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# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

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Town of Cooper; Washington County; Maine



**FY 2026 Annual Meeting to be held on  
August 23, 2025, at 12:00PM  
COOPER COMMUNITY CENTER**

425 Cooper HWY  
Cooper, Maine 04657  
207-454-3901

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**DID YOU KNOW...** On December 15, 1866, the Bangor Daily Whig and Courier (now known as the Bangor Daily News) reported a story from the Eastport Sentinel about a peddler driving through the town of Cooper. He was stopped by a footpad (a highwayman operating on foot rather than riding a horse) who presented a pistol and demanded his money. The peddler had a little girl riding with him at the time, who seeing the state of affairs, she crept back on the top of the cart and dragged the man’s overcoat to within the peddler’s reach, which he then took out his revolver and disabled the thief. The Eastport Sentinel also reported that a boy of fifteen living with Mrs. John Crosby stole a trunk containing \$400 in gold and \$300 in currency and cleared for St. Stephen, where he was afterwards arrested. He had hidden all but \$50 of the money.

On June 5, 1871, the same newspaper reported that a severe tornado passed through Cooper and damaged a barn containing a horse, six cows (which he and a boy were milking at the time), and calf was blown down! It was only the calf that did not survive. The barn was owned by Mr. George McPhetres.

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## This report is dedicated to

# ARLINE M FLOOD

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Arline M Flood was born to Philip and Nellie Day, the 2<sup>nd</sup> of 5 children, on August 24, 1933, in Casco Maine. After having their 4<sup>th</sup> child, Philip and Nellie moved the family to Cooper to help take care of Philip's aging parents and their businesses in the Farming Industry. Arline and her siblings, Violet (Dineen), Willis, Justin, and Louise (Lee) went to school in the little red schoolhouse on East Ridge. She graduated from Calais Academy and was a proud member of the County's 4-H program.

Her childhood was filled with wonderful memories of friends and family spending time together in Cooper whether they were on the farm or working in the fields.

She married Ralph Flood (also of Cooper) in 1951 while he was home on leave from the Navy. The family moved around a bit but eventually returned 'home' to settle in Cooper. Together they had 6 children: Danny; Marcia; Ronnie; Sandy; Philip; and Eric. They were married for 66 years, only being separated by Ralph's passing.

Arline, joining at least 3 generations of her family, served the Town of Cooper in a variety of long-term positions. She was a dedicated volunteer who spent countless hours working the polls since the mid-1970's. She also wrote the Cooper News column in the Calais Advertiser for many years and being a dedicated member of the Grange, she attended lots of meetings at various Grange offices across the State. She served as a past president of the American Auxiliary Legion and was an extremely faithful member of the Meddybemps Christian Association and its church. She looked forward to spending her Saturdays with her scrapbooking family at the Meddybemps Community Center.

Arline wasn't shy and was rarely alone. She welcomed any company and especially loved the countless adventures she took part in with her daughters.

She was very well known in her families Blueberry business as the "Blueberry Queen" sitting in her booth logging the weight of everyone's berries. She was a wreath maker and tipper for years too. She was likely best known locally as "the Avon Lady" making friends all across Maine. It is the tireless dedication our long-term residents like Arline and her Family that make the Town of Cooper what it is today.



Sadly, at the age of 91, Arline passed away on June 6, 2025, before she was able to see this dedication. By her own admission, she "lived a good, long life" and will be greatly missed by all that knew her.

At the time of her passing, she had 2 surviving siblings, 5 children, 8 nieces & nephews, 11 grandchildren, 9+ great grandchildren, and even a handful of great-great grandchildren.

Thank you for your Service to the Town of Cooper.

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# TOWN OFFICERS

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**SELECT BOARD & ROAD COMMISSIONERS:**

JON REISMAN *End of Term July 2025*  
DAVID WILSON 207-214-2752  
*dwilson\_cooper@yahoo.com*  
KEVIN MAHAR 207-214-7538  
*kevinmahar3@gmail.com*

**BOARD OF ASSESSORS:** NORMAN HOWE 207-952-2091  
LANCE KEEN 207-454-3291  
KEVIN MAHAR 207-214-7538  
*kevinmahar3@gmail.com*

**TREASURER:** CRYSTAL GALLINA 207-214-1834  
*treasurer.cooperme@gmail.com*

**DEPUTY: TREASURER; TAX COLLECTOR;  
CLERK; REGISTRAR:** LAURIE PIKE 207-214-7335

**TOWN CLERK / TAX COLLECTOR/  
REGISTRAR:** MELISSA ALEXANDER 207-214-4448  
*cooperclerk25@yahoo.com*

**SCHOOLBOARD:** VACANT SEAT  
ANGELA DONAGHY  
AMANDA MYERS

**PLUMBING INSPECTOR &  
CODE ENFORCEMENT:** STEVE COX 207-263-6887

**MUNICIPAL AUDITOR:** RHR SMITH & CO

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR,  
FIRE CHIEF & WARDEN &  
e-911 ADDRESS OFFICER:** NORMAN HOWE 207-952-2091

**ANIMAL CONTROL:** VACANT POSITION

**PLANNING BOARD:** DAVID WILSON 207-454-8833  
*dwilson\_cooper@yahoo.com*  
KEVIN MAHAR 207-214-7538  
*kevinmahar3@gmail.com*  
LANCE KEEN 207-454-3291

**CEMETERY SEXTON:** DAVID WILSON 207-214-2752

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# STATE GOVERNMENT

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## MAINE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DISTRICT 10: WILLIAM R TUELL (R-EAST MACHIAS)  
207-271-8521 SEAT# 38  
william.tuell@legislature.maine.gov

## MAINE STATE SENATOR

DISTRICT 6: MARIANNE MOORE (R-WASHINGTON)  
207-952-2050  
marianne.moore@legislature.maine.gov

## COUNTY COMMISSIONER:

DISTRICT 1 BILLY HOWARD  
207-255-3127  
commdist1@washingtoncountymaine.gov

## US REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS:

DISTRICT 2 JARED GOLDEN (D-WATERVILLE)  
202-224-3121  
[https://golden.house.gov/address\\_authentication?form=/contact](https://golden.house.gov/address_authentication?form=/contact)

## WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF:

BARRY CURTIS  
207-255-4422  
barry.curtis@sheriffwashingtoncountymaine.gov

# TREASURER'S REPORT

## EXPENSE & REVENUE

### Treasurer Report YE 6/30/25

#### Revenue Summary 7/1/2024 to 6/30/2025

ACCOUNT	BUDGET NET	YTD NET
01 - Tax	538,255.82	544,266.72
02 - Excise Tax	44,628.00	45,989.78
03 - Inter-Govern	102,909.54	95,987.98
04 - Misc	-	525.25
05 - Town Serv	-	54.00
06 - Interest	-	12,156.38
07 - Perm/ Licens	-	2,533.73
08 - Donations	-	103.82
17 - Education	-	74,140.85
21 - Recreation	-	13.24
<b>Final Totals</b>	<b>685,793.36</b>	<b>775,771.75</b>

#### Expense Summary 7/1/2024 to 6/30/2025

ACCOUNT	BUDGET NET	YTD NET	UNEXPENDED BALANCE
09 - Town Salaries	47,210.00	46,451.85	758.15
10 - General Government	36,790.00	34,825.99	1,964.01
11 - Social Services/Third Parties	3,100.00	1,074.31	2,025.69
12 - Insurance	6,500.00	5,957.00	543.00
13 - Public Works	164,056.00	157,036.11	7,019.89
14 - Cemeteries	8,750.00	5,250.00	3,500.00
15 - General Assistance	100.00	345.90	(245.90)
16 - Protection	11,332.00	10,171.88	1,160.12
17 - Education	253,535.00	313,979.86	(60,444.86)
18 - Health & Sanitation	12,000.00	12,303.47	(303.47)
19 - Town Buildings	-	825.39	(825.39)
20 - Debt Service	18,897.79	18,860.27	37.52
21 - Parks & Recreation	6,000.00	580.00	5,420.00
24 - Broadband Expansion	-	79.62	(79.62)
30 - Overlay	3,394.57	49.85	3,344.72
40 - Capital Reserves Appropriation	64,250.00	64,250.00	-
51 - County Tax	49,878.00	49,878.00	-
<b>Final Totals</b>	<b>685,793.36</b>	<b>721,919.50</b>	<b>(36,126.14)</b>

*Laurie Pike*  
Treasurer  
Town of Cooper

# TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

## UNPAID TAXES as of 07/22/2025

ACCT 2024		NAME ON ACCOUNT	TAX YEAR	ORIGINAL TAX	PAYMENTS / ADJUSTMENTS	UNPAID TAX AMT
167	R	12 STEVENS, LLC	2024	468.00	443.41	24.59
153	R	BACKHAUS, GEOFF	2024	313.20	-	313.20
370	R	CHANEY, LEON	2024	84.60	-	84.60
366	R	DURGIN, JASON WALTER	2024	241.20	-	241.20
277	R	EARLE, JOYCE	2024	210.60	100.48	110.12
55	R	FLOOD, RONALD	2024	3.60	-	3.60
283	R	FLOOD, RONALD	2024	1,668.60	-	1,668.60
287	R	FLOOD, RONALD	2024	243.00	-	243.00
359	R	FLOOD, RONALD	2024	432.00	-	432.00
128	R	GARDNER, FREDERICK WILLIAM JR	2024	514.80	503.54	11.26
239	R	GRIFFIN, PAUL M, PHYLLIS A & JASON	2024	241.20	-	241.20
116	R	HUNNEWELL, DONNA W	2024	824.40	-	824.40
222	R	KEEN, LANCE	2024	3,135.60	688.12	2,447.48
112	R	KEEN, LANCE/KATHY; GAIL & LINDA	2024	1,071.00	-	1,071.00
56	R	MAFFEL, FORREST	2024	261.00	-	261.00
325	R	MAFFEL, FORREST	2024	459.00	-	459.00
326	R	MAFFEL, FORREST	2024	982.80	800.00	182.80
130	R	MAWHAR, SPENCER J	2024	853.20	200.66	652.54
54	R	MCCLURE, DAYRL	2024	3.60	-	3.60
226	R	MCMAHON, JOANNE	2024	379.80	294.40	85.40
280	R	MIKULSKI, BARBARA	2024	162.00	-	162.00
389	R	MOORES, SCOTT R	2024	2,280.60	-	2,280.60
51	R	PRATT, TIMOTHY C	2024	1,175.40	57.08	1,118.32
293	R	SAUL, TRAVIS A & SANDRA A	2024	1,472.40	-	1,472.40
131	R	SIMMONS, ADAM A	2024	2,352.60	-	2,352.60
312	R	SMITH, HARRY III	2024	588.60	-	588.60
155	R	TANTOG, JAMES	2024	1,904.40	-	1,904.40
431	R	WATSON, MICHAEL S	2024	1,837.80	-	1,837.80
6	R	WOOD, DOUGLAS	2024	1,603.80	45.24	1,558.56
<b>2023</b>						
153	R	BACKHAUS, GEOFF	2023	254.20	-	254.20
370	R	BROWN, RANDY R	2023	72.85	-	72.85
366	R	EALLES, FALON JADE	2023	230.95	-	230.95
283	R	FLOOD, RONALD	2023	1,298.90	-	1,298.90
431	R	LAKEVILLE SHORES, INC	2023	2,290.90	1,719.12	571.78
139	R	LAPLANTE, MICHAEL	2023	46.50	46.50	-
280	R	MIKULSKI, BARBARA	2023	139.50	-	139.50
293	R	SAUL, TRAVIS A & SANDRA A	2023	1,159.40	-	1,159.40
155	R	TANTOG, JAMES	2023	1,532.95	405.21	1,127.74
<b>2022</b>						
283	R	FLOOD, RONALD	2022	1,577.97	-	1,577.97
280	R	MIKULSKI, BARBARA	2022	177.30	-	177.30
<b>2021</b>						
283	R	FLOOD, RONALD	2021	1,335.60	338.84	996.76
280	R	MIKULSKI, BARBARA	2021	162.00	-	162.00
<b>2020</b>						
280	R	MIKULSKI, BARBARA	2020	170.10	-	170.10

**Laurie Pike**  
Tax Collector

# CLERK's REPORT

Since October 15, 2024, 28 dogs have been licensed for 2025.



## Name.....Number of dogs

Bob Smith	2
Maureen Lewia	1
Karen Holmes	1
Scott Jamieson	1
Laurie Little-Daggett	1
Kathy & Lance Keen	3
Myrna Feliciano	1
Karen Monroe	1
Joanne Cushing	1
Kristi Thornton	2
Trevor Flood	1
Stacie Hatton	1
Eric Flood	3
Leonard Dodge	1
Daniel Donaghy	2
Terri-Lynn Crowe	3
Michelle McVicar	2
Fred Gardner	1

*If you have a Dog that has not yet been Licensed, please contact your Town Clerk.*

*To avoid a late fee in 2026, all dogs must be licensed and issued a tag between October 15, 2025, and January 31, 2026.*

*Failure to obtain or renew a license is subject to fines upwards of \$100.00 or more per dog.*

## VITAL STATISTICS

Birth's 2020-2024	5
Death' 2020-2024	12
Marriage's 2020-2024	4



## RECREATIONAL VEHICLES REGISTERED



Boats – Open Water	4
Boats – Pontoon	7
Sea Doo's	3
ATV/UTV's	6

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# Annual Meeting Warrant Articles

## FY 2025 / 2026 Budget

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### WARRANT FOR 2025-2026 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING Cooper, Maine

To: Laurie Pike, a resident of the Town of Cooper, County of Washington, State of Maine.

#### **GREETINGS:**

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Cooper, in said County, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Cooper Community Center in said town on **August 23, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.**

**ARTICLE 1:** To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting. *(Paper Ballot)*

**ARTICLE 2:** To elect a **Selectman** for a term of three years. *(Paper Ballot)*  
*(general job description at end of warrant)*

**Open Seat - 2025** *(Open Seat to expire July 1, 2028)*

Kevin Mahar - 2026

David Wilson - 2027

**ARTICLE 3:** To elect a **Tax Assessor** for a term of three years. *(Paper Ballot)*  
*(general job description at end of warrant)*

**Open Seat - 2025** *(Open Tax Assessor seat expires July 1, 2028)*

Kevin Mahar - 2026

Lance Keen - 2027

**ARTICLE 4:** To elect a replacement for the open **School Board** seat for a 3-year term.  
*(Paper Ballot) (general job description at end of warrant)*

**Open Seat - 2025** *(Open Seat to expire July 1, 2028)*

Vacant Seat - 2026

Angela Donaghy - 2027

**Break for School Budget Articles 1 through 7**

**ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A M.R.S.A. SECTION 1485  
COOPER SCHOOL DEPARTMENT WARRANT ARTICLES  
FOR TOWN MEETING**

To: Laurie Pike, a resident of the Town of Cooper, County of Washington, State of Maine.

**GREETINGS:**

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of Cooper, in said County and State, qualified by law to vote in Cooper affairs, to meet at the Grange in Cooper, Maine on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August A.D., 2025 at 12:00 noon in Cooper, and then and there to act upon the following articles, to wit:

**ARTICLE 1:** To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction.

*Recommend \$ 227,696.00*

**ARTICLE 2:** To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Special Education.

*Recommend \$ 37,277.00*

**ARTICLE 3:** To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for System Administration.

*Recommend \$ 24,771.00*

**ARTICLE 4:** To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses.

*Recommend \$ 25,540.00*

**ARTICLE 5:** To see what sum the municipality will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (**Recommend \$214,303.00**) and to see what sum the municipality will raise as the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, Section 15688.

*Recommend \$ 175,985.00*

**ARTICLE 6:** Shall the Town of Cooper raise and appropriate \$80,981.00 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$80,981.00 as required to fund the budget recommended by the Cooper School Board. *(Written Ballot Required)*

The Cooper School Board recommends \$80,981.00 for additional, local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$80,981.00: The Essential Programs and Services funding model does not recognize all costs schools incur.

**ARTICLE 7:** To see what sum the municipality/district/unit will authorize the school committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 from the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

***Recommend \$ 315,284.00***

COOPER REVENUE				
FY 2026				
		2024-2025	2025-2026	Difference
1000-0000-0000-41211-000	Required Local Share	\$179,292.00	\$175,985.00	(3,307.00)
1000-0000-0000-43111-000	State Allocation	42,040.00	38,318.00	(3,722.00)
1000-0000-0000-41420-000	Transportation Meddybemps	25,000.00	20,000.00	(5,000.00)
1000-0000-0000-55000-000	Fund Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00
1000-0000-0000-41213-000	Additional Local Needed	74,243.00	80,981.00	6,738.00
	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>320,575.00</b>	<b>315,284.00</b>	<b>(5,291.00)</b>
	<b>TOTAL LOCAL</b>	<b>253,535.00</b>	<b>256,966.00</b>	<b>3,431.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL BUDGET FY26</b>	<b>320,575.00</b>	<b>315,284.00</b>	<b>(5,291.00)</b>

6/25/2025

<b>COOPER SCHOOL DEPARTMENT</b>			
<b>FY 2026 BUDGET</b>			
<b>SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>2025-2026</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
1000-0000-2310-53410-900 SCHOOL BOARD	372.00	395.00	23.00
1000-0000-2310-53460-900 AUDIT	3,500.00	4,500.00	1,000.00
1000-0000-2310-55201-900 INSURANCE-LIABILITY	500.00	500.00	-
1000-0000-2310-58100-900 DUES/STIPENDS	700.00	700.00	-
1000-0000-2320-53410-900 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE	12,666.00	11,560.00	(1,106.00)
1000-0000-2500-53410-900 BUSINESS OFFICE	6,475.00	7,116.00	641.00
<b>SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>24,213.00</b>	<b>24,771.00</b>	<b>558.00</b>

<b>TRANSPORTATION &amp; BUSES</b>	<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>2025-2026</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
1000-0000-2700-51180-900 BUS SALARIES	13,140.00	13,600.00	460.00
1000-0000-2700-52280-900 BUS SOCIAL SECURITY	950.00	1,100.00	150.00
1000-0000-2700-52680-900 BUS UNEMPLOYMENT COMP.	120.00	120.00	-
1000-0000-2700-52780-900 BUS WORKERS COMP.	800.00	800.00	-
1000-0000-2700-55100-900 BUS SERVICE	-	2,000.00	2,000.00
1000-0000-2700-55200-900 INSURANCE	420.00	420.00	-
1000-0000-2700-56260-900 FUEL	3,500.00	3,500.00	-
1000-0000-2700-56700-900 BUS PARTS AND SUPPLIES	4,000.00	4,000.00	-
1000-0000-2700-58310-900 PRINCIPLE COST OF BUS LEASE/	9,002.00	-	(9,002.00)
1000-0000-2700-58320-900 INTEREST	284.00	-	(284.00)
<b>TRANSPORTATION &amp; BUSES</b>	<b>32,216.00</b>	<b>25,540.00</b>	<b>(6,676.00)</b>

3.5%

<b>REGULAR INSTRUCTION</b>	<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>2025-2026</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
1000-1100-1000-55610-950 ELEMENTARY TUTION	158,874.00	136,000.00	(22,874.00)
1000-1200-1000-55310-990 SECONDARY TUITION	24,500.00	61,900.00	37,400.00
1000-1200-1000-55630-990 TUITION TO PRIVATE SCHOOL	39,900.00	28,200.00	(11,700.00)
1000-1200-1000-55680-990 TUITION TO PRIVATE SCHOOLS-IV	2,400.00	1,596.00	(804.00)
<b>REGULAR INSTRUCTION</b>	<b>225,674.00</b>	<b>227,696.00</b>	<b>2,022.00</b>

1 ghost

<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTION</b>	<b>2024-2025</b>	<b>2025-2026</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
1000-2200-1000-55610-950 ELEMENTARY SP ED COSTS	10,000.00	12,000.00	2,000.00
1000-2200-1000-55610-950 SECONDARY SP ED COSTS	20,000.00	14,000.00	(6,000.00)
1000-2200-1000-53440-950 CONTRACTED SERVICES	4,000.00	7,000.00	3,000.00
1000-2500-2330-53440-900 SPECIAL ED DIRECTORS OFFICE	4,472.00	4,277.00	(195.00)
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTION</b>	<b>38,472.00</b>	<b>37,277.00</b>	<b>(1,195.00)</b>

<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>320,575.00</b>	<b>315,284.00</b>	<b>(5,291.00)</b>
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**Return to Town Warrant Articles:**

**ARTICLE 5:** To see what sum the Town of Cooper will vote to **raise and appropriate** for the Marion Transfer Station to accept the **Solid Waste** of the Residents of Cooper.

*(Board recommends \$ 15,000.00)*

**Note:** The Marion Transfer Station is open Tuesday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Residents are required to have a sticker (*available from Cooper Town Clerk*) and all visitors to the station must go over the scales. ALL PEOPLE dropping off less than 100 pounds have to stop at the station office on the way out and pay a fee of \$7.00 (the so-called flat fee). The Town of Cooper will no longer pay these flat fees for residents. For questions, please call the station at 207-726-4561.

**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town of Cooper will **reduce taxes** by dedicating **State Road Assistance funds** to general capital upgrades of town roads.

**Explanation:** State Road Assistance funds must be used for maintenance and capital upgrades to town roads. This article empowers the selectmen to apply those funds as necessary. Road Assistance funds received in FY 2025 totaled \$10,772.00. This year we will be receiving 21,288.00.

*(Board recommends a Yes vote)*

**ARTICLE 7:** To see what sum the Town of Cooper will vote to **raise and appropriate** for **Summer Roads Maintenance** (*repair and upkeep of town roads*).

**Explanation:** The funds we accept (*ARTICLE 6 above*) from the State of Maine for Road Assistance are not adequate for general road maintenance.

*(Board recommends \$8,000.00 in addition to the estimated state road assistance funds we will receive)*

**ARTICLE 8:** To see what sum the Town of Cooper will **raise and appropriate** for **Winter Road Maintenance**, salt and sand for the ensuing year.

*(Board recommends \$146,000.00)*

**ARTICLE 9:** To see what sum the Town of Cooper will vote to **raise and appropriate** for improvements to the **Cooper Community Center/Grange Building**.

*(Board recommends \$25,000.00)*

**Explanation & Discussion:** The Community Center Fund has a balance of \$79,091 when the books closed for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. The next major project for completion on the building is the roof.

**ARTICLE 10:** To see what sum the Town of Cooper will **raise and appropriate** for general maintenance and improvements of town **Cemeteries** as needed.

*(Board recommends \$19,000.00) (To be used for the Evergreen, West Ridge, Overlook & Green, East Ridge and the Creamer cemeteries)*

**ARTICLE 11:** To see what sum the Town of Cooper will vote to raise and appropriate for *Animal Control*. (At this time the Town is actively looking for an Animal Control Officer (ACO) as Washington County no longer offers this service to municipalities)

*(Board recommends \$500.00)*

**ARTICLE 12:** To see what sums the Town of Cooper will vote for to establish the *Annual Salaries* of the following Municipal officials for the ensuing year. The 2024-2025 fiscal year amounts are below:

*(Board recommends \$ 54,350.00)*

Selectman 1	\$	3,000.00	
Selectman 2	\$	3,000.00	
Selectman 3	\$	3,000.00	
Assessor 1	\$	1,000.00	
Assessor 2	\$	1,000.00	
Assessor 3	\$	1,000.00	
Town Clerk	\$	4,000.00	
Tax Collector	\$	7,000.00	
Health Officer	\$	100.00	
Treasurer	\$	8,000.00	
Planning Board 1	\$	500.00	
Planning Board 2	\$	500.00	
Planning Board 3	\$	500.00	
Cemetery Sexton	\$	2,000.00	
Code Enforcement	\$	5,000.00	Plus mileage and fees
Fire Chief	\$	1,000.00	
Appointed Road Commissioner	\$	750.00	
Emergency Management Director/911	\$	1,000.00	
Certified Assessor Agent	\$	12,000.00	

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to spend up to \$88,000.00 on *Administrative Expenses* and other contingent costs for the ensuing year.

*(Board recommends to raise and appropriate \$ 44,800.00 for this purpose and in addition to the excise tax collected, and to make up any remainder from the general fund, up to a total of \$88,000)*

**ARTICLE 14:** To see what sum the Town of Cooper will vote to raise and appropriate for the Maintenance and Sanitary Services for the *Cooper Town Beach* Area.

*(Board recommends \$ 1,000.00)*

**ARTICLE 15:** To see what sum the Town of Cooper will vote to raise and appropriate for required liability, property and casualty, and workman's compensation *Insurance*.

*(Board recommends \$ 7,500.00)*

**ARTICLE 16:** To see what sum the Town of Cooper will vote to raise and appropriate for a Fire Protection contract with the Alexander Fire Department and upkeep of the *Fire Department's* building located at the auxiliary site in Cooper.

*(Board recommends \$6,500.00)*

*\$3,000.00 for the contract with Alexander*

*\$3,500.00 for upkeep and repairs to the Cooper Fire House Building*

**ARTICLE 17:** To see what sum the Town of Cooper will raise and appropriate for *General Assistance* for the ensuing year.

*(Board recommends raise and appropriate \$100.00 and if needed, take emergency payments from the surplus)*

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to pay **\$24.00 per hour** for *General Town Labor* for the ensuing year.

*(Board recommends a Yes vote)*

**Explanation:** We use the 2025/2026 table of Maine's Department of Labor Wage Rates for construction in Washington County.

**ARTICLE 19:** To see what date the Town of Cooper will vote to have all taxes due and payable and of which interest will be charged on all taxes collected thereafter.

*(Board recommends December 1)*

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to fix the interest rate on delinquent real estate and personal property taxes to be charged per day on and after the date approved in ARTICLE 19 above.

*(Board recommends 7.5%, the maximum rate allowed by Maine this year)*

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell any real estate on which the Town holds tax liens and on which the liens have foreclosed.

*(Standard article)*

*(Board recommends a Yes vote)*

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to authorize and direct the Tax Collector and Treasurer, pursuant to Title 36 Section 906 of the Maine Revised Statutes, to apply any tax payment received from an individual as payment for any property tax against outstanding or delinquent taxes due on said property in chronological order beginning with the oldest unpaid tax bill; provided however, that no such payment may be applied to any tax for which an abatement or appeal is pending unless approved in writing by the taxpayer. *(Standard article)*

*(Board recommends a Yes vote)*

**ARTICLE 23:** To see whether the Town of Cooper will vote to pass the following resolution or to take any action with respect thereto:

**RESOLVE:** The Treasurer for the Town of Cooper, with the approval of Cooper's Select Board, or a majority thereof, is hereby authorized to borrow as needed in anticipation of taxes for the upcoming taxable year commencing July 1, 2025; a total sum not to exceed \$30,000.00 and for such purpose as to issue and sell the promissory note(s) of the town; said note(s) to accrue interest; said note(s) to be payable at such date within the taxable year in which said note(s) are issued; as the Select Board, or a majority thereof, may approve to be paid out of money raised by taxation during the year. The money from the note(s) is to be used for purposes by which the Town may legally incur debt. *(Standard article)*

*(Board recommends a Yes vote)*

**ARTICLE 24:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to authorize the Select Board to spend an amount not to exceed an amount equal to two (2) months of Cooper's twelve (12) month budgeted amounts in each budget category during the period from July 1, 2025, to the date of the Cooper Annual Town Meeting. *(Standard Article)*

*(Board recommends a Yes vote)*

**ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to accept funds in the amounts and for the categories listed below as provided by the Maine State Legislature. *(Standard article with amounts shown estimated for 2025-2026)*

*(Board recommends a Yes vote)*

\$ 38,318.03	Education Subsidies
48,009.00	Municipal Revenue Sharing
21,288.00	Local Road Assistance
100.00	Snowmobile Registration Fund
622.01	Gasoline Tax Refund
15,958.00	Tree Growth Reimbursement
447.49	Veterans Reimbursement
13,458.00	Homestead Reimbursement
70%	General Assistance Reimbursement (of Town's cost)

**ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept Real Estate and Personal Property Tax payments in advance of the FY 2025/2026 commitment. *(Standard article)*

*(Board recommends a Yes vote)*

**ARTICLE 27:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to raise and appropriate \$4,332 as the yearly stipend for emergency **Ambulance** and rescue services.

*(Board recommends a Yes vote)*

**ARTICLE 28:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to authorize the Select Board to transfer the funds reimbursed to the Town by the State of Maine (*Board estimates \$100.00*) for snowmobile registration to Breakneck Mountain Snow Riders Snowmobile Club for the purpose of maintaining local trails.

*(Board recommends a Yes vote)*

**ARTICLE 29:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to raise and appropriate **an amount not to exceed a total of \$3,000.00**, subject to Board approval, for funding of third-party requests. Typical requests could come from:

- Friends of the Cooper Community Center
- American Red Cross, Pine Tree Chapter
- Cathance Lake Association
- Community Health and Counseling Services
- Eastern Area Agency on Agency
- The LifeFlight Foundation
- Washington Hancock County Agency
- Catholic Charities
- Washington County Children's Program
- WIC Program
- Washington County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Wreaths Across America

**Note:** Anyone having strong feelings for or against a certain request should bring it to the attention of the Select Board on or before the next Select Board meeting.

**ARTICLE 30:** To see if the Town of Cooper will raise and appropriate ***the amount of \$62,449.00*** for ***Washington County Tax***.

**ARTICLE 31:** To see if the voters of the Town of Cooper will authorize abatements to always be taken from commitment overlay. (*Recommended by Auditor*)

**Explanation:** Commitment overlay is supposed to be used for abatements of property taxes due to errors or mistakes with any leftover amount from overlay would go into the general fund.

**ARTICLE 32:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to authorize the Treasurer and the Select Board to make, or continue making, ***Carryover Accounts*** for the roads, town beach, cemeteries, community center, animal control officer and an account for unforeseen issues.

**ARTICLE 33:** To see if the Town of Cooper will vote to raise \$4,000.00 for the purpose of hiring a Grant Writer to prepare an application for funds to replace Cooper's 1971 Fire Truck.

*(Board recommends a Yes vote)*

**ARTICLE 34:** The Select Board for the Town of Cooper would like to apprise the town of some upcoming challenges that may affect this and future budgets. The following list is not in any particular order and may not be all inclusive. (Discussion only)

- State policy on education; Cooper Residency
- Condition and sustainability of the Cooper Community Center
- Significant increase to the County's Budget
- Potential changes to the terms of our current agreement with Downeast EMS

*Newly elected town officers will be sworn in at the end of the open town meeting.*

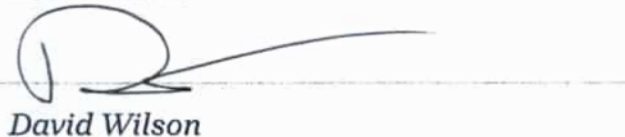
**Motion to adjourn:**

Respectfully submitted,

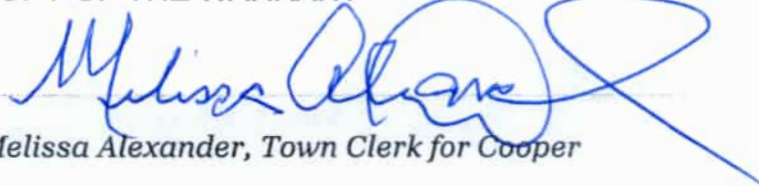
**Given under our hands, the current Board of Municipal Officers for the Town of Cooper, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2025.**

  
Jon Reisman

  
Kevin Mahar

  
David Wilson

**A TRUE COPY OF THE WARRANT**

**ATTEST:**   
Melissa Alexander, Town Clerk for Cooper

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# Municipal Operations

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**ADDRESS:** COOPER TOWN OFFICE  
425 COOPER HIGHWAY  
COOPER, ME 04657

**PHONE:** 207-454-3901

**WEBSITE:** [www.coopermaine.com](http://www.coopermaine.com)

## **BOARD MEETINGS:**

### **SELECT BOARD:**



Meets at 8:00am once a month on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month at the Town Office.  
If additional meetings are necessary, dates and times will be updated on our website

### **PLANNING BOARD:**

Meets once a month on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month, following the Select Board meetings, at the town office. Permit applications are available on the Town's website

## **CLERK & TAX COLLECTOR OFFICE HOURS:**

The Town Clerk & Tax Collector will hold regular office hours between 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM on the First and Third Saturday of each month at the Cooper Town Office. Many services can be done by regular mail, email, or by phone too, and if needed, appointments may also be scheduled outside of the regular office hours by phone.

## **VISIT THE TOWN'S WEBSITE TO FIND:**

<https://www.coopermaine.com>

- *Personal & Real Estate Tax Bills*
- *Tax Exemption Forms*
- *Current Town of Cooper Tax Maps*
- *Some History of the Town of Cooper*
- *Active Ordinances*
- *Information about Broadband Internet*
- *The Comprehensive Plan of the Town*
- *Information regarding Permits & Licenses*
- *Elections Information & Links*



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# RHR Smith Financial Audit FY2024

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**RHR Smith & Company, CPAs**  
3 Old Orchard Road  
Buxton, ME 04093  
T. 800.300.7708 | 207.929.4606  
[www.rhrsmith.com](http://www.rhrsmith.com)



*Proven Expertise & Integrity*

As of 08/09/2025, the Select Board has received only a draft of the 2024 Audit. When the report is finalized copies will be available at the Town Office or, upon request, the Clerk can email a copy of it to you.

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# ATTACHMENT A

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## Washington County Sheriff's Office

**Barry Curtis**  
Sheriff

**Michael Crabtree**  
Chief Deputy

**Richard Rolfe**  
Jail Administrator

**Paula Johnson-Rolfe**  
Office Manager



83 Court Street  
Machias, Maine 04654  
Telephone: (207) 255-4422  
Fax: (207) 255-3641

February 12, 2025

### TO THE CITIZENS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY:

As I reflect on the past year, many thoughts come to mind, including pride, progress, challenges, and optimism. I am entering my 11th year as your Sheriff. I am expressing my sincere appreciation to the citizens of Washington County for their overwhelming support and steadfast confidence in myself and the Washington County Sheriff's Office employees.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office performs vital services in four separate divisions. In 2024, our patrol division responded to 9,643 calls. They also performed daily rural patrols, spent tireless hours on critical criminal investigations, and attended numerous community and public safety activities. Our civil division serves all civil-related documents within the county and processed 925 documents in 2024. The Regional Communications Center is the public safety answering and dispatching service for fire, ambulance, and law enforcement agencies in Washington County. They answered 22,320 calls in 2024. The Washington County Jail provides a safe and secure environment for incarcerated individuals. In 2024, the Washington County Jail booked 621 individuals into their facility.

As responsibilities and volume of work have continuously increased over the last several years, personnel increased as well. The administrative offices and our civil and patrol divisions are housed in the original Sheriff's office building, built in 1858 at 83 Court Street in Machias. Unfortunately, the growth and deteriorating condition of this building are no longer adequate for our needs. Fortunately, the Washington County Commissioners recognized our needs and unanimously voted to expend ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds to construct a new facility. In April 2024, groundwork commenced at 82 Court Street in Machias, where construction will conclude by late April or early May 2025.

In closing, I express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to all the Washington County Sheriff's Office employees who take pride in their work and are committed to protecting the lives and property of the people we serve. I am immensely proud of their dedication to carrying out our mission with honor, integrity, and the highest ethical standards.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barry Curtis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "C" at the end.

Sheriff Barry Curtis

[www.washingtoncountymaine.com](http://www.washingtoncountymaine.com)

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# ATTACHMENT B

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*132<sup>nd</sup> Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 6*

*Senator Marianne Moore*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*  
*Marianne.Moore@legislature.maine.gov*

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your State Senator. It has been an honor to work on your behalf to make our state an even better place to live, work and conduct business. I assure you, I will continue to work diligently on behalf of the people of Senate District 6.

I was sworn in for my fourth term on December 4, 2024, the first day of the First Regular Session of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Maine State Legislature. It was a ceremonial day steeped in tradition and attended by families and friends of incoming members.

Many of you have reached out to me regarding concerns about the increasingly high costs of energy, childcare, housing, fears about education, mental health, substance abuse, workforce development, and community safety, among others. As your State Senator, I promise to advocate for common sense solutions to these problems.

The 132<sup>nd</sup> Maine Legislature has much work ahead of us regarding our anticipated budget gap and setting our spending priorities for the next biennium. However, I believe there is nothing we cannot accomplish if we work collaboratively. As your State Senator, I will continue to do all I can to advocate for your priorities in Augusta.

Again, thank you for re-electing me to serve you in the State Senate. Despite many successes over the past two years, lawmakers will have a lot of work to do next session. Please feel free to contact me by calling (207) 287-1505 or emailing me at [Marianne.Moore@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Marianne.Moore@legislature.maine.gov) if you have comments, questions or if you would like assistance in navigating our state's bureaucracy.

Sincerely,



Marianne Moore  
State Senator