

2022

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE TOWN OF

S O L O N

INCORPORATED 1809



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

web site: www.solon.maine.gov e-mail: townofsolon@yahoo.com
townofsolon.clerk@yahoo.com townofsolon.treasurer@yahoo.com

Facebook: facebook.com/solonmaine &
facebook.com/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 9 am to 3 pm & Wednesday 8 am to 6 pm

Selectmen Meeting 1st & 3rd Wednesday 6 pm

General Assistance is on Wednesday from 9 am to 11 am

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

ELAINE ALOES, CHAIR OF SELECTMEN	643-2319
WAYNE JOHNSON, VICE CHAIR OF SELECTMEN	654-3343
LOIS MILLER, SELECTMAN	672-6414
TOWN GARAGE	643-2349
GARY BISHOP, ROAD COMMISSIONER	399-6440
TRANSFER STATION	643-2941
ANIMAL CONTROL, AMY HOULE	474-6465
HISTORICAL SOCIETY	643-2275
PLANNING BOARD CHAIR, MIKE GOLDEN	643-2219
CODE ENFORCEMENT, PLUMBING INSPECTOR & HEALTH OFFICER, TERRI LAMONTAGNE	716-6845
FIRE CHIEF & FIRE WARDEN, DUAYNE ROLLINS	399-9549
DEPUTY FIRE WARDENS:	JEN ROLLINS 399-1655
BRIAN COOMBS 592-5607	TODD DIXON 441-5171
COOLIDGE LIBRARY	643-2562
SOLON WATER DISTRICT	643-2473
RSU # 74 DIRECTORS:	
LAURA LAYMAN 643-2593	ROBERT LINDBLOM 431-8551
TORI MACDONALD 399-9175	
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

2023 Annual Town Meeting will be held on March 4, 2023

See last page of this report for the details

2022

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	2021	\$102,950,000
2022	\$106,450,000	2023	\$115,750,000

For the Year Ending
DECEMBER 31, 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>TOWN OFFICE HOURS</i>	4
<i>WEBSITES & SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES</i>	5
<i>2022 TOWN OFFICIALS</i>	8
<i>THE BILL OF RIGHTS</i>	11
<i>DEDICATION</i>	13
<i>SPECIAL RECOGNITION</i>	14
<i>IN MEMORY OF</i>	15
<i>BOSTON POST CANE HOLDER</i>	17
<i>SPIRIT OF AMERICA AWARD</i>	18
<i>COUNTY, STATE, & FEDERAL INFO</i>	21
<i>1947 YEAR IN REVIEW</i>	36
<i>COMMUNITY GIVING</i>	37
<i>NOTICES</i>	38
<i>DOG OWNERS NOTICE</i>	44
<i>WHAT TO BRING WHEN</i>	45
<i>SELECTMEN'S REPORT</i>	46
<i>ASSESSORS' REPORT</i>	63
<i>OVERSEERS OF THE POOR REPORT</i>	66
<i>TREASURER'S REPORT</i>	67
<i>TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT</i>	73
<i>TOWN CLERK'S REPORT</i>	77
<i>ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT</i>	79
<i>TRANSFER STATION REPORT</i>	84
<i>FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT</i>	88
<i>COOLIDGE LIBRARY</i>	93
<i>COOLIDGE LIBRARY HISTORY</i>	98
<i>CEMETERIES & VETERAN GRAVES</i>	99
<i>PLANNING BOARD'S REPORT</i>	102

RECREATION 104

SWIM/CAMP PROGRAM..... 107

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM..... 109

TOWN SCHOLARSHIPS 110

SOLO COMMUNITY FOOD CUPBOARD..... 112

SOLO COMMUNITY GARDEN 113

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING..... 116

SOLO HISTORICAL SOCIETY..... 124

SOLO WATER DISTRICT 126

BAKER MOUNTAIN SKI TOW CLUB 127

2022 AUDITOR’S REPORT..... 129

RULES OF TOWN MEETING..... 136

TOWN MEETING RELATED ORDINANCES 137

RESULTS OF 2022 TOWN MEETING 139

RESULTS OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING..... 140

EXPLANATIONS OF ARTICLES..... 142

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT..... 145

DATES TO REMEMBER..... 154



Cover Picture: Solon Hotel – Restaurant & Pub

Photo courtesy of Faith & Bruce Goguen, the new owners of the newly renovated Solon Hotel – Restaurant & Pub. Grand Re-opening February 10, 2023.

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 pm to 6:00 pm
(Closed Friday)

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS & OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

SELECTMENS MEETING 1st & 3rd WEDNESDAY 6 pm
(with a work session from 5 pm to 6 pm)

CHAIR OF SELECTMEN

MONDAY & TUESDAY 9 am to 3 pm
WEDNESDAY 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

GENERAL ASSISTANCE WEDNESDAY 9:00 am to 11:00 am

PLANNING BOARD

March to November - 2nd & 4th TUESDAY

December to February - 2nd 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 4:00 pm

TRANSFER STATION

1483 River Road

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
WEDNESDAY 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

FIRE DEPARTMENT

119 South Main Street

Firefighters Meeting - 2nd Wednesday of the month 7:00 pm

SOLON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

4th Monday of the month at the Historical Society, 28 South Main Street at 7 pm

WEBSITES & SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES

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 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 websites and Facebook pages that are used in our community!



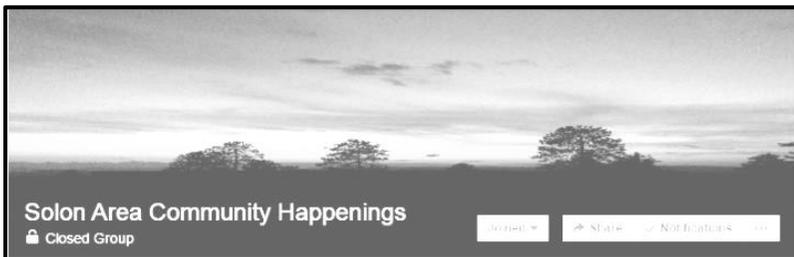
Official Town Website: www.solon.maine.gov

The Town has a great NEW WEBSITE and can be found at the same old address! Go to **solon.maine.gov** to find ‘almost’ everything you need to know about State and Municipal services available as well as other community information.

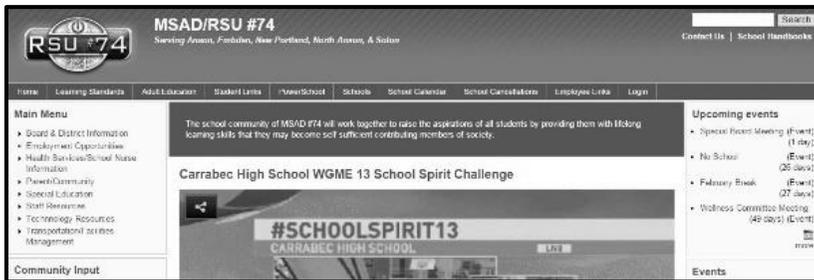
Please be aware that the website went live in early February 2023 and is still a work in progress. If you have questions or find there is information not available on our website, please contact the Clerk’s Office. Your feedback is always appreciated.



Official Town Facebook page: facebook.com/SolonMaine



Community Facebook: facebook.com/SolonAreaCommunityHappenings



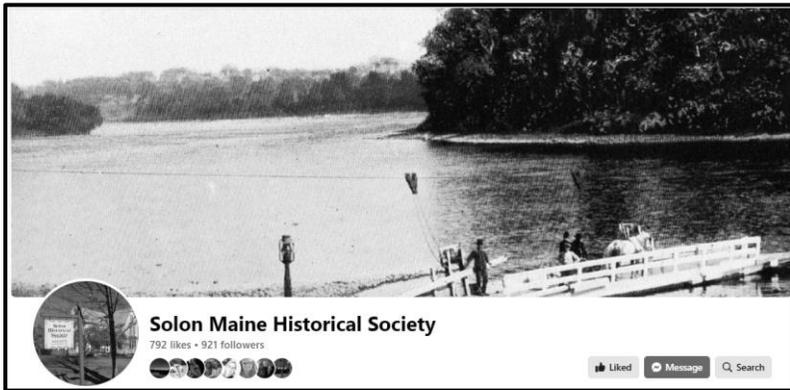
RSU/MSAD #74 Website: www.msad74.org



Solon Fire Department Facebook page: facebook.com/Solon-Fire-Department



Coolidge Library Facebook page: www.facebook.com/CoolidgePublicLibrary
Coolidge Library Website: <https://19620.rmwebopac.com>



Solon Historical Society Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/SolonMaineHistoricalSociety



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

2022 TOWN OFFICIALS

ELECTED OFFICIALS

(Term expiration)

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS & OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

Elaine Aloes, Selectman, Chair (2025)

Lois Miller, Selectman, Selectman (2023)

Wayne 'Chip' Johnson, Selectman, Vice Chair (2024)

ROAD COMMISSIONER

Gary Bishop

RSU #74 DIRECTORS

Deron Whittemore (June 2022)

Laura Layman (2023)

Robert Lindblom (2024)

Tori MacDonald (2025)

OFFICIALS APPOINTED BY THE SELECTMEN

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

Leslie Giroux

TREASURER

Kaylee Gilson

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

Danika Riggs Kaylee Gilson

DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Jeffrey Sproul

DEPUTY TREASURER

Danika Riggs Leslie Giroux

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Leslie Giroux

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Elizabeth Giroux, (Nov 2022)

Blin Rollins, III, Deputy (Nov 2022)

Amy Houle (2023)

David Houle, Deputy (2023)

CODE ENFORCEMENT & HEALTH OFFICER

Terriann Lamontagne (2023)

PLUMBING INSPECTOR

Leo Mayo (2023)

SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES

State of Maine

SOLON WATER DISTRICT TRUSTEES

Michael Foster, Chairman (2023)

Derek Dellarma (2025)

Arthur Rogers (2024)

COOLIDGE LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Jane Ouderkirk, Chairman (2024)

Allyn Foss (2023)

Leslie Giroux (2025)

Mary Lou Ridley (2025)

Richard Roberts (2023)

Stacy Robinson (2025)

Chris Shaw (2024)

Patricia Whipple (2024)

Ann Jackson (2024)

BOARD OF APPEALS

Lief Bull (2023)

L. Bruce Hills (2022)

Mary Lou Ridley (2024)

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Joseph Albeit (2023)

Jeffrey Pomelow (2023)

Allyn Foss (2024)

Beverly Gephart (2023)

Jeremy Gibson (2023)

Michael Golden (2022)

L. Bruce Hills (2024)

Barbara Johnstone (2022)

Donald Kenerson (2022)

Lois Miller (2023)

Eleanor Pooler (2022)

Franklin Ridley (2024)

Sherry Rogers (2024)

Carol White (2024)

George Williams (2023)

Albert Starbird (2021) (deceased)

Hether Forsten, 1st Alt. (2023)

Patricia Whipple, 2nd Alt. (2024)

PLANNING BOARD

Michael Golden, Chairman (2023)

Frank Evangelista, Vice Chairman (2023)

Dianna Rollins, Secretary (2022)

Kerri Evangelista (2024)

Richard Kelley (2024)

Albert Starbird (2022) (deceased)

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Jennifer Mello, Program Director (2023)

Melissa Dube, Assistant (2023)

Jami McCoy, Assistant (2023)

Michelle Taylor, Assistant (2022)

SOLO COMMUNITY RECEPTION COMMITTEE

Leslie Giroux, Recreation Director (2024)
Zane Brown, Youth Sports Director (2025)
Laura Layman, Summer Swim/Camp Director (2024)
Kayla Starr (2024) Amy Sidell (2023) Everett Quatrone (2025)

ROUTE 201 SCENIC BYWAY COMMITTEE REP.

Mary Lou Ridley (2023) Leslie Giroux (2023)

FIRST PARK COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

Elaine Aloes (2025) Wayne Johnson (2025) Sarah Davis (2022)

KVCOG REPRESENTATIVE

Elaine Aloes (2025) Wayne Johnson (2025) Sarah Davis (2022)

HISTORICAL SOCIETY TRUSTEES

Bud Boynton (2024) Jeff McAllister (2023)
Ann Padham (2025) Rance Pooler (2022)

TOWN HISTORIAN

Lois Starbird 643-2275

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Richard Kelly (2023) Duayne Rollins, Assistant (2023)

SOLO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Duayne Rollins, Chief	Derek Dellarma
Brian Coombs, 1st Asst. Chief	Blin Rollins III
Todd Dixon, 2nd Asst. Chief	Brian Livingstone
Kevin LaCroix, 3rd Asst. Chief	Nick Rollins
Richard Kelley, EMA Director	Zane Brown
Jenney Rollins, Secretary/Treasurer	Meagan Corson
Dianna Rollins, Base Radio Monitor	Aaron Fitzmaurice
Thomas Courtney, Mechanic	Brandi Crocker
	Frederick Mayo

***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 the various sports. We can't have teams for our kids without coaches.

If you 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, and form what is known as:

The Bill of Rights

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.

**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.

DEDICATION

The Selectmen dedicate this Town Report to

Sarah Davis

Sarah and her husband Andy bought their land in Solon in 1984 and built their home on the land. They raised their 2 children, Caleb and Hannah in Solon. Sarah was active in the community and the school.



When the Comprehensive Plan Committee was formed in 1989 she was appointed to the committee and served on it until 1993 when the plan was presented to the town.

She was appointed to the Planning Board in 1995 and served on the board until 2004. She was the board secretary for many of those years. She was on the board when the 911 Street Name and Addressing was done by the Planning Board. She made sure the Solon Meeting House in south Solon was honored by naming the road from Route 43 to the South Solon Road the Meeting House Road.

In 2008 she was elected to the Board of Selectmen/Overseers of the Poor. She attended the many training sessions and workshops so she could better serve our town. Her knowledge and skill set were a valuable asset to the board and the town. And we sure miss her proof-reading skills. She worked hard to keep our town running smoothly and cost effectively.

She was a member of the Friends of the Coolidge Library, did fundraising for the library, and helped organize a knitting group at the library.

She was the alternate for the First Park Committee and Kennebec Valley Council of Governments.

Sarah decided to retire as Selectman in 2021. It was a hard decision for her to make and she has greatly been missed in the town office.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Elaine Aloes Maine Municipal Association President

Elaine, our Chair of Selectmen, has served on the Maine Municipal Association's Executive Committee since 2016. She also previously served



on this committee from 2001 to 2003. The Executive Committee is the governing body for the Maine Municipal Association. In 2021 she was honored to be elected Vice President of the Executive Committee. Her one-year term as VP began on January 1, 2022. Her one-year term as president started on January 1, 2023.

At the MMA Annual Convention Dinner in October 2022, she was sworn in as President. Joining her at the convention was her husband Chuck, daughter Michelle, son Chucky, Selectmen Chip Johnson and Lois Miller, Clerk/Tax Collector Leslie Giroux, Treasurer Kaylee Gilson, and Deputy Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer Danika Riggs.

In her acceptance speech Elaine stressed the importance of all the services MMA provides the municipalities in our state. One of their most important services is the training it provides to municipal officials to help them serve our communities better. This is especially important for small towns like Solon. Small rural towns usually have only 1 to 3 people working in their town office. They often hold multiple positions and often there are no other people in their office they can learn from on how to do their job correctly. And if their job is done incorrectly, it can be costly to their town. So, learning how to do their jobs properly and keeping up with the changing laws and regulations makes the training very important.

Elaine has also served on MMA's Legislative Policy Committee since 2000. As Vice President of MMA, she served as Chair of the LPC in 2022. The LPC reviews all the municipal related legislation that our State Legislature is considering during their legislative sessions and directs MMA's Federal and State Relations staff on our position on the various bills of municipal importance.

IN MEMORY OF

Barbara Maden

1945 - 2022



Barbara worked for our town for 28 years and retired March 1, 2013. She became Solon's Deputy Treasurer in 1985. In 1989 she was also appointed as the Deputy Clerk and Deputy Tax Collector. In 1993 Mary Jackson decided not to run again for the Treasurer position and Barbara was elected to be our Town Treasurer. She served in this position until 2001 when Mary retired, and Barbara was elected as the Clerk and Tax Collector and was also appointed as the Deputy Treasurer. She was also the Register of Voters from 1994 until her retirement. When her children were young she was active on the Solon Recreation Committee.

She was also the secretary and treasurer for the Solon Water District for many years. Barbara was also a Notary Public and was able to provide many services to the people of Solon. She performed many marriages at the town office and at private sites.

We dedicated the 2013 Solon Town Report to her. She was a pleasure to work with at the town office. Barbara was knowledgeable and conscientious about her work. We wish to honor her for her years of service to our town. We still miss her wit and the pleasure of her company in the town office.

James Quimby

1951 – 2022



Jim lived most of his life in Solon. He served on the Solon Volunteer Fire Department from 1977 to 1991 and 1995 to 2000. He was a school bus driver and school custodian for many years. He truly cared about the children in the school. Those who rode on his bus will remember his yodeling. He also worked for many years for the Solon Highway Department filling in as a plow truck driver when needed, for the spring street sweeping, and for summer road work. He set up the school for our town meetings and would clean up afterwards. He was always happy and willing to help. We wish to honor him for his service to our town.

Rance Pooler

1936 – 2022



Rance served on the Solon Volunteer Fire Department for 38 years from 1967 to 2004. He was a MSAD 74 School Board Director from 1978 to 1988 and served again for one term from 2009 to 2011. From 2012, until his passing, Rance was a Director of the Solon Historical Society Board of Trustees. Working for the Maine Department of Transportation most of his life, his career also included mowing the sides of the town roads and working for the Solon Water District for many years. He served in the Army from 1958 to 1961. Rance was also an active member of the Solon Snowhawkes, Moose Alley ATV Club, Grange, Masons, Shriners, Eastern Star, and the 4-H. We wish to honor him for his service to our town.

Joseph Madore

1956 – 2022



Joe started working at the Solon Transfer Station in 2018 as an attendant and a truck driver. He would also help out the Road Department when it was needed. We wish to honor him for his service to our town.

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. She attended schools in Beverly.

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 it the painting in our picture of Pat along with her companion.

Pat says she has enjoyed living in Solon. Her three children still live in the area along with many of her grandchildren.

SPIRIT OF AMERICA AWARD

2022 Solon, Maine Spirit of America Foundation Tribute

Deborah Gerry

Deborah Gerry launched the Community Garden Project in Solon in 2019 with the primary goal of promoting and empowering families in the practice of organic gardening by providing them with the education, a location, the supplies, and the assistance needed for them to learn how to grow healthy food, not only for their own family, but also for those unable to garden and provide for themselves.

Deb has written grants and obtained business and private donations of time, supplies, and money to build growing boxes and a greenhouse for the community garden.

Students from Solon Elementary participate in the garden. Gardeners of all ages, abilities and experience, including young children, are welcome to participate in and visit the Solon Community Garden.

The Community Garden and its volunteers have provided fresh fruits and vegetables to the Solon Food Cupboard.

We thank Deb for her initiative for starting the Community Garden and hard work she and her volunteers put into the garden.

She was awarded with the Spirit of America Foundation tribute at our 2022 Annual Town Meeting.

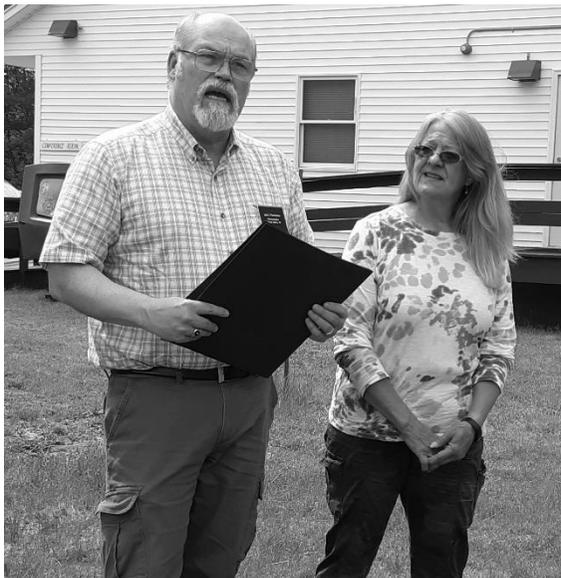
On May 28, 2022 State Representative Jack Ducharme presented her with a Legislative Sentiment honoring her for her work on the Solon Community Garden.

Deb also wants to make sure all the volunteers who help at the Community Garden are thanked for their work.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO DEB AND TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS FOR
THE GREAT COMMUNITY GARDEN WE HAVE!!**



She was awarded with the Spirit of America Foundation tribute
at our 2022 Annual Town Meeting.



Rep. Jack Ducharme & Deb Gerry

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 canes were 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 ones 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)	Marie Spearrin (2000-2004)
Beatrice Rogers (1985-1990)	Mary McDonough (2005)
Beatrice Hall (1991-1995)	Coburn Waugh (2006-2014)
Roland Tozier (1996)	Carolyn Waugh (2014-2019)
Ben Safford (1997-1998)	Howard Rogers (2019-2020)
Floyd French (1999)	Alice Heald (2020-2021)
	Patricia Munroe (2021-Present)

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

THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA FOUNDATION TRIBUTE HISTORY

In 2012 we were contacted by Spirit of America Foundation and were asked to participate in their 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.spiroaft.com.

SOLON SPIRIT OF AMERICA FOUNDATION TRIBUTES

Albert and Lois Starbird (2012)	Eleanor Pooler (2013)
Michael Golden (2014)	Frank Ridley (2015)
Fire Department Auxiliary (2016)	Michael Sackett (2017)
Fire Department Firefighters (2018)	Linda French (2019)
Richard Roberts (2020)	Laura Layman (2021)
Deborah Gerry (2022)	

COUNTY, STATE, & FEDERAL INFO

2022 COUNTY, STATE & FEDERAL CONTACTS

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

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, District 5
Russell Black
P. O. Box 687
Norridgewock, Maine 04957
634-3074 or 614-4123
russell.black@legislature.maine.gov

Maine State Representative, Dist 72
Larry Dunphy
209 Kennebec River Road
Embden, Maine 04958
399-4963 cell 635-2831 home
larry.dunphy@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
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
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
207-241-6767
Email: congressman.jared.golden@housemail.house.gov

U. S. GOVERNMENT WEB PAGE
<http://www.usa.gov>

STATE OF MAINE WEB PAGE
<http://www.maine.gov>

SOMERSET COUNTY WEB PAG
<http://www.somersetcounty-me.org>

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

Our State Representative District is District 72 with 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 takes 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 with 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

Our Congressional District for our United States Representative is District 2.

STATE NOTICE: REDISCTICTING

The 130th Legislature adopted redistricting plans for the U.S. Congress, State Senate, State House and County Commissioner districts in September of 2021. Redistricting is a statewide process that must be completed every 10 years.

State House District from District 111 to 72
State Senate District from District 3 to 5
County Commissioner District staying as District 5
Congressional District staying as District 2

The new districts go into effect in January of 2023 but more specifically, when the 118th Congress (Representative to Congress) and 131st Legislature (State Senate and State Representative) convene. On January 1, 2023, for County Commissioners elected in November 2022.



Early/Mid 1900's Carratunk House

Dear Friends:

I am deeply honored to serve the people of Maine in the U.S. Senate, and I welcome this opportunity to share some of the areas I have been working on over the past year.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to pose enormous challenges for our state and our country. When the pandemic began, I co-authored the Paycheck Protection Program that helped small businesses remain afloat and keep their employees paid. In Maine, our small businesses received more than 47,000 forgivable loans totaling \$3.2 billion. I also led efforts to provide relief for loggers, lobstermen, and bus companies.

In addition, I helped secure \$700 million to assist Maine's overwhelmed hospitals and nursing homes, and a new law I led prevented Medicare payment cuts to help further ease the financial strain on our hospitals. I also urged the CDC to update its recommendations so that our students and teachers could safely return to their classrooms, and I pressed the Administration to end the closure of the U.S.-Canada border.

While addressing the pandemic has been a major focus, I've also worked hard to ensure Maine's other needs are met. A group of 10 Senators, of which I was a part, negotiated the landmark bipartisan infrastructure bill that was signed into law in November. I co-authored the section of the bill that will provide Maine with as much as \$300 million to expand high-speed internet in rural and underserved areas.

Soaring inflation is another crisis, particularly when it comes to the cost of heating oil. I have strongly supported federal programs that help Maine families stay warm. In November, Maine was awarded \$35 million to help low-income Mainers pay their energy bills. And the bipartisan infrastructure bill included \$3.5 billion to help families make energy efficiency improvements that would permanently lower their heating costs.

As a senior member of the Appropriations Committee, I have supported investments in Maine's communities. This year's funding bills include \$265 million I championed for 106 projects across Maine. These projects would help create jobs, improve workforce training, address the opioid crisis, and increase access to childcare and health care services. In addition, I worked to reverse proposed cuts to our Navy in order to help protect America and keep the skilled workers at Bath Iron Works on the job. The bills also include \$475 million for the construction of a new dry dock at Maine's Portsmouth Naval Shipyard that will allow the Navy to continue to carry out its submarine missions. I will keep working to get these important bills enacted.

No one works harder than the people of Maine, and this year I honored that work ethic when I cast my 8,000th consecutive vote, becoming the only Senator in history to do so without ever having missed a roll call vote. The Lugar Center at Georgetown University once again ranked me as the most bipartisan Senator for the eighth year in a row.

In the New Year, I will keep working to solve problems and make life better for the people of Maine and America. May 2022 be a happy, healthy, and successful one for you, your family, and our state.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

ANGUS S. KING, JR.
MAINE

133 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
(202) 224-5344
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 1, 2022

Dear Friends,

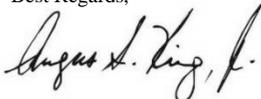
On the heels of 2020's challenges, 2021 brought us both amazing progress and frustrating setbacks. The incredible rollout of several effective, FDA approved COVID-19 vaccines helped reduce the risks of this deadly pandemic – but vaccine hesitancy, combined with the dangers of new variants, have prolonged this crisis and created new risks for Maine people. The challenges raised tension levels to boiling points during the fallout of the 2020 presidential election and the January 6th Capitol attack. But despite that, Congress was able to deliver for a nation gripped by an unprecedented pandemic. As we reflect back on the year, we see the important action that will make a difference for Maine people – as well as work still unfinished.

As COVID-19 continued to impact communities across our state and the country, Congress's first priority this year was to confront the pandemic's health threats and economic toll. We immediately got to work on the *American Rescue Plan*, crafting an emergency bill to meet the moment and get our nation back on stable footing. The legislation delivered essential support to businesses facing crises, households in need, and the medical professionals on the front lines of this fight. The funds helped get vaccine shots in arms, while also confronting the damage done to our economy. All told, the *American Rescue Plan* is bringing billions of dollars to Maine, helping the state continue to push through this crisis and bounce back stronger than ever.

After passing the *American Rescue Plan*, Congress turned its attention to a longstanding but unfulfilled priority: infrastructure. Through hard work and compromise, both parties came together to pass a bipartisan bill that finally addresses key infrastructure needs. For Maine people, the bill means an estimated \$1.5 billion to repair crumbling roads and out-of-date bridges, \$390 million to improve access to clean drinking water, and more. I am most excited about the significant funding for broadband – because, as we have seen during the pandemic, broadband is a necessity to succeed in the 21st century economy. The historic investments in the bipartisan infrastructure bill, combined with additional funding I pushed for in the *American Rescue Plan*, will bring an estimated \$400 million for broadband home to Maine. These funds will be nothing short of transformational, creating new opportunities across our state.

These two bills have made and will continue to make a real difference for Maine people, helping to both address the challenges of COVID-19 and lay a foundation for long-term success. I am proud of what we've accomplished this year – but I know there is still a lot of work to do and that the road ahead is challenging. Even still, I am filled with optimism because I know the true nature of our citizens, though challenged, has not changed. Despite every hardship, people in towns and communities have stepped up with strong local leadership, a willingness to help, and a Maine 'neighborhood' spirit. It is why I truly believe we can and will get through anything together. Mary and I wish you a happy, healthy, and safe 2022.

Best Regards,





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

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. It remains a privilege to represent you in Congress, and I appreciate the opportunity to update you on what I have been working on for the people of the Second Congressional District.

This year, our small businesses, workers and families, hospitals, states, and towns continued to face challenges related to the coronavirus pandemic. COVID-19 has been a serious threat to public health and our economy that requires a comprehensive, ongoing response. While we are not yet out of the woods, there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Still, I know there are many Mainers who will continue to need assistance getting through this pandemic. I am committed to making sure our communities' most urgent needs are met to get our economy back on track.

One thing I am particularly proud of this year is that Democrats, Republicans, and the Biden Administration worked together to pass the bipartisan *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, which will make a once-in-a-generation investment in our nation's infrastructure and support Maine jobs. This bill will bring \$1.3 billion to Maine for highways and \$225 million for bridge replacement and repairs, as well as \$234 million to improve public transportation options. It will also allocate over \$100 million to help provide broadband access to the 42,000 Mainers currently without it and make 310,000 Mainers eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Benefit to help families pay for internet access. Crucially, it will also provide Maine with \$390 million to combat Maine's historically high rates of lead poisoning by replacing lead pipes and allowing Maine families access to clean drinking water.

Another one of my priorities in Congress is protecting Maine jobs. For one, shipbuilders at Bath Iron Works are a vital part of our economy, and the ships they build are critical to our national security. Throughout 2021, I led the Maine congressional delegation in pushing back against the Biden Administration's proposed decrease in DDG-51 shipbuilding, a proposal that would have had serious consequences for the shipbuilding workforce at BIW, one of the two shipyards that produces these destroyers, and American naval capabilities around the world. We fought successfully to include authorization for construction of three new DDG-51 destroyers in the final National Defense Authorization Act. I will continue to work hard with my colleagues on the House Armed Services Committee to ensure that we protect our national security and shipbuilding jobs in Maine.

My most meaningful work in Congress continues to be providing direct assistance to Mainers. My staff and I stand ready to serve you. If you are looking for assistance with a federal agency, help for your small business, or want to keep me informed about the issues that matter to you, please reach out to one of my offices below:

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

I am especially glad to share that my wife Izzy and I were pleased to welcome our daughter, Rosemary, into the world this year. Mom and baby are happy and healthy, and we're so thankful for this blessing. We look forward to showing her the beauty of Maine in the months and years ahead.

Sincerely,

131st Legislature
Senate of
Maine
Senate District 5

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

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

It is an honor to represent you, your family, and the communities of District 5 in the Maine Senate. I am grateful for the trust you have placed in me to work for the betterment of our region and I can assure you that I will work tirelessly on your behalf.

This will be my third term in the Maine State Senate, previously serving all of Franklin County and some towns in Kennebec County. While my district has changed, as a result of redistricting, I know many of the important issues to those in rural Maine remain the same.

With a struggling economy and the cost of groceries, gas, home heating oil and electricity increasing, Maine families, seniors, and small businesses need relief from the high costs breaking our budgets. Addressing the policies that have created some of these high costs is a priority of mine in the coming session. In addition to addressing these costs, the 131st Legislature is tasked with passing a balanced budget by June 30, 2023. This will require careful review of current state spending and prioritizing our needs versus wants, just like Mainers do with their own budgets. As your State Senator, I will be working to find ways to lower taxes and rein in state spending so that you can keep more of your hard-earned money.

I hope during these difficult times we all come together as a community, and reach out to our neighbors in need. Check in with each other and reach out if you or someone you know is struggling. As always, I am eager to help with state-related issues.

Again, thank you for electing me to serve you in the State Senate. The 131st Legislature certainly has a great deal of work to do; but I believe that if we come together, there is nothing we can't accomplish. Please feel free to contact me at 287-1505 or Russell.Black@legislature.maine.gov if you have comments, questions or if you would like assistance in navigating our state's bureaucracy.

Sincerely,



Russell Black
State Senator



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

Larry Dunphy

P.O. Box 331

North Anson, ME 04958

Cell Phone: (207) 399-4963

Skime2@tds.net

January 2023

Town of Solon

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Thank you for electing me as your State Representative to the 131st Maine Legislature. I take this responsibility very seriously and look forward to a challenging session in Augusta.

Legislative leadership has appointed me to the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee. The constant increases in energy costs and the continued expansion of alternative energy sources are major concerns for many in Northern and Western Maine. On this panel, the other members and I will oversee these issues and many others. Your input, as consumers and constituents, will be greatly appreciated as we engage in important discussions over the policies that will directly affect you in your everyday life.

I was elected to the Maine Legislature on the promise to represent you, the people of District 72. To do this, I will be seeking your input regularly and want to hear from you with your comments and concerns. Please call me anytime at **399-4963** or email at skime2@tds.net to keep me updated on those concerns. If you would like to be added to my email update list, you can do so by emailing me directly with your request.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Larry C. Dunphy".

Larry Dunphy
State Representative



Integrity Respect Fairness Dedication
SOMERSET COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2022 Sheriff's Office Annual Report



Dale P. Lancaster
Sheriff

On January 1, 2023, I began my third term as your Sheriff. I want to thank everyone for your continued support. It is an honor to serve the residents of Somerset County. The Office of Sheriff oversees the operations of the County Jail, law enforcement, court security, and civil process. Somerset County is approximately 4,000 square miles. The County is comprised of 27 towns, 6 plantations, and 83 unorganized townships. This year, I continue to serve as President of the Maine Sheriff's Association. I continue my appointment to the Board of Directors for the New England State Police Information Network. I also sit on the newly formed Statewide County Corrections Professional Standards Council.

The U.S. Government has declared that Covid-19 is no longer a pandemic. We continue to work through the residual effects of the pandemic on a daily basis. This has been a challenging year hiring and retaining men and women to work as Deputies and Corrections Officers. In 2023, the Sheriff's Office is expecting to become MLEAP accredited, a State of Maine accreditation program that certifies our Agency is working from recognized policies and procedures governing best practices in law enforcement.

Law Enforcement

The Patrol division is comprised of 11 Patrol Deputies and 3 Sergeants. Through funding from the State of Maine, we have 2 Deputies dedicated to patrolling the unorganized townships. Presently, those positions are vacant, and we are searching for qualified candidates. The Patrol division is overseen by a Lieutenant. The Criminal division is comprised of three Detectives and is overseen by a Lieutenant. The Sheriff's Office continues to partner with MDEA (Maine Drug Enforcement Agency) to have an agent assigned to the Criminal division. The Patrol division has 2 trained drug recognition experts. The Sheriff's Office has 2 canines, a canine assigned to each division. The Sheriff's Office assigns 1 Deputy per shift to patrol the Town of Madison. We have a Secretary/Dispatcher assigned to Madison, and an SRO position that is currently not filled. In 2022, the Sheriff's Office had 1 Deputy (Deputy Stacey Slate) graduate from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. Throughout 2022, The Sheriff's Office Criminal Division investigated a large volume of illicit drug trafficking activities. The Sheriff's Office obtained and executed numerous drug search warrants, which subsequently led to the arrest and conviction of numerous people from Maine and out of State on various Federal and State level drug trafficking charges. Illegal drugs, in particular Fentanyl, continue to be a significant issue in Somerset County. The Criminal Division dedicates a large amount of time and resources to combat this problem. The Criminal Division investigated numerous serious felony level cases to include robberies, burglaries, thefts, scams, aggravated assaults, unattended deaths, and sexual abuse cases. In 2022, the Crimes Against Persons Detective investigated 27 sex crimes. 17 of those cases involved child sexual abuse where forensic interviewing was utilized. Detective Jeremy Leal is a Children's Advocacy Center forensic interviewer. As a result of these investigations and working with the District

Attorney's Office prosecuting these cases, we were able to get substantial sentences in a number of child abuse cases. The Sheriff's Office Criminal Division tracks individuals who are required by law to register as sex offenders. 3 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, 2 cooks, 12 program and support staff, and 9 administrative staff to include Major Cory Swope, who is the Jail Administrator. The County Jail is now 15 years old. With the use of funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, we anticipate that the Jail bond will be paid off within 2 years. The County Jail is nationally accredited through the American Correctional Association and is operating under nationally accepted best practice standards. The County Jail is also PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) certified. In 2022, the Somerset County Jail had 1,057 total bookings, a 26% increase from 2021. We are 1 of only a couple Jails in the United States that are part of a pilot program distributing Sublocade to inmates who identify with an opioid use disorder. We continue to partner with Redington-Fairview General Hospital and their Pathways to Recovery opioid response implementation grant consortium.

The Jail continues implementation of a new inmate telephone system and Jail management system through Securus. Inmates are now issued individual tablets as part of the Securus contract.

Recruitment and hiring initiatives continue to be ongoing. Starting Corrections Officer wages were recently adjusted to \$20.23 per hour in an effort to be more competitive throughout the local economy. Presently, the Jail has 10 openings for Corrections Officers.

Civil Process

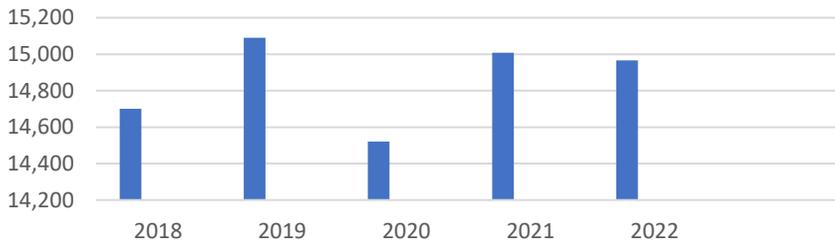
In 2022, the Somerset County Sheriff's Office Civil Deputies received 1,912 papers to process and serve. That is a 12% increase from 2021.

Calls for Service

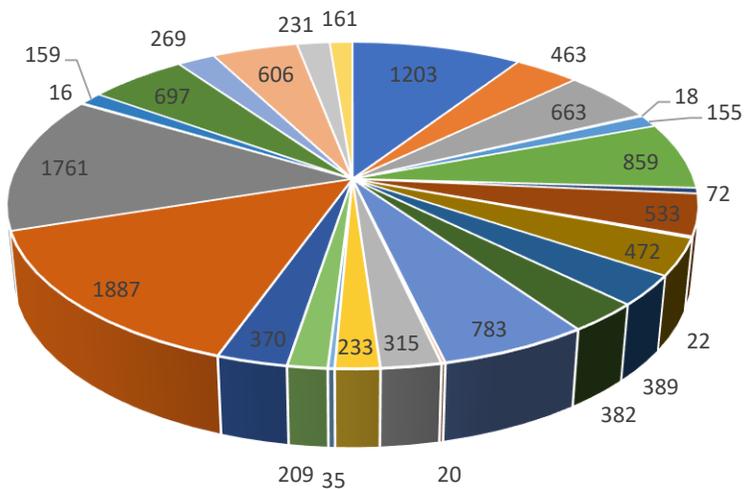
- In 2022, the Sheriff's Office received 14,966 calls for service from our residents. This represents a 0.27% decrease from 2021.
- During 2022, the Sheriff's Office responded to 606 calls for service from the Town of Solon, which is a slight increase from 2021. These calls included 47 motor vehicle accidents, 97 motor vehicle stops, 25 calls requesting citizen assistance, 10 domestic disturbances, as well as calls for theft, harassment, burglary, criminal threatening, welfare checks, and other requests for police services.

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

Calls for Service 2018 - 2022



2022 Calls for Service by Town



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

RSU 74

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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

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

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

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

September 22, 2022

To the RSU #74 Community members:

I wish to thank everyone for their warm welcoming messages and well wishes as I begin my adventure as your Superintendent of Schools. I am returning home after a 35 year trip to other schools and communities. After graduating from Carrabec High School where my current office sits, I started my teaching career here at Carrabec High School up the road. After four years, I looked to expand my opportunities to grow as a classroom teacher in the area of Mathematics and as a result left RSU #74. After another ten years of being in the classroom, I began a 25-year career in administration, some at the middle school while the majority was at the high school level.

With many opportunities to work with some fantastic educators in each of my prior districts, I return to RSU #74 with years of experience and growth.

I return with all that I have learned from the experiences on my journey with the hopes of leading our district from a series of years where the social and emotional as well as the educational well-being of our children has been negatively impacted by COVID, and all that we were forced to do. In my opening comments to the entire RSU #74 staff, I shared that we need to work together to identify the gaps created because of COVID and that we need to work together to build solutions that will best support our students going forward. It is a daunting task, but we owe it to our children not to move an entire generation through their years in public education without assisting them in trying to close the gaps. As the first couple weeks come to a close, the data is beginning to take shape that will be used to begin formulating plans for healing. We will communicate throughout the school year as the data begins to show us directions we must move in, and how we will be making those moves.

While it appears that as a society we have found ways to help prevent the spread of COVID, we are still seeing it have an impact in our classrooms. The number of students and staff impacted by the virus is on the rise as we brought everyone back into the classrooms. No surprise really. The District Nurse shared through ParentSquare, the symptoms of COVID and asked parents to **please keep children home if they exhibit any of the symptoms**. I thank you in advance for your cooperation. A reminder of Maine CDC guidelines; if a person tests positive, this person should begin a 5-day isolation period with **day 0 being the day testing positive**. If symptom free on day 6, the person may end isolation and return to school while wearing a mask until day 11. In my last district, our success in preventing those schools from needing to go remote began with the support we got from homes. While I understand after the Spring of 2020, and the cohort schedule of 2020-2021, and all the COVID protocols of last school year, your student really wants to be here. Your assistance by keeping them home when showing symptoms is greatly appreciated. Again, I thank you in advance for your support with this. **If a student in grades 6-12 is in isolation but is feeling well enough to attend classes and has the technology capabilities, the student may attend classes remotely**. We ask for a parent/guardian to call the school to let administration know so your student's teachers can be notified of your student's desires.

Greater communication with home is one of our goals for the coming school year. We have implemented a new software package, ParentSquare. This will be one of our venues for reaching out to you. I have also asked teachers to email and call as necessary. As a parent, I do not like

surprises at the end of a quarter and hope like myself you are wanting to know so you can help the teacher with getting work done

and help with behaviors that may be interfering with your child's academic success as well as the success of their peers. Likewise, I would ask you to reach out to us when you have information that will help us better understand what your child is going through so we can support their needs while trying to teach them their math or reading skills. And of course, we hope that you feel free to reach out with any questions you may have. It is important to add, we ask that you begin conversations with your child's teacher(s) before reaching out to administration. If there are matters that you feel are unresolved, then by all means contact your building principal.

Again, I am excited to be home. I look forward to working with your student(s), you, our teachers, our support staff, and our administrators to ensure that the district mission statement is met by working together to raise aspirations of each student, so they feel comfortable in engaging in a learning environment that will guide them to being lifelong learners and positive contributors to our school community and society.

Respectfully,

Mark L. Campbell

Mark L. Campbell
RSU #74 Superintendent of Schools



Early/mid 1900's (new) Carratunk House/Gray's Tavern



December 30, 2022

Dear KRDA Member Communities:

We are ending 2022 on a high note at FirstPark with such successes this year as the sale of six lots to businesses from Ohio and Minnesota, as well as:

- The opening of Dr. Anna O'Keefe's new dental office at 93 FirstPark Drive in a new, state-of-the-art building;
- The sale of 15 Evergreen Drive by Dr. Diane Gable to Maine Technology Group for a net gain of 10 jobs at that building;
- MaineGeneral will relocate Oakland Family Medicine to the lower level of 25 FirstPark Drive in the Spring of 2023;
- T-Mobile is adding 100 jobs to its 133 FirstPark Drive facility by March 2023; and
- An LED sign was added at FirstPark Drive and Kennedy Memorial Drive for FirstPark business owners to promote job openings, land/buildings for sale or lease, services and special events.

I am optimistic that there is more progress to come that the member communities will share in during 2023. I want to thank the General Assembly and the Executive Board for their patience and support this year as we worked through negotiations and planning for the sale of lots 2-3 and 19-22. It is my goal to further develop Technology and Ezhaya Drives in 2023. We have 12 lots remaining for sale totaling 155 acres. Of the 155 remaining acres, 49 of those acres are lots 11 and 12, which are largely wetlands and a vernal pool that limit their development.

The member communities have received the 2022 Audit in print and electronic versions. I am particularly proud that the audit cites KRDA's increase in net assets, increase in real estate tax values, expenses being less than budgeted and an overall positive total net position. The KRDA staff, Executive Board and General Assembly uphold a strong fiduciary responsibility to the member communities and their citizens.

We lost a friend and colleague in 2022 with the passing of our past immediate President Steve Monsulick. Steve had represented Readfield on our KRDA General Assembly since the late 1990's. On behalf of KRDA, we sent a contribution in Steve's memory at his family's request to an after-school fund for children in Readfield. I wrote in my letter accompanying our check, "Steve was an integral part of our organization for over 20 years and we miss him. He worked on KRDA/FirstPark business right up until nearly the end when he just could not any longer. The community of Readfield has lost a good person in Steve's passing. We share in your loss."

Thank you to every member of the KRDA General Assembly who give of their time to serve and participate in meetings. I want to especially thank President Michelle Flewelling,

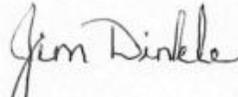
Secretary/Scribe Peter Mills and Treasurer James Jurdak for their work that goes on beyond the GA and Executive Board meetings.

If you missed our final newsletter of 2022, here is the link <https://conta.cc/3Ys6D0j>. If you did not see the front-page coverage last week about Meyer Tool buying FirstPark lots 2 and 3, here is a link to that article <https://www.sunjournal.com/2022/12/21/cincinnati-based-manufacturer-acquires-benton-company-plans-new-facility-at-firstpark-in-oakland/>. There have been over 1,300 views on my personal LinkedIn page about Meyer choosing FirstPark! About 1,250 people work in FirstPark. Lights are on in FirstPark businesses 24/7. We are an economic engine helping power central Maine's economy.

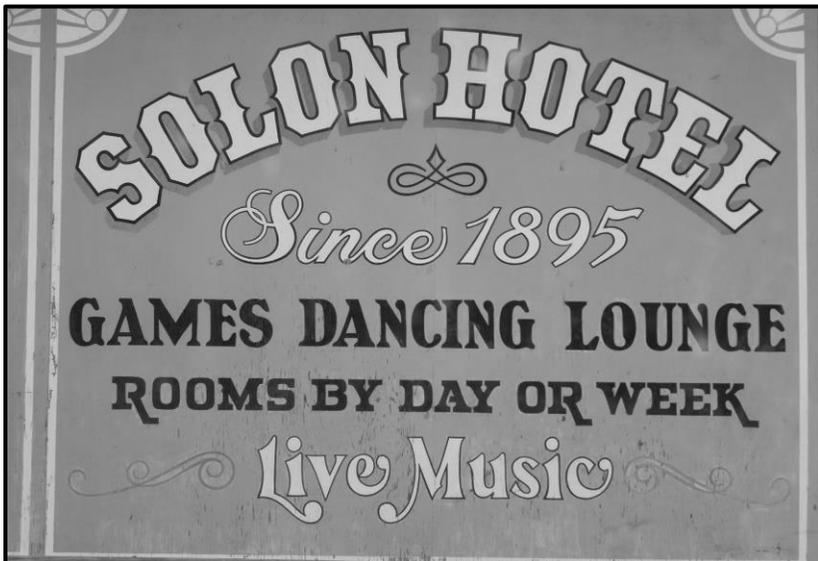
In 2023 we will observe KRDA/FirstPark's 25th Anniversary. Our Silver Anniversary will highlight the people and businesses of FirstPark throughout the year. I look forward to sharing more details with you about upcoming anniversary events.

Happy New Year and, as always, feel welcome to contact me at either (207) 859-9716 office, (207) 877-4198 mobile or exdirector@firstpark.com. Thank you for your support of FirstPark.

Sincerely,



James W. Dinkle
Executive Director



2016 Exterior sign of the Solon Hotel

1947 YEAR IN REVIEW

US Life Expectancy: 66 years Yearly Per Capita Income: \$3,000
US Population: 143,446,000 (338 million in 2022)
US had 48 states

- *January 3 – Proceedings of the United States Congress called U.S. Congress are televised for the first time.
- *January 6 - Pan American World Airways or Pan American Airlines becomes the first commercial airline to schedule a flight around the world.
- *January 22 - KTLA, the first commercial television station west of the Mississippi River, begins operation in Hollywood, California.
- *January 25 - Thomas T. Goldsmith, Jr. files a patent for a "Cathode Ray Tube Amusement Device", the first ever electronic game.
- *February 21 - In New York City, Edwin Land demonstrates the first "instant camera", the Polaroid Land Camera.
- *March 1 - The International Monetary Fund begins financial operations.
- *March 12 -The Truman Doctrine is proclaimed to help stem the spread of Communism.
- *April 6 - The first Tony Awards are presented for theatrical achievement.
- *June 25 - 'The Diary of Anne Frank' is published.
- *July 7 & 8 - Reports that an Unidentified flying object or UFO crash landed in Roswell, New Mexico in what became known as the Roswell UFO incident.
- *September 9 - First case of a computer bug being found: a moth lodges in a relay of a Harvard Mark II computer at Harvard University.
- *September 18 - The United States Air Force becomes an independent branch of the United States armed forces.
- *September 18 - The National Security Council and the Central Intelligence Agency are established in the United States under the National Security Act of 1947.
- *September 30 - The World Series, featuring the New York Yankees and the Brooklyn Dodgers, is television or televised for the first time.
- *October 14 - Captain Chuck Yeager of the U.S. Air Force flies a rocket-powered experimental aircraft faster than the speed of sound over the high desert of Southern California.
- *November 6 - 'Meet the Press' makes its television debut (the show went to a weekly schedule on September 12, 1948).
- *December 6 -The Everglades National Park in Florida is dedicated.
- *December 23 - The transistor is first demonstrated at Bell Labs known as Bell Laboratories.

COMMUNITY GIVING

Come check out the NEW book Lending Library at the Town Office!



Devyn DeLeonardis with his book lending library in Solon

Thanks to the efforts of a local student working toward his Eagle Scout rank, the RSU #74 Community Literacy Team's goal to build and install four little free libraries at different places around the district has finally come to fruition. Carrabec High School junior Devyn DeLeonardis from North Anson, a member of Boy Scout Troop 481, took on this project during the summer, and it has now completed it with the installation of the 'lending library' in Solon.

The Community Literacy Team started the project with grant money in the fall of 2019 to install these free book-sharing boxes where anyone can take a book or share a book. Community volunteer Adam Moore built four little free libraries for the team, and the plan was to paint them and install them at various places in the district so that community members could borrow and share books. But the pandemic interrupted those efforts, and the project was put on hold until Devyn picked it up last spring.

Devyn painted the four little free libraries, filled them with books and then built a fifth library. He secured permission to install them outside the First Congregational Church in North Anson, the Anson Town Office, the Embden Town Office, the New Portland Historical Society, and the Solon Town Office. These were installed over the summer and fall months.

We commend Devyn for his efforts and encourage community members to visit these new little free libraries placed throughout our communities. *Information care of RSU #74 Facebook page.*

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 1st.

- **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 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 the 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 the Town 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 Budget Committee for their review at their Annual Budget Meeting 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 Date Page at the end of this report for the date of the Annual Budget Meeting. The Annual Town Meeting is the 1st 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.

PLANNING BOARD NOTICES

BUILDING PERMITS 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. 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 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month 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 NOW REQUIRED ON ALL VEHICLES BRINGING TRASH TO OUR TRANSFER STATION

As of January 1, 2020, the Transfer Station will continue to require Solon Transfer Station stickers 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 only be available both at the Transfer Station and the Town Office. They will also be available to be picked up at during the Election portion of the Annual Town Meeting from 8 am to 12:15 pm. Town Meeting is held the first Saturday of March each year.



***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

We have an ordinance, passed in 1977, designating a Parking Ban for the period from November 1st to April 30th. 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. 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 said vehicle will be subject to towing at the owner's expense. Repeat violators will be subject to a fine.

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

The town is not responsible for damage done to mailboxes while the roads are being plowed. Make sure your mailbox is high enough and far enough away from the road to not be damaged. It is not the Town's responsibility to keep access to your mailbox clear of snow.

OTHER NOTICES

CHECKS/INSUFFICIENT FUNDS



The Town charges a \$25.00 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 reregistering a vehicle, please remember to bring in proof of insurance, old registration, and mileage. New registrations require a bill of sale, title (for vehicles 1995 or newer), proof of insurance and mileage. If vehicle is purchased from a dealer also have proof of purchase, the blue title application and window sticker (for new vehicles).



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 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 of a vital record must have *direct and legitimate interest* in the record. For information to see if you are qualified to obtain a record contact the Clerk or go to www.maine.gov.

NEW ADDRESSES:



The E911 addressing in the town 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 31st.

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 31st. A \$25 late fee per dog will be added after January 31st. 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 (the State's online service is available from October 15th to January 31st).**

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 of 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 in area. State Law forbids dogs 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): blue 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, ME assigned number, serial number, and for the boats the length and the horsepower of the motor

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.

WHEN PAYING PROPERTY TAXES

A copy of the tax bill.

WHEN PURCHASING HUNTING LICENSES

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

WHEN RENEWING TREE GROWTH PLAN

Please bring the Tree Growth application to the Assessors that is signed by a licensed professional forester with his/her contact information and 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 1 year to file with the Assessors a statement from a licensed professional forester that the land is being managed in accordance with the plan prepared for the previous owner with the same expiration date of the previous owner's 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

We said goodbye to Selectman Sarah Davis when she decided to resign as Selectman, effective after our March 5, 2022 Town Meeting. Lois Miller was elected at our 2022 Annual Town Meeting as our new selectman.

At the 2022 Annual Town Meeting the townspeople approved the purchase of a new backhoe and a paving project for the River Road. They also approved the following road name changes: Baker Pond Lane to Starbird Lane; Rowell Mountain Road from the Hole in the Wall Road south to Rowell Pond to the Rowell Pond Road; and the Rowell Mountain Road from the Hole in the Wall Road north to the Bingham town line to Baker Pond Road. A complete town revaluation by a professional assessing firm was also approved. The town's last professional revaluation was done in 1978. We hired Hamlin Appraisals to do the revaluation over a three-year period. The new values will be implemented once the entire town has been revalued. The Selectmen/Assessors will be inputting the information into the town's assessing program which will be a cost saving to the town.

In June the Selectmen decided to change the Deputy Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer position from a part time, as needed and if available, to a full-time position. Our Clerk/Tax Collector hasn't been able to take time off without closing the office. Our trained deputy was looking for a full-time job. The selectmen decided to hire her full-time for 32 hours a week. This has provided better service for the town and given us more time to work on various projects that we didn't have time for before.

In September we had a Special Town Meeting. The town approved a Site Review Plan Ordinance revision relating to commercial solar farms. They also approved raising an additional \$5,000 for the Deputy Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer position and \$20,000 for Winter and Summer Roads due to the large increase of the cost of diesel fuel. We also had an article to use ARPA funds to replace the sidewalks on South Main Street and to purchase a piece of equipment for snow removal for the sidewalks. MDOT has a grant program that will pay 75% of the cost of the sidewalks that we were going to apply for. Due to ADA requirements we would have to keep the sidewalks clear of snow in the winter. The town did not approve the sidewalk replacement.

In October we changed the office hours to Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 8 am to 4 pm, Wednesday from 8 am to 6 pm, and closed on Fridays.

We did foreclose on one property in 2022.

We again had a mil rate decrease due to increased state funding for schools and an increase in the municipalities' share of Revenue Sharing. The RSU 74 school board did a good job on keeping the RSU 74 budget increase low and they received increased state funding. There are about 600 students in our 4-town school district. Very few Solon voters attend the School District Budget Adoption Meeting in May.

We urge everyone to attend the School District Budget Adoption meeting. The County tax assessment had a small increase. The town also had a decrease in the amount to be raised by taxation. This all resulted in mil rate decrease from 17.8 in 2021 to 16.6 in 2022. In 2022 we again had a substantial increase in State Revenue Sharing. The state has now reached the 5% sharing level.

The Drury Road, Brighton Road, French Hill Road from the Grant Road to Pleasant Street, Falls Road, and Pleasant Street is open for ATV use. We do not allow ATV use on any of the other roads in Solon. The stores in town appreciate the increased business from the ATV users. We do ask people not to cross the school ball fields on their 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.

Maine Department of Transportation will replace the Route 201 bridge over Fall Brook starting in spring 2023. The estimated complete time is 2025. Please be patient during the construction period. The Solon Water District water lines for the north side of town are attached to the bridge and they are responsible for all costs associated with the water lines. The Selectmen applied for 2 grants to help with the cost of the water main project and refurbishment of the water standpipe on French Hill. We were successful in getting an \$820,000 CDBG grant. We also contacted Senator King and Senator Collins about the water main project and they have put in a budget request for some federal funds. We have not yet heard if the funding has been approved.

The Selectmen and the Budget Committee work hard to keep our municipal costs down. We have kept our budgets as low as possible. The proposed 2023 municipal budget by taxation, as presented by the Selectmen and the Advisory Committee, has an increase of \$94,253 but, after deducting for available surplus and revenue sharing, it is an increase of \$48,844 over 2022. It is below the LD 1 spending cap. Municipalities can vote to exceed or increase the limitation on municipal spending. At our Annual Town Meeting you, the citizens of Solon, decide on our budget and on our complying with our spending cap or, if needed, increasing it to meet the needs of the town. We will discuss this at the Annual Town Meeting.

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.

Starting on March 6, 2023, the Selectmen will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5 pm for a work session and at 6 pm for the Selectmen's meeting. The Chair of Selectmen will be in the Town Office every Monday and Tuesday from 9 am to 3 pm and on Wednesday from 8 am to 6 pm to conduct town business and to meet with citizens. Come see us with any questions, concerns, or issues you have regarding town business and issues.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Aloes, Wayne Johnson, and Lois Miller

2022 MUNICIPAL APPROPRIATIONS

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Town Charges	\$ 23,000.00	
Town Office Utilities	\$ 6,400.00	
Town Office Maintenance	\$ 2,100.00	
Town Office Security System	\$ 300.00	
Training, Books, & Dues	\$ 2,300.00	
Municipal Officers' Salaries	\$ 40,018.00	
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$ 45,282.00	
Treasurer	\$ 12,770.00	
Deputy Clerk	\$ 16,415.00	
Code Enforcement & Health Officer	\$ 5,200.00	
911 Addressing Officer	\$ 225.00	
Elections	\$ 3,000.00	
Register of Voters	\$ 2,600.00	
Trio Computer Programs	\$ 7,457.00	
Grounds Maintenance Reserve	\$ 3,000.00	
Municipal Buildings Heat Res.	\$ 10,000.00	
GIS Mapping Reserve	\$ 2,200.00	
Town Records Preservation Res.	\$ 4,500.00	
Town Line Survey Reserve	\$ 2,500.00	
Town Flags Reserve	\$ 1,500.00	
Special Projects; Lib. Computers	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>	\$195,767.00

PUBLIC WORKS

Winter Roads	\$125,000.00	
Summer Roads	\$125,000.00	
Gravel Roads Reserve	<u>\$ 10,000.00</u>	\$260,000.00

TRANSFER STATION

Transfer Station		\$ 90,000.00
------------------	--	--------------

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief	\$ 7,644.00	
Fire Department	<u>\$ 35,000.00</u>	\$ 42,644.00

LIBRARY

Coolidge Library Reserve		\$ 19,000.00
--------------------------	--	--------------

INSURANCE

Workers Comp Insurance	\$ 12,000.00	
Unemployment Insurance	\$ 4,787.00	
Insurance	\$ 20,000.00	
S.S. & Medicare	<u>\$ 26,000.00</u>	\$ 62,787.00

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Street Lights	\$ 8,500.00	
Hydrant Rental	<u>\$ 21,864.00</u>	\$ 30,364.00

CEMETERIES

Cemeteries	\$ 18,000.00	
Cemetery Maint. Res.	<u>\$ 4,500.00</u>	\$ 22,500.00

ANIMAL CONTROL

Humane Society	\$ 2,300.00	
Animal Control Officer	<u>\$ 3,120.00</u>	\$ 5,420.00

SOCIAL SERVICES

General Assistance	\$ 15,000.00	
KVCAP Bus Service	\$ 550.00	
KVCAP Head Start	\$ 800.00	
Hospice	\$ 800.00	
Senior Spectrum	\$ 760.00	
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$ 500.00	
Community Health & Counseling	\$ 100.00	
Solon Food Cupboard	\$ 2,000.00	
Lifelight	\$ 200.00	
American Red Cross	<u>\$ 150.00</u>	\$ 20,850.00

LEISURE SERVICES

Recreation Reserve	\$ 1,000.00	
Recreation Facility Maint. Reserve	\$ 1,000.00	
Swim/Camp Program Reserve	\$ 1,500.00	
4 th of July Fireworks	\$ 1,500.00	
Special Events	\$ 1,000.00	
After School Program Reserve	\$ 5,000.00	
Baker Mountain Ski Club	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>	\$ 12,000.00

AGENCIES

KVCOG	\$ 1,604.00	
Maine Municipal Association	\$ 2,164.00	
Somerset Economic Development	<u>\$ 100.00</u>	<u>\$ 3,868.00</u>

DEBT SERVICE

Fire Truck Loan		\$ 7,000.00
-----------------	--	-------------

CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS

Road Paving Reserve	\$190,000.00	
Highway Equipment Reserve	\$ 45,000.00	
Sidewalk Reserve	\$ 2,000.00	

Transfer Station Truck & Equip.	\$ 7,500.00	
Coolidge Library Building	\$ 3,000.00	
Municipal Buildings Maintenance	<u>\$ 3,500.00</u>	\$251,000.00

OTHER

Professional Assessor Reserve	\$ 15,000.00	
Backhoe Loader purchase	\$115,000.00	
Fire Station Addition	\$ 6,000.00	
Road Paving Project	<u>\$400,000.00</u>	<u>\$536,000.00</u>

GRAND TOTAL 2022 MUNICIPAL APPROPRIATIONS \$1,559,200.00

TOTAL RAISED AT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Taxation	\$1,041,200.00	
Highway Equipment Reserve (Backhoe Loader)	\$ 115,000.00	
Municipal Building Maint. Res. (Fire Station Addition)	\$ 3,000.00	
Road Paving Reserve	\$ 314,000.00	
LRAP Funds (Road Paving)	<u>\$ 86,000.00</u>	\$1,559,200.00

**TOTAL RAISED AT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ON 10/14/2022
APPROPRIATED FROM SURPLUS FUNDS**

Deputy Clerk	\$ 5,000.00	
Winter Roads	\$ 10,000.00	
Summer Roads	<u>\$ 10,000.00</u>	\$25,000.00

2022 EXPENDITURES

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

TOWN CHARGES

Income:		
Appropriated	\$23,000.00	
Costs of Liens	\$ 3,269.93	
Misc Charges	\$ 36.75	
Reimb. & Refunds	<u>\$ 10.00</u>	\$26,316.68

Expenditures:	
Supplies & Postage	\$ 7,227.85
Solon Post Office	\$ 947.52
Legal Fees	\$ 1,862.62
Reg. of Deeds	\$ 2,208.00
Town Reports	\$ 2,436.66
Travel & Reimb.	\$ 2,563.60

Check Fees	\$ 10.00		
Tax Bills Print & Mail	\$ 1,230.65		
Payroll Services	\$ 2,149.10		
Auditor	\$ 5,000.00		
Copier Maintenance. Fee	\$ 747.32		
Web Site Fee	\$ 600.00		
Post Office Box Fee	\$ 92.00		
Safe Deposit Box	\$ 30.00		
Computer Maintenance	\$ 607.90		
Computer Software Fees	<u>\$ 388.98</u>	<u>\$28,102.20</u>	(\$1,785.52)
SELECTMEN			
Appropriated & Paid Out		\$40,018.00	\$0.00
TREASURER			
Appropriated & Paid Out		\$12,770.00	\$0.00
TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR			
Appropriated & Paid Out		\$45,282.00	\$0.00
DEPUTY CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR/TREASURER			
Appropriated		\$21,415.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$19,284.25</u>	\$2,130.75
REGISTER OF VOTERS			
Appropriated & Paid Out		\$2,600.00	\$0.00
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER			
Appropriated & Paid Out		\$3,120.00	\$0.00
CODE ENFORCEMENT/HEALTH OFFICER			
Appropriated & Paid Out		\$5,200.00	\$0.00
911 ADDRESSING OFFICER			
Appropriated	\$225.00		
Trans. 1/2 Address Fees	<u>\$45.00</u>	\$270.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$270.00</u>	\$0.00
TOWN OFFICE UTILITIES			
Appropriated		\$6,400.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$6,764.82</u>	(\$364.82)
TOWN OFFICE MAINTENANCE			
Appropriated		\$2,100.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$1,193.34</u>	\$906.66

TOWN OFFICE SECURITY SYSTEM			
Appropriated		\$ 300.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$ 326.88</u>	(\$26.88)
TRIO COMPUTER PROGRAMS			
Appropriated		\$7,457.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$7,489.93</u>	(\$32.93)
ELECTIONS			
Appropriated		\$3,000.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$1,580.32</u>	\$1,419.68
ELECTIONS GRANT RESERVE			
Balance 1/1/22		\$606.24	
Paid Out		<u>\$606.24</u>	\$0.00
TRAINING, BOOKS, & DUES			
Appropriated		\$2,300.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$3,010.97</u>	(\$710.97)
OFFICE EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE RESERVE			
Balance 1/1/22	\$6,967.58		
Cable Franchise Fee	<u>\$5,860.95</u>	\$12,828.48	
Paid Out		<u>\$ 1,553.90</u>	\$11,274.58
TOWN RECORDS PRESERVATION RESERVE			
Balance 1/1/22	\$ 540.00		
Appropriated	<u>\$4,500.00</u>	\$5,040.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$3,420.00</u>	\$1,620.00
MUNICIPAL GROUNDS MAINTENANCE RESERVE			
Balance 1/1/22	\$3,501.71		
Appropriated	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	\$6,501.71	
Paid Out		<u>\$1,320.00</u>	\$5,181.71
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS HEAT RESERVE			
Balance 1/1/22	\$ 8,755.65		
Appropriated	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	\$18,755.65	
Paid Out		<u>\$ 2,088.51</u>	\$16,667.14
ASSESSING REVALUATION RESERVE			
Appropriated		\$15,000.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$10,000.00</u>	\$5,000.00
GIS MAPPING RESERVE			
Appropriated		\$2,000.00	

Paid Out		\$ 0.00	\$2,200.00
TOWN FLAG RESERVE			
Balance 1/1/21	\$1,084.02		
Appropriated	<u>\$1,500.00</u>	\$2,584.02	
Paid Out		<u>\$2,240.47</u>	\$343.55
TOWN LINE SURVEY RESERVE			
Balance 1/1/21		\$6,000.00	
Appropriated		<u>\$2,500.00</u>	\$8,500.00
SPECIAL PROJECTS			
Appropriated		\$5,000.00	
Paid Out: Library Computers		<u>\$4,044.83</u>	\$955.17
PUBLIC WORKS			
ROADS			
Appropriated	\$270,000.00		
Income	<u>\$ 8,346.09</u>	\$278,346.09	
Paid Out			
Winter Roads	\$148,756.80		
Summer Roads	<u>\$123,056.13</u>	<u>\$271,812.93</u>	\$6,613.16
Trans to HW Equip Reserve			(\$6,613.16)
LRAP FUNDS			
Balance 1/1/22		\$149,835.84	
Interest		\$ 749.18	
Income		<u>\$ 42,460.00</u>	\$193,045.02
TRANSFER STATION			
TRANSFER STATION			
Appropriated	\$90,000.00		
Income	<u>\$ 7,000.60</u>	\$97,000.60	
Paid Out		<u>\$94,185.58</u>	\$2,815.02
Trans to TS Truck & Tub Reserve			\$2,815.02
COOLIDGE LIBRARY			
COOLIDGE LIBRARY RESERVE			
Balance 1/1/22	\$ 1,083.59		
Appropriated	\$19,000.00		
From Investments	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>	\$23,083.59	
Paid Out		<u>\$21,604.86</u>	\$1,478.73
COOLIDGE LIBRARY GRANT RESERVE			
Received		\$3,000.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$3,000.00</u>	\$0.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE DEPARTMENT & FIRE CHIEF

Appropriated	\$42,644.00		
Paid Out	<u>\$42,394.76</u>	\$249.24	
Trans. to Res. Fund		<u>\$249.24</u>	\$0.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22	\$7,066.80		
Income Received	\$9,399.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 77.33</u>		\$16,543.13

INSURANCE

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

Appropriated	\$26,000.00		
Paid Out	<u>\$27,197.80</u>		(\$1,197.80)

WORKER COMPENSATION INSURANCE

Appropriated	\$12,000.00		
Rebate	<u>\$ 1,528.00</u>	\$13,528.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$ 8,946.40</u>	\$4,581.60

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Appropriated	\$4,787.00		
Paid Out	<u>\$4,787.40</u>		(\$0.40)

PROPERTY & CASUALTY INSURANCE

Appropriated	\$20,000.00		
Paid Out	<u>\$19,822.50</u>		\$177.50

PUBLIC UTILITIES

HYDRANT RENTAL

Appropriated	\$21,864.00		
Paid Out	<u>\$23,360.00</u>		(\$1,496.00)

STREET LIGHTS

Appropriated	\$8,500.00		
Paid Out	<u>\$7,460.33</u>		\$1,039.67

CEMETERIES

CEMETERIES & VETERAN GRAVES

Appropriated	\$18,000.00		
Paid Out	<u>\$17,095.00</u>		\$905.00

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$ 4,796.49		
Fence Donation Funds	\$14,800.00		
Investment Funds	\$ 42.56		
Appropriated	<u>\$ 4,500.00</u>	\$24,139.05	
Paid Out		<u>\$22,165.00</u>	\$1,974.05

CEMETERY LOT PURCHASE RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$2,250.00		
Received	<u>\$1,500.00</u>	\$3,750.00	
Transfer To Invest. Fund		<u>\$3,750.00</u>	\$0.00

SOCIAL SERVICES

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Appropriated	\$15,000.00		
Reimbursement	<u>\$ 4,147.16</u>	\$19,147.16	
Paid Out		<u>\$10,127.96</u>	\$9,019.20

KVCAP BUS SERVICE

Appropriated & Paid Out		\$550.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	--	----------	--------

KVCAP HEADSTART

Appropriated & Paid Out		\$800.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	--	----------	--------

HOSPICE

Appropriated & Paid Out		\$800.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	--	----------	--------

SENIOR SPECTRUM

Appropriated & Paid Out		\$750.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	--	----------	--------

KENNEBEC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Appropriated & Paid Out		\$500.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	--	----------	--------

LIFEFLIGHT FOUNDATION

Appropriated & Paid Out		\$200.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	--	----------	--------

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Appropriated & Paid Out		\$150.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	--	----------	--------

COMMUNITY HEALTH & COUNSELING

Appropriated & Paid Out		\$100.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	--	----------	--------

SOLON FOOD CUPBOARD

Appropriated & Paid Out		\$2,000.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	--	------------	--------

LEISURE SERVICES

RECREATION DEPARTMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22	\$6,315.83		
Appropriated	\$1,000.00		
Donations	<u>\$ 200.00</u>	\$7,515.83	
Paid Out		<u>\$ 348.24</u>	\$7,167.59

RECREATION FACILITY & MAINTENANCE RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22	\$4,000.00		
Appropriated	<u>\$1,000.00</u>	\$5,000.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$1,329.90</u>	\$3,670.10

SWIM/CAMP PROGRAM RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$1,666.02		
Appropriated	<u>\$1,500.00</u>	\$3,166.02	
Paid Out		<u>\$ 578.96</u>	\$2,587.06

SPECIAL EVENTS

Appropriated		\$1,500.00	
Transferred to Fireworks		<u>\$ 250.00</u>	\$1,250.00

4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS

Appropriated	\$1,500.00		
Transferred In From Special Events	\$ 250.00		
Donations	<u>\$ 950.00</u>	\$2,700.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$2,700.00</u>	\$0.00

BAKER MOUNTAIN SKI PROGRAM

Appropriated & Paid Out		\$1,000.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	--	------------	--------

SOLON SNOWHAWKS

State Grant	\$18,704.23		
State Exempt Tax Reim.	\$ 499.00		
State Registration Reim.	<u>\$ 642.14</u>	\$19,845.37	
Paid to Club		<u>\$19,845.37</u>	\$0.00

MOVE MORE KIDS RESERVE – COMMUNITY GARDEN

Balance 1/1/22	\$ 780.92		
Income	<u>\$2,050.00</u>	\$2,830.92	
Paid Out		<u>\$ 457.99</u>	\$2,372.93

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/21	\$8,561.09		
Appropriated	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	\$13,561.09	

Paid Out	<u>\$ 7,252.45</u>	\$6,308.64
----------	--------------------	------------

AGENCIES

KENNEBEC VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Appropriated & Paid Out	\$1,604.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	------------	--------

SOMERSET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Appropriated & Paid Out	\$100.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	----------	--------

MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION DUES

Appropriated & Paid Out	\$2,164.00	\$0.00
-------------------------	------------	--------

DEBT SERVICE

FIRE TRUCK LOAN (12/31/22 balance owed \$8,363.10)

Appropriated & Paid Out	\$7,000.00	
-------------------------	------------	--

CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS

ROAD PAVING RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$119,265.22		
Appropriated	\$190,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 65.40</u>	\$309,330.62	
Paid Out		<u>\$296,185.05</u>	\$13,145.57

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22	\$72,000.86		
Appropriated	\$45,000.00		
Trans in from Roads	\$ 6,613.16		
Interest	<u>\$ 10.50</u>	\$123,624.52	
Paid Out for Backhoe		<u>\$114,900.00</u>	\$8,724.52

GRAVEL ROADS RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$23,016.00		
Appropriated	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	\$33,016.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$ 4,308.00</u>	\$28,708.00

SIDEWALK REPAIR RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22		\$13,734.29	
Appropriated		<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>	\$15,734.29

TRANSFER STATION TRUCK & TUB RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22	\$10,840.45		
Appropriated	\$ 7,500.00		
Trans- Transfer Station	\$ 2,815.02		
Interest	<u>\$ 16.70</u>	\$21,172.22	
Paid Out for new tubs		<u>\$15,000.00</u>	\$6,172.17

COOLIDGE LIBRARY BUILDING CAPITAL RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$26,994.92		
Appropriated	\$ 3,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 132.47</u>	\$30,137.39	
Paid Out		<u>\$ 3,500.00</u>	\$26,627.39

FIRE TRUCK RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22 & 12/31/22			\$3,205.90
---------------------------	--	--	------------

FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22	\$ 518.66		
Appropriation	\$3,000.00		
Donation	\$ 50.00		
Trans. From Fire Dept.	\$ 249.24		
From Municipal Bldg, Maintenance Reserve	\$3,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 22.44</u>	\$6,840.34	
Paid Out		<u>\$6,568.66</u>	\$271.68

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$6,441.83		
Appropriated	<u>\$3,500.00</u>	\$9,941.83	
Paid Out:			
Expended	\$ 759.30		
Trans. to FD Capital Proj.	<u>\$3,000.00</u>	<u>\$3,759.30</u>	\$6,182.53

OTHER

FISH & WILDLIFE

Received & Paid to State		\$26,902.98	\$0.00
--------------------------	--	-------------	--------

MOTOR VEHICLE FEES

Received & Paid to State		\$105,668.17	\$0.00
--------------------------	--	--------------	--------

STATE VITAL FEES

Received & Paid to State		\$111.20	\$0.00
--------------------------	--	----------	--------

GUN PERMITS

Received & Paid to State		\$180.00	\$0.00
--------------------------	--	----------	--------

NOTARY FEE

Received & Paid Out		\$24.00	\$0.00
---------------------	--	---------	--------

PLUMBING PERMITS

Received		\$3,660.00	
Paid Out			

State Fees	\$ 912.50		
State Surcharge	\$ 195.00		
Plumbing Inspector	<u>\$2,737.50</u>	<u>\$3,845.00</u>	\$0.00

UNCLASSIFIED

DOG LICENSES-STATE FEES

Received & Paid to State		\$1,393.00	\$0.00
--------------------------	--	------------	--------

DOG LICENSES-TOWN FEES RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$2,247.96		
Received Town Fees	<u>\$1,259.00</u>	\$3,506.96	
Paid Out			
Trans. To Humane Soc.	\$ 629.98		
Paid Out	<u>\$1,433.50</u>	<u>\$2,063.48</u>	\$1,443.48

HUMANE SOCIETY

Appropriated	\$2,300.00		
Trans. From Town Dogs	<u>\$ 629.98</u>	\$2,929.98	
Paid Out		<u>\$2,929.98</u>	\$0.00

PLANNING BOARD RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22	\$13,217.82		
Income	\$ 2,447.50		
Interest	<u>\$ 61.49</u>	\$15,726.81	
Paid Out		<u>\$ 3,367.98</u>	\$12,358.83

TREE PLANTING RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22 & 12/31/22			\$1,000.00
---------------------------	--	--	------------

HISTORICAL SOCIETY RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22	\$2,586.96		
Interest	\$ 2.34		
Income	<u>\$ 677.80</u>	\$3,267.10	
Paid Out		<u>\$2,597.10</u>	\$670.00

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MAINTENANCE RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22	\$1,730.62		
Interest	\$ 5.25		
Income	<u>\$ 26.24</u>	\$1,762.11	
Paid Out		<u>\$ 706.32</u>	\$1,055.79

JONES FUND SCHOLARSHIP RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$13,094.55		
Interest	\$ 33.15		
Income	<u>\$ 7,835.76</u>	\$20,963.56	
Paid Out			

Scholarships	\$13,500.00		
Trans. To Ruth Cross			
Scholarship	\$ 99.00	<u>\$13,599.00</u>	\$7,364.56

RUTH CROSS SCHOLARSHIP RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$ 1.00		
Trans. In from Jones			
Fund Scholarship	<u>\$99.00</u>	\$100.00	
Paid:		<u>\$100.00</u>	\$0.00

HOMESTEAD EXPEMPTION REIMBURSEMENT

Reimbursement for 2020	\$460.00		
Reimbursement for 2021	<u>\$445.00</u>	\$905.00	
Reimbursed to State		<u>\$633.00</u>	\$272.00

RAINY DAY FUND RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22 & 12/31/22		\$34,033.30	
---------------------------	--	-------------	--

BANK ACCOUNT INTEREST

Skowhegan Savings Bank		\$6,802.68	
Paid to Reserve Accounts:			
Fire Truck Reserve	\$ 22.44		
Fire Department Capital Reserve	\$ 0.00		
Fire Department Reserve	\$ 77.33		
Transfer Station Equipment Res	\$ 16.70		
Highway Equipment Reserve	\$ 10.50		
Highway Paving Reserve	\$ 65.40		
Highway LRAP Funds	\$749.18		
Library Building Capital Reserve	\$132.47		
Planning Board Reserve	\$ 61.49		
Historical Society Reserve	\$ 2.34		
Historical Society Maint. Res.	\$ 5.25		
Ruth Cross Scholarship Reserve	\$.00		
Jones Fund Scholarship Reserve	<u>\$ 33.15</u>	<u>\$1,176.25</u>	\$5,626.43

SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

RSU # 74 SCHOOL TAX

Appropriated &	\$1,090,996.00	
Paid Out	<u>\$1,090,999.00</u>	(\$3.00)

COUNTY TAX

Appropriated & Paid Out	\$238,885.00
-------------------------	--------------

FIRST PARK

Tax Revenue received	\$6,018.00	
Assessment Paid Out	<u>\$5,526.00</u>	\$492.00

ACCOUNTS OVERAGE APPROVED FROM SURPLUS

Approved up to	\$5,000.00		
Overages:			
Town Charges	\$1,785.52		
Town Office Utilities	\$ 364.82		
Town Office Security Sys.	\$ 26.88		
Trio Computer Programs	\$ 32.93		
Training, Books, & Dues	\$ 710.97		
Unemployment Insurance	\$.40		
Social Security/Medicare	\$1,197.80		
RSU 74	\$ 3.00		
Hydrants	<u>\$1,496.00</u>	<u>\$5,618.32</u>	(\$618.32)

END OF YEAR TOTALS

Skowhegan Savings Bank 1/1/22	\$1,414,650.93	
Income Received in 2022	<u>\$2,732,138.95</u>	
Total Income	\$4,146,789.88	
Less Expenditures	<u>\$2,767,876.70</u>	
Balance 12/31/22		\$1,378,913.18

Less Total of Reserve Accounts	<u>\$ 786,252.08</u>	
Total Undedicated Funds (Surplus)		\$592,661.10



1959 Solon Hotel (Town Sesquicentennial celebration)

Board of Selectmen, Assessors & Overseers of the Poor



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



Wayne (Chip) Johnson
Vice Chair of Selectmen,
Assessors
and Overseers of the Poor



Lois Miller
Selectman, Assessor and
Overseer of the Poor

ASSESSORS' REPORT

VALUATION

Local Taxable Real Estate Valuation	\$96,134,490.00	
Local Taxable Personal Property Valuation	<u>\$ 1,913,184.00</u>	
2021 Taxable Town Valuation		\$ 98,047,674.00
Total of Homestead Exemption Valuation	\$ 8,113,200.00	
X 0.73		\$ 5,922,636.00
Total of all BETE Valuation	\$ 9,220,325.00	
Enhanced BETE Reimbursable Valuation		<u>\$ 5,088,658.00</u>
Total Valuation Base		<u>\$109,058,968.00</u>

APPROPRIATIONS

County Tax		\$ 238,885.00
Municipal Appropriation		\$1,559,200.00
RSU #74 Appropriation		
((\$1,061,203 (2021/2022) + \$1,120,789 (2022/2023) / 2)	<u>\$1,090,996.00</u>	
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS		\$2,889,081.00

LESS ALLOWABLE MUNICIPAL DEDUCTIONS

State Revenue Sharing	\$ 161,341.00	
Building Maintenance Reserve	\$ 3,000.00	
Highway Equipment Reserve	\$ 115,000.00	
LRAP Reserve	\$ 86,000.00	
Road Paving Reserve	\$ 314,000.00	
Surplus Revenues	\$ 593,734.00	
Less Reserve Funds	<u>(\$110,000.00)</u>	
		<u>\$1,163,075.00</u>

APPROPRIATIONS BY TAXATION		\$1,726,006.00
Plus Overlay		<u>\$ 84,372.87</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS BY TAXATION		\$1,810,378.87

LESS EXEMPTION REIMBURSEMENT FROM STATE

BETE Reimbursement	\$ 84,471.72	
Homestead Exemption Reimbursement	<u>\$ 98,315.76</u>	
LESS TOTAL EXEMPTION REIMBURSEMENT		<u>\$ 182,787.48</u>
TOTAL TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION		\$1,627,591.39

2022 MILL RATE: \$16.60 PER \$1,000 OF VALUATION

2020 Supplements	\$ 460.00	
2021 Supplements	\$ 445.00	
2022 Supplements	\$ 319.96	
2022 Tree Growth Withdrawal Penalties	<u>\$12,024.40</u>	\$13,249.36

Abatements Given in 2022	2022 Real Estate	\$ 743.27
--------------------------	------------------	-----------

COMPARISON OF APPROPRIATIONS BY TAXATION

RSU #74	10.00 mills	60.26%	(10.30 mills in 2021)
County Tax	2.19 mills	13.20%	(2.14 mills in 2021)
Municipal	3.64 mills	21.88%	(4.58 mills in 2021)
Overlay	<u>.77 mills</u>	<u>4.66%</u>	<u>(0.78 mills in 2021)</u>
Total Mills	16.60 mills	100.00%	(17.8 mills in 2021)

	2021	2022
County Tax	\$ 229,514.28	\$ 238,885.00
Municipal Appropriation by tax	\$ 491,565.72	\$ 396,125.00
RSU #74 Appropriation by tax	\$1,105,513.00	\$1,090,996.00

The School Tax decreased \$14,517 this year due to additional state funds received for the 2022-2023 school budget. Solon’s budget is a calendar year budget and RSU 74 operates under a fiscal year budget so in 2022 we are paying the last half of our 2021/2022 RSU 74 appropriation and the first half of our 2022/2023 RSU 74 appropriation. The County Budget Tax increased by \$9,371. Our Municipal Budget by taxation decreased by \$95,441 due to increased Revenue Sharing funds and Excise Tax Revenue in 2021 used to reduce taxes. This all resulted in mil rate decrease from 17.8 in 2021 to 16.6 in 2022.

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

The Maine Revenue Services reviews our property sales and our tax records every year. Our 2022 State Valuation is based on the 2020 & 2021 property sales. We need to keep our town valuation close to the state valuation because our reimbursement from the State for the Tree Growth Exemption, Veteran Exemption and Homestead Exemption is reduced if we are not close to the State valuation. In Solon, and all throughout the state, in 2022 we saw a large increase in the sale price of properties being sold. Our 2022 state valuation is \$106,450,000 and our 2023 state valuation will be \$115,750,000.

The Business Equipment Tax Exemption (BETE Program) started April 1, 2008. Since that date, all new manufacturing personal property equipment 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. The 2022 state reimbursement is \$84,472 for a portion of our lost BETE tax revenue.

In 2022 the Homestead Exemption is \$25,000 with the state reimbursing 73% of the lost revenue. We gave 324 homestead exemptions. Exemption recipients received a reduction of \$415.00 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 2022, please check with the Assessors before April 1st to see if you

qualify for 2023. If you received it in 2022, you do not need to reapply.

We had 55 Veteran Exemption recipients who received a reduction \$99.60 on their tax bill. Any new veteran exemption requests must be given to the Assessors by April 1st. If you received it in 2022, you do not need to reapply. The widow or widower of a veteran may also qualify for an exemption.

In 2022 we had 16,298 acres 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 assessing 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 program, contact the Assessors.

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

If you own a camper, 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 1st. Everyone is required to list their personal property with the Assessors by April 1st of each year. If you have paid excise tax on a piece of equipment, let us know.

The town is in the process of a having a professional full town revaluation done. Hamlin Associates has been hired to do the revaluation and are in the process of visiting every property in Solon. They are photographing the exterior of all buildings and documenting the dimensions and other pertinent information about the buildings. Please cooperate with them in this process. Our last full town professional revaluation was done in 1978.

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.*

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR REPORT

Our hours for General Assistance are on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

INCOME

Appropriated	\$15,000.00	
State & SSI Reimbursement	<u>\$ 4,775.61</u>	\$19,775.61

EXPENDITURES

Housing	\$ 3,300.00	
Food & Personal Supplies	\$ 30.00	
Heating Oil	<u>\$ 602.15</u>	<u>\$ 3,932.15</u>

UNEXPENDED BALANCE \$15,843.46

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 of time 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 providing assistance to 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 particular 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 2022 Solon's General Assistance Program helped 8 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'S REPORT

Bank Balances 1/1/22

\$1,414,650.93

MONEY MARKET DEDICATED ACCOUNTS BALANCES 1/1/22

2021 Revenue Sharing	\$161,341.87
LRAP Funds	\$149,835.84
2022 Prepaid R. E. Taxes	\$ 8,806.05
After School Program Reserve	\$ 8,561.09
American Recovery Program Act	\$ 56,821.30
Cemetery Lot Purchase	\$ 2,250.00
Cemetery Maintenance Reserve	\$ 4,796.49
Coolidge Library Bldg. Capital Res.	\$ 26,994.92
Coolidge Library Reserve	\$ 1,083.59
Election Grant Reserve	\$ 606.24
Fire Department Reserve	\$ 7,066.80
Fire Department Capital Reserve	\$ 518.66
Fire Truck Reserve	\$ 3,180.90
Highway Equipment Reserve	\$ 72,000.86
Highway Gravel Roads Reserve	\$ 23,016.00
Highway Road Paving Reserve	\$119,265.22
Historical Society Reserve	\$ 2,586.96
Historical Society Maint. Reserve	\$ 1,730.62
Move More Kids – Comm. Garden	\$ 780.92
Municipal Buildings Heat Reserve	\$ 8,755.65
Municipal Buildings Maint. Res.	\$ 6,441.83
Municipal Grounds Maint. Reserve	\$ 3,501.71
Office Equip & Maintenance Res.	\$ 6,967.53
Planning Board Reserve	\$ 13,734.29
Rainy Day Reserve	\$ 34,033.30
Recreation Department Reserve	\$ 6,315.83
Rec. Facility & Maintenance Res.	\$ 4,000.00
Scholarships - Jones Fund Reserve	\$ 13,094.65
Scholarships - Ruth Cross Reserve	\$ 1.00
Sidewalk Repair Reserve	\$ 13,734.29
Swim/Camp Reserve	\$ 1,666.02
Town Dogs Reserve	\$ 2,247.96
Town Flag Reserve	\$ 1,084.02
Town Line Survey Reserve	\$ 6,000.00
Town Records Preservation Res.	\$ 540.00
Transfer Station Truck & Tub Res.	\$ 10,840.45
Tree Planting Reserve	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>

Total Dedicated Accounts

\$787,686.39

Total of Non Dedicated Funds

\$626,964.54

INCOME:

State Revenue Sharing	\$ 207,823.75
Local Roads Assistance Program	\$ 42,460.00
Veterans Exemption Reimbursement	\$ 2,021.00
Tree Growth Reimbursement	\$ 73,697.94
BETE Reimbursement 2020	\$ 84,472.00
BETE Administration Fee	\$ 8.00
2021 Homestead Reimbursement	\$ 22,950.00
2022 Homestead Reimbursement	\$ 78,452.00
Cannabis Ordinance Cost Reimbursement	\$ 3,469.50
American Recovery Program Act	\$ 56,953.33
2023 Prepaid Real Estate Tax	\$ 12,001.46
2022 Real Estate Tax	\$1,500,672.19
2022 Personal Property Tax	\$ 31,329.18
2021 Real Estate Tax	\$ 47,102.93
2021 Personal Property Tax	\$ 58.95
2020 Real Estate Tax	\$ 460.00
2021 Liens	\$ 42,761.36
2020 Liens	\$ 32,168.99
Property Tax Interest	\$ 8,764.75
Costs, Fees of Liens and Notices	\$ 3,269.93
Notary Fees	\$ 24.00
Motor Vehicle Monies	\$ 105,668.17
Inland Fish & Wildlife Monies	\$ 26,902.98
State Vitals	\$ 111.20
State Dogs	\$ 1,393.00
Town Dogs	\$ 1,259.00
Vehicle Excise Tax	\$ 222,983.60
IF&W Excise Tax	\$ 1,295.60
Town Agent Fees - Dogs	\$ 332.00
Town Agent Fees - Vital	\$ 836.80
Town Agent Fees - BMV	\$ 6,923.00
Town Agent Fees – IF&W	\$ 582.50
Business Licenses	\$ 6,600.00
Gun Permit Fees - State	\$ 180.00
Gun Permit Fees -Town	\$ 72.00
Addressing Fees	\$ 90.00
Cemeteries Lot Purchase Reserve	\$ 1,500.00
Cemetery Maintenance Reserve	\$ 14,800.00
Cemetery Investment Reserve	\$ 42.56
Coolidge Library Reserve	\$ 3,000.00
Fire Department Reserve	\$ 9,399.00
Fire Department Capital Reserve	\$ 50.00
Fire Department Truck Reserve	\$ 25.00

First Park Tax Revenue	\$	6,018.00	
General Assistance, State reimbursement	\$	4,147.16	
Historical Society Reserve	\$	677.80	
Historical Society Maintenance Reserve	\$	26.24	
Insurance –Workman Comp. Rebate	\$	1,690.00	
Move More Kids – Community Garden Res	\$	2,050.00	
Office Equip. Res - Spectrum Franchise Fee	\$	5,860.95	
Planning Board Fees	\$	2,447.50	
Plumbing Permits, State Fee	\$	912.50	
Plumbing Permits, LPI Fee	\$	2,757.50	
Plumbing Permits State Surcharge	\$	195.00	
Public Works	\$	8,312.09	
Recreation Department Reserve	\$	200.00	
Fireworks Donations	\$	950.00	
Scholarship Reserve - Jones Fund	\$	7,835.76	
Snowmobile Grant	\$	17,183.38	
Swim/Camp Reserve	\$	300.00	
Transfer Station receipts	\$	7,000.60	
Town Charges - Miscellaneous Income	\$	63.51	
Heat Pump Rebate	\$	8,300.00	
Legal Fees Reimbursement	\$	2,610.00	
Animal Control	\$	93.00	
Selectman Pay Reimbursement	\$	183.88	
Bad Check Fees	\$	10.00	
Skowhegan Savings Bank interest	\$	<u>6,802.68</u>	\$2,732,138.95
BALANCE 1/1/22		\$1,414,650.93	
2022 INCOME		<u>\$2,732,138.95</u>	\$4,146,789.88
2021 WARRANTS TOTAL			<u>\$2,767,876.70</u>
BALANCE 12/31/22			\$1,378,913.18

Less Dedicated Accounts

:	2022 Revenue Sharing	\$207,823.75
	LRAP Funds	\$193,045.02
	2023 Prepaid R. E. Taxes	\$ 12,001.46
	After School Program Reserve	\$ 6,308.64
	American Recovery Program Act	\$113,774.63
	Assessing Revaluation Reserve	\$ 5,000.00
	Cemetery Maintenance Reserve	\$ 1,974.05
	Coolidge Library Bldg. Capital Res.	\$ 26,627.39
	Coolidge Library Reserve	\$ 1,478.73
	Fire Department Reserve	\$ 16,543.13
	Fire Department Capital Reserve	\$ 271.68
	Fire Truck Reserve	\$ 3,205.90
	Highway Equipment Reserve	\$ 8,744.52

Highway Gravel Roads Reserve	\$ 28,708.00	
Highway Road Paving Reserve	\$ 13,145.57	
Historical Society Reserve	\$ 670.00	
Historical Society Maint. Reserve	\$ 1,055.79	
Move More Kids – Comm. Garden	\$ 2,372.93	
Municipal Buildings Heat Reserve	\$ 16,667.14	
Municipal Buildings Maint. Res.	\$ 6,182.53	
Municipal Grounds Maint. Reserve	\$ 5,181.71	
Office Equip & Maintenance Res.	\$ 11,274.58	
Planning Board Reserve	\$ 12,358.83	
Rainy Day Reserve	\$ 34,033.30	
Recreation Department Reserve	\$ 7,167.59	
Rec. Facility & Maintenance Res.	\$ 3,670.10	
Scholarships - Jones Fund Reserve	\$ 7,364.56	
Sidewalk Repair Reserve	\$ 15,734.29	
Swim/Camp Reserve	\$ 2,587.06	
Town Dogs Reserve	\$ 1,443.48	
Town Flag Reserve	\$ 343.55	
Town Line Survey Reserve	\$ 8,500.00	
Town Records Preservation Res.	\$ 1,620.00	
Transfer Station Truck & Tub Res.	\$ 6,172.17	
Tree Planting Reserve	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>	
Total Dedicated Accounts		<u>\$786,252.08</u>
Total Undedicated Funds (Surplus)		\$592,661.10

RAYMOND JAMES INVESTMENT FUND

As of 12/31/22

TOWN OF SOLON

PRINCIPALS:

Historical Society Maint. Res.	\$110,000.00
Jones Fund Scholarship	\$ 29,323.29
Ruth Cross Scholarship	\$ 1,270.00
Town Cemeteries	\$166,920.00
Hilton Cemetery	\$ 3,000.00
Library	\$ 87,380.00

AVAILABLE FUNDS:

Historical Society Maint. Res.	\$ 18,406.01
Historical Society Reserve	\$ 19,750.32
Library	(\$ 1,238.04)
Jones Fund Scholarship	\$ 20,363.44
Ruth Cross Scholarship	\$ 619.80
Town Cemeteries	\$ 25,458.74

2021 TAX LIENS

TAX OUTSTANDING AS OF 12/31/2022
DOES NOT INCLUDE INTEREST AND FEES
THE PROPERTY WILL BE FORECLOSED ON IF NOT PAID BY 10/16/2023
*PAID AFTER 12/31/22 AND BEFORE 1/31/2023

REAL ESTATE

ABELIN, ELIZABETH	\$ 1,527.89
BERBERIAN, ANDREA	\$ 1,452.73
BOSTIC, ANTHONY	\$ 521.66
BROOKS, VASSER	\$ 877.15
BROWN, ROBERT A JAMES, DEBORAH	\$ 178.88
BROWN, ROBERT A JAMES, DEBORAH	\$ 417.54
DAVIS, DARILYN	\$ 232.37
DICKEY, CRISTI A	\$ 2,520.30
DICKINSON, NORMAN R JR	\$ 1,229.34
GIRESI, SALVATORE	\$ 122.00
HEALD, DEBORAH L HEALD, KIRK A	\$ 2,437.00
MELILLO, LEO	\$ 1,244.08
MORGAN, RYAN D MORGAN, IRIS L	\$ 372.20
OSBORNE, JASON KAMBERALIS, JOSEPH MICHAEL	\$ 1,527.35
PAPADOPOULOS, JUDITH A	\$ 1,485.57
POMELOW, JEFFREY	\$ 1,747.56
RICHARDSON, GLENN A SR	\$ 561.66
RODERICK, JOEY M	\$ 1,860.64
SAVAGE, EDWARD	\$ 1,857.78
SOUSA, ROBERT A SOUSA, MARGARET	\$ 2,548.86
STICKNEY, MERVIL A. STICKNEY, CATHERINE	\$ 368.86

PERSONAL PROPERTY

GUSHEE, D. LLC	\$ 1,092.92
GUSHEE, D. LLC	\$ 256.68
JEFFREY A POMELOW	\$ 106.80
JEFFREY A POMELOW	\$ 110.40

Respectfully Submitted,
Kaylee Gilson, Treasurer



Kaylee Gilson
Treasurer
Deputy Clerk/Tax Collector

Danika Riggs
Deputy Clerk, Tax Collector
& Treasurer



Leslie Giroux
Clerk & Tax Collector
Registrar of Voters
Deputy Treasurer

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

2022 RE TAX COMMITMENT	\$1,595,832.47	
2022 PP TAX COMMITMENT	<u>\$ 31,758.85</u>	\$1,627,591.32
2022 RE SUPPLEMENT		\$ 12,344.36

LESS ABATEMENTS		<u>\$ (743.27)</u>
FINAL COMMITMENT		\$1,639,192.41

2022 RE COLLECTED IN 2022	\$1,500,672.19	
2022 PP COLLECTED IN 2022	\$ 31,329.18	
2022 RE COLLECTED IN 2021	<u>\$ 8,806.05</u>	<u>\$1,540,807.42</u>

TOTAL DUE AS OF 12/31/2022		\$ 98,384.99
----------------------------	--	--------------

2022 UNPAID TAXES AS OF 12/31/2022

IF NOT PAID BY 4/24/2023 A LIEN WILL BE PLACED ON THE PROPERTY
PROPERTY WILL BE FORCLOSED ON IF NOT PAID BY 10/24/2023

**PAID AFTER 12/31/22 AND BEFORE 02/01/2023

ABELIN, ELIZABETH	\$ 1,367.84
ALBUI, PAUL R	\$ 54.45
ALBUI, PAUL R	\$ 249.66
*BEATTIE, MARK	\$ 94.62
*BEATTIE, MARK	\$ 58.76
BEAULIEU, JOSEPH M II	\$ 522.97
BERBERIAN, ANDREA	\$ 1,991.67
BERGMAN, FREDERICK & BERGMAN, JACLYN	\$ 1,235.37
BIGELOW, JESSICA	\$ 289.50
BOLAND, AMY GUGGINA & aka FRIEL, AMY	\$ 353.25
BOSTIC, ANTHONY	\$ 476.42
BROOKS, VASSER	\$ 782.52
BROWN, ROBERT A & JAMES, DEBORAH	\$ 152.72
BROWN, ROBERT A & JAMES, DEBORAH	\$ 361.05
BURRILL, TINA M & DAOUST, DAOUST, STEVEN	\$ 1,233.55
BURTON, MARY LYNN & BURTON, TINA L	\$ 301.46
COLPITTS, GLENN	\$ 269.17
DAVIS, DARILYN	\$ 739.70
DICKESS, JESSICA A & DICKESS, CARL H	\$ 1,161.34
DICKEY, CRISTI A	\$ 2,278.35
DICKINSON, NORMAN R JR	\$ 1,107.22
DOURANT, STEVEN A & DOURANT, VERONICA J	\$ 1,028.41

DUKE, CHARLES M & CHAMPNEY, AMANDA L	\$ 273.30
DUMOND, DAVID	\$ 1,010.77
*DUNN, LOWELL W	\$ 1,044.14
EMERSON, JAMES A & EMERSON, BRENDA BEA	\$ 1,024.99
ERSKINE, BRAD R & ERSKINE, CARRIE A	\$ 2,363.84
FISKE, DAVID M & FISKE, KELLEY J	\$ 276.36
FOSTER, DOUGLAS	\$ 501.32
*FOSTER, DOUGLAS C & WHITE, CAROL	\$ 3,206.29
FRENCH, JAMES B II	\$ 171.56
GAUDETTE, FRANCIS J. & DUFFY, WAYNE J	\$ 577.02
GIRESI, SALVATORE	\$ 1,496.82
GOGUEN, BRUCE & GOGUEN, FAITH	\$ 3,529.16
GOODHUE ENTERPRISES	\$ 2,877.94
GUSHEE, D LLC	\$ 1,408.68
GUSHEE, D. LLC	\$ 4,415.60
HAYDEN, DOUGLAS R & WELCH, GALE J	\$ 934.58
HEALD, DEBORAH L & HEALD, KIRK A	\$ 2,116.50
HERNANDEZ, PEDRO JR	\$ 118.03
HERNANDEZ, PEDRO JR & HERNANDEZ, TERRI J	\$ 1,116.85
JOHNSON, JEREMIAH	\$ 634.95
KILMER, KODY M	\$ 676.76
LABERGE, JOLINE & LABERGE, SCOTT	\$ 2,802.08
LAFRENIERE, EDWARD & FERRIS, JUDITH	\$ 281.54
LANGLEY, JAMES	\$ 787.84
LEUNG, SHELLY	\$ 11.67
LINDSTEDT, JACQUELINE E & DALTON, LLOYD C	\$ 7.43
MARSHALL, WILLIAM & MARSHALL, BARBARA	\$ 605.57
MELILLO, LEO	\$ 1,112.20
MIAODAN, CHEN	\$ 2,005.94
MILLER, CORY	\$ 1,744.33
MILLER, SHAWN A & FENDONE, LISA A	\$ 1,162.00
MORGAN, RYAN D & MORGAN, IRIS L	\$ 330.01
*NICKERSON, KIP ALLEN	\$ 108.62
NOYES, DONNA M	\$ 1,285.17
OBERT, CHRISTOPER JAMES	\$ 346.61
OLIVER, DANNY	\$ 232.40
O'MEARA, THOMAS D	\$ 931.43
OSBORNE, JASON & KAMBERALIS, JOSEPH MICHAEL	\$ 1,365.52
PADHAM, MICHAEL E & WACOME, BETSEY E	\$ 710.74
PAPADOPOULOS, JUDITH A	\$ 1,294.80
POMELOW, JEFFREY	\$ 1,577.00

PURDUE NH1, LLC	\$ 785.49
QUATTROCCHI, JOHN & TAMMY	\$ 964.46
RAILO, JONATHAN	\$ 94.62
REID, MICHAEL & REID, ROSEMARY L	\$ 321.38
REID, MICHAEL G & REID, ROSEMARY	\$ 1,862.52
RICHARDSON, GLENN A SR	\$ 496.34
RODERICK, JOEY M	\$ 1,605.22
RODRIGUEZ, EFRAIN, HEIRS OF	\$ 869.51
ROGERS, DUNCAN M	\$ 1,514.92
ROGERS, MEGAN	\$ 473.10
ROMAN, MARK A & SAVAGE, LISA J	\$ 930.93
ROSSIGNOL, STUART	\$ 800.12
ROY, KEVIN D	\$ 611.71
SAVAGE, EDWARD	\$ 1,659.00
SCHRADER, MICHELLE	\$ 412.18
SHANNON, ERIC L	\$ 171.61
SHRAMKO, CHRISTOPHER & LAPIERRE, KERI ANN	\$ 2,628.78
SMITH, RONALD W & SMITH, LESSIE D	\$ 947.20
SOLON ASSOCIATES	\$ 369.85
SOUSA, ROBERT A & SOUSA, MARGARET	\$ 2,270.88
STICKNEY, MERVIL A. & STICKNEY, CATHERINE	\$ 1,235.04
TAYLOR, ASHLEY G & LAVASSEUR, LAVASSEUR, ANNMARIE	\$ 86.32
TOLMAN, JOSEPH M	\$ 42.33
TOLMAN, JOSEPH MARK	\$ 541.66
TURCOTTE, ROSS & TURCOTTE, LOUIE SR	\$ 1,772.88
WARREN, ALFRED	\$ 414.17
WESTPHAL, WALTER - ESTATE & c/o HARRIET WESTPHAL	\$ 250.99
WHEELER, ERICA L & WHEELER, SHANE M	\$ 315.40
WHITE, CAROL	\$ 336.98
WHITE, CAROL	\$ 410.02
WHITE, KAREN	\$ 1,860.03
WILLETTE, ROBBIE R	\$ 858.22
WILLETTE, ROBBIE R	\$ 120.52
WILLIAMS, MARK N	\$ 1,132.12
WYMAN, JOE	\$ 2,031.71
*YORK, RICHARD J. II & YORK, JENNIFER L	\$ 3.18
YOST, ANDREW G & YOST, HEATHER J	\$ 431.60
ZAWALIK, CARRIE A	\$ 328.18
ZAWALIK, CARRIE A	\$ 2,022.38

PERSONAL PROPERTY

COCA-COLA BEVERAGES NORTHEAST	\$	19.82
GOODHUE ENTERPRISES	\$	83.00
GUSHEE, D. LLC	\$	227.25
JEFFREY A POMELOW	\$	99.60

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



LANDMARK CHANGES HANDS—The Solon Hotel, widely known landmark in the Kennebec Valley which has been purchased by Henry Rulof, a native of Holland, and will be reopened in April.

N. Y. Resident Buys Solon Hotel, Reopening Planned For April

Bingham, March 29.—Henry Rulof, a native of Heerenburg Holland, has purchased the Solon Hotel and plans to reopen it under that name some time in April.

Rulof, who has resided at White Plains, New York, since 1923, came to this Country as a chef. Later he became an interior decorator and more recently has operated hotels and restaurants in New York.

Rulof was in Maine on a hunting trip last Fall and liked the upper Somerset County where he was visiting. He made contacts that resulted in the purchase of last week. Accompanied by his family he has arrived in Solon and is remodeling and redecorating the establishment.

Interviewed while thus at work, Mr. Rulof stated that it was his intention to offer to the public a neat country hotel open the year around. His furnishings as displayed were quite out of the usual; there were Venetian blinds for each window, bolts of drapes, oriental rugs and oil paintings, the last being the work of a brother, Jozef Rulof, artist and author who after a lecture in Carnegie Hall, New York City in April will come to Solon and assist in the preparation by painting landscapes and other painting on the walls of the spacious dining room.

Mr. Rulof will be his own chef and will be assisted in the other hotel duties by his wife and two daughters, Mrs. Katherine Korosky and Miss Grace Rulof, the latter an accomplished accordion player having studied under Pietro Deiro of the Accordion Academy in New York City. She will assist in entertainment in the dining room and lounge.

The Caratunk House, the first hotel on this location, was destroyed by fire Oct. 31, 1893. It was an unusual set of buildings for the 1870's and contained 30 guest rooms and had on the ground floor, an office, reading room, parlor and rooms for the landlord's family. The dining room and kitchen extended nearly to Pleasant Street and on the top floor was a ball room. Bert Grey who owned the hotel at the time of the fire rebuilt and operated Gray's Tavern for years. After his death the building was sold and remained empty for a number of years until its purchase a little more than a year ago by Eugene Secord of Solon and Marvin Westerberg of Boston, owners of the Craft Boat and Canoe Company in Solon who remodeled and operated a modern apartment house.

Standing in the center of the village, close by the highway, the building is a hotel landmark in Kennebec Valley.

Call Your Correspondent —for information and service on classified advertising and subscriptions. He or she is authorized to handle such matters for you in addition to reporting the news of your area.

Old Orchard Beach Voters To Decide On Sewer Issue

Mrs. Clement Wight, Correspondent Telephone Old Orchard 55

Old Orchard Beach, March 29. — A special town meeting will be held from 9 a. m. to 7 p. m. Tuesday to vote on whether the town will establish a sewage district.

A dessert bridge and what will be held at 1:30 p. m. in the parish house for the benefit of St. John's Guild. Hostesses will be Mrs. Clara Ellis and Miss Lena Wight, assisted by Miss Ethel Wight.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Anderson and little daughter, arrived Thursday night to pass the Easter recess with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Anderson of the Seaside House, West Grand Avenue.

Movies at the Old Orchard Beach Lions Club headquarters brought out the usual large crowd of watermelon

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

VITAL STATISTICS

	MARRIAGES	BIRTHS	DEATHS
2022	10	8	18
2021	19	8	16
2020	16	6	10
2019	9	8	18
2018	9	10	11
2017	10	13	12
2016	5	3	12

DEATHS

January 1 - December 31, 2022

Decedent Name	Age	Date of Death
Champagne, Barbara L	56	9/9/2022
Corson, Neal C	74	1/19/2022
Creps, Stephen G	82	7/30/2022
Fecteau, Anthony R	56	5/19/2022
Gobin, Diane M	69	4/8/2022
Graham, Stephen N	67	2/23/2022
Hatfield, Timothy J	72	3/18/2022
Hilton, Leon	91	6/18/2022
Johnstone, William J	80	2/18/2022
Maden, James R	86	8/15/2022
Madore, Joseph A	65	5/29/2022
Mayhew, Harold C	79	4/18/2022
Pooler, Rance A	86	6/14/2022
Quimby, James	70	5/19/2022
Rogers, Gerald	75	8/23/2022
Rogers, Gladys E	96	12/10/2022
Warren, Alfred E	88	7/31/2022
York, Annie	86	8/19/2022

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* to gain 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 is 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 an American 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 the 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	\$125,000.00	
Approp. Special Town Meeting	\$ 10,000.00	
Metal Recycling	\$ 714 .00	
Insurance Reimbursement	\$ 3,391.47	
Culvert Reimbursement	\$ 900.00	
Town of Madison, Plowing	<u>\$ 1,700.00</u>	\$141,705.47

EXPENDITURES:

LABOR

Gary Bishop	\$ 28,988.65	
Jeffrey Chase	\$ 12,787.00	
Jeffrey Cyr	\$ 7,145.50	
Glenn Richardson	\$ 13,340.00	
Justin Kerschner	\$ 7,762.92	
Nicholas Rollins	\$ 5,101.50	
Joseph Madore	<u>\$ 51.00</u>	\$75,176.57

UTILITIES

Central Maine Power	\$ 1,051.86	
TDS Telecom	\$ 342.24	
US Cellular	<u>\$ 242.93</u>	\$ 1,637.03

SUPPLIES

Garage	\$ 3,147.36	
Tools	\$ 100.00	
Radios/Communications	\$ 162.35	
Safety Equip. & Signs	<u>\$ 275.00</u>	\$ 3,522.36

MILEAGE

Mileage Reimbursement		\$ 1,537.98
-----------------------	--	-------------

CONTRACTED SERVICES

Porta=Potty/Septic Cleaning	\$ 835.00	
Equipment Rental	\$ 567.00	
Towing	<u>\$ 615.00</u>	\$ 2,017.00

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Building Maintenance		\$ 4,655.35
----------------------	--	-------------

ROAD MAINTENANCE

Gravel	\$ 4,224.00	
Winter Sand	\$ 8,640.00	
Winter Salt	\$ 9,325.03	
Road Signs	<u>\$ 1,096.65</u>	\$23,285.68

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Equipment Parts & Supplies	\$ 7,787.92	
Diesel Fuel & Gas	\$ 17,649.41	
Tires	\$ 1,823.38	

Truck Parts & Supplies	\$ 4,385.07		
Truck Repairs	<u>\$ 5,125.05</u>	\$36,770.83	
TRAINING & DUES			
Medical Testing	\$ 154.00	<u>\$ 154.00</u>	<u>\$148,756.80</u>
			(\$7,051.33)
Transferred in from Summer Roads			<u>\$7,051.33</u>
			\$ 0.00

SUMMER ROADS

INCOME:

Appropriated	\$125,000.00		
Approp. Special Town Meeting	\$ 10,000.00		
Culverts Reimbursement	\$ 11.00		
Road Sign Reimbursement	\$ 554.62		
Road Damage Repair	\$ 1,000.00		
Supplies Reimbursement	\$ 25.00		
Driveway Entrance Permits	<u>\$ 50.00</u>	\$136,640.62	
	\$121,254.68		

EXPENDITURES:

LABOR

Gary Bishop	\$ 23,347.50		
Jeffrey Chase	\$ 19,698.25		
Jeffrey Cyr	\$ 11,975.00		
Glenn Richardson	\$ 8,441.00		
Justin Kerschner	\$ 6,061.00		
Arthur Myers	\$ 2,173.24		
Eric Peterson	<u>\$ 1,476.97</u>	\$73,172.96	

UTILITIES

Central Maine Power	\$ 446.38		
TDS Telecom	\$ 343.94		
US Cellular	<u>\$ 341.62</u>	\$ 1,131.94	

SUPPLIES

Garage		\$ 1,031.17	
--------	--	-------------	--

MILEAGE

Mileage Reimbursement		\$ 696.25	
-----------------------	--	-----------	--

CONTRACTED SERVICES

Roadside Mowing	\$ 1,600.00		
Septic Tank Service	\$ 210.00		
Tree Work	\$ 1,800.00		
Road Equipment	\$ 250.00		
Equipment Rental	<u>\$10,947.32</u>	\$14,807.32	

ROAD MAINTENANCE

Gravel	\$ 5,664.00		
Calcium	\$ 5,354.50		
Road Signs	\$ 570.06		
Road Damage Repair	<u>\$ 100.00</u>	\$11,688.56	

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Equipment Parts & Supplies	\$ 513.57		
Equipment Repair	\$ 245.00		
Diesel Fuel & Gas	\$13,105.88		
Tires	\$ 804.08		
State Inspections	\$ 560.00		
Truck Parts & Supplies	\$ 816.16		
Truck Repairs	<u>\$ 4,458.24</u>	\$20,502.93	
TRAINING & DUES			
Medical Testing		<u>\$ 25.00</u>	<u>\$123,056.13</u>
			\$ 13,584.49
Transferred to Winter Roads		\$ 7,051.33	
Transferred to Highway Equipment Reserve		<u>\$ 6,633.16</u>	<u>\$ 13,584.49</u>
			\$ 0.00

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

INCOME:

Balance 1/1/22	\$72,000.86		
Appropriated	\$45,000.00		
Trans. in from Roads	\$ 6,533.16		
Interest	<u>\$ 10.50</u>	\$123,544.52	
Paid for new Backhoe		<u>\$114,900.00</u>	\$ 8,724.52

ROAD PAVING RESERVE ACCOUNT

INCOME:

Balance 1/1/22	\$119,265.22		
Appropriated	\$190,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 65.40</u>	\$309,330.62	
Paid Out		<u>\$295,185.05</u>	\$13,145.57

LRAP GRANT RESERVE ACCOUNT

INCOME:

Balance 1/1/22	\$149,835.84		
Interest	\$ 749.18		
Received from State of Maine	<u>\$ 42,460.00</u>	\$193,045.02	

SIDEWALK RESERVE ACCOUNT

INCOME:

Balance 1/1/22	\$ 13,734.29		
Appropriated	<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>	\$15,734.29	

GRAVEL ROADS RESERVE ACCOUNT

INCOME:

Balance 1/1/21	\$ 23,016.00		
Appropriated	<u>\$ 10,000.00</u>	\$33,016.00	
Paid Out		<u>\$ 4,308.00</u>	\$28,708.00

Road Commissioner Report

The winter of 2022 was a challenge. Again, it was a year of snowstorms and a lot of freezing rain. Freezing rain is a challenge because the sand/salt washes off the road just about as fast as we put it on. And when we have cold temperatures, the salt does not work as well to melt the ice. We used up most of our winter sand pile by spring. Also remember that state law also prohibits the placement of snow on a public way that has not accumulated there naturally. And keep the right of way clear so the road crew can plow the roads without obstacles in the way.

This year Arthur Myers and Eric Peterson cut roadside brush. We did a road paving project on the River Road. We used the same chip seal method we used on the other paved roads. We did regular paving on the areas where heavy trucks regularly enter the road.

Again, unfortunately, we had some people who thought it was a great idea to spin their tires on the new pavement and some repairs had to be made. Also, we have a problem with some people spinning their tires and doing donuts on the gravel roads. Please be mindful that you might enjoy doing it but it is a cost to the taxpayers to repair the damage you are causing.

We did some gravel road work on West Road. We also did ditching on the River Road and the West Road. We are planning on doing more gravel road work in 2023.

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

Road sign theft continues to be a problem. If you want a specific road name sign, we can have one made for you for \$45. Stealing or pulling down the stop signs can cause a serious, if not fatal, accident.

We are not planning a road paving project in 2023. But we are planning on having our paved roads crack sealed to preserve the pavement.

Jim Quimby, who assisted us part time on the road crew, passed away this year. Joe Madore, who helped occasionally, also passed away this year. They will both be missed and our sympathy goes to their families.

Justin Kershner left us for another job. Glenn Richardson is now working at the transfer station but still helps us out when needed. We hired Jeffrey Chase and Jeffrey Cyr. Jeff Cyr is working on getting his Class B license.

I would like to thank all who have given me support this year. Thank you so much. I appreciate it!

Respectfully,
Gary Bishop, Road Commissioner



Gary Bishop,
Road Commissioner



Jeffrey Cyr, Road Crew



Jeffrey Chase, Road Crew



Justin Kerschner & Glenn Richardson, Road Crew

TRANSFER STATION REPORT

TRANSFER STATION

INCOME:

Appropriated	\$90,000.00	
Sticker Fees	\$ 1,505.00	
Disposal Fees	\$ 3,289.00	
Steel Recycling	<u>\$ 2,206.60</u>	\$97,000.60

EXPENDITURES:

LABOR

Joseph Madore	\$ 6,030.63	
Glenn Richardson	\$ 4,188.89	
Deborah Brackett	\$17,325.16	
Amy Houle	\$ 5,732.25	
Gary Bishop	\$ 582.30	
Jeffrey Chase, driving	\$ 114.00	
Justin Kerschner , driving	\$ 988.00	
Joseph Madore, driving	\$ 1,382.86	
Glenn Richardson, driving	<u>\$ 2,071.38</u>	\$38,415.47

UTILITIES

Central Maine Power	\$ 938.28	
TDS Telecom	<u>\$ 582.09</u>	\$ 1,520.37

SUPPLIES

Garage		\$ 359.18
--------	--	-----------

CONTRACTED SERVICES

Trash Disposal Fee	\$39,525.54	
Recycling Program	\$ 2,489.42	
Porta Potty	<u>\$ 390.00</u>	\$42,404.96

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Property Maintenance		\$ 230.00
----------------------	--	-----------

EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

Equipment Parts & Supplies	\$ 364.95	
Equipment Repair	\$ 910.00	
Diesel Fuel & Gas	\$ 1,954.78	
Truck Parts & Supplies	\$ 1,435.54	
Truck Repairs	\$ 6,373.33	
State Inspections	<u>\$ 140.00</u>	\$11,178.60

TRAINING/DUES

Medical Testing	<u>\$ 77.00</u>	<u>\$94,185.58</u>
		\$ 2,815.02
Transferred to TS Truck & Tub Reserve		<u>\$ 2,815.02</u>
		\$ 0.00

TRANSFER STATION TRUCK & EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22	\$10,840.45		
Appropriated	\$ 7,500.00		
Trans. in from Transfer Station	\$ 2,815.02		
Interest	<u>\$ 16.70</u>	\$21,172.17	
Paid for new tubs		<u>\$15,000.00</u>	\$6,172.17

SOLON TRANSFER STATION FEES SCHEDULE

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).

Fluorescents: Bulbs and tubes

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

Cardboard: Corrugated or thin (cereal boxes, tissue rolls, milk & juice boxes, etc.), flattened

Paper: office paper, newspapers, magazines, junk mail, scrap paper, window envelopes, Post-Its, etc.

Metal

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

<u>Tires:</u>	passenger and pickup truck, up to 17", off rim	\$3.00
	passenger and pickup truck, up to 17", on rim	\$6.00
	large truck tires, off rim	\$10.00
	tractor tires	\$100.00

Household items:

Easy chair, mattress or box spring	\$5.00
Sofa and other large furniture	\$10.00
Washer, dryer, stove, water heater, pumps	\$10.00
Refrigerator or freezer, door must be removed	\$12.00
Air conditioner	\$12.00

Lights: Mercury vapor bulbs \$1.50 each

Other: Mercury switches, thermostats and thermometers \$3.00

Bulky Waste/Asphalt Shingles: 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 attendant.

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 465.12 tons to Waste Management with a total cost of \$39,525.54 in tipping fees during 2022, which is an decrease of \$3,661.71 over last year. Our trash costs us a little over \$100 per ton in transport and landfill costs. Tonnage breakdown is: 165.2 tons household waste, 2999.92 tons demolition debris.

On the other hand, Solon paid just over \$2,489.42 to recycle the cardboard, paper and plastic. We were paid \$2,206.60 for the tin cans, metal, and batteries. The more we recycle, the more we save.

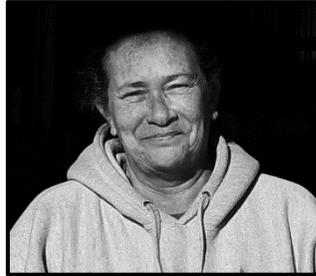
Even though most recyclable items are accepted at the Transfer Station for no cost, we do charge a small fee for some. Those fees help cover the extra costs the Town is charged for disposing of those items. Please pay the attendant if you drop off any of the items on the list located on the previous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

We collect waste oil if anyone needs it. Returnable bottles are collected to benefit the Solon Recreation Department. And no trip to the Transfer Station is complete unless you bring something back home with you, so stop by the “FREE” table to pick up that special item or book.

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, 2023 and we can pay the fee to join in.



Joe Madore &
Glenn
Richardson,
Transfer Station
Attendants &
Drivers



Deborah Brackett,
Transfer Station Attendant

REMINDERS

A transfer station sticker is required to dispose of waste.

Stickers are available at the Town Office for \$5. Sticker colors change each year, and the new color is required by January 1. You need to either be a taxpayer in Solon or show proof of residency. Non-resident taxpayers can only bring trash generated in Solon to the Transfer Station. The stickers will also be available on Saturday March 6th at our Annual Town Meeting and Elections.

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.

Thanks to Deb and Glen for all of their hard work to make our Transfer Station run so smoothly. Glen is also our truck driver. Additional thanks go to Road Commissioner Gary Bishop for the Road Crew's frequent help.

REMEMBER TO REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE!

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Emergencies: 911 Radio: 100

OFFICERS:

Duayne Rollins, Chief	399-9549	Solon 101
Brian Coombs, 1 st Assist. Chief	592-5607	Solon 102
Todd Dixon, 2 nd Assist. Chief	441-5171	Solon 103
Kevin Lacroix, 3 rd Assist. Chief	446-2474	Solon 104
Richard Kelley, EMA Director		Solon 109
Jenney Rollins, Secretary/Treasurer		
Diana Rollins, Base Radio Monitor		

FIRE WARDENS

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

Duayne Rollins, Fire Warden 399-9549

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

FIREFIGHTERS:

Derek Dellarma	Todd Dixon
Nick Rollins	Meagan Corson
Zane Brown	Brian Livingstone
Thomas Courtney	Frederick Mayo
Brandi Crocker	

FIRE DEPARTMENT

INCOME:

Appropriated	\$35,000.00	
Appropriated Fire Chief Salary	<u>\$ 7,644.00</u>	\$42,644.00

EXPENDITURES:

LABOR

Duayne Rollins, Fire Chief	\$ 7,644.00
Duayne Rollins	\$ 1,656.00
Brian Coombs	\$ 1,175.00
Jenney Rollins	\$ 1,175.00
Kevin Lacroix	\$ 427.00
Frederic Mayo	\$ 852.00
Richard Kelley	\$ 1,484.00
Brian Livingstone	\$ 124.00
Derek Dellarma	\$ 254.00
Zane Brown	\$ 303.00

Todd Dixon	\$ 815.00		
Meagan Corson	\$ 917.00		
Nick Rollins	\$ 1,349.00		
Thomas Courtney	\$ 510.00		
Brandi Crocker	<u>\$ 649.00</u>	\$19,334.00	
UTILITIES			
Central Maine Power	\$ 1,132.61		
TDS-Phone & Internet	\$ 488.33		
Solon Water District	<u>\$ 764.34</u>	\$ 2,385.28	
SUPPLIES			
Office Supplies	\$ 358.76		
Uniforms	\$ 508.80		
Shop Supplies	\$ 4,943.83		
Safety Equipment	\$ 7,234.78		
Radio Communications	<u>\$ 1,558.55</u>	\$14,604.72	
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE			
Building Maintenance		\$ 1,734.69	
FEES & MAINTENANCE FEES			
Computer Maintenance	\$ 758.00		
Computer Software Fees	<u>\$ 355.00</u>	\$ 1,113.00	
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE			
Equipment Parts & Supplies	\$ 849.57		
Diesel Fuel & Gasoline	<u>\$ 876.94</u>	\$ 1,726.51	
TRAINING & DUES			
Dues	\$ 30.00		
Medical Testing	\$ 487.00		
Donations	<u>\$ 979.56</u>	\$1,496.56	<u>\$42,394.76</u>
			\$ 249.24

FIRE DEPARTMENT TRUCK RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22	\$ 3,180.90		
Donation	<u>\$ 25.00</u>		\$3,205.90

FIRE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance 1/1/22	\$ 518.66		
Appropriated	\$3,000.00		
Donation	\$ 50.00		
Transferred from Fire Dept.	\$ 249.24		
Trans. from Muncipal Blds.			
Maintenance Reserve	\$3,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 22.44</u>	\$6,840.34	
Paid for Building Addition		<u>\$6,568.66</u>	\$271.68

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

INCOME:

Balance 1/1/22	\$7,066.80	
Donations	\$9,399.00	
Interest	<u>\$ 77.33</u>	\$16,543.13

FIRE CALLS

	Total Calls	51		
Vehicle Accidents	13	Fire Alarms	4	
Structure Fires	2	Assist EMS	7	
Mutual Aid Given	9	Grass/Brush Fires	1	
Chimney Fire	4	Electrical Lines/Trees	11	

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 expensed 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 put in 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 \$10 for each training session they attend.

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

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Time goes by so fast but I always look forward to this report as it allows me time to be able to thank people and let the town know what the Fire Department has been doing throughout the year.

I would like to say thank you to Foss Enterprise, Somerset Home Improvements, Hether Forsten, Doug Sukeforth, and Ken's Family Restaurant. With your donations we were able to purchase new equipment and have a great Christmas party for the firefighters.

The department did some sports this year. We were in a dodge ball tournament in April to raise funds for Carrabec Athletes. We also played in the Eugene Cole Softball Tournament in June.

We were able to go to our toll booth Memorial Day weekend. It was a great success. We look forward to it every year. It allows us to get out and talk with towns people and people passing through our great town.

The fireworks once again were another success. Thank you to the town and all the others who donate and help keep this event a great time for everyone to enjoy.

Another great event that took place this summer was the Chili Cook Off that the New Hope Church hosted. This year they added some great baskets to our tables with treats and aprons as well as squirt guns! They put together the chili cook off, a silent auction, and a bake sale with all the proceeds donated to the fire department. The fire departments that battled for the best tasting chili this year were Anson, Bingham, Jackman, Madison, and Solon. This year we are happy to report Solon took first place. With these proceeds we ordered Guardian Angel lights for each member. These are lights that go on the shoulder of the gear to help make them visible and keep them safe.

In August Griswold's Store held a car show and the fire department was there to help with parking. You could also have been lucky to have one of the firefighters pump your gas that day. We had a great time being out in our great community.

We did Fire Prevention in October at the Solon Elementary School. Safety Office Jenney Rollins and 2nd Assistant Chief Todd Dixon were able to go into the school and help educate students and staff about fire safety. We also had a little gift for the kids as well.

We also had a great time putting together a Trunk or Treat for Halloween with Griswold's Store. For a first year it was a great success.

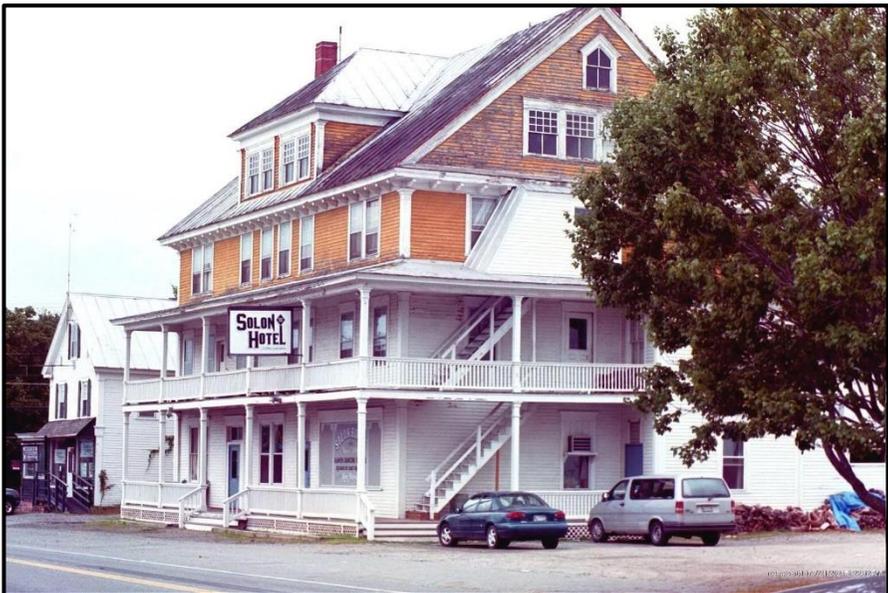
As a reminder as you read through this, the Solon Volunteer Fire Department does all of this throughout the year as well as our monthly meetings, monthly truck checks, monthly training, and emergency calls.

I want to thank my firefighters, town officials, and community for helping make our town and our Fire Department what it is, a town and a Fire Department to be proud of.

Sincerely,
Fire Chief Duayne Rollins

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!



1980-1990's Solon Hotel

COOLIDGE LIBRARY

COOLIDGE LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Jane Ourderkirk, Chairman (2024)

Richard Roberts, Vice Chair (2023)

Mary Lou Ridley (2025)

Allyn Foss (2026)

Chris Shaw (2026)

Leslie Giroux (2025)

Stacy Robinson (2025)

Patricia Whipple (2024)

Ann Jackson (2024)

The Trustees are grateful to:

- The Selectmen for their interest in, and support of Library Services.
- Library Director Megan Myers for her enthusiasm and initiative in expanding programs and success in receiving grants.
- Patrons who donate recently published books that expand our Collections beyond what we are able to purchase - and to those who contribute funds to the Friends of the Coolidge Library.
- Town residents who volunteer when their assistance is needed.

Following approval at last year's Town Meeting, the eleven-year-old public use computers were replaced, and four Saturday hours were added to the schedule.

Library Capital Reserve Funds paid for scraping and painting the exterior trim, vestibule, and cupola.

Library Trustees are planning programs and services identified as priorities in the responses to the Expansion Committee Survey. We are also building a collection of carpentry and automotive tools available for loan. Trustees with Director Megan Myers, The Solon Historical Society, and The Friends of the Coolidge Library will coordinate a series of presentations about local history, and resources for genealogical research. Special appreciation to Darylyne Provost for managing the survey design subcommittee.

Solon is fortunate to have Megan Myers as Library Director. The Town benefits from her highly developed information skills as well as her excellent customer service attitude. Megan has exceeded the requirements of her job with several successful grant applications for the Library.

Next year, community groups will work with a building engineer to finalize a building plan and estimate the cost of an addition to the Library.

I was recently appointed to represent public library trustees on the Maine State Library Board which will give us advance notice of funding opportunities.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Ouderkirk

Library Expansion Committee Report

Jane Ouderkirk, (Chair)

Elaine Aloes	Judy Belanger	Allyn Foss	Leslie Giroux
Megan Myers	Darylyne Provost	Mary Lou Ridley	Richard Roberts

The Coolidge Library is an architectural gem in the town center. Opened in 1932, the original plot and building were given to the Town by Frederick Coolidge with an endowment fund for operations. When the endowment ceased to provide adequate revenue for operations, the Town assumed the cost. Planning for future expansion, the Town purchased two adjacent plots of land which have been combined with the original plot and registered as a single plot following a survey this year.

Expectations for Library services and programs have changed significantly over the last ninety years and the existing building cannot meet those expectations. The Library Expansion Committee was appointed to propose solutions to two major issues which can be solved by building a Library addition.

The building does not meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

- Neither the entrance nor the water closet are accessible and there is inadequate space between shelving and other furniture to navigate a walker or wheelchair. Besides making the building unusable for some residents, the lack of access renders us ineligible for educational, entertainment, and other programs which are offered at no cost to public libraries.

The amount of usable space is severely restricted.

- For every volume added to the collection, one must be withdrawn to make room for it. We are not able to keep all of the titles of books published in series, a favorite of many users.
- There is no privacy for patrons using the public computers. Screens are visible to all onlookers. Those researching diseases, legal and financial issues, and other confidential matters should have privacy.
- We have no space to hold regular programs like preschool story hours without disrupting access to materials and quiet study.

The Committee will be conducting a survey to hear what you would like to have available at the Library and to identify priority services. Your assistance with the planning process will be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Ouderkirk

LIBRARIAN REPORT

Hello from the Coolidge Library!

Sometimes I can't help but wonder what Fred Coolidge would think of the library he so generously gifted to the town 90 years ago. Mr. Coolidge's portrait hangs above the brick fireplace. Each time I pass it, I'm reminded of his generosity, and I'm inspired to operate the library in a way that would make him proud of his legacy. This year, I'm most proud that we welcomed more than 1,000 visitors through our doors. Considering it sits in a town with a population of less than 1,000, I think that figure shows that lots of residents (and even some out-of-towners) value the services our tiny library offers. And she still looks pretty good for 90, I'd say! (That's due in part to the fresh coat of paint that was applied this summer.) More improvements are in the works.

We had some fun, engaging programs in 2022. We joined the README initiative to increase readership of Maine authors by offering some terrific book selections and discussion opportunities. We also had fun with kids during the Summer Reading Program. We want to extend our gratitude to Laura Layman, director of the Solon Summer Recreation Program, for her continued commitment to involve the children in library activities. This year we had a visit from the very talented musician, Mr. Harley. The kids enjoyed refreshments and played along with the music using instruments they made. Our tradition of collaborating with Solon Elementary School in our annual Bookmark Contest continues. In it, we ask each student to create a literary-themed bookmark design. A library representative and the RSU 74 art teacher pick a winning design for each grade. Those designs are then printed, along with the library's hours and information on the back and offered at no cost to library visitors. We are always thrilled to see the designs students create. Equally enjoyable is presenting the winners with brand new books and certificates for their accomplishments. In 2023 we will expand our contest to include the many home-schooled children in our town.

This year, in order to accommodate more families and individuals, we expanded our hours of service. In addition to Tuesdays and Thursdays (10-6:00) we are now open Saturdays from 10-2. And in 2023 we are further expanding them to 10-4 on Saturdays. If you visited the library on a Saturday, it is likely you saw a new face. We welcomed Ms. Vicki as our weekend librarian, and she is doing a fantastic job.

We have lots of new and exciting things planned for the upcoming year, including a regular Toddler Storytime, various book clubs, our Summer Reading Program, and collaborations with other local organizations. If you have any ideas, collections, special skills or talents you'd like to share with your community, don't hesitate to contact me at the library! If you haven't been into the library lately, please visit. We can only reach our full potential when people use our materials/services. We put great effort into making sure we have something for everyone. We have books for all ages, seeds for lending, new computers, WiFi inside and out, a 3-D printer, a flatbed scanner and printer, DVD and BluRay films, audio books, puzzles, games and coloring books, an outdoor picnic table

and so much more. If there's something you want that we don't have, chances are we can get it. In fact, I'd like the challenge!

Lastly, I want to thank our tremendous Board of Trustees for their continued service, especially our Chair, Jane Ouderkirk. Because of their enthusiasm and dedication, I believe Mr. Coolidge would be proud of the library today.

Respectfully, Megan Myers, Library Director



Megan Myers
Library Director

COOLIDGE LIBRARY RESERVE

INCOME:			
Balance 1/1/22	\$ 1,083.59		
Appropriated	\$19,000.00		
Investment Funds	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>		\$23,083.59
EXPENDITURES:			
LABOR			
Megan Myers, Librarian	\$14,704.71		
Vicki Myers, Asst. Librarian	\$ 1,935.00		
Laura Layman, Asst. Librarian	<u>\$ 56.00</u>	\$16,695.71	
UTILITIES			
Central Maine Power	\$ 679.64		
TDS-Phone & Internet	\$ 685.68		
Solon Water District	<u>\$ 228.90</u>	\$ 1,594.22	
SUPPLIES			
Office Supplies	\$ 697.89		
Books	\$ 1,355.32		
Shop Supplies	<u>\$ 37.00</u>	\$ 2,090.30	
CONTRACTED SERVICES			
Security System		\$ 197.88	
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE			
Building Maintenance	\$ 156.75		
Grounds Maintenance	<u>\$ 135.00</u>	\$ 291.75	
FEES & MAINTENANCE FEES			
PO Box Fee	\$ 126.00		
Computer Software Fees	<u>\$ 539.00</u>	\$ 665.00	
TRAINING & DUES			
Fees		\$ 70.00	<u>\$21,604.86</u>
			\$ 1,478.73

LIBRARY BUILDING CAPITAL RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$26,994.92		
Appropriated	\$ 3,000.00		
Interest	<u>\$ 132.47</u>	\$30,127.39	
EXPENDITURES			
Building Repairs		<u>\$ 3,500.00</u>	\$26,627.39

LIBRARY MEMORIAL & INVESTMENT FUNDS

RAYMOND JAMES INVESTMENT FUND

Principal \$87,380.00

Investment Value 1/1/21	\$98,996.05		
Income	\$ 4,610.50		
Investment Change in Value	<u>(\$ 13,549.56)</u>	\$90,056.99	
Less			
Trans. to Coolidge Library Res.	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>		
Investment Advisor Fees	<u>\$ 915.05</u>	<u>\$ 3,915.05</u>	
Invest. Funds Balance 12/31/21			\$86,141.94

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 12/31/2022		<u>(\$1,238.06)</u>	\$86,141.94



2022 Bookmark
Contest Winners

COOLIDGE LIBRARY HISTORY

THE COOLIDGE LIBRARY TURNED 90 THIS YEAR

It was first opened to the public on November 18, 1932. This was made possible by the late Fred A. Coolidge, a native of Solon, whose Will contained a bequest of \$25,000 for the erection and equipment of a library to be deeded to the town of Solon, with the provision that the balance of the money after all expenses of the building construction and equipment were paid, be invested and the income there from used for its maintenance.

The original move to start a public library in Solon was instituted by the Solon Woman's Club in 1906. It was in a space in a store in town and later moved to another building. In 1908 the town took over the library and it became known as the Solon Public Library. In 1926 the library was moved to the school where it remained until the Coolidge Library was built.

Nellie Howland was the first librarian in the new building. Megan Myers is the current librarian.



Coolidge Library

CEMETERIES & VETERAN GRAVES

CEMETERIES

INCOME:			
Appropriated		\$18,000.00	
EXPENDITURES:			
Robert Alton, Small Cemeteries	\$ 260.00		
W. Wooster, Evergreen Cem.	\$ 4,680.00		
W. Wooster, Pierce Cemetery	\$ 3,952.00		
W. Wooster, S. Solon Cem.	\$ 2,496.00		
J. Lawrence, Village Cemetery	\$ 3,952.00		
Hilton Cemetery	\$ 125.00		
Grounds Maintenance	<u>\$ 1,630.00</u>	<u>\$17,095.00</u>	\$905.00

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$ 4,796.49		
Appropriated	\$ 4,500.00		
Investment Funds	\$ 42.56		
Donations	<u>\$14,800.00</u>	\$24,139.05	
Paid Out:			
South Solon Cemetery tree &	\$ 1,065.00		
South Solon Cemetery fence	<u>\$21,100.00</u>	<u>\$22,165.00</u>	\$1,974.05

CEMETERY LOT PURCHASE RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$2,250.00		
Income	<u>\$1,500.00</u>	\$3,750.00	
Transferred to Investment Fund		<u>\$3,750.00</u>	\$0.00
** Lot Sales deposit of \$3,750.00 to be credited to R. J. Investment Fund in January 2023			

RAYMOND JAMES INVESTMENT FUND

Principal \$163,170.00			
(Lot Sales deposit of \$3,750.00 to be credited January 2023)			
Investment Value 1/1/22	\$213,692.82		
Income	\$ 9,765.27		
Investment Change in Value	<u>(\$29,102.09)</u>	\$194,357.00	
Less			
Withdrawals	\$ 0.00		
Investment Advisor Fees	<u>\$ 1,977.26</u>	<u>\$ 1,977.26</u>	
Invest. Funds Balance 12/31/21			\$192,378.74
Available Funds 12/31/22	\$29,208.74		

The town owns 4 cemeteries: Evergreen Cemetery, Pierce Cemetery, South Solon Cemetery, and Village Cemetery. Lots are available in single, partial, or a full lot at the Pierce Cemetery, South Solon Cemetery and Evergreen Cemetery. Village Cemetery has not lots available. Contact the Selectmen to purchase a lot.

Trees and bushes are not allowed to be planted in any of the cemeteries. Either real or artificial flowers are allowed. Trees, bushes, and flowers will be removed at the discretion of the groundskeeper. 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.

All burials and stone placements must be arranged through the groundskeeper for the cemetery. Contact the Town Office for contact information.

Glen Davis contacted us in 2020 about replacing the fence in the South Solon Cemetery. Selectmen Sarah Davis and Chip Johnson worked on the coordinating the project. The rear and side fencing were in very poor condition and needed replacement. The Farrin Family had repaired the front fence several years ago but it needed work again. In 2022 we cut brush and cleaned up around the perimeter of the South Solon Cemetery. Then Allen Farm Fence replaced the wire fence at the South Solon Cemetery with a black chain link fence and new posts & rails. The rails on the roadside fence were also replaced and the granite posts straightened. It looks really nice.

We received very generous donations for the fencing project from the following:

Glen & Merrill Davis, Estate of Barbara Merrill	\$5,000.00
Mark, Geoffrey, and Peter Lafond	\$4,800.00
Warren Cook	\$5,000.00

Thank you so much for your donations!! They made this project happen.

We are planning on replacing the fence at the Evergreen Cemetery on the River Road in 2023 or 2024. It is in poor condition. We will 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!!



Front fence improvements



Rear and side fence improvements

PLANNING BOARD'S REPORT

MICHAEL GOLDEN, CHAIRMAN (2023) 643-2219

Frank Evangelista, Vice Chairman (2023)

Craig Gerry (2025)

Dianna Rollins, Secretary (2023)

Kerri Evangelista (2024)

Richard Kelley, 1st Alt. (2024)

INCOME:

Balance 1/1/22	\$13,217.82	
Interest	\$ 61.49	
Permits	<u>\$ 2,447.50</u>	\$15,726.81

EXPENDITURES:

Supplies	\$ 3,047.98		
Secretary	<u>\$ 320.00</u>	<u>\$ 3,367.98</u>	\$13,358.83

PERMITS:

Residential Permits	22	Residential Accessory Permits	14
Commercial Acc. Permits	1	Shoreland Zone Permits	4

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

Building activity for 2022 was consistent with the last two years.

In 2022 the board welcomed new member Craig Gerry. His experience and knowledge will be a great asset to the board.

During 2022 the Planning Board finalized the revised Site Plan Development ordinance which was approved at the special town meeting in September. The revised ordinance provides for some regulation of Utility Scale Solar Facilities or commercial solar energy installations.

In 2023 the Planning Board will be developing a more comprehensive Building Permit Application. The new application will provide more detailed information for the Assessor's Office.

The Planning Board has adopted a winter meeting schedule. The board will only meet on the 2nd Tuesdays for the months of December, January, and February. However, we will meet on the 4th Tuesday during those months if the need should arise. We will resume the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in March.

In order to coincide with the new Town Office Hours, I will be in the office from 5 pm to 6 pm on Wednesdays.

We would like to remind everyone that we meet at 7 pm in the conference room at the town office. Our meetings are open to the public and we urge you to attend if

you have any questions or need assistance. Also feel free to contact a board member if we can assist you in any way.

We would like to thank the town's people for your cooperation and support during the last year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael R. Golden, Chairman



Circa 1940 Solon Hotel



Circa 1960 Solon Hotel and corner gas station

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 RECREATION PROGRAM

RECREATION RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$6,315.83		
Appropriated	<u>\$1,000.00</u>	\$7,315.83	
Paid Out			
Supplies	\$ 198.24		
Foss Enterprises	<u>\$ 150.00</u>	<u>\$ 348.24</u>	\$6,967.59

RECREATION FACILITIES & MAINTENANCE RESERVE

Income			
Balance 1/1/22	\$4,000.00		
Appropriated	<u>\$1,000.00</u>	\$5,000.00	
Expended			
Baseball Infield Turf		<u>\$1,329.90</u>	\$3,670.10

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

SOLON COMMUNITY RECREATION COMMITTEE

Leslie Giroux, Recreation Director (2024)

Zane Brown, Youth Sports Director (2025)

Laura Layman, Summer Swim/Camp Director (2024)

Kayla Starr (2024)

Amy Sidell (2023)

Everett Quatrone (2025)

Monetary donations can be sent directly to the Town of Solon, c/o Recreation Department, P.O. Box 214, Solon, ME 04979. Also, donating your returnable cans and bottles when you go to the transfer station, or the redemption center helps incredibly. Any amount is truly appreciated!!

Email: townofsolon.recreation@yahoo.com



SOLO N COMMUNITY RECREATION DEPARTMENT

ATTENTION COMMUNITY MEMBERS....

*Do you like to work with children?
Give back to our community?
Enjoy sports and youth activities?*

We are in need of volunteers:

*Community Youth Recreation Director
Soccer Coaches
Basketball Coaches
Baseball Coaches*

Community members can help through volunteering as coaches, assistants and in just transporting your children to our practices and games!

Please come and join us to continue to provide the Town of Solon's youth and families with recreation service all throughout the year! Anyone wishing to join our committee and/or help in another way contact Leslie Giroux at 643-2842 or by emailing townofsolon.recreation@yahoo.com.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Solon Recreation Committee**

**Also, check us out (and other community/school groups) on Facebook!!
Solon Area Community Happenings**

Solon's Annual 4th of July Fireworks

On July 4th at dusk at the Solon Elementary School



JULY 4th FIREWORKS

Appropriated	\$1,500.00		
Trans. from Special Events	\$ 250.00		
Donations:			
Solon Hotel	\$ 750.00		
Solon Corner Store	\$ 100.00		
Evergreen Campground	<u>\$ 100.00</u>	\$2,700.00	
Expended		<u>\$2,700.00</u>	\$0.00

Thank you so much to the Solon Hotel, Solon Corner Market, and Evergreen Campground for their generous donations. Also, a big thank you to Foss Enterprises for their Porta Potty donation.

And, of course, a great big THANK YOU to the firefighters who pick out and pick up, who set up the fireworks, and who put on the great fireworks display. Without our great firefighters this would not be happening. The fireworks were great!!



SWIM/CAMP PROGRAM

SWIM/CAMP PROGRAM RESERVE

Balance 1/1/22	\$1,666.02		
Appropriated	<u>\$1,500.00</u>	\$3,166.02	
Paid Out			
Supplies	\$ 278.96		
Camp Aide	<u>\$ 300.00</u>	<u>\$ 578.96</u>	\$2,587.06

Summer 2022 Solon Recreation was a great success. This year we held our three week program in August. There was a school program in July; this allowed more programs of fun and learning for our children, including free breakfast and lunch. We spent time at Solon Elementary and Sandy Beach Campground in Madison.

We had about 20 children participating in the program that included swimming lessons, free swim, tie dye, making musical instruments, planting seeds, science experiments and many arts and crafts. We enjoyed visits from the Cooperative Extension Educator (former Solon student) Alice Cantrell, the L.C. Bates Museum and Mr. Twitchell with VR goggles. We also traveled to Sandy Beach Campground and enjoyed their facilities and beach. Swimming lessons and free swim were enjoyed by all.

Thank you our RSU 74 district's summer meals program that provides free breakfast and lunch to our children 18 and under. As always, thank you to Coolidge Library librarian, Megan Myers, for including us in her programs. Musician, Mr. Harley, was a big hit. Thank you RSU 74 for use of school facilities as well as bus transportation with bus driver Julie. Thank you Sandy Beach Campground for use of your facilities as well as being so very accommodating.

Thank you to all my helpers, Elijah and especially ever faithful Ciarrah Whittemore. Parent volunteer, Raya Marshall. Finally, a special thank you to my daughter, Rachel Layman. Without dedicated volunteers this program would not be able to continue and offer these wonderful opportunities for our youth. If you would like to volunteer or have an activity that you would like to share, please feel free to get in touch with me or the town.

Respectfully,
Laura Layman, Program Director



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

SOLON AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM RESERVE ACCOUNT

INCOME:

Balance 1/1/22	\$ 8,561.09	
Appropriated	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>	\$13,561.09

EXPENSES:

Jenifer Mello, Director	\$ 3,000.00	
Melissa Dube	\$ 2,100.00	
Ellen Howell	\$ 350.00	
Michelle Taylor	\$ 700.00	
Jami McCoy	\$ 700.00	
Supplies	<u>\$ 402.45</u>	<u>\$ 7,252.45</u>
	\$6,308.64	

In 2022, there were 3 6-week sessions held 3 days a week available to all the children in grades K – 5. The After School Program again joined with RSU 74 to provide this program. The school district provided teachers and aides to help with the program and provided the snacks and most of the supplies. Our director, Jen Mello, worked with the school staff to develop a program that was a mixture of homework, reading, crafts, and educational and fun activities. There were about 30 children who participated in the sessions.

RSU 74 had funds available through the COVID grant to help students with education enrichment and homework. RSU 74 says they have the grant funding to do this for two years.

The collaboration of our program with the school's program has been a great benefit to our children. The in-classroom teaching that was lost during the COVID shutdowns has been hard on our children. This has helped them catch up on some of the educational opportunities they missed during the shutdowns.

Children from Grades K – 5 are welcome to attend these sessions. Notices about upcoming sessions are sent home with the students' school notices.

We wish to thank Jen and her helpers for providing this opportunity for our children.

TOWN SCHOLARSHIPS

The town manages two scholarship funds, the Jones Fund and the Ruth Cross Scholarships. These scholarships are available to Solon residents who graduate from High School and go on to higher education the year following their high school graduation. 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 1/1/22	\$68,208.62		
Income	\$ 3,227.87		
Investment Change in Value	(<u>\$ 9,229.30</u>)	\$62,207.19	
Less			
Withdrawal**	\$10,000.00		
Investment Advisor Fees	<u>\$ 630.66</u>	<u>\$10,630.66</u>	
Invest. Funds Balance 12/31/22			\$51,576.53
Principal:			
Jones Fund Principal	\$29,323.29		
Ruth Cross Principal	\$ 1,270.00	\$30,593.29	
Available:			
Jones Fund Available Funds	\$20,563.44		
Ruth Cross Available Funds	<u>\$ 419.80</u>	<u>\$20,983.24</u>	\$51,576.53

**the \$10,000 withdrawal was not received by the town until 2023.

JONES FUND SCHOLARSHIP RESERVE FUND

Income:			
Available Balance 1/1/22	\$13,094.65		
Interest Earned	\$ 33.15		
Investment Income	<u>\$ 7,835.76</u>	\$20,963.56	
2022 Scholarships Paid Out:			
Freshman Year Awards:			
Jasmyne Coombs	\$ 2,000.00		
Chantelle Lacroix	\$ 2,000.00		
Adam Lawrence	\$ 2,000.00		
Sarah Olson	\$ 2,000.00		
Courtney Peabody	\$ 2,000.00		
Emily Riggs	\$ 2,000.00		
2022 Sophomore Year Awards:			
Ariel Guinn	\$ 1,500.00		
Transferred to Ruth Cross Schol.	<u>\$ 99.00</u>	<u>\$ 13,599.00</u>	\$7,364.56

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. In 2022 we had 6 Freshmen applications with the awards made in December, 2022. We also awarded 1 Sophomore year scholarship.

RUTH CROSS SCHOLARSHIP RESERVE FUND

Balance 1/1/22	\$ 1.00		
Transferred in from Jones Fund	\$ 99.00		
Interest	<u>\$.00</u>	\$100.00	
Paid Out:			
2022 Scholarship, Emily Riggs		<u>\$100.00</u>	\$0.00

We were so happy to see so many of Solon’s 2022 Carrabec High School graduating seniors go on to higher education!

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.



SOLON COMMUNITY FOOD CUPBOARD



SOLON
COMMUNITY
FOOD
CUPBOARD

In 2022 we had fifty-six (56) families sign up for food assistance. This includes seventy-four (74) adults, twenty-five (25) children and thirty-two (32) seniors. They came into the Food Cupboard a total of 255 times.

The Food Cupboard is open to the public on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 9 AM to 3 PM. Emergency assistance is available by appointment. It is currently located at 25 York St., Solon.

The Food Cupboard, solely through the work of dedicated volunteers, has been run out of a private home since the closure of the former location. We recently became a 501c3 organization, allowing us to accept tax deductible donations and apply for grants. Our long term goal is to raise enough money to construct a building dedicated to a community food cupboard and a thrift shop to help support it.

Thank you to all who supported us through the years. It couldn't be done without the support from our current volunteers: Paula Rogers, Vicky Wade and Spencer Rogers.

Respectfully, Linda French

The Town would also like to give special thanks to Linda French for the use of her home and years of commitment to the Solon Food Cupboard.

SOLON COMMUNITY GARDEN

Friends of Community Garden

Contact Person: Deb Gerry - 643-2203

Income:

Balance 1/1/2021	\$ 780.92	
Donations	\$ 50.00	
Move More Kids Found. Grant	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	\$2,830.92
Expenditures:		
Greenhouse & Garden Supplies	<u>\$ 457.99</u>	\$2,372.93

Donated Materials and Supplies (Estimated Value)

Labor to expand & improve the Greenhouse	\$ 1,250.00	
Greenhouse improvement materials	\$ 2,225.49	
Growing and harvesting supplies	\$ 75.81	
Plants and Seeds	<u>\$ 572.00</u>	\$4,723.30

The wonderful support we have from our volunteers and supporters made it possible for our garden to do very well again this year.

We had an addition built on the greenhouse, constructed 2 cattle panel arbors, reorganized garden beds to accommodate the greenhouse expansion and built 5 additional raised beds. Our seed starting session at the Solon Elementary School went well with about 30 children participating and their plants did well in the dedicated beds in our garden. We started harvesting produce, either planted in February or held over through the winter in the greenhouse, in mid-April. Between the greenhouse and garden beds we delivered over 1,057 pounds of produce to the Solon Food Cupboard and had more to share with our garden team and supporters. Our partnerships with Northstar Orchards, Chuck Gibson, Pine Acres Farm, Maple Knoll Farm and many other local growers enabled us to deliver over an additional 1,800 pounds of Apples, Winter Squash, Blueberries, Raspberries, Rhubarb and more to the cupboard.

With the very generous donations of time and materials from J. Rogers Remodeling and friends, Chuck Gibson, and many other supporters, our greenhouse and garden expansion projects were completed under budget this year. We received a wonderful gift of 2 compost tumblers from Farmer Joe Bergeron for our greenhouse. We can't thank each and every person by name but know that we appreciate each and everyone, from those who found and/or hauled "dump" finds to the garden for us to those who donated materials they knew we could use. We are very thankful for the growing support of our community. The number of garden supporters has grown and the value of their time and donations well exceeded \$4,700 this year.

Our garden team attended the first Fall in the Garden Learning Series classes conducted by Brett Johnson at USM Cooperative Extension this fall giving us all

the opportunity to learn more about sustainable and organic growing. Brett and the USM team also visited our garden a number of times this year to provide their expertise in all matters related to organic gardening. I was invited to, and have been subsequently voted in, to participate on the Somerset Extension Executive Board.

Our garden received awards this year for our efforts in sustainably expanding our garden to better serve the people of Solon and surrounding towns and residents. We received a Municipal Resolution Award from the Town of Solon, the Spirit of America Award, a Legislative Sentiment Award signed by the Governor and local State Representatives and presented by Jack Ducharme. We were also selected as a recipient for the 2021-2022 Redington Fairview General Hospital Award for our commitment to public health as an organization, and contribution to the Somerset Public Health mission to improve and protect the public health, well-being, and environment of people in Somerset County.

We applied for and received a \$2,492.91 grant from the Move More Kids Community Grant program funded by the New Balance Foundation and Let's Go! MaineHealth through Somerset Public Health for 2023. The funds will be used in early 2023 to set up events and establish garden beds and a watering system at Coolidge Public Library, install a rain barrel water irrigation system and construct shade and low-tunnel hoop houses at our Community Garden, and start a "Bucket Garden" program for local families and children. With this new program up to about 20 families will have the opportunity to sign up for and receive a 5 gal bucket complete with seeds, growing instructions, seed starting soil and technical assistance to help them have gardens at home.

Our garden team is very thankful to Linda French, Paula Rogers and all volunteers of the Solon Food Cupboard. Their support and assistance in harvesting, taking care of and distributing our sometimes very large harvests quickly is key to assuring our produce is enjoyed by as many people as possible while still fresh and wonderful.

The support of Maureen Shaw, Cheryl Curtis and their teams from Somerset Public Health, Maine Snap-Ed, and Move More Kids, as well as Brett Johnson, USM Cooperative Extension, Master gardener Joe Bergeron (5210 Lets Go with Farmer Joe program), the Town of Solon Selectmen and support staff as well as the Solon Fire Department are instrumental in helping our garden grow and prosper. Please know we sincerely thank every one of our volunteers and supporters. This garden wouldn't be what it is without the support of our community.

We invite you to come join us in a fun and healthy hobby! Raised bed garden plots in the Community Garden (located behind the Town Office and Fire Station) will be available again this year at no cost. Our garden team is here to provide seeds, plants, the use of hand tools and answer questions for those who garden with us or just visit. Grow some vegetables or flowers for yourself, or donate your harvest to Solon Food Cupboard. Please check out and "like" or "follow" our Facebook page; Solon Community Garden | Facebook or feel free to send a message or call with your questions, thoughts and ideas. We look forward to gardening with you next year! If you do not need compost, we will take all clean organic compost for our Community Garden.

2022 COMMUNITY GARDEN



HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

THE TAVERNS IN SOLON

“Sketches from Solon’s History”

by the History Committee of the Solon Sesquicentennial (1959)

Carratunk House / Gray’s Tavern / Solon Hotel

Solon’s taverns and inns have been many, but records of them are few. The Carratunk House was probably built during the ownership of David White, as he received deeds in 1841 and 1843, from Hezekiah Doge and his wife Betsey, to land in Solon Village and a house on that land. No mention is found of a tavern or inn in this location before October 18, 1843, when David White sold to William Lowell of Concord and Jacob Lowell of Moose River, “the Tavern Stand now occupied by me, all excepting the Barn thereon standing which Barn is to be taken off within 8 months”.

A “Carratunk House” existed in 1844 somewhere in the Kennebec Valley, as a hotel register of that date was in the possession of the Gray family and presumably pertained to the old hotel in the Solon Village, later known as Gray’s Tavern.



Carratunk House - c. 1850 (baseball game being played in the street)

The Lowells sold the tavern to Silas Hamblet, who sold it to Elbridge G. Savage, “Atty & Counsel at Law”, who mortgaged the tavern to Daniel Steward of Skowhegan for \$2,000 in 1848.

In 1855, Mallory & Sylvester operated a “public house”, presumed to be the Carratunk House, and in 1856 it was operated by Foster Williams.

In 1860 the Carratunk House was owned still by Elbridge G. Savage but on December 9, 1869 Amos F. and Clymena Steward Parlin sold it to Mrs. Elvira H. Gray of Boston. Presumably Daniel Steward’s will gave the tavern, or its mortgage, to his daughter Clymena, but no record of this nor of the foreclosure of the mortgage, has been found in the Somerset County records.

Newspaper accounts say that Mrs. Gray and her son, Joel Herbert (“Bert”), came to Solon in 1877 after the death of her husband Joel Gray, who was a native of Embden.

Frank M. Vittum operated the Carratunk House in 1884, 1886, 1887 and 1888. Bert Gray was the proprietor in 1890 and 1891.

On October 31, 1893, the old Carratunk House burned, and in 1895 the present building was erected, with Bert Gray as owner and operator. The building has been known as the New Carratunk House and as Gray’s tavern.

More recent owners have been Mrs. Viola Vittum Gray, widow of Bert Gray ; Mrs. E. Virginia Andrews, Secord & Westenberg, Henry Rulof, Wilfred J. Morin, Andrew Redmond, an Mrs. Amy K. Jones.



[New] Carratunk House aka Gray’s Tavern – 1910 (built in 1895)

Other Lodging & Taverns

Secord & Westenberg operated the hotel as the Arnold Tail Apartments, while Rulof refinished and refurbished the building as a hotel, mostly for out-of-state hunters and fishermen. Part of the time, it has been operated by others than the owners; part of the time, it has been closed, as it is now.

The Hobart Tavern, located on lot #18 on the road leading from U.S. Route 201 to the South Solon Meeting House, opposite the corner of the road past Boardman's was probably built after 1812, when Caleb Hobert (so the deed reads) deeded that land to his son Nehemiah.

A favorite stopping place for travelers, whether they were going north to Canada, or south toward Waterville, this tavern must have been a busy place in those days.

The house, which burned in 1957, had six rooms upstairs and four down in the main building. The ell contained the bar, with a store counter for service and cupboards along the wall for storage of liquor.

There have been many owners since 1864 when Nehemiah sold the "home farm" to Walter Hobart of Guilford, among them Daniel Paul, John Bean, A. B. C. Keene, Frank Giroux. The place was used as a hotel only during the ownership of the Hobarts.

Although Enos Gray is said to have been the first hotel keeper in Solon, with his guests the "travellers of the upper Kennebec Valley and the many lumbermen with their crews of 25 to 30 men who stopped on their way in or out of the woods", I can find no record of his ever owning property in Solon other than an island in the river, and it is doubtful that a tavern would have been located there.

At various other times houses in Solon have been in use as hotels, or boarding houses. Roland E. Toziers's house on Ferry Hill was operated as Boynton House inn and livery stable, by Samuel M. (Mitt) Boynton in 1894 and 1895.

The Millie Wilson house next to the post office is said to have been an old hotel previous to the original Carratunk House. The stable was behind the present post office, which was connected to the hotel with an overhead enclosed enclosed walkway. Substantiating evidence of this can be obtained by looking at the fronts of the two buildings, which appear to be of similar architecture.

From 1880 to 1888, the Millie Wilson house was operated as the Maynard House, by Henry Washburn, W.S. Moore, M. B. Thompson and Ira Norton.

In 1839 a tavern was operated by Asa Vickere, as a book of Regiment Orders states that "the officers noncommissioned officers and musitions (Musicians) will assemble at Asa Vickers Tavern in Solon on Wednesday the 27 inst at one o'clock in the afternoon for the purpose of Standing a Draft". This order was signed by Howard Baker, Colonel and Commanding Officer of the Second Regiment, First Battalion, 8th Division of the Militia of Maine.

This tavern is believed to have been on North Main Street, as Vickere lived north of Fall Brook. It may have been the present Hattie Curtis place, which was operated as a "Hotel" by Thos H. Hussey in 1860. About forty years ago this home was used as a boarding house.

Frank M. Vittum, who operated the Carratunk House for the Grays had his license as a retail liquor dealer transferred from The Forks to Solon November 25, 1893. Perhaps he intended to operate a hotel in Solon following the burning of the Carratunk House, but it is doubtful if he did so, as the coupons on his liquor license were not used after that date.

At the present time no hotel is in operation in Solon, although three sets of overnight cabins are open during the tourist season: Mountain view Camps, on Robbins Hill on U.S. Route 201 near the Madison town line, owned by William

Partridge; Bell's Cabins, on North Main Street, owned by Walter Bell; and Riverview Rest, on U.S. Route 201A, near the Solon-Embsden bridge, owned by Fred J. Walther and Fred E. Spotholtz.

Undoubtedly there are other buildings in Solon which have housed the weary traveler and his means of transportation, whether it were oxen or the modern automobile, but there are very few records of the operation of such hotels, inns, or taverns.



SOMERSET COUNTY LANDMARK CONVERTED TO APARTMENTS
—Gray's Tavern, historic hostelry in Solon, long vacant, has been recently rebuilt into a modern apartment. A tavern was originally built on the site of the present structure in the early 1860's and was destroyed by fire in 1895. The present tavern was opened to the public Nov. 11, 1895 and for the past several years has been vacant. (Photo by Weston)

Gray's Tavern Now Modern Apartment

Ground Floor Is Converted For Offices Of Boat Company

By Eva D. Bachelder

Gray's Tavern, a landmark in the town of Solon and at one time a well known hotel in Somerset County has been converted into a modern ten room apartment house, with the ground floor being used as offices, show room, sales room and stock room by the Craft Boat and Canoe Company, who operate one of the chief industries of the town, a boat and canoe factory with a crew of 45 working two shifts the year round and a possible third shift in the near future.

Gray's Tavern, the present building, an unusual set of buildings was erected in 1895 by Joel Herbold. It contained Bert Gray, known to his patrons as "Bert" Gray.

Solon's first hotel, the Caratunk House, destroyed by fire Oct. 31, 1893, stood on the location of the kitchen reached almost to Pleasant

As yet no use has been made of the top floor which can be made into apartments. The finished apartments are already occupied and the Craft Boat and Canoe Company are moving their offices into the lower floor. Again the big house, closed for years is a lighted spot beside the highway.

Street. A lamp room held numerous kerosene lamps and lanterns. On the top floor was a spacious ball room where a good orchestra played for many dances.

Ecco Gray was the first proprietor, his public, the travelers of the upper Kennebec Valley and the many lumbermen with their crews of 25 to 30 men, who stopped on their way in and out of the woods.

Bert Gray owned and operated the Caratunk House when it was destroyed by the fire of 1893 and he rebuilt on the old foundation. November 11, 1895, a grand opening ball was held in the building. Turner Davis, hotel clerk that night, held that position until his death in 1924. Well remembered by those who traveled by railroad, is the four seated hotel wagon, the sick pair of horses driven by Mr. Davis who met every passenger train for many years.

At the death of Mr. Gray, his widow, Mrs. Viola Gray sold the tavern to a real estate dealer and two years ago it was purchased by Mrs. Virginia Andrew of Solon, but the building remained closed until this year when it was purchased by Eugene Record of Solon and Marvin Wessenberg of Boston who own and operate the Craft Boat and Canoe Company in town, although the purchase of the tavern is a separate enterprise.

Solon, like other towns and cities has its housing shortage and this apartment house is readily accepted. Oil heat and a water system has been installed, the second and third floors have been converted into ten apartments of two and three rooms with gas ranges and private baths.

MORE TAVERN INFORMATION

Below is a list of owners/proprietors since the above article was published in 1959:

2021 – Present		Faith & Bruce Goguen
1989 – 2021	31 years	James Maclean
1986 – 1989	3 years	John Jabar, The Solon Hotel, Inc.
1986 – 1986	<1 year	Eudine F Davis
1983 – 1986	3 years	Byron E Boone Sr.
1977 – 1983	6 years	Hollon E. Shaw Jr. & Hilda Shaw
1963 – 1977	14 years	Raymond N. & Claudette R. Faucher
1957 – 1962	6 years	Amy Kincad Jones
1954 – 1957	3 years	Joseph P. & Andrew Redmond
xxxx – 1954	unknown	Marc-Andre Morin

The previous article discusses the history of Solon’s taverns, most predominantly the building known as the “Carratunk House”, “Gray’s Tavern”, “The Solon Hotel” and now “The Solon Hotel, Restaurant & Pub”.

Having owned the building for over thirty years, James Maclean made the Solon Hotel a local destination for spirits and entertainment. Even today, you can travel across the country and find someone who has been to or heard of The Solon Hotel.



2021 Solon Hotel

Sold to Faith and Bruce Goguen of Embden in 2021, they made a commitment to revive the old building and bring business to the area. Not only have they opened a

new restaurant and pub with a venue for events and entertainment, they will also be renovating the upper three floors into an inn with room and suite rentals.



2021 Interior Bar Area (photos courtesy of *Plourde Real Estate website*)

The theme of this year's town report is to pay homage to the history of the taverns and lodging of yesteryear. The most predominant of which is now known as The Solon Hotel, Restaurant & Pub. This revitalization of this iconic building, having stood strong for almost 130 years, are above and beyond what has discussed and imagined for years. For some, the changes may take some getting used to but in the best way possible. When the new owners embarked on this adventure, they had no idea the impact it would have on the towns people and surrounding communities. Adding life back into a historic and loved building, in the heart of Solon, it's more than just a new business, it's a gather place for friends and family, new and old. (**Photos courtesy of 'The Solon Hotel' Facebook page)



2022 Building Exterior (cover photo)**



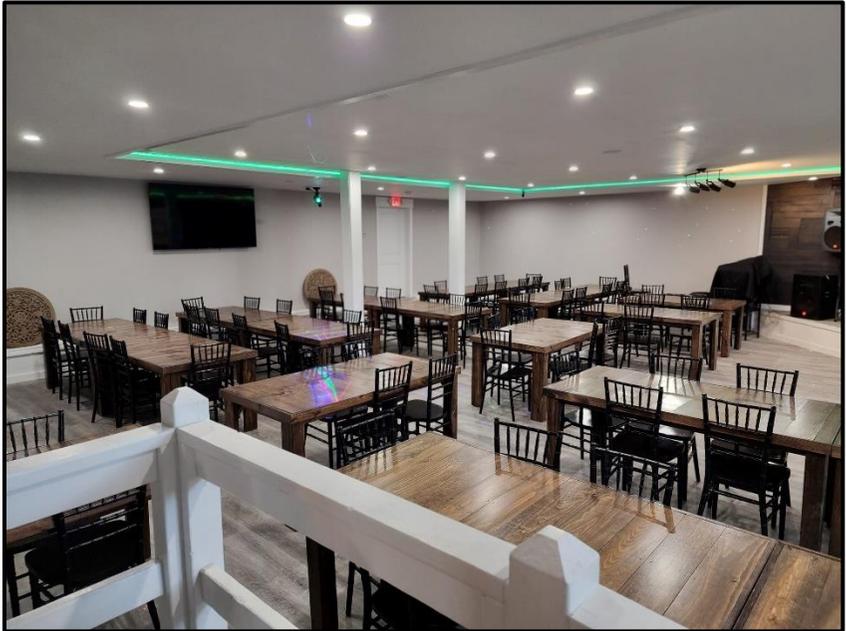
2023 Exterior Logo**



2023 Bar Area (February 10th Grand Opening)



2023 Dining Room



2023 Event Hall & Stage

SOLON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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 643-6014). 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. The History House phone number is 207-643-2275. Please leave a message and we will return your call.

Donations to the 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

Ann Padham (2025) Bud Boynton (2024) Jeff McAllister (2023)

OFFICERS

President: Chris Shaw Vice President: Jeff McAllister
Treasurer: Maureen Shaw Recording Secretary: Maureen Shaw
Membership Secretary: Marie Poulin

HISTORICAL SOCIETY RESERVE

Balance 1/1/2022	\$4,317.58	
Dues and Donations	\$ 651.40	
Investment Income	\$ 52.64	
Interest	<u>\$ 7.59</u>	\$5,029.21
Paid Out:		
Post Office Box	\$ 84.00	
Supplies	\$ 224.53	

Phone & Internet	\$ 1,218.72		
Electric	\$ 514.07		
Water District	\$ 228.90		
Heat	\$ 506.32		
Security System	\$ 326.88		
Grounds Maintenance	<u>\$ 200.00</u>	<u>\$3,303.42</u>	\$1,725.79

RAYMOND JAMES INVESTMENT FUND

Balance 1/1/21	\$164,174.56		
Income	\$ 7,759.26		
Fees	(\$ 1,518.39)		
Change in Value	<u>(\$ 22,259.10)</u>	\$148,156.33	

INVESTMENT ACCOUNT BALANCE

Reserve Principal	\$110,000.00		
Available Funds	<u>\$ 38,156.33</u>	\$148,156.33	



The Historical Society History House on South Main Street



1969 History House

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 (2023) Arthur Rogers, Secretary (2024)
Derek Dellarma, Treasurer (2025) Shawna Albert, Office Clerk

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

INCOME:

Residential Sales - Metered	\$ 41,619.61	
Commercial Sales – Metered	\$ 7,973.49	
Public Authority – Metered	\$ 2,428.83	
Non-Profit - Sales Tax Exempt	\$ 1,250.40	
Public Fire Protection Charges	\$ 23,360.00	
Private Fire Protection Charges	\$ 715.82	
Establishment/Reconnection Fees	\$ 310.05	
Collection Trip Fees	\$ 753.00	
Other Service Revenue	<u>\$ 719.83</u>	\$ 79,3131.03

EXPENSES:

Salaries, labor, trustee stipends	\$ 22,619.06	
Central Maine Power	\$ 9,367.44	
Fuel for Power Production	\$ 832.68	
Supplies for Operations	\$ 17,512.68	
Supplies for Administration	\$ 1,715.98	
Contractual Engineering	\$ 3,503.86	
Contractual Accounting	\$ 100.00	
Contractual Testing	\$ 1,756.49	
Contractual Oher Field Work	\$ 12,043.64	
Contractual Other Admin/Finance	\$ 12,560.00	
Rental of Equipment	\$ 260.50	
Transportation Expense	\$ 1,039.89	
Insurance - Liability	\$ 1,757.00	
Advertising	\$ 696.00	
Telephone/Cell Expense	\$ 1,697.28	
Trainings/Conferences	\$ 488.95	
Loan Administration Fees	\$ 5,647.23	
Bank Fees & Safe Deposit Box Fee	\$ 45.00	
Dues & Miscellaneous Fees	\$ 1,574.15	
Regulatory Assessment Fees	\$ 422.00	
Payroll Taxes	<u>\$ 1,359.69</u>	<u>\$ 96,999.52</u>
Net Ordinary Income		(\$ 17,868.49)

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 in 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. Bingham, Caratunk, The Forks, Moscow, Pleasant Ridge, Solon, and Embden 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. There are ski and snowboard rentals and free lessons. It is open weekends and school vacations and has night skiing. They will also do children sledding parties. There is also a snack bar. For more information or to volunteer, call 717-0404.

2022 Season

	Balance 1/1/2022	\$13,637.46
INCOME:		
	Town of Athens	\$ 250.00
	Town of Bingham	\$ 6,000.00
	Town of Caratunk	\$ 500.00
	Town of Embden	\$ 1,000.00
	Town of The Forks	\$ 1,000.00
	Town of Moscow	\$ 6,000.00
	Town of Pleasant Ridge	\$ 3,000.00
	Town of Solon	\$ 1,000.00
	Town of West Forks	\$ 500.00
	Food Sales	\$ 2,926.75
	Day Tickets	\$ 2,917.50
	Night Tickets	\$ 360.00
	Rentals	\$ 1,254.00
	Seasonal	\$ 3,215.00
	Donations	\$22,050.00
	Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 395.00</u>
		\$ 52,368.25
EXPEDITURES:		
	Fuel	\$ 546.56
	Food	\$ 1,913.74
	Repairs	\$25,509.70
	Central Maine Power	\$ 6,876.88
	Heat	\$ 4,789.25
	Miscellaneous	\$ 3,150.87
	Insurance	\$ 7,586.76
	Inspections	\$ 832.50
	Ski Maine	<u>\$ 650.00</u>
		\$ 51,856.26
	Balance 12/31/2022	\$ 14,149.45

Baker Mountain Ski Tow Club

353 Canada Rd., Moscow, ME 04920

PO Box 43, Bingham, ME 04920

(207) 717-0404

Board of Directors

Adam Farnhan, President	Kelly Vicneire, Safety Director
Drew Foran, Vice President	Maria Cirelli, Director
Cathy Foran, Secretary	Brian Foran, Director
Corey Farnham, Treasurer	Rachel Tremblay, Director

Thank you to our many volunteers who worked 450 hours to open Baker Mountain Ski Area from January 23 to March 5. Additionally, we thank our volunteers who groom the trails, plow, shovel, purchase and deliver food and supplies to get the mountain ready to open.

Baker Mountain Ski Town Club is an educational 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible and allows us to apply for grants. We would like to thank the following individuals, businesses and organizations for their support:

- Miranda Kessel donated proceeds from her t-shirt project.
- Yore Upscale Resale Shop donated ski and snowboard equipment.
- Somerset County Commissioners donated towards groomer repairs through Somerset County Benefits program.
- Brookfield Renewable's Community Giving Program
- Skowhegan Savings Bank's Season of Giving
- Killington Foundation donated money to purchase rental equipment.
- Maine Community Foundation Community Building Grant funded new race gear.
- Sugarloaf Ski Club financed \$5 lift tickets for 200 K-12 students.
- Sugarloaf USA mowed the trails in the fall.

This past season, twenty-five (25) students took free lessons to learn to ski and snowboard. Over sixty (60) skiers and snowboarders took to the slopes on Free Ski Day in memory of Bob Henderson. Baker Mountain also hosted the Junior Class Hunter's Breakfast Fundraiser in November and Valley High Wellness Day.

At our fall workday, volunteers cleaned the lodge, cut brush, stacked firewood and finished exterior painting. We thank our volunteers for all the work in the off-season to keep the buildings and lift maintained. We are very grateful to our grant writers. Community support is a crucial factor in successful grant writing. We are fortunate to have the continued support of area towns and our many volunteers. Thank you for supporting our community ski area for 85 years.

2022 AUDITOR'S REPORT

KEEL J. HOOD

Certified Public Accountant

P.O. Box 302 - Fairfield, Maine 04937 - (207)453-2006

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

January 11, 2023

Board of Selectmen
Town of Solon
Solon, Maine

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Solon, Maine as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Town of Solon, Maine's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Solon, Maine, as of December 31, 2022, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am required to be independent of Town of Solon, Maine, and to meet my ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to my audit. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Town of Solon, Maine's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but it is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or

in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, I:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Town of Solon, Maine's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in my judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Town of Solon, Maine's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

I am required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that I identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. My opinions on the basic financial statements are not affected by this missing information.

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



Statement 1

TOWN OF SOLON, MAINE
Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2022

ASSETS	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Current Assets:	
Cash	\$ 1,375,913
Receivables:	
Taxes	100,092
Liens	23,309
Tax acquired property	2,901
Total Current Assets	<u>1,502,215</u>
Noncurrent Assets:	
Capital assets, net	2,856,290
Total Assets	<u>4,358,505</u>
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	25,685
Notes payable due within one year	4,187
Total Current Liabilities	<u>29,872</u>
Noncurrent Liabilities:	
Notes payable due in more than one year	4,176
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	<u>4,176</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>34,048</u>
NET POSITION	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	2,847,927
Unrestricted	1,476,530
Total net position	<u>\$ 4,324,457</u>

TOWN OF SOLON, MAINE
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Function/Programs	\-----Program Revenues-----/				Net (Expense) Revenues
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating grants and contributions	Capital grants and contributions	
Governmental activities:	\$				
General government	212,488	23,030			(189,458)
Protection	163,079	9,501			(153,578)
Public works	806,583	4,110	42,460		(760,013)
Leisure services	55,300	1,856	17,183		(36,261)
Health and sanitation	116,946	6,991			(109,955)
Social services	15,978		4,147		(11,831)
Special assessments	1,329,884				(1,329,884)
Unclassified	65,740	2,050	6,018		(57,672)
Debt service	7,000				(7,000)
Total governmental activities	2,772,998	47,538	69,808	0	(2,655,652)

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Net (expense) / revenue	
General revenues:	
Property taxes	1,640,841
Excise taxes	224,120
Interest and costs on taxes	13,035
Intergovernmental:	
State revenue sharing	226,669
Homestead exemption	100,769
Tree growth	73,698
Veterans reimbursement	2,021
BETE	84,480
ARPA	56,953
Unrestricted interest	5,626
Miscellaneous	28,230
Total general revenues	2,456,442
Change in Net Position	(199,210)
Net Position - beginning	4,523,667
Net Position - ending	4,324,457

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

TOWN OF SOLON, MAINE
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
December 31, 2022

Statement 3

	General Fund	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 1,375,913	\$ 1,375,913
Receivables:		
Taxes	100,092	100,092
Liens	23,309	23,309
Tax acquired property	2,901	2,901
Total Assets	<u>1,502,215</u>	<u>1,502,215</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	25,685	25,685
Total Liabilities	<u>25,685</u>	<u>25,685</u>
UNEARNED REVENUES		
Deferred property taxes	106,200	106,200
Total Unearned Revenues	<u>106,200</u>	<u>106,200</u>
Total Liabilities and Unearned Revenues	<u>131,885</u>	<u>131,885</u>
FUND BALANCES		
Assigned Revenues	549,171	549,171
Assigned Expenditures	225,555	225,555
Undesignated	595,604	595,604
Total Fund Equity	<u>1,370,330</u>	<u>1,370,330</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	<u>\$ 1,502,215</u>	<u>\$</u>

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	2,856,290
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-periods expenditures and therefore are deferred in the funds.	106,200
Long-term liabilities, including notes payable are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.	
Notes payable	(8,363)
Net position of governmental activities	<u>\$ 4,324,457</u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements 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, 2022

	General <u>Fund</u>	Total Governmental <u>Funds</u>
Revenues:		
Taxes	\$ 1,898,096	\$ 1,898,096
Intergovernmental	614,399	614,399
Interest	5,626	5,626
Charges for services	47,539	47,539
Miscellaneous	28,230	28,230
Total Revenues	2,593,890	2,593,890
Expenditures:		
Current:		
General government	207,510	207,510
Protection	147,382	147,382
Public works	682,192	682,192
Leisure services	55,300	55,300
Health and sanitation	106,731	106,731
Social services	15,978	15,978
Special assessments	1,329,884	1,329,884
Unclassified	65,740	65,740
Debt Service	7,000	7,000
Total Expenditures	2,617,717	2,617,717
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)		
Expenditures	(23,827)	(23,827)
Net Change in fund balances	(23,827)	(23,827)
Fund Balances - Beginning	1,394,157	1,394,157
Fund Balances - Ending	\$ 1,370,330	\$ 1,370,330

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. Vote will be by a show of hands. A written ballot vote can be requested and will be done if the Town Meeting votes to do so. The vote will be announced. 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 meeting are contained in the 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 has been elected and sworn, the moderator shall preside over and supervise the voting at the meeting and may appoint a deputy moderator to assist the moderator. 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.
 1. 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.
- B. 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.
 - C. 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.
- A. 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” by 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.

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 has met.

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 1st of the 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 of Solon shall continue in their appointments until reappointments are made.

VACATION ORDINANCE: All full-time employees of the Town of Solon shall have two weeks paid vacation at their normal weekly rate, whether they are appointed, elected or hired at an hourly rate, after one year's employment.

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 the public use within the Town of Solon.

FORECLOSED PROPERTY ORDINANCE

The disposition of foreclosed property in the Town of Solon shall be determined at the Annual Town Meeting by the vote of the people.

The disposition options are:

1. For the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to give the owner of foreclosed property from the date of the town meeting until the third Friday of March to redeem the property by paying all of the back taxes, interest, costs, fees and penalties assessed by the town. Should the owner fail to redeem the property, the Selectmen are authorized to sell and dispose of the property by public bid and execute a quit-claim deed for such property. If the property is sold by public bid a minimum bid of the total of the back taxes, interest, costs, fees and penalties assessed by the town or at least 33% of the assessed value is required, whichever is higher. All excess proceeds will be credited to the Rainy-Day Reserve Fund.
2. Or the Town shall retain the property acquired through non-payment of taxes.

RESULTS OF 2022 TOWN MEETING

- Article 1: Peter Mills was elected Moderator.
- Article 2: The following were elected:
Selectman: Elaine Aloes, 3 year term
Lois Miller, 1 year term
Road Commissioner: Gary Bishop
School Board Directors: Tori MacDonald
- Article 3 to 8: Approved by referendum ballot to update our local liquor options to match the state's current required wording.
- Article 9: Approved exceeding the property tax levy limit if the budget approved at Town Meeting exceeds the limit.
- Articles 10-23: Spending articles adopted as recommended.
- Article 24: Approved funds to purchase 4 computers for the Library.
- Article 25: Approved using up to \$5,000 of surplus funds to cover account overages at the end of the year.
- Articles 26 & 27: Approved the dividing the Rowell Mountain Road into 3 sections with 3 separate names: Rowell Mountain Road, Rowell Pond Road, and Baker Pond Road.
- Article 28: Approved changing Baker Pond Lane to Starbird Lane.
- Article 29: Approved creating a reserve account for the tax map updates. We will update the maps every 2 years.
- Article 30: Approved the hiring of a professional appraisal firm to do a revaluation of all the buildings in Solon over a 3-year period. It was last done in 1978.
- Article 31: Approved a road paving project for the River Road using available funds.
- Article 32: Approved the purchase of a 2020 Case 580 Backhoe Loader using available funds.
- Article 33: Approved additional funds to complete the Fire Station addition using \$3,000 by taxation and use \$3,000 in the Municipal Buildings Reserve Funds.
- Articles 34 thru 40: These articles are either required by Maine law every year or are articles included every year for the reasons stated in the articles.

RESULTS OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

WARRANT FOR SEPTEMBER 14, 2022 SPECIAL 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 Town Office Conference Room on the 14th day of September AD 2022 at six thirty 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 by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

Leslie Giroux elected Moderator

Article 2. To see if the Town will approve the amendment to the Site Plan Review Ordinance that was approved by the Planning Board. The amendment is related to Utility Scale Solar Facilities.

The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Approved as recommended

Article 3. To see if the Town will approve using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to redo the sidewalks on the east and west side of South Main Street.

The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Motion to AMEND Article 3 to include "... only if grant is approved". Motion FAILED.

Motion to APPROVE as written. Motion FAILED.

Article 4. To see if the Town will approve using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to purchase a piece of equipment to clear the sidewalks of snow during the winter months.

The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Motion to APPROVE as written. Motion FAILED.

Article 5. To see if the Town will approve adding \$5,000 to the Deputy Clerk//Tax Collector/Treasurer account. The additional funds will be taken out of surplus funds.

The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Motion to APPROVE as written. Motion PASSED.

Article 6. To see if the Town will approve adding \$10,000 to the Winter Roads account due to the high cost of diesel fuel. The additional funds will be taken out of surplus funds.

The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Motion to APPROVE as written. Motion PASSED.

Article 7. To see if the Town will approve adding \$10,000 to the Summer Roads account due to the high cost of diesel fuel. The additional funds will be taken out of surplus funds.

The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Motion to APPROVE as written. Motion PASSED.

Given under my hand this 24th day of August A.D., 2022,

/s/Elaine Aloes, Chair of Selectmen

/s/Wayne Johnson, Vice Chair of Selectman

/s/Lois Miller, Selectman

Attest true copy: /s/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 Town Office Conference Room on the fourteenth day of September AD 2022 at six thirty 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 act on all articles herein enumerated in this warrant posted at the Solon Town Office, Solon Post Office, Solon Corner Store, Solon Superette and Griswold's Store, conspicuous and public places within Solon, on the 1st day of September AD 2022, which is at least seven days prior to the Special Town Meeting.

/s/Dianna Rollins, a resident of Solon.

EXPLANATIONS OF ARTICLES

2023 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

In 2023 the Selectmen and Advisory Committee are again each recommending budgets that are under the state mandated cap. The Selectmen's and the Advisory Committee's recommended municipal budget needed to be raised by taxation is \$94,253 more than 2022. After reducing this budget by Reserve Funds, State Revenue Sharing, and available surplus the budget by taxation is \$48,844 more than last year.

ARTICLE 3: The amount that can be raised by taxation, after deducting available funds, is limited to a certain percentage increase based on new taxable property in the municipality and the TPI that is set by the state. A municipality can vote at town meeting by a written ballot to increase this limit. This article, if passed, will make the budget adopted at the town meeting legal even if it is more than the spending cap limitation. In 2023 this spending cap limit is \$715,660. The Selectmen's and the Advisory Committee's 2023 proposed budget by taxation is under this cap by \$247,469.

ARTICLE 4: The Accounts Overage is over by \$618.32. \$5,000 was approved at the 2022 Annual Town Meeting to be taken from surplus to cover overage in town accounts. The following accounts were overdrawn and covered by this Accounts Overage: Town Charges \$1,785.52; Town Office Utilities \$364.82; Town Office Security System \$26.88; Trio Computer Programs \$32.93; Training, Books, & Dues \$710.97; Unemployment Insurance \$.40; Social Security & Medicare \$1,197.80; RSU 74 \$3.00, and Hydrants \$1,496.00 for a total of \$5,618.32. We need town approval for the additional \$618.32 to be covered by surplus funds.

ARTICLES 5 THRU 26: 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 State Minimum Wage increase from \$12.75 to \$13.80 for 2023 and the 8.2% cost-of-living increase reported in December. Also, there are increases due to the rising fuel prices. Other items of note in that group are listed below.

ARTICLE 5: Most of the large increase is in the salary for the Deputy Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer position. In June the Selectmen decided to change this position from a part time, as needed and if available, to a full-

time position. Our Clerk/Tax Collector hasn't been able to take time off without closing the office for quite a while. Our trained deputy was looking for a full-time job. The selectmen decided it made sense to offer her 32 hours a week. This has provided better service for the town and given us more time to work on various projects that we didn't have time for before.

ARTICLE 8: The Library Trustees voted to increase the number of hours the library will be open each week. It will be open on Saturdays for an additional 2 hour (from 10 am to 4 pm).

ARTICLE 21: The Selectmen and Advisory Committee are recommending the town provide \$600 a month for health insurance and/or retirement benefits for each of our 5 full-time employees starting in April. We currently do not contribute anything to health insurance or retirement benefits for any of the town employees. Most of the municipalities around us and in the state do provide these benefits to their full-time employees. The cost this year from April to December is \$27,000.

ARTICLE 22: This will use Paving Reserve Funds to crack seal the fire station/town office parking lot and our paved roads, where needed, to better preserve the pavement. Our next paving project is currently planned for 2025 for the South Solon and Meeting House Roads.

ARTICLES 23: This will form a 5-person committee to plan and design a new Public Works garage. Our current garage is a very old building with several additions.

ARTICLES 24, 25, & 26: These articles are for suggested uses of our ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds.

We received \$113,774.63

Suggested uses for the funds:

New Town Garage land acquisition, design, and engineering costs	
\$ 60,000.00	
Transfer Station Baler & Equipment	
\$ 15,000.00	
Solar Panels & Heat Pumps for Fire Station & Town Office	
<u>\$ 38,774.63</u>	
Total	\$113,774.63

ARTICLE 24: This will provide funds to purchase land and to pay for design and engineering costs for a new public works garage. We will also be looking for grants and other funding opportunities to help with the cost

of a new building. Because the current garage is in a flood zone, grants would not be available to tear down and build a new garage where it currently is located.

ARTICLE 25: We will purchase a baler for paper, plastic, and cardboard. We will also purchase a trailer to store and transport the bales.

ARTICLE 26: This will provide funds to install heat pumps at the fire station and to install solar panels on the town office and fire station roofs. The solar panels will reduce our electricity costs for those buildings.

ARTICLE 27: The town has received approval for an \$820,000 Community Development Block Grant for the standpipe refurbishment and for the water main replacement when the bridge on Route 201 over Fall Brook is replaced. The town needs to vote to accept these funds. The MDOT bridge replacement project is planned to start this spring. The total cost is estimated at 1.2 million.

ARTICLE 28: We are increasing building permit fees and this article will share the fees with the Planning Board and the town. Each will get half of the fees.

ARTICLE 29: This will create a Hiring Committee to review applications, conduct interviews, and recommend an applicant to the Select Board when there is or will be a vacancy for any of the various administrative positions the town has.

ARTICLE 30: This will make the Road Commissioner also the Public Works Director. In addition to the roads, he will also oversee the Transfer Station and the municipal buildings and ground maintenance.

ARTICLE 31: This will change the Road Commissioner from a 1 year elected position to a 3-year appointed Road Commissioner/Public Works Director position.

ARTICLE 32: We foreclosed on 1 property in 2022. The property owner wants to pay the taxes & keep the property.

ARTICLES 33 thru 39: 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

WARRANT FOR MARCH 4, 2023 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 4th day of March AD 2023 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 4, 2023. The transaction of other business as enumerated 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 as are required to be elected.

Nominated Candidates:

Selectman, 3-year term:

Zane Brown, John Dunay, & Lois Miller

Road Commissioner, 1-year term: Gary Bishop

RSU # 74 School Board Director, 3-year term: Laura Layman

Article 3: Shall the Town increase the property tax levy limit of \$715,660, established for the Town of Solon by State law, in the event the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 4: To see if the town will vote to take \$618.32 from the 2022 Surplus for overage in Accounts Overage account.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 5: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

Salaries & Benefits	\$179,987
Insurance	\$ 39,465
Town Office Utilities	\$ 20,400
Town Charges	\$ 28,350 plus fees
Town Office Maintenance	\$ 3,000
Training, Books, & Dues	\$ 2,900
GIS Mapping Reserve	\$ 2,500
Assessing Revaluation Reserve	\$ 15,000
Town Office Security System	\$ 360
TRIO Program Fees	\$ 7,600
Town Line Survey Reserve	\$ 2,500
Town Flags Reserve	\$ 2,000
Town Records Preservation Res	\$ 4,500

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$306,000 plus fees

Article 6: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PUBLIC WORKS.

Winter Roads	\$141,000
Summer Roads	\$137,000

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$278,000 plus reimbursements.

Article 7: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for the TRANSFER STATION

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$99,000 plus fees & income

Article 8: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for COOLIDGE LIBRARY RESERVE

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$23,000 plus reserve funds, fees, and investment income

Article 9: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for the FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Fire Chief	\$ 8,275
Fire Department	\$36,725

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$45,000 plus reimbursements & donations

Article 10: To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PUBLIC UTILITIES.

Fire Hydrants	\$24,900
Street Lights	\$ 8,500
Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$33,400	

Article 11: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for SOCIAL SERVICES.

General Assistance	\$15,000
KVCAP Transportation Service	\$ 550 (request \$550)
Hospice	\$ 1,000 (request \$1,000)
Spectrum Generations	\$ 750 (request \$750)
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$ 500 (request \$500)
Community Health & Counseling	\$ 200 (request \$200)
Solon Food Cupboard	\$ 4,000 (request \$4,000)
Lifeflight Foundation	\$ 200 (request \$527)
American Red Cross	\$ 150 (request \$150)
Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$22,350	

Article 12: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for CODE ENFORCEMENT.

Code Enforcement Officer	\$ 6,000
911 Addressing Officer	\$ 250
Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$6,250	

Article 13: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for LEISURE SERVICES.

Recreation Program Reserve	\$1,500
Recreation Facilities & Maintenance Res.	\$1,000
Swim/Camp Program Reserve	\$1,500
Special Events	\$1,000
4th of July Fireworks	\$2,000
Baker Mountain Ski Club	\$1,250
Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$8,250	

Article 14: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM RESERVE.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$6,800

Article 15: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for CEMETERIES.

Cemeteries	\$19,000
Cemetery Maintenance Reserve	\$ 4,500
Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend	\$23,500

Article 16: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for ANIMAL WELFARE.

Animal Shelter	\$3,150
Animal Control Officer	\$3,375
Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend	\$6,525

Article 17: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for ORGANIZATION DUES.

Kennebec Council of Governments	\$1,622
Maine Municipal Association	\$2,278
Somerset Economic Development	\$ 100
Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend	\$4,000

Article 18: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for DEBT SERVICE.

Fire Truck Loan (principal balance \$8,363.10)	
Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend	\$8,600

Article 19: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS.

Road Paving Reserve Account	\$225,000
Gravel Roads Reserve	\$ 10,000
Highway Equipment Reserve	\$ 10,000
Sidewalk Repair Reserve	\$ 2,000
Transfer Station Truck & Equipment Res.	\$ 7,500
Coolidge Library Capital Reserve	\$ 3,000
Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve	\$ 3,500
Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend	\$261,000

Article 20: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to use up to \$5,000 from undesignated revenue in the event of overdrafts, unforeseen events or emergencies. Any use of this contingency arrangement must be voted on at a Select Board meeting and the expenditures made will be listed in the subsequent town report. The total transfer of undesignated revenues for this purpose shall not exceed \$5,000 within the fiscal year. Transfer of undesignated revenues in excess of \$5,000 must be authorized by a town meeting vote.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 21: Shall the town approve providing funding for Health Insurance and Retirement Benefits for all full-time town employees based on the Health Insurance and Retirement Benefit Policy adopted by the Selectmen and Advisory Committee.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes and raising \$27,000 by taxation.

Article 22: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to use up to \$50,000 from the Road Paving Reserve for crack sealing the paved roads.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommends Yes

Article 23: Shall the town create a Public Works Garage Building Committee with the purpose of planning and designing a new Public Works building to replace our existing town garage. The committee will be composed of the Road Commissioner, a Selectman, and 3 citizens.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommends Yes

Article 24: Shall the town appropriate from the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery funds (aka ARPA or American Rescue Plan Act) an amount to purchase land for a new town garage and for planning and design costs for the new town garage.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommends Yes and using up to \$60,000 of the ARPA funds.

Article 25: Shall the town appropriate from the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery funds (aka ARPA or American Rescue Plan Act) an amount to purchase a baler and other associated equipment for the Transfer Station.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommends Yes and using up to \$15,000 of the ARPA funds.

Article 26: Shall the town appropriate from the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery funds (aka ARPA or American Rescue Plan Act) an amount to purchase or lease solar panels for the town office and the fire station and to purchase heat pumps for the fire station.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommends Yes and using up to \$38,774.63 of the ARPA funds.

Article 27: Shall the Town of Solon vote to approve a Community Development Block Grant project development application for the Public Infrastructure program in the amount of \$820,000 and to submit same to the Department of Economic and Community Development and if said

program is approved, 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 such programs. Furthermore, the Town of Solon is cognizant of the requirement that should the intended National Objective of the CDBG program not be met all CDBG funds must be repaid to the State of Maine CDBG program.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommends Yes

Article 28: Shall the town approve having half of the Code Enforcement & Building Permit Fees, not including Plumbing Permit Fees, going into the General Fund to help defray the costs of Code Enforcement.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommends Yes

Article 29: Shall the town create a Hiring Committee. The committee will interview and choose candidates for various administrative positions when a vacancy occurs. The Board of Selectmen will have final approval authority. The committee will be composed of 1 Selectman and 4 members of the Advisory Committee.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommends Yes

Article 30: Shall the Road Commissioner also serve as the Public Works Director beginning with the 2024 Annual Town Meeting with duties as prescribed by the Select Board.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommends Yes

Article 31: Shall the town change the office of Road Commissioner from an elected to an appointed office beginning with the 2024 Annual Town Meeting, said position to be appointed by the Select Board for a term of 3 years and said Road Commissioner to also serve as the Public Works Director with duties as prescribed by the Select Board.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommends Yes

Article 32: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to dispose of tax acquired property belonging to Anthony Bostic for non-payment of 2020 property taxes. The property taxes for 2020 (\$493.12), 2021 (\$477.04), 2022 (\$476.42), 2016 2 Tree Growth Non-filing Penalties (\$500 & \$500), and the 2018 Tree Growth Removal Penalty (\$545.17) plus interest and lien costs are owed on the property. The property is located on 33 Rowell Pond Road, Map R6 Lot 5-3.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend giving Anthony Bostic until March 16, 2023 at 3:45 pm to pay the 2020, 2021

and 2022 real estate taxes, and the 3 tree growth penalties, the interests and costs plus any other associated costs. If this amount is not paid by said date and time, the Selectmen will put the property out to bid, set a minimum bid amount, and will sell the property to the highest bidder.

Article 33: Shall the Town 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 34: Shall the town 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 35: Shall the town 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 36: Shall the town accept the following tax related articles:

1. Shall the town 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. Shall the town authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S A Section 506.

3. Shall the town raise and appropriate from the overlay to pay for tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year 2023.

4. Shall the town use any surplus funds in excess of \$110,000.00 to reduce taxes.

5. Shall the town 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 37: If the Town accepts Article 36-2, 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 and Advisory Committee recommend 0%.

Article 38: Shall the town set September 19, 2023 as the date when all unpaid 2023 taxes become interest bearing at the rate to be set by the State. (Rate being 7%)

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes.

Article 39: Shall the town 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 25th day of January A.D., 2023,

/s/Elaine Aloes, Chair of Selectmen

/s/Wayne Johnson, Vice Chair of Selectmen

/s/Lois Miller, Selectman

Attest true copy: /s/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 fourth day of March AD 2023 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 1st day of February AD 2023, which is at least seven days prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

/s/Dianna Rollins, a resident of Solon.

M. J. HAINES

Registered
Optometrist

Skowhegan

Maine

Will be in

SOLO

AT

GRAY'S TAVERN

ON

MONDAY, JULY 21

For the fitting of glasses

DATES TO REMEMBER

2023

- March 4** 2023 Annual Town Meeting, Solon Elementary School
Polls open 8 am to 12:15 p.m. Town Meeting at 1:30 p.m.
- April 1** - Declaration of personal property owned (this includes
skidders & tractors) should be filed with the Assessors.
Assessors will be in the office on April 1.
- Any real property sold after April 1 will be billed to the
owner of record on April 1.
- New applications for Homestead and /or Veteran and
Veteran's Widow Exemptions must be filed.
- New Tree Growth Classification plans must be filed.
- Motor vehicles and motorized mobile equipment not
excised before this date will be taxed as personal property.
- April 17** Patriots Day. Office closed.
- May 29** Memorial Day. Office closed.
- June 19** Juneteenth. Office Closed.
- July 4** Fireworks at dusk at the Solon School.
Office Closed for July 4th Holiday
- July/August** The end of July or beginning of August Property Taxes are
committed and Property Tax bills will be mailed.
- Sept. 4** Labor Day. Office closed.
- Sept. 21** 2023 unpaid property taxes become interest bearing.
- Oct. 9** Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day, Office closed.
- Nov. 7** Possible State Referendums. Polls open 8 am to 8 pm.
- Nov. 10** Veterans Day, Office closed.
- Nov. 23** Thanksgiving Day, Office closed.
- Dec. 1** New Hunting, Fishing & Dog Licenses are available.
- Dec. 25** Christmas Day. Office closed.
- Dec. 28** Last business day the Town Office will be open in 2023. All
taxes not paid by Dec. 28th will be listed in the 2023 Town
Report.
- Dec. 31** - Boat registrations, hunting, fishing and dog licenses expire.
- New dog licenses required by Jan. 1.
- 2024
- Jan. 1** New Year's Day. Office Closed.
- Jan. 15** Martin Luther King Day. Office closed.
- Jan. 20** Town Budget Committee meeting, 8:00 am at Town Office.
All article and budget requests for Annual Town Meeting
must be submitted to the Selectmen prior to this meeting.
- Jan. 31** \$25.00 late fee on unpaid dog licenses after this date.
- Feb. 19** Presidents Day. Office closed.
- Mar. 2** 2024 Annual Town Meeting.

NOTICE

**2023 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2023
SOLON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICIALS
8 a.m. to 12:15 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.

The Solon Community Garden will be there to greet residents, gather volunteers and show the community all they do throughout the year.

**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**