

**2025**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE TOWN OF**  
**SOLON**  
**INCORPORATED 1809**



**CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE SOLON FIRE DEPARTMENT  
1925-2025**

*1925 McCann Fire Engine (Portland, Maine)  
Solon Fire Department's first fire truck*

## **TOWN OFFICE MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**121 SOUTH MAIN STREET (Rte. 201)**

**P. O. BOX 214, SOLON, MAINE 04979**

**643-2541 or 643-2812 FAX 207-643-2864**

website: <http://www.solon.maine.gov> e-mail: [townofsolon@yahoo.com](mailto:townofsolon@yahoo.com)

[townofsolon.clerk@yahoo.com](mailto:townofsolon.clerk@yahoo.com) [townofsolon.treasurer@yahoo.com](mailto:townofsolon.treasurer@yahoo.com)

Facebook: [fb.me/solonmaine](https://fb.me/solonmaine) &

[fb.me/groups/solon.area.community.happenings](https://fb.me/groups/solon.area.community.happenings)

### **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday 8 am to 4 pm**

**Wednesday 8 am to 6 pm**

(The Town Office will be closed on all State recognized holidays)

**Chair of Selectmen/Assessors is in the office on**

**Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday 9 am to 3 pm & Wednesday 9 am to 6 pm**

**Selectmen Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 6 pm**

**General Assistance is on Wednesday from 9 am to 11 am**

### **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

ELAINE ALOES, CHAIR OF SELECTMEN	643-2319
JOHN DUNAY, VICE CHAIR OF SELECTMAN	612-6690
WAYNE JOHNSON, SELECTMEN	654-3343
TOWN GARAGE	643-2349
ROAD COMMISSIONER	399-6440
TRANSFER STATION	643-2941
ANIMAL CONTROL, DISPATCH	474-6465
HISTORICAL SOCIETY	643-2275
PLANNING BOARD CHAIR, MIKE GOLDEN	643-2219
CODE ENFORCEMENT, PLUMBING INSPECTOR & HEALTH OFFICER, JEFF DREW	313-9455
FIRE CHIEF & FIRE WARDEN, DUAYNE ROLLINS	399-9549
DEPUTY FIRE WARDENS:	JEN ROLLINS 399-1655
	TODD DIXON 441-5171
COOLIDGE LIBRARY	643-2562
SOLON WATER DISTRICT	643-2473
RSU # 74 DIRECTORS:	LAURA LAYMAN 643-2593
KEITH PLOURD 399-4344	ROBERT LINDBLOM 431-8551
RSU #74 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE	635-2727
SOLON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	643-2491
CARRABEC COMMUNITY SCHOOL	635-2209
CARRABEC HIGH SCHOOL	635-2296
COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT	474-9591
MAINE STATE POLICE	474-3359
EMERGENCIES	DIAL 911

**2026 Annual Town Meeting will be held on March 7, 2026**

See the last page of this report for the details.

**2025**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF**  
**MUNICIPAL OFFICERS**  
**OF THE TOWN OF**  
**S O L O N**  
**MAINE**

**INCORPORATED 1809**  
**POPULATION 978**

**STATE VALUATIONS**

1980	\$ 10,850,000	1990	\$ 26,450,000
2000	\$ 38,950,000	2010	\$ 84,750,000
2020	\$100,800,000	2022	\$106,450,000
2023	\$115,750,000	2024	\$127,550,000
2025	\$153,400,000	2026	\$153,200,000

**For the Year Ending**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2025**

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Cover Photo:  
**1925 McCann Fire Engine**  
 Portland, Maine

A massive fire in 1925 prompted the creation of the Solon Fire Department. This 1925 McCann Fire Engine (now privately owned) was ordered direct from the manufacturer, D.E. McCann & Sons, based in Portland, Maine. They manufactured fire apparatus,

beginning with horse-drawn carriages in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and transitioning to motorized fire trucks in 1912.

# **DEDICATION**

The Selectmen dedicate this Town Report to the

## **OLON FIRE DEPARTMENT AND OUR FIREFIGHTERS PAST AND PRESENT**

### **OLON FIRE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS the Town of Solon, in the Great Solon Fire of September 1925, lost 19 buildings in the western half of our downtown area;

WHEREAS at a Special Town Meeting on October 12, 1925, the town voted to build a fire station and to purchase a fire truck and fire hose;

WHEREAS this was the official beginning of the Solon Volunteer Fire Department;

WHEREAS our Firefighters over the years risk their lives while battling blazes and evacuating residents from burning buildings;

WHEREAS our Firefighters faithfully respond 24 hours each day, seven days a week to fires and a variety of other emergencies and provide emergency medical care;

WHEREAS our Firefighters spend many hours each year in training to learn how to react to situations they could encounter;

WHEREAS the Town of Solon much appreciates the services provided by its Firefighters;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Town of Solon designates October 2025 as the “100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Solon Fire Department” and urges our citizens to show gratitude to our Firefighters for all they do to make our towns and cities better Communities.

And THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Town of Solon honors all our present and past firefighters for their service to our town on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Solon Volunteer Fire Department.

Proclaimed on October 22, 2025 by the Solon Selectmen

# **TOWN OFFICE HOURS**

The Town Office will be closed on all State recognized holidays. Other “important dates to remember” are also listed on the last page of this report.

## **TOWN OFFICE**

121 South Main Street

MONDAY, TUESDAY, & THURSDAY 8:00 am to 4:00 pm  
WEDNESDAY 8:00 am to 6:00 pm  
(Closed Friday)

## **SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS & OVERSEERS OF THE POOR**

SELECTMENS MEETING 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> WEDNESDAY 5 pm

## **CHAIR OF SELECTMEN**

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
WEDNESDAY 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

## **GENERAL ASSISTANCE**

WEDNESDAY 9:00 am to 11:00 am

## **PLANNING BOARD**

March to November – 1st & 3rd TUESDAY  
December to February – 1st TUESDAY  
at 7:00 pm in the Town Office Conference Room

## **COOLDIGE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

17 South Main Street

TUESDAY & THURSDAY 10:00 am to 6:00 pm  
SATURDAY 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

## **TRANSFER STATION**

1483 River Road

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 8:00 am to 4:00 pm  
WEDNESDAY 10:00 am to 2:00 pm  
(Closed Easter Sunday)

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

119 South Main Street

Firefighters Meeting - 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month 7:00 pm

## **SOLON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at the Historical Society, 28 S. Main Street at 7 pm

## 2025 MUNICIPAL REPORT COMPETITION

Maine Municipal Association hosts a Municipal Town Report Competition each year. Cities and towns in Maine submit a copy of their annual report for review.

We are happy to announce that we **won second place** in our category (by population) for our *2024 Annual Report of the Town of Solon!!*

2024  
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE TOWN OF  
**SOLON**  
INCORPORATED 1809





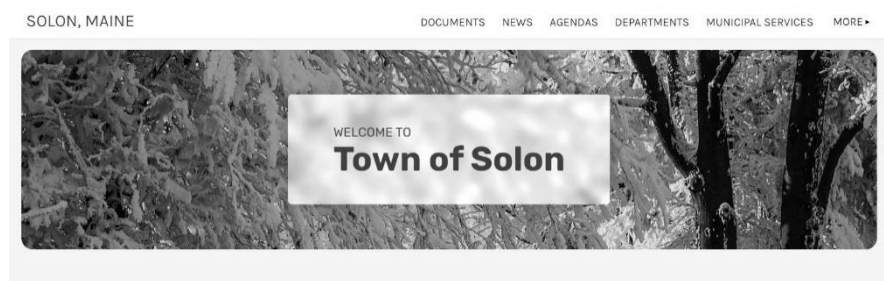
## WEBSITES & SOCIAL MEDIA

### *Connect with Your Community ONLINE!!!*

With the busy schedules of today, a great way to stay connected with your community is to interact with them using the channels they frequent the most. Nearly 75% of adults access the internet and/or social media sites at least once a week – 55% at least once a day. Social media gives you the opportunity to share information about where your citizens are, instead of making them come to you.

Want to know what is going on around the area? Here are some of the websites and Facebook pages that are used in our community!

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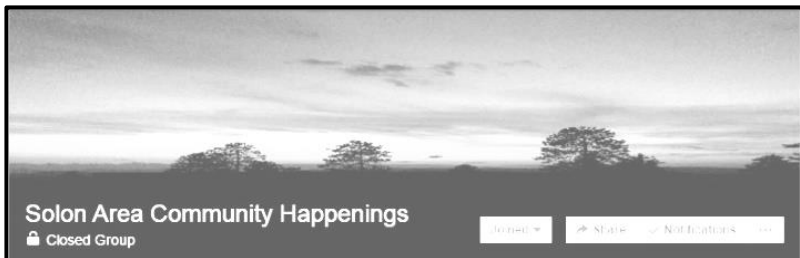
Official Town Website: [www.solon.maine.gov](http://www.solon.maine.gov)

Go to **[solon.maine.gov](http://solon.maine.gov)** to find ‘almost’ everything you need to know about many State and Municipal services as well as other community information.

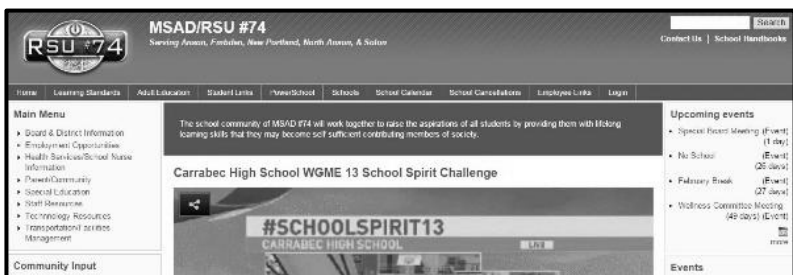
Please be aware that the website went live in early February 2023 and is still a work in progress. If you have questions or find there is information not available on our website, please contact the Clerk’s Office or email us at [townofsolon.clerk@yahoo.com](mailto:townofsolon.clerk@yahoo.com). Your feedback is always appreciated.



Official Town Facebook page: [facebook.com/SolonMaine](https://facebook.com/SolonMaine)



Community Facebook: [facebook.com/SolonAreaCommunityHappenings](https://facebook.com/SolonAreaCommunityHappenings)



RSU/MSAD #74 Website: [www.carrabec.org](http://www.carrabec.org)



Solon Fire Department Facebook page: [facebook.com/Solon-Fire-Department](https://facebook.com/Solon-Fire-Department)



Coolidge Library Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/CoolidgePublicLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/CoolidgePublicLibrary)  
 Coolidge Library Website: <https://19620.rmwebopac.com>



Solon Historical Society Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/SolonMaineHistoricalSociety](http://www.facebook.com/SolonMaineHistoricalSociety)



Solon Community Garden  
<https://www.facebook.com/SCG.Maine>

# **2025 TOWN OFFICIALS**

## **ELECTED OFFICIALS** (Term expiration)

### **SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS & OVERSEERS OF THE POOR**

Elaine Aloes, Selectman, Chair (2028)

John Dunay, Selectman, Vice Chair (2026)

Wayne ‘Chip’ Johnson, Selectman (2027)

### **ROAD COMMISSIONER**

Jeffrey Cyr (2026)

### **RSU #74 DIRECTORS**

Robert Lindblom, Sr (2028)   Laura Layman (2026)   Keith Plourde (2027)

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## **OFFICIALS APPOINTED BY THE SELECTMEN**

### **TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR**

Leslie Giroux

### **TREASURER**

Danika Riggs

### **DEPUTY TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR**

Danika Riggs

### **SUBREGISTRAR (Vital Records Only)**

Jeffrey Sproul

### **DEPUTY TREASURER**

Leslie Giroux

### **DEPUTY ASSESSOR**

Lillian Johnson

### **REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

Leslie Giroux

### **ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER**

Jessica Schiaffino (2026)   Nicholas Poirier (2026)(Deputy)

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT, HEALTH OFFICER & PLUMBING INSPECTOR**

Jeff Drew, KVCOG

## **SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES**

State of Maine

### **OLON WATER DISTRICT TRUSTEES**

Michael Foster, Chairman (2026)  
Derek Dellarma (2028)      Arthur Rogers (2027)

### **COOLIDGE LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

Jane Ouderkirk, Chairman (2027)  
Richard Roberts, Vice Chair (2026)      Andrew Davis (2026)  
Chris Shaw (2027)      Patricia Whipple (2027)  
Ann Jackson (2027)      Christina Suarez (2028)  
Mary Lou Ridley (2028)      Stacy Robinson (2028)

### **BOARD OF APPEALS**

Sarah Davis (2026)      Mary Lou Ridley (2027)      Denice Dunay (2028)

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Kim Johnson (2025)      Sarah Davis (2026)      Allyn Foss (2027)  
Michael Golden (2025)      Joseph Albuit (2026)      Franklin Ridley (2027)  
Barbara Johnstone (2025)      Hether Forsten (2026)      Sherry Rogers (2027)  
Eleanor Pooler (2025)      Beverly Gephart (2026)      Carol White (2027)  
Jeffrey Pomelow (2026)      George Williams (2026)      Randal Rancourt (2027)  
Patricia Whipple (2025)      Robert Lindblom, 1<sup>st</sup> Alt (2027)  
Empty, 2<sup>nd</sup> Alt (2025)

### **PLANNING BOARD**

Michael Golden, Chairman (2026)      Kerri Evangelista (2027)  
Frank Evangelista, Vice Chair (2026)      Craig Gerry (2025)  
Randy Rancourt, Secretary (2025)(resigned)      Vacant (2027)

### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE**

Michael Golden      Elaine Aloes      Donald Chrieten      Leslie Giroux  
John Dunay      Denise Dunay      Heather Hutchins

### **PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE COMMITTEE**

Elaine Aloes      John Dunay      Jeffrey Cyr  
Michael Foster      Allyn Foss

### **USA 250<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATION COMMITTEE**

Leslie Giroux      Elaine Aloes      Joseph Albuit      Sherry Doucette  
Sally Foster      Courtney Ladd      John Duany      Kevin Antonovitch

### **AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

Melody Rich, Program Director (2026)

**OLON COMMUNITY RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Melody Rich, Program Director (2026)  
Leslie Giroux (2027) Kayla Starr (2028) Amy Sidell (2026)

**OLON SUMMER RECREATION**

Laura Layman, Summer Swim/Camp Director (2027)

**OLD CANADA ROAD SCENIC BYWAY, LOCAL REP.**

Mary Lou Ridley (2027)

**FIRST PARK COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE**

Elaine Aloes (2026) Wayne Johnson (2026)

**KVCOG REPRESENTATIVE**

Elaine Aloes (2026) John Dunay (2026)

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY TRUSTEES**

Bud Boynton (2027) Juanita McAllister (2026) Ann Padham (2025)

**TOWN HISTORIAN**

Chris Shaw 643-2275

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR**

Richard Kelly (2027) Duayne Rollins, Assistant (2027)

**OLON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Duayne Rollins, Chief	Todd Dixon, 1st Asst. Chief
Kevin Lacroix, 2nd Asst. Chief	Brian Livingstone, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Asst. Chief
Jenney Rollins, Safety Officer/Secretary/Treasurer	
Richard Kelley, EMA Dir.	Thomas Courtney, Mechanic
Zane Brown	Meagan Corson
Derek Dellarma	Frederick Mayo
Nicholas Rollins	Kenneth Tyrrell
	Cooper Dellarma
	Gerald Rollins

***WE THANK ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO SERVE  
OUR TOWN. THEIR SERVICE IS TRULY APPRECIATED.***

Volunteering for boards or committees is a great way to serve your community. New members are always needed. If you would like to serve on one of these committees, please contact the Selectmen.

The Recreation Committee is looking for coaches for various youth sports. We can't have teams for our kids without coaches.

If you would like to join the Fire Department, please contact the Fire Chief.

# THE BILL OF RIGHTS

## The Preamble to The Bill of Rights

Congress of the United States begun and held at the City of New-York, on Wednesday the fourth of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.

The Conventions of a number of the States, having at the time of their adopting the Constitution, expressed a desire, in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of its powers, that further declaratory and restrictive clauses should be added: And as extending the ground of public confidence in the Government, will best ensure the beneficent ends of its institution.

RESOLVED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, two thirds of both Houses concurring, that the following Articles be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States, as amendments to the Constitution of the United States, all, or any of which Articles, when ratified by three fourths of the said Legislatures, to be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of the said Constitution: viz.

ARTICLES in addition to, and Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America, proposed by Congress, and ratified by the Legislatures of the several States, pursuant to the fifth Article of the original Constitution.

These amendments were ratified December 15, 1791 form what is known as:

## The Bill of Rights

*There are 17 additional Amendments that have been ratified by the States since the original 10 were ratified. These 10 are the basic rights given to all citizens.*

### Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

### Amendment II

A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

### Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

#### **Amendment IV**

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

#### **Amendment V**

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

#### **Amendment VI**

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

#### **Amendment VII**

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, then according to the rules of the common law.

#### **Amendment VIII**

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

#### **Amendment IX**

The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

#### **Amendment X**

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.



# SPECIAL RECOGNITION

## ANN PADHAM



Ann's parents were Lester and Bertha Whitney. She was the oldest of 7 children and was born on July 16, 1948. When she was 8 years old, her family moved to Solon from Bingham, and they made it their home. Her mother was a Coolidge Library Trustee from 1978-1995, our Town Clerk from 1975-1984, and our Tax Collector from 1980-1981.

Ann loved playing sports in school and graduated from Solon High School. She married Richard Padham

in 1966, and they raised their 4 children, Donald, Jeffrey, Stacy, and Hether, in Solon. They divorced in 2008.

She loved to serve her community and did so in many ways. She headed the PTO at the Solon School, coached softball, and served on many other various committees throughout the years.

She chaired Bicentennial Committee from 2006 to 2009 for Solon's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday. Some of the events she and the other committee members organized for that year included the dinner and ball at the Solon Hotel in February (over 200 attended!), a play depicting the town's history with young models wearing period clothing at the school (Ann provided the clothing and hats for the girls), and of course, the parade and all the events we had in July at the school grounds and around town.

She served on the Budget Committee 2004-2019, the Fire Station Building Committee in 1990 and 1991 and on the Comprehensive Plan Committee 1989-1992.

She was an active member of the Solon Historical Society and was a Trustee from 2022 -2025. She volunteered many hours documenting the history of Solon and the genealogy of Solon families.

Ann passed away on May 18, 2025, and is missed by all who knew her.

## IN MEMORY OF



### **Marilyn Rogers-Bull**

**April 29, 1929 to February 5, 2025**

She and her husband, Frank Rogers, moved to a farm they bought on the River Road in Solon in 1949. Frank died in 1995. In 2011 she married Leif Bull.

Marilyn was very active in our community. She was a Coolidge Library Trustee from 1986 to 1988 and 1995 through 1997. She was also our Registrar of Voters from 1977 through 1989. She was instrumental in forming what became the Solon Summer Recreation for all the children in town.

She was a member of the Solon Congregational Church serving in numerous capacities for many years. Over the years, she wrote articles for The Somerset Gazette, The Somerset Reporter, The Morning Sentinel and The Town Line. She was a 4-H leader, an Extension Member, and a Teacher's Aide for the Solon School.

Marilyn loved Solon and was a vital part of our community for over 70 years and reported on the happenings in our small town for the last forty years.



### **Lois Miller**

**February 5, 1954 to January 26, 2025**

Lois embraced many roles throughout her life—from working as a phone company technician, antique shop owner, special education teacher and health care worker. She had a farm on the Drury Road and enjoyed taking care of her animals and gardening.

She served as Selectman in Solon in 2022. During that time, she was also our representative for KVCOG. Prior to her term as Selectman, she also served on the Advisory Committee from 2017 to 2022.



## **Lois Starbird**

**September 23, 1927 to July 17, 2025**

Lois attended the University of Maine at Orono with a major in Home Economics. While at the University, she met her future husband, Albert William Starbird, to whom she was married 71 years.

Lois and Albert began their lives together in Solon where their oldest son was born. She helped in the Solon school and was the town's librarian in 1951.

In 1952 they moved to Connecticut, where their two daughters and youngest son were born. Later they moved to Dunstable, Mass., where she tended vegetable and flower gardens, many house plants, taught, and raised cows. Lois was a teacher for 16 years in the Lowell, Mass. school system.

Lois and Albert moved back to Solon in 1987 and Lois became an active and respected member of our community. She was a Coolidge Library Trustee. She was the Chairman of the Comprehensive Plan Committee and helped draft the town's shoreland protection ordinances. She also served as the chairman of the Solon Historical Society and our Town Historian for many years. She was very involved in developing and maintaining the Town of Solon Historical Society house.

Lois was passionate about teaching and helping people. She helped many people with their literacy, even teaching reading and writing at the Somerset County Jail. Lois was an active member of the Keystone Chapter #78 Order of the Eastern Star, the Solon snowmobiling club, and Somerset County Extension Homemakers.

In 2005 we honored Lois and her husband Albert by dedicating our 2005 Annual Town Report to them and in 2012 they were the recipients of our 1<sup>st</sup> Spirit of America Award.

Lois made Solon her home and loved serving our community.

# BOSTON POST CANE HOLDER

## *PATRICIA MUNROE*

*February 17, 1925*



Patricia was awarded the Boston Post Cane on February 10, 2021.

Pat was born February 17, 1925, in Beverly, Massachusetts. Also spending her youth attending school there.

She graduated from the Beverly Hospital Nursing School. She was licensed as a Registered Nurse in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, and Connecticut. She turned down supervisory positions so she could maintain contact with her patients. She enjoyed that personal contact with her patients.

Pat married George Munroe and they had three children: Bruce, Brian, and Kitty

Pat and George moved to Solon Maine in 1968. In the early seventies

they started in the real estate business. They were successful in this business for many years.

Pat is also a wonderful artist and a crafts person. Her large painting of a town meeting scene is on display in the conference room at the Town Office. You can see the painting in our picture of Pat along with her companion.

Pat is currently in a nursing home. Two of her three children still live in the area along with many of her grandchildren. Her son Bruce recently passed away.

# THE BOSTON POST CANE HISTORY

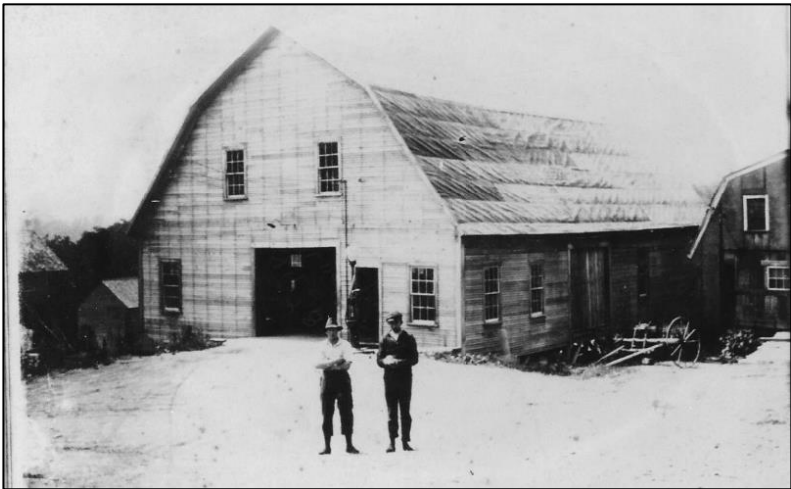
In 1909 Edward Grozier, editor, and publisher of the Boston Post newspaper, sent letters to the Boards of Selectmen of 700 towns in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island asking them to be trustees of the 700 ebony gold topped canes he had made up by the J. F. Fradley & Company of New York. The cane was to be given to the oldest citizen in each town. At the holder's death the cane was to be returned to the town and given to the next oldest citizen. Solon received one of these canes and we still have our original cane. The cane is on display in our town office. To make sure the cane is not lost, when we present the cane to each recipient, we now also give them a certificate of the presentation to keep, and we return the cane to the town office.

## SOLON HOLDERS OF THE BOSTON POST CANE

John Waugh (1984)  
Beatrice Hall (1991-1995)  
Ben Safford (1997-1998 )  
Marie Spearrin (2000-2004)  
Coburn Waugh (2006-2014)  
Howard Rogers (2019-2020)  
Patricia Munroe (2021-present)

Beatrice Rogers (1985-1990)  
Roland Tozier (1996)  
Floyd French (1999)  
Mary McDonough (2005)  
Carolyn Waugh (2014-2019)  
Alice Heald (2020-2021)

This is all we can find records in the Town Reports. If you know of any others, please let the Selectmen know.



*A barn in Solon burned in the 2025 fire.*

# **SPIRIT OF AMERICA AWARD**



*Municipal Resolution  
The 2025 Solon, Maine Spirit of America  
Foundation Tribute Honors  
**MICHAEL G. FOSTER**  
for commendable community service.*

**A RESOLUTION** providing for: Recognition of Michael G. Foster.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Selectmen of the Town of Solon as follows:

**WHEREAS**, Mike was a Solon Firefighter from 1979 to 1992 and served as Fire Chief from 1979 to 1985;

**WHEREAS**, Mike was a Solon Water District Trustee from 1979 to 1993 and then again since 1996;

**WHEREAS**, he served on our town's Budget Committee from 1980 to 2003;

**WHEREAS**, Mike worked on our road crew many different times over the years and was our Road Commission from 2012 to 2018;

**WHEREAS**, he served on our Road Committee from 1998 to 2004;

**WHEREAS**, he was on our Recreation Committee from 1991 to 1992 and was our Town Constable from 1980 to 1982;

**WHEREAS**, he has served on our Fire Station Building Committee from 1990 to 1991 and is currently on our Town Garage Building Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, he is always willing to help us out at the town office with our small maintenance jobs;

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Selectmen of the Town of Solon that Michael Foster is hereby recognized for his great achievements and honors that he has brought and is continuing to bring upon this community with the 2025 Solon Spirit of America Foundation Tribute; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be appropriately framed and presented to Michael Foster for appropriate display.

AWARDED MARCH 1, 2025

THANK MIKE FOR ALL YOU DO TO SERVE OUR TOWN.

**MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION  
2025 SPIRIT OF AMERICA PROCLAMATION  
OCTOBER 2025  
FIREFIGHTERS APPRECIATION MONTH**

**MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS Spirit of America Foundation cherishes Municipal Officials’ help with its program and created ‘Municipal Officials Appreciation Month’, which in 2025 is dedicated nationally to Firefighters, to express gratitude;

WHEREAS Municipal Officials make personal sacrifices to serve constituents and deserve more public recognition and respect than they generally receive;

WHEREAS Firefighters risk their lives while battling blazes and evacuating residents from burning buildings;

WHEREAS Firefighters faithfully respond 24 hours each day, seven days a week to a variety of emergencies and provide emergency medical care;

WHEREAS Firefighters spend many hours each year in training to learn how to react to situations they could encounter;

WHEREAS the Maine Municipal Association much appreciates the services provided by its Firefighters and other Municipal Officials;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Maine Municipal Association designates October 2025 as “MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS APPRECIATION MONTH” and urges our citizens to show gratitude to their Municipal Officials, and especially to their Firefighters, for all they do to make our towns and cities better Communities.

And THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Town of Solon joins with the Maine Municipal Association honoring our firefighters for their service to our town.

**SPIRIT OF AMERICA HISTORY**

In 1990, Bruce Flaherty met with Fred Hayward, Roger Pomerleau, and Don Taverner to create the Spirit of America Foundation to promote volunteerism in Maine. The first Spirit of America Foundation tribute was presented in 1991 in Augusta to Alma Jones for her community volunteer services.

Every year since then the Spirit of America Foundation Tribute is presented in Maine municipalities to a local person, group or project for commendable community service. In many, Boards of Selectmen and Councilmen choose their town's tribute recipient and honor them at their annual town meeting. In 2023 over 200 municipalities participated.

In 2012 we were contacted by Spirit of America Foundation and were asked to participate in their annual tribute to volunteers, organizations, and projects. We have been doing it every year since then.

In 2024, Bruce Flaherty decided to expand the program by creating October as Municipal Officials Appreciation Month. In 2024 Maine Municipal Association and our town honored our Clerks and Ballot Clerks. In 2025 this honor went to municipal firefighters. We honor them for their service to our towns.

For more information about the Spirit of America Foundation, visit their website at [www.spiritofamerica.website](http://www.spiritofamerica.website)

## **SOLON'S SPIRIT OF AMERICA FOUNDATION TRIBUTE HISTORY**

In 2012 we were contacted by Spirit of America Foundation and were asked to participate in their annual tribute to volunteers, organizations, and projects. The Spirit of America Foundation Tribute is presented in the name of Maine municipalities to local individuals, organizations, and projects for commendable community service. For more information about the Spirit of America Foundation, visit their website at [www.spiritofamerica.website](http://www.spiritofamerica.website)

### **SOLON SPIRIT OF AMERICA FOUNDATION TRIBUTES**

Albert and Lois Starbird (2012)  
Michael Golden (2014)  
Fire Department Auxiliary (2016)  
Fire Department Firefighters (2018)  
Richard Roberts (2020)  
Deborah Gerry (2022)  
L. Bruce Hills (2024)

Eleanor Pooler (2013)  
Frank Ridley (2015)  
Michael Sackett (2017)  
Linda French (2019)  
Laura Layman (2021)  
Mary Lou Ridley (2023)  
Michael Foster (2025)



# COUNTY, STATE & FEDERAL

## **Somerset County Commissioner**

**Joel Stetkis**

PO Box 336

Canaan, Maine 04985

399-7801

## **Governor Janet Mills**

1 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0001

287-3531 Fax 287-1034

e-mail: [governor@maine.gov](mailto:governor@maine.gov)

## **State Senate**

3 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

287-1540 or 800-423-6900

## **State House of Representatives**

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0002

287-1400 or 800-423-2900

## **Maine State Senator Dist 5**

**Russell Black**

123 Black Rd.

Wilton, Maine 04297

(207) 491-4667

[russell.black@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:russell.black@legislature.maine.gov)

[legislature.maine.gov/senate](http://legislature.maine.gov/senate)

## **Maine State Rep. Dist 72**

**Elizabeth M Caruso**

PO Box 81

Caratunk, Maine 04925

399-9992 cell

[elizabeth.caruso](mailto:elizabeth.caruso@legislature.maine.gov)

[@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:@legislature.maine.gov)

## **U. S. Senator Angus King**

133 Hart Senate Office Bldg.

Washington, D.C. 20510

202-224-5344

fax 202-224-1946

e-mail: [king@king.senate.gov](mailto:king@king.senate.gov)

web: <http://king.senate.gov>

or: 4 Gabriel Drive Ste. F1

Augusta, ME 04330

207-622-8292 fax 622-7295

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

413 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.

Washington, D.C. 20510

202-224-2523

fax 202-225-2693

e-mail: [senator@collins.senate.gov](mailto:senator@collins.senate.gov)

web: <http://collins.senate.gov>

or: 68 Sewall Street Room 507

Augusta, ME 04330

207-622-8414

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

1223 Longworth House Office Bldg.

Washington, D.C. 20515

202-225-6306 fax 202-225-2943

web: <http://golden.house.gov>

or: 179 Lisbon Street

Lewiston, Maine 04240

Ph: 207-241-6767

Email: [congressman.jared.golden@houseemail.house.gov](mailto:congressman.jared.golden@houseemail.house.gov)

## **U. S. GOVERNMENT**

<http://www.usa.gov>

## **STATE OF MAINE**

[www.maine.gov](http://www.maine.gov)

## **SOMERSET COUNTY**

[www.somersetcounty-me.org](http://www.somersetcounty-me.org)

## LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

Our **State Representative District is District 72** includes the towns of Athens/ Harmony / Anson / Bingham / Caratunk / Embden / Moscow / Northeast Somerset / Pleasant Ridge Plantation / Ripley / Seboomook Lake / Solon / Big Six Township / Dole Brook Township / Elm Stream Township / Indian Stream Township / Long Pond Township / Moxie Gore Township / Parlin Pond Township / Pittston Academy Grant Township / Sandbar Tract Township / Sandy Bay Township / Sapling Township / Taunton & Raynham Academy Grant Township / Tomhegan / Concord Township / Lexington Township / Rockwood Strip / Rockwood Strip T1 / Rockwood Strip T2 / Seboomook Township / Central Somerset

Our **State Senate District is District 5** and is made up of the following municipalities in Franklin County: Carrabassett Valley; Chesterville; East Central Franklin UT; Farmington; Industry; Kingfield; New Sharon; New Vineyard; Strong; Wilton; and Wyman Township. In Kennebec County: Rome; and Vienna. In Somerset County: Anson; Athens; Bingham; Brighton Plantation; Cambridge; Caratunk; Central Somerset UT; Cornville; Dennistown Plantation; Embden; Harmony; Hartland; Highland Plantation; Jackman; Mercer; Moose River; Moscow; New Portland; Northeast Somerset UT; Northwest Somerset UT; Pleasant Ridge Plantation; Ripley; Saint Albans; Seboomook Lake UT; Smithfield; Solon; Starks; The Forks Plantation; and West Forks Plantation.

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT

Our **County Commissioner District is District 5** consists of the towns of Athens, Bingham, Brighton Plantation, Canaan, Caratunk, Dennistown Plantation, Embden, Hartland, Jackman, Moose River, Moscow, Pleasant Ridge Plantation, Solon, The Forks, UT Central Somerset, UT Northeast Somerset, UT Seboomook Lake Twp, and West Forks Plantation

## U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

**Congressional District for our United States Representative is Dist. 2.**



Janet T. Mills  
GOVERNOR

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

Winter and Spring 2026

Dear Friends:

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

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

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

With gratitude,

Janet T. Mills  
Governor

SUSAN M. COLLINS  
MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904  
(202) 224-2933  
(202) 224-2933 (FAX)

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
LABOR, AND PENSIONS  
SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON INTELLIGENCE  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
ON AGING

January 2026

Dear Friends,

It is an honor to serve the people of Maine, and I welcome this opportunity to update you on the work that has taken place in the Senate over the past year. My staff and I have addressed numerous issues affecting our state, and I would like to share some of the progress that we have made.

Since my *Social Security Fairness Act* was signed into law in January 2025, the law has been fully implemented and restored earned retirement benefits to 2.8 million Americans. More than 25,000 Mainers have seen their monthly benefits increase and have been issued more than \$184.5 million in retroactive payments. I am proud that this legislation has improved the lives of many retired firefighters, teachers, police officers, and other public employees and their spouses.

I was honored to become the first Maine Senator in nearly a century to lead the Appropriations Committee. Since I took this role last January, Congress enacted full-year appropriations bills before December for the first time since 2018. These bipartisan bills included full-year funding for Military Construction and the Department of Veterans Affairs, the US Department of Agriculture, and the Food and Drug Administration. At my request, these bills included nearly \$35 million in Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) for local projects across Maine that will improve fire stations and emergency services, update municipal buildings, and support upgraded facilities at the Maine National Guard and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard (PNSY) in Kittery. This funding builds on the nearly \$1.1 billion in CDS I have secured since 2021 for worthy projects that benefit local communities and nonprofits across 16 counties. As Chair, I remain committed to working to better ensure that federal spending and investments produce real results for the people of Maine.

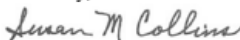
I have also led other important legislative efforts this year that address problems many Mainers face. This includes bills that expand federal efforts to combat Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses and improve access to early testing for Alzheimer's disease. Provisions I authored to strengthen prevention, treatment, and recovery services for those struggling with substance use disorders and mental illness were included in the *SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act* that was recently signed into law. An amendment I authored in this year's *National Defense Authorization Act* will increase apprenticeship opportunities at public shipyards like PNSY. That bill also includes more than \$400 million to support critical infrastructure improvements at PNSY and a well-deserved 3.8 percent pay raise for all our nation's service members.

In addition to advancing legislation, I worked to ensure that federal commitments to Maine were maintained and, when necessary, restored. I secured a seasonal employee exemption for Acadia National Park from the Administration's federal hiring freeze and from closure during the recent government shutdown. I protected local programs like Maine Sea Grant and global initiatives like the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) from harmful funding cuts. I led the effort to resume enrollment at Maine Job Corps centers and fought for full funding for Maine's public schools this school year. I preserved funding for the University of Maine System and secured the restoration of funding to the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point and the Penobscot Nation. I protected low-income Mainers' access to key programs like LIHEAP and SNAP. Although I voted against the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* due to my opposition to Medicaid cuts, I helped secure \$50 billion to support rural health providers through the legislation's Rural Health Transformation Program. Maine has been awarded \$190 million in the first year of this five-year grant program.

Throughout my Senate service, I have never missed a roll-call vote and have cast more than 9,850 consecutive votes—reflecting the Maine work ethic I bring to Washington. My continued ranking as most bipartisan Senator from the Lugar Center and Georgetown University is a testament to Maine's tradition of working with cooperation and respect.

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

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins  
United States Senator

ANGUS S. KING, JR.  
MAINE

133 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
(202) 224-6344  
Website: <https://www.king.senate.gov>

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES  
CHAIRMAN, STRATEGIC FORCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE  
BUDGET  
ENERGY AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL PARKS  
SUBCOMMITTEE  
INTELLIGENCE  
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

January 2026

Dear Friends,

With each year we have a new opportunity to recognize our shared achievements and offer up our time and energy to support one another when challenges arise. I am grateful to the towns across Maine for their dedication to their communities, their residents, and our state. Working together has always been our strength, and the past year proved that once again we are stronger when we work together.

However, it is difficult to recall a year more challenging than the one we just experienced – a year that required a steady focus on our founding principles and shared values. For these reasons, I spent hours on the Senate Floor reminding my colleagues—and many of you back home—about the vision our founders demonstrated when they laid the blueprint for the American experiment. A cornerstone in their understanding was a duty to civic engagement and community. I often refer to Maine as a big town with long roads, and in my travels throughout our state, I am reassured by the grassroots participation in our civic process and the neighborly feel that makes Maine unique.

My legislative priorities remain largely the same: supporting Maine veterans, small businesses, and our heritage industries like agriculture, forest products and the marine economy. Additionally, I am grateful to have an exceptional team across Maine ready to assist you with issues involving the federal government. Whether you are facing challenges related to veterans' services, Social Security, the IRS, passports or other matters, I encourage you to reach out to our offices in Presque Isle, Bangor, Augusta, Portland, or Biddeford. We are here to help and welcome the opportunity to work on your behalf.

Together, I am confident we can continue building a stronger and more prosperous future for our state and nation. Thank you for being one of the many reasons Maine is such a special place. It is truly an honor to serve you and to know you. Mary and I wish you a happy, healthy, and safe 2026.

Best Regards,



ANGUS S. KING, JR.  
United States Senate



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

January 2026

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well. As you likely know, my time in Congress will come to an end in January 2027, after which I'll return to my family and my life as a private citizen. In other words, this is my final town letter.

My time as your representative has included a fair share of ups and downs, but one thing that never changed was the pride I brought with me to represent your community and all the others across Maine's 2nd Congressional District.

Maine has been home for my entire life. And while serving in Congress has meant a lot of time in Washington, D.C., I've tried my best to stay connected to the people, places and values that made me who I am. Growing up in Leeds, I learned the value of hard work and community. When I enlisted in the U.S. Marines, a decision driven by the commitment to service and patriotism instilled in me by the people and places that raised me, I learned a lot about sacrifice and leadership. After my time in the military, I settled in Lewiston and served my city in the Maine State House, where I got a crash course in what representation really meant: listening, understanding, and fighting to make life better for the people and families who'd placed their trust in me.

I brought these values and experiences with me to Congress, and tried to live up to them every day I have served. I share all this not because my story is special or my values unique, but because I know that it is not. It's fair to say that I've worked in one way or another with most every community in the District. Together, we've reduced pressure on property taxes by securing congressional funds for local projects. We've passed laws to support Maine's heritage industries and small businesses. And my staff and I have provided direct constituent services, helping thousands of Mainers across the state — including recovering millions of dollars in missing or delayed federal benefits.

What I've learned through our work together is that there are leaders all over Maine everywhere you look — people committed to service, to their communities and their country: Municipal officials and workers. Business owners and innovators. Servicemembers and law enforcement officers. Volunteer firefighters. And of course, the everyday workers, parents and students who are all doing their part to contribute how they can to their families and communities.

I am grateful to share this state with every single one of you, and despite all our challenges, I am optimistic about our future because of what I've seen and learned. I know that the things that divide us are no match for the things we have in common and our commitment to each other.

While this may be my final letter in this format, I am still working hard to represent you for the rest of this year. If your community, small business, or family has a need, reach out to my nearest district office and talk to us about it. My staff and I can help navigate government programs; find federal resources in Maine; and resolve issues with Medicare, Social Security, the VA, and other agencies. Here's the contact info for my offices:

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

Thank you again for the great honor of representing you in Congress and the opportunity to serve you and your community. I will spend the rest of my time in Congress working just as hard as I always have to deliver what I can to Maine. I wish you a healthy and prosperous year to come.

Respectfully,

Jared Golden, Member of Congress

January 2026

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve once again as your State Senator from District 5. It is truly an honor to represent our communities, and I remain committed to working on your behalf to protect our way of life, lower taxes, support local tourism and agriculture, and address the issues that matter most to the people of this region.

The First Regular Session and First Special Session of the 132nd Legislature adjourned in March and July of 2025, respectively. The Second Regular Session will convene in January 2026. With hundreds of bills carried over, the upcoming session will be busy and will require continued focus on responsible budgeting, natural resource protection, and meeting the needs of rural Maine.

Many of you have contacted me with concerns about the rising costs of energy, child care, property taxes, and housing, among other challenges. As your State Senator, I will continue advocating for commonsense solutions that ease these pressures on Maine families.

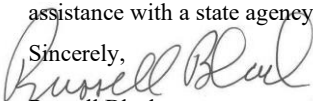
I am pleased to report that the Legislature passed several important bills to expand access to medical care, including measures to improve prescription access in Maine's most rural communities. We also achieved key victories to protect our forest and logging industries, strengthen Maine's hospitality sector, and create new economic opportunities in agriculture by supporting food processing and manufacturing incentives.

On a personal note, this session the Legislature enacted legislation I sponsored to address flooding in the Sandy River Watershed. Flooding has threatened homes, roads, farmland, and livestock in our region for many years, and this represents an important step toward long-term solutions.

I would also be happy to host students at the State House. Parents and teachers interested in having students participate in the Honorary Page Program are encouraged to contact me to arrange a visit and learn more about our state government firsthand.

Thank you again for placing your trust in me as your State Senator. Please feel free to contact my office at (207) 287-1505 if you have questions, comments, or need assistance with a state agency.

Sincerely,



Russell Black  
State Senator



Elizabeth M. Caruso  
P.O. Box 81  
Caratunk, ME 04925  
Residence: (207) 399-9992  
Elizabeth.Caruso@legislature.maine.gov

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

January 2026

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am honored by the opportunity to serve as your state representative for District 72 in the Maine House of Representatives. During the First Regular Session of the 132 Legislature, I worked hard on the Judiciary Committee and in the House chamber to study proposed legislation for its constitutionality, real-life implications, fiscal impact on taxpayers, unintended consequences, and the impacts on the size of government, local control, and your individual freedoms. Ensuring lawmakers would hear the perspectives of rural, hard-working Maine families and ways of life, I advocated on your behalf for lower taxes, affordable and reliable energy, accessible healthcare, public safety and law enforcement, tourism and forestry industries, and more.

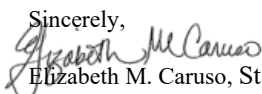
During 2025, I assisted constituents with their requests regarding property tax, public safety, crime in the community, social services, personal safety, government services, and legislative issues. In order for me to represent you as effectively as possible, I encourage you to share your thoughts and perspectives on the issues that are important to you and your family.

Using [www.legislature.maine.gov](http://www.legislature.maine.gov), you can follow any legislation to review bill summaries and roll call votes, view House/Senate chamber and public hearing schedules, listen to committee hearings, or watch live-streamed video of the House/Senate chambers or committee rooms. I encourage you to participate in the process. In addition to emailing or calling me with your views and questions on a specific bill, you can also provide comments for the public hearing. To assist you, I have created 3 short videos which teach you how to participate in the hearing process.

During the Second Session of the 132nd Legislature, I will continue to serve on the Judiciary Committee. This committee plays a critical role in shaping Maine's laws by reviewing legislation related to civil and criminal law, the court system, and the rights and protections of all Mainers. I am committed to supporting fair, effective, and transparent policies that uphold justice, protect our communities, and ensure our legal system works for everyone. I look forward to continuing this important work on your behalf while hearing your thoughts as we move forward.

If you would like to be added to my email list to receive updates and important information on State programs and services, please email me directly with your request at [Elizabeth.Caruso@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Caruso@legislature.maine.gov). Again, thank you for providing me with the honor of serving you in Augusta!

Sincerely,

  
Elizabeth M. Caruso, State Representative



# SOMERSET COUNTY

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## *Maine*

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Somerset County Government is proud to serve the public good by providing services to our nearly 52,000 residents every day. County governments are making news around the state as budgets come under scrutiny. In 2025, the Somerset Budget Committee approved a county budget that had no net increase to the taxpayer.

The County Commissioners are committed to making decisions with the property taxpayer in mind. In the spring of 2025, the county partnered with the Kennebec Valley Council of Governments (KVCOG) to provide regional Code Enforcement services to towns with populations under 4,000. The program is up and running with services being offered in several Somerset towns.

The County invested \$15,000 in Code Enforcement Software to help KVCOG streamline the permitting process. This was one of several Community Benefit grants awarded by the Commissioners. \$280,000 in grant funding was awarded to 26 groups representing 16 communities in Somerset. Applications for the next round of funding need to be submitted by May 8, 2026. More information on the Community Benefit Matching Grant program can be found on the county website <https://somersetcountyme.gov/funding-opportunities/>.

In late 2025 District 2 Commissioner Cyp Johnson stepped away from his seat as he moved out of the district and could not continue to represent the Towns of Madison, Anson, Starks, Smithfield, Mercer and New Portland. A special caucus of municipal officers was held in November. Don Skillings from Madison was appointed to fill the vacancy. The District 2 seat will be up for election in the fall of 2026 along with Districts 3, 4 and 5.

Long time Emergency Management Director Mike Smith retired at the end of 2025 with over 25 years of service to the County. Eric Plourde also joined the ranks of the retired after serving in Somerset's I/T department for 15 years. We wish them the very best in their new ventures.

On behalf of all County employees, it is our pleasure to serve our communities.

Tim Curtis



Somerset County Administrator



Integrity Respect Fairness Dedication  
SOMERSET COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## 2025 Sheriff's Office Annual Report



Dale P. Lancaster  
Sheriff

January 1, 2026 began my 12<sup>th</sup> year as your Sheriff. I consider it an honor and privilege to serve the citizens of Somerset County.

The Office of Sheriff oversees the operations of the law enforcement division, the County Jail, Court security, and civil process. Somerset County is approximately 4,000 square miles. The County is comprised of 27 Towns, 6 Plantations, and 83 Unorganized Townships. In 2025, I finished my 2-year obligation as Immediate Past-President of the Maine Sheriff's Association (MSA). This year, I was selected by my peers to remain on the MSA Executive Board as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.

I continue to serve on the Board of Directors for NESPIN (New England State Police Information Network). I am also a Board member for the Statewide County Corrections Professional Standards Council.

### Law Enforcement

The Patrol Division is comprised of 15 Patrol Deputies and 3 Sergeants. The Unorganized Townships have 2 Patrol Deputies dedicated to patrolling that large geographic area. The Town of Madison funds 3 Patrol Deputies, a 32-hour Secretary/Dispatcher, and 1 School Resource Officer. The Patrol Division is overseen by a Lieutenant. The Patrol Division conducted 1,566 traffic stops and covered 1,087 reportable motor vehicle crashes. The Patrol Division arrested/summonsed 862 individuals in Somerset County. The Sheriff's Office had 1 Deputy graduate from the 48<sup>th</sup> Basic Law Enforcement Training Program. The Sheriff's Office has 1 K9 unit, 1 Drug Recognition Expert, 1 crash reconstructionist, 1 forensic mapper, 1 drone operator, and 3 firearms instructors. In 2025, the Somerset County Sheriff's Office law enforcement division transitioned from the brown and tan uniform to a new green and tan uniform.

The Criminal Division is comprised of 5 Detectives, 1 Detective is assigned to the District Attorney's Office, and 1 Detective is dedicated to investigating crimes against persons. The Criminal Division is overseen by a Detective Sergeant and a Detective Lieutenant. In 2025, the Criminal Division obtained 59 search warrants pertaining to numerous criminal investigations. The

Criminal Division executed 42 illegal drug related search warrants in 2025 which resulted in the seizure of over 1,260 grams of Fentanyl and cocaine, methamphetamine, controlled pills, approximately, 2,100 pounds of processed marijuana, \$24,000.00 in suspected illegal drug proceeds, 2 motor vehicles, and 9 firearms, and 44 individuals being charged with illegal drug related crimes. From January 2024 to date, the Criminal Division has obtained and executed 25 drug search warrants relating to suspected illegal

marijuana plant cultivation/processing activities throughout Somerset County. To date, approximately 30,000 marijuana plants, 2,600 pounds of processed marijuana, approximately \$53,000.00 in suspected illegal drug proceeds, and 8 motor vehicles have been seized, and 16 individuals have been arrested/charged with illegal marijuana plant cultivation/trafficking activities. In 2025, the Criminal Division investigated numerous serious felony level cases to include robbery, burglaries, thefts, aggravated assaults, and sexual abuse cases. The Criminal Division tracks individuals who are required by law to register as sex offenders. 2 individuals were charged with Sex Offender Registration Notification Act violations.

## **Jail**

The Somerset County Jail, when operating at full capacity, operates with 36 budgeted Correctional Officers, 8 Shift Supervisors, 3 cooks, 12 program and support staff, and 9 administrative staff. At the time of this report, the Jail is fully staffed. The Somerset County Jail is now 18 years old. In January 2026, the Jail underwent an American Corrections Association audit. The Jail had 100% compliance on mandatory standards and will remain nationally accredited. The Jail is also PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) certified. In December 2025, the Jail entered into a multi-year contract to house 40 Waldo County inmates. The first-year revenue to Somerset County will be approximately \$1.4 million. The Jail continues administering Sublocade to inmates who identify with an Opioid Use Disorder as part of our medically assisted treatment program. In 2025, we administered 415 Sublocade injections.

The Jail also successfully transitioned 32 individuals directly from jail into residential treatment programs. The Sheriff's Office continues to collaborate with Somerset Public Health to provide a Care Coordinator for Substance Use Disorder. In 2025, the Jail also collaborated with Somerset Public Health in planting gardens and growing more than 4,000 pounds of fresh produce. The food was donated to local elementary schools to help combat food insecurity among students in our communities. In 2025, 4 inmates earned their high school equivalency diplomas while incarcerated. In 2025, the Jail recorded 1,519 total bookings, a 14% increase from 2024.

## **Civil Process**

The Civil Division is comprised of 1 full-time Coordinator/Secretary and 4 part-time Civil Deputies. In 2025, the Somerset County Sheriff's Office Civil Deputies received 1,469 papers to process and serve. That is a 10.3% increase from 2024.

## **Calls for Service**

- In 2025, the Sheriff's Office received 13,432 calls for service from our residents.
- During 2025, the Sheriff's Office responded to 830 calls for service from the Town of Solon. Calls included 84 motor vehicle stops, 57 motor vehicle accidents, 8 calls requesting citizen assistance as well as other requests for police services.
- In 2025 the Sheriff's office transitioned to a new records management system.

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

**RSU 74**  
**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**  
*Physical Address: 56 North Main Street, North Anson, Maine 04958*  
*Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 219, North Anson, Maine 04958-0219*  
*Phone: (207) 635-2727 - Fax: (207) 635-3599*

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

January 1, 2026

Dear RSU 74 Residents,

I am happy to report the state of your schools continues to move in a positive direction. During the 2025 calendar year, the RSU 74 Board of Directors have supported multiple initiatives to continue the work of making improvements in the academics we offer and in our infrastructure.

Each year the students in RSU 74 are tasked with completing the Northwest Educational Assessment (NWEA) as it is the approved instrument to provide State growth in the areas of Language Arts and Mathematics to the federal government. Over the past two years our schools have continued to show improvement in their educational growth and achievement. Attendance remains an area of focus as we continue to have a significant number of students who are as defined by the State as being chronically absent, meaning the students miss 10% or more of the seat days. Truancy has improved but remains high. Our staff continue to reach out to families to offer assistance with getting students into their seats on a regular basis.


Another project we are working on is the documenting of the curriculum for each of the content areas. This current school year we are attempting to finish up documenting our science and social studies. Once these documents are created, we can then continuously review the student data from the NWEA scores to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the curriculum and our instructional practices.

Last year our district objective was to finish developing and implementing 5-10 year improvement plans for buildings, grounds, and busing. While the plans did not call for a new bus in the current budget, if fiscally possible we will be asking to replace two from our fleet in the coming budget year. Again, our plan is to remove those that are costing us more than others so the ones being replaced may not be the oldest. Our buildings and grounds project undertaken in the latter half of 2025 included installing an outside pellet hopper at CCS to allow us to reinstall a 5,000-gallon heating oil tank in the pit where in the original construction plan for that building housed such a tank. This project saved us \$3,000 on our first filling for the 2025-2026 winter. Both Garret Schenck and Solon had the stretched and tattered rugs removed and new flooring put in that can be washed daily. All four buildings received an upgrade in security systems with additional cameras installed and swipe card entry systems.

This fall, the Board agreed to enter into an agreement with the Town of Anson to permit the use of CCS as an emergency shelter. Working with the Anson Board, Anson Fire Department, and the Emergency Management Director for the Town of Anson, an agreement was reached that permits the building to be opened up to allow residents to seek shelter if situations arise where their own home isn't the best place to remain in an emergency. The agreement will require the Town of Anson to reimburse the district for costs associated with the use. For example, if there is no power, our generator will kick on and we will be able to inform the Town how much propane was consumed and at what our price is in order to recoup the cost to operate the facility. While the agreement is with Anson, it is expected that other community members also have access through collaboration between fire departments/emergency management personnel.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools. Together we are creating responsible adults for our communities in the future.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark L. Campbell, Superintendent of Schools

**MISSION STATEMENT**

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

# 1945 YEAR IN REVIEW

In 1945, the median household income in the United States was \$2,595, and a gallon of gas averaged 15 cents. The average cost of a new home was \$4,600, unemployment was 1.9%, and the inflation rate was 2.27%.

Milk: 63 cents a gallon; eggs: 55 cents a dozen; chopped beef: 27 cents a pound; three pounds of yellow onions: 17 cents; a dozen Florida oranges: 20 cents; 5-pound bag of flour: 45 cents; coffee: 41 cents a pound; and six 12-ounce bottles of Pepsi: 23 cents.

The words A-bomb, boxer briefs, cold war, consumer price index, graffiti, golden years, honcho, macroeconomics, press secretary, rollover, soup du jour, turbojet, TV, whing ding, and work ethic all appeared in print for the first time.

## **The end of WWII:**

WWII was the most destructive war in history. An estimated 70–85 million people died during this war, which was about 3% of the 1940 world population of 2.3 billion people. This included soldiers, civilians, and victims of war crimes such as the Holocaust. The Holocaust was the genocide of 6 million Jews and millions of others targeted by Nazi ideology.

World War II began on September 1, 1939, when Germany invaded Poland. Britain and France declared war on Germany on September 3, 1939. The Axis Powers—Germany, Italy, & Japan—launched aggressive campaigns across Europe, Africa, and Asia. The Germans invaded Denmark, Norway, and France in 1940. The attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 brought the United States into the war. The “Big Three” Allies were the United Kingdom, Soviet Union, & United States. China was also an important ally in Asia. Many other countries joined the Allies during the war. 1945 saw the end of World War II after the fall of Berlin and the atomic bombings of Japan.

## **The end of WWII in Europe:**

- On January 27, Soviet troops liberated the Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps in Poland.
- On January 30, American soldiers turned back German troops and won the Battle of the Bulge.
- On February 13, allied planes began bombing Dresden, Germany and after a 49-day battle with Nazi Germany, the USSR captured Budapest.
- On February 23, six U.S. Marines raised a large American flag at the summit of Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima, which was a major Japanese stronghold. The photo quickly became famous worldwide because it symbolized the “resilience of the U.S. Marines” during World War II.
- On April 29, the U.S. Army liberated the Dachau concentration camp.

- On April 30, German Chancellor Adolf Hitler and his wife Eva Braun committed suicide.
- On May 2, over one million German soldiers surrendered to the Western Allies in Italy and Austria.
- On May 8, World War II ended in Europe after Germany unconditionally surrendered to the Western Allies.

### **The end of WWII in the Pacific**

- On February 19, after 72 days of shelling the island, U.S. Marines landed on Iwo Jima. The intense fighting lasted a month.
- On February 23, six U.S. Marines raised a large American flag at the summit of Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima, which was a Japanese stronghold. The moment was captured in a single, immortal image. Within weeks the photograph became the theme of the U.S. Government's seventh War Bond drive. A postage stamp bore the image. The scene has been reenacted multiple times on screen."
- On March 3, the U.S. Army liberated Manila in the Philippines.
- On April 1, the battle of Okinawa began.
- On August 6, the U.S. dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima.
- On August 9, the U.S. dropped a second atomic bomb on Nagasaki, Japan, destroying part of the city.
- On August 14, Japan surrendered unconditionally to end WWII.

### **OTHER HISTORICAL EVENTS IN 1945:**

- On January 20, Franklin D. Roosevelt was inaugurated for a fourth consecutive term as president of the United States. On April 12, President Roosevelt died in office, and Vice President Harry Truman was sworn in as the 33rd U.S. president.
- On June 26, the United Nations Charter was signed by 50 nations in San Francisco, and
- Dutch physician Willem Kolff performed the first successful kidney dialysis using his artificial kidney machine.
- Perry Spencer invented the microwave, Ralph Teetor invented cruise control, George Nissen invented the trampoline, and Andrew Freeman invented the block heater.
- Elvis Presley made his first public appearance at the age of 10.
- Sports facts from 1945: The Cleveland Rams were the NFL champs, the Detroit Tigers won the World Series, and the Toronto Maple Leafs clinched the Stanley Cup.
- Ashley Furniture, Mattel, Minute Maid, and U-Haul were all founded.
- Slinky was a popular holiday gift, and *Ebony* magazine began publishing.

# NOTICES

## TAXPAYER'S NOTICES

In accordance with Title 36, M.R.S.A. Sec. 706, as amended, the Municipality of Solon hereby gives notice to all persons liable to taxation in Solon that the Assessors will be in session at the Town Office on the first Wednesday in April during normal office hours for the purpose of revising the lists of polls and estates taxable in Solon. All persons liable to taxation in Solon and all Personal Representatives, Trustees, etc. of all estates taxable in Solon of such persons are hereby notified to furnish to the Assessors true and perfect lists of all their estates, real and personal, not by law exempt from taxation, of which they are possessed on the *first day of April* and be prepared to make an oath to the truth of the same and to answer all proper inquiries in writing as to the nature, situation and value of their property liable to be taxed. When estates of persons deceased have been distributed during the past year or have changed hands from any cause, the Personal Representative, and/or other persons interested are hereby warned to give notice of such change, and in default of such notice, will be held liable under law to pay taxes assessed, although such estate has been wholly distributed and paid for. Any person who neglects to comply with this notice is hereby barred from his rights to make application to the Assessors or any appeal there from, for any abatement of his taxes, unless he offers such list with his application and satisfies them that he was unable to offer it at the time appointed.

In accordance with Title 36, M.R.S.A Sec.841, abatements for overvaluation of property may be granted only within one year from commitment and taxpayers must apply within 185 days from commitment.

- **REAL ESTATE:** All property tax is assessed to the owner of the property on April 1. If you sell your property after April 1, you will still receive the tax bill. You are responsible for that year's property taxes. If you have constructed, altered or moved any buildings since the previous April 1 and on or before April 1 of the current tax year, notify the Assessors by April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY:** A list of all business equipment and its value **must** be filed with the Assessors by April 1st every year. If you have started a new business, you need to notify the Assessors to obtain forms for filing a list of your business equipment. In accordance with Title 36, Section 706 of the Maine Revised Statutes, failure to furnish lists of taxable property or any of the aforementioned changes on or before the dates requested will bar one's right to an abatement of taxes. If this business equipment qualifies for the Business Equipment Tax Exemption, the

business is not taxed for the property, and the town is reimbursed by the State for 50% of the lost tax revenue.

- **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** Certain motorized vehicles, on which excise tax has not been paid by April 1, will be assessed as personal property.
- **EXEMPTIONS:** Taxation is the rule and exemption is the exception. If you think your property should have an exemption, and you are not already receiving it, you have an obligation to make the Assessors aware of the legal category of the exemption that the property may qualify for. All notifications and applications for exemption must be made no later than April 1, of the current tax year.
- **VETERANS EXEMPTION:** All Veterans who will be 62 years of age on or before April 1, any totally disabled Veteran or any widow, widower or minor child(ren) of Veterans who would have been 62 years of age on or before April 1 should contact the Assessors to see if they are eligible for a tax exemption. Applications for Veteran's exemptions must be received in this office on or before April 1. You do not need to reapply every year.
- **BLIND EXEMPTION:** Any person who is declared blind by the Department of Human Services should notify the Assessors' office on or before April 1 to see if he or she is eligible for the exemption. You do not need to reapply every year.
- **HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION:** This exemption is for resident homeowners on their primary residence. You must apply for it on or before April 1 at the Assessor's Office. You do not need to reapply every year.
- **TREE GROWTH CLASSIFICATION:** All new owners of land that is classified as 'tree growth' have one year from date of purchase of the property to file a certified tree growth plan. All tree growth plans need to be recertified every ten years. Failure to have your certified plan submitted to the assessors by the appropriate date will result in the removal of the land from the tree growth classification and assessment of a removal penalty.
- **FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE:** Certain parcels of land might qualify for these two programs. See the Assessors regarding the qualifications.
- **PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENTS:** Property taxpayers have 185 days from the Date of Commitment to apply for a tax abatement. Contact the Assessors if you have an abatement request.



# TOWN MEETING AND ELECTION NOTICES

Nomination Papers for the various elected positions in town are available at the Town Office starting the last week of November and are due back in the beginning of January. Contact our Clerk for more information about running for an elected position and for the nomination paper dates for the current year.

The Selectmen prepare the Town Budget and Warrant Articles for the upcoming Town Meeting and present them to the Advisory Committee for their review at their Annual Budget Meeting on the third Saturday in January at the Town Office. If you want to have an article considered at the Annual Town Meeting it must be presented to the Selectmen, no later than the Wednesday before the Annual Advisory Committee Budget Meeting in January.

See the 'Dates to Remember' page at the end of this report for the date of the Annual Budget Meeting.

The Annual Town Meeting is always held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in March. The voting of Town Officials is from 8 am to 12:15 pm by secret ballot and the Annual Town Meeting starts at 1:30 pm, run as an open forum.

**If your non-profit group or organization would like to set up a table in the morning for promotion or fundraising, please contact the Town Office.**

## PLANNING BOARD NOTICES

### BUILDING PERMITS ARE REQUIRED!



In 1977 the Town of Solon enacted a building ordinance. This ordinance also provided for a fine, not to exceed \$100.00 per day that a violation of the ordinance continued.

In 1989 & 2003 the voters amended the ordinance, requiring that a building permit be issued by the Solon Planning Board *PRIOR* to the construction or placement of any structure that exceeds 200 square feet of floor space and for an addition that exceeds 100 square feet. After-the-fact permits will cost double the regular permit fee. If you are unsure if you need a permit, check with the Planning Board. Building permit applications are available at the Town Office or from any member of the Planning Board. Planning Board members will offer any assistance to anyone needing help in completing an application. The Board meets each 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month from March to November and the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday from December to February at 7 PM at the Town Office.

## **ATTENTION LANDOWNERS AND WOODCUTTERS HARVESTING TREES IN SHORELAND ZONE AREAS**



A town issued Permit is required prior to removing dead or hazardous trees in the Shoreland Zone. Contact the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board for a permit. In March 2019 the Town of Solon enacted its revised Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. Timber harvesting is now managed and administered by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry. They can be reached at 207-287-3200.

### **NEW DRIVEWAY PLACEMENT AND INSTALLATION**

No new driveways can be installed without a permit from the Road Commissioner. The permit fee is \$20. Certain site distances and culvert size requirements must be met. The town will install the culvert, if one is needed, with the landowner paying for the culvert and the gravel needed to cover the culvert. The town will maintain the culvert after the initial installation. The driveway installation application is available at the town office or from the Planning Board.

## **TRANSFER STATION NOTICES**

### ***SOLON TRANSFER STATION USE STICKERS ARE REQUIRED ON ALL VEHICLES BRINGING TRASH TO OUR TRANSFER STATION***

Solon Transfer Station stickers are required to be displayed on the windshield of all vehicles bringing trash to the Transfer Station. New stickers are required annually at a cost of \$5. There will be a grace period until January 31st. Proof of residency or landownership is required to obtain a Use Sticker each year. The stickers will be available both at the Transfer Station and the Town Office and the next year's new color stickers will be available starting in October.



### ***RECYCLING HELPS KEEP COSTS DOWN!***

The Transfer Station is open on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please check with the attendant on the proper bins to place your trash in. Upcycle! If you have an item that you no longer want but it is still useable, check with the attendant on where to place it.

These items are then available to other residents.

We recycle paper, glass, cans and other items. We also accept eyeglasses and cell phones, which will be recycled or donated to charity. For a complete list of recyclable items and their proper disposal method, please see the Transfer Station Report or contact the transfer station attendant. Recycling is mandatory so do not discard recyclables in your household trash. We do not pay the tipping fees for residents who have their trash picked up by private haulers.

Certain items cannot go into the general trash bins and certain hazardous waste items we do not take. Please check with the attendant before disposing of any questionable item. If we do take the item, he will tell you where to place it.

**Demolition Debris Disposal Policy:** The Town will not pay for the tipping fee for demolition debris resulting from a building, demolition, or renovation project. We will not pay for container leases, for transportation costs or for tipping fees.

## **PUBLIC WAYS NOTICES**

### **WINTER PARKING ON ROAD BAN:**

We have an ordinance, passed in 1977, to design a Parking Ban for the period from November 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>. It is unlawful for a motor vehicle or any other vehicle to be parked within the right of way of any public way within Solon during this time in such a manner as to hinder the removal of snow or other road maintenance. Any vehicle parked in violation of this ordinance is subject to towing at the owner's expense.

### **YEAR-ROUND PARKING BAN IN TRAVEL WAY:**

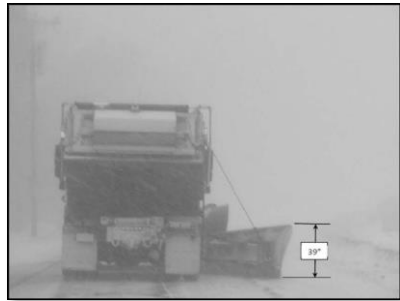
It is also unlawful to habitually park a vehicle with any portion of said vehicle in the traveled portion of any public way. If the vehicle hinders the normal passage of two-way traffic, the said vehicle will be subject to towing at the owner's expense. Repeating violators will be subject to a fine.

### **DRIVEWAY PLOWING AND SNOW BLOWING:**

It is also illegal to plow snow across a public way. Plow your driveways inwards and not outwards into and/or across the road. It is also illegal to blow or shovel snow onto the public way. Violators are subject to a fine.

## MAILBOXES:

The town is not responsible for damage done to mailboxes while the roads are being plowed. As our plow wings are tall, make sure the bottom of your mailbox is **48" higher than the level road** and far enough away from the road not to be damaged, **at least 12" back from the edge of the normally plowed surface**. Place the mailbox after the driveway entrance. Clear the area of snow around the mailbox. It is not the Town's responsibility to keep access to your mailbox clear of snow.



## ATVS ON TOWN ROADS

The Drury Road, Brighton Road, French Hill Road from the Grant Road to Pleasant Street, Falls Road, and Pleasant Street are open for ATV use. We do not allow ATV use on any of the other roads in Solon or on school property. Do not cross the school ball fields on ATVs. It damages our ball fields. We don't want to have to put up a fence but will have to if ATVs continue to drive on the field.

## OTHER NOTICES

### PHOTOCOPIES



Photocopies are available at a rate of \$.25/page for black & white and \$.75/page for color. Please have documents organized prior to your request. Please note that all other business will take precedence before our staff can make copies.

### FAX / SCAN / EMAIL



We no longer have the ability to send faxes but can receive them as an email at (207) 643-2864. We are happy to then print them (fee above) or forward via email at no charge. We can also scan and email documents. Again, please have them organized in advance and note that all other town business will take precedence.

## NOTARY SERVICES



*Notarization* - If a member of staff is commissioned by the State of Maine as a Notary, it is their discretion to provide notarial services. There is a fee of \$5/signature (ie. notarial act) and is subject to change. There is no charge for documents requiring notarization

when conducting regular municipal business.

*Marriage Officiant* – If a staff member is commissioned by the State of Maine to perform/officiate marriages, scheduling and fees are at the discretion of the Notary. You can also find other notaries and officiants online through the [Maine Notary Public and Dedimus Justice Search](#).

## CHECKS/INSUFFICIENT FUNDS



The Town charges a \$35.00 fee for each dishonored check written to the Town of Solon, which is drawn on a bank account with insufficient funds. The Selectmen will require that any further payments from said individual must be per money order, bank check or cash. Also, any checks issued by the Town of Solon and not cashed within 90 days will not be honored.

## CREDIT CARDS



We now accept credit card payments for monetary transactions conducted at the town office. There is a fee of 2.5% added to all transactions (min. of \$1) by the credit card processor.

## VEHICLE REGISTRATION



When re-registering a vehicle, please remember to bring in **proof of insurance, old registration, and mileage**. New registrations require a bill of sale, title (**25 years old or newer**), proof of insurance and mileage. If a vehicle is purchased from a dealer you must also have proof of purchase, a title application (and/or window sticker for new vehicles). **ANTIQUE AUTOS: NEW LAW CHANGE** - As of 01/01/2025 only vehicles **over 35-years-old** may be registered as antique.

## HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES



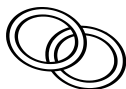
When you come in to purchase a resident or non-resident hunting/archery license, please bring in your previous year's license whenever possible. If it is your first license, we must see your hunter's safety course card. The Clerk can issue 70-and-over lifetime hunting and fishing licenses, but other lifetime licenses are issued only by the state.

## BOAT STICKERS:



ALL boats that have motors on them **MUST** have a valid "Lake and River Protection Sticker" on them before they are put in the water. The sticker and more information are available at the town office.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES:



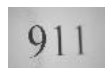
There is no waiting period to file marriage intentions with the Town Clerk before picking up your license. If you were previously married, you must bring in current divorce papers with the raised seal on it or a death certificate.

## VITAL RECORDS



Certified copies of BIRTH, DEATH and MARRIAGE records are available from the Municipal Clerk. Each town has access to only those records to which the Registrant was a resident of at the time of the record. An applicant for a vital record must have *direct and legitimate interest* in the record. For more information, and to see if you qualify to obtain a record, contact the Clerk or go to [www.maine.gov](http://www.maine.gov).

## NEW ADDRESSES:



The E911 addressing system is in effect. Your house number should be clearly posted on your property so that it can be easily seen from the road. This will make it easier for emergency vehicles to locate you in case of an emergency. There is a \$10 fee for any change in a property that requires a new, different, or additional physical address.

## TRANSFER STATION USE PERMIT:



Use of the Solon Transfer Station is limited to those who are *residents* or *landowners* only. Use permit stickers are required and expire annually by December 31<sup>st</sup>. They are at an annual cost of \$5 per sticker. They can be obtained from the Clerk's Office as well as from the Transfer Station Attendants with proof of residency or land ownership in Solon.

## MEDICAL EQUIPMENT:



The Town of Solon has in its possession a number of medical assistance items, which are available to be loaned out to citizens of Solon. If you have need of any of these items, contact the Town Office at 643-2812 for arrangements of pick-up or for delivery.

## BURN PERMITS:



Burn permits are required before you can burn brush and debris outside at any time during the year. For burn permits go online to <https://www.maine.gov/burnpermit> or call: Duayne Rollins - 399-9549, Jen Rollins - 399-1655, Todd Dixon - 441-5171

# DOG OWNERS NOTICE

## **Dog License - Everyone must license their dog!!**

The State of Maine requires all dogs over the age of 6 months or have been with the family for 10 days, to be registered in the town of residence of the owner. Fees for spayed or neutered dogs are \$6 and \$11 if they remain unaltered.

All licenses expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>. A \$25 late fee per dog will be added after January 31<sup>st</sup>. This fee is required by State law and is non-negotiable.

Please bring with you the most recent Rabies Certificate and, if applicable, a Spay/Neuter Certificate **or license your dog Online by visiting [www.solon.maine.gov](http://www.solon.maine.gov) (the State's online service is available from October 15<sup>th</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>).**

If you are licensing a wolf hybrid, service/search or rescue dog or obtaining a kennel license please contact the town office for more information.

**Kennel License** - Kennel owners need to have their property inspected annually by Solon's Animal Control Officer. At her discretion, she will be accompanied by a State of Maine Animal Welfare Agent for all inspections to assist her in upholding the highest standards.

**Dog Ordinances** - Please do not allow your dogs to bark freely while outside. Please keep your dogs on a leash while walking, hooked to a run (3 x its length) or in a spacious fenced area. State Law forbids dogs from roaming at large and is subject to being picked up by the ACO and transported to the shelter for care.

**Lost Pet?** - If your pet is lost, please call Somerset Dispatch. The ACO may have already found them. If not, a Lost Pet announcement will go out on the Town of Solon Maine Facebook Page. We have had an incredibly good turnaround time with very few animals brought to the shelter by this new process being put into place.

To report a missing or found domestic animal or to contact  
Solon's Animal Control Officer please call,  
**Somerset Dispatch at 207-474-6465**



Stray animals are brought to the  
Waterville Area Humane Society - 207-873-2430  
100 Webb Road, Waterville



# **WHAT TO BRING WHEN**

## **WHEN REGISTERING A VEHICLE**

- \*Re-registration: old registration, current insurance, & mileage
- \*New registration (Dealer Sale): bill of sale/purchase agreement, copy of title application form, window sticker, current insurance card, and mileage
- \*New registration (Private Sale): bill of sale, current insurance card, title, release of lien form if applicable, and mileage
- \*New registration & transfer plates: same as above plus registration of the vehicle the plates are being transferred from.

## **WHEN REGISTERING A SNOWMOBILE, ATV, OR BOAT**

- \*Re-registration: old registration
- \*New registration: bill of sale, serial number (boats: length and horsepower)
- \*New registration & transfer plates: same as above plus registration of the vehicle registration being transferred from.

## **WHEN REGISTERING A DOG**

Current rabies certificate, spay or neutering certificate (it may be noted on rabies certificate). We may also have their current rabies information on file.

## **WHEN PAYING PROPERTY TAXES**

A copy of the tax bill or account number for reference.

## **WHEN PURCHASING HUNTING LICENSES**

You must have proof of a prior hunting license or having completed a hunter safety program. For those over 16 purchasing their first adult license they must also bring proof that they passed a hunter safety course.

## **WHEN RENEWING TREE GROWTH PLAN**

Please bring the Tree Growth application to the Assessors, signed by a licensed professional forester with his/her contact information, the property owner and a map showing the location of the different forest types for the land being classified (softwood, hardwood, and mixed wood) as well as a description and location of land not classified in the parcel (to at least the nearest whole acre). Tree growth plans must be renewed every 10 years. Also, when purchasing land that is in tree growth, the new owner has one (1) year to file with the Assessors a statement from a licensed professional forester. Either the land is being managed in accordance with the previous plan or a new application with all the required information with a new 10-year renewal date.

## **BUILDING AND/OR PLUMBING PERMITS**

Completed building and/or plumbing application forms, sketches of proposed and existing buildings and landmarks (roads, property lines, well, septic) on lot, and for septic systems a septic system design by a licensed professional.



## **SELECTMEN'S REPORT**

The Selectmen hold their Selectmen Meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 5 pm. Prior to that they meet with the Road Commissioner and road crew at 4 pm. The Chair of Selectmen is in the town office on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9 am to 4 pm and on Wednesday from 8 am to 6 pm.

In May we got our new electronic message sign. It has proven to be a great improvement over our previous message sign. It is much easier to post and schedule our town messages.

October 2025 was the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the Solon Fire Department. We honored our past and our present firefighters with a barbecue and t-shirts in October.

The Maine Department of Transportation completed the work replacing the Route 201 bridge over Fall Brook in the spring.

The Solon Water District has received a \$340,000 Congressionally Directed Spending grant that will be used to replace a portion of the water mains on the eastern end of Ferry Street in 2026 thanks to Senators Collins and King.

We have also been awarded a Congressionally Directed Spending grant of \$1,500,000 to build a new town garage thanks to Senator Collins. Our match is \$500,000. We have been looking at property to purchase for the new location of our public works garage. We plan to start this project in 2026.

This year we again purchased more equipment. The Transfer Station purchased a glass crusher to process our recycled glass. The Fire Department purchased a 2012 Ford F350 truck along with safety equipment and a firefighting insert and rescue board for their ATV. The Public Works Department purchased a brush mulcher, a culvert steamer, a trailer for the excavator, a new dump body for the 2017 Western Star truck, and a new John Deere Grader.

Our road crew continued repairing the road damage from the 2023 May and December storms. They worked on ditching and rebuilding our gravel roads. They will continue to do this in 2026 along with replacing culverts on the South Solon Road in preparation for our 2027 paving project. There is more information in the Public Works Section.

Starting January 1, 2026, Solon Recreation will join with Embden and Anson to form Cobra Recreation for youth basketball, soccer, baseball, softball, and T-ball. There is more information in the Leisure Services Section.

2026 is the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the United States. On July 4<sup>th</sup> we will have an all day celebration at the Solon Elementary School ending with our annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks display. More information is in our 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks section in this report.

In 2025 our state valuation went from \$127,550,000 in 2024 to 153,400,000 in 2025 due to the continued high selling price of property in Maine and Solon. So, in 2025 we again had to raise land valuations across the board for everyone and also increase building valuations on all buildings to meet the state valuation requirements. If we fall to less than 93% of the state valuation, we must reduce the homestead, veteran, and blind exemptions that many receive. Our 2026 State Valuation decreased to \$153,200,000 so we will not have to increase land and building values again in 2026.

As Selectmen/Assessors we went out and looked at most of the properties and updated our pictures. We did send everyone a form to fill out to update our information on the buildings on their property. Many filled it out and returned them to us and we thank those that did so. For those who haven't, you will be receiving the forms again and please be sure to fill them out and return them to us. We will also be continuing taking photos of all buildings in 2026.

Our actual 2025 municipal budget by taxation increased from \$1,213,163 in 2024 to \$1,273,733 in 2025 which was an increase of \$60,570 but because of having a larger amount of available surplus funds to reduce taxes we needed to raise \$45,159.92 less in tax revenue for the town's budget. However, our 2025 RSU 74 tax assessment increased by \$42,932.50 and our 2025 County tax assessment increased by \$17,857.12.

The Selectmen and the Advisory Committee work hard to keep our municipal costs down. We have kept our budgets as low as possible. However, the continuing high increase in the cost of living is affecting our town budgets as well as our home budgets. The 2026 municipal budget by taxation, as presented by the Selectmen and the Advisory Committee is \$1,347,157 which is an increase of \$62,424 from 2025. After deducting our available surplus, anticipated department revenue, KRDA revenue, and revenue sharing the amount needed to be raised by taxation for municipal expenditures is \$638,394.33 which is a increase of \$45,992.96 from 2025. You, the citizens of Solon, decide on our municipal budget at our Annual Town Meeting.

We urge everyone to attend the School District Budget Adoption meeting in May and to vote on the school referendum questions in June. Also please attend Solon's Annual Town Meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of March. That is when you, the citizens, discuss and vote on our town's budget for the year and on other matters. You can see the Town Meeting Warrant Articles and an explanation of the articles at the end of this town report. Please attend the Annual Town

Meeting. This is your chance to participate in deciding on what and how much we spend our property tax dollars and what other actions the town will take on a variety of matters. We look forward to seeing you at the town meeting.

Remember that the Selectmen meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 5 pm for their Selectmen's meeting. Come see us with any questions, concerns, or issues you have regarding town business and issues either at our Selectmen meetings or when the Chair is in the office.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elaine Aloes, John Dunay, and Wayne Johnson

## **2025 MUNICIPAL APPROPRIATIONS**

### **APPROPRITATIONS BY TAXATION**

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

Payroll & Benefits	\$211,760.00	
Insurance	\$ 39,720.00	
Utilities	\$ 5,400.00	
Town Charges	\$ 41,660.00	
Maintenance	\$ 2,800.00	
Training, Books, & Dues	\$ 2,360.00	
Elections	\$ 2,200.00	
Accounts Overages	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>	\$310,900.00

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Winter Roads	\$149,000.00	
Summer Roads	\$146,500.00	
Transfer Station	<u>\$101,550.00</u>	\$397,050.00

#### **LIBRARY**

Coolidge Library Reserve		\$ 27,600.00
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#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Department		\$ 58,500.00
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#### **PUBLIC UTILITIES**

Fire Hydrants	\$24,900.00	
Municipal Electric	\$ 7,000.00	
Street Lights	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	\$ 41,900.00

#### **SOCIAL SERVICES**

General Assistance	\$ 15,000.00	
Social Service Agencies	<u>\$ 13,080.00</u>	\$ 28,08000

**CODE ENFORCEMENT**

CEO & Health Officer	\$ 7,200.00	
911 Addressing Officer	<u>\$ 270.00</u>	\$ 7,470.00

**LEISURE SERVICES**

Programs		\$ 18,950.00
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**CEMETERIES**

Cemetery Maintenance Reserve		\$ 25,800.00
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**ANIMAL WELFARE**

Humane Society	\$ 2,000.00	
Animal Control Officer	<u>\$ 3,650.00</u>	\$ 5,650.00

**ORGANIZATION DUES**

Membership Fees		\$ 9,776.00
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**CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS**

Road Paving Reserve	\$210,000.00	
Gravel Roads Reserve	\$ 10,000.00	
Highway Equipment Reserve	\$ 25,000.00	
PW Garage Reserve	\$ 20,000.00	
Sidewalk Repair Reserve	\$ 10,000.00	
Transfer Station Truck & Equip.	\$ 10,000.00	
Coolidge Library Building	\$ 3,000.00	
Municipal Buildings Maintenance	\$ 3,500.00	
Fire Truck Reserve	\$ 8,000.00	
Fire Department Capital Reserve	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>	\$300,500.00

**RESERVE ACCOUNTS**

Municipal Buildings Heat Reserve	\$ 8,000.00	
Fire Dept. Safety Equipment Res.	\$ 5,000.00	
GIS Mapping Reserve	\$ 2,000.00	
USA 250 <sup>th</sup> Celebration	\$ 4,000.00	
Office Equipment Reserve	\$ 10,000.00	
Town Line Survey Reserve	\$ 2,500.00	
Municipal Grounds Maint. Res.	\$ 2,500.00	
Web Site Reserve	\$ 2,000.00	
Town Flags Reserve	\$ 2,000.00	
Town Records Preservation Res.	<u>\$ 4,500.00</u>	\$ 42,500.00

**MUNICIPAL APPROPRIATIONS BY TAXATION  
AT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

\$1,273,733.00

**MUNICIPAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM RESERVE ACCOUNTS  
TOTAL APPROPRIATED AT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

FEMA Funds	\$ 52,000.00	
Transfer Station Equip. Reserve	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>	\$ 55,000.00

**TOTAL APPROPRIATED AT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING - 5/7/2025**

FEMA Funds (grader)	\$ 150,000.00
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**TOTAL APPROPRIATED AT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING - 9/3/2025**

FEMA Funds (truck body)	\$31,000.00	
Highway Equip. Res. (truck body)	<u>\$25,000.00</u>	\$ 56,000.00

**TOTAL RAISED AT ANNUAL & SPECIAL TOWN MEETINGS**

Taxation	\$1,273,733.00	
Reserve Accounts	<u>\$ 261,000.00</u>	\$1,534,733.00

**2025 EXPENDITURES  
GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

**PAYROLL & BENEFITS**

Income:

Appropriated	\$310,900.00	
Assessing Reserve Funds	\$ 2,125.57	
Liens Fees	\$ 3,928.84	
Reimbursements	\$ 53.67	
Property & Casualty Ins. Rebate	\$ 990.00	
Workman Comp. Ins. Rebate	\$ 508.00	
Over/Short Reimbursement	\$ 60.00	
Bad Check Fee Reimb	<u>\$ 35.00</u>	\$318,601.08

Expended:

**PAYROLL**

Selectmen	\$45,740.00	
Clerk/Tax Collector	\$52,480.00	
Treasurer	\$ 6,644.40	
Dep Clerk, Tax Coll, & Treasurer	\$27,657.84	
Deputy Assessor	\$ 1,143.90	
Registrar of Voters	\$ 3,000.00	
Social Security & Medicare	\$32,045.72	
Family Medical Paid Leave	\$ 3,988.35	
Employee Benefits	<u>\$30,000.00</u>	\$202,700.21

**INSURANCE**

Worker's Compensation	\$13,241.00	
Unemployment	\$ 4,498.00	
Property	<u>\$24,000.00</u>	\$ 41,739.00

**UTILITIES**

Phones & Internet	\$ 4,371.00	
Water	<u>\$ 378.28</u>	\$ 4,749.28
<b>TOWN CHARGES</b>		
Supplies	\$ 3,790.56	
Supplies (Neokraft Sign)	\$ 496.98	
Assessing Supplies	\$ 981.67	
Postage	\$ 2,323.59	
Legal Fees	\$ 0.00	
Reg. of Deeds	\$ 1,891.00	
Town Reports	\$ 3,836.65	
Bad Check Fees	\$ 32.00	
Travel & Reimb.	\$ 1,130.66	
Tax Bills Print & Mail	\$ 1,100.27	
Payroll Services	\$ 2,319.00	
Auditor	\$10,000.00	
Paper Shredding	\$ 0.00	
Security System	\$ 519.95	
Copier Maintenance. Fee	\$ 1,666.91	
Web Site Fee	\$ 0.00	
Post Office Box Fee	\$ 102.00	
Computer Maintenance	\$ 532.13	
Computer Software Fees	\$ 489.63	
Town Cloud Reimb to Office		
Equip Reserve	\$ 8985.00	
Trio Computer Programs	<u>\$ 8,508.87</u>	\$48,706.87
<b>MAINTENANCE</b>		
Town Office Maintenance	\$ 2,885.75	
Furnace Maintenance	\$ 0.00	
Supplies	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$2,885.75
<b>TRAINING, BOOKS, &amp; DUES</b>		
Training Fees	\$ 856.76	
Meals	\$ 79.08	
Dues	<u>\$ 350.00</u>	\$1,285.84
<b>OTHER</b>		
Accounts Overage (First Park)	\$ 343.00	
Over/Short	\$ 60.00	
Elections-Payroll	\$ 1,561.00	
Elections-Meals	<u>\$ 92.33</u>	<u>\$ 2,056.33</u>
		<u>\$304,123.28</u>
		\$ 14,477.80

## PUBLIC WORKS

### ROADS

Income	
Appropriated by taxation	\$295,000.00

Appropriated from FEMA	\$ 52,000.00	
Refunds & Reimbursements	<u>\$ 21,845.54</u>	\$368,845.54
Expended		
Winter Roads	\$147,828.76	
Summer Roads	<u>\$394,190.38</u>	<u>\$542,019.14</u>
		(\$173,173.60)
FEMA funds used to cover coverage		<u>\$173,173.60</u>
		\$ 0.00

### **TRANSFER STATION**

Income:			
Appropriated	\$101,450.00		
Income & Fees	<u>\$ 7,420.57</u>	\$108,870.57	
Expended		<u>\$112,741.94</u>	
		(\$3,871.37)	
Trans from TS Truck & Tub Reserve		<u>\$3,871.37</u>	\$0.00

### **COOLIDGE LIBRARY**

#### **COOLIDGE LIBRARY RESERVE**

Income:			
Balance 1/1/25	\$ 1,790.38		
Appropriated	\$27,600.00		
Investment Funds	\$ 2,000.00		
Bangor Savings Bank-donation	\$ 500.00		
Anson Academy Association	\$ 1,500.00		
Fees & Donations	<u>\$ 13.00</u>	\$33,403.38	
Expended:		<u>\$28,256.84</u>	\$5,146.54

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT & FIRE CHIEF**

Income:			
Appropriated	\$58,500.00		
Expended	<u>\$83,345.77</u>	(\$24,845.77)	
Transfers			
FEMA Funds	\$15,000.00		
FD Reserve Funds Transfer	<u>\$ 9,845.77</u>	<u>\$24,845.77</u>	\$0.00

### **PUBLIC UTILITIES**

Appropriated		\$41,900.00	
Expended			
Hydrant Fee	\$24,856.00		
Municipal Electric	\$ 6,573.60		
Street Lights	<u>\$ 4,217.69</u>	<u>\$35,647.29</u>	
			6,252.71

## **SOCIAL SERVICES**

### **GENERAL ASSISTANCE**

#### **Income**

Appropriated	\$15,000.00		
State Reimbursement	<u>\$ 4,259.39</u>	\$19,259.39	
Expended		<u>\$ 5,837.85</u>	\$13,421.54

### **SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS**

Appropriated		\$13,080.00	
Expended			
KVCAP	\$ 750.00		
Hospice	\$ 1,000.00		
Spectrum Generations	\$ 788.00		
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$ 500.00		
Sexual Support & Crisis Ctr	\$ 342.00		
Solon Food Cupboard	\$ 8,000.00		
American Red Cross	\$ 150.00		
LifeFlight Foundation	\$ 200.00		
Pine Tree Society	\$ 100.00		
Lake Stewards of Maine	\$ 500.00		
National Alliance Mental Illness	\$ 500.00		
Sweetser Mental Health	\$ 250.00		
		<u>\$13,080.00</u>	\$0.00

## **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Appropriated	\$ 7,470.00		
Expended	<u>\$ 6,666.96</u>		\$803.04

## **LEISURE SERVICES**

#### **Income**

Appropriated	\$18,950.00		
Reserve Balances 1/1/2025 & Incomes	<u>\$38,575.92</u>	\$57,525.92	
Expended		<u>\$33,513.18</u>	\$24,012.74

## **CEMETERIES**

### **CEMETERY MAINTENANCE RESERVE**

#### **Income**

Appropriated	\$25,800.00		
Balance 1/1/25 & Income	<u>\$ 8,149.56</u>	\$33,949.56	
Expended		<u>\$29,437.10</u>	\$4,512.46

## **ANIMAL WELFARE**

#### **Income**

Appropriated	\$5,650.00		
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Expended			
Animal Control Officer	\$3,650.00		
Humane Society	<u>\$1,949.44</u>	<u>\$5,599.44</u>	\$50.56

#### TOWN DOG RESERVE

Income			
Balance 1/1/25	\$1,653.27		
Town Dog Fees	<u>\$ 962.00</u>	\$2,615.27	
Expended			
Vet Fees	\$ 593.52		
Dues	\$ 110.00		
Supplies	\$ 215.50		
Mileage	<u>\$1,166.84</u>	<u>\$2,085.86</u>	\$529.41

#### AGENCIES

Appropriated			
KVCOG	\$1,625.00		
Somerset Economic Dev. Corp.	\$ 100.00		
Old Canada Road Byway	\$ 500.00		
KRDA/First Park	\$4,815.00	\$9,433.00	
Expended			
KVCOG	\$1,625.00		
Somerset Economic Dev. Corp.	\$ 100.00		
Old Canada Road Byway	\$ 500.00		
KRDA/First Park	\$5,158.00		
Maine Municipal Association	<u>\$2,393.00</u>	<u>\$9,776.00</u>	(\$343.00)
Paid from Accounts Overage			<u>\$343.00</u>
			\$ 0.00

#### CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS

##### ROAD PAVING RESERVE

Income			
Balance 1/1/25	\$ 73,158.67		
Appropriated	\$210,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 3,377.29</u>	\$286,535.96	

##### HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

Income			
Balance 1/1/25	\$ 150.95		
Appropriated	\$ 25,000.00		
FEMA funds-truck body	\$ 31,000.00		
FEMA Funds-grader	\$125,000.00		
Sale of Old Equipment	\$ 1,500.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 220.25</u>	\$182,871.20	
Expended		<u>\$180,360.00</u>	\$2,511.20

#### GRAVEL ROADS RESERVE

##### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$13,708.00		
Appropriated	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	\$23,708.00	
Expended		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$23,708.00

#### SIDEWALK REPAIR RESERVE

##### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$17,734.29		
Appropriated	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	\$27,734.29	
Expended		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$27,734.29

#### TRANSFER STATION TRUCK & TUB RESERVE ACCOUNT

##### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$13,557.10		
Appropriated	\$10,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 350.50</u>	\$23,907.60	
Expended		<u>\$ 6,044.34</u>	\$17,863.26

#### COOLIDGE LIBRARY BUILDING CAPITAL RESERVE

##### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$33,836.63		
Appropriated	\$ 3,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 742.14</u>	\$37,578.77	
Expended		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$37,278.77

#### FIRE TRUCK RESERVE ACCOUNT

##### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$11,398.77		
Appropriated	\$ 8,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 317.76</u>	\$19,716.53	
Expended		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$19,716.53

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT

##### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$1,290.43		
Appropriated	\$1,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 36.89</u>	\$2,327.32	
Expended		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$2,327.32

#### MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE RESERVE

##### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$11,844.77		
Appropriated	<u>\$ 3,500.00</u>	\$15,344.77	
Expended		<u>\$ 2,755.98</u>	\$12,588.79

## LOCAL ROADS AID PROGRAM (LRAP)

### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$ 76,433.66	
Interest	\$ 3,976.98	
Funds restored from FEMA funds	\$201,284.86	
State funds received	<u>\$ 51,184.00</u>	\$332,879.50

### Expended

Sewall Engineering	<u>\$ 3,950.00</u>	\$328,929.50
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## PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE RESERVE

### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$ 30,962.61	
Appropriated	\$ 20,000.00	
Solar Tax Credit	\$ 21,637.14	
Rainy Day Fund transfer	\$ 34,033.30	
FEMA transfer	<u>\$175,000.00</u>	\$281,633.05

### Expended

<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$281,633.05
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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

Received CDBG Funds \$291,537.58

Expended \$291,535.80 \$ 1.78

## OLON WATER DISTRICT WATER MAIN PROJECT

Income \$ 0.00

Expended \$5,000.00 (\$5,000.00)

\*\* Waiting for reimbursement from grant funds

## RESERVE ACCOUNTS

### MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS HEAT RESERVE

#### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$15,454.02	
Appropriated	<u>\$ 8,000.00</u>	\$23,454.02

#### Expended

Town Office	\$2,323.63	
Fire Station	\$3,062.52	
Town Garage	\$4,816.95	
Library	<u>\$2,303.79</u>	<u>\$12,508.69</u> \$10,947.13

### FIRE DEPARTMENT SAFETY RESERVE

Appropriated \$5,000.00

Expended \$ 0.00 \$5,000.00

### GIS MAPPING RESERVE

#### Income

Balance 1/1/2025 \$3,400.00

Appropriated	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	\$5,400.00	
Expended		<u>\$3,950.96</u>	\$1,449.04

#### ASSESSING, REVALUATION RESERVE

Income			
Balance 1/1/2025		\$32,000.00	
Expended	\$1,287.79		
Trans. to General Government	<u>\$2,125.57</u>	<u>\$ 3,413.36</u>	\$28,586.64

#### TOWN LINE SURVEY RESERVE

Income:			
Balance 1/1/2025	\$13,500.00		
Appropriated	<u>\$ 2,500.00</u>	\$16,000.00	
Expended		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$16,000.00

#### MUNICIPAL GROUNDS MAINTENANCE RESERVE

Income			
Balance 1/1/25	\$7,068.93		
Appropriated	<u>\$2,500.00</u>	\$9,568.93	
Expended		<u>\$1,719.38</u>	\$7,849.55

#### WEB SITE FEE RESERVE

Income			
Balance 1/1/25	\$2,000.00		
Appropriated	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	\$4,000.00	
Expended		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$4,000.00

#### TOWN FLAGS RESERVE

Income:			
Balance 1/1/2025	\$2,686.60		
Appropriated	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	\$4,686.60	
Expended		<u>\$1,536.86</u>	\$3,149.74

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT RESERVE

Income			
Balance 1/1/24	\$ 7,637.60		
Donations	<u>\$13,121.00</u>	\$20,758.60	
Expended		<u>\$10,100.75</u>	\$10,657.85

#### PLANNING BOARD RESERVE ACCOUNT

Income			
Balance 1/1/25	\$13,525.77		
Income	<u>\$ 1,990.00</u>	\$15,515.77	
Expended		<u>\$ 615.51</u>	\$14,900.26

## OFFICE EQUIPMENT RESERVE

### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$ 1,986.83	
Appropriated	\$10,000.00	
Trans from Comp Programs	\$ 8,985.00	
Cable Franchise Fee	<u>\$ 3,659.78</u>	\$24,631.61

### Expenditures

Neokraft Signs	<u>\$24,631.61</u>	\$ 0.00
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## CEMETERY LOT PURCHASE RESERVE

### Income

Transferred to Investment Funds	<u>\$ 800.00</u>	\$ 0.00
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## FEMA/MEMA RESERVE

### Income

\$824,988.62

### Expended

\$772,458.46 \$52,530.16

## EMERGENCY HEAT RESERVE FUND

### Income

Balance 1/1/2025	\$1,650.00	
United Way	<u>\$1,000.00</u>	\$2,650.00

### Expended

\$1,570.25 \$ 1,079.84

## TOWN RECORDS PRESERVATION RESERVE

### Income:

Balance 1/1/2025	\$10,620.00	
Appropriated	<u>\$ 4,500.00</u>	\$15,120.00

### Expended

\$ 0.00 \$15,120.00

## RAINY DAY FUND RESERVE

### Balance 1/1/25

\$34,033.30

### Transferred to PW Garage Reserve

\$34,033.30 \$ 0.00

## GIVING TREE RESERVE

### Balance 1/1/25

\$ 500.00

### Expended

\$ 0.00 \$ 500.00

## COMMUNITY GARDEN RESERVE

### Balance 1/1/25 & 12/31/25

\$2,954.08

## USA 250<sup>th</sup> CELEBRATION RESERVE

### Appropriated

\$4,000.00

### Expended

\$ 0.00 \$4,000.00

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY RESERVE ACCOUNT

### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$3,487.39		
Income	<u>\$6,527.36</u>	\$10,014.75	
Expended		<u>\$ 6,807.53</u>	\$ 3,207.22

## JONES FUND SCHOLARSHIP RESERVE

### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$21,141.24		
Income	<u>\$ 9,050.84</u>	\$30,192.08	
Expended		<u>\$14,000.00</u>	\$16,192.08

## RUTH CROSS SCHOLARSHIP RESERVE

### Income

Balance 1/1/25		\$ 0.00	
Expended		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$0.00

## OTHER EXPENDITURES

### SOLON SNOWHAWKS

#### Income

State Grant	\$16,100.00		
State Reimbursement	<u>\$ 932.04</u>	\$17,032.04	
Paid to Club		<u>\$17,032.04</u>	\$0.00

### FISH & WILDLIFE

Received & Paid to State		\$34,011.53	\$0.00
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### MOTOR VEHICLE FEES

Received & Paid to State		\$129,582.07	\$0.00
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### STATE VITAL FEES

Received & Paid to State		\$148.80	\$0.00
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### GUN PERMITS

Received & Paid to State		\$250.00	\$0.00
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### NOTARY FEE

Received & Paid Out		\$45.00	\$0.00
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### PLUMBING PERMITS

Received		\$2,890.00	
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#### Expended

State Fees	\$ 600.00		
State Surcharge	\$ 90.00		

Plumbing Inspector	<u>\$1,712.50</u>	<u>\$2,402.50</u>	\$487.50
DOG LICENSES-STATE FEES			
Received & Paid to State		\$1,209.00	\$0.00
ADDRESSING FEES			
Received		\$45.00	
Expended		<u>\$45.00</u>	\$0.00
EXCISE TAX			
Received	\$243,518.97		
Refunded	<u>\$ 674.69</u>	\$242,844.28	
OUT OF TOWN EXCISE TAX			
Received		\$23,816.91	
Paid to other towns		<u>\$23,816.91</u>	\$0.00
SOLON FOOD CUPBOARD			
Donation received for Cupboard		\$1,400.00	
Paid to Solon Food Cupboard		<u>\$1,400.00</u>	\$0.00
BANK ACCOUNT INTEREST			
Skowhegan Savings Bank		\$27,757.74	
Paid to Reserve Accounts:			
Fire Truck Reserve	\$ 317.76		
Fire Department Capital Reserve	\$ 36.89		
Fire Department Reserve	\$ 262.69		
Transfer Station Equipment Res	\$ 350.50		
Highway Equipment Reserve	\$ 220.25		
Highway Paving Reserve	\$3,377.29		
Highway LRAP Funds	\$3,976.98		
Library Building Capital Reserve	\$ 742.14		
Planning Board Reserve	\$ 305.13		
Ruth Cross Scholarship Reserve	\$ .00		
Jones Fund Scholarship Reserve	<u>\$ 256.22</u>	<u>\$ 9,845.85</u>	\$17,911.89

### SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

RSU # 74 SCHOOL TAX			
Income			
Appropriated & expended		\$1,335,861.50	
COUNTY TAX			
Appropriated & expended		\$267,178.22	

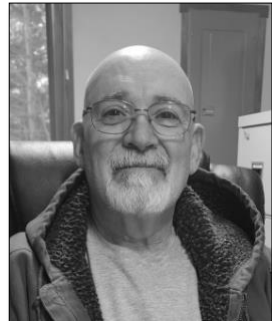
## END OF YEAR TOTALS

Skowhegan Savings Bank 1/1/25	\$1,330,447.34	
Income Received in 2025	<u>\$4,322,080.55</u>	
Total Income	\$5,652,557.89	
Less Expenditures	<u>\$3,572,067.46</u>	
Balance 12/31/2025	\$2,080,490.43	
Less Total of Reserve Accounts	<u>\$1,481,970.73</u>	
Total Undedicated Funds (Surplus)		\$ 598,519.70

## Board of Selectmen, Assessors & Overseers of the Poor



Elaine Aloes  
Chair of Selectmen,  
Assessors and  
Overseers of the Poor



John Dunay  
Vice Chair of Selectmen,  
Assessors and  
Overseers of the Poor



Wayne (Chip) Johnson  
Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor



# ASSESSORS' REPORT

## VALUATION

Local Taxable Real Estate Valuation	\$141,026,020.00
Local Taxable Personal Property Valuation	<u>\$ 1,951,310.00</u>
2025 Taxable Town Valuation	\$142,977,330.00
Total of Homestead Exemption Valuation ( $\$9,000,000.00 \times 0.76$ )	\$ 6,840,000.00
Total of all BETE Valuation \$8,401,290.00	
Enhanced BETE Reimbursable Valuation	<u>\$ 4,228,775.00</u>
Total Valuation Base	\$154,046,105.00

## APPROPRIATIONS

County Tax	\$ 267,178.22
Municipal Appropriation	\$1,324,076.00
RSU #74 Appropriation	
(\$1,301,050 (2024/2025) + \$1,284,448 (2023/2024) /2)	<u>\$1,335,861.50</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$2,927,115.72

LESS ALLOWABLE MUNICIPAL DEDUCTIONS \$ 736,174.63

APPROPRIATIONS BY TAXATION	\$2,190,941.09
Plus Overlay	<u>\$ 58,132.04</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS BY TAXATION	\$2,249,073.13

## LESS EXEMPTION REIMBURSEMENT FROM STATE

BETE Reimbursement	\$ 61,740.12
Homestead Exemption Reimbursement	<u>\$ 99,864.00</u>
LESS TOTAL EXEMPTION REIMBURSEMENT	<u>\$ 161,604.12</u>
TOTAL TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION	\$2,087,469.01

2025 MILL RATE: \$14.60 PER \$1,000 OF VALUATION

2025 Tree Growth Withdrawal Penalties	\$ 4,452.00	
2025 Tree Growth Non-Filing Penalties	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	\$4,952.00
2025 Abatements	\$744.60	

## COMPARISON OF APPROPRIATIONS BY TAXATION

RSU #74	59.40%	8.67 mills	(9.91 mills in 2024)
County Tax	11.88%	1.73 mills	(1.91 mills in 2024)
Municipal	26.14%	3.82 mills	(4.93 mills in 2024)
Overlay	2.58%	.38 mills	(0.45 mills in 2024)
Total Mills	100.00%	14.60 mills	(17.20 mills in 2024)

	2025	2024	2023
County Tax	\$ 267,178.22	\$ 249,321.10	\$ 258,146.56
Municipal Approp. by tax	\$ 587,901.37	\$ 643,061.29	\$ 468,190.15
RSU #74 Tax	\$1,335,861.50	\$1,292,749.00	\$1,202,614.00
Total 2025 Municipal Budget			\$1,324,076.00
Less Approved Reserve Funds and Other Funds to Reduce Taxes			
State Revenue Sharing		\$ 219,870.86	
FEMA - brush mulcher		\$ 27,000.00	
FEMA - equipment trailer		\$ 25,000.00	
Transfer Station Equip Res - glass crusher		\$ 3,000.00	
KRDA - First Park revenue		\$ 5,158.00	
Surplus Revenues		\$ 566,145.77	
Less Retained Surplus		<u>(\$110,000.00)</u>	
			<u>\$ 736,174.63</u>
			\$ 587,901.37

Maine Revenue Services reviews our property sales and our tax records every year. Our 2025 State Valuation is based on the 2022 & 2023 property sales. In 2025 our state valuation went from \$127,550,000 in 2024 to 153,400,000 due to the continued high selling price of property in Maine and Solon. Maine Revenue Services reviews our property sales and our tax records every year. Our 2025 State Valuation is based on the 2022 & 2023 property sales. So, in 2025 we again had to raise land and buildings valuations across the board for everyone to meet the state valuation requirements. If we fall to less than 93% of the state valuation, we must reduce the homestead, veteran, and blind exemptions that many receive. Our 2026 State Valuation has decreased to \$153,200,000 so we will not have to increase land and building values again in 2026.

Our actual 2025 municipal budget by taxation increased by \$63,320 which was a 5% increase over 2024 but because we had a larger amount of available surplus funds to reduce taxes in 2025, we needed to raise \$42,409.92 less tax revenue for the town's budget.

In 2025 everyone saw an increase in their property valuations to reach our town's state valuation level, but that was offset by the lower mill rate. The tax bill was higher because of the increase in our school tax and county tax assessments.

We have not been able to hire another assessing firm to do our town's revaluation so the Selectmen/Assessors are doing the information gathering on our own over the next couple of years. In 2025, we went out and looked at most of the properties and updated our pictures. We did send everyone a form to fill out to update our information on the buildings on their property. Many filled it out and returned them to us and we thank them for doing so. For those who haven't, you

will be receiving the forms again and please be sure to fill them out and return them to us. We will also be continuing taking photos of all buildings in 2026. Businesses will be sent requests for their 2026 business equipment inventory.

The largest portion of your property tax bill continues to be the RSU 74 Budget. The RSU holds a budget adoption meeting in May where the budget is approved and then goes out to a referendum vote in June. Our Municipal Budget is approved at our Annual Town Meeting in March. The County Budget is approved by the County Budget Committee.

The Business Equipment Tax Exemption (BETE Program) started April 1, 2008. Since that date, most business personal property (except for retail businesses) is no longer taxable. However, a complete listing of all equipment, including any new equipment, and its cost must be presented to the Assessors on or before April 1 of each year. Also, if you qualify for the BETE exemption, a signed BETE form must be submitted with your list. The 2025 state reimbursement is \$61,740.12 for 53% of our lost BETE tax revenue. Retail businesses qualify for the BETR reimbursement, but they must file with the state to receive this reimbursement. More information about these programs is available at the town office or online at <https://www.maine.gov/revenue/>

In 2025 the Homestead Exemption is \$25,000 with the state reimbursing 76% of the lost revenue. We gave 360 homestead exemptions. Exemption recipients received a reduction of \$365.00 on their primary residence tax bill. If you are a new resident homeowner in Solon or if you did not apply for or receive the Homestead Exemption in 2025, please check with the Assessors before April 1st to see if you qualify for 2026. If you received it in 2025, you do not need to reapply.

We had 54 Veteran Exemption recipients who received a reduction of \$87.60 on their tax bill. Any new veteran exemption requests must be given to the Assessors by April 1st. If you received it in 2025, you do not need to reapply. The widow or widower of a veteran may also qualify for an exemption.

In 2025 we had 16,057.50 acres, including farmland tree growth, receiving reduced assessments for tree growth out of 32,406 acres in our town. If you wish to place your land in tree growth, the minimum is 10 acres and a tree growth plan prepared by a licensed forester must be given to the Assessors by April 1st. Tree growth plans must be updated every ten years. If you purchased land that is in tree growth, you have one year from the date of purchase to adopt the prior owner's plan or to have a new plan done. Failure to comply with the tree growth laws will result in the removal of the land from the tree growth program and the assessment of a penalty for that removal. Failure to reapply on time can result in late filing penalties up to \$1,000 plus removal of the property from the tree growth program with a withdrawal penalty. Please respond to your filing notice

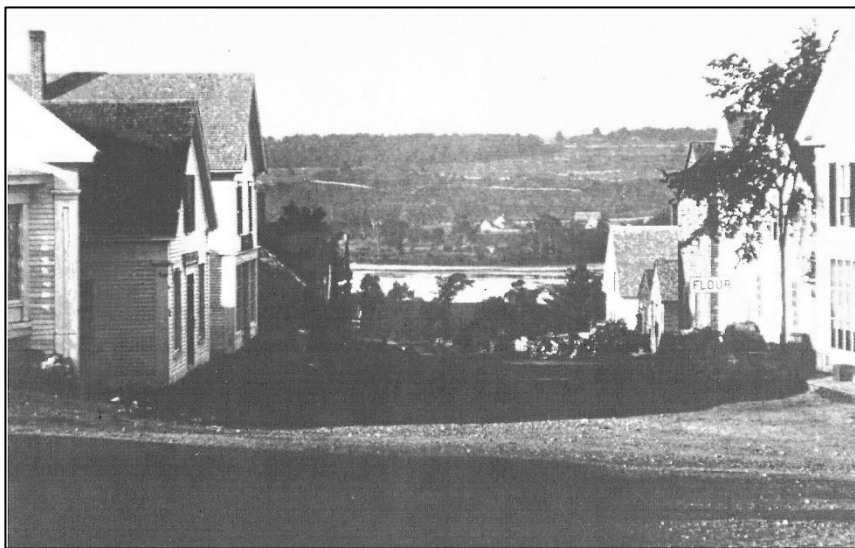
letters promptly to avoid penalties. We thank you for your efforts in complying with this law. For more information on the tree growth program or the farm and open space programs, contact the Assessors.

There is also a Solar and Wind Energy Equipment Exemption form that must be completed and returned to us by April 1. Solar and Wind Energy Equipment is taxable unless you file for the exemption. If you haven't filed for the exemption, call or stop at the town office to get the form.

All property is assessed based on its condition on April 1st. If something changes on your property after April 1<sup>st</sup> it will not affect your valuation for that year. But please let the assessors know about it so they can adjust the valuation next year if needed. If you purchase or sell property after April 1<sup>st</sup>, the owner listed on April 1st will be sent the tax bill and is responsible for the taxes.

If you own a camper or business equipment such as a tractor, bulldozer, skidder or other piece of equipment, you must either pay excise tax or personal property tax on it. The excise tax is usually less so check with our tax collector prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>. Everyone is required to list their personal property with the Assessors by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

If you have questions about your valuation, see the Assessors who are in the office on Wednesdays. *If you feel you have been over assessed, you must request an abatement within 185 days of the tax commitment date.*



*Ferry Street before the fire of 1925*

# OVERSEERS OF THE POOR REPORT

## INCOME

Appropriated	\$15,000.00	
State & SSI Reimbursement	<u>\$ 4,259.39</u>	\$19,259.39

## EXPENDITURES

Housing	\$ 3,825.00	
Heating Fuel	\$ 2,012.85	
Food & Personal Supplies	\$ 0.00	
Utilities	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 5,837.85</u>

UNEXPENDED BALANCE		\$13,421.54
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General Assistance (GA) is a service administered by a municipality for the immediate aid of persons who are unable to provide the basic necessities essential to maintain themselves or their families. The key terms in this definition are *immediate, unable, and basic necessities*. GA is intended to provide immediate aid, thus assistance must be granted or denied within 24 hours of an application. It is for people who are unable—not unwilling—to maintain themselves or their families. Finally, GA is intended to help people with basic necessities: food, shelter, utilities, fuel, clothing, and certain other items, when they are essential.

GA provides a specific amount and type of aid for defined needs during a limited period and is not intended to be a continuing grant-in-aid or categorical welfare program. Despite the stated intent that GA is not used as an ongoing source of income to an applicant, there is no limitation on the number of times a person may apply for and receive GA. Finally, because GA is not a categorical welfare program, it is not limited to aiding with only specific groups or categories of people as is TANF for families with dependent children or SSI for disabled people. Theoretically GA is available to anyone in the state at any time that meets the eligibility criteria. GA is the program of last resort—it is the safety net intended to help those people who have no other resources. GA is the only comprehensive program to help people who are not eligible for any other assistance program.

In 2025 Solon's General Assistance Program helped 4 families.

If you are a repeat GA client, you must bring in receipts showing how you spent all your money in the prior 30 days.

# TREASURER REPORT

Bank Balances 1/1/25

\$1,330,477.34

## MONEY MARKET DEDICATED ACCOUNTS BALANCES 1/1/25

2024 Revenue Sharing	\$219,870.86
LRAP Funds	\$ 76,433.66
CDBG	\$ 55,891.58
2025 Prepaid R. E. Taxes	\$ 2,959.67
After School Program Reserve	\$ 5,824.99
Assessing Revaluation Reserve	\$ 32,000.00
Cemetery Maintenance Reserve	\$ 900.42
Community Garden Reserve	\$ 2,954.08
Coolidge Library Bldg.Capital Res.	\$ 33,836.63
Coolidge Library Reserve	\$ 1,790.38
Emergency Assistance Fund	\$ 1,650.00
Fire Department Reserve	\$ 7,637.60
Fire Department Capital Reserve	\$ 1,290.43
Fire Truck Reserve	\$ 11,398.77
GIS Mapping Reserve	\$ 3,400.00
Highway Equipment Reserve	\$ 150.95
Highway Gravel Roads Reserve	\$ 13,708.00
Highway Road Paving Reserve	\$ 73,158.67
Public Works Garage Reserve	\$ 30,962.61
Historical Society Reserve	\$ 3,487.39
Municipal Buildings Heat Reserve	\$ 15,454.02
Municipal Buildings Maint. Res.	\$ 11,844.77
Municipal Grounds Maint. Reserve	\$ 7,068.93
Office Equip & Maintenance Res.	\$ 1,986.83
Giving Tree	\$ 500.00
Web Site Reserve	\$ 2,000.00
Planning Board Reserve	\$ 13,525.77
Rainy Day Reserve	\$ 34,033.30
Recreation Department Reserve	\$ 11,921.71
Rec. Facility & Maintenance Res.	\$ 3,136.89
Scholarships - Jones Fund Reserve	\$ 21,141.24
Sidewalk Repair Reserve	\$ 17,734.29
Swim/Camp Reserve	\$ 2,660.16
Town Dogs Reserve	\$ 1,653.27
Town Flag Reserve	\$ 2,686.60
Town Line Survey Reserve	\$ 13,500.00
Town Records Preservation Res.	\$ 10,620.00
Transfer Station Truck & Tub Res.	<u>\$ 13,557.10</u>
Total Dedicated Accounts	<u>\$764,331.57</u>
Total Undedicated Funds (Surplus)	\$566,145.77

## INCOME

State Revenue Sharing	\$ 203,524.91
Local Roads Assistance Program	\$ 51,184.00
FEMA/MEMA	\$ 824,988.62
BETE Reimbursement	\$ 61,740.00
BETE Administration Fee	\$ 18.00
Veterans Exemption Reimbursement	\$ 1,630.00
Homestead Administration Fee	\$ 5.00
2024 Homestead Reimbursement	\$ 27,360.00
2025 Homestead Reimbursement	\$ 72,897.00
Tree Growth Reimbursement	\$ 93,877.91
CDBG Funds	\$ 235,646.00
2026 Prepaid Real Estate Tax	\$ 4,687.59
2025 Real Estate Tax	\$1,881,935.80
2025 Personal Property Tax	\$ 27,256.15
2024 Real Estate Tax	\$ 107,526.65
2024 Personal Property Tax	\$ 49.19
2024 Liens	\$ 41,841.30
2023 Liens	\$ 31,872.86
Tax Abatements	(\$ 1,049.04)
Property Tax Interest	\$ 11,158.62
Costs, Fees of Liens and Notices	\$ 3,928.84
Notary Fees	\$ 45.00
Motor Vehicle Monies	\$ 129,582.07
Inland Fish & Wildlife Monies	\$ 34,011.53
Out of Town Excise	\$ 23,816.91
State Vitals	\$ 148.80
State Dogs	\$ 1,209.00
Town Dogs	\$ 962.00
Addressing Fees – Addressing Officer	\$ 45.00
Addressing Fees - Town	\$ 45.00
Vehicle Excise Tax	\$ 243,518.97
IF&W Excise Tax	\$ 1,738.80
Town Agent Fees - Dogs	\$ 240.00
Town Agent Fees - Vital	\$ 1,065.20
Town Agent Fees - BMV	\$ 7,471.00
Town Agent Fees – IF&W	\$ 1,589.00
Business Licenses	\$ 13,000.00
Gun Permit Fees - State	\$ 250.00
Gun Permit Fees -Town	\$ 105.00
Cemeteries Lot Purchase Reserve	\$ 800.00
Cemetery Maintenance Reserve	\$ 7,249.14
Coolidge Library Reserve	\$ 4,013.00
Coolidge Library Building Capital Reserve	\$ 742.14
Emergency Assistance Fund	\$ 1,000.00

Fire Department Reserve	\$	13,121.00	
Fireworks Donations	\$	2,282.33	
First Park Tax Revenue	\$	5,732.00	
Highway Equipment Reserve	\$	1,500.00	
Public Works Garage Reserve	\$	21,637.14	
General Assistance, State reimbursement	\$	4,259.39	
Historical Society Reserve	\$	6,527.36	
Insurance – Workman Comp. Rebate	\$	508.00	
Insurance – Property Rebate	\$	990.00	
Office Equip. Res-Spectrum Franchise Fee	\$	3,659.78	
Planning Board Fees	\$	1,990.00	
Planning Board Fees - Town share	\$	1,990.00	
Plumbing Permits, State Fee	\$	600.00	
Plumbing Permits, LPI Fee	\$	2,200.00	
Plumbing Permits State Surcharge	\$	90.00	
Public Works-Winter Roads	\$	2,024.00	
Public Works-Summer Roads	\$	19,821.54	
Recreation Reserve	\$	6,232.17	
Recreation Facility Maint. Reserve	\$	6,000.00	
Scholarship Reserve - Jones Fund	\$	8,794.62	
Scholarship Reserve – Ruth Cross	\$	0.00	
PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes)	\$	4,000.00	
Snowmobile Grant, Registration & PP Tax Reimb	\$	17,032.04	
Transfer Station receipts	\$	7,420.57	
Town Charges – Income & Reimb.	\$	157.64	
Bad Check Fees	\$	35.00	
Skowhegan Savings Bank CD interest	\$	2,702.55	
Skowhegan Savings Bank interest	\$	15,542.75	
SSB interest- Fire Truck Res.	\$	317.76	
SSB interest- Fire Department Cap Res	\$	36.89	
SSB interest- Fire Dept. Reserve	\$	262.69	
SSB interest- Trans. Equip. Res.	\$	350.50	
SSB interest- Highway Equipment Res	\$	220.25	
SSB interest- Road Paving Reserve	\$	3,377.29	
SSB interest- LRAP Funds	\$	3,976.98	
SSB interest- Library Building Cap Res	\$	742.14	
SSB interest- Planning Board Res	\$	305.13	
SSB interest- Jones Fund Scholarship Res	\$	<u>256.22</u>	
			\$4,322,080.55
BALANCE 1/1/25	\$1,330,477.34		
2025 INCOME	<u>\$4,322,080.55</u>	\$5,652,557.89	
2025 WARRANTS TOTAL		<u>\$3,572,067.46</u>	



BALANCE 12/31/25	\$2,080,490.43
Less Dedicated Accounts	
2025 Revenue Sharing	\$203,524.91
LRAP Funds	\$328,929.50
FEMA	\$ 52,530.16
CDBG	\$ 1.78
2026 Prepaid R. E. Taxes	\$ 4,687.59
After School Program Reserve	\$ 8,298.85
Assessing Revaluation Reserve	\$ 28,586.64
Cemetery Maintenance Reserve	\$ 4,512.46
Community Garden Reserve	\$ 2,954.08
Coolidge Library Bldg.Capital Res.	\$ 37,578.77
Coolidge Library Reserve	\$ 5,146.54
Emergency Assistance Fund	\$ 1,079.75
Fire Department Reserve	\$ 10,657.85
Fire Department Capital Reserve	\$ 2,327.32
Fire Truck Reserve	\$ 19,716.53
Fire Department Safety Reserve	\$ 5,000.00
GIS Mapping Reserve	\$ 1,449.04
Highway Equipment Reserve	\$ 2,511.20
Highway Gravel Roads Reserve	\$ 23,708.00
Highway Road Paving Reserve	\$286,535.96
Public Works Garage Reserve	\$281,633.05
Historical Society Reserve	\$ 3,207.22
Municipal Buildings Heat Reserve	\$ 10,947.13
Municipal Buildings Maint. Res.	\$ 12,588.79
Municipal Grounds Maint. Reserve	\$ 7,849.55
Office Equip & Maintenance Res.	\$ 0.00
Giving Tree	\$ 500.00
Web Site Reserve	\$ 4,000.00
Planning Board Reserve	\$ 15,205.39
Recreation Department Reserve	\$ 7,777.24
Rec. Facility & Maintenance Res.	\$ 4,624.01
250 <sup>th</sup> USA Celebration Reserve	\$ 4,000.00
Scholarships - Jones Fund Reserve	\$ 16,192.08
Sidewalk Repair Reserve	\$ 27,734.29
Swim/Camp Reserve	\$ 3,312.64
Town Dogs Reserve	\$ 529.41
Town Flag Reserve	\$ 3,149.74
Town Line Survey Reserve	\$ 16,000.00
Town Records Preservation Res.	\$ 15,120.00
Transfer Station Truck & Tub Res.	<u>\$ 17,863.26</u>
Total Dedicated Accounts	<u>\$1,481,970.73</u>
Total Undedicated Funds (Surplus)	\$598,519.70

## RAYMOND JAMES INVESTMENT FUND

As of 12/31/25

### PRINCIPALS:

Historical Society Maint. Res.	\$110,000.00
Jones Fund Scholarship	\$ 29,323.29
Ruth Cross Scholarship	\$ 1,270.00
Town Cemeteries	\$169,720.00
Library	\$ 87,380.00

### AVAILABLE FUNDS:

Historical Society Reserve	\$ 60,191.43
Jones Fund Scholarship	\$ 34,262.08
Ruth Cross Scholarship	\$ 505.00
Town Cemeteries	\$ 74,743.41
Library	\$ 17,434.34



**Leslie Giroux**

Clerk & Tax Collector,  
Voter Registrar,  
Deputy Treasurer



**Danika Riggs**

Treasurer  
Deputy Clerk & Tax Collector

# 2024 TAX LIENS

OUTSTANDING AS OF 12/31/2025

DOES NOT INCLUDE INTEREST AND FEES

PROPERTY WILL BE FORECLOSED IF NOT PAID BY 10/22/2026

\*\*PAID AFTER 12/31/25 AND BEFORE 02/01/2026

## PERSONAL PROPERTY

D GUSHEE LLC	\$ 934.65
D GUSHEE LLC	\$ 222.22
GOGUEN, BRUCE	\$ 192.47
POMELOW, JEFFREY	\$ 103.20
GOGUEN, BRUCE (2023)	\$ 192.47
POMELOW, JEFFREY (2023)	\$ 105.60
POMELOW, JEFFREY (2022)	\$ 99.60
POMELOW, JEFFREY (2021)	\$ 106.80
POMELOW, JEFFREY (2020)	\$ 110.40

## REAL ESTATE

BERBERIAN, ANDREA	\$ 2,751.06
BLODGETT, DEVON	\$1,132.62
BOSTIC, ANTHONY	\$ 858.80
BROOKS, VASSER	\$ 917.45
BROWN, ROBERT A	\$ 410.82
BROWN, ROBERT A	\$ 613.13
COLE, WILLIAM & COLE, M	\$ 3,039.44
DICKEY, CRISTI A	\$ 3,027.01
ERICKSON, ERIC	** \$ 633.74
GIRESI, SLAVATORE	\$ 853.45
GOGUEN, BRUCE	\$ 6,999.61
HEALD, DEBORAH L	\$ 3,006.21
JOHNSON, JEREMIAH	\$ 553.40
KELLEY, RICHARD F JR	\$ 534.92
MILLER, SHAWN A	\$ 1,066.66
NILE, HEATHER & NICHOLS, D	\$ 1,880.16
RICHARDSON, GLENN A SR	\$ 990.33
SAVAGE, EDWARD	\$ 2,241.08
SOUSA, ROBERT A	\$ 3,082.21
WELCH, GALE J (DIGGS)	\$ 612.94
WESTPHAL, MARYANN	\$ 493.30
WHEELER, DEBORAH	\$ 500.00
WHEELER, DEBORAH	\$ 500.00

# TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

2025 RE TAX COMMITMENT	\$2,058,979.88	
2025 PP TAX COMMITMENT	<u>\$ 28,489.13</u>	\$2,087,469.01
2025 RE SUPPLEMENT		\$ 0.00
LESS ABATEMENTS		<u>\$ (706.55)</u>
FINAL COMMITMENT		\$2,086,762.46
2025 RE COLLECTED IN 2025	\$1,881,529.78	
2025 PP COLLECTED IN 2025	\$ 27,256.15	
2025 RE COLLECTED IN 2024	<u>\$ 2,959.67</u>	<u>\$1,911,745.60</u>
TOTAL DUE AS OF 12/31/2025		\$ 175,016.86

## 2025 UNPAID TAXES AS OF 12/31/2025

IF NOT PAID BY 4/28/2026

A LIEN WILL BE PLACED ON THE PROPERTY

**PROPERTY WILL BE FORCLOSED ON IF NOT PAID BY 10/28/2027**

\*\*PAID AFTER 12/31/25 AND BEFORE 02/01/2026

### PERSONAL PROPERTY

GOGUEN, BRUCE	\$196.94
GUSHEE, D. LLC	\$793.36
GUSHEE, D. LLC	\$188.63
POMELOW, JEFFREY	\$ 87.60

### REAL ESTATE

ALBUIT, PAUL R	\$510.27
ANTON, SCOTT A	\$2,821.30 **
ANTON, SCOTT A	\$3,604.74 **
ANTON, SCOTT A	\$2,540.40 **
BAUER, REG A	\$3,049.65
BAUER, REG A	\$516.84
BEATTIE, MARK	\$103.37
BEAULIEU, JOSEPH M II	\$722.88
BENEDICT, RUSSELL L	\$2,515.58
BERBERIAN, ANDREA	\$2,640.56
BERGMAN, FREDERICK	\$1,873.76

BLACK, JEFFREY	\$485.50 **
BLODGETT, DEVON	\$1,498.11
BOSTIC, ANTHONY	\$773.80
BOSWORTH, ELDEN LIFE ESTATE	\$1,923.55
BOYCE, ALICE	\$557.87
BRAILOVSKAYA, SABINA	\$1,912.60
BROOKS, VASSER	\$1,086.24
BROUILLETTE, DENNIS	\$1,554.90
BROWN, ROBERT A	\$423.40
BROWN, ROBERT A	\$521.22
BURRILL, TINA M	\$1,681.04
BURTON, MARY LYNN	\$1,237.23
BUTLER, CLIFFORD	\$65.21
CAMERON, DOUGLAS	\$1,098.45
CATES, TRENT A	\$139.10
CHICK, LESTER	\$1,228.57
COLE, WILLIAM H JR	\$17.52
COLE, WILLIAM H JR	\$2,910.07
CONNERS, MICA S	\$715.55
D GUSHEE LLC	\$1,870.99
D GUSHEE LLC	\$5,256.00
DICKESS, JESSICA A	\$1,520.42 **
DICKEY, CRISTI A	\$2,972.56
DOURANT, STEVEN A	\$1,520.94
DUBE, MEREDITH	\$90.52
DUKE, CHARLES M	\$570.20
DUMOND, DAVID	\$1,296.48
DUNN, LOWELL W	\$1,490.66 **
DURFEY, LEROY H III	\$121.47
DURFEY, LEROY H III	\$937.17
EMERSON, JAMES A	\$1,369.48
ERICKSON, ERIC	\$562.83 **
ERSKINE, RICHARD E	\$4,102.60
FRAZIER, MICHELLE	\$1,839.60
FRENCH, LINDA R	\$1,927.20
GARLAND, DAVID	\$473.88
GAUDETTE, FRANCIS J.	\$2,352.98
GIBSON, CHARLES S	\$1,474.31
GIRESI, SALVATORE	\$2,014.65
GODFREY, ERIN HALL	\$1,118.83
GODFREY, ERIN HALL	\$42.49
GODFREY, ERIN HALL	\$3,186.16
GOGUEN, BRUCE	\$6,797.76

GRANT, JONATHAN	\$389.53 **
HART, RICHARD W	\$118.70
HART, RICHARD W	\$1,410.36
HEALD, DEBORAH L	\$2,832.40
HENDERSON, HEATHER M	\$1,817.70
HERNANDEZ, PEDRO JR	\$142.06
HERNANDEZ, PEDRO JR	\$1,528.18
HOULE, AMY	\$269.74 **
JOHNSON, JEREMIAH	\$973.09
JOHNSON, WAYNE C	\$959.57 **
KELLEY, RICHARD F JR	\$1,619.14
KILMER, KODY M	\$637.36 **
LABERGE, JOLINE	\$3,579.67
LABONTE, ROBERT J	\$2,006.77
LAVASSEUR, ANNMARIE	\$2,153.50
LEPORE, FREDERICK JR	\$2,306.46
LEUNG, SHELLY	\$2,190.00
LOGAN, LISA M	\$2,779.84
MARSELLA, JENNIFER	\$511.78 **
MARSHALL, ALBERT L III	\$577.58
MCCARTY, LEROY A	\$788.40 **
MCCARTY, LEROY A	\$1,595.05 **
MELILLO, LEO, HEIRS OF	\$928.78
MILLER, SHAWN A	\$1,036.60
MOOAR, MARY-LOU	\$1,531.83
MYERS, ARTHUR L II	\$2.40
MYERS, MATTHEW A	\$586.92
MYERS, MEGAN	\$1,702.36
NILE, HEATHER E	\$1,842.52
OBERT, CHRISTOPER JAMES	\$889.14
O'BRIEN, SCOTT	\$2,478.79
OSBORNE, JASON	\$1,764.12
PARKS, SHANNON	\$490.56
PARLIN, ROGER	\$949.00
PLOG, WHITNEY A	\$3,407.49
POMELOW, JEFFREY	\$1,453.82
RAILO, JONATHAN	\$93.46
RICHARDSON, GLENN A SR	\$1,003.02
RODERICK, THOMAS J	\$2,487.84
ROGERS, MEGAN	\$725.62 **
ROSSIGNOL, STUART	\$1,163.19
SAVAGE, EDWARD	\$2,185.91
SCHRADER, MICHELLE	\$800.48

SHANNON, RICHARD C JR	\$466.46
SKURAT, DONNA M	\$1,865.15
SMITH, DAVID	\$348.93
SMITH, RONALD W	\$1,393.57
SOUSA, ROBERT A	\$2,884.96
STICKNEY, MICHAEL	\$73.00
TOLMAN, JOSEPH M	\$1,958.56
TRACY, JOYCE A	\$800.00 **
TURCOTTE, ROSS	\$2,427.25
TYLER, ASHLEY A	\$2,336.92
WEBBER, DAVID	\$661.71
WELCH, GALE J (DIGGS)	\$1,384.81
WESTPHAL, MARY-ANNE	\$512.46
WHITE, BENJAMIN D	\$1,514.02
WILLETTE, ROBBIE R	\$1,262.17
WILLETTE, ROBBIE R	\$177.10 **
WRIGHT, CHRISTOPHER ANDREW	\$1,436.23
WYMAN, JOE	\$2,435.28
YORK, RICHARD J. II	\$1,621.91
ZAWALIK, CARRIE A (ERSKINE)	\$347.92
ZAWALIK, CARRIE A (ERSKINE)	\$2,732.24

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Leslie A. Giroux  
 Municipal Clerk & Tax Collector



*Our current Public Works Garage on Brook Street (approx. 75 years old)*

# TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

## VITAL STATISTICS

January 1 - December 31, 2025

	MARRIAGES	BIRTHS	DEATHS
2025	8	7	18
2024	15*	11	13
2023	15	7	13
2022	10	8	18
2021	19	8	16
2020	16	6	10

## DEATHS

Decedent Name	Age	Date of Death
Breingan, Jean E	87	09/03/2025
Brooks, Craig H	90	08/09/2025
Chapman, Katherine B	80	10/11/2025
Cushman, Sylvia	71	02/21/2025
Holzworth, Lois A	90	09/14/2025
Holzworth, Robert C	89	08/21/2025
Kelly, Tubio W	81	01/18/2025
Layman, Michael E	66	07/05/2025
Lindblom, Robert E	87	10/14/2025
Marshall, June O	94	04/12/2025
Martineau, Frederick A	77	10/21/2025
Matteson, Gloria	82	10/02/2025
McCarty, Ann J	75	08/26/2025
McKenney, Sheila M	67	06/27/2025
Miller, Lois C	70	01/26/2025
Reynolds, John W	85	04/23/2025
Rogers-Bull, Marilyn	95	02/05/2025
Starbird, Lois A	97	07/17/2025



## VITAL RECORDS

Please remember that if you have a loved one in a nursing home, they are considered a resident of the town in which the home is located UNLESS you specify that they are a resident of Solon. Should that person pass away, Solon would not be notified, and we would have no record of the death in our files.

You are now required, by State Law, to have a *direct and legitimate interest* in gaining access to a vital record. An application is required if you want a birth, death or marriage certificate and must present your driver's license or two other forms of identification. Certified copies are \$15.00 and \$6.00 for each additional one bought at the same time.

The Clerk also serves as custodian of official municipal records and public documents. This includes retention, disposition, and preservation of both historical and current documents.

## VOTING & ELECTIONS

Register and vote! It is your right and privilege as a citizen of the United States to vote for your choice of candidates and /or issues. If you are not registered, please stop in at the Town Office. It is a very simple process.

Our Municipal election is always held on the first Saturday of March each year. This is held at Solon Elementary School. Voting for elected officials is from 8 am – 12:15 pm. The open forum business meeting (budget, ordinances, etc.) begins at 1:30 pm.

State elections are held in the conference room of the Town Office from 8 am – 8 pm. Absentee voting is available 30 days prior to any election. Absentee ballots can be completed in the presence of the Clerk or be requested in writing (online, mail or in person) or by phone with verification.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie A. Giroux,  
Municipal Clerk/Tax Collector

# ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

## WINTER ROADS

### INCOME

Appropriated	\$149,000.00	
Reimbursements	\$ 24.00	
Town of Madison, Plowing	<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>	\$151,024.00

### EXPENDITURES

#### LABOR

Gary Bishop	\$ 13,452.43	
Jeffrey Cyr	\$ 22,824.37	
Jeffrey Chase	\$ 18,650.80	
Michael Leahy	\$ 3,473.00	
Joseph Bianchi	\$ 864.00	
Part Time Labor	<u>\$ 91.55</u>	\$59,356.15

#### UTILITIES

TDS Telecom & US Cellular	\$ 869.12
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#### SUPPLIES

Supplies	\$ 2,842.12
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#### MILEAGE

Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 538.58
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#### CONTRACTED SERVICES

Tree Work	\$ 9,000.00	
Towing	<u>\$ 750.00</u>	\$ 9,750.00

#### PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Building Maintenance	\$ 1,474.66	
Furnace Maintenance	<u>\$ 260.00</u>	\$ 1,734.64

#### ROAD MAINTENANCE

Gravel	\$ 1,512.00	
Winter Sand	\$ 8,448.00	
Winter Salt	<u>\$ 15,630.23</u>	\$25,590.23

#### EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Equipment Maintenance	\$ 31,969.89	
Diesel Fuel & Gas	\$ 11,042.80	
Tires	<u>\$ 3,915.23</u>	\$46,927.92

#### TRAINING & DUES

Training Fees	<u>\$ 220.00</u>	\$147,828.76
		\$ 3,195.24
Transferred to Summer Roads		<u>(\$ 3,195.24)</u>
		\$ 0.00

## SUMMER ROADS

### INCOME

Appropriated	\$146,000.00	
FEMA (mulcher purchase)	\$ 27,000.00	
FEMA (trailer purchase)	\$ 25,000.00	
Culverts Reimbursement	\$ 900.00	
Calcium Reimbursement	\$ 5,330.22	
Road Sign Reimbursement	\$ 110.00	
Equipment Sales	\$ 5,700.00	
Insurance Claim Reimbursement	\$ 7,661.32	
Driveway Entrance Permits	<u>\$ 120.00</u>	\$217,821.54

### EXPENDITURES

#### LABOR

Jeffrey Cyr	\$ 35,543.95	
Jeffrey Chase	\$ 29,244.50	
Michael Leahy	\$ 20,947.25	
Mark Kelso	\$ 11,580.00	
Joseph Bianchi	\$ 8,928.00	
Part Time Help	<u>\$ 2,219.38</u>	\$108,463.00

#### UTILITIES

TDS Telecom & US Cellular		\$ 1,730.92
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#### SUPPLIES

Supplies	\$ 2,458.92	
Tools	\$ 1,551.06	
Radios	<u>\$ 1,678.62</u>	\$ 5,688.60

#### MILEAGE

Advertising	\$ 25.00	
Mileage Reimbursement	<u>\$ 183.92</u>	\$ 208.92

#### CONTRACTED SERVICES

Roadside Mowing	\$ 2,500.00	
Tree Work	\$ 21,000.00	
Road Equipment	\$ 4,420.00	
Equipment Rental	<u>\$ 4,313.18</u>	\$32,233.18

#### PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Building Maintenance		\$ 759.02
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#### ROAD MAINTENANCE

Gravel	\$103,842.97	
Calcium	\$ 10,660.44	
Culverts	\$ 849.99	
Road Signs	<u>\$ 1,696.40</u>	\$117,049.80

#### EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Equipment Maintenance	\$ 55,800.64	
Diesel Fuel & Gas	\$ 13,443.75	
Tires	\$ 976.05	

Equipment Purchase	\$ 5,805.02	
Equipment Purchase-mulcher	\$ 26,375.00	
Equipment Purchase-trailer	<u>\$25,000.00</u>	\$127,400.46
TRAINING & DUES		
Certifications & Licensing	\$ 323.40	
Medical Testing	<u>\$ 333.00</u>	<u>\$ 656.40</u>
		<u>\$394,190.38</u>
		(\$176,368.84)
Funds used to cover overage		
Winter Roads Transfer	\$ 3,195.24	
FEMA Funds	<u>\$173,173.60</u>	<u>\$176,368.84</u>
		<u>\$ 0.00</u>

## RESERVE ACCOUNTS

### HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT INCOME

Balance 1/1/25	\$ 150.95	
Appropriated	\$ 25,000.00	
FEMA for Grader	\$125,000.00	
FEMA for truck body	\$ 31,000.00	
Sale of old equipment	\$ 1,500.00	
Interest	<u>\$ 220.25</u>	\$182,871.20

### EXPENDITURES

O'Connor GMC, 2025 WS Truck	\$125,000.00	
HP Fairfield, 2017 dump body	\$ 55,360.00	<u>\$180,360.00</u> \$2,511.20

### ROAD PAVING RESERVE ACCOUNT

#### INCOME

Balance 1/1/25	\$ 73,158.67	
Appropriated	\$210,000.00	
Interest	<u>\$ 3,377.29</u>	\$286,535.96

#### EXPENDITURES

<u>\$ 0.00</u>
\$286,535.93

### LOCAL ROADS AID PROGRAM (LRAP)

#### INCOME

Balance 1/1/25	\$ 76,433.66	
Interest	\$ 3,976.98	
FEMA reimbursement	\$201,284.86	
State funds received	<u>\$ 51,184.00</u>	\$332,879.50

#### EXPENDITURES

Sewall Engineering	<u>\$ 3,950.00</u>
	\$328,929.50

## GRAVEL ROADS RESERVE

### INCOME

Balance 1/1/25	\$13,708.00		
Appropriated	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	\$23,708.00	
EXPENDITURES		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$23,708.00

## SIDEWALK REPAIR RESERVE

### INCOME

Balance 1/1/25	\$17,734.29		
Appropriated	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	\$27,734.29	
EXPENDITURES		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$27,734.29

## PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE RESERVE ACCOUNT

### INCOME

Balance 1/1/25	\$ 30,962.61		
Appropriated	\$ 20,000.00		
FEMA funds	\$175,000.00		
Solar Panel Federal Refund	\$ 21,637.14		
Rainy Day Fund	<u>\$ 34,033.30</u>	\$281,633.05	
EXPENDITURES		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$281,633.05

## FEMA/MEMA ACCOUNT – MAY & DECEMBER 2023 STORMS

### INCOME

2025 FEMA/MEMA payments	\$824,988.62
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### EXPENDITURES

Reimb. LRAP for 2023 & 2024	\$201,284.86	
Mulcher	\$ 27,000.00	
Equipment Trailer	\$ 25,000.00	
PW Garage Reserve	\$175,000.00	
Grader	\$125,000.00	
2017 Truck Body	\$ 31,000.00	
Fire Department (1-ton truck)	\$ 15,000.00	
Summer Roads	<u>\$173,173.60</u>	<u>\$772,458.46</u>
		\$52,530.16

FEMA/MEMA still owes us \$157,433.14

## Road Commissioner Report

Thank you for electing me as Road Commissioner at the March Annual Town Meeting. It has been a busy and productive year. And I want to thank my road crew for all their hard work on our roads: Jeffrey Chase, Michael Leahy, and Mark Kelso.

At the Annual Town Meeting and the two Special Town Meetings, the town approved equipment purchases. We bought a brush mulcher attachment for the excavator, a trailer for the excavator, a grader, a new body for the 2017 truck, a culvert steamer with trailer, and a trailer for our calcium tank and sprayer. The grader was needed because our 1990 John Deere grader developed serious transmission problems. It would have cost at least \$30,000 to replace the transmission and take 4 to 8 weeks. It was decided at the Special town Meeting in May to purchase another grader. We purchased a 2017 John Deere grader for \$125,000 after the trade in value for our old grader. The brush mulcher allows us to better cut back the brush along the roadsides. At the Special Town Meeting in September the town approved replacing the dump body on the 2017 truck.

We also had some costly maintenance repairs on our 2015 and 2017 trucks. I have started a maintenance program and record for all our equipment. The trucks are greased and checked every 500 miles along with daily checks. The grader is greased and checked every 40 hours. The excavator is greased and checked every day it is being used.

In 2025 we continued working on the damage from the federally declared disaster flooding events on May 1<sup>st</sup> and December 18<sup>th</sup> in 2023. The overage in Summer Roads was due to the extra repair work that was needed and the improvement of our gravel roads. We completed ditching Hole in the Wall Road and built up its gravel road base and surface. We also added reclaimed concrete to the road from Ironbound Pond Road to the Athens town line. We ditched, widened, and built up the gravel road base and surface on Eaton Hill Road. We also added gravel road base and surface to Brown Farm Road, Padham Road, Berry Road, West Road, Boardman Road, and McCarty Road. We used the brush mulcher on Padham Road, Hole in Wall Road, and South Solon Road.

In 2026 we will continue to work to improve our gravel roads. We will also be replacing culverts on South Solon Road and Meeting House Road in preparation for our 2027 paving project on these roads.

Please remember to slow down and drive carefully in the roadwork areas to keep our road crew safe. Not all work areas have good sightlines so please slow down and drive with caution when you see our road work signs.

We try our best to keep the roads safe to travel on but winter in Maine is a challenge. We have three plow routes, but each route takes about 3 hours to complete in a snowstorm. When we have rain and freezing rain the sand/salt washes off the road just about as fast as it goes on. So, we have to wait until the rain stops to sand the roads. It is especially difficult when we get snow that turns to rain and then we get well below freezing temperatures. Below 20 degrees the salt does not work well to melt the ice.

Also remember that state law also prohibits the placement of snow in a public way that has not accumulated there naturally. That means that residents are not allowed to plow or blow snow into the road. Also, don't push the snow over your driveway or road culvert ends. It prevents drainage and can cause driveway and road wash outs. And keep the road right of ways clear of all obstacles so the road crew can plow the roads without obstacles in the way. Brighton Road and South Solon Road have a 33-foot right-of-way on either side of the road's centerline. The rest of the roads have a 24.5 foot right of way on either side of the road's centerline.

Mailboxes have been an issue this winter and we are sorry about it. We have new plows on all our trucks this winter and when we measured them, we found that they are taller than our old plows. From the ground to the top of wing plow, they are 44 inches. And then if you add snow/ice buildup on the road it is even higher. So, our recommendation is that your mailbox should be **48" from the road surface and the post should be set back at least 12" from the normally plowed surface.** And please clean up the snow around and in front of the mailbox. Maine DOT advises placing mailboxes after driveway entrances to enhance visibility and reduce snow buildup. The mailbox post must be strong enough to support the mailbox but designed to break away easily if hit by a vehicle, preventing road hazards. Mailbox installations are at the owner's risk, and owners are not eligible for replacement or compensation if damaged during highway work. We are trying to avoid the mailboxes. We are asking that this coming spring and summer, you check your mailbox location and height and make any corrections needed. I will be happy to meet if you have any questions about relocating and raising your mailbox. And we will be checking and correcting our own mailboxes also this summer.

We continue to have a problem with some people spinning their tires on our paved roads and doing donuts on the gravel roads. Also driving their snowmobiles and ATVs in our road ditches. Please be mindful that while you enjoy doing it, it is a cost to the taxpayers to repair the damage you are causing.

Road sign theft continues to be a problem. If you want a specific road name sign, we can have one made for you for \$55. Stealing or pulling down the stop signs can cause a serious, if not fatal, accident.

Respectfully,  
Jeffrey Cyr  
Road Commissioner



## Road Crew



Jeffrey Chase



Mike Leahy



2017 John Deere Grader

## **PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE COMMITTEE**

Elaine Aloes

John Dunay

Jeffrey Cyr

Michael Foster

Allyn Foss

The Town of Solon has been awarded a Congressionally Directed Spending grant of \$1,500,000 to build our new town garage thanks to Senator Collins. Our match is \$500,000. We have been looking at property to purchase for the new location of our public works garage. We will have some land purchase options available at the 2026 Annual Town Meeting to be voted on. We have hired A. E. Hodsdon Engineers to work on this project with us. We are planning on building a 60' x 160' seven bay garage. And if funding is available, a salt shed also on the same site. We plan to start this building project in 2026.



# TRANSFER STATION REPORT

## TRANSFER STATION

### INCOME

Appropriated	\$101,450.00	
Reimbursements	\$ 100.00	
Sticker Fees	\$ 1,330.00	
Disposal Fees	\$ 2,593.00	
Steel Recycling	<u>\$ 3,397.57</u>	\$108,870.57

### EXPENDITURES

#### LABOR

Glenn Richardson	\$21,465.59	
David Houle	\$19,697.71	
Glenn Richardson, driving	<u>\$ 4,772.60</u>	\$45,935.90

#### UTILITIES

TDS Telecom		\$ 596.21
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#### SUPPLIES

Supplies	\$ 368.64	
Safety Equipment	<u>\$ 1,277.76</u>	\$ 1,646.40

#### CONTRACTED SERVICES

Bush Hogging	\$ 300.00	
Trash Disposal Fee	\$44,928.19	
Recycling Program	\$ 1,944.64	
Towing	\$ 750.00	
Porta Potty	<u>\$ 420.00</u>	\$48,342.83

#### PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Building & Property Maintenance		\$ 3,265.50
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#### EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Equipment Maintenance	\$ 8,469.18	
Diesel Fuel & Gas	<u>\$ 3,489.13</u>	\$11,958.31

#### TRAINING/DUES

Licensing	\$ 881.79	
Fees	<u>\$ 115.00</u>	\$ 996.79
		<u>\$112,741.94</u>
		(\$3,871.37)

Transferred from TS Truck & Tub Reserve

\$ 3,871.37  
\$ 0.00

## TRANSFER STATION TRUCK & EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

### INCOME

Balance 1/1/25	\$13,557.10	
Appropriated	\$10,000.00	
Interest	<u>\$ 350.50</u>	\$23,907.60

## EXPENDED

Glass Crusher	\$ 2,172.97		
Transfer to Transfer Station	<u>\$ 3,871.37</u>	<u>\$6,044.34</u>	\$17,863.26

## SOLON TRANSFER STATION FEES SCHEDULE

### Fees subject to change without notice

Please do not argue with the attendant about these fees. If you have a question or a complaint, please see the Selectmen.

**Transfer Station Use Sticker Fee:** \$5 per vehicle, annually.

### **RECYCLABLES, NO FEE CHARGED**

**Glass:** Bottles and jars, clear or colored, rinsed

**Aluminum:** Tin cans, aluminum foil, pie plates & other aluminum, rinsed

**Plastic:** all plastic #1-#7, including jugs, food or rigid containers. Please tie jugs together. No plastic bags (these can be returned to the retailer).

**Electronics:** Computer components, TV's, microwaves, keyboards, etc.

**Cardboard:** Corrugated, flattened

**Paper:** office paper, newspapers, magazines, junk mail, scrap paper, window envelopes, Post-Its, thin cereal boxes, tissue rolls, milk & juice boxes, etc

**Metal**

**Paint:** in sealed cans

**Other:** Waste oil; batteries (rechargeable or automobile); (Please see attendant)

**Leaves & Grass Clippings:** Take to Skowhegan Transfer Station for no charge

**Limbs, Brush & Stumps:** Remove soil & rocks; take to Carrier Trucking in Skowhegan for no charge

### **OTHER ITEMS WITH FEES CHARGED**

#### **Tires:**

passenger and pickup truck, up to 17", off rim	\$ 5.00
passenger and pickup truck, up to 17", on rim	\$ 8.00
large truck tires, off rim (on rim not accepted)	\$ 27.00
farm equipment tires (on rim not accepted)	\$ 55.00
loader/OTR tractor tires (on rim not accepted)	\$110.00

#### **Household items:**

Easy chair, mattress or box spring	\$ 5.00
Sofa and other large furniture	\$ 10.00
Refrigerator or freezer, door must be removed	\$ 15.00
Air conditioner	\$ 15.00

#### **Lights:**

UV lamps, Fluorescents (bulbs & tubes)	\$ .50
CFL lamps, U-bend, circular, PCB or non PCB ballasts	\$ 1.00
Mercury vapor bulbs, HID, Sodium lamps	\$ 2.00
Halogen, Incandescent	free
<b><u>Other:</u></b> Mercury switches, thermostats and thermometers	\$ 3.00
Smoke, carbon detectors	\$15.00
<b><u>Demo/Bulky Waste/Asphalt Shingles:</u></b> Fee charged will be determined by the attendant based on the following:	
Pickup truck load, short bed	\$18.00
Pickup truck load, long bed	\$24.00
Small dump truck or single axle trailer	\$30.00
Fees for other sized vehicles and undersized and oversized loads to be determined by the attendant.	

## TRANSFER STATION USE STICKER POLICY

A transfer station sticker is required to dispose of waste. Stickers are available at the Town Office or the Transfer Station for \$5 per vehicle. Sticker colors change each year and the new year's color is available starting in October and are required by January 1. You need to either be a taxpayer in Solon or show proof of residency. You can only bring household trash generated in Solon to the Transfer Station.

## DEMOLITION DEBRIS DISPOSAL POLICY

The Town will not pay for container leases, transportation costs or tipping fees for demolition debris resulting from a building demolition or renovation project.

## SOLON TRANSFER STATION REPORT

The Solon Transfer Station offers residents many opportunities for recycling. Recycling keeps the cost of trash disposal down and reduces your property taxes.

We hauled 467.38 tons to Waste Management with a total cost of \$44,928.19 in trash tipping fees during 2025. Trash costs us about \$115 per ton in transport and disposal fees. Tonnage breakdown is: 289.58 tons household waste, 177.80 tons demolition debris. We paid \$1,944.64 to recycle cardboard, paper, plastic, tires, and for freon removal from appliances. We received \$3,397.57 for tin cans, metal, and batteries. The more we recycle, the more we save.

We purchased a glass crusher in 2025 to better recycle our glass waste. We are taking our baled cardboard and plastic to Skowhegan for recycling and will be receiving income from them.

Even though most recyclable items are accepted at the Transfer Station for no cost, we do charge a small fee for some. Those fees help cover the extra costs the Town is charged for disposing of those items. Please pay the attendant if you drop off any of the items on the list located on the previous page.

We collect waste oil if anyone needs it. Returnable bottles are collected to benefit the Solon Recreation Department. We no longer have the “FREE” table at the Transfer Station. Please try recycling your still useable items at local thrift stores or by other methods.

Our truck needed some repair work and that is what put us over budget.

On the first Saturday in October Solon can join with neighboring communities to collect hazardous waste and unused medications. If you have hazardous waste or unused medications, please let the Selectmen know before July 1, 2026 and we can pay the fee to join in.



Glenn Richardson  
Attendant & Roll-off Truck Driver



David Houle  
Attendant

## **REMINDERS**

The Transfer Station hours are Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Transfer Station will be closed on all legal holidays unless otherwise posted.

Only waste generated within the Town of Solon can be disposed of at the Transfer Station. Please do not bring garbage from other towns.

Special thanks to Glenn and Dave for all their hard work to make our Transfer Station run smoothly. Glenn is also our roll-off truck driver. Additional thanks go to Road Commissioner Jeff Cyr and the Road Crew for their frequent help.

***REMEMBER TO  
REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE!***

# FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Emergencies: 911

Radio: 100

## OFFICERS:

Duayne Rollins, Chief	399-9549	Solon 101
Todd Dixon, 1 <sup>st</sup> Assist. Chief	441-5171	Solon 102
Kevin LaCroix, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Assist. Chief	446-2474	Solon 103
Brian Livingston, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Assist. Chief	399-3421	Solon 104
Richard Kelley, EMA Director	614-4354	Solon 104
Jenney Rollins, Safety Off./Sec./Treas.	399-1655	Solon 105

## FIREFIGHTERS:

Zane Brown	Frederick Mayo
Meagan Corson	Derek Dellarma
Nicholas Rollins	Richard Kelley
Frederick Mayo	Thomas Courtney, Mechanic
Kenneth Tyrell	Cooper Dellarma
Megan Corson	Gerald Rollins

## FIRE WARDENS

for fire permits, or online at <https://www.maine.gov/burnpermit>

Fire Warden: Duayne Rollins 399-9549

Deputies:    Todd Dixon 441-5171    Jen Rollins 399-1655

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

### INCOME

Appropriated	\$49,700.00	
Appropriated Fire Chief Salary	\$ 8,800.00	
Transfer in for Ford 1-ton truck		
FEMA	\$15,000.00	
FD Reserve	<u>\$ 9,845.77</u>	\$83,345.77

### EXPENDITURES

#### LABOR

Duayne Rollins, Fire Chief	\$ 8,800.00
Firefighters:	
Duayne Rollins	\$ 2,200.00
Jenney Rollins	\$ 1,360.00
Kevin Lacroix	\$ 1,070.00
Frederic Mayo	\$ 1,040.00
Richard Kelley	\$ 1,180.00
Brian Livingstone	\$ 610.00
Derek Dellarma	\$ 360.00
Zane Brown	\$ 210.00

Gerald Rollins	\$ 1,830.00		
Cooper Dellarma	\$ 440.00		
Todd Dixon	\$ 630.00		
Meagan Corson	\$ 0.00		
Nick Rollins	\$ 180.00		
Kenneth Tyrell	<u>\$ 570.00</u>	\$20,890.00	
UTILITIES			
TDS-Phone & Internet	\$1,207.54		
Solon Water District	<u>\$ 796.96</u>	\$ 2,004.50	
SUPPLIES			
Supplies	\$ 4,045.80		
Uniforms	\$ 416.00		
Safety Equipment	\$ 8,754.86		
Radio Communications	<u>\$ 5,597.35</u>	\$18,814.01	
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE			
Building Maintenance		\$ 173.75	
FEES & MAINTENANCE FEES			
Computer Software Fees		\$ 125.09	
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE			
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 2,351.43		
Equipment Purchases			
Ford 1 ton truck	\$25,000.00		
ATV slide-in unit	\$ 8,450.00		
Other	\$ 1,857.00		
State Inspections	\$ 1,546.84		
Diesel Fuel & Gasoline	<u>\$ 1,690.65</u>	\$40,895.92	
TRAINING & DUES			
Medical Testing	\$ 363.00		
Certifications	<u>\$ 79.50</u>	<u>\$ 442.50</u>	<u>\$83,345.77</u>
			\$ 0.00

#### FIRE TRUCK RESERVE ACCOUNT

Income			
Balance 1/1/25	\$11,398.77		
Appropriated	\$ 8,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 317.76</u>	\$19,716.53	
Expended		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$19,716.53

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT

Income			
Balance 1/1/25	\$1,290.43		
Appropriated	\$1,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 36.89</u>	\$2,327.32	
Expended		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$2,327.32

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT SAFETY EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT**

### **Income**

Appropriated	\$5,000.00	
Expended	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$5,000.00

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT**

### **INCOME:**

Balance 1/1/25	\$ 7,637.60	
Sukeforth Donation	\$ 2,000.00	
SAPPI Donation	\$ 2,500.00	
Town of Bingham	\$ 2,698.00	
Donations	\$ 1,250.00	
Toll Road Donations	\$ 4,673.00	
Interest	<u>\$ 262.69</u>	\$21,021.29

### **EXPENDITURES**

Transferred to Fireworks	\$ 517.67	
Transferred to Fire Dept for truck	<u>\$ 9,845.77</u>	<u>\$10,363.44</u> \$10,657.85

## **FIRE CALLS**

	<u>Total Calls</u>	<u>71</u>		
Vehicle Accidents	15	Fire Alarms	6	
Structure Fires	0	Assist EMS/Medical	28	
Mutual Aid Given	16	Grass/Brush Fires	5	
Chimney Fire	0	Electrical Lines/Trees	1	

### ***BURN PERMITS:***

*You are required to have a burn permit before you can burn brush and debris outside at any time during the year.*

*For burn permits call the Fire Warden or Deputies listed on the previous page.*

If you have a wood stove or fireplace, remember to have your chimney cleaned every fall and spring. If you do have a chimney fire, call 911 immediately—even if you think you can handle it yourself. Better safe than sorry.

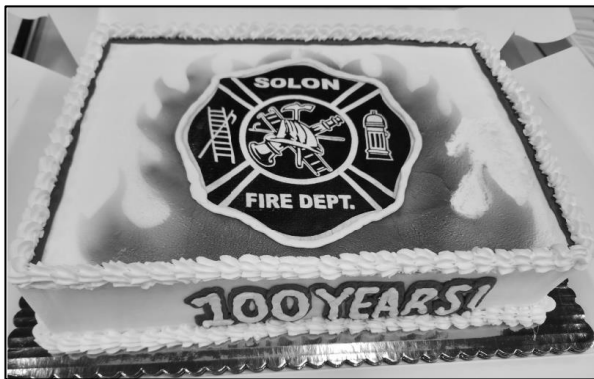
The Fire Department is willing to inspect your chimney for fire safety. Chimney fires are dangerous, and a safe chimney is a necessity when burning firewood. Contact the Fire Chief to set up an appointment. They will inform you of any defects they find. However, the town accepts no liability and does not certify safety of the chimney. To have your chimney checked by a professional, contact the State Fire Marshall's office at 626-3870 for a list of approved chimney inspectors.

It is a crime to call 911 with a false fire or emergency report. When the fire department responds to false alarms, it could delay their response to a real emergency. The fire department will bill anyone calling in a false alarm for time and expenses incurred in the response to the call. However, do not hesitate to call 911 for an emergency. An early response could save lives and property.

The volunteer firefighters spend a lot of time attending training sessions. Training sessions are important for their safety and for learning proper and/or improved firefighting and rescue techniques. We pay our firefighters for each training session they attend.

We need volunteers willing to put in time for the training and meetings and, of course, to respond to emergency calls. We also have, for those ages 16 to 18, a junior firefighter program. Anyone interested in joining the Fire Department or learning more about being a firefighter should contact the Fire Chief.

***The Selectmen would like to thank all our Volunteer Firefighters for all the time and effort they give to serve and protect our town. They put their lives at risk to protect our property and us. THANK YOU!***



### **Solon Fire Chiefs over the last 100 years...**

- 1927 – 1935 Kendall Cross (9-15 years)
- 1936 – 1941 Unknown (not in town reports, Kendall Cross ?)
- 1942 – 1969 Bernard Sherardson (28 years)
- 1970 – 1979 Olon Brown (10 years)
- 1979 – 1984 Michael G Foster (6 years)
- 1985 – 1999 Michael Sackett (15 years)
- 2000 – 2013 Ronald Brown (14 years)
- 2014 – Present Duayne Rollins (12 years and counting...)



## **Fire Chief Report 2025**

### **Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Solon Fire**

Not sure where 2025 went but here as I am writing this report it just amazes me how time flies.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the town for the birthday BBQ, beautiful and delicious cake and t-shirts to celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> year!

I also would like to say thank you to Heather Forsten, Doug Sukforth, Michael and Gail Foster, Sappi Fine Paper, Gary Bishop, Erin Mawn, Bruce and Pat Whipple, Al and Michelle Taylor, Lindblom family, and Somerset Home Improvements. For donations whether it was funds, time and or shared talents we thank you for helping us complete tasks around the fire station throughout the year.

This year we also purchased a “new to us” Ford pickup. This truck has become very handy and convenient for calls such as medical, traffic control and trees down. We also purchased a skid unit for our side-by-side ATV. This unit allows us to get to forest fires and recreational vehicle accidents that are not accessible with our vehicles and fire trucks.

The toll booth once again was a great success. We were able to put the funds from this towards the new to us pick up. We look forward to this every year. It allows us to get out and talk with town people and people passing through our great town.

Once again, the fireworks were a wonderful event. I cannot say thank you enough to everyone that donates to keep this event so successful it is so appreciated. I must say a HUGE thank you to my crew of firefighters that spend their free time putting this event together. Making sure that it is safe, a crowd pleaser, and goes off with a BANG!

Fire prevention in October at the Solon Elementary School. Safety Officer Jenney Rollins and 1st Assistant Chief Todd Dixon went into the school to educate the kids about fire safety.

We had another successful year with the trunk or treat at Griswold's.

As a reminder, the Solon Volunteer Department does all of this throughout the year as well as monthly meetings, monthly truck checks, monthly training and emergency calls.

I want to thank my firefighters, town officials and the community for helping make our town and fire department what it is. A town and department to be proud of!

Sincerely,  
Duayne Rollins  
Solon Fire Chief

# **HISTORY OF SOLON FIRE DEPT.**

On September 29, 1925, Solon's worst fire destroyed much of the village center. In the early hours of the 29<sup>th</sup> a blaze was discovered in Dilling's Garage, cause unknown, and quickly spread. It destroyed 19 buildings on the west side of Main Street and on both sides of Ferry Street at the top of Ferry Hill. Among the buildings that were burned were the Post Office, Farmer's Telephone Office, John Lawrence's grocery store, Leslie McIntire's Store, M. H. Andrew's Men's Clothing Store, F. C. Clark's Notions and Women's Clothing Store, Azel Jones Shoe Store, Charles Rowell Hardware Store, Delling's Garage, a blacksmith shop, an icehouse, a storehouse, a barn, and several houses and apartments. The loss was estimated to be over \$50,000.

A Special Town Meeting was held on October 12, 1925. The townspeople approved raising \$7,000 for the purchase of a mobile pumper fire engine and hose enough to reach from Fall Brook to the School House in Solon Village. They also approved using the \$2,500 that was raised at the March 1925 Town Meeting for the building of a schoolhouse at Jackson Corner as part payment of the \$7,000 that was approved for the fire engine. The Selectmen were also authorized to purchase a lot and build a building for the fire engine.

The town purchased a D. E. McCann Sons fire truck for \$5,000 and 2,650 feet of fire hose for \$2,120. By comparison, in 1925 car prices were typically between \$1,000 and \$3,000, although Ford Model T Touring cars had come down to just \$260. The Fire Station was a one bay cement building and cost \$5,562.30 to build. The lot was rented from S. D. Warren Company for \$1.00 a year. It was located on a small piece of land on the southwest corner of the bridge over Fall Brook on North Main Street. The State of Maine obtained this property in 1999 and tore down the cement building.

This was the formation of the Solon Volunteer Fire Department. The first fire chief was Kendall Cross. He was chief from 1927-1930. The town reports prior to 1927 did not list a fire chief. Bernard Shepardson became fire chief in 1942 and served as chief until 1969. Olon Brown became chief in 1970 and served until Michael Foster took over as chief in 1979. In 1985 Michael Sackett became chief. Ronald Brown became chief in 2000 and served until 2014 when Duayne Rollins became chief.

In 1952 they built the 2-bay wooden fire station at the corner of Ferry Street and South Main Street for \$7,066.22. That fire station was named after Bernard Shepardson. The Selectmen's Office, conference room, and kitchen were on the second floor. In 1958 they purchased a new 500-gallon pumper tank fire truck.

In 1991 the town received Community Block Grant Funds and built a new 3-bay fire station with conference room, bathrooms, showers, and kitchen at 119 South Main Street. A fourth bay was added to it several years ago.

In 2003 we received a FEMA grant of \$207,000 to purchase a new 1,500-gallon pumper fire truck. In July 2004 Fire Chief Ronald Brown and 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief Duayne Rollins traveled to Michigan and brought the truck back to Solon. The total cost was \$230,000. In 2013 we bought a used 1990 1,000-gallon pumper truck for \$16,000. We sold that truck in 2017 when we bought a 1994 3,000-gallon pumper truck for \$112,000. In 2025 we bought a 2005 1-ton forest fire fighting truck for \$25,000.



*After the creation of the Solon Fire Department, the town commissioned the first fire truck, a 1925 McCann Fire Engine, manufactured in Portland, ME (now privately owned by a collector in New Hampshire)*

## Solon Fire Stations



*Our original 1920's concrete fire station, south of the bridge on North Main St.  
(Photo: located on the right, south of Solon Garage and gas station)*



*1952 we built a 2-bay Fire Station  
on Ferry Street.  
(photo taken in 2025)*



*Our current Fire Station was built in 1991. It is a 3-bay Fire Station  
on South Main Street with a 4<sup>th</sup> bay later added*



*Our new 2004 1,500-gallon fire truck  
Pictured: Linda Marquis, Fire Chief Ronald Brown, Jen Rollins, Duayne Rollins, and Joseph Albuitt (2004)*



*1994 3,000-gallon pumper truck bought in 2017*







*2005 1-ton  
truck*



*Our new slide-in rescue  
equipment for the side-by-side  
to assist in remote rescues.*



# COOLIDGE LIBRARY

## LIBRARY TRUSTEES 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

JANE OUDERKIRK, CHAIR (2027)

RICHARD ROBERTS, Vice Chair (2029) CHRISTINA SUAREZ (2028)

STACEY ROBINSON (2028) ANN JACKSON (2027)

CHRISTOPHER SHAW (2027) ANDY DAVIS (2029)

MARY LOU RIDLEY (2028) PATRICIA WHIPPLE (2029)

We have spent the past year planning housekeeping and maintenance activities:

- The Library sign will be replaced with a two-sided sign visible to traffic in both directions.
- Several trees on the south lawn will be removed.
- The garage on library property needs to be torn down. The building is fully infested with black mold. The fire department requested that we delay demolition until after they use the building for training (training excludes burning the building down.) The slab will be retained for future use.
- We are researching the best method to seal the asbestos tile floor. After 92 years the tiles are breaking up. The cost to remove and replace the tiles is excessive. Sealing the floor with epoxy and polyurethane seems to be the best available option.

Library Director Megan Myers continues to provide excellent reference, educational, and collection development services to local residents. The Trustees are especially appreciative of Selectman Elaine Aloes' quick resolution to building issues and I am grateful to the Trustees for their thoughtful contributions to program and policy development.

Respectfully Submitted, Jane Ouderkirk

## COOLIDGE LIBRARY RESERVE

### INCOME

Balance 1/1/24	\$ 1,790.38	
Appropriated	\$27,600.00	
Investment Funds	\$ 2,000.00	
Donations		
Anson Academy Association	\$ 1,500.00	
Bangor Savings Bank	\$ 500.00	
Other	<u>\$ 13.00</u>	\$33,403.38

### EXPENDITURES:

Megan Myers, Librarian	\$17,315.47		
Vicki Myers, Asst. Librarian	\$ 4,387.60		
TDS-Phone & Internet	\$ 759.51		
Solon Water District	\$ 238.60		
Office Supplies	\$ 421.58		
Books	\$ 2,265.28		
Activity Supplies	\$ 236.27		
Security System	\$ 263.88		
Building Maintenance	\$ 853.65		
Grounds Maintenance	\$ 800.00		
Computer Program Fees	\$ 563.00		
PO Box Fee	<u>\$ 152.00</u>	<u>\$28,256.84</u>	\$5,146.54

## LIBRARY BUILDING CAPITAL RESERVE

Balance 1/1/25	\$33,836.63		
Appropriated	\$ 3,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 742.14</u>	\$37,578.77	
EXPENDITURES		<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$37,578.77

## LIBRARY MEMORIAL & INVESTMENT FUNDS

### RAYMOND JAMES INVESTMENT FUND

Principal \$87,380.00

Investment Value 1/1/25	\$96,539.66		
Income	\$ 5,771.60		
Investment Change in Value	<u>\$ 5,508.66</u>	\$107,819.92	
Less			
Withdrawal	\$ 2,000.00		
Investment Advisor Fees	<u>\$ 1,005.58</u>	\$ 3,005.58	
Invest. Funds Balance 12/31/25			\$104,814.34

#### Library & Memorial Fund Principals:

Library	\$70,000.00		
Harriet French	\$ 725.00		
L&M McDonough	\$ 6,000.00		
Charlotte Russel	\$ 2,400.00		
Glennis Rogers	\$ 510.00		
Bertha Whitney	\$ 245.00		
R&H Tozier	\$ 5,000.00		
Malcolm & Mary Hall	<u>\$ 2,500.00</u>	\$87,380.00	
Available Funds 12/31/2025		<u>\$16,984.34</u>	\$104,814.34



## LIBRARIAN REPORT

We, at The Coolidge Library, would like to sincerely thank all who walked through our doors in 2025. Your patronage is crucial to the library and our mission to (in summary) enrich your lives by providing access to reliable and enjoyable information and services. The dedicated work of The Coolidge Library Board of Trustees is also greatly appreciated.

We are pleased to have had 1,090 visitors throughout the year. Of those, 260 participated in the 38 various programs we offered. We hosted a book launch, where “Little Sal” brought us back to her grandparents’ Solon farmhouse for the holidays. We offered digital literacy classes, such as “Cutting the Cord” (how to use free streaming services) and “Frauds and Scams” (how to protect yourself in the digital era) as well as personal tech support. Gardening workshops brought together gardeners to share ideas, wisdom, and seeds, and instructed them how to sow seeds in winter. During Summer Reading activities, some highlights included painting banners for Solon’s Fourth of July celebration, making birdhouses, learning about color mixing, and turning old books into art. We hosted Elementary School tours, Toddler Storytimes, and other informational and literacy events. We are proud to have brought you these events with the help of our partners at the National Digital Equity Center, The Somerset Economic Development Corporation, The Solon Community Garden, Solon Summer Recreation Dept., Solon Elementary School, Somerset Woods Trustees, as well as many other community friends and volunteers.

We partnered with Neighborhood Forest this year to celebrate Earth Day by offering FREE tree saplings. Thanks to their Trees for Kids® initiative, and participating families, 21 White Pine trees were distributed to be planted locally. We held our annual Bookmark Contest with Solon Elementary School and homeschool students, who produced some excellent bookmarks designs. The winning designs are on display, and free for the taking, at the library. Be sure to grab one next time you visit!

The library currently has 5,069 print books in our physical collection. We have both non-fiction and fiction books for all ages, from infants to adults and everything in between. In addition, tens of thousands of e-books and audiobooks are available through Cloudlibrary, our digital lending library. In 2025, 399 digital books, and 1,656 physical books were loaned to our cardholders. Books are not the only thing we lend. Also available for loan are seeds, electricity monitors, radon detectors, DVDs and audiobooks. Cardholders may borrow up to five materials at a time, most with a two-week lending period. We are proud to not require late fees for overdue materials. If you have late books, don’t fret. Return them as soon as possible, without fear of a fine. Conscience-clearing

donations are gladly accepted. Books determined to be lost or damaged beyond repair will be subject to replacement costs.

For use in-house, we have 2 desktop touch-screen computers, a printer/copy machine, a 3-D printer, 2 laptops and 2 tablets, as well as board games, coloring books and pencils, puzzles, and toys. Next to our circulation desk, our Friends of the Library group has a small, ever-changing selection of children's and adult's books for sale. Maybe there is something you would like to add to your own collection!

The library is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 to 6:00, and Saturdays from 10:00-2:00. Please, stop in and see all that the Coolidge Library has to offer you.



Respectfully,  
Megan Myers  
Library Director



*'Gypsy' ... on the front of one of the Solon Fire Truck*

# CEMETERIES & VETERAN GRAVES

## CEMETERY MAINTENANCE RESERVE

### INCOME:

Balance 1/1/25	\$ 900.42	
Appropriated	\$25,800.00	
Donation – Glen Davis	\$ 2,249.14	
Investment Funds	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>	\$33,949.56

### EXPENDITURES:

Robert Alton, Small Cemeteries	\$ 600.00		
W. Wooster, Evergreen Cem.	\$5,700.00		
W. Wooster, Pierce Cemetery	\$4,700.00		
W. Wooster, S. Solon Cem.	\$3,200.00		
J. Lawrence, Village Cemetery	\$4,000.00		
Hilton Cemetery	\$ 100.00		
Flags & Holders	\$ 455.55		
Stone Cleaning - supplies	\$6,259.05		
Stone Cleaning - labor	\$3,062.50		
Grounds Maintenance	<u>\$1,360.00</u>	<u>\$29,437.10</u>	\$4,512.46

## CEMETERY LOT PURCHASE RESERVE

Income	\$800.00	
Transferred to Investment Fund	<u>\$800.00</u>	\$0.00

## RAYMOND JAMES INVESTMENT FUND

	Principal \$169,720.00		
Investment Value 1/1/25	\$225,582.63		
Income	\$ 13,391.36		
Investment Change in Value	<u>\$ 12,838.95</u>	\$251,812.94	
Less			
Withdrawals	\$ 5,000.00		
Investment Advisor Fees	<u>\$ 2,349.53</u>	<u>\$ 7,349.53</u>	
Invest. Funds Balance 12/31/25			\$244,463.41
Principal Balance 1/1/2025	\$169,720.00		
Principal Funds Added (lot sales)	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$169,720.00	
Available Funds 12/31/2025		<u>\$ 74,743.41</u>	\$244,463.41

The town owns 4 cemeteries:

- Evergreen Cemetery, River Road
- Pierce Cemetery, North Main Street
- South Solon Cemetery, South Solon Road
- Village Cemetery, North Main Street

There is cemetery lots available for sale in single, partial, or full lots at the Pierce Cemetery, South Solon Cemetery, and Evergreen Cemetery. Village Cemetery has no lots available. Contact the Selectmen to purchase a lot.

No pets are allowed to be buried in the cemeteries. The cemeteries are closed to vehicular traffic from November to April depending on the ground conditions. Village Cemetery is closed to vehicles due to the layout of the cemetery.

Trees and bushes are not allowed to be planted in any of the cemeteries. Either real or artificial flowers are allowed but must be removed at the end of the season. Existing trees, bushes, flowers, and other items will be removed or cut back at the discretion of the groundskeeper.

**Burials** – All burials and stone placements must be arranged through the groundskeeper for the cemetery. Contact the Town Office for contact information. This includes cremation urns. This is to ensure the remains and stones are placed at the correct grave site and that we have a record of it.

**Cemetery Management** - After inheriting 4 of the cemeteries in town over the last few decades, we are now in the process of updating and compiling a list and location of all the graves in the cemetery. So far we have done the Evergreen Cemetery and the Village Cemetery. We will start working on the South Solon Cemetery in 2026 and then the Pierce Cemetery after that is completed.

**Stone Maintenance** – Danika Riggs, with help from Wally Wooster, has been cleaning the gravestones in the Evergreen Cemetery this year. She will start at the South Solon Cemetery in 2026. If you see the flat stones lifted out of the ground, it is because they have sunk into the ground and need to be reset once they have been cleaned. It will be an ongoing project as stones in all our cemeteries need continuous cleaning. Danika is doing a great cleaning the stones. A big THANK YOU to Glen Davis for donating funds to purchase a 55-gallon drum of the special stone cleaner we are using! There are also grave marker stones that are damaged, unreadable, or missing and we will start the project of placing a new stone or information plaque on those gravesites in 2026.

**New Cemetery Signs** – We have new signs for Pierce, South Solon, and Village Cemeteries and they will be put up spring 2026.

**New Fence at Evergreen Cemetery** - We are planning on replacing the fence at the Evergreen Cemetery on the River Road in the near future. It is in poor condition. We are planning to put up a four-foot-tall black chain link fence across the front of the cemetery. If you wish to donate for the fence replacement, please contact the Selectmen for more information. Donations will be greatly appreciated as it is an expensive project!!



*Solon Train Station and workers*

# PLANNING BOARD REPORT

MICHAEL GOLDEN, CHAIRMAN	643-2219
Craig Gerry, Vice Chair	Frank Evangelista
Randy Rancourt, Secretary, resigned 2025	Kerri Evangelista
3 Vacant Positions	

## CODE ENFORCEMENT

Income			
Appropriated		\$7,470.00	
Expended			
Code Enforcement/Health Off.	\$ 6,396.96		
911 Addressing Officer	<u>\$ 270.00</u>	<u>\$6,666.9</u>	\$803.04

## PLANNING BOARD RESERVE

Permits	\$ 1,990.00		
Interest	\$ 305.13		
Reserve Funds balance 12/31/25	<u>\$13,525.77</u>	\$15,820.90	
Expended			
Secretary	\$ 238.00		
Legal Advertisement	\$ 308.26		
Supplies	<u>\$ 69.25</u>	<u>\$ 615.51</u>	\$15,205.39

### PERMITS:

Residential Permits	13	Residential Accessory Permits	16
Commercial Permits	1	Commercial Accessory Permits	3
Shoreland Zone Permits	2		

Building activity during 2025 saw a slight increase with an estimated residential construction value in excess of \$1,800,000.

In 2025 secretary and board member Randy Rancourt resigned his position due to a family illness. We appreciate his time with us and wish him and his family the very best.

We are still in need of a secretary and regular board member as well as 2 alternate board members. Contact me or the selectmen if you are interested.

In August of 2025 CEO/LPI Jeff Drew resigned his position in Solon. He took a newly established position of Regional CEO/LPI/Building Inspector as the Kennebec Valley Council of Governments. In October Solon contracted with KVCOG for Jeff to continue to provide these services for us, which he did, uninterrupted. Now KVCOG pays Jeff and Solon pays KVCOG for his services.

Solon retains the plumbing permit fees and those fees combined with a portion of the building permit fees help to pay KVCOG for his services. Jeff now serves Solon and several other towns as CEO/LPI/Building Inspector and has been doing a great job.

Our meeting schedule remains the same as last year. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7 pm in the Town Office Conference Room. Our winter schedule is the 1st Tuesdays for the months of December, January, and February. However, we will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday during those months if the need should arise. If you have any business with the planning board, we suggest you have your application or paperwork submitted by the Monday preceding the meeting so we can put it on the agenda. We will still try to take applications on the night of the meeting but, due to the complexity of the new applications, sometimes it is not possible.

I will continue to be in the office from 5 pm to 6 pm on Wednesdays.

As a reminder, the Planning Board meetings are public meetings, and you are encouraged to attend if you have any concerns. Also feel free to contact me or any board member if we can assist you in any way.

We would like to thank the town's people for their support and cooperation, and we look forward to serving you in the upcoming year.

Respectfully Submitted, Michael R. Golden, Chairman

### **BUILDING PERMIT FEES**

As of March 1, 2026

New Residential Structure	\$300
Additions to Existing Residential Structure	\$100
New Multi-Family Residential Structure	\$300
plus an additional fee per unit	\$ 50
Residential Accessory Structure*	\$ 50
Mobile Home (new or used)	\$100
New Commercial Structure	\$400
Additions to existing Commercial Structure	\$200
Commercial Accessory Structure*	\$100
Shoreland Zone Residential Structure	\$350
Shoreland Zone Additions to Residential Structure	\$200
Shoreland Zone Accessory Structure*	\$150
Shoreland Zone Commercial Structure	\$450
Shoreland Zone Additions to Commercial Structure	\$250
Shoreland Zone Commercial Accessory Structure*	\$150

\*Accessory Structures are decks, patios, sheds, pole barns, garages w/no living space, etc.

**ALL AFTER THE FACT PERMIT FEES ARE  
DOUBLE THE ORIGINAL FEE**

Residential building permits are required for any structure over 200 sq ft

Commercial building permits are required for any structure over 200 sq ft

Any addition over 100 sq ft

Shoreland Zone permits are required for any structure

Setback Requirements: 15 ft from all property lines and 10 ft from a public or private right of way

## **CODE ENFORCEMENT 2025 REPORT**

Happy New Year Solon! The year has been active to say the least! As the year went on, the addition of new houses, plumbing, remodels, decks, solar arrays, sheds and garages kept me busy with inspections. Issuing addresses keeps me busy as well. Solon has many addresses still in need of being added to the system. The E-911 system is designed to keep you safe in case of emergencies. Agencies like Fire, Ambulance and the Sheriff Department rely on E-911 to be able to respond to you when you need their help.

One of the biggest challenges of being a CEO (Code Enforcement Officer) is fielding neighborhood complaints. All too often these complaints are just a civil matter and not Code Enforcement related. A large portion of these calls are neighbors not being neighborly. Although, there are the occasional reports of ordinance violation related incidences. Ordinances are necessary to maintain peace. All Municipal Codes and Ordinances are located on the Town web page. During the summer of 2025 I was approached by KVCOG (Kennebec Valley Council of Governments) with the opportunity to be a RCEO (Regional Code Enforcement Officer). I had to resign as your CEO only to be contracted as RCEO by the town. As the RCEO I cover multiple towns and Unorganized Territories within two counties. This does keep me busy!

I look forward to serving Solon in 2026. Please feel free to reach out and contact me.

Respectfully submitted, Jeffrey Drew

Interior Plumbing & SSWD Plumbing Permits – 13  
Building Permits - 35





Jeff Drew – Regional Code Enforcement Officer

## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE

Michael Golden   Elaine Aloes   Donald Chretien   Leslie Giroux  
John Dunay   Denise Dunay   Heather Hutchins

A comprehensive plan in Maine is an official, long-term policy document, authorized under the Growth Management Act (30-A M.R.S.A. §§ 4312-4350), that dictates a municipality's future growth, land use, and development over a 10-15 year period. It acts as a “blueprint” created through community input to guide local decisions on infrastructure, housing, and natural resource protection, while ensuring consistency with state goals. Municipalities are required to have a plan and to update it periodically. Our last plan was completed and approved by the state in 1993 and approved by the town in 2001.

We have contracted with Kennebec Valley Community of Governments (KVCOG) to prepare our updated Comprehensive Plan. We are working with Jessica Cobb on our updated plan.

Our Vision Statement: The Town of Solon seeks to preserve and enhance its rural character, natural beauty, and traditional values while guiding thoughtful and sustainable growth. The Town is committed to protecting its natural and economic resources, maintaining its small-town character, and fostering a strong sense of community rooted in collaboration and civic pride. Solon values the abundant recreational opportunities in the area and remains welcoming to responsible outdoor and community recreation that supports residents and visitors alike. The Town also strives to maintain a safe environment with minimal crime, ensuring peace of mind for all who live, work and spend time in

the community. By balancing responsible development with the preservation of its scenic, environmental and recreational assets, Solon works to ensure that progress supports its unique identity and long-term resilience. Through transparent and fiscally responsible governance, effective local leadership, and active citizen engagement, Solon will continue to offer a high quality of life for residents, businesses and visitors, remaining a welcoming, vibrant and connected community where people can live, work and prosper.

### **Be a part of Solon's Comprehensive Plan update!**

The Comprehensive Plan Committee is meeting monthly on the last Tuesday of the month at 6 am at the town office. All are welcome to attend our meetings. There will also be a public hearing on the plan on March 7, 2026 at 1 pm at the Solon School (just before our annual town meeting).

Your input is essential in shaping the future of the Town of Solon. Our community, our plan. Visit our town website, [www.solon.maine.gov](http://www.solon.maine.gov), for more information and to see our completed sections.

A **community survey** has been created to get feedback from a wide sample of the community. The link is available on our website, or you can scan this QR code shown below. Paper copies will also be available at the town office.

### **Comprehensive Plan Revision Community Survey**



# YOUTH SPORTS RECREATION

*"The mission of the Solon Recreation Department is to provide quality programs, parks, facilities, and a variety of enrichment opportunities with a professional standard of excellence that enhances the quality of life for all citizens and visitors in our community for present and future generations."*



## SOLON COMMUNITY RECREATION DEPARTMENT

### SOLON RECREATION COMMITTEE

Melody Rich, Cobra Rec Director (2026)  
 Leslie Giroux (2026) Kayla Starr (2025) Amy Sidell (2027)  
 Laura Layman, Summer Swim/Camp Director (2027)

### RECREATION RESERVE

#### Income

Balance 1/1/25	\$11,921.71	
Town of Embden	\$ 850.00	
Town of Anson	\$ 1,111.31	
Food Sales-at games	\$ 1,188.34	
Food Sales – 4 <sup>th</sup> July	\$ 1,572.02	
Donations		
Weyerhaeuser	\$ 105.00	
Norman & Ann Jackson	\$ 250.00	
Portland Seadogs	\$ 88.00	
Nitram Excavation	\$ 300.00	
Emery Carpentry	\$ 200.00	
Other	\$ 567.50	
Appropriated	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>	\$21,153.88

#### Expenditures

Rec Director	\$ 1,384.64	
Grounds Maintenance	\$ 219.91	
Supplies	\$ 1,005.63	
Online sign up program	\$ 408.00	
Foss Enterprises	\$ 650.00	
Fund raising supplies	\$ 754.34	
Basketball	\$ 1,344.59	
Soccer	\$ 1,607.26	
Baseball	\$ 3,676.36	
Softball	\$ 2,325.91	
Paid Out		<u>\$13,376.64</u> \$7,777.24

## RECREATION FACILITIES & MAINTENANCE RESERVE

### Income

Balance 1/1/25                      \$3,136.89

### Donations

New Balance                      \$2,500.00

Weyerhaeuser                      \$3,500.00

Appropriated                      \$2,000.00                      \$11,136.89

### Expended

Ball Field Grounds                      \$6,512.88                      \$4,624.01




## IN-KIND DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS

Special THANKS to all of our incredible donors, coordinators and volunteers who helped make this year possible!

## SOLON COMMUNITY RECREATION COMMITTEE

In 2025, Solon officially united with Anson and Embden to form the Cobra Rec Program. This collaborative, community-rooted initiative was designed to serve youth across our entire district. The official Interlocal Agreement became effective January 1, 2026. We are proud to report record-breaking participation and a surge in volunteer spirit that is making our community stronger every season!

Record participation from Solon youth shows the growing demand for local sports:

-  Soccer (Fall 2025): 16
-  Baseball/Softball/Tee Ball (Summer 2025): 17
-  Basketball (Winter 2025): 17

Programs Offered: Pre-K-6th Basketball, Tee Ball, 8U/10U/12U Baseball & Softball, and Soccer (Pre-K through 6th Grade).

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS & IMPACT

*Building a sustainable future through partnership and generosity.*

- The Tri-Town Agreement: A landmark partnership where Anson, Solon, and Embden each contribute annually and collaborate. This creates long-term sustainability for our youth and ensures each town is represented, included and utilized. Cobra Rec Officially starts January 2026.
- Leadership: Officially hired Melody Rich as Rec Director, bringing organized, dedicated oversight to our operations.

- Local Access: Basketball, Soccer, Baseball, Softball, and Tee Ball continue to be offered in Solon, keeping our kids playing right here in their own community.
- Safety & Gear: Professional maintenance has been donated by George Yodice (The Works), Isaac and Amy Sidell and generous equipment/uniform donations from Vicneire's Market have been incredibly impactful. The support does not go unnoticed and makes a lasting impact.
- Community Spirit: For the second year in a row over 70 participants enjoyed a group night at the Portland Sea Dogs, organized by Kayla Starr, fostering friendships beyond the playing field.

## FUNDRAISING & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

*Keeping costs low through hard work and local heart.*

- 4th of July Stand (Solon): Raised \$1,572.02 (Special thanks to Leslie Giroux & volunteers).
- Seasonal Concessions: Brought in \$1,188.34 through the kindness of our families.
- Grants and Donations Secured: \$3,500 has been secured from Weyerhaeuser that is being used for the new multi-use ball field and dug outs. New Balance donated \$2,500 towards the infield mix for the Multi-Use Field. This field can be used for T-ball, baseball and softball but was built with softball offering at the forefront of our needs.
- Thank you to Roderick Trucking. Thomas Roderick donated equipment and labor to build the new multi-use ball field in Solon that supports Cobra Rec spring programming, making that need feasible to execute. For the second consecutive year, girls' basketball uniforms were sponsored by Nitram Excavation.
- Clinic Support: Coach Vicneire and the CHS team led free soccer clinics, connecting our youngest athletes with high school role models. The female High School basketball program, led by Varsity Girls Coach Will Cote has hosted clinics for our girls rec teams as well

## LOOKING AHEAD

Our commitment to the Town of Solon and our neighbors remains simple:

1. Keep costs low so every child can play.
2. Foster inclusion across all three towns.
3. Build healthy, active citizens and strong communities.

*Thank you for believing in and investing in the young people of Solon and our district!*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Melody Rich,  
Cobra Rec Director

**We couldn't do it without our donors and volunteers.  
From committee members to coaches, donors and  
side-line supporters, 'Thank you!'**

## **COBRA REC**

Solon Recreation has been working with Embden and Anson the past few years to create a more active recreation program for our youth. By combining our programs, we can provide more age group teams.

In July Leslie Giroux, Kayla Starr, and Amy Sidell presented the Solon Selectmen with a plan to hire a Rec Director for our Solon-Embden youth sports teams. It is a time-consuming job and relying on volunteers to find coaches, umpires, referees, schedule games and practices, and purchase needed equipment and uniforms was becoming unrealistic. Melody Rich started as our Rec Director in September, and things are working so much better.

In November Nancy Gove, Anson Administrator, Kayla Starr, Embden Selectman, and Elaine Aloes, Solon Selectmen worked together to create an interlocal agreement to combine our youth basketball, soccer, baseball, softball, and T-ball programs. We named this new program Cobra Rec. Melody Rich will continue to be the Rec Director and Amy Sidell will be the bookkeeper. The three towns will each contribute \$2,000 to cover the stipend for the rec director and the bookkeeper in 2026. Each town will also pay \$55 per child per sport participation to cover the costs associated with each sport. We will also bill other towns \$55 per child if their children participate in Cobra Rec. Combining our youth sports programs and having a vibrant and active program will be a great asset to our towns and our children.

Art by Solon Resident  
Evan Holzworth,  
CHS Class of 2018



# ANNUAL 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY FIREWORKS

Held on July 4<sup>th</sup> at dusk at the Solon Elementary School



*Jen & Duayne Rollins, Cooper Dellarma, & Gerald Rollins  
picking up our fireworks for 2025*

Appropriated	\$2,200.00		
Donations:			
Foster's Collision (Collision Plus 2)	\$1,000.00		
Evergreen Campground	\$ 100.00		
Solon Corner Store	\$ 100.00		
Jimmy's Market	\$ 300.00		
Local Donation Cans	\$ 32.33		
Town of Norridgewock	\$ 250.00		
Solon Fire Department	\$ 517.67		
Quattrone Electric	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	\$5,000.00	
Expended		<u>\$5,000.00</u>	\$0.00



Thank you so much to all the above for their generous donations. Also, thank you to Foss Enterprises for their portable toilet donations.

We bought gift cards from Phantom Fireworks that had coupons for 3 for the price of one so we were able to get \$15,000 of fireworks for \$5,000.

Volunteers from our Recreation Dept set up their food tent and they sold out of just about everything! Thank you to all who volunteered to help out, it is a great addition to our event. It was another great show with a big turnout to view them.

And, of course, a great big THANK YOU to the firefighters who ordered, picked up, set up and who put on the great fireworks display. Without our great firefighters this would not have happened. The fireworks were great!

# USA 250<sup>th</sup> CELEBRATION JULY 4, 2026

2026 will be the USA 250<sup>th</sup> celebration. We are planning events at the Solon Elementary School on Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup> during the day and ending with our annual fireworks display. Our tentative plans so far include a craft and vendor fair, a Chili Cookoff, a bounce house and games for the kids, Keystone Lodge #80 Mason's barbecue (hopefully barbecue chicken), activities & games for the adults, Recreation food sale, music, and a firemen muster. We are looking for volunteers to help that day. We will need a lot of volunteers on that day so please contact the selectmen to volunteer. Also please contact the Selectmen if you want to participate in the craft and vendor fair and/or the Chili Cookoff.

## SUMMER SWIM/CAMP PROGRAM

### SWIM/CAMP PROGRAM RESERVE

Balance 1/1/25	\$2,660.16		
Appropriated	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	\$5,660.19	
Paid Out			
Supplies	\$ 597.52		
Sandy Beach Campground	\$ 400.00		
Camp Aide	<u>\$1,350.00</u>	<u>\$2,347.52</u>	\$3,312.64

Solon Summer Recreation 2025 was 3 weeks of fun, swimming, learning, and projects for about 25 community youngsters. We held our 3-week program at Solon Elementary School and traveled to Sandy Beach Campground in Madison for swimming lessons. A great deal of time was spent at the beach focused on swimming lessons and water safety. It is vital that our children learn to stay safe in and around the water.

In addition to our traditional activities of tie dye, making slime, oobleck, and planting seeds, we introduced some new activities. Scott Libby stopped by with some of his reptiles and shared some fascinating facts. Brady from Somerset Public Health's Move More Kids Foundation visited and talked to us about healthy eating and fun outdoor activities.

Thank you to the Coolidge Library's librarian Megan Myers for including us in her programs. The build-your-own-birdhouse was a huge hit. Thank you to RSU 74's district summer meals program that provides free breakfast and lunch to our children 18 and under as well as a thank you for allowing the use of the school's facilities and help with transportation.



Thank you to our helpers Ciarrah, Jillian, Dominique, Olive and Xavier.

Respectfully,  
Laura Layman, Program Director

#### Summer Recreation Program

- Swimming Lessons
- Educational Learning
- Field Trip & Activities



# AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Melody Rich, Program Director (2026)

Assistants: Mary Keenan (2026), Jennifer Lachance (2026)

## **OLON AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM RESERVE ACCOUNT**

### INCOME:

Balance 1/1/25	\$ 5,824.99	
Appropriated	<u>\$ 6,500.00</u>	\$11,268.77

### EXPENSES:

Director	\$ 1,550.00		
Aides (2)	\$ 2,175.00		
Supplies & Activities	<u>\$ 301.14</u>	<u>\$ 4,026.14</u>	\$8,298.85

In 2025, there was one fall sessions of 6-weeks and running two days a week. There was no winter/spring session. This program is available to children in grades K – 5. The After School Program has a program that is a mixture of homework, reading, crafts, and educational and fun activities. They had the L C Bates Traveling Museum do two days at the Solon School. There were 26 children who participated in the session: 19 from Solon, 2 from Anson, 1 from Athens, 3 from Embden, and 1 from Skowhegan.

Three teachers from the Solon Elementary School continued this program in 2025. Children from Grades K – 5 are welcome to attend these sessions. Notices about upcoming sessions are sent home with the students' school notices.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO MELODY, MARY, & JENNIFER FOR ALL THE TIME YOU PUT IN TO PROVIDE THIS IMPORTANT PROGRAM FOR OUR CHILDREN!!**



Fun with reptiles during the summer recreation program!

# TOWN SCHOLARSHIPS

The Town manages two scholarship funds, the Carroll C. Jones Scholarship and the Ruth Cross Scholarship. These scholarships are available to Solon residents who graduate from Carrabec High School and go on to higher education. Contact the Selectmen or one of our School Board Directors for more information about these scholarships.

## RAYMOND JAMES INVESTMENT FUND

	Principal	\$30,593.29		
Investment Value 1/1/25		\$59,116.88		
Income		\$ 3,520.74		
Investment Change in Value		<u>\$ 3,338.29</u>	\$65,975.91	
Less				
Investment Advisor Fees			<u>\$ 615.54</u>	
Invest. Funds Balance 12/31/25				\$65,360.37
Principal:				
Jones Fund Principal		\$29,323.29		
Ruth Cross Principal		<u>\$ 1,270.00</u>	\$30,593.29	
Available:				
Jones Fund Available Funds		\$34,262.08		
Ruth Cross Available Funds		<u>\$ 505.00</u>	<u>\$34,767.08</u>	\$65,360.37

## JONES FUND SCHOLARSHIP RESERVE FUND

Income:			
Available Balance 1/1/25		\$21,141.24	
Interest Earned		\$ 256.22	
Investment Income		<u>\$ 8,794.62</u>	\$30,192.08

### 2024 Scholarships Paid Out January 2025:

#### Sophomore Year Awards:

Robert Lindbloom Jr.	\$ 1,000.00
Connor Peabody	\$ 1,000.00

#### Freshman Year Awards:

Cooper Dellarma	\$ 2,000.00		
Hunter Bragg	\$ 2,000.00		
William Lawrence	\$ 2,000.00		
Summer Lindblom	\$ 2,000.00		
Jordyn Plourde	\$ 2,000.00		
Alyssa Schinzel	<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>	<u>\$14,000.00</u>	\$16,192.08

To receive the Jones Fund Scholarship Solon graduates, submit an itemized list of all their higher educational expenses, scholarships, and grants for their first semester to the high school principal by the middle of December. He reviews and verifies the information for each applicant. He then gives a list of the applicants and their unmet need to the Solon School Board members. Our school board members then decide on the scholarship amounts.

In 2021 the School Board Directors from Solon voted to award students that are in their second year of college to receive funds also. This is because of the large amount of available funds and the dwindling number of students applying for the scholarship money.

### RUTH CROSS SCHOLARSHIP RESERVE FUND

Balance 1/1/25	\$ .00	
Interest	<u>\$ .00</u>	\$ 0.00
Paid Out:		
2025 Scholarship	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$0.00

The Selectmen choose one recipient for the Ruth Cross Scholarship each year prior to graduation. The High School Guidance Department submits the names of students planning on going on to higher education. The selectmen then choose one and the scholarship is awarded at the High School graduation ceremony. The scholarship is paid after the selectmen receive proof of the student attending a school of higher learning and receiving passing grades. We paid the 2025 recipient, Machaon Pierce, in January 2026 when we paid out the Jones fund.



# **OLON COMMUNITY FOOD CUPBOARD & THRIFT STORE**

The food cupboard is now open at its new location, 56 North Main Street. It is currently open to the public on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 9 am to 3 pm. Emergency assistance is available by appointment. Also, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday each month from 9:30 to 10:30 am the Winslow Community Cupboard brings their trailer with food, bread, and produce to the Solon Food Cupboard location.

The Thrift Store will be opening sometime in February 2026, and we will be open for more hours. Volunteers are needed for both the Food Cupboard and the Thrift Store! Stop in or contact Linda French if you wish to volunteer.

We would like to thank the Town of Solon and the local Mason's for their continued annual financial support through grants and fundraising.

The **Solon Community Food Cupboard & Thrift Store** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, allowing us to accept tax deductible donations and apply for grants. A Board of Directors has been established to oversee the management of and fundraising for the organization.

Questions or comments related to donations, our project, or other related items, can be directed to [scfcts@gmail.com](mailto:scfcts@gmail.com) or you can reach out to Linda French at 431-0388 or Leslie Giroux at the Solon Town Office for more information.

We are also conducting a **GoFundMe** campaign using the QR code or web link <https://gofund.me/6aee4c57>. ally by reaching out to lease share this fundraising campaign to your friends and family (email, social networks). Thank you, in advance, for any and all support.

We will bring you more information soon!

Respectfully submitted,  
SCFCTS Board of Directors

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**Scan to donate**



**gofundme**

# **OLON COMMUNITY GARDEN**

## **Friends of the Community Garden**

Contact Person: Deb Gerry - 643-2203

Community Garden Reserve Fund

Balance 1/1/2025 & 12/31/2025                      \$2,954.08

Petty Cash

Income

Private Donations                      \$670.00

Expended

Garden Supplies                      \$567.95                      \$ 102.05

Donated Materials and Supplies (estimated value)

Seeds, Plants, & Garden supplies \$1,800.00

Garden Soils & delivery                      \$ 689.90

Greenhouse Maintenance                      \$ 160.00

Gardening classes value of

Presenters and materials                      \$ 50.00                      \$2,699.00

Despite the drought our gardens did well this year. We were very excited to harvest over 9 pounds of peaches from our tree, the blackberries were abundant and the blueberries and veggies produced well again. We provided 950 pounds of produce, and through our partnerships with local growers and gardeners, an additional 1,863 pounds of Apples, Blueberries, Peaches, Pears, Blackberries, Rhubarb and more for Solon Food Cupboard.

We again worked with Coolidge Public Library to provide seed swap and winter sowing events. We added Seedling Transplant Days at our greenhouse where volunteers helped transplant seedlings and took home what they needed for their home gardens. Between those events and our Annual Seedling Days Exchange at our greenhouse we met and welcomed a number of new gardeners/volunteers which made it possible to do some reorganization and clean-up of our garden. All of our events are by donation only and make it possible for our garden to be self-sustainable through the generous donations we receive. Future event dates will be announced on our Facebook page and posters will be put up around town.

The continued support of staff of Solon Food Cupboard, Somerset Public Health, the Town of Solon, the Solon Fire Department, neighbors and our dedicated volunteers are the key to for our garden to continue to produce and be of service to our community. We can't thank each and every person by name but know that we appreciate each and every one.





## HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

On September 29, 1925, Solon's worst fire destroyed much of the village center. In the early hours of the 29<sup>th</sup> a blaze was discovered in Dilling's Garage, the cause was unknown, and it quickly spread. It destroyed 19 buildings on the west side of Main Street and on both sides of Ferry Street at the top of Ferry Hill. This was the most devastating fire in Solon.

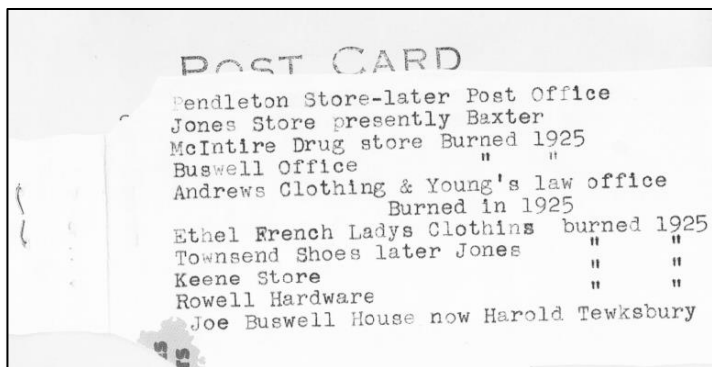
Among the buildings that were burned going northerly on Main Street were McIntire's Store and his tenement on the second floor, a small building used as a lawyer's office t one time by Turner Buswell and later by Thomas Young and Clayton Eames, M. H. Andrew's Men's Clothing Store, F. C. Clark's Notions and Women's Clothing Store, Azel Jones Shoe Store and the large apartment on the second floor, and Charles Rowell Hardware Store.

On hill on Ferry Street 3 houses, the Post Office and tenement, Farmer's Telephone Office, John Lawrence's grocery store, storehouse and tenement; a blacksmith shop, an icehouse, Nora Tozier's house, an icehouse, a storehouse, and a barn were destroyed.

On a short U-shaped street running from Ferry to Main Street Delling's Garage, a blacksmith shop, and two sheds were destroyed.

The total loss was estimated to be over \$50,000 in 1925.

A Special Town Meeting was held on October 12, 1925. The townspeople approved raising \$7,000 for the purchase of a mobile pumper fire engine and hose enough to reach from Fall Brook to the School House in Solon Village. The Selectmen were also authorized to purchase a lot and build a building for the fire engine.



*List of some of the businesses lost in the 1925 fire*

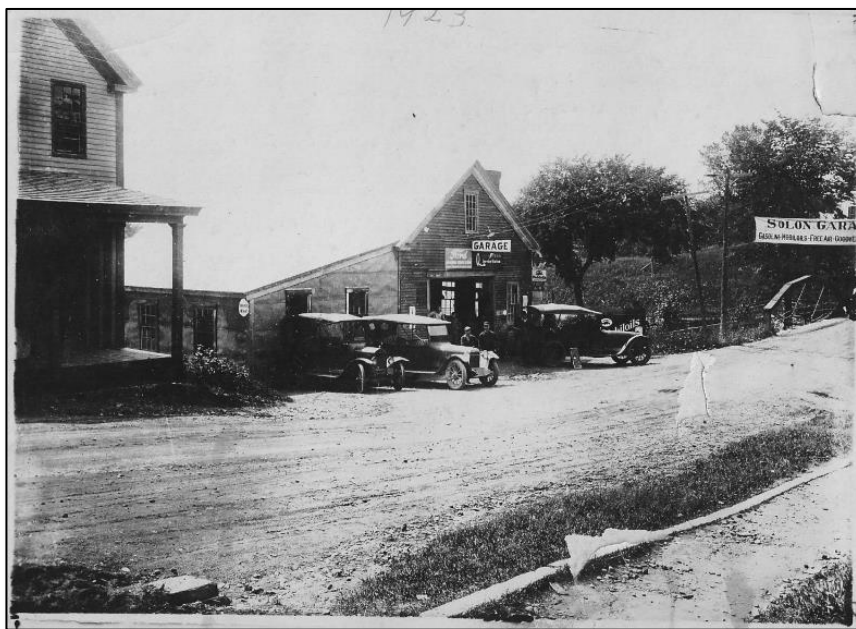




*Downtown Solon (pre 2025 fire)*



*Azel Jones Store (pre 2025 fire)*



*Solon Garage; the area between it and the bridge would be the future location of the Town's first fire station (pre 2025 fire)*



*Iron Bridge over Fall Brook during the town fire in 1925*

## Solon fire of 1925



Other notable town fires over the years were:

- 1893: The Old Caratunk House burned/ It was rebuilt and was known as New Caratunk House, then later Gray's Tavern. It is now the Solon Hotel.
- 1911: A fire destroyed the High School on School Street. It was also the elementary school for the intown children. A new school was built at the site of our current elementary school. That school burnt down in 1979, and the current school was built there.
- 1914: William Soper's store and Charles Moore's barber shop and ice cream parlor on Pleasant Street burned. Both buildings had tenements on their second floors.
- 1920: The International Paper Company mill burned. It was on the Embden side of the river.
- 1920: The Grist Mill on west side of Fall Brook Bridge on Mill Street burned.
- 1930: One of the main buildings of Northern Maine Packing Company near the railroad station, owned by John Lawrence, burned.
- 1944: L. E. Tewksbury's Novelty Mill on Ferry Street, which was located in the old creamery building, burned. He replaced the building by moving Kendal Cross's garage, which was located near Fall Brook on Main Street, in three separate sections to the Ferry Street site.



Solon Creamery (before it became the Novelty Mill) on Ferry Street

## SOLON

# Pond On Fall Brook Provides Fire Protection

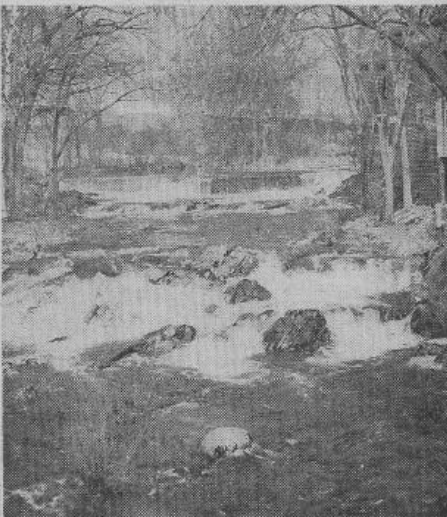
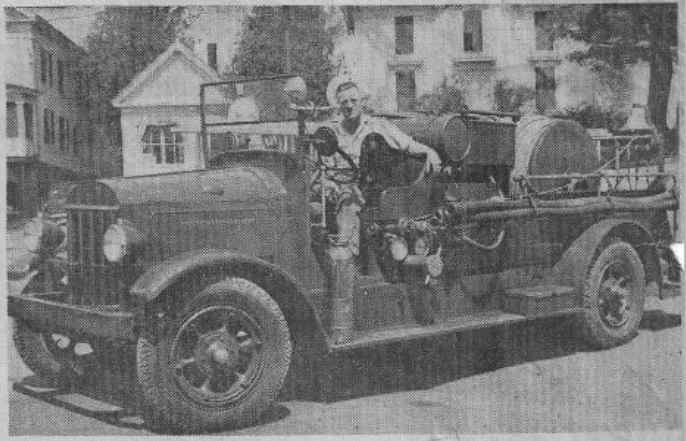
By Eva Bachelder

Fall Brook, passing through the Town of Solon to enter the Kennebec River, is crossed by the Quebec Highway in the hollow just north of the business section. From here the white water, the dam and the one half mile pond beyond are picturesque but to the townspeople are more than that. They mean fire protection. From this brook and its storage of water, the Solon Fire Department has set up an adequate fire protection system.

The town is without a water system and springs and artesian wells supply the homes. Both are good in their way, but of not too much benefit in case of fire and, having experienced a fire a number of years ago which destroyed nearly all of their business section, the people are fully aware of what it can mean.

Men gave free labor to build the cement dam a number of years ago, but a year ago, the south wing was carried out in the spring freshet. Last year the Fire Department from their own funds replaced the wing. In addition to a pumper purchased in 1942, their old pumper of 1925 has been repaired, painted and a motor added. It is now in such condition that it is a second pumper for any occasion. In addition to this there is a portable pumper plus the 1500 feet of one and a half inch hose and 2500 feet of two and one half inch hose, enough to reach to the upper end of north Main Street and south below the school house. There is not a hydrant in town and in case of fire the pumper, placed at the brook or pond, supplies the force of water. Fifteen men are signed on the roll of the Department but others are available when necessary. Bernard Shephardson is chief and Thomas Cross is assistant.

A fire occurred the other day on Hard Scramble where in two woodland dwellings



**BACK ON THE JOB**—Solon's 1926 fire pumper shown in top photo is back on the job after being long out of service. With a new motor, joint job and repairs, the apparatus does a good job as a second pumper for the town. The other was brought in 1942. Chief Bernard Shephardson is pictured with truck. Bottom picture shows picturesque Fall Brook adjacent to Quebec Highway in Solon. Pond created by dam provides water for town's fire protection. (Photos by Weston)

*A newspaper article (circa 1950) displaying the 1925 McCann pumper truck with Fire Chief, Bernard Shephardson seen in the truck. As determined by the buildings in the background, the photo was taken at the corner of North Main St and Ferry St. The little building behind the truck's motor is still standing there today. The article also talks about the 'pond' on Fall Brook, created by the installation of a concrete dam, to allow the fire department to have an adequate water supply to help fight fires (there was no town water supply system).*

# **SOLON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

We would like to start by honoring Ann Padham for all the volunteer time and effort she put in at the Historical Society. She loved preserving Solon's history. She passed away this year and is missed by all of us.

The Historical Society continues its mission of recording and keeping Solon's past. We are always looking for photos, documents, and stories. Please let us know if you have something from "the old days". It does not have to be donated if you want to keep it. We can scan it and return the original to you. We can do that while you wait if you do not want to leave it with us.

The History House is open on Tuesday's from 10 am to 2 pm, except for December, January, and February when we are open by appointment only. (Call Chris Shaw at 557-5818). Visitors are always welcome to see all our displays and information that has been collected over many years.

We also have a monthly meeting at 6:30 pm on the fourth Monday of each month. New members are always welcome and needed.

We can be found on Facebook at "Solon Maine Historical Society". Our email is [solonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:solonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com). The History House phone number is 207-643-2275. Please leave a message and we will return your call.

Donations to the Historical Society are tax deductible. Solon's history needs to be preserved for future generations. We get many Facebook messages and emails of people looking for information about their ancestors. The more information we have the more we can help people to put together their family story.

Memorial donations are appreciated and can either be to pay for the costs to run the Historical Society or to add to the Investment Funds principal.

## **TRUSTEES**

Juanita McAllister (2026)                      Bud Boynton (2027)  
Ann Padham (2025) (passed away May 2025)

## **OFFICERS**

President: Chris Shaw                      Vice President: Jeff McAllister  
Treasurer: Maureen Shaw              Secretary: Maureen Shaw

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY RESERVE

Balance 1/1/2025	\$ 3,487.39		
Dues, Sales, and Donations	\$ 956.88		
Insurance Claim	\$ 490.00		
Investment Income			
IBM	\$ 80.48		
Investment Fund	\$ 5,000.00	\$10,014.75	
Paid Out:			
Post Office Box	\$ 102.00		
Supplies	\$ 488.00		
Phone & Internet	\$ 1,223.57		
Electric	\$ 1,021.36		
Water District	\$ 238.60		
Heat	\$ 1,990.12		
Security System	\$ 383.88		
Building Maintenance	\$ 990.00		
Furnace Maintenance	\$ 320.00		
Grounds Maintenance	<u>\$ 50.00</u>	<u>\$ 6,807.53</u>	\$3,207.22

## RAYMOND JAMES INVESTMENT FUND

Balance 1/1/25	\$158,397.63		
Income	\$ 9,423.61		
Change in Value	<u>\$ 9,020.02</u>	\$159,931.40	
Expended			
Withdrawals	\$ 5,000.00		
Fees	<u>\$ 1,649.83</u>	<u>\$ 6,649.83</u>	\$170,191.43

## INVESTMENT ACCOUNT BALANCE

Reserve Principal	\$110,000.00	
Available Funds	<u>\$ 60,191.43</u>	\$170,191.43



The Historical Society History House on South Main Street

# **SOLON WATER DISTRICT**

PO BOX 131, SOLON ME 04979-0131      207-643-2473

PAYMENT DROP BOX: SOLON TOWN OFFICE, 121 S. MAIN STREET

**TRUSTEES:**

Michael Foster, Chairman (2026)

Arthur Rogers, Secretary (2027)

Derek Dellarma, Treasurer (2028)

Shawna Albert, Office Clerk

Payments can be mailed to the above address. For cash payments placed in the Water District drop box in the lobby of the Town Office, please put them in a sealed envelope with your name on it so we can credit the correct account.

**INCOME:**

Residential Sales - Metered	\$ 42,087.66
Commercial Sales – Metered	\$ 7,877.71
Public Authority – Metered	\$ 2,369.46
Non-Profit - Sales Tax Exempt	\$ 1,542.20
Public Fire Protection Charges	\$ 24,856.00
Private Fire Protection Charges	\$ 746.24
Establishment/Reconnection Fees	\$ 389.70
Collection Trip & Late Fees	\$ 900.00
Equipment Repair	\$ 451.90
Grant Funds	\$ 5,955.00
Other Revenue	<u>\$ 634.90</u>
	\$87,810.77

**EXPENSES:**

Salaries, labor, trustee stipends	\$ 27,941.00
Central Maine Power	\$ 8,808.40
Supplies for Operations	\$ 3,550.14
Supplies for Administration	\$ 1,399.77
Contractual Other Finance	\$ 6,000.00
Contractual Accounting	\$ 175.00
Contractual Testing	\$ 1,568.00
Contractual Oher Field Work	\$ 25,614.92
Rental of Equipment	\$ 765.00
Transportation Expense	\$ 266.00
Insurance	\$ 5,990.00
Telephone/Cell Expense	\$ 2,287.16
Trainings/Conferences	\$ 678.38
Loan Administration Fees	\$ 5,647.25
Bank Fees & Safe Deposit Box Fee	\$ 20.00
Dues & Miscellaneous Fees	\$ 1,918.88
Regulatory Assessment Fees	\$ 333.00
Payroll Taxes	<u>\$ 3,972.49</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>\$96,935.39</u> (\$ 9,124.62)



# BAKER MOUNTAIN SKI TOW CLUB

Baker Mountain Ski Area was established in 1937 and is one of the oldest ski areas in the state and is one of only 14 community ski areas left in Maine. Baker Mountain Ski Tow Club members and volunteers have run the ski area since 1959. Many surrounding towns donate towards the operating budget so ticket prices can be kept reasonable. There is a 2,140-foot T-bar, one large open slope, and 4 side trails and a 'bunny slope' that can also be used for free sledding. There are ski and snowboard rentals, and free lessons are sometimes available. It is open weekends and school vacations and has night skiing. There is also a snack bar. For more information or to volunteer, call 717-0404.

## INCOME:

Balance 1/1/2025	\$ 5,896.66	
Town of Bingham	\$ 7,000.00	
Town of Caratunk	\$ 750.00	
Town of Embden	\$ 1,000.00	
Town of The Forks	\$ 1,000.00	
Town of Moscow	\$ 7,000.00	
Town of Pleasant Ridge	\$ 3,500.00	
Town of Solon	\$ 1,250.00	
Town of West Forks	\$ 750.00	
Food Sales	\$ 2,525.75	
Day Tickets	\$ 2,520.00	
Night Tickets	\$ 1,320.00	
Rentals	\$ 1,113.00	
Seasonal	\$ 850.00	
Miscellaneous	\$ 149.00	
Donations	<u>\$ 1,788.08</u>	\$38,515.83

## EXPEDITURES:

Telephone	\$ 80.61	
Fuel	\$ 227.65	
Food	\$ 1,995.86	
Repairs	\$ 3,958.36	
Central Maine Power	\$ 9,221.89	
Heat	\$ 5,396.01	
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,025.63	
Insurance	\$ 9,958.32	
Inspections	<u>\$ 2,700.00</u>	<u>\$35,564.33</u>
Balance 12/31/2025		\$ 2,848.16

# 2025 AUDITOR'S REPORT

## Town of Solon, Maine Management's Discussion and Analysis Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2025

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The total unassigned fund balance for the general fund was \$796,048, which represents 25% of the total general fund expenditures, and includes the \$157,433 due from FEMA/MEMA expected to be received in 2026.

### **Government Wide Financial Analysis:**

Approximately 51% of the Town's net position is its investment in capital assets such as land, buildings, equipment and infrastructure (roads, bridges, etc), less any related outstanding debt used to acquire those assets. The Town uses these assets to provide services to the community; these capital assets are not available for future spending. While the Town's investment in the capital assets is reported net of the related debt, it is important to note that the resources required to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves are not liquid assets.

	Governmental Activities	
	12/31/2025	12/31/2024
Current Assets *	\$ 2,463,090	\$ 2,607,005
Capital Assets	2,783,422	2,920,270
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>5,414,483</b>	<b>5,527,275</b>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total Assets &amp; Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>\$ 5,246,512</b>	<b>\$ 5,527,275</b>
Current Liabilities	\$ 16,396	\$ 127,544
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>16,396</b>	<b>127,544</b>
Property Taxes Collected in Advance	4,688	2,960
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>4,688</b>	<b>2,960</b>
<b>NET POSITION:</b>		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	2,783,422	2,920,270
Unrestricted	2,442,006	2,476,501
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>5,225,428</b>	<b>5,396,771</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 5,246,512</b>	<b>\$ 5,527,275</b>

\* These numbers included funds expected to be received from FEMA/MEMA in 2026 of \$157,433.

**Town of Solon, Maine**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2025**

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Approximately 67% of the Town's total revenue was made up by taxes – property and excise, approximately 27% was from State revenues and grants, and approximately 6% was made up of interest, charges for services, and other miscellaneous revenues.

	Governmental Activities	
	12/31/2025	12/31/2024
<b>Revenues:</b>		
<i>Program Revenues:</i>		
Charges for Services	\$ 20,482	\$ 22,748
Operating Grants and Contributions *	777,6110	1,534,963
<i>General Revenues:</i>		
Taxes	2,336,215	2,297,867
Other revenues	168,636	102,883
Transfer from Fiduciary fund	19,867	9,601
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>3,321,310</b>	<b>3,968,062</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
General government	354,477	356,159
Protection	118,228	129,422
Public works	531,929	487,330
Sanitation	114,915	145,338
Education	1,335,862	1,292,752
County tax	267,178	249,321
Interest on long-term debt	-	-
Health and welfare	18,918	28,803
Unclassified	348,983	64,937
Depreciation	402,163	359,186
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,492,653</b>	<b>3,113,249</b>
<b>Changes in Net Position</b>	<b>(171,343)</b>	<b>854,813</b>
<b>Beginning Net Position</b>	<b>5,396,771</b>	<b>4,541,958</b>
<b>Ending Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 5,225,428</b>	<b>\$ 5,396,771</b>

\* These numbers included funds expected to be received from FEMA/MEMA in 2026 of \$157,433.

**Financial Analysis of the Fund Financial Statements:**

The focus of the Town's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows and balances of resources available for spending. This information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirements. In particular, the unassigned fund balance may serve as a benchmark of a government's net resources for spending at the end of the year.

**Town of Solon, Maine**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2025**

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At the end of the year, the Town's governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$2,273,026, a decrease of \$(32,725) from the prior year. Approximately 36% of the total is the Town's unassigned fund balance. The remainder is reserved to indicate that it is not available for spending due to being committed to liquidate contracts and commitments of the prior year, or for a variety of other purposes.

Differences between the original budget and the final amended budget include budget appropriations carried over from the prior year and other revenues collected during the fiscal year.

For further detail, a budget to actual comparison for the General Fund can be found on Schedule A, page 26 of the financial statements.

**Capital Assets:**

The Town's investment in capital assets for the governmental activities is \$13,364,830, net of accumulated depreciation of \$10,581,408, giving a net book value of \$2,783,422. Additions to capital assets for the year include; grader with mulch head, plow truck, electronic sign, and 4x4 slide unit for rescue polaris.

The Town's capital asset activity for the year can be found in the footnotes on page 23 of this report.

**Long-Term Debt:**

The Town had no outstanding long-term debt as of December 31, 2025.

**Contacting the Town's Management:**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town's finances for all interested parties. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Town Office at 121 S. Main Street, Solon, Maine 04979.

Town of Solon, Maine  
Statement of Net Position  
December 31, 2025

		Total Governmental Activities
<hr/>		
<b>ASSETS:</b>		
<b>Current assets:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,094,432	
Accounts receivable	157,433	
Taxes receivable	177,691	
Tax liens receivable	<u>33,534</u>	
<i>Total current assets</i>		\$ 2,463,090
<b>Non-current assets:</b>		
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>2,783,422</u>	
<i>Total non-current assets</i>		<u>2,783,422</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>		<b><u>\$ 5,246,512</u></b>
<hr/>		
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>		
<b>Current liabilities:</b>		
Accounts payable	<u>\$ 16,396</u>	
<i>Total current liabilities</i>		\$ 16,396
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:</b>		
Taxes collected in advance	<u>4,688</u>	
<i>Total deferred inflows of resources</i>		4,688
<b>NET POSITION:</b>		
Net investment in capital assets	2,783,422	
Unrestricted	<u>2,442,006</u>	
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>		<u>5,225,428</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION</b>		<b><u>\$ 5,246,512</u></b>

Town of Solon, Maine  
Statement of Activities  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position	
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Primary Government	
				Governmental Activities	Total
<i>Governmental activities:</i>					
General government	\$ 354,477	\$ 10,345	\$ -	\$ (344,132)	\$ (344,132)
Protection	118,228	-	-	(118,228)	(118,228)
Public works	531,929	2,816	51,184	(477,929)	(477,929)
Sanitation	114,915	7,321	-	(107,594)	(107,594)
Education	1,335,862	-	-	(1,335,862)	(1,335,862)
County tax	267,178	-	-	(267,178)	(267,178)
Health and welfare	18,918	-	4,259	(14,659)	(14,659)
Unclassified	348,983	-	235,646	(113,337)	(113,337)
Depreciation	402,163	-	-	(402,163)	(402,163)
<i>Total governmental activities</i>	<i>3,492,653</i>	<i>20,482</i>	<i>291,089</i>	<i>(3,181,082)</i>	<i>(3,181,082)</i>
<i>Total primary government</i>	<i>3,492,653</i>	<i>20,482</i>	<i>291,089</i>	<i>(3,181,082)</i>	<i>(3,181,082)</i>
<i>General revenues:</i>					
Property taxes, levied for general purposes					2,091,372
Excise taxes					244,843
Licenses and permits					14,172
<i>Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs:</i>					
State revenue sharing					203,525
Other					282,996
Investment income					34,899
Miscellaneous revenues					118,065
Transfers from Fiduciary Fund (net)					19,867
<i>Total general revenues and transfers</i>					<i>3,009,739</i>
<i>Changes in net position</i>					<i>(171,343)</i>
<b>NET POSITION - BEGINNING</b>					<b>5,396,771</b>
<b>NET POSITION - ENDING</b>				<b>\$</b>	<b>5,225,428</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Town of Solon, Maine  
Balance Sheet  
Governmental Funds  
December 31, 2025

	General Fund	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,094,432	\$ 2,094,432
Accounts receivable	157,433	157,433
Taxes receivable, net	177,691	177,691
Tax liens receivable	33,534	33,534
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,463,090</b>	<b>\$ 2,463,090</b>
<b>LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES</b>		
<i>Liabilities:</i>		
Accounts payable	\$ 16,396	\$ 16,396
<i>Total liabilities</i>	16,396	16,396
<i>Deferred inflows of resources:</i>		
Taxes collected in advance	4,688	4,688
Uncollected property taxes	168,980	168,980
<i>Total deferred inflows of resources</i>	173,668	173,668
<i>Fund balances:</i>		
Assigned - see footnotes	1,476,978	1,476,978
Unassigned	796,048	796,048
<i>Total fund balances</i>	2,273,026	2,273,026
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$ 2,463,090</b>	
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position (Stmnt. 1) are different because:</i>		
Depreciable and non-depreciable capital assets as reported in Stmnt. 1		2,783,422
Uncollected property taxes not reported on Stmnt. 1		168,980
<b>NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,225,428</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Town of Solon, Maine  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances  
Governmental Funds  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

	General Fund	Total Governmental Funds
<b>REVENUES:</b>		
Property taxes	\$ 2,093,142	\$ 2,093,142
Excise taxes	244,843	244,843
Intergovernmental revenue	777,610	777,610
Charges for services	20,482	20,482
Licenses and permits	14,172	14,172
Investment income	34,899	34,899
Other revenue	118,065	118,065
<i>Total revenues</i>	<i>3,303,213</i>	<i>3,303,213</i>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>		
General government	354,477	354,477
Protection	126,678	126,678
Public works	763,664	763,664
Sanitation	114,915	114,915
Education	1,335,862	1,335,862
County tax	267,178	267,178
Health and welfare	18,918	18,918
Unclassified	374,113	374,113
<i>Total expenditures</i>	<i>3,355,805</i>	<i>3,355,805</i>
<i>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures</i>	<i>(52,592)</i>	<i>(52,592)</i>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>		
Transfers in	19,867	19,867
Transfers out	-	-
<i>Total other financing sources (uses)</i>	<i>19,867</i>	<i>19,867</i>
<i>Net change in fund balances</i>	<i>(32,725)</i>	<i>(32,725)</i>
<b>FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING</b>	<b>2,305,751</b>	<b>2,305,751</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES - ENDING</b>	<b>\$ 2,273,026</b>	<b>\$ 2,273,026</b>

accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.



Town of Solon, 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 December 31, 2025

<b>Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds (Statement 4)</b>	<b>\$ (32,725)</b>
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities (Stmnt. 2) are different due to the following items:	
Depreciation expense recorded on Statement of Activities, yet not required to be recorded as expenditures on Governmental Funds Report	(402,163)
Capital outlays expensed on the Governmental Funds Report (Stmnt. 4), yet not considered an expense for the purposes of Statement of Activities (Stmnt. 2)	265,315
Revenues in the Statement of Activities (Stmnt 2) that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds. More specifically, this amount represents the change in deferred property taxes and other deferred revenue.	(1,770)
<b>Changes in net position of governmental activities (see Stmnt. 2)</b>	<b>\$ (171,343)</b>

Statement 5

Town of Solon, Maine  
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position  
Fiduciary Funds  
December 31, 2025

	<u>Private Purpose Trust Fund</u>	
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Investments	\$ 1,029,727	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ 1,029,727</b>
<b>NET POSITION</b>		
Held for:		
Library trust	\$ 104,814	
Historical society	170,192	
Cemetery	244,463	
Scholarship	65,360	
Jones fund	444,898	
Fiduciary net position		<b>\$ 1,029,727</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET POSITION</b>		<b>\$ 1,029,727</b>

Town of Solon, Maine  
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position  
Fiduciary Funds  
For the year ended December 31, 2025

	Private Purpose Trust Fund
<b>Additions:</b>	
Investment income	\$ 40,225
Gain on investments	131,429
Transfers in	-
	<u>171,654</u>
<b>Deductions:</b>	
Investment fees	(5,620)
Transfers (out)	<u>(19,867)</u>
	(25,487)
<b><i>Change in Net Position</i></b>	<u>146,167</u>
<b>NET POSITION - BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<u>883,560</u>
<b>NET POSITION - END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 1,029,727</b>

Respectfully submitted,

Mindy J. Cyr, CPA  
Maine Municipal Audit Services, PA  
Municipal Auditor

# RESULTS OF 2025 TOWN MEETING

Article 1: Peter Mills was elected Moderator.

Article 2: The following were elected:

Selectman: Elaine Aloes, 3-year term

Road Commissioner: Jeffrey Cyr, 1 year term

School Board Directors: Robert Lindbolm, 3-year term

Article 3: Approved covering the overage in the Accounts Overage account.

Articles 4-19: Spending articles adopted as recommended.

Article 20: Article to raise \$3,000 for Ironbound Pond Association failed.

Article 21: Approved the purchase of an electronic outside sign.

Article 22: Approved using Assessing Revaluation Reserve funds for the ongoing assessment process by the Assessors.

Article 23: Approved using Transfer Station Truck & Equipment Reserve Fund to purchase a glass crusher for the Transfer Station.

Article 24: Approved reimbursing LRAP with FEMA funds for overages related to the May and December 2023 flooding events.

Article 25: Approved using FEMA funds to purchase a brush mulcher.

Article 26: Approved using FEMA funds to purchase an equipment trailer.

Article 27: Approved keeping the 1-ton Ford truck.

Article 28: Approved transferring the Rainy Day Fund to the Public Works Garage Reserve.

Article 29: Approved transferring the \$175,000 of FEMA fund to the Public Works Garage Reserve.

Article 30: Approved using funds in the Public Works Garage Reserve to renovate the Public Works garage.

Article 31: Approved authorizing the Selectmen to apply for, accept, and expend grant money for the purpose of renovating or replacing our Public Works Garage Building.

Article 32: The Town approved giving funds received from the State government, Federal government, or other organizations related to the Solon Snowhawks Snowmobile to them.

Article 33: Approved the revised "Foreclosed Property Ordinance".

Article 34: Did not approve a change to the "Adult Use Marijuana Cultivation Ordinance".

Articles 35 through 41: These articles are either required by Maine law every year or are articles included every year for the reasons stated in the articles. All were approved as recommended.

# **2025 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING RESULTS**

## **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MAY 7, 2025**

To Dianna Rollins, a resident of the Town of Solon in the County of Somerset: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required by law to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Solon, qualified to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Town Office Conference Room on the 7th day of May AD 2025 at seven o'clock in the evening, then and there, in accordance with the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine 1964, Title 30, Paragraph 2051 and seq. or as amended, to elect a moderator, and to transact all other business as enumerated in this Warrant.

Article 1: To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

*Motion to elect Richard Roberts as Moderator: Marylou Ridley.  
Second, by Michael Golden.*

Article 2: To see if the Town will approve transferring funds from the FEMA reserve to the Highway Equipment Reserve Funds.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes and to transfer \$125,000.

*Motion to approve Article 2 as recommended: Sherry Rogers. Second, by Craig Gerry. Motion carried.*

Article 3: To see if the Town will approve the purchase of a used Grader from Highway Equipment Reserve Funds.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes and authorize the Selectmen to spend up to \$150,000 from the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund and to sell or trade in the 1990 John Deere grader with the proceeds from a sale to go into the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund.

*Motion to approve Article 3 as recommended: Sherry Rogers. Second, by Evan Roderick. Motion carried.*

## **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING SEPTEMBER 3, 2025**

To Dianna Rollins, a resident of the Town of Solon in the County of Somerset:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required by law to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Solon, qualified to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Town Office Conference Room on the 3rd day of September AD 2025 at seven o'clock in the evening, then and there, in accordance with

the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine 1964, Title 30, Paragraph 2051 and seq. or as amended, to elect a moderator, and to transact all other business as enumerated in this Warrant.

Article 1: To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

*Motion to elect Richard Roberts as Moderator: Michael Golden.*

*Second by Denise Dunay. With no other nominations, motion carries.*

Article 2: To see if the Town will approve transferring funds from the FEMA reserve to the Highway Equipment Reserve Funds.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes and to transfer \$31,000.

*Motion to approve Article 2 as recommended by Denise Dunay.*

*Seconded by Bruce Whipple. Motion carried.*

Article 3: To see if the Town will approve the purchase of a new dump body for the 2017 Western Star truck from Highway Equipment Reserve Funds.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes and to authorize the Selectmen to spend up to \$56,000 from the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund.

*Motion to approve Article 3 as recommended by Denise Dunay.*

*Seconded by Michael Golden. Motion carried.*



*2016 Spirit of America Award to the Solon Fire Department Auxiliary*



*2018 Spirit of America Award to the Solon Fire Department*

# **RULES OF TOWN MEETING**

- All comments or questions will be directed to the Moderator. No one may speak until recognized by the moderator.
- The article will be read in full, and the recommendations of the Selectmen and Budget Committee will be stated.
- An affirmative motion will be made by an identified voter and seconded by an identified voter. No negatives motions will be accepted.
- The Moderator will ask for a show of hands in favor and in opposition of the motion.
- A written ballot vote can be requested and will be done if the voters choose to do so.
- The vote will be announced. The vote may be challenged by at least 7 voters.
- Any decision by the moderator may be challenged. He may be overruled by a majority vote of the voters.
- No smoking is allowed in the building.
- General provisions for town meetings are contained in MSRA Title 30.

## **GENERAL TOWN MEETING PROVISIONS**

*THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS APPLY TO ALL TOWN MEETINGS:*

1. **QUALIFIED VOTER:** Every registered voter in the town may vote in the election of all town officials and in all town affairs.
2. **MODERATOR ELECTED AND SWORN:** The Clerk, or in the Clerk's absence a Selectman or Constable, shall open the meeting by:
  - a. Calling for the election of a moderator by written ballot
  - b. Receiving and counting votes for moderator
  - c. Swearing in the moderator
3. **MODERATOR PRESIDES:** As soon as he/she has been elected and sworn in, the moderator shall preside over and supervise the voting at the meeting and may appoint a deputy moderator to assist. If the moderator is absent or unable to carry out the duties, the Clerk, or in the clerk's absence a selectman or constable, may call for the election of a deputy moderator to act in the absence of the moderator.
  - a. All persons shall be silent at the moderator's command. A person may not speak before the moderator recognizes that person. A person who is not a voter in the town may speak at the meeting only with the consent of 2/3 of the voters present.

- b. If any person, after a command for order by the moderator, continues to act in a disorderly manner, the moderator may direct that person to leave the meeting. If the person refuses to leave, the moderator may have that person removed by a constable and confined until the meeting is adjourned.
  - c. When a vote declared by the moderator is immediately questioned by at least 7 voters, the moderator shall make certain by polling the voters or by a method directed by the municipal legislative body.
  - d. The moderator shall serve until the meeting is adjourned. The moderator is subject to the same penalties for neglect of official duty as other town officials.
4. VOTES RECORDED BY THE CLERK: The clerk shall accurately record the votes of the meeting. If the clerk is absent, the moderator shall appoint and swear in a temporary clerk.
5. WRITTEN BALLOTS: The clerk shall prepare the ballots. Ballots shall be of uniform size and color and must be blank except that 2 squares with “yes” on one and “no” by the other may be printed on them. The moderator shall ensure that each voter receives only one ballot for each vote taken.
6. LOCATION OF MEETINGS: Town meetings may be held outside the corporate limits of the municipality if the municipal officers determine that there is not adequate facility for the meeting within the municipality.
- The proposed location must be:
- a. Within an adjoining or nearby municipality
  - b. Not more than 25 miles from the corporate limits of the municipality holding the meeting.
  - c. Reasonably accessible to all voters of the town.

**The Inhabitants of the Town of Solon are requested to register to vote and assemble to vote on town affairs, at the Solon Elementary School on the first Saturday of March at 1:30 pm to attend the Annual Town Meeting.**

**The election of municipal officials (Board of Selectmen, Road Commissioner, RSU 75 Board of Directors) is held in the forenoon from 8:00 am to 12:15 pm. Absentee ballots are available from the Clerk’s Office 30 days prior.**

# **TOWN MEETING RELATED ORDINANCES**

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ORDINANCE**

All warrant articles shall be reviewed by the Advisory Committee prior to any Annual or Special Town Meeting. No articles will be accepted after the Advisory Committee meets.

## **ANTICIPATED BUDGET EXPENSE ORDINANCE**

The Town will authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the previous annual budget during the period from January 1<sup>st</sup> of next year to the Annual Town Meeting.

## **LONGFELLOW CABLE FRANCHISE FEES ORDINANCE**

All franchise fees received from Longfellow Cable Company Inc. shall be placed in an Office Equipment and Maintenance Account. *(Longfellow Cable is now Spectrum Charter Cable)*

## **APPOINTED OFFICIALS' ORDINANCE**

All appointed officials of the Town shall continue in their appointments until reappointments are made.

## **SNOWMOBILE REIMBURSEMENT ORDINANCE**

The Town shall give to the Solon Snowhawks Snowmobile Club all monies returned to the Town by the State Treasurer for snowmobile registrations. All monies are to be used on trails and bridges open to public use within the Town of Solon.



*Solon Band on North Main St at town center (circa 1900)*



# EXPLANATIONS OF ARTICLES

## 2026 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The 2026 municipal budget by taxation, as presented by the Selectmen and the Advisory Committee, is \$1,347,935 which is an increase of \$62,424 from 2025. After deducting our available surplus, anticipated department revenue, KRDA revenue, and revenue sharing the amount needed to be raised by taxation for municipal expenditures is \$638,394 which is an increase of \$45,492 from 2025.

**ARTICLES 3 THRU 16:** Articles to raise money for various purposes. Our Budget Worksheet will be available at the Town Office and at the Town Meeting. Salaries have been increased due to the 3% cost-of-living increase reported in December. Other items of note in that group are listed below.

**ARTICLE 4: GENERAL GOVERNMENT:** This year's budget request is the same as in 2025. The Chair of Selectmen hours have been increased from 28 to 30 hours a week. Our Workers Compensation Insurance and our property and equipment insurance have increased this year.

**ARTICLES 5 & 6: PUBLIC WORKS & SANITATION:** Small increase to salaries & cost of supplies.

**ARTICLE 8: FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Safety equipment upgrade requirements continue to rise. Certification costs for our fire fighters and our equipment continue to rise also.

**ARTICLE 17:** We have been unable to hire an assessment firm to do the town's revaluation. The Selectmen/Assessors have taken on the revaluation project and it will require a lot more work than is customary for the Assessors. They are visiting every property and taking pictures of the buildings and documenting the information on each building. Also, all the information will have to be inputted into our real estate assessment program. We want to use the revaluation reserve funds to cover the cost of the additional time involved in doing this.

**ARTICLE 18:** We need to pave the lower section of Cross Street now that the bridge project is completed. The road crew will also be replacing culverts on South Solon Road and Meeting House Road in preparation for the 2027 paving project on these roads.

**ARTICLE 19:** We have decided to combine our Recreation Reserve and our Recreation Facility and Maintenance Reserve into one reserve account.

**ARTICLES 20 to 23:** These articles are related to the new Public Works Garage

and the Congressionally Directed Spending Grant we were awarded for this project. We were awarded \$1,500,000 in federal funding and our required match is \$500,000. Our current location is not large enough to build the new garage on, so we are looking at other sites.

**ARTICLES 24 through 33:** These articles are either required by Maine law every year or are articles included every year for the reasons stated in the articles.

## **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

### **WARRANT FOR MARCH 7, 2026 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

To Dianna Rollins, a resident of the Town of Solon in the County of Somerset:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required by law to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Solon, qualified to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Solon Elementary School on the 7th day of March AD 2026 at eight o'clock in the forenoon, then and there, in accordance with the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine 1964, Title 30, Paragraph 2051 and seq. or as amended, to elect a moderator, and to transact all other business as enumerated in this Warrant.

For the election of officials, the polls will open immediately after the election of a Moderator and will remain open until 12:15 PM. The Clerk will open absentee ballots at 10:00 AM on March 7, 2026. The transaction of other business as enumerated in Articles 3 to 33 will begin at 1:30 PM.

Article 1: To choose a Moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

Article 2: To elect by secret ballot all municipal officials and school committee members required to be elected.

Nominated Candidates:

Selectman, 3-year term: John Dunay

Road Commissioner, 1-year term: Jeffrey Cyr

RSU # 74 School Board Director, 3-year term: Laura Layman

Article 3: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Requests:

Salaries & Benefits \$219,695

Insurance \$ 45,000

Town Office Utilities \$ 5,200

Town Charges	\$ 43,295
Town Office Maintenance	\$ 3,800
Training, Books, & Dues	\$ 1,800
Elections	\$ 2,350
Accounts Overage	\$ 5,000

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$326,140 plus fees, income, & reimbursements.

Article 4: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PUBLIC WORKS.

Requests:

Winter Roads	\$153,400
Summer Roads	\$158,200

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$309,100 by taxation plus \$2,500 anticipated revenues plus other fees, income, & reimbursements.

Article 5: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for SANITATION.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$104,700 by taxation plus \$7,000 anticipated revenues plus other fees, income, & reimbursements.

Article 6: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for COOLIDGE LIBRARY RESERVE

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$28,900 plus \$2,000 anticipated investment income plus other fees, income, & reimbursements.

Article 7: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for the FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$60,025 plus fees, income, & reimbursements.

Article 8: To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PUBLIC UTILITIES.

Requests:

Fire Hydrants	\$24,900
Municipal Buildings Electric	\$ 8,000
Street Lights	\$10,000

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$42,900

Article 9: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for SOCIAL SERVICES.

Requests:

General Assistance	\$15,000
KVCAP Transportation Service	\$ 750 (request \$750)
Hospice	\$ 1,000 (request \$1,000)

Spectrum Generations	\$ 827 (request \$827)
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$ 1,850 (request \$1,850)
Sexual Support & Crisis Center	\$ 342 (request \$342)
Solon Food Cupboard	\$ 8,000 (request \$8,000)
Lifeflight Foundation	\$ 200 (request \$778)
American Red Cross	\$ 150 (request \$150)
Winslow Community Cupboard	\$ 100 (request \$100)
Pine Tree Society	\$ 100 (request \$100)
Sweetser Mental Health	\$ 100 (request \$100)
Children's Center	\$ 530 (request \$530)
Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$28,949	

Article 10: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for CODE ENFORCEMENT.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$8,800

Article 11: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for LEISURE SERVICES.

Requests:

Solon Recreation Program Reserve	\$ 1,000
Cobra Recreation	\$ 5,000
Williams Recreation Area	\$10,000
Swim/Camp Program Reserve	\$ 3,000
After School Program Reserve	\$ 7,000
Special Events	\$ 1,000
4th of July Fireworks	\$ 2,500
Baker Mountain Ski Club	\$ 1,250

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$30,750 plus income, donations, & reserve funds

Article 12: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for the CEMETERY MAINTENANCE RESERVE.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$27,000 plus income, donations, & reserve funds

Article 13: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for ANIMAL WELFARE.

Requests:

Animal Shelter	\$2,200
Animal Control Officer	\$3,760
Animal Control Expenses	\$1,000

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$6,960 and the use of Town Dog Reserve funds for Animal Control related expenses

Article 14: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for ORGANIZATION FEES.

Requests:

Old Canada Road Byway	\$ 500 (request \$500)
Kennebec Valley Council of Governments	\$1,625 (request \$1,625)
Maine Municipal Association	\$2,508 (request \$2,508)
Somerset Economic Development	\$ 100 (request \$100)
KRDA/First Park	\$5,200

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$9,933 and use the revenue from KRDA/First Park to offset their fee

Article 15: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for the CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS.

Requests:

Road Paving Reserve Account	\$ 20,000
Gravel Roads Reserve	\$ 10,000
Highway Equipment Reserve	\$ 25,000
Public Works Garage Reserve	\$220,000
Sidewalk Repair Reserve	\$ 10,000
Transfer Station Truck & Equipment Res.	\$ 15,000
Coolidge Library Capital Reserve	\$ 3,000
Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve	\$ 3,500
Fire Truck Reserve	\$ 10,000
Fire Department Capital Reserve	\$ 1,000

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$317,500

Article 16: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for the RESERVE ACCOUNTS.

Requests:

Municipal Buildings Heat Reserve	\$10,000
FD Safety Equipment Reserve	\$ 5,000
GIS Mapping Reserve	\$ 2,000
Town Line Survey Reserve	\$ 2,500
Municipal Grounds Maintenance Reserve	\$ 2,000
Web Site Fee Reserve	\$ 2,000
Town Flags Reserve	\$ 2,000
Town Records Preservation Reserve	\$ 4,500
USA 250 <sup>th</sup> Celebration	\$ 4,000

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$34,000

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to pay the Selectmen, Clerk, Deputy Clerk, and Deputy Assessor for field work and data entry related to the real estate revaluation from the Assessing Revaluation Reserve Fund.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use funds in the Road Paving Reserve to repave Cross Street and the areas of 2026 culvert replacements on South Solon Road and Meeting House Road.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes and to use up to \$35,000 of the reserve funds

Article 19: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to close the Recreation Facility and Maintenance Reserve and move any funds remaining in that reserve to the Recreation Reserve.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 20: To see if the Town will accept the \$1,500,000 Congressionally Directed Spending Grant to build a new Public Works Garage and to authorize the municipal officers to accept said grant funds, to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as are necessary and reasonable to implement this project.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 21: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to use the funds in the Public Works Garage Reserve fund for the Public Works Garage project and, if funding is available, for a new salt shed at the new Public Works Garage location, for our 25% match for the Congressionally Directed Spending Grant.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the town, to negotiate and enter into a purchase and sale agreement for the purchase of a parcel of land to be used as the site of the Town's new public works garage, and to appropriate funds from the Public Works Garage Reserve for the purchase of the property.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes and to appropriate up to \$200,000 from the Public Works Garage Reserve for the purchase of property for the project

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow a sum of money for the Public Works Garage project and for a new salt shed at the new Public Works Garage location,

#### Financial Statement

Town of Solon

Total Town Indebtedness:

A. Bonds Outstanding	\$
0.00	

B. Bonds Authorized and unissued	\$ 0.00
C. Bonds to be issued if this question is approved	<u>\$200,000.00</u>
Total	\$200,000.00

#### Costs

At an estimated interest rate of 5.47%, the estimated cost of this bond issue over 10 years will be:

Principal	\$200,000.00
Interest	\$ 60,142.00
Total Debt Service	\$260,142.00

#### Validity:

The validity of the bonds and of the voter's ratification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the above estimates. If the actual amount of the total debt service for bond issues varies from the estimate, the ratification by the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the bond issue is not affected by the reason of variance. /s/ Danika Riggs, Treasurer Town of Solon

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend borrowing up to \$200,000 on a 10-year note

Article 24: To see if the town will vote to appropriate to pay tax abatements granted during the fiscal year of 2026 from the 2026 tax overlay.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 25: To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to accept grant money available from the State government, Federal government, or other organizations for the Solon Snow Hawks Snowmobile Club and give those funds to the club along with the snow groomer personal property tax reimbursement the town receives from the state.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 26: To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to make final determinations regarding the closing and opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A Section 2953.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 27: To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to apply for, accept and expend grant money available from the State or Federal government or other organization for any public purpose when they deem it to be in the town's best interest and any needed matching funds are available within the current budget and/or reserve funds.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 28: To see if the Town will give the Selectmen and/or the Fire Chief permission to apply for, accept and expend any grants to purchase equipment, firefighting equipment and safety equipment for the Fire Department.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes.

Article 29: To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to sell or dispose of surplus personal property with an estimated value of \$5,000 or less on such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 30: To see if the Town will accept the following tax related articles:

1. To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector and Treasurer to apply any property tax overpayment of less than \$100 to that person's next year's property taxes.

2. To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S A Section 506.

3. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate from the overlay to pay for tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year 2026.

4. To see if the Town will use any surplus funds in excess of \$110,000.00 to reduce taxes.

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

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes.

Article 31: If the Town accepts Article 30-2, what, if any, interest shall the Town pay on these prepaid taxes? (If the Town votes to pay interest, it cannot be more than 7%.)

Selectmen recommend 0%.

Article 32: To see if the Town will set September 18, 2026 as the date when all unpaid 2026 taxes become interest bearing at the rate to be set by the State. (Rate being 7%)

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes.

Article 33: To see if the Town will set the interest rate to be paid by the town on abated taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506-A



Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes and at a rate of 0%.

Given under my hand this 4th day of February A.D., 2026,

Elaine Aloes, Chair of Selectmen  
John Dunay, Vice Chair of Selectmen  
Wayne Johnson, Selectman

Attest true copy: Leslie Giroux, Town Clerk

Pursuant to within warrant, I have hereby notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Solon, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Solon Elementary School on the 7th day of March AD 2026 at eight o'clock in the morning then and there in accordance with the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine, 1964, Title 30, Paragraph 2051 and seq. or as amended to act on all articles herein enumerated in this warrant posted at the Solon Town Office, Solon Post Office, Solon Corner Store, and Griswold's Store, conspicuous and public places within Solon, on the 12th day of February AD 2026, which is at least seven days prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

Dianna Rollins, a resident of Solon.



*View south toward town center of North Main St and Cross St  
before the fire of 1925*

# DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>March 7, 2026</b>	<b>2025 Annual Town Meeting, Solon Elementary School Polls open 8 am to 12:15 p.m. Town Meeting at 1:30 p.m.</b>
<b>April 1</b>	<b>All property is assessed based on their status and ownership on this date. Any real property sold after April 1 will be billed to the owner of record on April 1. All new applications for all Exemptions must be filed by this date. Declarations of personal property owned (this includes skidders &amp; tractors) should be filed with the Assessors. Motor vehicles and motorized mobile equipment not excised before this date will be taxed as personal property</b>
<b>April 20</b>	<b>Patriots Day. Office closed.</b>
<b>May 25</b>	<b>Memorial Day. Office closed.</b>
<b>June 19</b>	<b>Juneteenth. Office Closed.</b>
<b>July 4</b>	<b>Fireworks at dusk at the Solon School.</b>
<b>July/August</b>	<b>The end of July or beginning of August Property Taxes are committed and Property Tax bills will be mailed.</b>
<b>Sept. 7</b>	<b>Labor Day. Office closed.</b>
<b>Sept. 18</b>	<b>2025 unpaid property taxes become interest bearing.</b>
<b>Oct. 12</b>	<b>Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day, Office closed.</b>
<b>Nov. 3</b>	<b>State Elections. Polls open 8 am to 8 pm.</b>
<b>Nov. 11</b>	<b>Veterans Day, Office closed.</b>
<b>Nov. 25</b>	<b>Office closes at noon.</b>
<b>Nov. 26</b>	<b>Thanksgiving, Office closed.</b>
<b>Dec. 1</b>	<b>New Hunting, Fishing &amp; Dog Licenses are available.</b>
<b>Dec. 24</b>	<b>Office closed.</b>
<b>Dec. 25</b>	<b>Christmas Day. Office closed.</b>
<b>Dec. 31</b>	<b>Office closes at noon. Last business day the Town Office will be open in 2026. All taxes not paid by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> will be listed in the 2026 Town Report. Boat registrations, hunting, fishing and dog licenses expire. - New dog licenses required by Jan. 1.</b>
<b>Jan. 1, 2027</b>	<b>New Year's Day. Office Closed.</b>
<b>Jan. 16</b>	<b>Town Advisory Committee meeting, 8:00 am at Town Office (always on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of January). All article and budget requests for Annual Town Meeting must be submitted to the Selectmen prior to this meeting.</b>
<b>Jan. 18</b>	<b>Martin Luther King Day. Office closed.</b>
<b>Jan. 31</b>	<b>\$25.00 late fee on unpaid dog licenses after this date.</b>
<b>Feb. 15</b>	<b>Presidents Day. Office closed.</b>
<b>Mar. 6, 2027</b>	<b>2027 Annual Town Meeting.</b>

# **NOTICE**

## **2026 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2025 SOLON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICIALS  
8 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.**

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE PUBLIC  
HEARING  
1 p.m.**

**TOWN MEETING  
1:30 p.m.**

The Town Meeting is the purest form of democracy in existence today. Without citizen participation it cannot work. Please attend the meeting.

**Please read this report carefully and  
bring it with you to the Annual Town Meeting.**

*The Solon Pine Tree 4-H Club will have a donation jar and all  
proceeds will be donated to the Solon Food Cupboard.*

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE  
PROTECTING OUR COUNTRY AND OUR FREEDOM AND TO ALL  
OUR VETERANS WHO HAVE SERVED US IN THE PAST.**

**Town of Solon  
121 South Main Street  
PO Box 214  
Solon, ME 04979**