

Freeport Community Library
10 Library Drive (off Main Street)

Monday, Thursday, and Friday: 10am – 5pm
Tuesday and Wednesday: 10am – 7pm
Saturday: 10am – 2pm*
*Closed on Saturdays from Memorial Day through Labor Day and holiday weekends

Freeport Recycling Facility
Hedgehog Mountain Road (off Pownal Road)
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8am – 4pm
Saturday: 9am – 4pm

Town Hall
30 Main Street
Monday – Thursday: 7:30am – 6pm
Friday: Closed

- Online Services**
www.freeportmaine.com
- Re-registrations for Car/ATV/ Trailer/ Snowmobile
 - Hunting/Fishing/Dog Licenses
 - Request Municipal Vital Records
 - View and Pay Property Taxes online
 - Renew and Pay Moorings and Mooring Waitlist
 - Video on Demand

Town of
Freeport
2024 *Annual Report*

All photographs in this report other than in letters from representatives were taken by Freeport residents of Freeport subjects.

Cover photo and report design by Wendy Clark Design of Freeport.

Table of Contents

Committees, Boards & Community Agencies1

Citizen of the Year. 2

In Loving Memory. 3

Freeport by the Numbers 4

Town Council 4

Town Manager. 6

Buildings & Grounds. 7

Town Clerk 8

Town Engineer 10

Hunter Road Fields11

Solid Waste & Recycling 12

Cable TV3. 13

Finance Department. 14

Public Works Department 15

Outstanding Personal & Real Estate Property Taxes 16

Tax Assessor20

Codes Enforcement 21

Planning Department.22

Police Department 24

Fire Rescue Department25

RSU5 Superintendent of Schools 26

Freeport Community Library 27

General Assistance.....28

Permanent Town Employees by Department.....29

Marine Resource Conservation30

Harbormaster 31

Bustins Island..... 31

Winslow Park. 32

Cumberland County 33

State Senate..... 35

State House of Representatives 36

U.S. Senate 37

U.S. House of Representatives.....39

Excerpts from the FY 2019 Financial Statements ...40



Wendy Clark photo

Municipal Phone Directory

Animal Control	
Freeport Police.....	865-4800
Tax Assessor	
Quang Minh Le	865-4743 x140
Cable TV	
Tom Pierce	865-4743 x114
Codes Enforcement	
Nicholas Adams	865-4743 x102
Finance Director	
Jessica Maloy.....	865-4743 x115
Fire Rescue Chief & Emergency Prep.	
Robert Bernard	865-3421
General Assistance	
Carrie Weeman.....	865-4743 x8
Harbormaster	
Charles Tetreau	865-4546
Human Resources	
Courtney Sparks	865-4743 x119
Library	
Wynter Giddings.....	865-3307
Marine Resource Conservation Officer	
Charles Tetreau	865-4800
Police Chief	
Nathaniel Goodman.....	865-4800
Public Works Director	
Earl Gibson.....	865-4461
Recycling Facility	
Suzanne Duplissis.....	865-3740
RSU5 Superintendent	
Jean Skorapa	865-0928
Town Clerk & Registrar of Voters	
Christine Wolfe	865-4743 x123
Town Manager	
Sophia Wilson	865-4743 x121
Town Planner	
Kyle Drexler	865-4743 x107
Development Director	
Brett Richardson	865-4743 ext 117
Winslow Park Manager	
Neil Lyman	865-9052
Winslow Park Gatehouse	
(May-Oct)	865-4198

Committees, Boards & Community Agencies *as of June 2024*

Board of Appeals	Conservation Commission	Planning Board	Sewer District Trustees
Pamela Leone	Ryan Burke, Chair	Sam Kapala, Chair	Robert Myrick
Shannon Garrity, Vice Chair	Benjamin Shepard	Rose Mary Burwell	Thomas Hudak
Chalmers Hardenbergh	Michael Pistrang	David Speirs	Michael Ashby, Chair
Ronald Davis	Margaret Gerber	Andy Arsenault	Kathryn Wallingford
Preston Noon, Chair	Matt McLaughlin	Mitchell Rouda-Vice Chair	Timothy Whitacre
Evan Ryan	Danica Schroth	Wayne Jortner	Adam Morse
Vacancies (1)	James Arrison	Bonnie Myles	Chad Coffin, Vice-Chair
STAFF PERSON: Nicholas Adams	Dan Piltch, Council Liaison	STAFF PERSON: Caroline Pelletier	
Board of Assessment Review	Emergency Preparedness	Police Advisory	Shellfish Conservation Commission
Chris Grimm	Paul Conley, Fire/Rescue Chief	Edwin Boutin	Gina Leduc-Kuntz
R. McAllister Lloyd	Nate Goodman, Police Chief	Mark Devine-Chair	Mike Ashby
Clint Swett	Earl Gibson, Public Works Director	Elizabeth Ring	Nelson Larkins
Andrew Arsenault	Sophia Wilson, Town Manager	Enoch Boudreau, student	Kathryn Wallingford
Vacancy (1)	Sarah Randall, Sewer District	Vacancies (3)	Chad Coffin-chair
	Dr. Becky Foley, RSU#5 Supt.	Dan Piltch, Council Liaison	Sarah Warren
Cable TV. Regulatory Board	FCS Representative	Project Review Board	Sara Randall, Vice Chair
Wayne Jortner	General Assistance	James Monteleone	Darrell Fournier, Council Liaison
David Webster	Charles Tetreau, Harbormaster	Ford Reiche-Chair	STAFF PERSON: Charles Tetreau
Jason Doyle		Fred Mадiera	Freeport Water District Trustees
Carolyn Jensen, RSU#5 liaison	Hunter Road Fields Advisory Committee	Lynn Hamlen	Chad Coffin
Greg Michaud, Chair	Aaron Francis-Chair	Tod Yankee-Vice Chair	Jonathan Gagne
STAFF PERSON: Tom Pierce	Phil Wagner	Linda Berger	Tais De Los Reyes
	Matt Walsh	Jason Donahue	South Freeport Water District Trustees
Coastal Waters Commission	Mark Guyer	STAFF PERSON: Caroline Pelletier	Jeffrey Stenzel, Chair
Jeff Stenzel	Nelson Larkins	Freeport RSU5 Board of Directors	Eric Horne
Dayton Benway, Secretary	John Egan, Council Liaison	Kelly Sink	Paul Beem
D. Scott Gleeson	Eric Hall, RSU #5 Representative	Maura Pillsbury	Winslow Park Commission
Mark Morrissey, Chair	STAFF PERSON: Carrie Weeman	Colin Cheney	Fred Reeder
Tod Yankee	Library Board of Trustees	Kara Kaikini	Martin Fosburg
Laurie Orlando	Jessica Martin	Carolyn Jensen	Bill Ross
Vacancy (1)	Leslie Hallock	Cheyenne Farrell	Gerald Kennedy
STAFF PERSON: Charles Tetreau	Donna Rice	Sustainability Advisory Board	Vacancies (4)
	Dan Hudkins	James Reinertsen	Matthew Pillsbury, Council Liaison
Complete Streets Committee	Mary Gallie-Vice Chair	Susana Hancock	STAFF PERSON: Neil Lyman
Kim True	Sally Martin	Megan Shore	
Phil Wagner	Katie Majcher	Bob Stevens	
Sally Walsh	Kim Swett	Valeria Steverlynck, Co-Chair	
Barbara Guffin-Vice Chair	Darryl Uy-Chair	Mandana MacPherson-Co-Chair	
Elizabeth McDonald-Chair	STAFF PERSON: Wynter Giddings	Kristen Dorsey	
Vacancy (1)		Eric Smith, Council Liaison	
Nate Goodman, Police Chief			
Andrew Seymour, LL Bean Rep.			
Henry Lawrence, Council Liaison			
STAFF PERSON: Sophia Wilson,			
Town Manager, and Earl Gibson, Public Works Director			



Wendy Clark photo

Citizen of the Year: Mary Davis

As presented by Town Council Chair, John Egan

Citizen status and citizenship are terms that get thrown around, often in the context of our country's borders and the earnest desire of many worldwide to gain what most of us have by birthright. Thanks to insightful decisions and guidance from 248 years ago, in framing what the United States was to become and what it is today, we tend to coast on the luxury of being a citizen here in Freeport and what that status yields to us and for us. Reflecting on those original writings from 248 years ago, it is apparent that citizenship is two-way. It requires nearly as much as it grants. We honor this flow of requirements today with the Freeport Town Council 2023 Citizen of the Year award given to Mary Davis.

The award is intended to highlight and honor the Freeport resident who demonstrates this two-way dynamic of citizenship with clear examples of selfless giving, contributions to the common good, leadership coupled with humility, and modeling for us all - what being a part of a community means and requires.

Mary Davis sets that bar high.

Over the past ten years, Mary's leadership at the Freeport Economic Development Council (FEDC) as Board Chair and staffing as Interim Director has again and again reflected those qualities of a stand-out resident, a true citizen who listens, leads, stays focused, is patient and never loses sight of the goal. The review and change process in Freeport that started with the Downtown Revision Plan provided an ideal vehicle for Mary Davis to shine with her skills, vision, and ability to bring the community along with her on some bumpy and turbulent paths. Community leadership is vital to a healthy local economy but is much more than dollars, jobs, and tax rates. It's about engaging and motivating people to believe in their beloved town's future. Mary has repeatedly shown how to inspire and spread a smile across diverse and sometimes opposing segments of our town populace. These abilities are where citizenship earns credibility; Mary elevates the community needs and the town's benefit above any personal goals or rewards and shows everyone why we like living here.

With skills from the business sector honed in, her positions at Idexx, and for the past ten years leading FEDC through a series of accomplishments, Mary has worked tirelessly and sometimes to exhaustion for Freeport.

We are pleased and honored to present Mary Davis with the highest award, 2023 Citizen of the Year.



Town Councilor John Egan presents Mary Davis with the Citizen of the Year award.

Past Citizen of the Year Recipients

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| • Kathleen Sullivan - 2022 | • Bob Stevens - 2010 |
| • Katrina Van Dusen - 2021 | • Rod Regier - 2009 |
| • Jim DeGrandpre - 2020 | • Barbara Gifford - 2008 |
| • Maryellen Carew and Pauline (Sam) Hunneman - 2019 | • Dr. Jonathan Strout - 2007 |
| • Beth Edmonds - 2018 | • Mary Sauer & Jon Hoy - 2006 |
| • Fred Palmer and John Paterson - 2017 | • Betsy Ruff - 2005 |
| • George Denney - 2016 | • Edgar Leighton - 2004 |
| • Kate and Jonas Werner - 2015 | • E. Ann Westervelt - 2003 |
| • Freeport Community Services Founding Mothers - 2014 | • Louis Marstaller - 2002 |
| • Edward Bradley - 2013 | • Vaughndella Curtis - 2001 |
| • Thomas Wright - 2012 | • Edward Bonney - 2000 |
| • Vicki Lowe - 2011 | • Frank Small - 1999 |
| | • Frank Garland - 1998 |
| | • Fred Fernald & Edward Bueter - 1997 |
| | • Paul Powers - 1996 |

Jeffrey Scott Smith photo

In Loving Memory

Helen Fournier

Helen Taylor Fournier, 85, lifelong resident of Flying Point Road, Freeport passed on January 28, 2024.

Helen attended the one room schoolhouse on Litchfield Road and graduated as valedictorian of her high school class in 1955. She went on to receive her Bachelor of Science in education from Gorham State Teachers College in 1959. She began her teaching career at Wiscasset Elementary School, eventually taking a position at Morse Street School in Freeport where she taught second grade and special education. She loved teaching and found it immensely rewarding.

On July 1st of 1961, Helen married the love of her life, Kenneth "Bud " Fournier. Together they built their home with beautiful peaceful views of Maquoit Bay. In 1965, their daughter Sharon joined them to make a perfect trio. All with fire sign birth dates.



Helen enjoyed reading, particularly the mystery novels of Agatha Christie, knitting, sewing, cooking, Saturday night dances and going to stock car races with Bud and their friends and family. She was also very proud of her flower garden.

She loved her many friends throughout her life. During her teaching career and later working at L.L. Bean Inc. and the Town of Freeport. She tried to see them as often as possible. She was particularly proud of very special twin girls whose journey in life was a true joy to her and exemplifies the true meaning of "Miracles Do Happen."

Helen's wish was for all of you to do a good deed for someone else anonymously.

Leland Arris Jr.

This past year, Freeport lost one of its finest native sons. Leland "Lee" Arris Jr. passed away in late November of 2023. Lee was the eldest of eight children in the well-known Arris family of Freeport. His mother, Betty, and many of his siblings continue to be valued members of the Freeport community.

Lee attended Freeport High School, where he excelled as a star basketball player and played a pivotal role in leading the 1969 Boys Basketball team to the State Championships. After graduating in 1969, he went on to attend Bowdoin College. He spent many years teaching Latin at Westbrook High School and was an active leader of the teachers' union while raising his four children in Freeport. He also worked the town's mudflats as a commercial clammer, reflecting his deep connection to Freeport's coastal heritage.

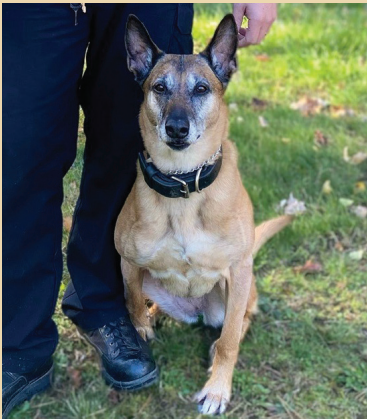
After retiring from his career in education, Lee dedicated himself to natural resource management and community service in his hometown. He was first elected as a Trustee for the Freeport Sewer District and later served as its General Manager. Lee also served a term as a Freeport Town Councilor, winning the seat as a write-in candidate. A fierce advocate for what he believed in, Lee transformed Freeport's wastewater treatment system over his 15 years of leadership, turning it from one of the state's poorest performing to one of its best. Before his passing, he secured over \$20 million in funding to upgrade the plant's aging infrastructure—projects that are now moving forward as a testament to his unwavering commitment to the town he was from.



He will be deeply missed, but his contributions will continue to benefit Freeport for generations to come.

Police Department Canine-Officer Cassie

It is with great sadness that we announce that our beloved K-9 Cassie, passed away in 2023. Cassie was just over 13 years old and lived almost her entire life serving the citizens and visitors of Freeport. Cassie held certifications in Obedience, Agility, Evidence Recovery, Tracking, Building Searches and Criminal Apprehension.



She spent her days helping find lost children, the elderly, those who were lost and a great number of individuals who didn't want to be found. She was sweet and gentle during her school visits and demonstrations and to the many officers she worked with in Freeport and in the surrounding Southern Maine region.

She and her handler Sergeant Matthew Moorhouse helped assist many neighboring agencies over the years and Cassie's hard work and keen sense of smell were famous to all who needed her help. She was Freeport's first K-9 and she and Sergeant Moorhouse set the bar extremely high. Thank you Sergeant Moorhouse and Cassie for all you've sacrificed and done for the people of Freeport.

Jeffrey Scott Smith photo

Freeport by the Numbers

On most pages of the annual report you will notice large numbers indicating what each department costs the median taxpayer, and staffing levels for the department. The hope is that this will give the reader a quick overview of the department's scope. Please keep in mind that the numbers are based on the median assessed value of all residential properties for Fiscal Year 2024, which was \$400,000. If your property is assessed higher or lower, your contribution to each department would differ. The number does not consider revenues generated by the department. Staffing levels indicated are shown in a full-time equivalent (FTE) unless otherwise noted, which does not consider the actual number of employees, but the total employee hours budgeted for that department and how many full-time employees that would equal. There are non-departmental expenses in the town's budget; therefore, they are not broken down on a page and would total \$335 on the median tax bill. These expenses include utilities, insurance, promotions, miscellaneous contingency, employee benefits, overlay, and debt service.



Town Council

It's refreshing to write a summary report for the past year of activity and progress by your Town Council without having to mention a public health crisis and/or some particular virus whose name we shall not mention.

The number one highlight for the past year was the search process and eventual decision to hire Sophia L. Wilson as our new Town Manager. Coming from the community of Orono, with community dynamics similar to Freeport, Sophie has made a bold and welcome entrance to governing the town staff, organizing and optimizing town government functions, facilitating the Council's decisions, and climbing that learning curve at wicked speed. The "fit" with a new administrator has been applauded and welcomed by the Council since her hire in Dec. 2023.

Like many communities in Maine, and around the country, housing and the relative unaffordability and unavailability of homes were perhaps the dominant topics of the past year. Ridiculous home prices (unless you're a seller in which case "prices are great") and the dramatic scarcity of any inventory for sale or for rent have caused large waves in Freeport. From the inability to hire workers, to younger families boxed out from becoming residents in Freeport, to households being unable to adapt to life changes and changing family sizes, and rising costs, the acute shortage of supply hits all sectors of our town. While most of us are comfortably housed and go about our daily lives with only incidental focus on this issue, all our larger employers, your town government, the RSU, and many small business owners are feeling the crunch of not being able to attract workers or retain employees because there is simply no inventory of homes anywhere, for any price. There is a much longer conversation necessary on why we are collectively in this pinch point but, it's clear the usual market forces of the real estate economy are not working and need some repair.

The Town Council is taking steps to address some of the hurdles, reviewing Freeport's Codes and Land-Use Ordinances. Bold visions for new planning are on the table with the year-long public Comprehensive Plan process underway right now (summer 2024) and various innovative ideas are percolating to the top for review. I strongly encourage you to engage in the Comprehensive Plan process. There are numerous avenues to make that easy. The housing development process is long and immediate action is needed now to get things moving. At the top of that list is for us to be prepared for change as the community, and its members and partners propose some solutions. Public process is so vital to a healthy community. Let's remember that public process needs to include solutions not just oppositions.

We often hear on the Council that change happens too fast and where did this come from? Why is this so rushed? And in fact, nearly all the decisions rendered or managed by the Council are months in process, if not longer. People are busy about their lives and very few are following town government process very closely, hence the need for excellence in communication from your town and your Council. Change is coming, we are wise to prepare for it and shape the dynamics to our best leverage. This includes climate change and impacts from a more volatile, warming climate around us.

Of course, no discussion of your town government in action is complete without some mention of taxes. The 2025 budget, which took effect on July 1, 2024, decreases the mill rate by 0.30. A last-minute adjustment to cover a contract for General Assistance (a required Town function) and increases in health insurance, benefits and wages to attract and retain talent are the primary drivers of this change. In her first six months on the job, Sophie was able to realign staffing

positions at Town Hall, add an Assistant Town Manager and a Human Resources Director, all with zero budget increases due to retirements and re-alignments. This eye toward efficiency is exactly why we hired Sophie Wilson. Town government and particularly the permitting and code enforcement function should run smoother, faster and with more transparency because of these efficiencies.

As a reminder, the portion of your property tax bill that is directly tied to town government is roughly 21%. That's the portion that your elected Councilors can control. It's a solid reflection of the judgment and balance of the Council that has continued to make vital investments in your community, keeping us all safe and healthy while keeping property tax increases to a minimum. Freeport is one of the most financially sound communities in southern Maine. Our brilliant town staff, especially our Finance Director, Jessica Maloy, with their sharp administrative capacity, are responsible for almost all of that.

It's truly a pleasure and honor to represent all of you, my community, on the Council. Every week I learn something new about Freeport or its history and am amazed by the feats and accomplishments of residents, both young and old. I ask that you get engaged, listen to the whole conversation about new things coming along and ask a lot of questions. When each of us can have conversations about issues, so much more is possible than when we allow others or the media to do our talking...

See you all around town.

Cost to the
median taxpayer
\$17

7
Elected
Councilors



John Egan



Darrel Fournier



Daniel Piltch



Eric C. Smith



Matthew Pillsbury



Henry "Chip" Lawrence



Joanna Benoit

Wendy Clark photo

Town Manager

It is with great pleasure that we submit the Annual Report on the Town of Freeport's municipal activities for the fiscal operating period from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. This report includes updates from all our municipal departments and insights into the FY24 municipal budget. As in previous years, each page features "Freeport by the Numbers", offering a snapshot of how much each department costs the average taxpayer (not taking into account revenues) and the budgeted full-time employee equivalent for staffing each department.

The fiscal year kicked off with Caroline Pelletier continuing serving as both Town Planner and Interim Town Manager. Meanwhile, the Council carried on its work with Baker Tilley on a national search to find Freeport's next Town Manager. The Council started conducting candidate interviews in early fall, the Council appointed Sophia L. Wilson as our new Town Manager, starting in early December 2023.

Like many municipalities, attracting and retaining staff continues to be a challenge in particular departments such as Fire-Rescue, Police, and Public Works. We continue to work on staffing, which continues to evolve due in part to our aging workforce and some long-term employees approaching retirement. Although transition poses challenges, they provide opportunities to reevaluate our organizational structure for efficiency and improvement in the level of services provided and can provide opportunities for employees who are ready for internal advancement. This year, with a vacancy in the Town Engineer position, we were able to promote Earl Gibson to the Director of Public Works (including overseeing Buildings and Grounds and the Recycling Facility). We also prepared for the retirement of long-term Assistant Town Manager Judith Hawley and evaluated how to best continue the work of that position and the additional projects that the Town Manager's Office would be taking on in the coming year.

The Council continued to meet regularly with a consistent schedule of meetings and workshops. This year, they also planned for the return of the District meetings; one to be held in each voting district. Many of the items taken up by the Town Council included items that were raised by staff, Board and Committee members, Town residents and business owners. The Council continued with the topics

of supporting improving efficiency and transparency of public services and processes, implementation of the Downtown Vision Plan, actively participated in the Comprehensive Planning progress and worked with the public to get more feedback before considering the adoption of a Climate Action Plan. The Council also spent considerable time on ordinance and ordinance amendments for items such as State requirements for housing regulations (LD 2003), flood plan management and map changes, cannabis land use regulations and licensing, reviewed mooring rules and fees, and considered amendments to Freeport's Shellfish Conservation Ordinance.

The Town of Freeport is fortunate to possess an active and engaged community with residents and business owners alike, all of whom get actively involved in Town issues and contribute to the evolution of our community. We are also thankful to have a large number of residents that volunteer to serve on our many municipal Boards and Committees. I would like to thank all our volunteers, engaged community members and staff for their support and efforts during the past year to help make Freeport the wonderful community it is today.

Buildings & Grounds

We have three great employees in the Buildings & Grounds Department: Kenny Stilkey, Kelly Gorham, and Hunter White. They maintain all of our municipal buildings, municipal cemeteries, and municipal parks. Also, they keep the trash cans empty year-round, including on holidays and weekends. We are fortunate to have them as Town of Freeport employees.



Kenny Stilkey and Hunter White (Absent: Kelly Gorham)

Cost to the median taxpayer for
Town Manager and
Buildings & Grounds Departments:

2 Full-time equivalents \$87

Human Resources



Courtney Sparks, Human Resources



3 Full-time equivalents

Jeffrey Scott Smith photo

Wendy Clark photo

Town Clerk

The Clerk's Office assists residents with traditional services such as dog licensing, voter registration, administering all elections, food truck permits, shellfish licensing, liquor licensing, vital records, short-term residential rental registrations, annual town report preparation; notary and Dedimus Justice services, weddings and the oath administration. This year, we also added the administration and issuance of Cannabis Licenses to our services.

We also maintain the Hunter Road Field's spring and fall athletics schedule for Freeport United Soccer, Tri-Town Little League, RSU5 Community Programs, and the RSU5 teams that may practice or play games on the fields. Outside organizations such as the Maine Waldorf School and a local Home School group also utilize the fields and schedule this through the Clerk's Office. With the new website, Deputy Clerk, Carrie Weeman, established a calendar and reservation system that better aids her in administering these schedules, and is also the staff person for the Hunter Road Fields Advisory Committee.

The Town Clerk is the secretary for the Town Council and the Town Council Appointments Committee. We assist the Town Council subcommittee with committee membership data, which members are currently serving, their terms of office, vacancies, interested applicants, agendas, and minutes. We are also closely involved with the Town's boards and committees and work with them hand in hand to maintain permanent records such as minutes and agendas, along with assistance in keeping their information current on the town website.

This spring, we were delighted to have Freeport High School senior Enoch Boudreau work with our office during election preparation for the June Primary as part of his senior project. He attended the RSU5 Annual Budget meeting, learned procedures, and helped conduct absentee voting at a local Nursing Home.

Deputy Clerk, Carrie Weeman, attended the 2023 New England Conference in Westbrook, Connecticut, in November.

Elections

November 7, 2023—State of Maine Referendum and Freeport Annual Election results

- Councilor-At Large- (1 seat) 3-year term: Joanna Benoit

- Councilor District 2-(1 seat) 3-year term: Eric C. Smith
- Councilor District 3-(1 seat) 3-year term: Matthew Pillsbury
- RSU5 Board of Directors- (2 seats) 3-year terms: Cheyenne Farrell and Carolyn Jensen
- Sewer District Trustee-(2 seats)-3-year terms: Chad Coffin and Timothy Whitacre
- Water District Trustee-(1 seat)-3-year term: Tais De Los Reyes
- Freeport voters and voters Statewide also cast ballots on four citizen initiatives and four Constitutional Amendments. This election experienced a 45% voter turnout, with 3,572 voters casting ballots, 31% of which were absentee ballots.

March 5, 2024—Presidential Primary

In March, voters cast ballots for Maine's second Presidential Primary election. The Democratic and Republican parties participated in the Primary election. The No Labels, Green Independent, and Libertarians did not select their party's candidate through the primary election process.

This election saw a 17% voter turnout, with 1,389 voters casting ballots, 24% of which were absentee ballots.

June 11, 2024—State Primary, RSU5 Budget Validation, and Maine Career and Technical Education Region 10 School Referendums

State Primary: Voters selected candidates for US Senator, Representative to Congress, State Senator, Representative to the Legislature, and Registrar of Probate. The Democratic, Republican, and Green Independent (Representative to Congress race only) parties participated.

This election saw a 10% voter turnout, with 851 voters casting ballots, 18% of which were absentee ballots.

Following the tragic events in Lewiston in October 2023, the safety of students at Freeport High School was front and center in everyone's minds. The tragic event required us to look at the ability of the Town to continue to use RSU5 High School Gymnasium as our polling location. Fortunately, with the help of the Town and School



Christine Wolfe, Town Clerk



Carrie Weeman, Deputy Clerk

staff, we arrived at safety changes that ensure there is no threat to the student body when the public has access to the school and voting area. Small changes included sectioning off student access areas, providing election staff to direct voters to the polling area, and having a Police Officer on sight during polling hours. We want to thank RSU5 for finding a solution that provides an open and accessible voting location and security and safety for the student body.

Registered Voters (as of June 30, 2024)

3,654 Democrat
2,437 Unenrolled
1,502 Republican
202 Green Independent
56 No Labels
18 Libertarian

Vital Statistics

Marriage Licenses Issued: 54
The Town Clerk's Office provides wedding ceremony services for an additional fee.
Resident Births: 74
Resident Deaths: 103
Burial Permits Issued: 1
Certified Copies Issued: 676

Council Agendas

Town Council Meetings: 23
Town Council Workshops: 9

Municipal Licensing and other services

Automobile Junkyard Licenses: 1
Catering and BYOB Permits: 33
Commercial Passenger Boat Licenses: 4
Dog Licenses: 1,476
Food Peddler Licenses on Public Property: 2
Food Trucks:
Food Truck 3 day: 15
Food Truck 1 year: 22

Hunt/Fish licenses (includes all types and authorities): 171
Liquor Licenses: 24
Special Amusement Permits: 9
Sole Proprietor and Partnership filings: 7
Notary Public: 249

2023-2024 Short-Term Rental Registrations

Active Short-term Rental Registrations (as of June 30, 2024): 83
Short-term Rental Registrations renewed: 76
Short-term Rental Registrations not renewed: 8
Short-term Rental Registrations new: 12
Short-term Rental Registrations late (\$200 additional fee paid): 0

Shellfish Licensing

The Freeport Shellfish Ordinance was amended in the spring of 2024 to institute an Apprenticeship Program. Five licenses were available for applicants who could work hand in hand with an experienced license holder who has held a commercial shellfish license for the past five years. This license category has been discussed for several years, and we were happy to issue four Apprenticeship Licenses that will be effective for two years.

Commercial Shellfish Licenses:

Resident Commercial: 37
Resident Senior Commercial: 9
Resident Student Commercial: 5
Non-resident Commercial: 7
Non-Resident Senior: 1
Non-Resident Student Commercial: 1

Recreational Shellfish Licenses:

Resident Recreational: 91
Non-Resident Recreational: 20

Please be advised that many services are available online and can save you a trip to the Town Office. Please visit our website at www.freeportmaine.com for information on registering a dog or obtaining hunting and fishing licenses online, as well as other information regarding elections, vital records, municipal licensing, and other services we provide.



Town Engineer

The Town Engineer is involved with many of the Town's capital projects and provides engineering support to other Town projects. The Engineer provides staff support to the Complete Streets Committee and other Town committees as needed. One primary responsibility of the Town Engineer is to manage the Town's Stormwater Permit compliance requirements with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and provide technical review and inspections of commercial projects for the Town. Other engineering and administrative services are performed by the Town Engineer as requested by the Town Manager. Some of the Town's ongoing projects are described below.

The Complete Streets Committee addressed a number of traffic and safety issues over the course of the year and gave recommendations on proposed development projects that had included changes in the public right of way. The Committee spent significant time discussing and participating in implementation efforts for the recently completed Freeport Downtown Vision Plan; specifically working on the project charters pertaining to transportation, trails, connectivity and bicycle/pedestrian topics. The Committee continued its review and discussion on a mixed-use path from the YMCA to Pine Street. These efforts were further enhanced by the Committee's collaboration with Connect Freeport to address some of these important issues for Freeport.

There continues to be ongoing road and bridge improvements occurring in Freeport, including the reconstruction of the bridges on I-295 at exits 20 and 22 that started in 2022. Although the project is owned and managed by the Maine DOT, the Town contributed funding for a 12' wide shared use path on both bridges to improve pedestrian and bicycle connectivity between the east and west sides of the I-295 corridor. The projects are now scheduled for completion in Fall 2025.

A Town Hall Beautification project was designed by the Town Engineer and approved by the Project Review Board in 2022, with construction anticipated in 2023. The improvements included new walkways and building entrances that are ADA-compliant by removing the steps to all the doors and replacing them with ramps and elevated walkways. Although this project was funded by the Town and received a grant from T-Mobile for the amphitheater area on the Main Street side of Town Hall, it became evident prior to starting construction that the project cost would greatly exceed the available funding. The current plan is to modify the design to use recycled granite blocks for approval and construction in the calendar year 2025.



Adam Bliss, Town Engineer

Since 2002, the Town has been regulated by the Maine DEP under a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) Permit. The permit requires a variety of activities including system monitoring, public education, and an annual report, among many other things. The current MS4 Permit was issued in July 2022, and the Town developed the required Stormwater Program Management Plan. More information about the permit and other stormwater topics are available on the Town

and Maine DEP websites. Within the Town's regulated MS4 area, the DEP has identified both Frost Gully Brook and Concord Gully Brook as Urban Impaired Streams, with associated regulatory requirements. Related to this, the Town is assisting the Maine DOT in conducting a geomorphology assessment and assessment of stormwater inputs and culverts within the Frost Gully Brook watershed to identify existing management features and opportunities for stormwater mitigation. This work is expected to start later in 2024.

The Town Engineer also served as the Director of Public Works and the Director of Recycling and Solid Waste for most of the year. Upon the Town Engineer's resignation in early 2024, management looked at ways to improve efficiency and operational structure, while continuing to provide a high level of service to our community. Oversight of these two Departments was shifted to the former Superintendent of Public Works who was promoted to Director of Public Works and who will now oversee Public Works (also including Buildings and Grounds) and the Recycling Facility (which will continue to be managed daily by the current Facility Manager). We will continue to evaluate the remaining functions that were within the duties of the Town Engineer to determine the best way to provide those functions and necessary services in a cost-effective manner and to maintain Freeport's high quality of life.

Hunter Road Fields



Cost to the median taxpayer

\$12

The Hunter Road Fields Recreational facility is used for sports such as Youth Soccer, Youth Softball, Little League Baseball/Softball, RSU5 Community Recreation, and RSU5 school sports. RSU5 continues to hold the field maintenance agreement. In the offseason, Little League built new covered dugouts to protect the players from the weather and errant equipment.

During Father's Day weekend, we hosted a Seacoast United Soccer Tournament with teams from all over New England. The rollout of the redesigned Town of Freeport website has allowed for an online reservation system and calendar for field use.

Wendy Clark photo

Wendy Clark photo

Cost to the median taxpayer

\$18

1

Full-time equivalent

Solid Waste & Recycling

The Transfer Station accepts resident and non-resident waste and recycling. While only residents can dispose of municipal solid waste (MSW) at the Transfer Station, other waste (bulky, wood, etc.) and recycling are accepted from Durham, Pownal, and North Yarmouth residents with the purchase of a non-resident facility sticker.

Municipal Solid Waste

The Transfer Station received 28% of the 1,738 tons of all MSW taken to ecomaine from the Town. The remaining 72% represents MSW collected by private haulers.

Recycling

The Transfer Station received 36% of the 732 tons of all recycling taken to ecomaine in Fiscal Year 2024. The remaining 64% represents recyclables dropped off in the two silver bullets in Town as well as those collected by private haulers.

Bulky Waste

The Transfer Station received 693.7 tons of bulky waste in Fiscal Year 2024, beating the previous record of 671 tons in 2022. An increase of 22.7 tons!

Recycling

The Transfer Station and ecomaine staff continue to educate residents on what can and cannot be recycled. The most common contaminants continue to be plastic bags, bubble wrap, padded mailers, shrink wrap, and Styrofoam. Unfortunately, plastic bags containing recyclables are frequently placed in recycling containers and these bags are then rejected because they bind the gears and sorting mechanisms at ecomaine. The best practice is to place only loose recyclable materials in the container. It is important that everyone educates themselves on what is and is not recyclable. To help with this effort, ecomaine has a webpage titled Recyclopedia to help people determine if an item is recyclable. Recyclopedia can be found on the ecomaine website or by following the link on the Town website under the Recycling / Landfill Facility tab. Residents are encouraged to visit the Town website, ecomaine's Recyclopedia webpage, or ask Transfer Station staff for guidance. As a last resort, the adage "when in doubt, throw it out" is the best solution to uncertainty.

Recycling Tonnages

Throughout Fiscal Year 2024, residents recycled 732 tons of material, up from 729 tons during 2023. This figure includes material from two Silver Bullets in Town, the Transfer Station single-sort compactor, and pick-up of residential recyclables by private haulers. Beginning in January of 2019, ecomaine only accepts loads of recyclables with less than 25% contamination. Loads contaminated more than 25% are assessed a surcharge as a result of being transferred for disposal rather than recycling. Fortunately, none of Freeport's loads were rejected in Fiscal Year 2024. Residents are doing a commendable job recycling only what ecomaine accepts.

Food Scrap Diversion

The food scrap drop-off program at the Transfer Station continues to be popular with residents. Residents dropped off 22 tons of food scraps at the Transfer Station. These food scraps are diverted from ecomaine's incinerators and are taken to Agri-Cycle for conversion to renewable energy and compost. The drop off program, offered at no charge, provides residents an opportunity to reduce their solid waste even if they are unable to compost at home.

Spring Cleanup

Spring Cleanup was held in 2024. Of the 4,200 coupons that were mailed to residents, 683 took part in this year's Cleanup. The schedule of Monday and Tuesday continued to work the best for managing the tremendous influx of material. To accommodate residents who work during the week, the Transfer Station remained open until 7:00 p.m. both days. Due to the limitations placed on the event by the container capacities, hauler schedules, and the hours of the waste receiving facilities, it is a challenge to be able to provide residents with this opportunity. However, by holding Cleanup when the Transfer Station is regularly closed, managing the influx of waste was made a little easier. A big debt of gratitude is owed Jeff Goldrup, Shane Gerow, and Kelly Gorham from Public Works who helped the Transfer Station staff. Without their help, Spring Cleanup would not have been possible.



Cost to the median taxpayer
\$57

3.4 Full-time equivalents



Suzanne Dupliss, Recycling Center Supervisor



Dylan Durisko

Wendy Clark photo

Freeport Cable TV3

Freeport Community Television Channel 3 (FCTV3) is a community access station at Town Hall. FCTV3 is a Government and Public Access facility covering municipal and community events in the Town of Freeport. FCTV3 serves the residents of Freeport on Comcast Cable Channel 3 and as a live stream on our website: freeporttv3.com. An archive of municipal meetings and local events can be found on our VOD (Video-on-Demand) webpage and our YouTube channel, "Town of Freeport Maine." All can be found at freeporttv3.com.

Recording and archiving municipal meetings remains our focus. Still, we also strive to record as many local events of interest to our community as possible, providing them online for all to see at their leisure on our site, freeporttv3.com. We partner with groups like Freeport Speech, FreeportCAN, Meetinghouse Arts, Freeport Community Library, Freeport Performing Arts Center, Freeport Community Center, and the Freeport Sustainability Advisory Board. These partnerships allow us to record local musical performances and plays, as well as lectures from public figures like former director of the Maine CDC Nirav Shah, physicist Alan Lightman, and former NBC News Correspondent Martin Fletcher.

Along with local events and municipal meetings, we offer a wide variety of programming for all viewers: live news, music videos, lifestyle and do-it-yourself shows, movies, documentaries, talk shows, and much more. Some of the programs offered are produced here in Maine, and many are from local community TV stations like ours from all over the country.

FCTV3 programming is also available on the free Cablecast Screenweave App, where our station is listed as "Freeport TV3" on the streaming devices Roku TV, Amazon Fire TV, and Apple TV on their respective app stores. Daily and weekly program schedules are available to the public on our website, freeporttv3.com, and our offerings change at the beginning of each month.

Cost to the median taxpayer
\$16

2.25 Full-time equivalents

Running between programs, our community bulletin board allows residents and organizations to post announcements of interest to the community. It also offers up-to-date news, sports, weather, and more. The web version of our bulletin board can be viewed at freeporttv3.com. We welcome suggestions for programming and postings for the bulletin board. Please get in touch: fctv3@freeportmaine.com or 207-865-4743 x 114.

FCTV3 Statistics for FY24

Number of events recorded:

- Town Council: 25
- Planning Board: 10
- Project Review Board: 12
- Community Events: 19

Number of events replayed on cable:

- Town Council: 307
- Planning Board: 155
- Project Review Board: 202
- Community Events: 72

Number of events viewed with Video-on-Demand:

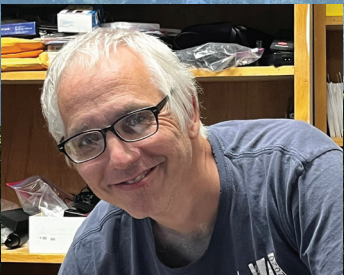
- Town Council: 1,449
- Planning Board: 369
- Project Review Board: 411
- Community Events: 1,599



Thomas Pierce, FCTV3 Director



Bradford Leaman



Brian Lougee



Connor Harris

Wendy Clark photo

Finance Department

The Finance Department is dedicated to serving all Freeport Citizens and Town Departments. The Finance Department ensures funds are budgeted, expensed, and collected accurately and efficiently. The Department oversees and administers the Town's financial and accounting systems, including the collection and disbursement of all monies for the Town. The Department is responsible for all property and excise tax collection for approximately 4,500 real property and 500 personal property accounts, federal and state grants, parking tickets, various permit & license fee collection, and processing vehicle registrations. Other functions of the Finance Department include the weekly payroll processing for the Town's 72 full-time and 75+ part-time employees, paying all Town invoices, and billing for any receivables.

The Town of Freeport accepts cash, checks, debit, and credit card payments. For citizens who wish to use a debit or credit card form of payment, there is an additional fee of \$1 for transactions up to \$40 or a 2.5% fee for transactions over \$40. This charge covers the cost of the processing fees from our third-party processor and is collected directly by them at the point of sale. Debit and credit card payments are accepted online, over the counter, and at the Recycling, and Public Works Facilities.

The Department is also responsible for all cash reconciliation and investing the Town's funds to ensure proper cash flow and maximum security and liquidity. The Finance Director works closely with the Town Manager on the budget process and is responsible for the annual revenue estimate and preparing a balanced budget, in addition to preparing the financial statements and all subsequent notes and schedules. Several important financial statements are located at the end of this annual report. The complete financial statements from Fiscal Year 2024 are available at Town Hall or on the Town's website, www.freeportmaine.com. The audit was performed by Runyon Kersten Ouellette of South Portland, Maine.

For Fiscal Year 2024, the Finance Department issued 4,984 tax bills and completed 11,696 vehicle registrations, and for accounts payable, we processed 1,412 checks, 183 wires, and 991 EFTs.



Elana Nevins, Becky Hayslip, Ellen Penley, Debbie Huntoon Reeder, and Jessica Maloy, Finance Director

Many of our services, including re-registrations for automobiles, trailers, ATVs, snowmobiles, and boats, can be done online; please visit our website at www.freeportmaine.com.

If any member of the public has questions regarding the Finance Department, please call Finance Director Jessica Maloy at 865-4743 ext. 115.

Important Tax Info

- Freeport's tax year starts July 1 each year and ends June 30 the following year.
- If you have recently purchased or sold property in the Town of Freeport, please notify the Assessor's Office and the Finance Office with the correct name, address, & mortgage holder(s) so that tax bills may be sent to the proper person(s).
- Please direct any questions about the valuation of your property to the Assessor's Office.

5

Full-time equivalents

Cost to the median taxpayer

\$54

Carrie Weeman photo

Public Works Department

The Public Works Department would like to welcome new employee, Shane Gerow, to our team. The Public Works Department can be commended for doing an outstanding job on the Town's construction projects, maintenance projects, and winter snow removal operations. Though we had a mild winter overall, there were three major storm events in 2024: a 14" snowstorm in January, and a snow/ice storm in late March, followed by a 13 ½" snowstorm in early April, both of which caused several downed trees and widespread power outages.

Capital Improvement Projects

The Public Works Department purchased a new double axle plow truck chassis this fiscal year, transferring the dump body and plow gear from the prior truck.

Road Paving Projects

Noble Drive, Old South Freeport Road, and Old Mast Landing Road were paved this fiscal year. Pavement overlay projects are appropriated in the Operating Budget.

Road and Street Cross Culvert Replacements

Replacing and upgrading driveway/drainage culverts is an ongoing project for the Public Works Department.

Road and Street Maintenance

We complete roadside mowing, striping, upgrades and replacements of street signs and lights, street sweeping, catch basin cleaning, and drainage maintenance of our town roads annually.

Special Projects

The Public Works Department is responsible for hanging the flags and holiday lights in the downtown area and the setting up of elections for the Town. We have taken over the responsibility for the maintenance of all town-owned streetlights. We also set up the



Shane Gerow, Luke Chapman, Tammy Morrissey, Jacob Thoits, Jeffrey Goldrup, Robert Bradley, Johnathan Hart, Daniel Libby, Alan Walsh, Howard Dyer. Not pictured: Hal Baston

skateboard park at the Downeaster Train Station and the multi-use stage at Memorial Park. This year, we also assisted with the set-up and breakdown of barricades for the Great Race, which stopped in Freeport.

Winter Season

This year, the Town experienced 19 snowstorms or icy road events. We used 1,108 yards of road salt, 886 yards of winter sand, and 14,066 gallons of road surface treatment. Many thanks to the citizens of Freeport, the Town Council, and other Town Departments for their continued support of the Public Works Department!

Cost to the median taxpayer

\$172

Cost to the median taxpayer

13.94

Full-time employees

Jeffrey Scott Smith photo

Outstanding Taxes

Real Estate

Property Owner	Property ID	Total Due
2021		
BURNS, MARY LOU & KEN-NETH J	02100100A000	\$842.58
2022		
BAKER, SCOTT, PERSON IN POSSESSION	22020000000	\$1,952.79
BURNS, MARY LOU & KEN-NETH J	02100100A000	\$860.29
NORTON, JOYCE E HEIRS OF	01804200I000	\$1,686.59
2023		
BAIRD LANDING DEVELOPMENT LLC	017076000CM1	\$1,818.39
BAKER, SCOTT, PERSON IN POSSESSION	22020000000	\$3,272.26
BARLOW, STEPHEN & TAMMY	817028C0023	\$375.66
BISSON JR, JEAN PAUL	01802100A000	\$1,325.41
BREWER, DANIEL	17088000000	\$8,345.50
BREWER, SCOTT S	01905300B000	\$3,560.53
BURNS, MARY LOU & KEN-NETH J	02100100A000	\$865.85
CLIFFORD, PHILIP P	05A0020000000	\$702.91
CLIFFORD, SUSAN F	02108000A000	\$875.25
CLIFFORD, SUSAN F & PHILIP P SR	21080000000	\$3,783.34
CROCK, ALICE E B	0BE00IETC000	\$964.72
CROCK, ALICE EB	0BA005ETC000	\$6,239.44
CROCK, ALICE EB	0BA008ETC000	\$927.12
CROCK, ALICE EB	0BA0640000000	\$182.08
CRONE, GARY R	02108800C000	\$1,526.85
CURIT JR, ROBERT E	01707700C000	\$4,327.85
DURAND, CHARLES L	01702300A000	\$261.31
FARLEY, SAMANTHA J	18022000000	\$106.83
FARM POND LLC	017029000CM1	\$1,425.68
FAULKNER, CAROLINE & KEARNS, JOHN	01809000L000	\$1,230.71
FLYING POINT VENTURES LLC	019073000CM2	\$1,452.13
FLYING POINT VENTURES LLC	019073000CM3	\$616.57
GORDON, NATHAN H D	17076010000	\$4,393.64
HARPER, DONALD & JULIE	825063025000	\$52.39
HARRIMAN, MARIE L, (LIFE ESTATE TENANT)	01809000H000	\$797.32
HUTCHINSON, CHRISTOPHER M	02104800A000	\$292.10
JARRETT, ISABEL N	02104300B000	\$3,932.35
JOHNSON, DAVID M & VINCENT, VIRGINIA F	25008007000	\$175.01
LEVESQUE, LOUISE M	02206200CCM1	\$1,445.18
NORTON, JOYCE E HEIRS OF	01804200I000	\$1,705.58
ODONOGHUE, PATRICK	17033001000	\$2,026.10
PUCKETT, BONNIE JEAN	01707900D000	\$2,923.85

Property Owner	Property ID	Total Due
PUSHARD, WILLIAM L, HEIRS OF	80050000000	\$1,797.49
PUSHARD, WILLIAM L, HEIRS OF	80060000000	\$2,840.56
ROMAC, CHRISTOPHER W	180700300000	\$2,244.52
SEYMOUR, PAUL J	17085001000	\$2,981.20
SEYMOUR, PAUL J	17085002000	\$1,312.87
SHOPE, ALYSSA L	01703300G000	\$1,822.66
SOUTHLAKE HOLDINGS LLC	02602200B000	\$1,759.80
SULLIVAN, MARTINA	10300000000	\$1,844.90
TAKE TWO LLC	011116ETC000	\$12,861.70
THIBODEAU, MICHAEL J	02302500A000	\$2,059.26
VICKERSON III, RANDALL A	01907600F000	\$1,077.53
VICKI I CRAY LIVING TRUST	01805700D000	\$1,819.29
2024		
132 US ROUTE ONE LLC	260680000000	\$11,263.32
27 BOW STREET LLC	130370000000	\$2,393.70
46 MALLET DRIVE LLC	120370000000	\$2,604.25
506 FREEPORT HOTEL LLC	02202900C000	\$23,393.56
7P DEVELOPMENTS LLC	82105900D000	\$87.73
ADLERSTEIN, LARRY J	40180000000	\$8,543.23
ANDREW C EISENHAUER TRUST & TIFFANY C EI	21077011000	\$19.89
ARRIS JR, LELAND J	02100200G000	\$3,677.44
BAIRD LANDING DEVELOPMENT LLC	017076000CM1	\$1,748.32
BAKER, SCOTT, PERSON IN POSSESSION	220200000000	\$3,302.07
BARHAM, DAVID & KELLY	00401400A000	\$4,500.38
BARLOW, STEPHEN & TAMMY	817028C0023	\$323.82
BATES, JONATHAN P	130990000000	\$2,034.17
BENWAY, C DAYTON & TYLER, CATHRYN	01703700F000	\$1,687.82
BERNSTEIN, DAVID P & DORSEY-BERNSTEIN, K	02006300C003	\$6,280.32
BFI LLC	250040000000	\$24.48
BISSON JR, JEAN PAUL	01802100A000	\$1,403.19
BOLDUC, DAVID	01802900A000	\$1,062.19
BOLDUC, DAVID	01802900B000	\$1,360.57
BOLDUC, DAVID A	180250000000	\$1,245.07
BOLDUC, DAVID A	180290000000	\$3,908.44
BOLDUC, DAVID A	01804900G000	\$1,489.82
BOLDUC, DAVID A	180560000000	\$2,952.82
BOLDUC, DAVID A	170470000000	\$3,378.67
BOLDUC, DAVID A	01802600A000	\$1,312.44
BOLDUC, DAVID A	17047001000	\$2,313.44

Real Estate, continued

Property Owner	Property ID	Total Due
VICKI I CRAY LIVING TRUST	01804400A000	\$4,132.47
WILLIAMS, DAVID & GILL, SUSAN	825063022000	\$59.79
WILLIAMS, WARREN C JR	21003002000	\$2,649.48
BOWMAN, THOMAS E	140050000000	\$3,375.05
BRADBURY HOLDINGS LLC	170040000000	\$2,160.81
BREWER JR, HERBERT E	01708800B000	\$1,724.25
BREWER, DANIEL & KAYLA D	170880000000	\$8,106.32
BREWER, SCOTT S	190530000000	\$2,530.69
BREWER, SCOTT S	01905300B000	\$3,658.19
BUBIER, ALEXANDER G	02601300A004	\$182.19
BUBIER, ALEXANDER G	02601300B003	\$201.44
BUILDING SYSTEMS LLC	017033000CM1	\$1,057.38
CARTER-VACHON, KAREN	01708700A000	\$2,728.69
CHASE, BARBARA J & JEF-FREY S	01800200D000	\$2,915.69
CHEER UP INC	01706100A000	\$1,795.06
CIARANELLO, ROSALIE	00901200C000	\$1,610.82
CIGRI, TINA L	01709100A000	\$326.45
CLIFFORD, PHILIP P	05A0020000000	\$722.57
CLIFFORD, PHILIP P	05A0030000000	\$7,010.05
CLIFFORD, PHILIP P	05A0070000000	\$7,475.19
CLIFFORD, SUSAN F	02108000A000	\$1,799.19
CLIFFORD, SUSAN F & PHILIP P SR	210800000000	\$3,816.32
COFFIN, WALTER J	190680000000	\$1,330.10
CORDICE, PATRICIA A	02000200F000	\$1,221.69
CORLISS, RAYMOND H	170340100000	\$1,086.63
COSKERY, ROLAND	190360010000	\$2,141.77
CRAWFORD, STEVEN J	220190000000	\$266.54
CROCK, ALICE E B	0BE00IETC000	\$1,012.69
CROCK, ALICE EB	0BA005ETC000	\$6,940.32
CROCK, ALICE EB	0BA008ETC000	\$960.44
CROCK, ALICE EB	0BA0640000000	\$147.82
CRONE, GARY R	02108800C000	\$2,221.32
CURIT JR, ROBERT E	01707700C000	\$4,072.07
CUSTOM PROPERTY & DEVELOPMENT	250120000000	\$13,600.13
D A B INC	180260000000	\$4,418.57
DAMONE, CHARLES E	01700800A000	\$3,878.53
DANFORTH, ELAINE R	200080000000	\$1,442.32
DLBC ASSOCIATES LLC	02306400A000	\$24.85
DOANE, DONNA M	180190000000	\$216.06
DONIGAN, DEBRA A & MICHAEL J	15006001000	\$2,069.38

Property Owner	Property ID	Total Due
DONOGHUE, JAMES D	02105500G000	\$17.49
DUNNING, JULIE	210440000000	\$1,651.74
DURAND, CHARLES L	01702300A000	\$2,021.94
DURAND, CHARLES L & SUSAN L &	01702300B000	\$756.22
DWINAL, PHILIP	180370000000	\$3,930.44
DWINAL, PHILIP	01803900A000	\$2,750.69
DWINAL, PHILIP	8180370000000	\$3,476.69
FARLEY BROTHERS LLC	200240000000	\$2,407.78
FARLEY, SAMANTHA J	180220000000	\$1,113.07
FARM POND LLC	017029000CM1	\$1,360.57
FAULKNER, CAROLINE & KEARNS, JOHN	01809000L000	\$1,996.85
FLYING POINT VENTURES LLC	019073000CM2	\$1,386.69
FLYING POINT VENTURES LLC	019073000CM3	\$561.69
FRASER, JOSEPH G	300380000000	\$112.95
GALLI, JUTTA & ARTHUR	02102500B000	\$19.59
GARREC, JEAN M	02405400A000	\$2,277.14
GILLIAM, MICHAEL L	02102100B000	\$1,000.33
GLEASON, JOHN D	02405400G000	\$2,729.67
GORDON, NATHAN H D	170760100000	\$6,984.32
GREENE, ROSS W	02008600A000	\$50.65
HAILCORE LLC	20071006000	\$2,377.02
HAROLD K LAPIERRE REVOCABLE TRUST 99	210130000000	\$5,211.94
HARPER, DONALD & JULIE	825063025000	\$310.07
HARRIMAN, MARIE L, (LIFE ESTATE TENANT)	01809000H000	\$1,643.82
HMP PROPERTIES LLC	01803500A000	\$2,575.38
HUGHES, SAMANTHA & ADAM	01804900S000	\$4,489.83
HUTCHINSON, CHRISTOPHER M	02104800A000	\$268.82
INN AT FREEPORT LLC	250090000000	\$18,532.57
JARRETT, ISABEL N	02104300B000	\$3,996.44
JOHN LIBBY CONSTRUCTION	02001300EOCM	\$195.93
JOHNSON, DAVID M & VINCENT, VIRGINIA F	25008007000	\$8,209.44
L R REALTY LLC	230450000000	\$94.64
LABOS, ALLAN A & MADORE, STEPHANIE C	23041005000	\$18.11
LAROCHE, KEVEN R	210590000000	\$627.78
LAVERTY IRREVOCABLE TRUST	50210000000	\$2,186.72
LEAVITT-GARREC, LAURIE	40220000000	\$2,031.04

Outstanding Taxes, continued

Real Estate, continued

Property Owner	Property ID	Total Due
LEDUC-KUNTZ, GINA	01804900N000	\$1,344.07
LEGARE II, RUSSELL P	02504100B003	\$16,880.88
LETTER STREETS LLC	26045001000	\$2,401.44
LEVESQUE, LOUISE M	02206200CCM1	\$1,379.82
LIBBY, DEBORAH	02102000D000	\$1,887.35
LINNEKEN, CYNTHIA P & PROCTOR, LESLEY	01708800A001	\$1,424.13
LITTLE RIVER VENTURES LLC	01905400A000	\$8,998.22
LIVE MORE LLC	02602200B000	\$1,851.44
MADORE JR, DAVID J & PA-MELA	170300000000	\$3,531.69
MAIER, JACK W	110880000000	\$1,302.13
MATTSON, JEANNE M	02007100A000	\$5,872.47
MCCARTHY, ELAINE	02203100C000	\$1,215.50
MCDONALDS CORPORATION	01203000C000	\$2,272.19
MOORE, JOHNNIE S	01805300C000	\$1,657.03
NEUTS JR, RICHARD T	01809000C000	\$1,797.81
NORTON, JOYCE E HEIRS OF	01804200I000	\$1,774.44
ODONOGHUE, PATRICK	170330010000	\$2,609.07
OLIVER, MICHELLE	170820020000	\$1,833.56
PACE, JOLENE W	02301700A000	\$1,697.84
PENDEXTER, DAVID H & JEN-NIFER L	170750030000	\$2,017.70
PETERS, JEFFREY T	130180000000	\$3,148.75
PEYTON, LINDA	02005300B000	\$4,622.75
POWNAI ROAD LLC	210890000000	\$1,929.81
PUCKETT, BONNIE JEAN	01707900D000	\$5,643.69
PUSHARD, WILLIAM L, HEIRS OF	800500000000	\$1,914.69
PUSHARD, WILLIAM L, HEIRS OF	800600000000	\$2,940.44
RENZELLO, LYNDA L & SYL-VA, LYNETT L &	00505300A000	\$58.44
ROMAC, CHRISTOPHER W	180700300000	\$2,427.57
RS 470 LLC	02103200B000	\$5,876.75
RTE 1 FREEPORT SOLAR LLC	230490000000	\$63.91
RTE 1 FREEPORT SOLAR LLC	230640000000	\$179.97
SARAH JUENEMANN FAMILY TRUST	200940000000	\$3,922.41
SCHNITZEL, MICHELE M	181000020000	\$267.44
SCHOOL STREET FREEPORT LLC	110990000000	\$3,187.93
SEYMOUR SR, PAUL J & AR-IANNE G	170850040000	\$2,444.07
SEYMOUR, ARIANNE	170850030000	\$1,386.69
SEYMOUR, EDITH D & GEORGE T	210190020000	\$2,161.64

Property Owner	Property ID	Total Due
SEYMOUR, PAUL J	170850010000	\$2,672.32
SEYMOUR, PAUL J	170850020000	\$1,378.44
SHADY LEDGE LANE LLC	250140000000	\$2,270.13
SHADY LEDGE LANE LLC	250240000000	\$66.69
SHIPLEY, LINDA J	230260000000	\$1,528.31
SHOPE, ALYSSA L	01703300G000	\$3,632.07
SIMPSON, MACKENZIE & MATTIE	05A063000000	\$12,331.69
SIMPSON, MACKENZIE & MATTIE A	240310000000	\$8,359.32
SMITH, GEORGE W & JUDY F	170340210000	\$2,372.57
SO FREE MARKET LLC	208600000000	\$211.69
SOULE, MICHAEL D & BILLIE M	01809600A000	\$898.92
SPARTA, KENNETH C	100040000000	\$3,259.44
STANTON, ELIZABETH K	180150010000	\$23.09
STEIN, LISA R	02200800C000	\$1,256.31
STRAWBRIDGE, STEWART R	130480000000	\$5,662.45
SULLIVAN, MARTINA	103000000000	\$5,170.69
SUMMERS, ASHLEY L	01801700A000	\$1,344.56
TAKACS, TINA E	00900600B036	\$2,027.44
TAKE TWO LLC	011116ETC000	\$13,131.94
THEODORE J SAMUEL RE-VOCABLE TRUST	201900000000	\$102.69
THIBODEAU, MICHAEL J	02302500A000	\$3,823.19
TITTMANN, EDWARD	190630000000	\$6,324.32
TOLIN, TIMOTHY & MOR-GAN H	02600400A002	\$6,492.07
VICKERSON III, RANDALL A	01907600F000	\$1,137.82
VICKI I CRAY LIVING TRUST	01805700D000	\$1,822.57
VICKI I CRAY LIVING TRUST	01804400A000	\$4,111.94
W SQUARED PROPERTY GROUP LLC	180430000000	\$2,812.07
WAPPLER, PETER R	01905400D000	\$10,116.57
WENGREN FAMILY TRUST	205300000000	\$22.95
WHITING COTTAGE LLC	101100000000	\$19.73
WILLIAMS, DAVID & GILL, SUSAN	825063022000	\$472.32
WILLIAMS, WARREN C JR	210030020000	\$2,527.94
WINSHIP, DANIEL L	01805300B000	\$364.37

Personal Property

Property Owner	Property ID	Total Due
2022		
BURNS, DANIELLE	1308	\$21.76
FRANCESCA'S OPERATIONS INC	1339	\$3,225.79
2023		
LANDMARK FREEPORT LLC	1269	\$1,277.37
DUBE, TOM	1284	\$3.00
DAB USED AUTO SALES INC	13	\$838.11
BURNS, DANIELLE	1308	\$20.41
FRANCESCA'S OPERATIONS INC	1339	\$2,962.76
WATERLOGIC USA INC	1408	\$4.40
BRICKYARD HOLLOW BREWING COM-PANY	1441	\$40.91
RINGS MARINE SERVICE INC	318	\$3.99
2024		
HALDEMAN, JOHN GORDON	1018	\$101.13
CASCO BAY MICRO LLC	1050	\$9.90
LANDMARK FREEPORT LLC	1269	\$1,168.89
DUBE, TOM	1284	\$2.54
DAB USED AUTO SALES INC	13	\$844.25
BURNS, DANIELLE	1308	\$18.43
CRONIN, SARAH & NIKITINA, NATALYA	1338	\$15.62
FRANCESCA'S OPERATIONS INC	1339	\$2,704.58
STARS & STRIPES BREWING LLC	1368	\$24.58
BLUE LOBSTER LLC	1390	\$205.60
WATERLOGIC USA INC	1408	\$4.11
DAVIS ERECTOR GROUP LLC	1410	\$2.86
TAMMY NONNI	1412	\$133.58
CRYSTAL JOYS MAINE LLC	1430	\$137.21
SHADY MEADOW GOLF COURSE LLC	1453	\$24.84
PALMER DEVELOPMENT GROUP LLC	1469	\$206.25
NIGHTHAWK'S KITCHEN LLC	1472	\$687.50
FOILED HAIR SALON INC	1476	\$68.75
BELLA POINT FREEPORT LLC	166	\$3.14
RINGS MARINE SERVICE INC	318	\$238.36
SEYMOUR EXCAVATING INC	333	\$58.92
CHEER UP INC	83	\$412.50
PNC EQUIPMENT FINANCE LLC	980	\$1,541.38



Tax Assessor

The Town Assessor is an agent of the State and is legally charged with valuing real and personal property for taxation. To raise funds for the budget approved by the Town Council, the Assessor prepares a taxable valuation list of all properties and then commits the assessments to the Town Tax Collector for collection. The Assessing Officer then reports its activities for the year to the Property Tax Division of Maine Revenue Services, which audits our work.

Valuation History

This Office annually updates valuations to keep assessments in line with the market and to maintain tax equity. In continuation of last year, the real estate market has remained active, generating a deficit in the housing supply and increasing the median home values. The increased market value contributed to the increase in property assessments. The Town is certified at 100% for its assessment ratio with the Maine Revenue Services for this year.

Valuation committed on September 15, 2023:

Taxable Real Estate:	\$2,224,259,225
Taxable Personal Property:	\$66,010,748
Total Taxable Valuation:	\$2,290,269,973

Tax Rate

The tax rate has remained steady over the past several years. The Fiscal Year 2024 mill rate was \$13.75 per thousand of assessed values.

Homestead Exemption

You may apply for this program if you own a home in Maine for at least 12 months before April 1. Forms are available at the Tax Assessor's office and the Town's website at www.freeportmaine.com. If you have already applied, there is no need to reapply. If eligible, one's property valuation was reduced by \$25,000.

Veteran Exemption

A property owner may obtain a reduction in the valuation of their property up to \$6000 if they are a veteran who was not dishonorably discharged and is over the age of 62 or is an un-remarried widow/ widower of a qualified veteran. If the veteran is under 62 but is 100% disabled due to a service-connected disability, they might likewise

be qualified. Applications for these exemptions are available in the Assessor's Office and on our website at www.freeportmaine.com.

State Property Tax Deferral Program

The State Property Tax Deferral Program, 36 M.R.S.A §6250-6266, allows qualifying individuals to defer payment of the property taxes on their homesteads until they pass away, move, or sell their property. To be eligible, as of April 1, the applicant must meet both of the following:

1. The applicant is at least 65 years old or is unable to work due to disability and;
2. Meet income and asset requirements.

Program qualification and approval is through the State, but the application should be submitted to the Assessing Office. The Town will forward the application to the State for further review and approval.

Miscellaneous

All properties are assessed based on their status as of April 1 each year. All exemptions must be submitted before April 1 for consideration for the upcoming tax year; otherwise, they will not apply until the following year.

Once the assessment has been committed and forwarded to the Tax Collector to collect the taxes, the taxpayer has 185 days from the date of commitment to contest the valuation of their property.



Quang Minh Le, Assessor



Louise Thibeault, Assessing Agent

Codes Enforcement

During this Fiscal year, the Code Enforcement Department continued to educate and enforce the Town Ordinances for residents, contractors, and related parties.

Staff

The Department is staffed by a part-time Administrative Assistant, Bonnie Guerrette, Deputy Codes Enforcement Officer, (CEO) Alex Sirois (Started April 1), and Nicholas Adams, Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector, Electrical Inspector, and Plumbing Inspector. The Code Enforcement Department conducted one thousand forty-three (1,043) inspections for this fiscal year.

Permits and Revenue

The Department's primary source of revenue is the permitting process. Permits are required for several land use and construction activities; the most common permits include Building, Electrical, Plumbing, and Sign Permits. The estimated cost of work of all building permits for Fiscal Year 2024 was approximately \$31,893,599.74. Below is a list of the permits issued and the revenues for Fiscal Year 2024.

Permit Type	Total	Revenue Type	Total
Building Permits	279	Building Permit Fees	\$107,806.08
Electrical Permits	410	Electrical Permit Fees	\$30,106.74
Plumbing Permits	205	Plumbing Permit Fees	\$31,430.00
Sign Permits	19	Sign Permit Fees	\$2,336.10
Temporary Activity	33	Temp. Activity Fees	\$850.00
Total Permits	828	Total Revenue	\$172,528.92

Building Permit Types

Two-hundred fifty-eight (258) residential building permits were issued, and twenty-one (21) commercial building permits for Fiscal Year 2024. The number of dwelling units decreased by one to forty-three (43) from last year. Of those permits issued, thirty-two (32) were for single-family dwellings, one (1) duplex, (1) multi-family, and six (6) permits were issued for accessory apartments.

Commercial Construction Permits:

Of the twenty-one (21) commercial permits issued, several were for remodel/interior alterations and new commercial buildings. The larger permits were for the following:

- Expanding Kitchen and Bar area Tuscan Bistro, 140 Main Street
- Interior Alterations to Hotel 44 North, 500 US Route One
- Continued Phase 2 for L.L. Bean Flagship Store, 95 Main Street

Board of Appeals

The Board of Appeals held five (5) meetings/hearings and heard one (1) variance and two (2) administrative appeals for Fiscal Year 2024. The variance was denied, one administrative appeal was denied, and the other was tabled to Fiscal Year 2025.

Codes and Ordinance Adoptions Fiscal Year 2024 & Upcoming Fiscal Year 2025

With help from the Planning Department, almost all Land Use records for all parcels, including subdivision records, were digitized. We will still be working on other miscellaneous records, including older building plans and surveys, to be digitized.

The 2023 Electrical Code will be adopted on July 1, 2024. However, the State of Maine again delayed the adoption of new Building, Mechanical, and Ventilation Codes, which are required by state law to be adopted before the end of next year.

The Town Council adopted the Floodplain Ordinance and FEMA Flood Maps on June 20, 2024.



Nicholas Adams, Codes Enforcement Officer

2.8
Full-time equivalents

Cost to the median taxpayer
\$14



Alex Sirois, Codes Enforcement Officer



Bonnie Guerrette, Codes Enforcement Clerk

Cost to the median taxpayer
\$22

Planning Department

The Planning Department serves many functions for the Town of Freeport, including providing staff assistance to the Planning Board, Project Review Board, Freeport Sustainability Advisory Board and other municipal committees and departments on an as-needed basis. The Department is staffed by a Town Planner, an Assistant Planner, and a Sustainability Coordinator (shared with the Town of Yarmouth).

The **Planning Board** conducts both short-term and long-range planning for the community. Topics can come to the Board in different ways: they can be initiated by the Board, the Town Council, or applicants. In FY24, a significant amount of the Board's time was spent finishing proposed land-use regulations pertaining to new State laws: P.L. 2021, ch 672 (LD 2003) and P.L. 2023, ch. 192 (LD 1706). LD 2003 and LD 1706 (as they are commonly known) were developed with the goal of removing regulatory barriers to create housing opportunities throughout the State of Maine. The Planning Board recommended Ordinance amendments to the Council that, in some cases, were less stringent than the State-required minimum language.

The Board also worked on amendments pertaining to state requirements for stormwater management and erosion control, and state requirements pertaining to floodplain management and the new FEMA flood maps. The Board also reviewed and recommended some smaller Ordinance amendments, including but not limited to: increasing the allowable height for ground mounted solar, changes to food truck regulations, and updating the maximum height standard requirements in the Village Commercial 1 District.



Meddy Smith, Sustainability Coordinator, Caroline Pelletier, Town Planner, and Cecilia Smith, Assistant Town Planner

In response to the recently completed Downtown Vision Plan, the Town Council formed the “Central Core Working Group” to look at regulations in our downtown. The group reviewed and made recommendations to the Design Review Ordinance for the Planning Board and Town Council to consider. This resulted in some ordinance amendments, including a decrease in the size of the district, clarifications to text, and an increase in the number and types of changes that could now be down by right, or with an administrative approval. These changes were made in the interim knowing that the Town would soon start working with a consultant on further ordinance work which will hopefully lead to clear and prescriptive standards with a streamlined review process in the Design Review Ordinance.

The Board began working with North Star Planning on the process of updating the Town's 2011 Comprehensive Plan. This public process will take about 18-24 months and includes a series of community workshops to create a new vision and plan for the next decade. The Planning Board will take the lead in this process with many opportunities for public participation. A new website (<http://www.future-freeport.com/>) was launched with information about the project.

The **Project Review Board** reviews development proposals for the Town of Freeport. This includes applications for Site Plan Review, Subdivision Review, and Design Review. The board had an increase in the number of applications reviewed, reviewing over 40 applications this year. As in years past, many applications included multiple reviews conducted simultaneously; however, many applications were smaller in nature, with the largest project being changes at the L.L. Bean Inc. Flagship Store and Campus. The Board continued to see an increase in the number of applications for Shoreland Zoning Permits for Shoreline Stabilization.

The **Staff Review Board** reviews smaller development proposals. This Board was created to help expedite the review and approval of smaller commercial projects where minimal changes are proposed. In Fiscal Year 2024, the Board reviewed three applications: a Change of Use, a Fill Permit and Site Plan Amendment.

Using grant funds awarded through a Community Action Grant from the State of Maine Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF) Community Resilience Partnership, the Town of Freeport hired a Sustainability Coordinator, shared between the Towns of Freeport and Yarmouth. In Freeport, the position assisted the Freeport Sustainability Advisory Board in their work and worked closely with the Board (and the consultant, GPCOG) to develop a draft of the Climate Action Plan for the Town of Freeport that was presented to the Town Council for review and possible adoption (towards the end of the fiscal year).

Staff is always available to help residents and business owners understand municipal ordinances and how they pertain to the community and individual properties. We welcome all members of our community to reach out at any time with land-use questions, to get involved in Planning Department initiatives, or let us know if you have your own ideas on how to keep Freeport a great community in which to live, work, and/or visit!

3.4
Full-time
equivalents

Cost to the
median taxpayer
\$26

Jeffrey Scott Smith photo



Wendy Clark photo

Police Department

Another year has passed, and with it came some more changes at the Freeport Police Department.

- Glenn Tatro, our Alternative Response Caseworker, has passed his first year of employment and is doing an outstanding job. His work with our homeless and transient population has benefited not only the underserved in our community, but it has also been a great help to our frontline officers who are working every day to assist those in need. I've received a ton of positive feedback from Freeport Community Services staff, citizens, and our officers every week about his work. Glen's office is in the Freeport Community Services building on Depot Street. If you can, please drop by and say 'Hello.'
- We welcomed Officer Kyle Burt to our roster. In May, Kyle completed the Maine Criminal Justice Academy 18-week Basic Law Enforcement training program and is halfway through his field training process. Kyle comes to us with a background as a firefighter and is looking to lend his focus to helping make our community a safer place to live.
- Officer Keith Norris recently completed a rigorous traffic school program and is now a certified accident reconstructionist with the State of Maine. His training will allow him to reconstruct severe accidents and better document what happened at the scene of these events.
- Detective Beck Rice was recently honored by the Department for his many hours of hard work in helping thwart several significant financial crimes, saving our citizens from over \$200,000 in false ID, forged checks, and other scams. Detective Rice's hard work ended with several federal indictments and helped shine a light on a ring of thieves that have been working up and down the East Coast. Detective Rice was given a "Meritorious Service Award" by our Police Department for all the long days and nights he spent on these cases. Detective Rice was also honored by the Greater Freeport Chamber of Commerce with their "Above and Beyond" award, recognizing the extra work and time spent drafting search warrants, subpoenas, and arrest affidavits.
- After a process where we teamed with the RSU5 administration, we have assigned Officer Alison Murray as Freeport's 4th School Resource Officer. Officer Murray is excited about this new assignment, where she will work closely with the RSU5 staff, faculty, and administration to help keep our schools safe and support the great work they are doing to educate our children.

- Our training staff at the Freeport Police Department has logged over 400 hours as instructors at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. They have taught: radar certification, firearms for the cadets, firearms for advanced instructor schools, crimes in progress, defensive tactics and several other disciplines. They bring back to our agency a ton of valuable knowledge, which they pass on to our officers.
- It is with great sadness that we announce the loss of our first K-9, Cassie. Cassie was assigned to Sergeant Moorhouse and worked keeping Freeport's streets safe for ten years before retiring in 2021 where she lived out her days with Sgt. Moorhouse's family. Thank you, Sergeant Moorhouse and Cassie, for your dedication and service!
- Freeport's Police Advisory Committee is entering its 2nd full year. This group of citizens and FHS student(s) is tasked with creating a connection with our agency to discuss current police matters nationally, regionally, and locally. We review our "standard operating procedures" and have sent a community survey over the last year. If any citizens have an interest in becoming a member of this committee, please reach out to Town Hall staff or the Police Chief for more information.



Nathaniel Goodman,
Chief of Police

Thank you for all the support and care you've shown our department over the years. We will never forget that we work for our citizens and strive to help make Freeport a safe place to live.



Jeffrey Scott Smith photo

Cost to the median taxpayer
\$183
Full-time equivalents
18.98

Fire Rescue Department

Another year has passed, and we observed an increase in severe medical and structural fire calls. We also provided and received mutual aid from neighboring towns. Changes in administration occurred as Deputy Chief Scott Smith and Deputy Chief Eric Sylvain left their positions to pursue opportunities outside their previous roles. The Fire Rescue Department extends its gratitude for their commitment. Following a lengthy recruitment process, we filled the two deputy positions with Robert Bernard and Luke Vashon. Recruitment efforts are ongoing for career, per diem, and call members to fill the roles of emergency medical providers and firefighters. We also welcomed two new firefighters who completed the Firefighters I and II course. Training is one of our core activities, facilitated by in-house instructors and the Fire Training Institute. A successful course this year was the Advanced Pump Operators Course. We deployed a computer-based learning management system for individual education when on duty or when available. We continue to work closely with our Police Department, which has been instrumental in providing CPR and assisting with critical calls.

Additionally, the Department administered Narcan spray in a few over-dose situations. Other significant contributions include Fire Prevention Week and a joint Open House with the Police Department and community partners, which were well received. Our crews also took part in daycare and school visits, showcasing our gear and fire trucks and providing support at civic and community events. Lastly, we want to thank all the donors who generously donate annu-



Luke Vashon, Deputy Chief, Paul Conley, Fire Rescue Chief, and Robert Bernard, Deputy Chief

ally. This money has been immensely beneficial for purchasing technology, delivering training, and obtaining operational equipment.

We are available to provide CPR training to groups and organizations. For more information, please call Chief Jordan at 865-3421.



Cost to the median taxpayer
\$140
Full-time equivalents
19.8

Jeffrey Scott Smith photo

RSU5 Superintendent of Schools

We want to thank all the residents for passing our current budget. The adopted budget for 2024-2025 is \$41,612,460. In addition to contractual salaries and benefits, the majority of the expenditure increases included the following: funding for an additional Special Education teacher, an elementary classroom teacher, and a .5 high school Science teacher due to enrollment, a .5 Guidance Counselor to support wellness, an Assistant Principal to support increased enrollment and specialized programming, needed technology replacement, and the continued funding of the district's Capital Improvement Plan.

We are grateful for the individuals willing to volunteer and serve on the RSU5 Board of Directors. Current Board members from Durham are Candace deCsipkes, Danielle George, and School Board Chair Michelle Ritcheson; members from Freeport are Colin Cheney, Cheyenne Farrell, Carolyn Jensen, Kara Kaikini, Maura Pillsbury, and Kelly Sink; and members from Pownal are Malik Farlow and Vice-chair Elisabeth Munsen. Two student representatives from Freeport High School are selected each fall.

All Board goals aim to ensure every student has an engaging, student-centered education and graduates ready to enter post-secondary education or the workforce. In June, 171 students graduated from Freeport High School, prepared to venture into their post-graduation lives. We appreciate all the financial contributions for scholarships to support our students in post-secondary education.

We have an extremely dedicated, qualified staff serving our students. We educated 2,084 students during the 2023-2024 school year, an increase of 18 students from the October 1st enrollment in 2022. The projected enrollment for 2024-2025 is 2,094. If this remains stable, this will be an increase of 10 from last year's October 1st certified enrollment.

Through the collective efforts of our staff, parents, students, and community members, we strive to provide a quality education for all our students. As we seek "to inspire and support every learner by challenging minds, building character, sparking creativity, and nurturing passions," we appreciate your support and involvement in educating our students in RSU5!



Jean Skorapa,
Superintendent of Schools

Cost to the
median taxpayer
\$3,930



Wendy Clark photo

Freeport Community Library

Freeport Community Library (FCL) staff spent the year identifying and responding to community needs and offering fun, informative materials and programming. With help from Friends of the Freeport Community Library, the Library Board of Trustees, our Annual Appeal, and community partners, we were able to:

- Purchase a collection of Tonieboxes and Tonies to lend. Tonies are soft, toy-like, screen-free digital listening devices for kids that play stories and songs. We currently have over 50 Tonies and 4 Toniebox players. FCL is the first library in Maine to lend these extremely popular items!
- Offer free or discounted passes to 9 parks/museums, including 4 Maine State Park passes and our brand-new One Longfellow Square pass.
- Continue offering more eBook and audiobook selections in the Cloudlibrary app, Kanopy streaming, and Mango Languages.

Staff

In August 2023, the library added a new part-time position and welcomed Jamie McAlpine. Jamie has a background in education and assists patrons of all ages in our circulation and youth services areas. In May 2024, Courtney Sparks transitioned from Library Director to Human Resource Manager for the Town of Freeport, and Wynter Giddings was hired as the new Library Director. Wynter came to FCL from Curtis Memorial Library in Brunswick, where she managed the Adult Services & Technology Department.

Adult Services

Adult Summer Reading 2023 was very successful. We had 199 individuals participate, which smashed our previous record of 119 people in 2019! Our vermicomposting program continues to be popular, with 39 participants receiving a free "worm bin" and worms to turn food waste into fantastic fertilizer. The Spice Club also continues to thrive- this year, we gave out 501 spice kits, including a spice-of-the-month sample with recipes. We also offered a month-long documentary film series on Native Americans, with most of the films highlighting the stories of Maine Native peoples specifically.

Youth Services

The Summer Reading and Math Program was a big hit with 295 participants, including 46 teens. Over 5,000 books were read, over 2,000 math problems were tried, and 61 prizes were awarded. We had lots of fun Grab & Go crafts for kids this year, but the stars were our in-person programs inside and outside the library. Highlights were:



Brandi Lemieux, Kim McClelland, Wynter Giddings, Meghan Fogg, Taylor McCafferty, Andrew Hutchinson, Robin Lowell, and Stephanie Brown (Stephanie left FCL in September). Not pictured: Heather Shirley, Conor Van Riper

- Giant Candyland – a weeklong immersive game during February vacation, where the library was the game board, and participants' bodies were the game pieces!
- Paws and Read – a weekly program where kids and teens can read to (or sit with) one of our volunteer therapy dogs.
- Free Trees for Earth Day – FCL partnered with Neighborhood Forest to give away free trees for kids to plant during Earth Day.
- Explore After School Program –RSU5 and FCL received grant funds with the help of The Friends of Freeport Community Library to offer a wide variety of activities such as disc golf, crafts, D&D, and nature journaling. This program is led by RSU5 Community Programs and hosted by FCL.

We could not possibly fit all the things the library has to offer onto one page, so this is just a sample of what our fantastic staff (with community support) achieved in 2023-2024. As always, Freeport Community Library is a safe, welcoming community space connecting people to information, ideas, and each other to promote curiosity, discovery, informed citizenship, and life-long learning through free and open access to information.



Cost to the
median taxpayer
\$57
Full-time
equivalents
9.03

Wendy Clark photo

General Assistance

The General Assistance Program (GA) is a State-mandated, municipally administered financial assistance program. It was designed to be the program of last resort for community residents who cannot provide for their basic needs (e.g., food, shelter, heating fuel, and electricity). In September 2021, the Town of Freeport partnered with Freeport Community Services to administer the General Assistance Program. Since then, the program has continued to meet with and support those within Freeport by providing resources to address their basic needs. In Fiscal Year 2024, 30 households, or 79 individuals, were provided \$65,774.13 in assistance through this program.

General Assistance's overall maximum levels of assistance, which the State sets, are extremely low, and many of those in need are above the income guidelines for the General Assistance Program. To successfully meet the needs of various households without exceeding the GA budget, many residents were supported through services provided by Freeport Community Services. For example, 79 Freeport households, or 174 individuals, were offered heating assistance through the **Carol Kaplan Fuel Fund**. Because of this resource at Freeport Community Services, no funds were used from the **Freeport Heating Assistance Fund**.

General Assistance continues to administer the **Arthur L. Gould Medical Trust Fund**. The Gould Fund was established in 1968 through a gift to the Town of Freeport, as endowed by Arthur L. Gould, M.D.,

a former resident and practicing physician of Freeport. This fund's earned income was designated to be used by eligible Freeport residents for necessary medical attention and hospitalization. In Fiscal Year 2024, the Gould Fund assisted seven residents with 29 medical expenses.

General Assistance was also fortunate to establish the **Anne Dorsey Loth Assistance Fund** in December 2019 through a generous gift to the Town of Freeport, as endowed by Anne Dorsey Loth, a former Freeport resident and dedicated social worker. This fund is intended to assist Freeport residents when their critical needs cannot be met on their own or by any other existing resources and when the inability to meet these needs may compromise the health or welfare of the household or interfere with their ability to sustain a reasonable level of existence. This gift of cash is safely invested, with the income earned to be used annually by the General Assistance Director, ensuring that this gift will continue to benefit Freeport residents in perpetuity.

Freeport is very fortunate to have so many dedicated and generous individuals, businesses, and organizations who work together to support Freeport residents. Through their generosity, households could shelter in place, warm their homes, share holiday gifts with their loved ones, and experience a Thanksgiving meal at home or the Freeport Community Center.



Cost to the median taxpayer
\$5

Wendy Clark photo

Permanent Town Employees by Department



Jeffrey Scott Smith photo

Marine Resource Conservation Officer

The shellfish industry continues to be a vital, yet fragile industry. During the past year, the Shellfish Commission and harvesters have worked diligently to maintain open and productive flats. Soft shell clam landings for Freeport in 2023 were 169,792 lbs., representing a value of \$427,190. This represents a decrease from 2022 which saw 304,208 lbs., with a value of \$838,141.

There are many variables that influence the ability to maintain open harvesting and a healthy environment for shellfish. To ensure protection of the quality of the water, the Harraseeket River has been designated as a “no discharge zone” for all boats. The Shellfish Commission, along with the Harbormaster and personnel at the local boat yards, continue to educate boaters about the effects of overboard discharge and direct them to pump-out sites located at Brewers and Strouts Marinas. Local boaters are educated on an annual basis about boat usage and discharge systems in conjunction with random inspections by the Harbormaster and assistant Harbormaster. Several signs have been placed at boat yards and docks indicating the no discharge area.

This year the Freeport Shellfish Commission continues to focus on maintaining and improving Freeport’s water quality. The Shellfish commission also works on locating pollution sources and educating Freeport’s residents on the importance of cleaning up after their pets. The Shellfish Commission continues to assist Freeport Middle School’s annual field trip to Winslow Park where students examine shellfish predation and early stages of shellfish recruitment.

Working together with the Food and Drug Administration, and the Maine Department of Marine Resources, we maintain a year-round water quality monitoring schedule of all tidal areas in the Town of Freeport. Freeport’s water quality continues to test very well, thus maintaining the ability to keep our flats open. The status of our clam flats is monitored and revised continually by the State. Current conditions may be found on the DMR web site <http://www.maine.gov/dmr/shellfish-sanitation-management/index.html> or by calling the State Hotline, 1-800-232-4733.

Access to the shoreline is limited, and without the cooperation of businesses and private landowners, access would be even more difficult. On behalf of the commercial and recreational harvesters, thanks are extended to all who have made access possible. In addition to the efforts of the Shellfish Commission and the local harvesters, we must recognize and thank all the other groups and individuals that help support and protect this important resource. Among those are the local boat yards, the Harraseeket Yacht Club, the Harbormaster, Wolfe’s Neck Farm, and all of the responsible dog owners.

The Freeport Shellfish Commission is always looking for new members who have a passion for promoting the health of Freeport’s waters, as well as sustaining a working waterfront. Anyone that is interested in serving is encouraged to apply. Applications are available online and at the Town Clerk’s Office at Freeport Town Hall.

This year, the Shellfish Commission has implemented a pilot apprenticeship program which has given four apprentices the opportunity to earn a Freeport commercial shellfish license over a two-year period. Each apprentice must be accompanied by a sponsor who holds a Freeport commercial license and together must harvest during a minimum of one hundred tides over the next two years. The apprentice program will sunset June 30th, 2026.



Assistant Harbormaster Greg Mears and Charles Tetreau, Marine Resource Conservation Officer and Harbormaster

Wendy Clark photo

Cost to the median taxpayer for both Harbormaster and Marine Resource Conservation Officer positions:

\$17

2
Full-time equivalents

Harbormaster

The Harbormaster’s Office deals with a wide range of issues within Freeport’s coastal waters including assisting mariners, recovering lost, stolen or sunken vessels, and ensuring all vessels are operating with the proper safety equipment. The Harbormaster provides emergency transportation for the Freeport Police and Fire Departments as well as other neighboring agencies. The Harbormaster ensures that all public boat landings are operating safely and efficiently and plays a vital role in enforcing state laws as well as the Freeport Coastal Waters Ordinance.

The Harbormaster and Assistant Harbormaster work with the Freeport Shellfish Commission in keeping Freeport’s waters clear of any pollutants that will directly impact the health of marine life. With over fifty commercial shellfish license holders, we continue to take routine water samples for the Department of Marine Resources to monitor the health of Freeport’s waters. We inspect vessels that hold marine sanitation devices to ensure all “Y” valves are in the locked position while in Freeport waters. Transient vessels are also informed and educated that Freeport’s waters are a shellfish protection zone and that no overboard discharge is tolerated.

Freeport’s waters are constantly changing and remain a resource for many different fisheries as well as recreational uses. The Harraseeket River holds up to 350 moorings and is home to marinas, commercial fishermen, kayakers and much more. With over 35 miles of coastline, Freeport is currently home to over 40 aquaculture sites. To view specific aquaculture lease locations please visit: <https://www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture/leases/aquaculturemap.html>

Looking ahead, it is important that Freeport continues to manage its waters to ensure a productive working waterfront, as well as a safe place to recreate.

The demand for a mooring in the Harraseeket River Anchorage continues to grow. The current number of boaters waiting for a mooring in the Harraseeket river is 194. To apply for a mooring within the anchorage please visit: <https://my.onlinemooring.com/FreeportME/home.aspx>

This year, the Harbormaster’s office will be incorporating all moorings in Freeport waters into an annual registration process using Online Mooring. This will allow the Harbormasters to keep an up-to-date database with mooring holder’s locations, contact information, and vessel details.

The Coastal Waters Commission remains very busy dealing with a variety of waterfront issues along with ordinance updates and changes. The Commission is always looking for new members. Anyone interested in serving is encouraged to apply. Application forms are available in the Town Clerk’s Office at the Freeport Town Hall and on the Town’s website.



Jeffrey Scott Smith photo

Bustins Island



Cost to the median taxpayer

\$28

The Board of Overseers of Bustins Island Village Corporation reports that after 25 years, the Bustins Island Ferry ‘the Lilly B’ got a new, more energy-efficient Milton CAT engine and new transmission at the beginning of the season. Passengers can enjoy a quieter, more energy-efficient engine as they cross Harraseeket Bay to and from the Island.

Last fall, per the recommendation of Forest Ranger Kent Nelson, the Island applied for a grant that would assist in forest protection and community wildfire defense. Unfortunately, despite much work and grant writing, Bustins did not receive the grant. There is discussion about going in for a third attempt at claiming some much-needed funding for the brush and tree cleanup on our Island. Our Safety Committee conducted another successful safety day, educating islanders on emergency protocol.

A couple of years ago, Bustins was hit by a significant storm surge that affected our coastline and the greater coastline of Maine. We hoped this storm was an anomaly, but unfortunately, Bustins was hit with two more storms in the winter of 2023. Many spots around the Island were severely affected by these new storm trends. Thanks to Earl Gibson, Freeport Public Works Director, and Sophia Wilson, Town Manager, for visiting Bustins to view some of our erosion issues and offer some advisement.

This season on Bustins Island was otherwise a wonderful success. The Islanders enjoyed many of their traditional fun and activities. We look forward to another great season in 2025!

Wendy Clark photo

Winslow Park

Winslow Park saw another busy summer of operation in the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year. A stormy June and above-average rainfall throughout the summer kept staff busy. Coastal flooding and wet areas resulted in various issues that needed to be addressed.

During the summer of 2023, the campground was nearly completely booked for the peak season. The slower months also saw increased usage. The waterfront campsites were entirely booked for the season. Pre-season bookings increased by nearly 10%. Entry remains free for seniors and young children. Veteran and military discounts were also continued. The Harb Cottage was rented fully for the summer weeks and monthly for the winter season.

Larger event rentals included family reunions, company picnics, weddings, and private and public-school outings.

The campground continued to offer extensive discounts and free camping weeks to Freeport residents. RSU5 schools continue to use the park free of charge for school functions, and other area schools are offered a significant discount.

Over the winter, several storms caused extensive damage to the park. This primarily included downed limbs and trees, flooding, and infrastructure damage. Park maintenance staff returned early and worked diligently to open the facilities. A few campsites remained closed upon opening, but most of the park was opened on time.

The park staff, Winslow Park Commission, and the Town of Freeport would like to thank the community for their support and cooperation through the previous years with the required restrictions. We were all pleased to see a year back to normal operations.



Neil Lyman, Winslow Park Manager

4.5
Full-time
equivalents

Wendy Clark photo

Cumberland County

Dear Residents of Freeport,

Greetings from Cumberland County Government! It's my pleasure to provide this update on the County's latest events and developments, and a preview of what's to come.

Cumberland County provides the Town of Freeport services such as the County Jail, Sheriff's Department, District Attorney, Probate Office, Registry of Deeds, Regional Communications Center, and Emergency Management Agency. In FY 23-24, County Commissioner Stephen Gorden represented District 3, which includes the Town of Freeport, as one of five Commissioners of the County.

Freeport's FY 23-24 County tax was \$1,317,286, and the town's valuation increase of 12% was below the County average of 15.33%. As a result, the town's warrant went up 2.25%, less than the 5.32% countywide average. For the calendar year 2023, Freeport's State Equalized Valuation represented 3.5% of Cumberland County overall.

The County has continued to look for ways to support the 28 individual towns and cities within our border, and the region as a whole. The Public Health Department is leading that charge, with a host of key services and programming that we've been entrusted to perform.

Starting in 2023, Cumberland County Public Health became the local lead organization for the Maine Prevention Network, which is funded by the State CDC and supports prevention efforts on three core areas: Tobacco Use, Substance Use, and Healthy Eating/Active Living. The County's approach is to collaborate with partners to assess the health of communities, build and support partnerships, and ultimately prevent health problems from arising before they get the chance.

The Public Health Department is also using a mix of federal grants and opioid settlement funds to coordinate several behavioral health projects, including re-entry and diversion for people struggling with substance use disorder, and coordinating care for especially high-use and high-risk residents. The Department also worked with the Children's Oral Health Network of Maine to improve access to preventive dental care for kids through local schools. The project is funded through ARPA and will continue to expand access to preventative oral health care in schools across the County through 2025.

In September 2023, a number of communities approached the County to explore managing regional delivery of General Assistance. Cumberland County explored the new need for a service provider after a local non-profit couldn't provide the service anymore and built a program with an initial seven communities contracting for services. Once the program started, other communities inquired - and the County has added capacity to meet growing needs for this service in 2024.

The County's Emergency Management Agency had a busy winter and spring, helping coastal towns recover from the beating they took in a series of storms. We saw record coastal flooding in back-to-back winter storms. FEMA spent two days in the County validating damages from Scarborough to Harpswell, including islands. We had 418 reports of damage to private homes, and 172 businesses sought assistance from the Small Business Administration in rebuilding. A third storm in early April was characterized largely by power outages and blocked roads. We had \$1.4 million in damage reported from towns. Most of this was the cost of removing downed trees. The debris removal took several months beyond the storm.

The County has continued work with the cities and towns on regional public safety. Conversations led to a commissioned study exploring ways that fire/EMS departments can voluntarily work together in order to solve problems, improve services, and reduce the pressure on understaffed local departments. Those discussions are ongoing, and participating towns are working toward developing a strategic plan later this year.

(continued)



Cumberland County (continued)

As of January 2023, the County moved to a "fiscal year" July to June budget. Staff created a six-month budget from January to June of 2023 and the County's first fiscal year budget spanned from July 2023 to June of 2024. A significant amount of work went into this transition, and we can't thank the towns for working with us to make it all work out smoothly.

Finally, in 2024 the County was able to address a longstanding and desperate need for more space. Several space needs studies revealed that County Department employees have been packing into smaller spaces and spreading further afield into leased space across the Old Port - thereby reducing efficiency, increasing costs, and creating inhospitable workspaces. The pandemic brought that need into stark relief; and the County pursued partnering with a local developer to design a new building at the Jail complex.

After a preliminary design of a new 22,000 square-foot building was deemed cost prohibitive, the County identified a \$4.6 million, 32,000 square-foot existing office building in Portland's NorthPort Business Park. The funding source was through ARPA. The space will allow nine County departments to consolidate into one space, eliminating the need for expensive leases downtown and providing room for future growth. The building will offer plenty of meeting space and a large parking field. Design and interior renovations are underway now, with an expected move-in date early in 2025.

In the coming year, Cumberland County will keep working through best practices to refine the services we provide, collaborate with municipalities to improve quality and efficiency of local services; and be a responsible and effective steward of your tax dollars. On behalf of the County Commissioners and all of us at Cumberland County, I'd like to extend our best wishes for a safe, healthy and prosperous year!

Sincerely,



James H. Gailey,
County Manager



State Senate



Mattie Daughtry, State Senator

Dear Friends and Residents of Freeport,

Thank you for the opportunity to continue serving as your State Senator. I am honored and humbled by the responsibility of representing you, your families, and our community in Augusta.

For the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature, I continued to serve as the Senate Assistant Majority Leader. I also served on the Labor and Housing Committee, where my colleagues and I worked on my and Representative Kristen Cloutier's bill to establish Maine's statewide Paid Family and Medical Program in 2023.


If you recall, it passed as part of a historic biennial budget. Since then, the Maine Senate has confirmed nominees to the program's governing board. In addition, the Department of Labor initiated the rulemaking process and took comments from the public. There were in-person, online, and written options. Looking ahead, payroll contributions, just one half of one percent, will begin on Jan. 1, 2025. Finally, benefits will become available beginning on May 1, 2026.

As the 13th state to create a PFML program, I know it will support Mainers across the district and state, especially those of us who are raising young children and taking care of aging parents. With all this caretaking and an expensive health care system, we inevitably need time off from work when someone we love becomes sick. Even better, this policy will draw more families and workers to Maine, mitigating the workforce shortage.

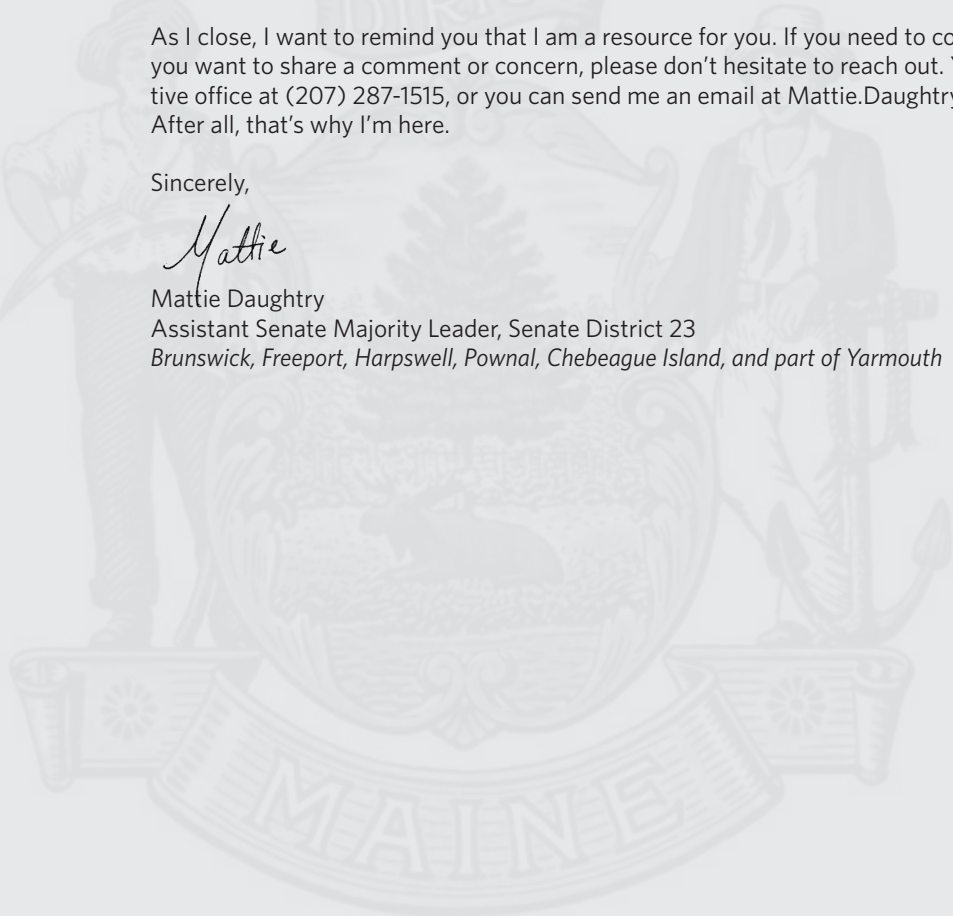
In addition to working on this bill, I was proud to support bills and proposals that make Maine an even better place to live, work, raise a family, and eventually retire in. We increased the annual income tax pension deduction to \$35,000. We also increased the Property Tax Fairness Credit to \$2,000. We maintained the State's commitment to fund K-12 public education at 55 percent, ensuring that schools will have the resources they need to foster lifelong learning. Just as important, we continued to make school meals free for all students. Finally, we extended free community college for two more years, which will help develop a skilled workforce.

As I close, I want to remind you that I am a resource for you. If you need to contact a state agency or if you want to share a comment or concern, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can call my legislative office at (207) 287-1515, or you can send me an email at Mattie.Daughtry@legislature.maine.gov. After all, that's why I'm here.

Sincerely,



Mattie Daughtry
Assistant Senate Majority Leader, Senate District 23
Brunswick, Freeport, Harpswell, Pownal, Chebeague Island, and part of Yarmouth



State House of Representatives



Melanie Sachs
State Representative

Dear Freeport Neighbors:

It is a genuine honor to represent you in the Maine House of Representatives. I am grateful for the opportunity to work for you in Augusta, and to collaborate with my colleagues to develop thoughtful solutions for the numerous challenges confronting our community and state.

In the 131st Legislature, I served as the House Chair of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, which oversees General Fund appropriations and general fiscal policy and constructs the biennial and supplemental budgets. These budgets made historic investments in housing, childcare, education, mental health services, environmental protection, and climate resiliency.

This session, I sponsored and passed other legislation as well, with bills strengthening our reproductive health system, providing faster reimbursement of state funds to towns such as Freeport, expanding tax exemptions to all nonprofits in Maine, and holding telecommunications companies accountable.

One of my most important jobs is connecting with you. Please get in touch if I can be of assistance to you or your family, if you want to connect with me on the issues you care about, or if you would like to discuss or testify on any upcoming legislation. My email is melanie.sachs@legislature.maine.gov and my phone number is (207) 299-6825. I also send out monthly email newsletters that provide insight into my work at the State House, offer helpful information and resources, and connect you with your state government. Please let me know if you would like to receive them.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent you in the 131st Legislature. It is truly an honor to serve our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Melanie'.

Melanie Sachs
State Representative

U.S. Senate



Susan Collins,
United States Senator

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.

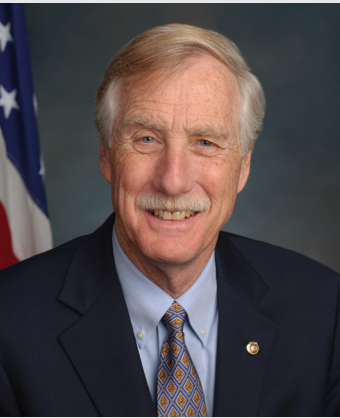
As we look ahead to 2024, I remain committed to addressing the concerns of Maine families and communities. If you need assistance or wish to share your thoughts, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of my six state offices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Susan M. Collins'.

Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

U.S. Senate



Angus King,
United States Senator

Dear Friends,

Thank you for allowing me to add my congratulations and gratitude for the positive differences each town and city in Maine makes for its people and ultimately for Maine as a whole. When I travel around the state and visit the various regions in Maine, I see firsthand the differences you all make, the focus you put on excellence, and the helping hands you extend to neighbors. I have learned valuable lessons watching your collaborations with each other. They got the State motto right—*Dirigo*—because you all certainly do lead the way and exemplify the best of Maine.

First, it was a true honor to be appointed to the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee this year to help address the challenges facing Maine veterans. We owe our way of life to these brave men and women and share a collective responsibility as a grateful nation to give back to our veterans. That means delivering veterans the benefits they have earned, addressing the veterans' suicide crisis. improving transition-to-civilian-status programs, and ensuring every veteran can access essential services, like affordable housing and behavioral healthcare.

Next, one of the most significant infrastructure projects in Maine history is underway: affordable and universal broadband availability throughout the state. Supported through funding in the bipartisan infrastructure bill, we are now within striking distance of broadband service even in our most rural communities. Additionally, infastructure improvements in our roads and bridges, water and septic upgrades for our towns and support for our workforce and employers are also in the pipeline. Serious steps are being taken to address the toll from substance abuse and to provide our older neighbors with resources to help them continue to stand strong throughout their golden years. It is my goal here to make sure everyone has access to stable employment opportunities and quality healthcare which is of critical importance to keep our families healthy and happy.

I am thankful for each town in Maine for their commitment to their communities. to their citizens, and to this country. I will do my part to listen to your concerns and work to find useful solutions to the issues you face. My offices throughout Maine remain available to you if you face hurdles with the federal government whether it be veteran issues, social security problems. student loans, immigration, tax assistance and more. I hope you will reach out of my offices in Presque Isle. Bangor. Augusta. Portland. or Biddeford and allow me the chance to be part of your solutions. Together, I know we can continue to build a stronger, brighter future for our great state.

Maine is known for our grit and resiliency and we are making great strides—something others across the country have noticed. Thank you for being one of the reasons Maine is so special; it is not only a pleasure to serve you—it is a pleasure to know you. Mary and I wish you a happy and safe 2024.

Best regards,

Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senate

U.S. House of Representatives



Chellie Pingree,
United States Representative

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well and in good health. It is my honor to serve the people of Maine's First District, and I'm pleased to share some ways that I can support you and your community this year.

I know that navigating many federal agencies and programs can be frustrating. One of my most important roles as a Member of Congress is to assist you if you're having trouble. My office can help to resolve challenges with a wide range of programs, including Social Security, veterans' benefits, passport renewals, and more. If you need help, please reach out to my Portland office at (207) 774-5019 or visit my website at pingree.house.gov/contact.

As you know, communities around Maine have experienced major damage as a result of winter storms and widespread flooding in recent months. These storms have underscored the importance of disaster preparation, particularly as we face the growing impact of climate change. I am working closely with Governor Mills and her administration to ensure that federal assistance is available for both short-term recovery needs and long-term resiliency planning. My staff and I are continually updating my website with new resources and stand ready to answer any questions you may have.

My office can also provide more information about the annual Community Project Funding (CPF) process. Each year, Congress enacts appropriations bills that provide the federal government with the funding it needs to operate. CPFs are a critical tool to directly support local governments and non-profit organizations through federal appropriations. If you know of a project that might be a good fit, I encourage you to keep in touch as more details about the Fiscal Year 2025 funding process become available, as eligibility requirements and limitations can differ from year to year.

It is always a privilege to hear from you, so don't hesitate to reach out to my office any time that I can be helpful. Please rest assured that I do not take the responsibility of representing you lightly, and as we move into this new year, I will continue fighting for Mainers on the issues that impact us most. Thank you, and I hope to see you in Maine soon.

Sincerely,

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

Statement 1

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE Statement of Net Position June 30, 2024		
	Governmental Activities	Component Unit FEDC
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 19,734,275	88,682
Investments	9,654,400	-
Receivables:		
Accounts, net	197,272	-
Due from other governments	136,716	-
Taxes receivable	464,718	-
Tax liens	108,249	-
Lease receivable	2,189,990	-
Prepaid items	-	246
Inventory	21,988	125
Capital assets, not being depreciated	3,089,661	-
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	18,295,252	-
Total assets	53,892,521	89,053
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	842,092	-
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	256,950	-
Total deferred outflows of resources	1,099,042	-
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	852,506	-
Accrued wages and benefits payable	272,382	-
Accrued interest	595	-
Noncurrent liabilities:		
Liabilities due in one year	217,437	-
Other long-term liabilities	1,970,265	-
Other postemployment benefits liability	1,119,648	-
Net pension liability	1,619,379	-
Bonds and notes due in more than one year	800,068	-
Total liabilities	6,852,280	-
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	329,837	-
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB	244,682	-

Statement 2

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE								
Statement of Activities								
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024								
		Program Revenues			Net (expense) revenue and changes in net position			
			Operating	Capital	Primary Government		Component Unit	
		Charges for	grants and	grants and	Governmental	Total		
Functions/programs	Expenses	services	contributions	contributions	activities		FEDC	
Primary government:								
Governmental activities:								
General government	\$ 4,551,061	576,089	47,600	84,432	(3,842,940)	(3,842,940)	-	
Public safety	5,406,157	651,969	77,363	-	(4,676,825)	(4,676,825)	-	
Public works	3,648,815	269,401	159,500	-	(3,219,914)	(3,219,914)	-	
Community services	1,832,600	600,099	178,332	46,257	(1,007,912)	(1,007,912)	-	
Community development	1,486,665	-	-	-	(1,486,665)	(1,486,665)	-	
Education	21,239,560	-	-	-	(21,239,560)	(21,239,560)	-	
Unclassified	1,393,707	-	12,189	44,241	(1,337,277)	(1,337,277)	-	
Interest on debt	6,838	-	-	-	(6,838)	(6,838)	-	
Total governmental activities	39,565,403	2,097,558	474,984	174,930	(36,817,931)	(36,817,931)	-	
Total primary government	\$ 39,565,403	2,097,558	474,984	174,930	(36,817,931)	(36,817,931)	-	
Component Unit:								
Freeport Economic Development Corporation	147,728	-	143,000	-	-	-	(4,728)	
General revenues:								
Property taxes, levied for general purposes	\$ 31,491,925				31,491,925		-	
Motor vehicle excise taxes	2,523,203				2,523,203		-	
Interest and lien costs	47,282				47,282		-	
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs:							-	
Homestead exemption	516,948				516,948		-	
BETE reimbursements	517,504				517,504		-	
State Revenue Sharing	1,246,267				1,246,267		-	
Other State aid	138,799				138,799		-	
Unrestricted investment earnings	1,640,749				1,640,749		10	
Miscellaneous revenues	79,176				79,176		-	
Total general revenues	38,201,853				38,201,853		10	
Change in net position					1,383,922	1,383,922	(4,718)	
Net position - beginning, restated					44,045,525	44,045,525	93,771	
Net position - ending					45,429,447	45,429,447	89,053	

Statement 3

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE				
Balance Sheet				
Governmental Funds				
June 30, 2024				
	General	Capital Projects Funds	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS				
Cash and equivalents	\$ 17,131,478	772,277	1,830,520	19,734,275
Investments	708,076	6,902,322	2,044,002	9,654,400
Receivables:				
Accounts net of allowance of \$58,650	39,171	148,573	9,528	197,272
Due from other governments	136,716	-	-	136,716
Taxes receivable	464,718	-	-	464,718
Lease	2,189,990	-	-	2,189,990
Tax liens	108,249	-	-	108,249
Interfund loans receivable	-	6,703,704	3,446,846	10,150,550
Inventory	21,988	-	-	21,988
Total assets	\$ 20,800,386	14,526,876	7,330,896	42,658,158
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	159,988	38,612	7,832	206,432
Accrued wages and benefits	266,173	-	6,209	272,382
Interfund loans payable	9,055,596	594,931	500,023	10,150,550
Development escrows	366,098	-	-	366,098
Other unearned revenues	-	-	279,976	279,976
Total liabilities	9,847,855	633,543	794,040	11,275,438
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Unavailable revenue - property taxes	263,462	-	-	263,462
Unavailable revenue - ambulance receivables	-	13,689	-	13,689
Deferred inflows related to leases	2,135,316	-	-	2,135,316
Total deferred inflows of resources	2,398,778	13,689	-	2,412,467
FUND BALANCES				
Nonspendable	21,988	-	1,915,568	1,937,556
Restricted	-	-	2,765,296	2,765,296
Committed	2,254,942	13,879,644	1,855,992	17,990,578
Assigned	675,000	-	-	675,000
Unassigned	5,601,823	-	-	5,601,823
Total fund balances	8,553,753	13,879,644	6,536,856	28,970,253
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	\$ 20,800,386	14,526,876	7,330,896	
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:				
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.				21,384,913
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds.				
Unavailable revenue - property taxes				263,462
Unavailable revenue - ambulance billings				13,689
Deferred inflows/(outflows) related to pensions				512,255
Deferred inflows/(outflows) related to OPEB				12,267
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.				(5,727,392)
Net position of governmental activities				\$ 45,429,447

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Statement 4

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE				
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances				
Governmental Funds				
For the year ended June 30, 2024				
	General	Capital Projects Funds	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:				
Taxes	\$ 32,295,333	-	1,769,200	34,064,533
Licenses, permits and fees	311,264	-	-	311,264
Intergovernmental	2,807,368	-	222,530	3,029,898
Charges for services	283,098	772,350	744,908	1,800,356
Fees and fines	11,685	-	-	11,685
Gifts and donations	-	-	36,234	36,234
Unclassified	79,175	-	-	79,175
Investment income (loss)	710,937	598,944	330,868	1,640,749
Total revenues	36,498,860	1,371,294	3,103,740	40,973,894
Expenditures:				
Current:				
General government	2,257,234	-	-	2,257,234
Public safety	3,870,969	-	15,088	3,886,057
Public works	2,583,194	-	-	2,583,194
Community services	976,036	-	435,146	1,411,182
Community development	-	-	1,486,665	1,486,665
Education	21,239,560	-	-	21,239,560
Insurance and fringe benefits	2,517,405	-	-	2,517,405
County and transit tax	1,525,097	-	-	1,525,097
Unclassified	354,485	50,576	86,873	491,934
Capital outlay	-	1,614,133	383,661	1,997,794
Debt service	70,276	-	-	70,276
Total expenditures	35,394,256	1,664,709	2,407,433	39,466,398
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	1,104,604	(293,415)	696,307	1,507,496
Other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers from other funds	505,000	577,348	-	1,082,348
Transfers to other funds	(677,348)	-	(405,000)	(1,082,348)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(172,348)	577,348	(405,000)	-
Net change in fund balances	932,256	283,933	291,307	1,507,496
Fund balances, beginning of year	7,621,497	13,595,711	6,245,549	27,462,757
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 8,553,753	13,879,644	6,536,856	28,970,253

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Statement 5

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities For the year ended June 30, 2024		
Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds (from Statement 4)	\$	1,507,496
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities (Statement 2) are different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation and loss on disposal of assets.		(3,115)
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.		(24,569)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		(303,858)
Bond proceeds provide current financial resources to governmental funds, but issuing debt increases long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. Repayment of bond and note principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. These are the changes in long term debt.		207,968
Change in net position of governmental activities (see Statement 2)	\$	1,383,922
See accompanying notes to financial statements.		

Statement 6

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Budget and Actual General Fund For the year ended June 30, 2024				
	Budgeted amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Revenues:				
Taxes	\$ 31,481,487	31,481,487	32,295,333	813,846
Licenses, permits and fees	320,400	320,400	311,264	(9,136)
Intergovernmental	2,461,500	2,461,500	2,807,368	345,868
Charges for services	225,700	225,700	283,098	57,398
Fees and fines	13,300	13,300	11,685	(1,615)
Unclassified	54,600	54,600	79,175	24,575
Investment earnings	175,000	175,000	656,123	481,123
Total revenues	34,731,987	34,731,987	36,444,046	1,712,059
Expenditures:				
Current:				
General government	2,511,100	2,511,100	2,257,234	253,866
Public safety	3,882,175	3,882,175	3,870,969	11,206
Public works	2,775,550	2,775,550	2,583,194	192,356
Community services	988,710	988,710	976,036	12,674
Education	21,239,560	21,239,560	21,239,560	-
Insurance and fringe benefits	2,612,800	2,612,800	2,517,405	95,395
County tax	1,525,142	1,525,142	1,525,097	45
Unclassified	356,650	356,650	352,982	3,668
Debt service	70,300	70,300	70,276	24
Total expenditures	35,961,987	35,961,987	35,392,753	569,234
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(1,230,000)	(1,230,000)	1,051,293	2,281,293
Other financing sources (uses):				
Use of unassigned fund balance	675,000	675,000	-	(675,000)
Transfers from other funds	555,000	555,000	505,000	(50,000)
Transfers to other funds	-	-	(677,348)	(677,348)
Total other financing sources (uses)	1,230,000	1,230,000	(172,348)	(1,402,348)
Net change in fund balance - budgetary basis	-	-	878,945	878,945
Fund balance, beginning of year - budgetary basis			6,983,345	
Fund balance, end of year - budgetary basis			7,862,290	
Reconciliation to GAAP basis:				
Committed reserve funds fund balance			691,463	
Fund balance, end of year - GAAP basis	\$		8,553,753	
See accompanying notes to financial statements.				

Exhibit A-1

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE Comparative Balance Sheets - General Fund June 30, 2024 and 2023			
	2024	2023	
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 17,131,478	14,489,027	
Investments	708,076	783,653	
Accounts receivable	39,171	11,357	
Due from other governments	136,716	134,780	
Taxes receivable	464,718	522,030	
Lease receivable	2,189,990	1,698,956	
Tax liens	108,249	92,790	
Inventory	21,988	14,212	
Total assets	\$ 20,800,386	17,746,805	
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	159,988	160,603	
Accrued wages and benefits	266,173	228,331	
Interfund loans payable	9,055,596	7,498,056	
Development escrows	366,098	323,596	
Total liabilities	9,847,855	8,210,586	
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Unavailable revenue - property taxes	263,462	265,585	
Deferred inflows related to leases	2,135,316	1,649,137	
Total deferred inflows of resources	2,398,778	1,914,722	
FUND BALANCE			
Nonspendable	21,988	14,212	
Committed - Stabilization Fund	1,000,000	1,000,000	
Committed - other	563,479	554,187	
Committed - reserves	691,463	638,152	
Assigned	675,000	675,000	
Unassigned	5,601,823	4,739,946	
Total fund balance	8,553,753	7,621,497	
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	\$ 20,800,386	17,746,805	

Exhibit A-2

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE General Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual Year ended June 30, 2024 (with comparative actual amounts for the year ended June 30, 2023)					
	2024		Variance		
	Budget	Actual	positive (negative)	2023	Actual
Revenues:					
Taxes:					
Property taxes	\$ 29,393,987	29,724,848	330,861	27,994,110	
Excise taxes and registration fees	2,062,500	2,523,203	460,703	2,395,302	
Interest and lien costs	25,000	47,282	22,282	34,289	
Total taxes	31,481,487	32,295,333	813,846	30,423,701	
Licenses, permits and fees:					
Building, plumbing and electrical permits	183,000	171,679	(11,321)	186,406	
Town clerk licenses and fees	26,100	30,322	4,222	32,029	
Moorings and other harbor fees	75,000	77,542	2,542	81,643	
Solid waste permits	1,300	825	(475)	825	
Shellfish licenses	10,000	12,456	2,456	11,657	
Alarm permits	25,000	18,440	(6,560)	29,752	
Total licenses, permits and fees	320,400	311,264	(9,136)	342,312	
Intergovernmental:					
State tree growth reimbursement	50,000	75,832	25,832	61,724	
State general assistance	21,000	163,492	142,492	52,299	
State revenue sharing	1,200,000	1,246,267	46,267	1,264,703	
State homestead exemption reimbursement	475,000	516,948	41,948	580,524	
State BETE reimbursement	500,000	517,504	17,504	536,045	
State road assistance	125,000	156,200	31,200	135,444	
Public safety contributions	64,000	68,158	4,158	63,500	
Other intergovernmental	26,500	62,967	36,467	47,249	
Total intergovernmental	2,461,500	2,807,368	345,868	2,741,488	
Charges for services:					
Planning	15,200	11,222	(3,978)	23,094	
Transfer station and recycling	198,000	263,271	65,271	226,438	
Parking lot	-	-	-	11,588	
Engineering	10,000	5,305	(4,695)	12,155	
Hunter Road Fields	2,500	3,300	800	5,950	
Total charges for services	225,700	283,098	57,398	279,225	
Fees and fines:					
Police parking and other fines	5,000	402	(4,598)	1,372	
Library fines and fees	6,000	9,732	3,732	9,635	
Alarm and other fire fees	2,300	1,551	(749)	1,890	
Total fees and fines	13,300	11,685	(1,615)	12,897	

Exhibit A-2, continued

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE				
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes				
in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - General Fund, Continued				
	2024		Variance positive (negative)	2023 Actual
	Budget	Actual		
Revenues, continued:				
Unclassified	\$ 54,600	79,175	24,575	169,356
Investment earnings	175,000	656,123	481,123	170,947
Total revenues	34,731,987	36,444,046	1,712,059	34,139,926
Expenditures:				
Current:				
General government:				
Town council	188,100	209,825	(21,725)	237,187
Town manager	165,600	107,277	58,323	123,058
Finance and treasury	577,995	554,157	23,838	513,225
Assessing	216,435	211,410	5,025	191,640
Code enforcement	145,415	144,782	633	130,684
Town clerk and elections	163,900	161,812	2,088	141,565
General administration	274,830	143,989	130,841	193,057
Municipal buildings	500,460	508,771	(8,311)	469,175
Planning	278,365	215,211	63,154	165,726
Total general government	2,511,100	2,257,234	253,866	2,165,317
Public Safety:				
Police department	1,721,790	1,729,185	(7,395)	1,477,156
Special enforcement	177,115	179,569	(2,454)	120,044
Fire department	962,800	956,057	6,743	1,083,489
Rescue	547,970	540,875	7,095	306,824
Reception	248,000	249,883	(1,883)	274,146
Hydrant rental	194,500	192,368	2,132	191,420
Street lights	30,000	23,032	6,968	23,032
Total public safety	3,882,175	3,870,969	11,206	3,476,111
Public Works:				
General road operations	1,145,650	1,014,885	130,765	991,955
Summer roads	490,600	405,109	85,491	285,957
Winter roads	196,000	161,413	34,587	181,080
Tree program	20,000	18,000	2,000	19,770
Solid waste	618,400	707,413	(89,013)	651,628
Engineering	176,750	152,251	24,499	151,326
Hunter Road Fields maintenance	128,150	124,123	4,027	133,011
Total public works	2,775,550	2,583,194	192,356	2,414,727

Exhibit A-2, continued

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE				
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes				
in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - General Fund, Continued				
	2024		Variance positive (negative)	2023 Actual
	Budget	Actual		
Expenditures, continued:				
Current, continued:				
Community services:				
Human services agencies	\$ 39,000	31,500	7,500	39,000
General assistance	54,000	95,905	(41,905)	248,132
Public library	612,220	572,769	39,451	500,927
Cable TV	171,810	185,070	(13,260)	125,324
Promotions	12,200	20,342	(8,142)	20,512
Shellfish commission	3,500	3,500	-	-
Amtrak station operations	74,060	52,053	22,007	61,022
Other	21,920	14,897	7,023	11,918
Total community services	988,710	976,036	12,674	1,006,835
Education	21,239,560	21,239,560	-	20,513,344
Insurance and fringe benefits:				
Employee benefits	2,502,800	2,402,953	99,847	2,075,165
Insurances	110,000	114,452	(4,452)	105,365
Total insurance and fringe benefits	2,612,800	2,517,405	95,395	2,180,530
County and transit tax	1,525,142	1,525,097	45	1,374,422
Unclassified:				
Bustin's Island Corporation	300,600	290,737	9,863	277,226
Miscellaneous and contingency	31,050	28,799	2,251	23,093
Abatements	25,000	33,446	(8,446)	28,300
Total unclassified	356,650	352,982	3,668	328,619
Debt service	70,300	70,276	24	70,681
Total expenditures	35,961,987	35,392,753	569,234	33,530,586
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(1,230,000)	1,051,293	2,281,293	609,340

Exhibit A-2, continued

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE				
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes				
in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - General Fund, Continued				
	2024		Variance positive negative	2023 Actual
	Budget	Actual		
Other financing sources (uses):				
Budgeted utilization of surplus	\$ 675,000	-	(675,000)	-
Transfers in	555,000	505,000	(50,000)	435,000
Transfers out	-	(677,348)	(677,348)	(2,585,440)
Total other financing sources (uses)	1,230,000	(172,348)	(1,402,348)	(2,150,440)
Net change in fund balance - budgetary basis	-	878,945	878,945	(1,541,100)
Fund balance, beginning of year - budgetary basis		6,983,345		8,524,445
Fund balance, end of year - budgetary basis		7,862,290		6,983,345
Reconciliation of fund balance to GAAP basis:				
Committed reserve funds fund balance		691,463		638,152
Fund balance, end of year - GAAP Basis	\$	8,553,753		7,621,497

Exhibit B

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE						
Reserve Funds						
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Individual Funds						
For the year ended June 30, 2024						
	Fund Balance June 30, 2023	Revenues			Transfers in (out)	Fund Balance June 30, 2024
		Charges for Services	Interest	Expenditures		
Capital Project Reserves						
Administration - general	\$ 86,822	-	9,358	258	(24,500)	71,422
Boards and commissions	111,819	-	9,779	268	-	121,330
Building maintenance	257,620	-	28,145	780	(205,500)	79,485
Cable TV equipment	197,012	118,327	16,222	445	(139,000)	192,116
Energy savings	43,925	-	3,600	99	-	47,426
Fire equipment	931,517	-	75,565	2,073	100,000	1,105,009
Hedgehog mountain	24,719	-	2,026	56	-	26,689
Land purchase	150,794	-			-	150,794
Land trust	28,711	-	2,353	65	-	30,999
Municipal parking lot	518,423	-	42,517	15,166	-	545,774
Police equipment	354,593	-	33,834	932	(295,892)	91,603
Public infrastructure	2,517,457	-	216,098	5,937	(35,167)	2,692,451
Public works equipment	712,176	-	62,874	1,729	(240,000)	533,321
Recycling equipment	78,763	-	7,276	200	-	85,839
Rescue equipment	646,208	597,693	57,146	1,571	(230,000)	1,069,476
Total capital project reserves	6,660,559	716,020	566,793	29,579	(1,070,059)	6,843,734
General Fund Reserves						
Unemployment compensation fund	515,458	-	42,256	1,159	-	556,555
Other	122,694	-	12,558	344	-	134,908
Total general fund reserves	638,152	-	54,814	1,503	-	691,463
Total Reserve Funds	\$ 7,298,711	716,020	621,607	31,082	(1,070,059)	7,535,197

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE Capital Project Funds Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Individual Funds For the year ended June 30, 2024						
	Fund Balance (deficit) June 30, 2023	Revenues		Transfers in (out)	Fund Balance (deficit) June 30, 2024	
		Charges for Services	Interest	Expenditures		
Police Department Capital Project Funds:						
Communication upgrade	\$ 15,217	-	-	20	56,000	71,197
Bullet proof vests & protective equipment	56,883	-	-	47,076	25,000	34,807
Building enhancements	108	-	-	-	(108)	-
In-Car cameras	702	-	-	-	250,000	250,702
Boat and motor replacement	188,615	-	-	190,963	2,348	-
Vehicle replacement	217,021	-	-	157,726	65,000	124,295
Total police department	478,546	-	-	395,785	398,240	481,001
Fire Department Capital Project Funds:						
Protective clothing	8,104	-	-	39,719	47,170	15,555
Engine/tanker apparatus	107,617	56,330	-	4,839	(46,000)	113,108
Engine three	29,863	-	-	10,816	-	19,047
EMP portable digital signs	10,092	-	-	-	-	10,092
Service vehicle	3,676	-	-	2,194	-	1,482
SCBA bottles and fill station	29,162	-	-	-	(29,000)	162
Pressure fans	20,000	-	-	8,873	-	11,127
Total fire department	208,514	56,330	-	66,441	(27,830)	170,573
Rescue Department Capital Project Funds:						
Ambulance replacement	476,478	-	-	-	-	476,478
Communication upgrade	18,437	-	-	9,440	8,990	17,987
Rescue equipment	2,701	-	-	-	30,000	32,701
Dormitory Renovations	23,032	-	-	3,260	18,840	38,612
Total rescue department	520,648	-	-	12,700	57,830	565,778
Public Works Capital Project Funds:						
Grader repair	881	-	-	-	-	881
Dump truck replacement, sander & plow	242,237	-	-	157,736	250,000	334,501
Loader	18,770	-	-	-	-	18,770
Sidewalk plow-shared with TIF	93,668	-	-	81,765	-	11,903
Pick-up truck replacement	(879)	-	-	-	65,000	64,121
Street sweeper	21,300	-	-	-	-	21,300
Backhoe/Excavator/Forklift	22,081	-	-	-	25,000	47,081
Total public works	398,058	-	-	239,501	340,000	498,557
Recycling Capital Project Funds:						
Landfill closing	123,450	-	-	-	-	123,450
Containers	6,849	-	-	-	-	6,849
Loader	2,987	-	-	-	-	2,987
Facility lighting	37,500	-	-	-	-	37,500
Other	116,210	-	-	3,500	-	112,710

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE Capital Project Funds Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Individual Funds For the year ended June 30, 2024						
	Fund Balance (deficit) June 30, 2023	Revenues		Expenditures	Transfers in (out)	Fund Balance (deficit) June 30, 2024
		Charges for Services	Interest			
Comprehensive Town Improvement Funds:						
Arnold Road reconstruction	\$ 152,328	-	-	100,000	-	52,328
ADA compliance work	75,000	-	-	-	-	75,000
Train Station improvements	80,000	-	-	-	-	80,000
Percy, Pratt and Pownal Road reconstruction	120	-	-	-	-	120
Road condition survey - Asset management planning	25,000	-	-	16,910	-	8,090
Cousin's River Bridge - (PACTS)	140,000	-	-	-	-	140,000
Cousin's River Bridge - Bike/Pedestrian Connector	122,682	-	-	15,310	-	107,372
Mallett Drive/Durham Road reconstruction	500,000	-	-	-	450,000	950,000
Main St. paving and drainage match	10,294	-	-	-	-	10,294
DOT bridge work	655,700	-	32,151	317,000	-	370,851
Spar Cove Road rebuild	94,833	-	-	-	(94,833)	-
US Route 1 South (PACTS)	45,736	-	-	-	-	45,736
Concord Gully Brook watershed restoration	85,915	-	-	-	25,000	110,915
Greenspace project	16,000	-	-	-	-	16,000
South Street project	146,416	-	-	-	-	146,416
Desert Road match	19,393	-	-	-	-	19,393
US Route 1 North (PACTS)	134,991	-	-	-	-	134,991
Electric vehicle chargers	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Desert Road business park	235,000	-	-	-	-	235,000
Flying Point Road reconstruction	400,000	-	-	-	80,000	480,000
Freeport fields and trails project	167,287	-	-	34,171	-	133,116
Culvert replacement	33,434	-	-	-	-	33,434
Other	128,246	-	-	-	25,000	153,246
Total comprehensive town improvement	3,293,375	-	32,151	483,391	485,167	3,327,302
Municipal Buildings and Other Improvement Funds:						
Computer system upgrade/connectivity town-wide	208,501	-	-	123,136	42,000	127,365
Dunning boat yard	31,445	-	-	-	-	31,445
Cable TV	136,466	-	-	18,912	39,000	156,554
Valuation update	65,713	-	-	-	7,500	73,213
Building winterization	122,447	-	-	13,788	120,000	228,659
Town hall exterior	43,388	-	-	7,750	-	35,638
Town hall upgrades	25,000	-	-	-	-	25,000
Red Light upgrade	60,000	-	-	10,825	30,000	79,175
Copier replacement	2,160	-	-	625	-	1,535
Library building exterior	10,175	-	-	-	-	10,175
Town wharf work	121,320	-	-	49,621	7,500	79,199
Other	646,889	-	-	111,024	148,000	683,865
Total municipal buildings and other	1,473,504	-	-	335,681	394,000	1,531,823
Boards and Committees Improvement Funds:						
Directional signage	15,000	-	-	-	-	15,000
Ordinance work	40,000	-	-	-	-	40,000
Historic society archiving	1,387	-	-	-	-	1,387
comprehensive plan update	150,000	-	-	98,131	-	51,869
Florida Lake bridge replacement	448	-	-	-	-	448
Quiet zone study	66,732	-	-	-	-	66,732
Hedgehog Mountain bridge replacement	1,000	-	-	-	-	1,000

Exhibit E-2

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances For the year ended June 30, 2024												
	Tax Increment Financing Funds							Bartol Building Lease Fund	Tower Lease Fund	Town Grants & Programs	Leon Gorman Park	Totals 2024
	Winslow Park	TIF II Desert Road Phase II	TIF IV Destination	TIF V Hotel	TIF VI Housing	TIF VII Concord Gully	TIF VIII Quarry Ridge					
Revenues:												
Property taxes	\$ -	941,011	275,000	93,617	12,491	427,866	19,215	-	-	-	-	1,769,200
Charges for services	382,042	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,960	254,103	106,803	-	744,908
Gifts and donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36,234	-	36,234
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	222,530	-	222,530
Investment earnings/(losses)	44,205	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,647	10,635	90,487
Total revenues	426,247	941,011	275,000	93,617	12,491	427,866	19,215	1,960	254,103	401,214	10,635	2,863,359
Expenditures:												
Current:												
Community services	370,270	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,891	-	28,241	2,706	425,108
Community development	-	941,011	168,080	-	12,443	345,985	19,146	-	-	-	-	1,486,665
Public Safety	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,088	-	15,088
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75,523	-	75,523
Capital	112,711	-	96,020	-	-	-	-	-	-	174,930	-	383,661
Total expenditures	482,981	941,011	264,100	-	12,443	345,985	19,146	23,891	-	293,782	2,706	2,386,045
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(56,734)	-	10,900	93,617	48	81,881	69	(21,931)	254,103	107,432	7,929	477,314
Other financing sources (uses):												
Transfer to other funds	-	-	-	(5,000)	-	-	-	-	(225,000)	(175,000)	-	(405,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)	-	-	-	(5,000)	-	-	-	-	(225,000)	(175,000)	-	(405,000)
Net change in fund balances	(56,734)	-	10,900	88,617	48	81,881	69	(21,931)	29,103	(67,568)	7,929	72,314
Fund balances, beginning of year	792,508	56,388	537,490	161,158	-	68,547	27,871	504,201	875,282	1,286,003	128,712	4,438,160
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 735,774	56,388	548,390	249,775	48	150,428	27,940	482,270	904,385	1,218,435	136,641	4,510,474

Exhibit E-3

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE Town Grants and Programs Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances For the year ended June 30, 2024								
	Fund Balance (deficit) June 30, 2022	Revenues			Expenditures	Revenues over (under) expenditures	Other sources and (uses)	Fund Balance (deficit) June 30, 2023
		Inter- governmental	Gifts and donations	Charges for services				
Town Grants and Programs:								
Road Impact Fees	\$ 336,297	-	-	68,100	-	68,100	(175,000)	229,397
Stormwater Connection Fees	60,388	-	-	1,678	-	1,678	-	62,066
Sandy Beach Stairs/SHIP Grant	22,722	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,722
Maine Arts Commission	2,022	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,022
Sustainability Grant	107,458	-	-	-	70,827	(70,827)	-	36,631
Project Canopy Grant	8,657	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,657
CDBG-Elders Bus	2,139	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,139
Regional Efficiency grant	1,249	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,249
CDBG-Weatherization	7,357	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,357
ARPA	7,070	174,930	-	28,577	174,930	28,577	-	35,647
CDBG-Habitat for Humanity	455	-	-	-	-	-	-	455
Police Speed Enforcement/Seat Belt	11,774	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,774
Village Open Spaces	31,630	-	-	-	-	-	-	31,630
FEMA	52,420	-	-	-	-	-	-	52,420
Shellfish Water Testing	34,936	-	-	2,167	-	2,167	-	37,103
Fuel Assistance Fund-Freeport	48,579	-	5,075	-	-	5,075	-	53,654
Freeport Housing Trust Rental Assistance Grant	1,888	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,888
Fire and Rescue Annual Appeal Donations	13,251	-	9,205	-	15,088	(5,883)	-	7,368
EMS Stabilization Grant	-	47,600	-	-	-	47,600	-	47,600
Library Donations	92,053	-	9,765	-	9,440	325	(13,964)	78,414
Fire Department Burn Building Donations	3,465	-	-	-	95	(95)	(664)	2,706
Police Donations	2,706	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,706
Rescue Donations	558	-	-	-	-	-	-	558
Library Book Donations	(4,133)	-	8,616	-	18,447	(9,831)	13,964	-
Public Works Donations	3,159	-	1,353	-	354	999	-	4,158
Dollars for Scholars	1,779	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,779
Soule School Lease	239,667	-	-	26,736	-	26,736	-	266,403
Dunning Boat Yard Lease	152,095	-	-	15,192	-	15,192	-	167,287
Other	44,362	-	2,220	-	4,601	(2,381)	664	42,645
Total Town Grants and Programs	\$ 1,286,003	222,530	36,234	142,450	293,782	107,432	(175,000)	1,218,435

TOWN OF FREEPORT, MAINE									
Permanent Funds									
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Individual Funds									
For the year ended June 30, 2024									
		Principal			Unexpended Income				
		Fund Balance	Revenues	Fund Balance	Fund Balance	Interest		Fund Balance	Total
		June 30, 2023	Unrealized/Realized Gains (Losses)	June 30, 2024	(deficit) June 30, 2023	Income	Expenditures	(deficit) June 30, 2024	June 30, 2024
Cemetery Care:									
Perpetual Care:									
850 Burr	\$	181,908	14,713	196,621	740	5,307	5,570	477	197,098
851 Grove		71,712	5,811	77,523	512	2,096	1,988	620	78,143
852 Webster		20,109	1,630	21,739	150	588	558	180	21,919
853 Woodlawn		27,258	2,208	29,466	182	796	755	223	29,689
854 South Freeport		73,913	5,996	79,909	617	2,163	2,052	728	80,637
855 Flying Point		10,184	830	11,014	133	299	284	148	11,162
856 Town maintained		3,662	356	4,018	809	128	9	928	4,946
802 Davis Mausoleum		1,462	181	1,643	778	65	62	781	2,424
803 Carrie Thomas		815	81	896	203	30	28	205	1,101
804 A.O. Woodard		16,564	1,692	18,256	4,688	610	44	5,254	23,510
Total Cemetery Funds		407,587	33,498	441,085	8,812	12,082	11,350	9,544	450,629
Library Funds:									
710 Albert Conley		62,949	9,840	72,789	22,690	2,113	178	24,625	97,414
711 Paul and Emma Bennett		27,900	3,333	31,233	1,121	716	60	1,777	33,010
712 Eleanor Brewer		12,932	1,853	14,785	3,222	398	34	3,586	18,371
713 Bartol Association		66,797	5,643	72,440	(20,467)	1,225	2,023	(21,265)	51,175
714 Grace Ritchie		4,455	516	4,971	47	111	9	149	5,120
758 Loth Library		90,469	10,953	101,422	4,892	2,351	198	7,045	108,467
757 Jane Hall		224,438	26,764	251,202	6,645	5,756	4,259	8,142	259,344
Total Library Funds		489,940	58,902	548,842	18,150	12,670	6,761	24,059	572,901
Benevolent Funds:									
740 George Davis		20,763	2,829	23,592	3,890	607	51	4,446	28,038
741 Arthur L. Gould		703,177	88,089	791,266	63,311	18,916	3,035	79,192	870,458
743 Dorsey Loth		90,711	10,528	101,239	1,048	2,260	191	3,117	104,356
Total Benevolent Funds		814,651	101,446	916,097	68,249	21,783	3,277	86,755	1,002,852
Total		\$ 1,712,178	193,846	1,906,024	95,211	46,535	21,388	120,358	2,026,382

Where in Freeport?

These scenes are all distinctly Freeport—some we’ve seen a hundred times. Can you name where to find each? Get the answers at www.freeportmaine.com/DocumentCenter/View/3150/Where-In-Freeport-Quiz-Answers-2024



Test Your Knowledge of Freeport

If you don't already know the answers to these questions, you can find them in this report. Check your answers at www.freeportmaine.com/DocumentCenter/View/3136/Quiz

1. Who is Freeport's new Town Manager?
A. Sophie Wentworth
B. Sophia Wilson
C. Stephanie Wilcox

2. What is the estimated cost of work for all building permits for Fiscal Year 2024?
A. \$100,000
B. \$1,750,593
C. \$31,893,899

3. The Homestead Exemption is available to residents that have owned their homes for at least?
A. 2 months
B. 12 months
C. 2 years
4. How many vehicle registrations were processed in Fiscal Year 2024?
A. 5,890
B. 11,696
C. 25,645

5. Winslow Park preseason bookings increased by?
A. 10%
B. 20%
C. 50%

6. This year the Shellfish Commission continues to focus on maintaining and improving?
A. Shoreline access
B. Cleanliness of shoreline
C. Freeport’s water quality

7. How many miles of coastline are in Freeport?
A. 19 B. 25 C. 35+
8. Freeport Community Library is the first library to add what lendable?
A. Grab & Go craft bags
B. Documentary series on Native Americans
C. Tonies and Tonieboxes

9. Which Freeport Police Officer received the Meritorious Service Award?
A. Chief Nathaniel Goodman
B. Detective Beck Rice
C. Sargeant Matthew Moorhouse

10. Fire Rescue provides what training to Groups and Organizations?
A. Fire extinguisher use and safety
B. Smoke alarms/carbon monoxide awareness
C. CPR