



SELECT BOARD / TOWN MANAGER- Several years ago, we initiated a utility fund for our community. This Power Fund is used to help residents in need with electric, heating oil, propane, wood and pellets. It has been a life saver for many Gouldsboro families. The price of utilities this year brought our fund to an all-time low. There is approximately \$1,400 in the fund and is supported by donations. If you are able to share and make a donation (small or large) please send it payable to: Power Fund, Town of Gouldsboro – PO Box 68 – Prospect Harbor, ME 04669.

Our housing survey is underway. Camoine Associate representatives scheduled a start date within the next several weeks and hope to have the study completed within a few months. The process will include setting up focus groups and creating lists of employers in our area. Maine Heritage Trust purchased approximately 100 acres in Gouldsboro with preliminary conversations to include future possibilities for our community to purchase a portion of this property for this project.

The past three years voters supported adding to our Buildings and Grounds Reserve and earmark funds to re-shingle the fire station in South Gouldsboro (#2) and the one on Walter's Road (#3). This spring we plan to accept bids for fire station #2.

Manager Update: After we contacted a New Hampshire Recruitment Agency and they revealed the pool of qualified candidates for this position is "horrible" we decided to try another time in placing several ads throughout New England and the International Town and City Manager's Association. This resulted in over a dozen new applicants and we have started interviewing for the position once again.

As budget season begins, we are starting with a set of guidelines to aid the budget committee, select board and town manager. Our first meeting will be held in February with the select board to review department head requests for needed equipment that is not typically in an annual budget. The regular budget committee meetings will begin in March. They will be posted on our website. We invite all residents to attend and please feel free to call the town manager or a board member with questions.

Up for bid now: Three-year contract to harvest alewives from West Bay Pond Stream. Sealed bids are due February 21st.

TOWN CLERK – All dogs that have not been registered by January 31st are now subject to a state mandated late fee of \$25 plus the normal licensing fee of \$6, if spayed or neutered, or \$11 if not. If your dog is deceased, please call us and let us know. ***REMINDER*** The Town Office will be closed February 19th in observance of President's Day. Trailers that are over 2,000 lbs have an expiration date of February.

Due to the storm, there has been damage to roads around the Gouldsboro area. Please be cautious!

GOULDSBORO POLICE DEPT- We would like to welcome Tim Pfaff to the Gouldsboro Police Department. Tim grew up in Philadelphia. He has over a decade of Fire/EMS service, as well as 2 years as a correctional officer. He will be testing at the academy for his green pin to patrol.

GOULDSBORO FIRE DEPT- With up and down temperatures it would be a good idea to keep your chimneys cleaned. NFPA recommends to clean them twice a year! Remember to keep vents and propane tanks cleared from snow. Walk ways, driveways cleared and sanded, to prevent slips and falls.

DORCAS LIBRARY- Join us at Dorcas Library in February for brand new DVDs and books. Did you know that we get around 20 new books every month? The knitting group with Cyndi meets Thursday, February 1st, 15th and 29th at 2PM. Story Hour with Liz will be Thursdays, February 1st, 15th and 29th at 10:15AM. The Writers with Merry meet on Thursday, February 8th at 1PM. Qigong will be every Monday at 9AM either at the Library or Dorcas+. We will be closed on Monday, February 19, 2024 for Presidents Day. Please check our Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/dorcaslibrary/> for weather related closings.

GOULDSBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY- The Historical Society would like to document the severe damage caused by the storms of January 10th and 13th for historical purposes i.e. current history just as it is being made! Before and after photos are especially welcome. We are requesting anyone with photos or other documents to forward them to our email: gouldsborohistoricalsociety@gmail.com or to our website: gouldsborohistory.org. Any donations are greatly appreciated.

SCHOODIC FOOD PANTRY- (See insert) Every Tuesday and Friday for the past year volunteers arrive at the Schoodic Food Pantry on US Route one around 6AM to prepare for the day. Between 7:30AM – 8AM more volunteers arrive with donations from the grocery stores of Milbridge and Winter Harbor. At times the room is full of people from Gouldsboro and several nearby towns renewing old friendships and filling their bags. A chat table with coffee and hot chocolate awaits those who want to sit and hang out for a while. As the clients leave their bags are weighted and recorded. At 11AM the pantry closes. Currently the pantry serves about 60 people each day with over 1,000lbs of food going out to the families of Downeast. People frequently ask what we need for the Food Pantry, and we are quick to say, "Everything," which is not always helpful. We purchase most of the food on our shelves and are so grateful for the food donations we receive. We are launching a special food drive for the month of February. To make it easier for anyone who would like to help us stock the shelves with the food those who come to us are looking for, we have created a list of the most needed food items and attached it to a brown paper grocery bag. You can find these bags at Dorcas Library, and the Gouldsboro Town Office. Please give what you can and return your bag to Schoodic Food Pantry or the place where you picked it up.

HARDY'S FRIENDS- In addition to providing assistance with veterinary bills with insuring that no one in our community faces the decision to surrender a family pet because they can't afford to feed it or provide necessary medication, Hardy's Friends also stocks the shelves at the Schoodic Food Pantry twice each week with canned and dry cat and dog food. Your donation of these items - any brand of canned food and small bags of Purina cat and dog chow - will help us continue this work. We are so grateful to the many members of our communities who have given so generously to us.

CODE ENFORCEMENT- All new sheds and out buildings NEED a town permit.

Following our most recent storms, we have received a number of inquires regarding permitting to repair/replace shoreland structures, shoreland stabilization and damaged tree removal. Work completed within the shoreland zone requires either local and/or state DEP permits. If you have questions regarding damage from our most recent storms, please reach out to our Code Enforcement Officer, Mike Connors, ceo@gouldsborotown.com.

CODE ENFORCEMENT- New building permits issued		
NAME	ADDRESS	PROJECT TYPE
Patrick Knowles	809 South Gouldsboro Road	Shed
Seaside Landscaping	381 Route One	New Construction

RSU 24- The domestic water cistern project, one of the major pieces to be completed with the new building project, continues to progress. The tank has been set and much of the ground work is complete. Once the outside temperatures warm up, we will be able to connect the cistern to the building. To this point, we seem to be on target for an April/May completion to this part of the project. This will leave the athletic playing fields as the major piece to be completed! **Please note that we have made a change in the dates for our budget workshops.** The workshops will now take place on Tuesday evenings and the following dates have been established for this work: January 30th, February 13th and 27th, March 12th and 26th, and April 9th. These meetings start at 6:30PM, at the District Services Facility, and the public is welcome. At each meeting, specific components of our school budget will be presented for the Budget and finance committee consideration. At our February 13th meeting, we will be presenting our individual school budgets to the committee. At the February 27th meeting, we will present District-Wide Education Programs (Special Education, ELL, Gifted and Talented, Instructional Technology, etc.) to the committee. The materials to be discussed will be posted on the RSU Business and Finance Webpage (prior to each meeting), found under the Departments tab of the rsu24.org website. Sumner Principal Mr. Green has announced that Jessika Bridges, a senior at Sumner Memorial High School and a resident of Prospect Harbor, has been honored with the prestigious 2024 Principal's Award. Jessika is the daughter of Elizabeth and Gary Grovogel, of Prospect Harbor, and Richard Bridges and Sally Stanley, of Gouldsboro. This distinguished award, sponsored by the Maine Principals' Association, recognizes Jessika's outstanding academic accomplishments and commendable citizenship. Congratulations Jessika! Thank you for your continued support of the school district.

CALENDAR OF TOWN EVENTS AND MEETINGS FOR FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 1 st	THURSDAY	SELECT BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	5PM
FEBRUARY 6 th	TUESDAY	PLANNING BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	6PM
FEBRUARY 15 th	THURSDAY	SELECT BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	5PM
FEBRUARY 19 th	MONDAY	TOWN OFFIC WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVATION OF PRESIDENTS' DAY	ALL DAY
FEBRUARY 20 th	TUESDAY	PLANNING BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	6PM
FEBRUARY 29 th	THURSDAY	SLECT BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	5PM

Schoodic Food Pantry

Food Needs:

Canned Peas

Canned Carrots

Canned Corn

Canned Beets

Canned Potatoes

Canned Baked Beans

Canned Pasta sauces

Canned Pasta

(Beefaroni, Spaghetti-o's,
Etc)

Canned Meats and Fish

Luncheon meat, Spam,

Potted Meat, Chicken,

Tuna, Sardines,

Corned Beef,

Corned Beef Hash

Hamburger or Tuna Helper

Rice-A-Roni, Pasta Roni

Instant Mashed Potatoes

Pancake Mix

Cake Mixes

Pancake Syrup

Canned Evaporated Milk

Pudding and Jello Mixes

Canned Soups

Canned Pears

Canned Peaches

Canned Pineapple

Ketchup

Mayonnaise

Mustard

Peanut Butter

Jam

Jelly

Breakfast Cereals

(No Oatmeal)

Paper Towels

Toilet Paper

Facial Tissues

Shampoo

Bar Soap

Dish Detergent

Laundry Soap

Toothpaste

Tooth Brushes

CANNOT ACCEPT EXPIRED FOODS



**The State of Maine
Presidential Primary
Election will be held on
Tuesday, March 5th,
2024. Polls will be open
from 8AM – 8PM at the
Gouldsboro Rec.
Center, 679 Pond Road**

**in Gouldsboro. Please remember, Unenrolled, Democratic, and Republican
enrollments are the **ONLY** parties with the Primary Election, there are no
referendum questions on the ballot. Absentee ballots will be available starting
Monday, February 5th,2024. Closed period for new voters, and party changes
will begin Friday, February 16th, 2024, at the end of business day.**

Need to Register to Vote? The Registrar will be at the Polls on March 5th, 2024.

Gouldsboro voters can obtain an absentee ballot 3 ways:

- 1) Order via website <https://www1.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl>.**
- 2) Deliver or mail an absentee request form to the Town Office. Go to <https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/upcoming/index.html> for the form.**
- 3) Call the Town Office at 963-5589 to request.**

We are also looking for Election Clerks for March 5th, 2024, as well as future elections. If you're interested, please reach out to Rachel at the Gouldsboro Town office for more information.