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 7.** To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Municipal Officers to sell and dispose of any tax acquired property pursuant to State of Maine statute H.P. 69-L.D. 101 An act to return to the former owner any excess funds remaining after the sale of foreclosed property. Then to award the property on such terms and to execute a Quit Claim Deed for such property.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 8.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to accept gifts of money, equipment, or other articles for the town. (All gifts to become property of the town.)

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 9.** To see if the Inhabitants will accept funds from, but not limited to, the following potential revenue sources:

- A. Municipal Revenue Sharing
- B. Local Roads Assistance Program
- C. State Aid for Education
- D. Civil Emergency Funds
- E. Tree Growth Reimbursement
- F. Veteran’s Exemption Reimbursement
- G. Homestead Exemption Reimbursement
- H. General Assistance Reimbursement
- I. FEMA

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 10.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to authorize the municipal officers to make final determinations regarding the closing and opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A. Section 2953.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 11.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$158,000 from taxation for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for the Municipal Officials.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 12.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 from taxation for membership, dues, etc. in civic organizations, (e.g.; KVCOG, SEDC, MMA, MTCCA, MTCTA, MAAO, etc.).

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 13.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 from taxation for all insurance policies (e.g.; worker’s comp., building, equipment, etc.).

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 14.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 from taxation for legal expenses (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 15.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,500 from taxation for audit of the 2023 town books, expenses relating to Town Meeting(s), and for printing of the Annual Town Report. (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 16.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 from taxation for utilities (e.g.; fuel, electricity, telephone, internet, security alarm, mowing, trash removal, office supplies, cleaning, etc.).

Town Office	\$30,000	Boat Landing/Town Beaches	\$2,500
Community Center	\$40,000	Street Lights	\$2,500
Town House	\$ 2,500	Sand Shed	\$2,500

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 17.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 from taxation for office supplies, equipment, Information/Technology, and Software Licensing used for operating the town office.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 18.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 from taxation for Facilities Maintenance.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 19.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 from taxation for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for Tax Assessment including tax maps.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 20.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 from taxation for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for the Planning Board.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 21.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,000 from taxation, for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for Code Enforcement.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 22.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 from taxation, for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for the Appeals Board (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 23.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 from surplus for emergency services and authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into contractual agreements with the Town of Anson (fire protection), Anson-Madison-Starks (AMS Ambulance Service), and Anson/Madison Water District (for the annual rental of fire hydrants). If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus.

Fire Protection	\$56,000
Ambulance Service	\$25,000
Hydrant Rental	\$19,000

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 24.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 from taxation, for Animal shelter fees, compensation, and applicable taxes for the town's Animal Control Officer.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 25.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 from taxation for signs, maintenance, compensation, and applicable taxes for the town's E911 Coordination Officer.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 26.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 from taxation for the town's recreation department.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 27.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to pay all Town hired labor and equipment at the prevailing State of Maine hourly rate or what they will do related thereto.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 28.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250,000 from taxation for repair and maintenance of bridges, roads, and culverts, dedicated for use by the Road Commissioner (to be used in conjunction with carried forward balance and LRAP grant monies from the State of Maine).

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 29.** To see if the Inhabitants will allow the Select Board to enter into a three-year snow removal contract with J.R.Nunes & Sons and to raise and appropriate \$372,500 from taxation for winter roads. (J.R Nunes & Sons was the only bidder for the 2024-2027 three-year snow removal contract at the price of \$372,500 per year).

Selectmen recommend.



**Article 30.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$55,000 from taxation for sanitation/solid waste disposal to Waste Management, Inc. (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 31.** To see if the Inhabitants will raise and appropriate \$2,000 from surplus for the purpose of General Assistance administered by the town. (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 32.** To see if the Inhabitants will raise and appropriate the recommended amount from surplus for the following Social Services.

A. Stewart Public Library	\$1,500.00
B. Somerset County Hospice	\$1,500.00
C. Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$ 250.00
D. Spectrum Generations	\$1,050.00
E. People Who Care Food Cupboard	\$5,000.00
F. Baker Mountain	\$1,000.00
G. American Red Cross	\$ 250.00
H. KVCAP	\$1,000.00
I. Sunset Cemetery	\$1,000.00
J. Madison Public Library	\$ 600.00
K. Sexual Assault Crisis & Support Center	\$ 316.00
L. Maine Public Broadcasting	\$ 100.00
M. Community Health & Counseling	\$ 200.00
N. Life Flight of Maine	\$ 902.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$14,668.00</b>

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 33.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,000 from surplus to the Embden Travelers Snowmobile Club for the maintenance of their system of trails and bridges open in snow season to the public within the Town of Embden.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 34.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 from surplus plus interest from the Mary Ann Burns trust fund for use, dedicated to maintenance of cemeteries within the town.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 35.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$150,000 from excise to add to the Capital Improvement Fund, specifically for future town road paving projects.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 36.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 from surplus to add to the Capital Improvement Fund, specifically for future town building projects.

Selectmen recommend.

**Article 37.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to amend the Embden Shoreland Zoning Ordinance:

Add to Definitions

Temporary Large Dock System – A dock extending into a body of water over or below the normal high-water line that has **any** of the following characteristics:

1. Is designed or intended for docking more than three motorized boats/watercraft of any size;
2. Extends into the water more than 50’ from normal high water;
3. Is moored to the floor of the waterbody pursuant to a submerged land lease issued by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Bureau of Parks & Lands;
4. The dock benefits any property including subdivisions or a multi-family structure.

Add to Section 15.(C) the following:

15.(C)(11) A person or entity wanting to install a temporary Large Dock System as defined herein must first obtain a permit from the Code Enforcement Officer. Temporary Large Dock Systems must be installed no less than 100’ (at the shoreline) from the boundary with the nearest abutter. Annual renewal of the permit for a Temporary Large Dock System is not required unless any of the following changes from the original permit are planned:

- a. The length of the dock over the water is to be increased.
- b. The dock’s capacity is to be expanded to include additional boat slips.
- c. The dock is to be relocated either at the shoreline or its location over the water.

If any of these changes are to be implemented, the person or entity must apply for a new permit from the Code Enforcement Office. Once issued, annual renewal is not required unless any of the above-listed changes are planned.

This section applies to all docks qualifying as Large Dock Systems regardless of when it was first installed.

Selectmen recommend.

**Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> day of February 2024**

Charles E. Taylor, Select Board Chairman

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Wayne McLaughlin, Selectman

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Janice Welch, Selectwoman

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**Municipal Officers**



Integrity      Respect      Fairness      Dedication  
SOMERSET COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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### 2023 Sheriff's Office Annual Report



Dale P. Lancaster  
Sheriff

January 1, 2024 begins my 9<sup>th</sup> year as your Sheriff. I want to personally thank everyone for your continued support for the Somerset County Sheriff's Office. It is a privilege to serve the citizens of Somerset County.

The Office of Sheriff oversees the operations of the County Jail, law enforcement, court security, and civil process. Somerset County is approximately 4,000 square miles. The County is comprised of 27 towns, 6 plantations, and 83 unorganized townships. This year, I completed my 2-year term as President of the Maine Sheriff's Association. I continue my appointment to the Board of Directors for the New England State Police Information Network. I am also a board member for the Statewide County Corrections Professional Standards Council.

I would like to report that in May of 2023, the Somerset County Sheriff's Office was awarded accreditation through the Maine Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. The Sheriff's Office law enforcement policies and procedures are best practice for the State of Maine. I want to take this opportunity to thank staff and Deputies for their diligent efforts to obtain this accreditation.

In 2023, our Agency has aggressively participated in job fairs, advertising and increasing our pay scale to make us competitive with other Agencies in hiring and retaining men and women to work as Deputies and Corrections Officers.

#### Law Enforcement

The Patrol division is comprised of 15 Patrol Deputies and 3 Sergeants. Through funding from the State of Maine, we have 2 Deputies dedicated to patrolling the unorganized townships. The Patrol division is overseen by a Lieutenant. The Criminal division is comprised of 4 Detectives, 1 Domestic Violence Investigator assigned to the Somerset County District Attorney's Office, and is overseen by a Lieutenant. The Sheriff's Office continues to partner with MDEA (Maine Drug Enforcement Agency) to have an agent assigned to the Criminal Division. Presently, that position is not filled. The Patrol division has 2 trained accident re-constructionists. The Sheriff's Office has 2 canines, a canine assigned to each division. The Sheriff's Office assigns 1 Deputy per shift to patrol the Town of Madison. We have a Secretary/Dispatcher assigned to Madison.

Currently, we have 1 Deputy attending the 46th Basic Law Enforcement Training Program (BLETP) at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.

Throughout 2023, the Sheriff's Office Criminal Division investigated a large volume of illicit drug trafficking activities. The Sheriff's Office obtained and executed numerous drug search warrants, which subsequently led to the arrest and conviction of numerous people from Maine and out of State on various Federal and State level drug trafficking charges. Illegal drugs, in particular Fentanyl, and illegal marijuana grows, continue to be a significant issue in Somerset County. The Criminal Division dedicates a large amount of time and resources to combat this problem. The Criminal Division investigated numerous serious felony level cases to include robberies, burglaries, thefts, scams, aggravated assaults, unattended deaths, and sexual abuse cases. In 2023, the Crimes Against Persons Detective investigated 23 sex offense complaints. 11 of those cases involved child sexual abuse where forensic interviewing was utilized. Detective Jeremy Leal is a Children's Advocacy Center forensic interviewer. As a result of these investigations, and working with the District Attorney's Office prosecuting these cases, we were able to get substantial sentences in a number of child abuse cases. The Sheriff's Office Criminal Division tracks individuals who are required by law to register as sex offenders. 2 individuals were charged with Sex Offender Registration Notification Act violations.

#### Jail

The Somerset County Jail, when operating at full capacity, operates with 36 budgeted Correctional Officers, 8 Shift Supervisors, 3 cooks, 12 program and support staff, and 9 administrative staff. In October, 2023 Major Michael Pike, was selected to be the Jail Administrator. The County Jail is now 16 years old. With the use of funds received through



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**SOMERSET COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, we anticipate that the Jail bond will be paid off within 1 year. The County Jail is nationally accredited through the American Correctional Association and is operating under nationally accepted best practice standards. The County Jail is also PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) certified. In 2023, the Somerset County Jail recorded 1,278 total bookings, a 21% increase from 2022. We are currently still working with the State of Maine in administering Sublocade to inmates who identify with an Opioid Use Disorder. The Programs department implemented many new initiatives in 2023, including the inmate garden project, the return of the inmate newsletter and Christmas card program. The Jail has partnered with the Family Violence Project and the Sexual Assault Crisis & Support Center to provide services to inmates who are survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

The starting salary for a new, inexperienced Corrections Officer, increased to \$21.23 in 2023. The Jail also implemented a new initiative to allow us to hire experienced Corrections Officer at a higher rate of pay based on up to 8 years of experience. Recruitment and hiring initiatives continue to be ongoing.

### Civil Process

In 2023, the Somerset County Sheriff's Office Civil Deputies received 1,723 papers to process and serve. That is a 10% decrease from 2022.

### Calls for Service

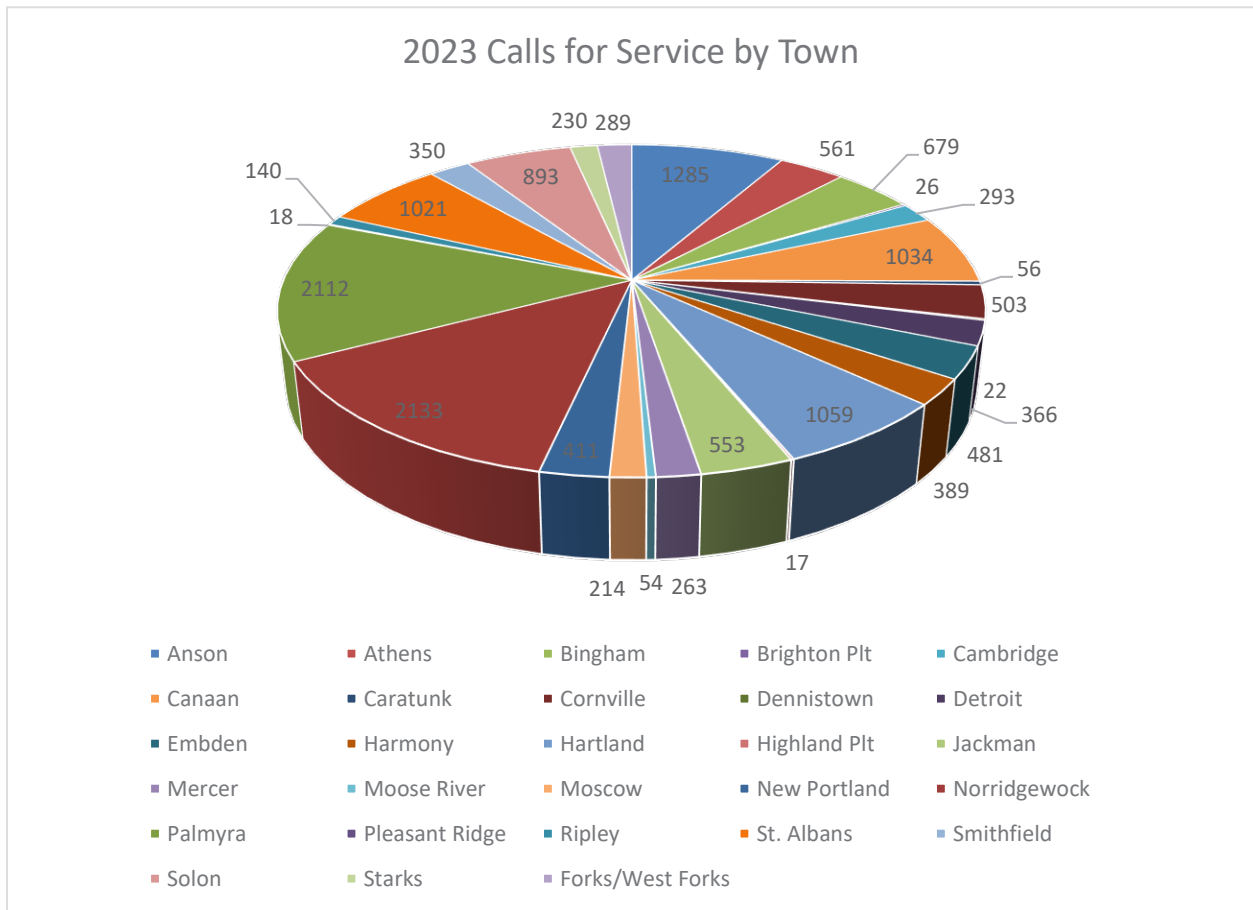
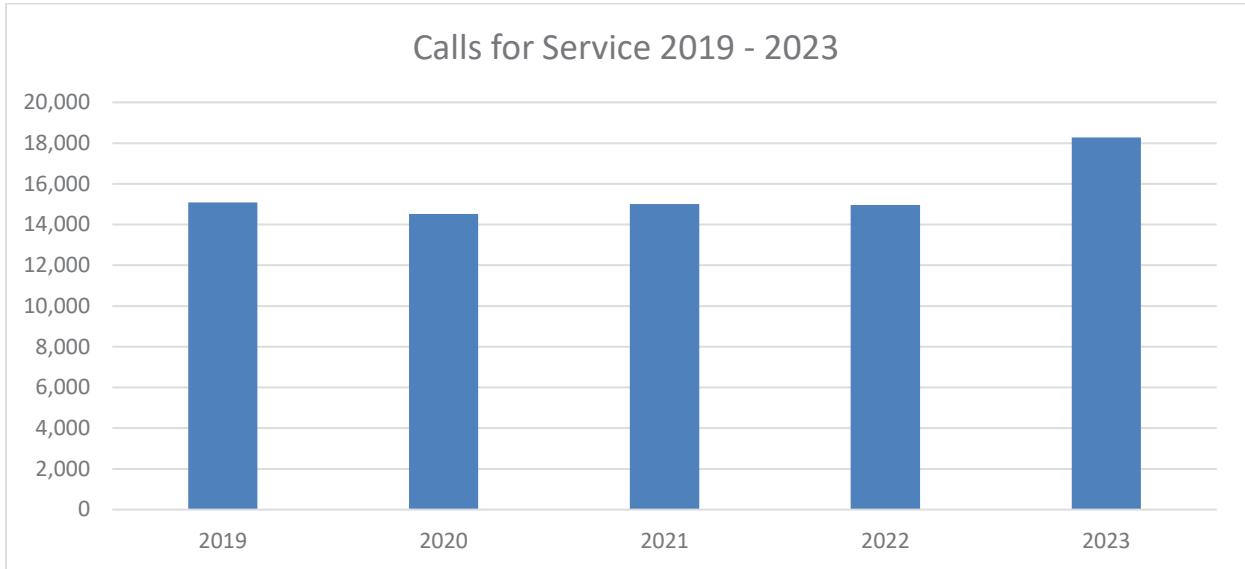
- In 2023, the Sheriff's Office received 18,277 total calls for service from our residents. This represents a 0.22% increase from 2022.
- During 2023, the Sheriff's Office responded to 481 calls for service from the Town of Embden, which is a 23.6% increase from 2022. These calls included 47 motor vehicle accidents, 16 motor vehicle stops, 22 calls requesting citizen assistance, as well as calls regarding domestic disturbances, harassment, burglary, theft, criminal threatening, assault, welfare checks, and other requests for police services.

The Somerset County Sheriff Office remains committed to our core values: INTEGRITY-RESPECT-FAIRNESS-DEDICATION.





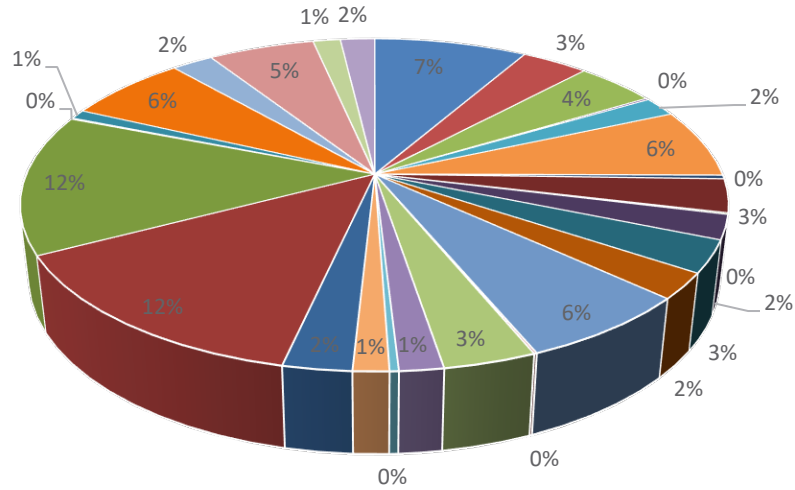
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**SOMERSET COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**





Integrity    Respect    Fairness    Dedication  
**SOMERSET COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

2023 Percentage of Calls for Service by Town



- |           |                  |                    |                |                |
|-----------|------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| ■ Anson   | ■ Athens         | ■ Bingham          | ■ Brighton Plt | ■ Cambridge    |
| ■ Canaan  | ■ Caratunk       | ■ Cornville        | ■ Dennistown   | ■ Detroit      |
| ■ Embden  | ■ Harmony        | ■ Hartland         | ■ Highland Plt | ■ Jackman      |
| ■ Mercer  | ■ Moose River    | ■ Moscow           | ■ New Portland | ■ Norridgewock |
| ■ Palmyra | ■ Pleasant Ridge | ■ Ripley           | ■ St. Albans   | ■ Smithfield   |
| ■ Solon   | ■ Starks         | ■ Forks/West Forks |                |                |

## RSU 74

### OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Physical Address: 56 North Main Street, North Anson, Maine 04958

Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 219, North Anson, Maine 04958-0219

Phone: (207) 635-2727 - Fax: (207) 635-3599

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*Carrabec High School ~ Carrabec Community School ~ Garret Schenck School ~ Solon Elementary School*

January 27, 2024

Dear Residents of the Town of Embden,

I would like to take this opportunity to share some of the work happening in our district as well as to share some of the fun things happening in our district.

As our access to federal funds to support schools to overcome the effects of COVID on students and staff is coming to a close (September 30, 2024), your K-5 teachers with support from administration have implemented a strong intervention program based on reading and math results. Students whose scores were consistently lower than peers in the same grade locally and across the nation and were struggling with lessons provided by their classroom teachers were assigned to an interventionist teacher or Title I Ed-tech for support in Reading or math or both. Mid-year scores are currently being compiled but based on students self-reporting, scores are likely to show significant growth!

A meeting with grade level representatives for K-5 was held before the holidays to discuss my observations regarding math lessons for ENvision; our program for K-5 math instruction. As a result of this discussion, steps were taken to support students with their math facts fluency. Our goal is to provide additional opportunities for demonstrating fluency with addition and subtraction facts in the lower elementary grades and multiplication and division facts in the upper elementary grades. On the topic of mathematics, teachers in grades 6 through 12 were given the go ahead to look at a textbook series to replace the current online program adopted a few years ago, as concerns have been raised around the lack of foundational instruction to support student learning in the current program.

Our curriculum work for the year is in English Language Arts. When I came on board, the essential standards for each grade had been identified as well as the MLR performance indicators that support those standards. This year, teachers are documenting units of instruction to deliver lessons supporting mastery of the essential standards.

And the fun...well our students are having excellent years on the field, courts, and stage. All three of our soccer teams (CCS co-ed, and HS varsity teams) had very successful seasons with our varsity boys bringing home the State Championship. Our fall production performed by the high school drama team was "*Another High School Musical*" with high attendance by community members. A family favorite appears to be the K-6 holiday program as again this year the CCS gymnasium was packed. Congratulations to all performers and athletes on their successes.

Our 2024-2025 budget process has begun. The School Board will have some difficult decisions to make this year as COVID funds go away and as we look to address issues with our aged bus fleet. As we did last year, we will keep you informed on needs and decisions made in order to bring a budget forth for district voter approval. As always, your continued support of your schools, your students are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Mark L. Campbell, Superintendent of Schools

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The school community of RSU #74 will work together to raise the aspirations of all students by providing them with lifelong skills that they may become self-sufficient contributing members of society.

# SOMERSET COUNTY

## *Maine*

Somerset County serves 51,000 people spread over 4,000 square miles in various towns, plantations and unorganized territories filling the gaps between State and Local Services.

2023 brought in some significant changes to the people involved in County Government with three new Commissioners. Scott Seekins (District 3), John Alsop (District 4) and Joel Stetkis (District 5) joined Cyp Johnson (District 2) & Chairman Robert Sezak (District 1).

Leanne Dickey joined the Administrative Team as the Deputy Administrator/HR and Tim Curtis was hired in July as the new County Administrator replacing Dawn DiBlasi who had served in that capacity since 2013. Leanne served for several years in the Farmington Town Office and Tim had been the Madison Town Manager for nearly a decade.

In May the County Budget Committee finalized the fiscal year budget for 23/24, approving a 9.8% spending increase fueled by the increased costs of goods and services that impacted most municipal budgets. The overall County Budget is \$26.5M of which \$14.5M is paid from local property taxes. Nearly two thirds of County spending supports the Sheriff's Office and the Jail. The SO and Jail also make up two thirds of all County employees.

Like local police, fire and rescue departments, the County faces the same struggles in hiring and retaining employees in the public safety sector. Having open positions can result in some cost savings which will be rolled forward into the coming year's budget to help offset the impact on the taxpayer. The best case scenario however, is to be fully staffed in those important positions.

The Communication Center received 95,000 calls for service in 2023. Dispatching all those emergency calls throughout the County is a huge undertaking. Emergency Management has also seen a significant uptick in activity with Federal Emergency Declarations from storm damage in December 2022, May of 2023 and most recently the record flooding along the Kennebec in December 2023.

County services such as Probate Court, the Registry of Deeds and the District Attorney's office stay busy with a steady stream of work.

Coming in 2024 a new website will be available to guide residents to County services. Our intention is to make access as user friendly as possible. The address will be the same at [www.somersetcounty-me.org](http://www.somersetcounty-me.org)

One of the goals of the Commissioners is to help fill funding gaps in local services by offering Matching Grants with Community Benefit Funds. These funds come from an agreement with Blue Sky West in conjunction with the windmill projects in central and northern Somerset. In November 2023, a pilot grant program was launched that funds projects from municipalities and non-profits throughout the County. Overall, 12 grants were awarded to projects ranging from ADA accessibility, to recreational train signage to new rescue equipment. Keep an eye out for another funding announcement for this program in the spring of 2024.



**SECRET BALLOT ELECTION**

**Friday, March 3, 2023**

**And**

**TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

**Saturday, March 4, 2023**

To Ernest Falcone, resident of the Town of Embden, in the County of Somerset, State of Maine,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the town of Embden in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Embden Town Office in said town on Friday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, A.D. 2023, at nine and forty-five o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Article 2 as set out below, the polling hours therefore to be from ten o'clock in the forenoon until six o'clock in the evening;

And, to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at the Embden Community Center in said town on Saturday, the 4th day of March 2023 A.D., at ten o'clock in the morning, then and there to act on Articles 3 through 38 as set out below, to wit:

**Article 1:** To elect a moderator, all municipal officers, and school committee members are required to be elected.

**Article 2:** To elect municipal officers and school committee members as are required to be elected.

Nominated Candidates:

Selectman, three-year term: Wayne McLaughlin 77

Myles Durkin 31

Tax Collector: Ruth Blake 103

Road Commissioner, one-year term: Michael Witham 103

RSU #74 School Board Director, three-year term: 23

**Article 3:** To see if the Inhabitants will accept the following tax assessment and collection related questions:

A. To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Tax Collector and Treasurer to apply any property tax overpayment of less than \$20 to that person's next year's property taxes.

B. To see if the Inhabitants will vote to authorize citizens to pay their property taxes in one installment, due and payable 45 days after commitment or by September 1, 2023, and to charge interest at the rate of 8% per annum on unpaid balances after due date.

C. To see if the Inhabitants will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506 and pay 0% interest on these prepaid taxes.

D. To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate from overlay to pay tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year 2023 pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A Section 710.

E. To see if the Inhabitants will vote to set the interest rate of 2% to be paid by the Town on abated taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A Section 506-A.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 4.** To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Selectmen to procure a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) for the purpose of paying municipal indebtedness; such note to be repaid during the current fiscal year from taxes paid during the municipal year.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 5.** To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Municipal Officers to apply for, accept, and expend grant money available from the State of Maine, Federal Government, or other organizations for any public purpose when they deem it to be in the town's best interest and needed matching funds are available within the current budget.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 6.** To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount of the previous annual budget during the period from January 1, 2024, to the Annual Town Meeting.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 7.** To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Municipal Officers to sell and dispose of any tax acquired property by the following procedure: acquiring a fair market value on the property, set a minimum bid amount and to place said property out to bid. Then to award the property on such terms as they deem to be in the best interest of the town and to execute Quit Claim Deeds for such property.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 8.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to accept gifts of money, equipment, or other articles for the town. (All gifts to become property of the town.)

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 9.** To see if the Inhabitants will accept funds from, but not limited to, the following potential revenue sources:

- A. Municipal Revenue Sharing
- B. Local Roads Assistance Program
- C. State Aid for Education
- D. Civil Emergency Funds
- E. Tree Growth Reimbursement
- F. Veteran's Exemption Reimbursement
- G. Homestead Exemption Reimbursement
- H. General Assistance Reimbursement
- I. FEMA

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 10.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to authorize the municipal officers to make final determinations regarding the closing and opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A. Section 2953.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 11.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$130,000 from taxation for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for the Municipal Officials.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 12.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 from taxation for membership, dues, etc. in civic organizations, (e.g.; KVCOG, SEDC, MMA, MTCCA, MTCTA, MAAO, etc.).

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 13.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 from taxation for all insurance policies (e.g.; worker’s comp., building, equipment, etc.).

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 14.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 from taxation for legal expenses (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 15.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 from taxation for audit of the 2021 town books, expenses relating to Town Meeting(s), and for printing of the Annual Town Report. (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 16.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 from taxation for utilities (e.g.; fuel, electricity, telephone, internet, security alarm, mowing, trash removal, office supplies, cleaning, etc.).

Town Office	\$30,000	Boat Landing/Town Beaches	\$2,500
Community Center	\$40,000	Street Lights	\$2,500
Town House	\$ 2,500	Sand Shed	\$2,500

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 17.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 from taxation for office supplies, equipment, Information/Technology, and Software Licensing used for operating the town office.

Selectboard recommends.



**Article 18.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 from taxation for Facilities Maintenance.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 19.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 from taxation for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for Tax Assessment including tax maps.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 20.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 from taxation for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for the Planning Board.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 21.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 from taxation, for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for Code Enforcement.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 22.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 from taxation, for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for the Appeals Board (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 23.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$95,000 from taxation for emergency services and authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into contractual agreements with the Town of Anson (fire protection), Anson-Madison-Starks (AMS Ambulance Service), and Anson/Madison Water District (for the annual rental of fire hydrants). If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus.

Fire Protection	\$51,000
Ambulance Service	\$25,000
Hydrant Rental	\$19,000

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 24.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 from taxation, for Animal shelter fees, compensation, and applicable taxes for the town's Animal Control Officer.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 25.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 from taxation for signs, maintenance, compensation, and applicable taxes for the town's E911 Coordination Officer.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 26.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to change the elected position of Road Commissioner from a one-year term to be elected to a three-year term effective at the Annual Town Meeting in 2024.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 27.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to pay all Town hired labor and equipment at the prevailing State of Maine hourly rate or what they will do related thereto.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 28.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250,000 from surplus for repair and maintenance of bridges, roads, and culverts, dedicated for use by the Road Commissioner (to be used in conjunction with carried forward balance and LRAP grant monies from the State of Maine).

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 29.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate \$315,750 from taxation for winter roads, or what they will do related thereto.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 30.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 from taxation for sanitation/solid waste disposal to Waste Management, Inc. (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Article Passes

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 31.** To see if the Inhabitants will raise and appropriate \$2,000 from surplus for the purpose of General Assistance administered by the town. (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectboard recommends.

Article Passes

**Article 32.** To see if the Inhabitants will raise and appropriate the recommended amount from surplus for the following Social Services.

A. Stewart Public Library	\$1,500.00
B. Somerset County Hospice	\$1,300.00
C. Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$ 250.00
D. Spectrum Generations	\$1,000.00
E. People Who Care Food Cupboard	\$4,000.00
F. Baker Mountain	\$1,000.00
G. American Red Cross	\$ 250.00
H. KVCAP	\$ 750.00
I. Sunset Cemetery	\$1,000.00
J. Madison Public Library	\$ 600.00
K. Sexual Assault Crisis & Support Center	\$ 315.00
L. Maine Public Broadcasting	\$ 100.00
M. Community Health & Counseling	\$ 200.00
N. Life Flight of Maine	\$ 902.00
O. Somerset Economic Development Corp.	\$ 100.00
P. Crisis & Counseling Centers	\$1,259.21
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$14,526.21</b>

Selectboard recommends.

Article Passes

**Article 33.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,000 from surplus to

**Article 33.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,000 from surplus to the Embden Travelers Snowmobile Club for the maintenance of their system of trails and bridges open in snow season to the public within the Town of Embden.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 34.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 from surplus plus interest from the Mary Ann Burns trust fund for use, dedicated to maintenance of cemeteries within the town.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 35.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$150,000 from excise to add to the Capital Improvement Fund, specifically for future town road paving projects.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 36.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 from surplus to add to the Capital Improvement Fund, specifically for future town building projects.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 37.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to amend the Embden Shoreland Zoning Ordinance by adding the following sentence to **Section C. (1) as follows:**

**No permit is required for a temporary dock benefiting a single-family residential parcel.**

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**Article 38.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Embden by State Law in the event that the municipal budget approved by the proposed articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit.

Selectboard recommends.

[Article Passes](#)

**30 Yes 8 No**



**Dated: 2nd day of February 2023**

Charles E. Taylor, Select Board Chairman

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Wayne McLaughlin, Selectman

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Janice Welch, Selectwoman

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**Municipal Officers**

## Elected Positions

### Board of Selectpeople

### 3 Year Term

Charles Taylor (2025)

\$5225.00 Stipend for Chair \$2500

Wayne McLaughlin (2026)

\$5225.00

Janice Welch (2024)

\$5225.00

### Town Clerk / Treasurer

### 3 Year Term

Christine Sockwell (2024)

\$50,915.00

### Tax Collector

### 3 Year Term

Ruth Blake (2026)

\$40,000.00

### Road Commissioner

### 3 Year Term

Michael Witham (2024)

\$34.11/Hr. State Foreman Wages

## Appointed Positions

### Assessor

### 3 Year Term

Shirley Bartlett (2024)

\$30,000.00

### Assessing Clerk

### 3 Year Term

Terriann Lamontagne (2024)

\$21.00/Hr.

### General Assistance Office

### 1 Year Term

Charles Taylor (2024)

\$850.00

### Registrar of Voters

### 2 Year Term

Christine Sockwell (2025)

\$2000.00 Plus \$21.00/Hr. on Election Days

### Animal Control Officer

### 1 Year Term

Robin Wilkey (2024)

\$1000.00

**Deputy Animal Control**

Dillion Wellman (2024)

**1 Year Term**

\$250.00

**Code Enforcement Officer**

Terriann Lamontagne (2024)

**1 Year Term**

\$34,000.00

**Deputy Code Enforcement**

Susan Hathaway (2024)

**1 Year Term**

\$525.00

**Deputy Tax Collector**

Christine Sockwell

**1 Year Term**

\$1500.00

**Licensed Plumbing Inspector**

Leo Mayo

**1 Year Term**

Based of Fees (75% paid to LPI)

**E-911 Addressing Officer**

Christine Sockwell

**1 Year Term**

\$2500.00

**Health Officer**

Leo Mayo

**1 Year Term**

\$300.00

**Planning Board**

Leo Mayo (2025), Ann Bridges (2028),  
Kelly Bragg (2026), Myles Durkin (2024),  
Randy Caldwell (2027), Charles Pease (2024),  
Anthony Sparrow (2024)

**5 Year Term / Alternates 1 Year Term**

\$40.00 per meeting

**Board of Appeals**

John Duff (2024), Mary Keenan (2024),  
Dale Mullin (2024)

**1 Year Term**

\$75.00 per meeting

**Election Clerks**

John Duff (2024), Alyson Duff (2024),  
Betty Pratt (2024), Amy Champany (2024)

**2 Year Term**

\$17.60 Hr.

# Report of Expenditures for 2023

## Article 11 Municipal Officials \$130,000.00 Appropriated

Selectboard	\$18,590
Ballot Clerks/Moderators	\$3,962.01
Tac Collector	\$40,000.00
Town Clerk	\$50,915.00
GA Officer	\$850.00
Health Officer	\$300.00
Mileage	\$781.07
Deputy Tax Collector	\$1,500.00
Training	\$1,050.00
FICA	\$7,195.63
Medicare	<u>\$1,682.82</u>
	\$126,827.77

## Article 12 Membership Dues \$8,000.00 Appropriated

MMA Dues	\$2,696.00
MMTCTA Dues	\$60.00
KVCOG Dues	<u>\$2,529.00</u>
	\$5,285.00

## Article 13 Insurance \$20,000.00 Appropriated

Property & Casualty Insurance	\$4,803.00
Workers Compensation Insurance	<u>\$2,613.00</u>
	\$7,416.00

**Article 14 Legal Expense \$25,000.00 Appropriated**

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Advertising and Legal Expenses \$2,745.00

**Article 15 Town Audit/Town Meeting/Annual Report \$15,000.00 Appropriated**

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Town Report \$1,901.60  
Audit \$10,625.00  
Town Meeting \$250.00  
\$12,776.60

**Article 16 Unities \$80,000.00 Appropriated**

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**Town Office**

Electricity \$3,560.06  
Gas/Oil \$3,113.65  
Telephone \$5,215.86  
Water \$443.75  
Alarm System \$552.00  
Office Cleaning \$3,975.00  
Trash Removal \$195.00  
Shoveling \$200.00  
Mowing \$1,220.00

**Embden Community Center**

Electricity \$7,474.88  
Gas/Oil \$10,227.74  
Telephone \$1,523.22  
Water \$1,552.30  
Alarm System \$612.00  
Office Cleaning \$4,072.35  
Trash Removal \$195.00  
Shoveling \$200.00



Mowing	\$1,671.00
Plowing	\$3,900.00
Mowing	\$1,671.00
<b>Town House</b>	
Electricity	\$508.35
Mowing	\$410.00
<b>Boat Landing</b>	
Portable Toilet Rental	\$1,715.00
Mowing	\$360.00
<b>Streetlights</b>	\$652.38
<b>Sand Shed</b>	<u>\$1,001.30</u>
	\$56,221.84

**Article 17 Office Supplies/Technology \$35,000.00 Appropriated**

Office Supplies	\$3138.62
Office Equipment	\$1842.96
Technology	\$3,641.90
Hardware Upgrade	\$1,583.75
Software & Licensing	\$18,775.33
Postage	\$1,684.26
Safe Deposit Box Rental	\$25.00
Printing	<u>\$1,843.96</u>
	\$32535.78

**Article 18 Facilities Maintenance \$40,000 Appropriated \$10,160 Carried Forward**

Town Office	\$964.00
Embden Community Center	\$5,060.80
Town House	\$1,468.08
Sand Shed	<u>\$1,873.59</u>

\$9,366.47

**Article 19 Tax Assessment/Tax Maps \$50,000 Appropriated**

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Assessor	\$30,000.00
Secretarial Services	\$4,862.55
Mileage	\$1,215.69
Training	\$1,260.00
FICA	\$301.48
Medicare	\$70.49
Tax Maps	<u>\$2,600.00</u>
	\$40,310.21

**Article 20 Planning Board \$20,000 Appropriated**

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Compensation	\$6,650.00
FICA	\$370.14
Medicare	<u>\$86.58</u>
	\$7,106.72

**Article 21 Code Enforcement \$40,000 Appropriated**

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Compensation	\$34,000.13
Mileage	\$696.29
Deputy	\$571.20
Training	\$110.00
FICA	\$2,143.41
Medicare	<u>\$501.27</u>
	\$38,022.30

**Article 22 Appeals Board \$3000 Appropriated**

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Compensation	\$225.00
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FICA	\$13.95
Medicare	<u>\$3.27</u>
	\$242.22

**Article 23 Fire Protection/Hydrants/Ambulance \$95,000 Appropriated**

Anson FD Fire Protection	\$49,709.01
Hydrant Rental	\$14,677.50
Ambulance	<u>\$15,333.96</u>
	\$79,720.47

**Article 24 Animal Control \$5000 Appropriated**

Compensation	\$1,558.00
Mileage	\$263.31
Training	\$50.00
FICA	\$96.60
Medicare	\$22.60
Franklin Animal Shelter	<u>\$2,164.80</u>
	\$4,155.31

**Article 25 E-911 \$4000 Appropriated**

Compensation	\$2,500.00
FICA	\$155.00
Medicare	\$36.26
Road Signs	\$541.45
Signs (Sales)	<u>\$1,419.24</u>
	\$4,651.95

**Article 28 Summer Roads \$250,000 Appropriated, \$43,688 LRAP, \$176,838 Carried Forward**

Compensation	\$9,076.98
FICA	\$562.77
Medicare	\$131.60
Hot Top	\$182.32
Cold Top	\$1,126.00
Culverts	\$25,364.24
Gravel	\$89,151.56
Hay	\$1,330.00
Equip Rental	\$3,776.92
Calcium	\$6,780.00
Contractors	<u>\$277,505.06</u>
	\$414,987.45

**Article 29 Winter Road Contract \$315,750 Appropriated**

Contract	\$315,750.00
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**Article 30 Sanitation \$50,000 Appropriated**

Waste Management	\$50,370.75
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**Article 31 General Assistance \$2000 Appropriated**

Assistance	\$1,614.00
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**Article 32 Social Services/Donations \$14,526 Appropriated**

Stewart Public Library	\$1,500.00
Hospice of Somerset County	\$1,300.00
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$250.00
Spectrum Generations	\$1,000.00

Madison Food Cupboard	\$4,000.00
Baker Mountain Ski Tow Club	\$1,000.00
American Red Cross	\$250.00
KVCAP	\$750.00
Sunset Cemetery Association	\$1,000.00
Madison Public Library	\$600.00
Sexual Assault Crisis & Support	\$315.00
Crisis & Counseling Centers	\$1,259.00
Maine Public Broadcasting Network	\$100.00
Community Health & Counseling	\$200.00
Life Flight of Maine	\$902.00
Somerset Economic Development	<u>\$100.00</u>
	\$14,526.00

**Article 33 Recreation Department \$5093 Carried Forward**

Sports Equipment	\$2,446.00
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**Article 34 Maintenance on Cemeteries \$3000 Appropriated**

Embden Historical Society	\$3,000.00
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**Article 35 Capital Improvement/Road \$150,000 From Excise**

Road Paving Projects	\$150,000.00
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**Article 36 Capital Improvement \$12,000 Appropriated \$38541 Carried Forward**

Building Maintenance (ECC)	\$4,539.84
Generator Fund (ECC)	\$325.00
Generator Fund (Town Office)	<u>\$250.00</u>
	\$5,114.84



## Revenues

Auto Excise	\$234,343.55
Boat Excise	\$3,864.00
Agent Fee	\$8,275.00
Interest on Property Taxes	\$8,168.40
Bank Interest	\$27,777.68
Dog License Late Fee	\$450.00
Building Permits	\$2,900.00
Tree Cutting Permits	\$600.00
Homestead Reimbursement	\$69,628.00
Veterans Reimbursement	\$1,280.00
Snowmobile Reimbursement	\$853.98
State Mun Revenue Sharing	\$138,566.24
BETE	\$16,109.00
Tree Growth Reimbursement	\$39,168.30
MDOT Highway Reimbursement	\$50,380.00
Ordinance Fines	\$2,275.00
Franchise Fee Reimbursement	\$3,748.42
Stabilation Reim	\$510.00
Embden Community Center	<u>\$12,000.00</u>
	\$620,897.57

## 2024 Annual Town Meeting Proposed Appropriation

	Description	LRAP Block Grant & Other Revenues	Carried Fwd	Taxation	Surplus	Excise	2024 Proposed Operating Budget
Art. 1-10	No Monetary Appropriation						
Art. 11	Municipal Officials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 158,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 158,000
Art. 12	Membership Dues	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000
Art. 13	Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000
Art. 14	Legal Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000
Art. 15	Town Audit/Town Meeting/Annual Report	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,500
Art. 16	Utilities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000
Art. 17	Supplies/ Equipment/ IT/Trio Lic.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,000
Art. 18	Facilities Maintenance	\$ -	\$ 40,793	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,793
Art. 19	Tax Assessment/Tax Maps	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,000
Art. 20	Planning Board	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000
Art. 21	Code Enforcement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44,000
Art. 22	Appeals Board	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000
Art. 23	Fire Protection, Hydrants, Ambulance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Art. 24	Animal Control	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000
Art. 25	E911	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000
Art. 26	Recreation Department	\$ -	\$ 2,647	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,647
Art. 27	State Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Art. 28	Summer Roads Repair & Maint. (W/LRAP)	\$ 50,380	\$ 55,539	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 355,919
Art. 29	Winter Roads Plowing & Sanding Contract	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 372,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 372,500
Art. 30	Sanitation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000
Art. 31	General Assistance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000
Art. 32	Social Services/Donations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,688	\$ -	\$ 14,688
Art. 33	Snowmobile Club	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000
Art. 34	Maintenance of Cemeteries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ 3,500
Art. 35	Capital Improvement Fund - Road Paving	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
Art. 36	Capital Improvement Fund - Town Bldgs	\$ -	\$ 45,426	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ 57,426
Art. 37	Shoreland Zoning Ordinance Change	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		<b>URIP Block Grant &amp; Other Revenues</b>	<b>Carried Fwd</b>	<b>Taxation</b>	<b>Surplus</b>	<b>Excise</b>	<b>Proposed Total Funding All Sources</b>
	<b>2024 Totals</b>	<b>\$ 50,380</b>	<b>\$ 144,405</b>	<b>\$ 1,190,000</b>	<b>\$ 135,188</b>	<b>\$ 150,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,669,973</b>
	2023 Totals	\$ 43,688	\$ 230,632	\$ 935,750	\$ 284,526	\$ 150,000	\$ 1,644,596
	Differential +/-	\$ 6,692	\$ (86,227)	\$ 254,250	\$ (149,338)	\$ -	\$ 25,377
	Differential %	15.32%	-37.39%	27.17%	-52.49%	0.00%	1.54%
	<b>Excise Tax</b>						
			<b>Actual 2023</b>		<b>Anticipated 2024</b>		<b>DIFF</b>
	Revenue/Anticipated		\$ 238,232	\$ 225,000			\$ (13,232)
	Expended/Proposed Appropriation		\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000			\$ -
	Lapse to Surplus		\$ 88,232	\$ 75,000			\$ (13,232)
	<b>2023 Appropriations</b>			<b>2022 Appropriations</b>			
	Municipal Taxation		\$1,644,596.00	Municipal Taxation		\$1,589,561.00	
	County Tax		\$602,379.00	County Tax		\$542,175.69	
	MSAD #74		\$1,943,356.00	MSAD #74		\$1,788,235.00	
	Overlay		\$165,003.20	Overlay		-\$10,244.79	
	<b>Total Due/Taxation</b>		<b>\$4,355,334.20</b>	<b>Total Due/Taxation</b>		<b>\$ 3,909,726.90</b>	

**TAX YEAR 2023**  
**OUTSTANDING BALANCE AS OF: 12/31/2023**

\* Paid after 12/31/2023 and before 2/1/2024

<u>Acct</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Tax</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Due</u>
631	AMMARELL, ANNETTE	\$418.05	\$0.00	\$418.05
21	ANDERS, V. BARBARA	\$428.59	\$0.00	\$428.59
* 73	ARMBRISTER, EUGENE	\$3,679.28	\$0.00	\$3,679.28
42	ATWOOD, RAYMOND M.	\$485.97	\$0.00	\$485.97
768	BAKER, CINDY	\$955.54	\$0.00	\$955.54
166	BARRON REALTY TRUST	\$2,722.58	\$0.00	\$2,722.58
* 303	BEAN, THOMAS K.	\$439.13	\$0.00	\$439.13
1326	BENBROOK, BEVERLY A ATTN: DANIEL BENBROOK	\$226.00	\$0.00	\$226.00
* 97	BERRY, DONALD J.	\$1,894.68	\$0.00	\$1,894.68
626	BISHOP, TERRY L.	\$1,364.22	\$0.00	\$1,364.22
1365	BOISVERT, JACOB D	\$324.37	\$0.00	\$324.37
* 406	BOLTHOUSE, CATHERINE L.	\$414.53	\$407.83	\$6.70
137	BREMILST, CASEY, TRUSTEE	\$311.49	\$0.00	\$311.49
138	BRETON, MITCHELL R.	\$407.51	\$0.00	\$407.51
140	BRIMIGION IRREVOCABLE TRUST, JEANNE	\$2,404.06	\$0.00	\$2,404.06
990	BRISTOW, RENEE	\$2,826.79	\$0.00	\$2,826.79
1449	BRISTOW, RENEE	\$412.19	\$0.00	\$412.19
1422	BROPHY, CHRISTOPHER J.	\$295.09	\$0.00	\$295.09
1425	BROPHY, CHRISTOPHER J.	\$333.74	\$0.00	\$333.74
1448	BROUGHTON, ROBERT JAMES	\$614.78	\$211.40	\$403.38
147	BROWN, ROBERT A.	\$411.02	\$0.00	\$411.02
421	BURRILL, TAMMY I.	\$1,268.19	\$0.00	\$1,268.19
177	BUTTERS, JAMES A.	\$1,374.75	\$808.25	\$566.50
94	CARRABASSETT GROUP & TIMBERLAND TRUST	\$442.64	\$0.00	\$442.64
18	CAVILLA, DAVID	\$2,686.27	\$0.00	\$2,686.27
550	CHIPMAN, WADE R.	\$460.20	\$0.00	\$460.20
541	COSTELLO, MYLES T.	\$275.19	\$19.28	\$255.91
69	CRAIG, CHLOERIVA N.	\$1,704.98	\$1.16	\$1,703.82
920	CULLINGTON, EARL J. (ESTATE OF)	\$1,365.39	\$0.00	\$1,365.39
1256	CUMMINGS, SHERRIE L	\$734.22	\$0.00	\$734.22
283	CUMMINGS, SHERRIE L.	\$303.29	\$0.00	\$303.29
1187	DANFORTH, AUBREY L. (ESTATE OF)	\$929.77	\$0.00	\$929.77
1440	DANFORTH, AUBREY L. (ESTATE OF)	\$238.88	\$0.00	\$238.88
1633	DANFORTH, BRUCE A	\$187.36	\$0.00	\$187.36
764	DANFORTH, BRUCE A.	\$969.59	\$0.00	\$969.59
273	DENALSKY FAMILY IRREVOCABLE TRUST	\$688.55	\$0.00	\$688.55
33	DEXTER, ASHLEY	\$313.83	\$0.00	\$313.83
1629	DIRIGO TIMBERLAND CO INC	\$110.07	\$0.00	\$110.07
1237	DOIRON, MATTHEW R. & ROBERT A.	\$2,172.21	\$0.00	\$2,172.21
1127	DUENAS, ALEJANDRO	\$2,934.53	\$0.00	\$2,934.53
864	EBNETER, KURT T.	\$3,736.66	\$0.00	\$3,736.66
108	FRITH, PALMER E. II	\$2,640.61	\$0.00	\$2,640.61

* 1523	GEORGE, SHANNON	\$243.57	\$0.00	\$243.57
1050	GOODALE, KRISTINA	\$449.66	\$0.00	\$449.66
522	GRAY, LINDA M.	\$918.06	\$2.82	\$915.24
* 1295	GUPPY, DARCY J.	\$3,797.55	\$0.00	\$3,797.55
658	HANDRAHAN REVOCABLE TRUST, ROBIN L.	\$4,563.39	\$0.00	\$4,563.39
787	HARDING JR., RICHARD L.	\$1,693.27	\$0.00	\$1,693.27
1444	HARTFORD, DONALD R.	\$474.26	\$0.00	\$474.26
1288	HAUSER, ET AL LAURA L.	\$2,700.33	\$0.00	\$2,700.33
578	HIBBARD, JOSEPH M.	\$1,948.54	\$0.00	\$1,948.54
1628	HOGAN, JAMES	\$973.10	\$0.00	\$973.10
771	HOLLOWAY, STANLEY K & LINDA S	\$1,639.40	\$0.00	\$1,639.40
633	HURD (L.E), DUANE	\$2,607.82	\$1,741.62	\$866.20
924	JILLSON, JOSHUA P.	\$399.31	\$0.00	\$399.31
650	JOHNSON, RONALD L. SR.	\$481.28	\$0.00	\$481.28
660	JUDSON, DARRYL L.	\$1,478.97	\$0.00	\$1,478.97
661	JUDSON, DARRYL L.	\$665.13	\$0.00	\$665.13
* 670	KEENAN, EDWARD	\$3,392.23	\$0.00	\$3,392.23
1398	KELLEY, MATTHEW J.	\$1,653.45	\$0.00	\$1,653.45
70	KELLY, MICHAEL	\$2,270.57	\$0.00	\$2,270.57
286	KOKMEYER, DIRK	\$2,352.54	\$0.00	\$2,352.54
65	KROMS, VERA & JONES, JENNIFER	\$632.34	\$0.00	\$632.34
* 1066	LABBE, CINDY H	\$351.30	\$0.00	\$351.30
* 1459	LABBE, CINDY H	\$283.38	\$0.00	\$283.38
* 1158	LACASSE, RICHARD A	\$707.28	\$0.00	\$707.28
919	LADD, CINDY L.	\$1,028.14	\$0.00	\$1,028.14
709	LAFLAMME, CARL P. (JT)	\$898.16	\$0.00	\$898.16
1511	LANCASTER, GARY G	\$930.95	\$549.00	\$381.95
136	LAVASSEUR, ANNMARIE	\$337.25	\$0.00	\$337.25
727	LAVERDIERE, JANICE B.	\$456.69	\$0.00	\$456.69
1155	LEVASSEUR, MICHAEL A.	\$1,186.22	\$0.00	\$1,186.22
935	LIBBY, LAURA L.	\$2,035.20	\$0.00	\$2,035.20
1617	LORENZ, FONDA	\$370.04	\$0.00	\$370.04
870	MACLEOD, MICHAEL & KARYN	\$996.52	\$747.39	\$249.13
1137	MARINO, DANIEL F.	\$1,074.98	\$2.03	\$1,072.95
898	MASON, RALPH	\$632.34	\$0.00	\$632.34
811	MAYO, CYNTHIA M.	\$555.05	\$300.00	\$255.05
1431	MCCARTHY, ALAN E	\$1,699.12	\$1,669.12	\$30.00
819	MCCARTHY, CAROLYN M.	\$1,844.33	\$0.00	\$1,844.33
458	MCCLAMMA, JASON D.	\$495.33	\$0.00	\$495.33
1395	MCDOWELL, ANDREW R.	\$523.44	\$0.00	\$523.44
1396	MCDOWELL, ANDREW R.	\$316.17	\$0.00	\$316.17
1397	MCDOWELL, ANDREW R.	\$405.17	\$0.00	\$405.17
833	MCMAHON, RICHARD J.	\$6,575.17	\$0.00	\$6,575.17
1164	MERCIER, COLLEEN L	\$1,594.90	\$0.00	\$1,594.90
* 1265	MERCIER, DANIEL L	\$315.00	\$0.00	\$315.00
866	MICHAUD, MICHAELA	\$148.72	\$0.00	\$148.72
314	MILLER, DUWAYNE E.	\$354.81	\$0.00	\$354.81
867	MONACO, JUDITH	\$270.50	\$0.00	\$270.50
873	MOODY, DOLORES P.	\$585.50	\$1.09	\$584.41
518	MOODY, ROXANNE M.	\$1,313.86	\$0.11	\$1,313.75
1374	MORNING, JAMES S	\$583.16	\$0.00	\$583.16

1232	MORRIS, SAMUEL G	\$1,215.50	\$0.00	\$1,215.50
392	MORRIS, SAMUEL G.	\$343.10	\$0.00	\$343.10
1472	MORRIS, SAMUEL G.	\$23.42	\$0.00	\$23.42
1020	MORRISETTE JR., DONALD	\$329.05	\$0.00	\$329.05
1304	MORRISETTE JR., DONALD	\$310.32	\$0.00	\$310.32
1020	MORRISETTE JR., DONALD	\$329.05	\$0.00	\$329.05
* 1304	MORRISETTE JR., DONALD	\$310.32	\$0.00	\$310.32
902	MORTON, GERALD B.	\$255.28	\$0.00	\$255.28
* 903	MORTON, GERALD B.	\$2,991.91	\$0.00	\$2,991.91
914	MULLIN, JOHN L. ET. AL.	\$350.13	\$233.43	\$116.70
916	MULLIN, JOHN L. ET. AL.	\$889.96	\$593.30	\$296.66
913	MULLIN, JOHN, KEVIN & STACEY	\$1,765.87	\$576.86	\$1,189.01
923	MULLIN, STEVEN R.	\$1,058.58	\$37.62	\$1,020.96
72	NADEAU, MAURICE P.	\$1,347.82	\$2.07	\$1,345.75
1207	NELSON, RICHARD	\$4,557.53	\$4,457.53	\$100.00
* 1061	NELSON, SHARON	\$1,299.81	\$0.00	\$1,299.81
* 386	NILE, LAURIE	\$589.01	\$281.74	\$307.27
233	O'LEARY, ETHAN G.	\$227.17	\$0.10	\$227.07
2	OLIVER, LAWRENCE W.	\$365.35	\$0.00	\$365.35
1	OLIVER, RENEE J.	\$428.59	\$0.00	\$428.59
* 965	PEASE, CHARLES A.	\$154.57	\$0.00	\$154.57
* 863	PENSIERO, KERRIE	\$2,676.91	\$2,637.60	\$39.31
1010	PINKHAM, CRAIG C.	\$492.99	\$488.56	\$4.43
1006	PINKHAM, JAMES	\$772.86	\$0.00	\$772.86
* 1038	PRATT, GEORGE	\$919.24	\$0.00	\$919.24
* 1039	PRATT, GEORGE	\$2,087.89	\$0.00	\$2,087.89
* 1044	QUARTON, FRANCES BAXTER TRUST	\$1,502.39	\$0.00	\$1,502.39
1051	RAYMOND, LORETTA	\$1,336.11	\$0.00	\$1,336.11
519	RICE, RUSSELL	\$752.95	\$0.00	\$752.95
1526	RIVER ROAD REAL ESTATE LLC	\$1,525.81	\$1,507.42	\$18.39
169	SCOTT, JOHN	\$2,597.28	\$0.00	\$2,597.28
1123	SHARKEY, LEE	\$87.83	\$0.00	\$87.83
1433	SHARKEY, LEE	\$97.19	\$0.00	\$97.19
* 1228	SHAW, KENNETH D.	\$783.40	\$0.00	\$783.40
1124	SHAW, NORMAN R	\$462.55	\$0.00	\$462.55
1463	SHAW, NORMAN R	\$263.48	\$0.00	\$263.48
790	SINGHSRI, VILAI	\$545.69	\$538.87	\$6.82
1434	SMITH, WINN S.	\$2,030.51	\$1,812.68	\$217.83
* 587	STEWART, ROBERT	\$1,256.48	\$429.87	\$826.61
* 841	STOCKER, EILEEN JEANNE	\$112.42	\$0.00	\$112.42
1505	STRICKLAND, WHITNEY A	\$233.03	\$0.00	\$233.03
132	SWARTOUT, JEFFREY S.	\$1,126.50	\$371.24	\$755.26
356	SWEENEY, RYAN	\$682.69	\$0.00	\$682.69
517	TAYLOR; GOSPIL; CHAMBERLAIN; LACASSE	\$373.55	\$0.00	\$373.55
203	TFCC PROPERTIES, LLC	\$1,593.73	\$1,574.52	\$19.21
340	TFCC PROPERTIES, LLC	\$469.57	\$463.91	\$5.66
1021	TFCC PROPERTIES, LLC	\$2,253.00	\$2,225.84	\$27.16
1031	TFCC PROPERTIES, LLC	\$347.79	\$343.60	\$4.19
1101	TFCC PROPERTIES, LLC	\$428.59	\$423.42	\$5.17
1244	TFCC PROPERTIES, LLC	\$2,128.88	\$2,103.22	\$25.66
1474	TFCC PROPERTIES, LLC	\$604.24	\$596.96	\$7.28



1476	TFCC PROPERTIES, LLC	\$14,653.89	\$14,477.24	\$176.65
1520	TFCC PROPERTIES, LLC	\$480.11	\$474.32	\$5.79
1560	TFCC PROPERTIES, LLC	\$825.56	\$815.61	\$9.95
1562	TFCC PROPERTIES, LLC	\$322.03	\$318.15	\$3.88
1102	TILLSON, LEROY S	\$1,449.70	\$0.00	\$1,449.70
1352	TILLSON, LEROY S	\$553.88	\$0.00	\$553.88
1070	TRUSCOTT, DANIEL T	\$918.06	\$0.00	\$918.06
242	TRUSCOTT, KATIE	\$384.09	\$0.00	\$384.09
* 7	TUNNEY, JOHN	\$414.53	\$0.00	\$414.53
400	VARNEY PROPERTIES LLC	\$327.88	\$0.00	\$327.88
1033	VERRILL, ANNE R	\$3,639.47	\$3,629.10	\$10.37
1238	VILES, GLENN S	\$566.76	\$3.17	\$563.59
1239	VILES, GLENN S	\$3,063.34	\$0.00	\$3,063.34
1392	WAHLER, HEATHER M	\$1,044.53	\$0.00	\$1,044.53
1371	WALDRON, CRAIG	\$296.26	\$0.00	\$296.26
* 1535	WALLACE, DUANE R.	\$132.32	\$3.86	\$128.46
845	WAMPATUCK, LLC	\$3,897.09	\$15.07	\$3,882.02
1377	WAY, JAMIE L	\$40.99	\$0.00	\$40.99
667	WEEKS, MICHAEL W.	\$871.22	\$494.65	\$376.57
1286	WILKINS; ZEH; WILLIAM; STEWARD; HOWELL	\$1,706.15	\$1,511.00	\$195.15
1312	WOOD, KENNETH G	\$392.29	\$0.00	\$392.29
1314	WUORI, GUY	\$4,438.09	\$0.01	\$4,438.08
1317	WYMAN, TRAVIS P	\$395.80	\$0.78	\$395.02
<b>Total for 172 Accounts</b>		<b>\$202,154.34</b>	<b>\$51,076.19</b>	<b>\$151,078.15</b>

**Tax Year 2022**

**Outstanding Balance As Of : 12/31/2023**

\* Paid after 12/31/2023 and before 2/1/2024

<u>Acct</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Due</u>
21	ANDERS, V. BARBARA	\$508.45
626	BISHOP, TERRY L.	\$1,496.66
1365	BOISVERT, JACOB D	\$323.34
147	BROWN, ROBERT A.	\$466.64
* 1237	DOIRON, MATTHEW R. & ROBERT A.	\$65.90
1050	GOODALE, KRISTINA	\$533.63
787	HARDING JR., RICHARD L.	\$1,750.71
924	JILLSON, JOSHUA P.	\$465.05
660	JUDSON, DARRYL L.	\$1,649.24
661	JUDSON, DARRYL L.	\$746.40
919	LADD, CINDY L.	\$1,153.47
935	LIBBY, LAURA L.	\$2,235.71
819	MCCARTHY, CAROLYN M.	\$1,933.56
458	MCCLAMMA, JASON D.	\$591.06
1397	MCDOWELL, ANDREW R.	\$390.49
314	MILLER, DUWAYNE E.	\$133.76
1374	MORNING, JAMES S	\$676.42
356	SWEENEY, RYAN	<u>\$751.29</u>
<b>Total of 18 Accounts</b>		<b>\$15,871.78</b>

# NOTES



# EMBDEN STAFF DIRECTORY

## **Board of Selectpersons**

207-566-5551 ext. 5  
embden-select@embden.org

Charles Taylor 207-491-2641  
Wayne McLaughlin 207-635-2244  
Janice Welch 207-566-5679

## **General Assistance**

207-566-5551 ext. 5  
embdenselect@embden.org

Charles Taylor 207-491-2641

## **Town Clerk/Treasurer/Registrar**

207-566-5551 ext. 1  
embdenclerk@embden.org

Christine Sockwell

## **Tax Collector**

207-566-5551 ext. 2  
embden-collector@embden.org

Ruth Blake

## **Code Enforcement Officer**

207-566-5551 ext. 4  
embden-ceo@embden.org

Terriann Lamontagne

## **Assessor**

207-566-5551 ext.3  
embden-assessor@embden.org

Shirley Bartlett 207-318-8250

## **E-911 Addressing Officer**

Christine Sockwell 207-566-5551

## **Planning Board**

Leo Mayo/Chair 207-566-7341  
Ann Bridges/Secretary 207-566-5793

## **Appeals Board**

Jon Duff 207-566-5722

## **Licensed Plumbing Inspector**

Robert Lightbody 207-431-0694

## **Health Inspector**

Leo Mayo 207-566-7341

## **Road Commissioner**

Michael Witham 207-431-1604

## **Winter Roads**

J.R. Nunes & Sons Excavation  
Josh 207-265-6286

## **Animal Control Officer**

Robin Wilkey 207-474-6386

## **Embden Community Center**

207-566-7302