

Tammy Hodgman

From: Robert J. Burns
Sent: Tuesday, August 19, 2025 9:51 AM
To: Tammy Hodgman
Subject: FW: County Updates
Attachments: BP-70C31_20250815_122743.pdf

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Include as council correspondence please for Sept. 9th meeting.

Robert Burns
Town Manager | rjburns@windhammaine.us
Town of Windham | Office of the Town Manager
8 School Road | Windham, ME 04062 | www.windhammaine.us
Ph. 207.892.1907 Ext. 1129 | Fax 207.892-1910

From: Jim Gailey <gailey@cumberlandcounty.org>
Sent: Friday, August 15, 2025 12:27 PM
To: Thomas Hall <thall@scarboroughmaine.org>; Donald Kasprzak <dkasprzak@bridgtonmaine.org>; Diane Barnes <dbarnes@northyarmouth.org>; Jim Gailey <gailey@cumberlandcounty.org>; Patrick Fox <patrick.fox@capeelizabeth.org>; Danielle West <dwest@portlandmaine.gov> <dwest@portlandmaine.gov>; Debbie Wakefield <dwakefieldbaldwin@yahoo.com>; Joseph Crocker <town.manager@raymondmaine.org>; Sophia Wilson <swilson@freeportmaine.com>; Brian Dudley <townadmin@townoflongisland.us>; Viktoria Wood <TownAdmin@townofchebeagueisland.org>; William Kerbin Jr. <townmanager@newgloucester.com>; Kristi Eiane <keiane@town.harpswell.me.us>; tpinkham <tpinkham@standish.org>; Jerre Bryant <jbryant@westbrook.me.us>; Robert J. Burns <rjburns@windhammaine.us>; Scott Morelli <SMorelli@southportland.org>; Nathan Poore <npoore@falmouthme.org>; Georgiann M Fleck <[gmflex@bridgtonmaine.org](mailto:gmfleck@bridgtonmaine.org)>; Becky Taylor Chase <administrator@pownalmaine.org>; Scott Laflamme <slaflamme@yarmouth.me.us>; Tony Ward <award@cascomaine.org>; Bradley Plante <townmanager@harrisonmaine.org>; Bill Giroux <townmanager@townofnaples.org>; Michele Bukovechas <townmanager@townofsebago.org>; Matthew Sturgis <msturgis@cumberlandmaine.com>; Bill Braun <bill.braun@fryeislandtown.org>; Dena Libner <dlibner@portlandmaine.gov>; Michael Foley <mfoley@graymaine.org>; Ephrem Paraschak <eparaschak@gorham.me.us> <eparaschak@gorham.me.us>; Julia Henze <jhenze@brunswickme.org>
Subject: County Updates

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Good Afternoon

I want to bring a few important updates to the town's attention:

****EMA Funds****

We are currently reviewing the Terms & Conditions for the upcoming year's EMA funding. The Department of Homeland Security has added new language regarding immigration and DEI to the HSGP project

funding, which will require careful consideration and discussion with the Commissioners and Sheriff. These sections could have implications for local towns that become subrecipients under the County's program. The County has not yet signed any agreement and is working with MEMA for more information. I will provide further updates on this topic as they become available.

****Tax Scam Letter****

I've attached a scam letter we received from a Portland resident. This letter demands money to prevent property seizure and uses a fabricated letterhead from "Tax Processing Unit, Cumberland County Public Judgement Records." Please be vigilant and look out for similar letters, as this is a scam.

****New Assistant County Manager****

We are excited to announce that Breana Gersen will be joining our team as the new Assistant County Manager later this month. Breana was selected from over 90 applicants. She comes to us from the Maine Municipal Association, where she worked for fourteen years in their legal department, advising towns and cities across Maine on legal and legislative matters. Breana, a resident of Falmouth, has extensive experience working with selectboards, councils, town managers, and clerks, providing assistance and training. She has also served on Falmouth's Long Range Planning Committee and the City of Portland's Land Bank Commission.

****Fire/EMS Coordinator****

Following the October 2024 Fire Chief/Town Manager strategic planning session, the group prioritized hiring a Fire/EMS Coordinator to enhance training, hiring, and regional collaborations among fire departments. A selection committee of five fire chiefs (Cole, Bernard, Libby, Robitaille, and Small) recommended Bill Dingee for the position. This will be a new program that will be developed through Bill working with the region's chief's. The County will be establishing an Advisory Committee made up of seven Chief Fire Officers to help guide the needs of the region. Bill is a career firefighter from CT and NY and is currently a fire instructor at the Maine Fire Service Institute and a Faculty member at SMCC Fire Service Department.

It was great to see many of you at the Maine Town, County and City Managers Association conference this week.

Jim

James H. Gailey
County Manager
Cumberland County
27 Northport Drive
Portland, Maine 04103
207-699-1904
gailey@cumberlandcounty.org



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