

**TOWN OF ROCKPORT
DEPARTMENT REPORTS
SEPTEMBER - 2014**

General Government

**Planner/Community Development Director - Vacant
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, Harbormaster - No Report Received
Jason Peasley, Fire Chief & EMA Director (State Statistics Behind)**

**TOWN CLERK
MONTHLY REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2014**

- **We issued 0(1) Fishing Licenses, 1 (1) Hunting License, 1 (0) Expanded Archery Anterlered License, 4 (0) Expanded Anterless Archery Licenses, 1 (0) Migratory Waterfowl, and 1 (0) Resident Bear. The fees collected totaled \$139.25 (\$100.00).**
- **1 (5) Boat Registrations, 0 Snowmobiles and 4 (4) ATV Registrations and 0 (2) Milfoil Stickers (Preserve Maine Waters) were issued. Fees collected were \$283.50 (\$643.15) which included \$126.50 (\$370.15) sales tax.**
- **We issued 5 (3) dog licenses this month for \$19.00 (\$9.00). The new 2015 dog licenses are available on October 15th.**
- **Processed 10 (16) transfers, 233 (210) passenger cars, 17(18) commercial vehicles, 6 (12) trailers, 2 (3) motorcycles, 2 (1) motor homes, 2 (1) Farm Truck, 0 (1) tractor/special equipment, 6 (9) Antiques, 4 (4) Duplicate Stickers and 1 (3) duplicate registrations. Monies taken in for these transactions (excise tax) totaled \$76,353.38 (\$70,993.60). This is up 7.55% from last year.**
- **We collected \$15,072.25 (\$1,678.75) for mooring, tie-off, dinghy rack space, winter boat storage, etc., waiting lists fees and berthing fees and merchandise. We also collected \$200.00 (\$64.60) in boat excise tax.**
- **We processed \$1,834,077.44 (\$1,433,219.93 in real estate taxes this month. The due dates this year are October 15, 2014 and April 15, 2015. Tax payments are coming in on schedule.**
- **I attended one Select Board meeting. I attended a Registrar Workshop held in Augusta. Brenda & Shay attended one day at the Elections' Conference held in Bangor. Sold several cemetery lots at the Sea View Cemetery this month.**
- **Prepared and received ballots for the November election.**

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

Virginia B. Lindsey
Rockport Finance Director
Monthly Report -September 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 September 2014 includes the following:

- Interest earned on all deposit accounts was 0.85%.
- 13.24% of taxes have been paid for FY 14-15; \$11,402,029.25 remains outstanding in taxes receivable.

	Previous Month August 2014	Current Month September 2014	Difference	% Change	One Year Ago August 2014	Difference	% Change		
Budget-Current Month Expenses/Transfers									
Payroll	84,245	79,033	(5,212)	-6.19%	116,644	(37,611)	-32.24%		
General Fund Checking	1,167,469	1,133,327	(34,142)		1,136,490	(3,163)	-0.28%		
Deposit Only Account	1,248,701	1,173,861	(74,840)	-5.99%		1,173,861			
Total Expenses	2,500,415	2,386,222	(114,193)	-4.57%	1,253,134	1,133,088	90.42%		
* Net Wages Indicated Beginning July 2014									
Budget-Current Month Revenues/Transfers									
	1,621,003	3,273,482	1,652,479	101.94%	1,400,802	1,872,680	133.69%		
NET	(879,411)	887,261	1,766,672	-200.89%	147,668	(1,133,088)	-500.85%		
Cash on Hand Balance									
All GF Cash Accounts	1,905,969	1,897,424	(8,545)	-0.45%	627,940	1,269,484	202.17%		
Taxes Paid (for the month)	68,890	1,760,042	1,691,152	2454.87%	1,077,720	682,322	63.31%		
Total Taxes Paid-end of Month	128,993	1,889,035	1,760,042	1364.45%	1,185,129	703,905	59.39%		
Investments-Bar Harbor Trust Services									
Public Assistance	269,252	271,451	2,199	0.82%	372,736	(101,285)	-27.17%		
Cemeteries	340,249	343,028	2,779	0.82%	471,057	(128,029)	-27.18%		
Total Investments	609,501	614,479	4,979	0.82%	843,793	(229,314)	-27.18%		
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	905,567	5,189	0.58%	843,793	61,774	7.32%		
Wastewater									
** Expenses	99,883	949,955	850,072	851.07%	34,811	915,144	2628.89%		
* Revenue	54,699	324,106	269,406	492.52%	41,947	282,159	672.65%		
NET	(45,184)	(625,849)	(580,666)	1285.12%	7,136	(632,985)	-8870.31%		
**Expenses include Sewer Expansion Project.									
Wastewater Cash on Hand Balance									
* WW General Fund	998,260	263,994	189,186	-73.55%	165,840	98,154	59.19%		
The First-Investment Certificate of Deposit	384,156	384,702	380,844	0.14%	381,394	3,308	0.87%		
Total Cash	1,382,416	648,696	(733,721)	-53.08%	547,234	101,462	18.54%		
*\$885,000 BAN Paid to CBN									
WW Accounts Receivable									
30 Day	30,312	60 Day	5,167	90 Day	10,382	Over 120 Days	10,579	Advance Payments	(7,689)
TOTAL WW Accounts Receivable September 2014						48,750	-21.81%		
Accounts Receivable September 2013						62,344			

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

Commitment: We committed to taxes on September 2, 2014 at a mil rate of \$12.99, a 30¢ increase over last year's rate. Rockport's mil rate is still among the lowest in the midcoast area. Tax bills were mailed a few days later and started arriving at residents' homes on September 11. Rockport's 2014 taxable value was \$1,019,568,737, an increase of \$9,858,493 (1%) over 2013's total taxable value.

Reaction to Tax Bills: Is always interesting. This is when most of the data entry mistakes we made are brought to our attention – we obviously work very hard to minimize them – and when people who ignored our attempts to communicate value increases (usually due to improvements made to their property) voice their concerns. No one enjoys paying taxes (the assessor included) so we respond to all questions and concerns with interest, patience and compassion. We abate and/or supplemental bill errors and investigate disputes. Megan has done an excellent job her first year out which has enabled me to more efficiently use my time solving the more troubling and complex problems.

Dealing with issues brought to our attention as a result of commitment and tax bills dominated our September activities.

State Valuation: We received the preliminary state valuation for 2015. The state has certified Rockport at 100%, which means that *on average* property assessments and sales prices equal one another. The on average part of that statement is a crucial distinction. "State valuation is a mass appraisal estimate of the 100% market value of all taxable property..." But there is a two-year lag to the state's numbers, meaning the 2015 state valuation actually, "represents the full equalized value of all taxable property in the municipality as of April 1, 2013." (Both statement quotations are from Maine Revenue Services' Preliminary 2015 State Valuation cover letter.) This two-year lag illustrates why it is important for us to conduct our own ratio studies on current sales. By doing this we can spot and correct negative trends before they're able to drive the ratio up or down.

Average Values: I was asked to compute the median value for Rockport homes and thought the information interesting enough to share here. All single family dwellings were used, which includes everything from mobile homes to mansions, single-family dwellings to multi-unit dwellings. This totaled 1,751 dwellings. There is a significant difference between the mean and median. The mean is a simple average, the total combined value divided by the number of contributing values. The median is the middle number in a list, there are an equal number of contributing values above the middle position (median) as there are below it. The 2014 mean is \$438,901 and the median is \$273,350. The median for Knox County is \$203,800. It was not possible at this writing to determine the county's mean value. The median is considered the more useful number for these purposes.

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

During the month of September the Windjammer Barbershop Chorus held their annual fundraising concert with a rehearsal and their afterglow party, the Nativity Lutheran Church held a lecture in the meeting room, and CIFF (Camden International Film Festival) held a film showing as part of their yearly event. The Garden Club held their monthly meeting.

Revenue for the month of September was \$1,209.50 and the Opera House was used 9 days of the 3 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, the Planning Board, and the Zoning Board.

Maintenance this month included: the faucet in the men's room was replaced, one of the toilets in the men's room had a new flange put on it, the meeting room was set up with tables for the Barbershop Afterglow party and Randy setup for the Lutheran Church with tables in the meeting room. CIFF arranged their own setup on the stage, as they had to move the screen. They, also, set the stage back up and we wish to thank them for this. The furnace was turned on for the Sept. 13 concert and off after the concert. When we went to turn it on the following week, it would not go on. After RMI inspection it was determined that we could not use the furnace in its current condition. After much consultation it was decided to cut out the split piece of the furnace and run the furnace on 6 of the 7 sections until a more permanent solution can be obtained. This should be completed by mid October. RMI loaned us 2 electric heaters and we borrowed 2 from the town office. Thank you to RMI, Stacey, and Ginny for this. The heaters were used to keep the Meeting Rm. and the Ladies Rm. warm for a couple of meetings after Randy found out which combination of plugs would not blow the breakers. Luckily, the 27th and 28th were very warm and heat was not needed once the rooms were warmed up. During the month Geoff Parker worked very hard to get the Fiber Optic network into the Opera House. This was accomplished and we, again, have internet access with the capability to have high speed for those who need it. This should make us more attractive to companies such as CIFF and those who wish to us and need to take credit cards as payment. We did lose a couple of rentals because they could not accept credit cards as payment. Thank you to Geoff for helping to improve the rent ability for the Opera House and for all the work that went into getting the fiber optics into the Opera House. As soon as we run the optics to the meeting room the Town meetings will be streamed out and we expect that to be within the next month.

Last year maintenance included: when the power went out the sprinkler system sprung 2 leaks and that involved several people and the sprinkler system repair people. Luckily, we have Randy who can do backup work and this helps keep down the costs, as removing and replacing sheetrock can be expensive. The chair lift had a problem and Vertran came and repaired that. One of the faucets broke in the men's room and that will be replaced soon. Randy set up for the Barbershop concert with tables in the meeting room and the auditorium was rented for a rehearsal for Daryl Hall. That meant that the chairs were all removed, as he did not want to rehearse on stage due to sound.

Revenue was \$719.50 and the Opera House was used on 8 of the 30 days.

Rockport Public Library

SEPTEMBER 2014

Back to school means that our popular afterschool reading program begins! On Wednesday afternoons the library runs a reading program for children, designed for kindergarten age to third grade. We generally have between 10 and 15 kids that attend, with a waiting list for new members. We always enjoy the energy and fun that this group brings into the library. On these Wednesdays, the library has backpacks, shoes, and kids on the floor, on bean bags while listening to a great story and doing activities.

As part of our expanding outreach, Ben Odgren attended the Back to School night at the Camden-Rockport Middle School. Ben took dozen books, along with applications to sign up for library. During the two hour event, he signed up four middle school students, two elementary school students, and one adult Rockport resident with library cards. Two of the middle school students signed out books that Ben had on display.

Along with our regularly scheduled events, the library also offered two new programs. One of our patrons suggested that we show some of our Film Movement movies. This was "challenge accepted" for Deputy Director, Ben Blackmon and the library started a foreign film night in September! We have a great selection of films and will be offering this event the second Tuesday (excluding holidays) of every month.

The library also offered a Dulcimer Workshop with Richard Robinson, who brought in instruments he had handcrafted himself as part of his talk on the history and types of dulcimers.

The library served 2,528 people in September, which is up from the same period last year!

The library received a check for \$15,000 from the Friends of Rockport Public Library, which represent the proceeds from the Friends' annual book sale in July and membership drive. Throughout the year the Friends' volunteers sort, price and pack thousands of donated books, DVDs, puzzles and more. More than 50 volunteers, along with the Friends' Board, help to set up the sale, arrange for signs and advertising, work at the sale, and clean up afterwards. With help from Rockport Public Works, nearly 100 tables were delivered, used and then whisked away. It takes a heroic effort from many volunteers to make the annual book sale a success.

The library is so thankful for the work and generosity of the Friends!

The staff at the library is also helping to work on the fall Friends & Library newsletter, so keep an eye out for all the great activities that are coming in October and November!

LIBRARY STATISTICS:

Circulation	Sept.-14	Sept.-13	% Change
Adults	3179	3478	-8.6
Young Adults	308	270	14.1
Children	1432	1284	11.5
Total	4919	5032	-2.2

TOTAL CIRCULATION (MATERIALS CHECKED OUT) ALSO INCLUDES 37 HONOR SYSTEM BOOKS (AND PUZZLES)

Attendance	Sept.-14	Sept.-13	% Change
Adults	2262	2099	7.8
Young Adults	62	65	-4.6
Children	204	239	-14.6
Total	2528	2403	5.2

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

Interlibrary Loan	Sept.-14	Sept.-13	% Change
Incoming	519	536	-3.2
Outgoing	584	601	-2.8

ebooks	Sept.-14	Sept.-13	% Change
Audio	59	34	73.5
ebooks	112	115	-2.6

COMPUTER	Sept.-14	Sept.-13	% Change
Computer Usage	361	400	-9.8

*OF THE 361 UNITS OF COMPUTER USE, 94 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

	Sept.-14	Sept.-13	% Change
Reference	560	376	48.9

PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Programs	Programs	Participants	Tech Sessions
Adults	25	175	
Young Adults	0	0	
Children	12	199 Children 56 Adults	5
Total	37	430	5

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

Activities, services, and programs:

430 people attended library programs or benefitted from outreach programs in September

- Dulcimer Workshop
- Foreign Film Night-with Ben Blackmon
- Twice monthly Fiber Arts Group
- Monthly book group with Jenni Ruddy
- Twice-weekly French Conversation Group with Paul Charbonneau
- Weekly after school reading program
- Weekly story time for babies and toddlers
- Weekly Community Outreach Programs-Ben Odgren
 - 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 **News and Events Calendar**.

DESK INCOME, GIFTS, GRANTS OR DONATIONS: \$ 15,725.51

The library received the large annual gift of the Friends! Also several gifts for the purchase of materials, 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 78.5 hours or \$981.25 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.

10/03/2014 Completed by Ann Filley, Library Director. Also find us on Facebook!

ROCKPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

SEPTEMBER, 2014

OFFICER PRODUCTIVITY REPORT:

OFFICER:	# of Arrests:	Warnings:
201 / Chief Kelley	0	0
202/ Sgt. T. Ford	09	05
203/ D. Smith	24	22
204/ R. Shaw	03	09
205/C. Plaisted	11	08
206/ Vacant		
211/ C. Cooley	07	12

VEHICLE STATS:	Mileage:	Gals. of Gas.	M.P.G.
	7,205	445.1	16.1

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Rockport Police Department
Law Total Incident Report, by Nature of Incident

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Nature of Incident	Total Incidents
911 Hangup	5
Administrative	7
Agency Assistance	22
Alarm	31
Alcohol Offense	1
Animal Problem	3
Animal Welfare	1
Assault	2
Non-sufficient Funds Check	2
Bail Check	1
Violation of Bail Conditions	1
Car/Deer 10-55	1
Child Abuse or Neglect	2
Citizen Assist	3
Civil Problem	1
Detail Assignment	3
Disabled Vehicle	3
Disorderly Conduct	4
Domestic	3
Controlled Substance Problem	4
Traffic - Erratic Oper Vehicle	13
Escort	1
Found Property	6
Fraud	1
Harassment	4
Hit and Run 10-55	6
Information Report	17
Intoxicated Person	3
Juvenile Problem	2
Mental Health Issue	7
Nuisance	4
DUI Alcohol or Drugs	2
Paperwork Servd For Othr Agenc	6
Paperwork Servd For This Agenc	1
Parking Problem	2
Traffic Accident w/ Damage	16
Pedestrian Check	3
Traffic Accident, w/ Injuries	1
Police Information	1
Probation/Bail Check "	1
Property Check	51
Radar Detail	21
Robbery	2
School Visit	5
Sex Offense	1
Sex Offender Registration	1
Stray Animal	2
Suspicious Vehicle	4
Suspicious Person/Circumstance	7
Theft	8
Threatening	4
Traffic Hazard	6
Traffic Violation	46
Traffic Stop	4
Trespassing	6
Vehicle Maintenance	10
Vehicle Search	1
Wanted Person	3
Well-Being Chck	51
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Total Incidents for This Report:	430

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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	3	2	1	2	3	1	2	14
01:00-01:59	0	3	4	1	2	3	4	17
02:00-02:59	2	1	1	3	1	2	4	14
03:00-03:59	3	1	4	2	1	1	1	13
04:00-04:59	4	3	1	0	1	1	3	13
05:00-05:59	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
06:00-06:59	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
07:00-07:59	3	2	2	4	2	4	1	18
08:00-08:59	4	3	3	5	6	2	3	26
09:00-09:59	3	2	3	1	0	5	2	16
10:00-10:59	1	7	1	0	4	2	0	15
11:00-11:59	3	3	0	1	0	4	1	12
12:00-12:59	2	3	5	2	0	1	2	15
13:00-13:59	6	2	3	2	2	1	0	16
14:00-14:59	8	0	5	5	7	2	2	29
15:00-15:59	5	3	5	4	5	5	1	28
16:00-16:59	4	3	3	1	4	3	3	21
17:00-17:59	3	1	5	2	4	7	4	26
18:00-18:59	5	4	4	5	6	4	3	31
19:00-19:59	1	2	2	4	4	3	3	19
20:00-20:59	1	2	0	7	9	3	5	27
21:00-21:59	4	1	12	5	7	5	3	37
22:00-22:59	1	2	1	1	3	2	0	10
23:00-23:59	0	3	2	2	1	1	1	10
Total by Day	67	54	68	59	72	62	48	430

Report Includes:

- All dates between `00:00:01 09/01/14` and `23:59:59 09/30/14`
- All agencies matching `0704`
- All offenses observed
- All offenses reported
- All offense codes
- All nature of incidents
- All location codes

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Rockport Fire Department September 2014

10/06/2014

September was a mild month with only 10 calls. Of these calls 8 were alarms, 1 mutual aid to Camden for structure fire that was cancelled enroute and a car accident. During the month we held three separate training sessions and a regular monthly meeting. It's that time of year to start prepping our equipment for winter and the cold temperatures.

Joint training with Hope and Lincolnville fire was held at the Camden Exxon to work with the new extrication equipment that was donated by Hope Volunteer Fire Incorporated. The turnout was a great example of how well our towns work together with 29 firefighters attending. Three different cars had been donated by Steve Laite that helped provide some great hands on training for every. Teamwork was the focus of the drill to get each department working together.

A walk through of the new Hospice House at PBMC was completed with 16 members of the fire department. We were able to learn their sprinkler system, alarm set up and layout of the building to ensure we are able to provide the best service we can in building that helps families during the passing of other family members.

Fire Extinguisher checks completed for the town. All new high efficiency lights were installed inside the fire station. I assisted Highway throughout the month clearing clogged culverts but flushing several thousand gallons of water through a special nozzle. Specs were sent out to the fire truck companies to get bids back. All the floors in the public safety building were stripped and waxed. All 13,350' of our fire hose was successfully tested and passed.

Sincerely,

Chief Jason Peasley