

**TOWN OF ROCKPORT
DEPARTMENT REPORTS
AUGUST ~ 2014**

General Government

Vacant, Planner/Community Development Director
Linda Greenlaw, Town Clerk
Virginia Lindsey, Finance Director
Kerry Leichtman, Assessor

Culture and Recreation

Susan Dates, Rental Agent, Rockport Opera House
Ann Filley, Library Director

Public Safety

Michael Young, Public Works Director – No Report Received
Mark Kelley, Police Chief
Abbie Leonard, Harbor Master
Jason Peasley, Fire Chief & EMA Director (State Statistics Behind)

**TOWN CLERK
MONTHLY REPORT
AUGUST 2014**

- We issued 2 (4) Fishing Licenses, 5 (5) Hunting Licenses, 0 (1) Junior Hunting License, 1 (0) Bear License, 3 (1) Archery License, 0 (1) Migratory Bird and 0 (2) Saltwater Fish Registry. Fees collected totaled \$277.00 (\$264.25).
- 10 (8) Boat Registrations, 0 (0) Snowmobiles and 6 (3) ATV Registrations and 3 (3) Milfoil Stickers (Preserve Maine Waters) and 0 (1) duplicate registration with stickers were issued. Fees collected were \$1,164.56 (\$627.50) which includes \$698.56 (\$322.50) sales tax.
- We issued 4 (11) dog licenses at a fee of \$12.00 (\$47.00).
- Processed 10 (16) transfers, 276 (314) passenger cars, 26 (25) commercial vehicles, 15 (21) trailers, 7 (8) motorcycles, 0 (1) Motor Home, 2 (3) Mopeds, 11 (8) Antiques, 0 (1) Bus, 0 (2) Farm Truck, 2 (7) Duplicate Stickers and 4 (5) duplicate registrations. Monies taken in for these transactions (excise tax) totaled \$59,178.21 (\$66,591.37); this is down 11.13% from last year.
- We processed \$360,205.29 (\$312,227.60) in real estate taxes this month. We sent 140 (168) liens, totaling \$210,950.18 (\$216,035.04), to taxpayers who had not paid their 2013-2014 real estate taxes.
- We collected \$5,622.25 (\$8,907.50) for mooring, tie-off, dinghy rack space, etc., waiting lists fees and berthing fees, park rental and merchandise. We also collected \$375.50 (\$288.40) in boat excise tax.
- Sold 7 (4' x 10') lots at Sea View Cemetery this month for a total of \$9,800.00. I went to the Glen Cove Cemetery with Helen Shaw and David Farley to look at grave stones. We discovered several stones that are in need of repair. They are older stones, 1800's, that need to be either straighten or reset.
- I attended a Select Board meeting and took minutes for same. I also attended the Public Meeting for the Library Warrant Articles and took minutes for same. Took minutes for the Board of Assessment Review for an appeal filed by the Midcoast Recreation Center. I took the minutes for the Budget Committee's annual meeting to elect a chair and vice chair.
- I assisted a local bank, as a notary public, by verifying the contents of abandoned safety deposit boxes.

*The first number represents 2014 and the second one in parenthesis 2013.

Virginia B. Lindsey
Rockport Finance Director
Monthly Report - August 2014

The finance department is responsible for the administrative and accounting work necessary to maintain the town's finances. Work involves maintaining the chart of accounts, preparing monthly financial reports, preparing payrolls (including all required state and federal payroll reports and taxes), preparing accounts payable warrants, reconciling bank statements, preparing insurance renewals, and submitting claims (auto, property and casualty, workers compensation claims), and a number of other bookkeeping requirements. Annually, the finance director assists the town manager in the preparation of the town's budget.

The report for the month of August 2014 includes the following:

- Interest earned on all deposit accounts was 0.85%.
- 0.97% of taxes have been paid for FY 14-15; \$13,162,071 remains outstanding in taxes receivable.

Budget								
Payroll	107,819	84,245	(23,574)	-21.86%	141,220	(56,975)	-40.34%	
General Fund Checking	1,060,547	1,167,469			1,191,450	(23,981)	-2.01%	
Deposit Only Account	1,245,181	1,248,701	3,520	0.28%		1,248,701		
Total Expenses	2,413,547	2,500,415	86,868	3.60%	1,332,670	1,167,745	87.62%	
<i>* Net Wages Indicated Beginning July 2014</i>								
Total Revenue	1,245,181	1,621,003	375,822	30.18%	496,381	1,124,622	226.56%	
NET	(1,168,366)	(879,411)	288,954	-24.73%	(836,289)	(43,122)	-5.16%	
Cash on Hand Balance								
All Cash Accounts	1,905,969	1,026,557	(879,411)	-46.14%	462,535	564,022	121.94%	
Taxes Paid (for the month)	155,461	68,890	(86,571)	-55.69%	258,185	(189,295)	-73.32%	
Total Taxes Paid-end of Month	12,531,064	128,993	(12,402,071)	-98.97%	12,027,443	(11,898,450)	-98.93%	
Investments-Bar Harbor Trust Services								
Public Assistance	269,252	276,393	7,141	2.65%	365,773	(89,380)	-24.44%	
Cemeteries	340,249	349,272	9,024	2.65%	462,257	(112,985)	-24.44%	
Total Investments	609,501	625,665	16,164	2.65%	828,030	(202,365)	-24.44%	
Investments-The First (Opened 11/27/13)								
Public Assistance	128,481	128,573	92	0.07%				
Cemeteries	162,397	162,515	118	0.07%				
Total Investments	290,878	291,088	210	0.07%				
Combined Totals Investments	900,379	916,753	16,374	1.82%	828,030	88,723	10.71%	
Wastewater								
** Expenses	99,883	186,672	86,789	86.89%	91,913	94,759	103.10%	
* Revenue	54,699	78,143	23,444	42.86%	61,440	16,703	27.19%	
NET	(45,184)	(108,529)	(63,345)	140.19%	(30,473)	(78,056)	256.15%	
<i>**Expenses include Sewer Expansion Project.</i>								
Wastewater Cash on Hand Balance								
* WW General Fund	998,260	889,843	189,186	-10.86%	158,704	731,139	460.69%	
The First-Investment	384,156	384,434	380,844	0.07%	381,128	3,306	0.87%	
Certificate of Deposit								
Total Cash	1,382,416	1,274,277	(108,140)	-7.82%	539,832	734,445	136.05%	
<i>*Apr 2014-GF Includes Proceeds for BAN \$885,000</i>								
WW Accounts Receivable								
30 Day	60 Day	90 Day	Over 120 Days	Advance Payments				
31,792	23,361	2,626	22,135	(5,608)				
TOTAL WW Accounts Receivable August 2014					74,305	2.66%		
Accounts Receivable August 2013					72,380			

**August 2014
Department Head Report
Kerry Leichtman
Assessor**

Headed for Commitment: As busy as things are here routinely, August is crunch time. Everything that still needs to be done for tax commitment must be completed in August: field work, exemptions granted and denied, BETE application processed with each applicable item flagged in Vision, letters written, and so on.

We're working on major projects and punch lists at the same time. It gets a little intense at times. Megan has again proved herself to be an excellent assistant, handling everything that comes her way with grace and intelligence.

By month's end (literally- at 5:15PM on Friday August 29), the work was done and we were ready to commit, but because of Labor Day weekend we weren't able to do the commitment (spoiler alert!) until Tuesday, September 2.

We've been successful in getting more businesses to participate in BETE and BETR. We had 74 BETE applications this year, that's 27 more than last year. It's more work for us at a time of the year we don't need any more to do, but it's a tremendous benefit to local businesses so we're pleased at the increased participation.

Property Tax School: Held the first week in August every year, this year's school featured an excellent array of course selections – so good it can be difficult to choose which courses to pass on in favor of others. Maine Revenue Services does an outstanding job in organizing the school (which has been in Belfast at the Hutchinson Center for the past four years). This year's curriculum featured a new course offering taught by former Rockport Assessor, Judy Mathiau, and current Rockport Assessor, Me. The course, The Assessor's Practice, was one I wish was offered when I was first learning the profession, which is how we developed the curriculum. The course was promoted for new or aspiring assessors. The classroom was packed and the reviews excellent. It was a gratifying experience. And because I taught at the school, my tuition this year was free.

B.A.R. Hearing: August 19th was the date for an appeal hearing. Mid-Coast Recreation Center was appealing my denial of their application for exemption as a charitable and benevolent institution. This was a late date for such a hearing, as there were many delays along the way in the process, and was not a welcome interruption in trying to get to commitment. Hearings require many hours of preparation and my time was at a premium in August. We (the Town) prevailed, though it was a split decision (2-1).

State Board of Property Tax Review: Stuart and Marianne Smith, owners of 3 Cross Street (formerly Farmer's Fare) who lost their B.A.R. appeal last May, appealed that decision to the State Board Of Property Tax Review. The State Board has a huge backload that I've been told is two-year's long. I had to respond to their appeal filing within 20 days of receiving notice, which I did, and now await further word from the board.

TO: Rick Bates, Rockport Town Manager & Select Board
FROM: Sue Dates, Rental Agent
RE: **Opera House Department Head Report**
DATE: **August 2014**

During the month of August Bay Chamber's Summer series included the Thursday rehearsals and concerts, the Summer Festival with small concerts from August 13 to the 16th, including one at the Harbor, and rehearsals. Also, they sponsored the memorial service for Marc Johnson, who was a world known and celebrated cellist and called the Rockport Opera House and Bay Chamber his home. Cycles of Life held 3 nights of the Women's Works Performances, which were successful on all nights. Maine Media continued their lecture series on Mondays and Tuesdays and CMCA held a lecture. The Garden Club held their meeting elsewhere this month.

Revenue for the month of August was \$2,965.50 (includes BCC quarterly payment) and the Opera House was used 20 days of the 31 available for at least one event each day.

Town meetings held in the Opera House Meeting Room this month were the Select Board regular meeting and a Public Hearing on the Library Warrant Article, the Planning Board, and the Zoning Board. We wish to thank Maine Media for moving their lecture on the 5th, so the public hearing could be held in the auditorium.

Maintenance this month included: the successful inspection of the chair lift, the inspection of the sprinkler system problems and the quote to repair the problem (this system was installed in 1992 and the pipes have started to need replacing as we have problems), taking down the shell for the Women's Works performances and putting it back up for Bay Chamber Concerts, setting up for the public hearing, another toilet in the men's room needed a flange replaced and that was done, the grand piano was put back into its storage closet and a wheel "fell" onto a hole at the back of the closet – this was repaired,

We tried to get a phone line back into the building without success – this will be a long process. Evidently, the conduit from the telephone pole split open this past winter during the storms and snow and ice got into the pipe, there was melting and freezing and this broke the wires for the phone and cable connections. It is a major process to put them back underground and/or to just temporarily connect them to the building. This is still being explored. It is difficult to rent the building to users when they can't use credit cards for payment of tickets.

Last year maintenance included: repairs to the old balcony seats, which seem to have needed a lot of work this year. They are too old to buy parts for, so we have had to make do with what we have. Eastern Fire did their quarterly sprinkler inspection and no problems were found, keeping the building and auditorium with the correct setup for events. Most of the events happened in the auditorium and were concerts or lectures with different seating.

Revenue was \$1,369.00 and the Opera House was used on 21 of the 31 days.

Rockport Public Library

AUGUST 2014

We had a good number of visits this August (almost 2,900!) which is a slight increase over 2013 figures. It feels like there has been an increase of vacationers coming into the library, looking for maps of the area, looking for places to explore, play board games and just have a place to relax and read. There has also been increased use of the fiber optics high speed internet here at the library.

The library launched its new website in August and now has a fresher look, new books to the library displayed and our events highlighted right on the front page. We have a new Kid's page and for the first time, and a Young Adult section as well. Check us out!

In late August, the library was delighted to fill the open position of Youth Services Librarian. Ben Odgren now takes on the responsibility of programming and outreach in the community and already has some wonderful new ideas to enhance what the library already offers. Stay tuned!

We had Megan Kelly here at the library for a great presentation on ticks. Megan Kelley is the local Field Epidemiologist for the Maine CDC, Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program.

The library welcomed author, Capt. Bob Branco, (US Navy, retired) who read from his novel "Strike from the Deep". Bob discussed his new thriller, oil and gas mega-tankers off the African coast begin to go missing in the middle of the night, posing a fresh challenge for an international anti-pirate task force.

As we look towards our next 100 years in Rockport, our library, wherever it is located, continues to contribute to a strong community and wonderful town. In that spirit, the library wishes to thank the members of the Library Committee along with the Library Steering Committee for their many hours of hard work that they have put in during these past months (and in some cases, years!) as they have investigated the possibilities of renovating the existing library or moving it to a new location. The Select Board's approved referendum questions that will be put before the Rockport voters on Election Day, November 4 are:

"Do you agree that the town of Rockport should develop a plan for a new library, taking into account community input on design and budget?"

"Do you agree that the town of Rockport should primarily consider the RES site as a location for a new library, provided the current ballfields are preserved?"

LIBRARY STATISTICS:

Circulation	August-14	August-13	% Change
Adults	3399	3965	-14.3
Young Adults	349	375	-6.9
Children	1316	1548	-15.
Total	5064	5888	-14.0

TOTAL CIRCULATION ALSO INCLUDES 41 HONOR SYSTEM BOOKS (AND PUZZLES)

Attendance	August-14	August-13	% Change
Adults	2445	2379	2.8
Young Adults	115	140	-17.9
Children	294	320	-8.1
Total	2854	2839	.5

Total attendance are tracked by hand, which means this is a conservative figure. The Library does not have an electronic door counter.

Interlibrary Loan	August-14	August-13	% Change
Incoming	514	577	-10.9
Outgoing	571	646	13.1

ebooks	August-14	August-13	% Change
Audio	41	27	51.9
ebooks	125	127	1.6

COMPUTER	August-14	August-13	% Change
Computer Usage	501	489	2.5

*OF THE 501 UNITS OF COMPUTER USE, 127 WERE IDENTIFIED AS PEOPLE USING THEIR OWN DEVICES WITH THE LIBRARY WI-FI. THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO MANUALLY TRACKED, SO IT IS LIKELY THAT THESE STATISTICS ARE ALSO CONSERVATIVE.

REFERENCE

	August-14	August-13	% Change
Reference	498	455	9.5

PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Programs	Programs	Participants	Tech Sessions
Adults	24	180	
Young Adults	0	2	
Children	14	197 Children 49 Adults	5
Total	38	427	5

TECH SESSIONS ARE INDIVIDUALIZED SESSIONS OF AT LEAST 15 MINUTES. THESE ARE ABOVE AND BEYOND OUR EBOOK EDUCATION SERIES.

Activities, services, and programs:

427 people attended library programs or benefitted from outreach programs in August

- Author talk with Capt. Bob Branco
- Megan Kelly talks about ticks!
- Twice monthly Fiber Arts Group
- Monthly book group with Jenni Ruddy
- Once a month Positive Wealth Book Group, with Robinsunne
- Twice-weekly French Conversation Group with Paul Charbonneau- Weekly story time for babies and toddlers
- Weekly Community Outreach Programs-Kim Slocomb
 - Coastal Opportunities
 - Pen Bay Child Care
 - YMCA Child Care
 - Mid Coast Recreation child care
- Drop-in Mah-Jongg group on Wednesday evenings and Saturdays
- BookLovers' Café facilitated by Ann Filley
- Twice-monthly Poet's Corner with local poets George Chappell and Jim Ostheimer

All activities are located on the library's website <http://www.rockport.lib.me.us/> where you can find our **What's Happening section** and **Events Calendar**.

DESK INCOME, GIFTS, GRANTS OR DONATIONS: \$ 1,216.29

The library received several gifts for the purchase of materials, one from the Camden Conference and several to support interlibrary service! We continue to be very grateful to the people who are so generous.

VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS

Along with all the countless volunteer hours for the annual book sale, our in house volunteers gave 58.5 hours or \$731.25 savings to the town (calculated at \$12.50 per hour). In-house library volunteers help process books, shelve, facilitate programs, and other duties as assigned.

09/03/14 Completed by Ann Filley, Library Director. Also find us on Facebook!

ROCKPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

August, 2014

OFFICER PRODUCTIVITY REPORT:

OFFICER:	# of Arrests:	Warnings:
201 / Chief Kelley	0	0
202/ Sgt. T. Ford	11	13
203/ D. Smith	26	27
204/ R. Shaw	08	17
205/C. Plaisted	18	06
206/ Vacant		
211/ C. Cooley	04	07

VEHICLE STATS:	Mileage:	Gals. of Gas.	M.P.G.
	8,035	485.8	16.5

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09/02/14
08:14

Rockport Police Department
Law Incident Analysis, Time Reported

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Hour	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
00:00-00:59	2	2	1	1	7	1	2	16
01:00-01:59	0	2	1	2	1	6	1	13
02:00-02:59	3	0	2	2	6	3	4	20
03:00-03:59	2	2	4	2	1	1	2	14
04:00-04:59	3	3	2	0	2	1	4	15
05:00-05:59	0	0	2	0	5	1	1	9
06:00-06:59	2	0	3	2	3	1	0	11
07:00-07:59	4	5	1	3	0	2	1	16
08:00-08:59	4	2	1	0	5	4	1	17
09:00-09:59	5	1	4	2	3	3	3	21
10:00-10:59	3	0	3	3	1	1	3	14
11:00-11:59	1	4	2	2	3	2	2	16
12:00-12:59	4	2	3	3	6	2	5	25
13:00-13:59	2	3	4	4	4	3	6	26
14:00-14:59	3	5	2	4	6	4	6	30
15:00-15:59	3	3	3	3	6	5	5	28
16:00-16:59	2	5	2	2	6	1	4	22
17:00-17:59	3	2	2	4	5	0	6	22
18:00-18:59	3	9	4	2	6	6	5	35
19:00-19:59	2	2	1	3	3	4	5	20
20:00-20:59	5	3	3	5	8	7	5	36
21:00-21:59	6	10	5	6	6	6	7	46
22:00-22:59	2	3	5	2	4	5	3	24
23:00-23:59	3	2	4	1	3	5	3	21
Total by Day	67	70	64	58	100	74	84	517

Report Includes:

All dates between `00:00:01 08/01/14` and `23:59:59 08/31/14`
All agencies matching `0704`
All offenses observed
All offenses reported
All offense codes
All nature of incidents
All location codes

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Harbormaster Report

August, 2014

We had nice dry weather some lower temperatures than are typical in August but that made for some fine boating weather.

- The second annual Lobster SUP Cup with was held at the harbor. Stand Up Paddleboard athletes from around the country participated in the two day event. The event is a fundraiser for Challenged Athletes Foundation's operation Rebound: for veterans with permanent disabilities. This is a great event for a great cause and we hope that they will continue to use Rockport Harbor as a venue for the event in the future.
- Received a call to the office from a man on board his boat in the harbor who stated that he was working on his boat and a wake from a passing boat caused him to fall and injure his knee. He requested assistance and thought he would need an ambulance. I brought two paramedics out to the boat where they were able to stabilize his knee, start an IV and give him pain medication for the ride in. We brought him in and transferred him to the ambulance. He was later transferred to Maine Medical Center where he underwent surgery for a broken femur.
- Met with C&C Electric and MDOT for a pre-construction meeting for the upcoming electrical project. With the long lead time on the light poles and bases and the stringent standards that MDOT puts in place we decided to push the start date of the project until September 15th with a completion date of November 15. There is a large wedding happening at the harbor on the 13th so it will work out well.
- Met with Dig Safe on the lighting project.
- Met with CMP on the lighting project and discussed when the wires needed to come down.
- Received a report of a boat sitting low in the water. Upon investigation realized the float switch on the bilge pump was stuck so that it did not switch the pump on. I was able to free the switch and engage the bilge pump. I called the owner of the boat to make them aware of the problem.
- Had a report of a shark sighting by Indian Island. Upon investigation it was found to be a large ocean Sunfish whose fins look much like a shark coming out of the water.

Here's to as nice a September!

<u>Harbor Revenue</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Boat Excise	288.40	2003.50
Boat Rack	300.00	275.00
Launching	425.00	264.25
Merchandise	1216.00	1279.00
Mooring	764.00	485.00

Dockage	1516.00	930.00
Parking	320.00	168.00
Shower	158.00	115.00
Laundry	-	114.00
Tie-offs	150.00	325.00
Park Rentals	-	550.00
Schooner Berthing	--	860.00
Total Harbor Revenues for August:	5137.00	7268.75

Rockport Fire Department August 2014

09/03/2014

The month of August brought 18 calls bring the year to date total up to 138 calls. Currently we are 29 calls ahead of last year to the end of August. There were 6 car accidents, 7 Alarm Investigations, 2 utility problems 1 heavy equipment fire and a structure fire in Camden.

At the early hour of 2:20 am on august 7th saw Rockport Fire getting called to a fully involved structure fire on Beaucaire Ave in Camden. Firefighters spent over 4 hours assisting Camden with knocking the fire down and completing overhaul.

I completed a full walk through of the new Hospice House at Pen Bay Medical Center with the Fire Marshalls office. The building is top of the line for this community is very fortunate to have such an amazing facility and staff that will make families very comfortable at a very difficult time.

Based on the number of structure fires the last few months and total calls training for August was postponed until September to give the volunteers a break. September and October will bring 5 different training seasons from Live Propane Fires to Extrication with Hope and Lincolnville Fire.

Yearly tests and inspections of ladders was conducted and all passed with no require fixes. All fire trucks passed the yearly Stated of Maine inspections. Yearly hose testing will be completed Friday September 19th at 1:00pm at the Highway Garage.

Sincerely,

Chief Jason Peasley