



# Town Manager's Report to the Town Council

Submitted by:  
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May 7, 2013

*Town of Winslow - In the heart of Central Maine representing People, Pride and Progress.*

## BUDGET ORDER

The second reading of the Budget Order for FY 2014 will be conducted at the May 13th Town Council meeting. A public hearing on the budget will be held at the beginning of the meeting to give the public an opportunity to comment on the budget before the final vote is taken.

The proposed budget represents a \$654 increase from the prior year for a combined municipal and education budget of \$20,654,903. Municipal spending will decrease by \$104,646 as compared to the previous year's budget. The County Tax is expected to increase by \$9,890 which represents a 1.7% increase. Education spending is planned to increase by \$105,300 which is a 0.8% increase. The Local share for Education will increase by \$291,762 which was primarily a result of a reduction in State funding which decreased by \$177,710 from the previous year combined with a reduction in tuition revenues of \$78,752.

The property tax mil rate will remain unchanged at \$15.50 per \$1000 of valuation. Our property tax rate has been stable at \$15.50 since 2009. The total budgeted expenditures for both the Municipal and Education budget have actually decreased by \$1.6 million since 2010.

## COURT STREET LAND UPDATE

At the August 13, 2012 Council meeting the Town Council voted to sell 9.59 acres of land off of Court Street (Map 43, Lot 29), which was part of the A&B Associates subdivision plan approved in 1989 (Order #18-2012). The parcel, along with other town owned parcels, were advertised for sale in the local newspaper. The deadline to bid on the properties was Friday, August 31, 2012.

Since there were no bidders for the Court Street property we moved forward with selling portions of the property to the abutters. Town Councilor Raymond Caron's property abuts a portion of the property equaling about 0.37 acres. Although Councilor Caron wished to purchase that portion of the property from the town, state law required us to put that portion of the property out to bid. We advertised the fact that we were accepting bids for the parcel in the April 19th and April 25th addition of the Morning Sentinel with a deadline date for bids of May 3rd.

In the end Councilor Caron was the only bidder. Resolution #18-2013 in the Council packet will authorize me to accept Councilor Caron's bid of \$807.10 for the parcel of land.

## CENTRAL MAINE CATV

Central Maine CATV (CMCATV) would like to have the Town Council appoint a Winslow resident to their Board of Directors for a three year term. The appointee will be a non-voting board member and in addition the Town will not be a "Member Municipality". The appointee can be a Winslow Town Councilor as well. Their intention is to get more input from the users of their cable TV service.

I have attached a copy of CMCATV's By-Laws to give you a sense of the Board of Directors' responsibilities. We can discuss possible appointees at the Council meeting.