



SED CO

Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday – March 16, 2023

8:00am – 9:30am

This Meeting is in Person (Hybrid Option Available)

3rd Floor at SEDCO Office Building

Meeting Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Brief Round Table with Members
- III. Approvals
 - a. Meeting Summary
 - b. Financial Report
 - c. 2024 Budget
 - d. Vice President Election
- IV. Updates & Discussion
 - a. Update on Sewer Permit Limitations due to Sludge Disposal
 - b. Legislative Update
 - c. Location of 2023 Annual Meeting
 - d. Subcommittee on Small Business Resource HUB
 - e. Annual Taxable Sales Data for 2022
- V. Adjourn

ONLINE Meeting Location:

For Board Members/Liaisons – Board members may choose to sign in as panelists if they cannot be in person. Please let Magda know. All Members will receive a login the day before the meeting.

For Guests: please go to:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KQhbXFmJSCuxiHi2LtkyZA



Meeting Summary

SEDCO Board of Directors Meeting

February 16, 2023

Call to Order

Chair Jonathan Crasnick called the February 16, 2023, meeting of the SEDCO Board of Directors to order at 8:05am with the following members in attendance: Jon Crasnick, Travis Kennedy, Jason Perkins, Helen Cella, Allen Paul, and Rick Shinay in person. Jim Hartley was present via Zoom. A quorum of the board was declared. Also in attendance were: Town Manager Tom Hall, Councilor Liaison Nick McGee via Zoom, Andrea Killiard, Strategic Plan Subcommittee, Executive Director Karen Martin, and Economic Coordinator Magdalena Slawiec. The meeting was held at 360 US Route One, Third Floor Conference Room.

Round table Discussion

- Interest rate uncertainty, starting to affect lending.
- According to a recent presentation, UNE President has a focus on identifying majors that lead to jobs. They have highest job placements.
- Retail, Perks Beverages – January was better than expected. Seems like that there are a lot of gatherings. Obtained new hard liquor license in September and started wholesaling to bars and restaurants.
- Affordable housing and homelessness challenges. GPCOG is coming up with transitional housing – temporary housing for 2 years for new Mainers and asylum seekers.
- Town is finalizing the Draft budget for presentation to Town Council.
- Marijuana establishments in Scarborough – around 50 establishments. Challenges: odor and concentration of cultivators. SEDCO needs to do some work on what the industry looks like, its future and economic impact on community.
- Search for the new school building site is challenging.
- Housing problem – businesses that want to do business in Scarborough are not able find places for their employees to live.
- Staffing problems continue – establishments are open fewer hours due to open positions.
- Rate of Growth Ordinance – New concept presented in Workshop to Council on Feb 15. Good feedback from Council. Council corner meeting – March 2 and workshop.
- Need for agency nurses - assisted living & nursing homes are struggling and are not able to afford nurses at their facilities (a lot of nurses are retiring).
- Loyal companion – change of ownership.
- Seafood – great holiday season, January a little bit slower, fair pricing. Smoke house - shelf-life test still needed, state inspection, FDA approval. Building cost – doubled

Approvals - Minutes & Budget

The December 2022 Meeting Summary and January Financial Report were moved seconded and approved by the Board. All were in favor.

Draft Budget

SEDCO draft budget is due to the Town Manager next week. As soon as we receive salary numbers, we will send it to the Board for the approval. Full Board approval – March meeting.

Vision Committee Summit Proposal

Vision Committee is planning on having another All Boards & Committee Summit this year. The goal is to get all the Town committees and boards together at the same table. Agenda will focus on progress by the committees on Council Goals. The meeting is scheduled for May or June of 2023.

Revision to Outdoor Storage Definition

The proposed revisions would remove commercial vehicles from outdoor storage. For businesses that have four or fewer vehicles, those vehicles can be parked on site without having to be in a structure. For commercial fleets of more than four vehicles, they will need to show the Planning Board, during site plan, how they will screen the vehicles. The larger fleets would not necessarily have to be in a structure, but they must park in an area to the rear or side of the building and incorporate appropriate screening/buffering/fencing so that vehicles are not easily observed from the street.

Rate of Growth Ordinance

Karen had a constructive and honest session with Scarborough housing developers in January. (Comments from developers were sent earlier in the email)

- Developers are worried that existing ordinance does not align with the zoning ordinance.
- Developers were concerned about predictability – they may get all town approvals but are not guaranteed permits to build.
- Housing developers feel like they made significant investments in the community, that go unrecognized
- Not too much land left to develop, so why do we need the rate of growth ordinance
- Comments:
 - How do we balance rate of growth with affordable and workforce housing?
 - Looking at different zoning tools.
 - At some point we will need to go up in height for buildings because of lack of land.

2023 Annual Meeting

Staff is looking for board input on where the next SEDCO Board Meeting should be held. Should we stay with Black Point Inn or rotate with Highland Greenhouse? We also need to find a better audio system. SEDCO will ask membership where they would like to have an event.

Subcommittee on Small Business Resource HUB

The subcommittee was set up to develop digital business hub. Jason and Jim will join the subcommittee.

MEREDA Highlights

- Low vacancy rates
- Retail – strong
- Industrial – demand continues to be strong, but rates may be leveling off
- Office – a little bit of vacancy, a lot of companies are still deciding what to do – hybrid, work from home, come back to the office?
- Housing – is still a major focus
- Demand for Marijuana cultivation space may be leveling off
- Residential – Biddeford and Auburn see a lot of growth.

Grant: Understanding Homelessness

Karen, working with Lauren Dembski- Martin (Police Department's Social Services Navigator) submitted a small grant to help us understand homelessness in our community. Half of the grant will be spent on social workers out in the field. The other half will be spent on policy development. The grant is through the Federal Community Development Block Grant Program administered for our area by Cumberland County. Final decision should come in May, with a start date of July 2023.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:30AM. Motion to adjourn was made by Jon and seconded by Travis.

SEDCO Budget Statement: FY 2023

INCOME/REVENUES (Based on Invoices)	2023 Budget	Transactions to Date	% of Budget	Remainder	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-22
Other Revenues (ads, partnerships, sublease, sponsorship)	\$ 9,500	\$ 10,098	106%	\$ (598)	\$ 1,500	\$ 4,430	\$ 3,004	\$ 366	\$ 4	\$ 785	\$ 5	\$ 4				
Town of Scarborough (TOS) - Staffing	\$ 225,128	\$ 150,088	67%	\$ 75,040	\$ 18,761	\$ 18,761	\$ 18,761	\$ 18,761	\$ 18,761	\$ 18,761	\$ 18,761	\$ 18,761				
TOS - Marketing	\$ 13,500	\$ -	0%	\$ 13,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
TOS - Contracted Services	\$ 29,460	\$ 14,734	50%	\$ 14,726	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,734	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
INCOME TOTAL	\$ 277,588	\$ 174,920	63%	\$ 102,668												
EXPENSES																
Staffing	\$ 168,312	\$ 112,208	67%	\$ 56,104	\$ 14,026	\$ 14,026	\$ 14,026	\$ 14,026	\$ 14,026	\$ 14,026	\$ 14,026	\$ 14,026				
FICA	\$ 10,300	\$ 6,864	67%	\$ 3,436	\$ 858	\$ 858	\$ 858	\$ 858	\$ 858	\$ 858	\$ 858	\$ 858				
Medicare	\$ 2,410	\$ 1,608	67%	\$ 802	\$ 201	\$ 201	\$ 201	\$ 201	\$ 201	\$ 201	\$ 201	\$ 201				
Dental Ins	\$ 265	\$ 176	66%	\$ 89	\$ 22	\$ 22	\$ 22	\$ 22	\$ 22	\$ 22	\$ 22	\$ 22				
Long Term Disability	\$ 850	\$ 568	67%	\$ 282	\$ 71	\$ 71	\$ 71	\$ 71	\$ 71	\$ 71	\$ 71	\$ 71				
Health Ins	\$ 25,208	\$ 16,808	67%	\$ 8,400	\$ 2,101	\$ 2,101	\$ 2,101	\$ 2,101	\$ 2,101	\$ 2,101	\$ 2,101	\$ 2,101				
Pension	\$ 16,983	\$ 11,320	67%	\$ 5,663	\$ 1,415	\$ 1,415	\$ 1,415	\$ 1,415	\$ 1,415	\$ 1,415	\$ 1,415	\$ 1,415				
Unemployment Comp	\$ 200	\$ 136	68%	\$ 64	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 17				
Workers Comp	\$ 600	\$ 400	67%	\$ 200	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50				
Staffing Subtotal	\$ 225,128	\$ 150,088	67%	\$ 75,040												
Marketing/Attraction of Scarborough - SEDCO	\$ 13,500	\$ 1,797	13%	\$ 11,703	\$ -	\$ 297	\$ 380	\$ 400	\$ 300	\$ 360	\$ 60	\$ -				
Marketing/Attraction of region		\$ -		\$ -												
Marketing/Attraction Subtotal	\$ 13,500	\$ 1,797	13%	\$ 11,703	\$ -	\$ 297	\$ 380	\$ 400	\$ 300	\$ 360	\$ 60	\$ -				
Rent & Cleaning	\$ 8,910	\$ 5,920	66%	\$ 2,990	\$ 740	\$ 740	\$ 740	\$ 740	\$ 740	\$ 740	\$ 740	\$ 740				
Utilities (Phone, Cell, Internet)	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,080	59%	\$ 1,420	\$ 260	\$ 260	\$ 260	\$ 260	\$ 260	\$ 260	\$ 260	\$ 260				
Meetings/education/conferences/travel	\$ 2,500	\$ 508	20%	\$ 1,992	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 102	\$ 60	\$ 89	\$ -	\$ 227	\$ 30				
Office Supplies + Technology	\$ 8,000	\$ 3,728	47%	\$ 4,272	\$ -	\$ 353	\$ 808	\$ 380	\$ 697	\$ 482	\$ 245	\$ 763				
Organization Dues/Subscriptions	\$ 2,250	\$ 1,965	87%	\$ 285	\$ -	\$ 38	\$ 452	\$ 340	\$ 165	\$ 315	\$ 640	\$ 15				
Events	\$ 8,500	\$ 7,971	94%	\$ 529	\$ -	\$ 276	\$ 7,695	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -				
Professional Expenses	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,125	106%	\$ (125)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,125	\$ -	\$ -				
MMA (insurance)	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,126	95%	\$ 174	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,588	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 538	\$ -				
Reserve																
Contracted Services/Operating Budget	\$ 38,960	\$ 27,423	70%	\$ 11,537	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,391	\$ 2,638	\$ 12,063	\$ 1,951	\$ 3,922	\$ 2,650	\$ 1,808	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$ 277,588	\$ 179,308	65%	\$ 98,280	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,688	\$ 3,018	\$ 12,463	\$ 2,251	\$ 3,922	\$ 2,710	\$ 1,808	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Net Budget

Reviewed by: _____

SEDCO Budget: DRAFT FY 2024 as of Feb 24, 2022

	FY 2024 Budget	FY 2023 Actual	Change FY23 to FY24	% Change FY 23 to FY 24
INCOME/REVENUES				
Other Revenues (ads, partnerships, sublease, sponsors)	\$ 10,000	\$ 8,970	\$ 1,030	11.5%
Town of Scarborough - Staffing	\$ 241,582	\$ 225,626	\$ 15,956	7.1%
TOS - Marketing	\$ 13,500	\$ 13,500	\$ -	0.0%
Town of Scarborough - Contracted Services	\$ 29,430	\$ 29,460	\$ (30)	-0.1%
INCOME TOTAL	\$ 294,512	\$ 277,556	\$ 16,956	6.1%
EXPENSES				
Staffing	\$ 180,836	\$ 169,070	\$ 11,766	7.0%
FICA	\$ 10,946	\$ 10,209	\$ 737	7.2%
Medicare	\$ 2,560	\$ 2,389	\$ 171	7.2%
Dental Ins	\$ 556	\$ 265	\$ 291	109.8%
Long Term Disability	\$ 905	\$ 843	\$ 62	7.4%
Health Ins	\$ 26,894	\$ 25,208	\$ 1,686	6.7%
Pension	\$ 18,085	\$ 16,842	\$ 1,243	7.4%
Unemployment Comp	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ -	0.0%
Workers Comp	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ -	0.0%
Staffing Subtotal	\$ 241,582	\$ 225,626	\$ 15,956	7.1%
Marketing/Attraction Subtotal	\$ 13,500	\$ 13,500	\$ -	0.0%
Events Subtotal	\$ 9,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 1,000	12.5%
Rent & Cleaning	\$ 8,880	\$ 8,880	\$ -	0.0%
Utilities (Phone, Cell, Internet)	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ -	0.0%
Meetings/Education/Conferences	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ -	0.0%
Office Supplies + Technology	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ -	0.0%
Organization Dues/Subscriptions	\$ 2,250	\$ 2,250	\$ -	0.0%
Professional Expenses (Audit review)	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,000	\$ 200	10.0%
MMA	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,300	\$ (200)	-6.1%
Operating Expenses	\$ 30,430	\$ 30,430	\$ -	0.0%
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$ 294,512	\$ 277,556	\$ 16,956	6.1%
Income Total - Expense Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Revenues from Town (Income Total - Other Revenues)	\$ 284,512	\$ 268,586	\$ 15,926	5.9%

Town Budget Summary

Expenditures	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2022	FY 2021	FY24- FY23	FY24- FY23
	Budget	Actual	Budget		Change	% Change
Wages & Benefits (2 Staff members)	\$ 241,582	\$ 225,626	\$ 216,206	\$ 208,606	\$ 15,956	7.1%
Operating and Marketing SUBTOTAL	\$ 42,930	\$ 42,960	\$ 42,120	\$ 31,294	\$ (30)	-0.1%
<i>Marketing & Communication</i>	\$ 13,500	\$ 13,500	\$ 13,500	\$ 7,544	\$ -	0.0%
<i>Contractual Services (Operating Budget)</i>	\$ 29,430	\$ 29,460	\$ 28,620	\$ 23,750	\$ (30)	-0.1%
Services & Charges						
Supplies						
Property						
Other Costs						
Total SEDCO from Municipality	\$ 284,512	\$ 268,586	\$ 258,326	\$ 239,900	\$ 15,926	5.9%

Prepared for SEDCO Board Review - February 24, 2023

No immediate solution to Maine's sludge problem

pressherald.com/2023/03/01/no-immediate-solution-to-maines-sludge-problem/

By Penelope Overton

March 2, 2023



David Hughes, superintendent of the Scarborough Sanitary District, expressed relief Wednesday after a tractor-trailer carted away 30 tons of sludge, but asked: “What about next time?” Scarborough is one of roughly three dozen Maine sewer plants that send sludge to Juniper Ridge, a state-owned landfill in Old Town that has sharply reduced the amount of sludge it is accepting. *Brianna Soukup/Staff Photographer*

Supervisor David Hughes breathed a sigh of relief when a tractor-trailer rolled into the Scarborough sewer plant Wednesday morning to haul away 30 tons of sludge, clearing the way for the plant to resume normal operations and narrowly averting a potential public health disaster.

“I was hours away from having to pick a violation: a plant failure or a sludge dump,” Hughes said. “The truck showed up in time today, but what about next time? The driver couldn’t tell me when he’d be back. I can’t be holding my breath every couple of days.”

Hughes could fill the empty sludge trailer the driver left with the goopy, mud-like leftovers of the sewage treatment process by Friday. His backup storage tanks could hold another trailer full. He’ll be right back in the same situation if the sludge hauler doesn’t return Monday.

Scarborough is one of about three dozen Maine sewer plants that send their sludge to Juniper Ridge, a state-owned landfill in Old Town operated by a subsidiary of Casella Resource Solutions. Last week, Casella decided that it was no longer safe to bury all of that sludge at Juniper Ridge.

Related

Landfill stops accepting sludge, putting Maine sewer plants in bind

Without enough dry material to bulk it up, the sludge will pancake and the landfill could collapse, Casella told its customers. To prevent that, Casella is cutting the volume of sludge landfilled there each month by 60 percent.

Casella is now trucking 4,000 tons of Maine sludge – which equates to about 130 truckloads – to New Brunswick, Canada. That is causing long, risky delays in between Casella’s contracted sludge pickups and driving up disposal costs for most of Casella’s clients.

Some Maine environmental groups claim that it doesn’t have to be this way. They claim Casella didn’t have to cut back sludge disposal at Juniper Ridge, doesn’t have to truck Maine sludge to Canada, and isn’t trying to look for sustainable long-term sludge disposal solutions.

“Casella is not being a helpful partner to the towns,” said Sarah Nichols of the Natural Resources Council of Maine. “Casella didn’t have to shut down Juniper Ridge. There are things I know they could do and probably a lot more that I don’t. The question is: why aren’t they doing it?”

For example, Casella likes to use oversized bulky waste to thicken up the sludge, which makes it safer to bury in the landfill, but a new state law that banned the landfilling of out-of-state waste has reduced the volume of Casella’s preferred bulking agent by 15 percent.



An employee of Ferreira Trucking gets ready to head off after pumping a load of sewage sludge from Scarborough Sanitary District on Wednesday. *Brianna Soukup/Staff Photographer*

But Nichols notes that oversized bulky waste is just one way to add structural stability to sludge. Other landfill managers use soil, gravel, woody debris, construction debris, and municipal solid waste to safely bulk up sludge – materials that Juniper Ridge is still receiving in abundance.

Casella could buy a tarp to cover the top of its landfill each night instead of using a new batch of soil to do it, Nichols said – soil that Casella could be used, and reused, to bulk up and safely bury more sludge from municipal wastewater treatment plants.

Nichols blasts Casella for using the sludge disposal fee hikes it is charging municipalities to lobby for an appeal of Maine's new laws that ban sludge spreading and out-of-state garbage from state-owned landfills instead of looking for a long-term solution to the forever chemical problem.

Maine banned the spreading and composting of sludge last year to prevent the continued spread of forever chemicals, a dangerous class of heat and water-resistant chemicals, in the state's drinking water, its farmlands, and locally grown food, game and fish.

The state is requiring public water and wastewater plant operators to test for these chemicals, or PFAS, which have been linked to cancer, kidney malfunction, immune system suppression, and pre-eclampsia in pregnant women. Full results won't be available until later this year.

In correspondence with its customers, however, Casella admits it is using some disposal fee hikes to build markets for Maine sludge – at least some of which is known to have unsafe PFAS levels – in states and countries with environmental laws that are not as strict as Maine's.

Related

Latest impact of PFAS contamination: Rising sewer rates

“Moving forward, Casella will have to bear the considerable cost of developing new markets for the compost in southern New England, New York and Canada,” a Casella director wrote to the manager of the Brunswick Sewer District last May.

Nichols likens that approach to kicking the can down the road. Eventually, those states, or countries, will wise up, stop accepting the sludge of others and start adopting laws like Maine's to tackle the PFAS problem head-on, Nichols said.

A Casella spokesman was not available Wednesday afternoon to respond to Nichols' claims. On Tuesday, when contacted about Juniper Ridge's changing sludge policy, the spokesman blamed the difficult situation facing local sewer plant operators on the new state laws.

“What we are seeing is the direct result of the passing of two diametrically opposed bills,” he said.

It is unclear what happens to the U.S. sludge once haulers truck it to New Brunswick – in some provinces, sludge is still spread as fertilizer, while in others, it is burned or landfilled. Canadian and provincial officials did not respond to requests for information about sludge handling policies.

Three years ago, Scarborough was paying Casella about \$200,000 a year to haul away its sludge, either to be composted at Hawk Ridge Composting Facility or landfilled at Juniper Ridge. But new laws that prohibited sludge composting or spreading doubled that cost.

The cost of hauling the sludge to Canada is now going to drive that cost up even higher to \$600,000 a year, Hughes said. To cover that, Scarborough is going to have to dip into its reserves, which is money usually saved for repairs or equipment purchases.

Hughes had his eye on some new high-tech dryers that could possibly reduce how much sludge he must now send to New Brunswick. Until then, however, Hughes and other sewer plant operators are being forced to consider other options, like refusing to sign off on any new sewer hook-ups.

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[Court deals blow to \\$500 million fish farm plans on Midcoast mud flats](#)

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TO: SEDCO Board
FROM: Karen Martin, SEDCO Executive Director
DATE: 10 March 2023
SUBJECT: **Taxable Retail Sales**

Annual Taxable Sales in Scarborough for 2022 indicate that we are 22.2% above pre-pandemic levels (2019). Total Taxable Sales increased to \$783,786, 432, an increase of \$142 million since 2019. Please note that Total Taxable Sales declined from 2019 to 2020, thus the 22.2% increase from 2019 to 2022 represents recovery of that loss and then some.

While we are watching all sales categories, lodging sales are of particular interest. This category suffered a 31.5% loss between 2019 and 2020. Restaurant sales declined by 22.3% during this period. As of 2022 both industries have added sales above and beyond their 2019 levels. As of 2022, the restaurant taxable sales increased 23.7% beyond their 2019 levels, while lodging increased 15.1% above 2019 levels.

While the recovery of our restaurant and lodging sales is welcome news, it should be noted that for lodging, the increases are not that much higher than the rate of inflation. Accounting for inflation, the increase is 3.6% between 2019 and 2022 (Using the CPI Inflation Calculator).

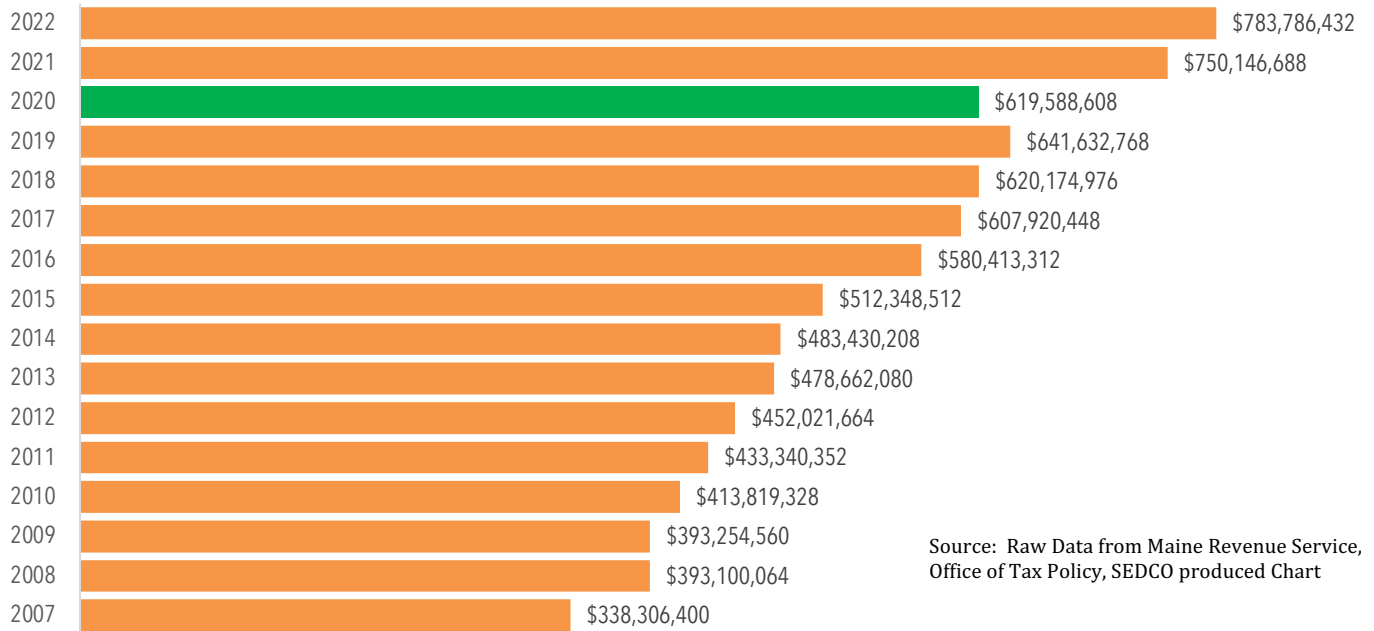
Still, that's a positive increase, and that's a win.

The biggest increase in sales, by far, was in the automobile & transportation category, which increased 92.6% since 2019. Building Supplies was another category that increased – 30.5%.

One category that was a bit of an anomaly was a category known as "Other Retail". This category includes specialty retail like pharmacies, shoe stores and other smaller stores. This category shot up in 2021 and then dropped down below 2019 levels in 2022. I am following up with the State to better understand this change.

One last item to note: Scarborough generated \$46.1 million in sales taxes for the State of Maine. If there was such a thing as a local option sales tax, at half a percent, Scarborough would generate \$2.3 million in revenues.

Total Taxable Sales in Scarborough



Scarborough Annual Taxable Sales										
Year	BUSINESS OPERATING	BLDG. SUPPLY	FOOD STORE	GENERAL MDSE.	OTHER RETAIL	AUTO TRANSPORTATION	RESTAURANT & LODGING	TOTAL	RESTAURANT	LODGING
2007	\$64,600,980	\$38,068,560	\$21,610,896	\$121,064,408	\$20,860,008	\$28,777,002	\$43,324,536	\$338,306,400	\$28,773,028	\$14,551,510
2008	\$59,956,564	\$53,132,368	\$21,862,768	\$119,227,344	\$61,806,616	\$26,812,036	\$50,302,352	\$393,100,064	\$34,001,980	\$16,300,371
2009	\$47,569,232	\$41,366,800	\$21,975,264	\$129,496,480	\$71,543,584	\$26,799,290	\$54,503,904	\$393,254,560	\$38,886,604	\$15,617,302
2010	\$37,556,888	\$43,876,808	\$22,326,524	\$145,410,336	\$77,598,416	\$29,618,200	\$57,432,132	\$413,819,328	\$41,093,784	\$16,338,346
2011	\$48,314,776	\$42,047,684	\$22,410,188	\$148,706,624	\$80,770,040	\$31,410,760	\$59,680,284	\$433,340,352	\$42,382,312	\$17,297,976
2012	\$47,877,708	\$47,938,764	\$24,205,328	\$150,114,640	\$85,691,880	\$30,566,624	\$65,626,720	\$452,021,664	\$45,685,168	\$19,941,552
2013	\$59,274,840	\$50,646,772	\$24,861,168	\$153,884,384	\$90,664,128	\$31,051,256	\$68,279,552	\$478,662,080	\$46,975,920	\$21,303,630
2014	\$51,089,344	\$47,798,424	\$27,617,132	\$165,709,488	\$85,224,368	\$33,620,612	\$72,370,864	\$483,430,208	\$50,201,312	\$22,169,550
2015	\$58,094,272	\$51,084,408	\$30,295,600	\$169,451,040	\$85,946,024	\$40,547,440	\$76,929,728	\$512,348,512	\$53,919,712	\$23,010,020
2016	\$55,250,656	\$54,612,152	\$39,874,948	\$217,972,624	\$88,494,192	\$42,935,016	\$81,273,704	\$580,413,312	\$57,359,560	\$23,914,140
2017	\$60,919,120	\$64,442,144	\$43,320,576	\$221,658,352	\$85,611,472	\$44,011,008	\$87,957,768	\$607,920,448	\$62,037,680	\$25,920,088
2018	\$65,328,368	\$61,246,348	\$47,007,816	\$226,676,976	\$83,210,112	\$47,568,616	\$89,136,736	\$620,174,976	\$64,288,328	\$24,848,408
2019	\$70,311,264	\$64,808,704	\$51,170,272	\$228,822,208	\$83,289,464	\$53,650,856	\$89,580,024	\$641,632,768	\$66,360,308	\$23,219,712
2020	\$64,891,020	\$84,565,472	\$48,137,808	\$205,042,512	\$88,342,296	\$61,154,380	\$67,455,096	\$619,588,608	\$51,555,512	\$15,899,586
2021	\$83,507,032	\$89,409,312	\$51,597,272	\$253,044,160	\$102,481,000	\$73,426,640	\$96,681,296	\$750,146,688	\$72,477,216	\$24,204,086
2022	\$86,372,664	\$90,761,064	\$57,375,120	\$275,772,224	\$61,351,276	\$103,347,472	\$108,806,584	\$783,786,432	\$82,074,512	\$26,732,070
Percent of Total Sales in 2022	11.0%	11.6%	7.3%	35.2%	7.8%	13.2%	13.9%	100.0%	10.5%	3.4%
2019 to 2022	\$16,061,400	\$25,952,360	\$6,204,848	\$46,950,016	-\$21,938,188	\$49,696,616	\$19,226,560	\$142,153,664	\$15,714,204	\$3,512,358
% Increase '19-'22	22.8%	40.0%	12.1%	20.5%	-26.3%	92.6%	21.5%	22.2%	23.7%	15.1%
Sales Taxes Generated	\$ 4,750,497	\$ 4,991,859	\$ 3,155,632	\$ 15,167,472	\$ 3,374,320	\$ 5,684,111	\$ 8,971,847	\$ 46,095,737	\$ 6,565,961	\$ 2,405,886

Source: Maine Revenue Services - Office of Tax Policy



March 8, 2023

Scott Kunkler
Conservation Director
Scarborough Land Trust
PO Box 1237
Scarborough, ME 04074

Re: Land For Maine's Future

Dear Mr. Kunkler,

The Scarborough Economic Development Corporation (SEDCO) develops, supports, and promotes sustainable economic development practices leading to a healthy, diverse, and resilient local economy for the Scarborough community.

SEDCO is in support of the Scarborough Land Trust (SLT)'s proposed acquisition of the approximately 30-acre West Beech Ridge Road parcel to be named Beaver Brook Preserve. The acquisition will provide additional recreational opportunities, expand hunting and fishing access, and protect valuable wetland and riparian habitat including the Scarborough Marsh. These benefits will increase the quality of life for residents of Scarborough and thus create a positive impact on economic development within the Town by assisting in the attraction, establishment, retention, and expansion of businesses in Scarborough. We also know that such projects are important to businesses since they provide opportunities for their staff members to enjoy time outdoors, increasing mental and physical well-being.

I would like to thank the Land for Maine's Future program for consideration of the Scarborough Land Trust application.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Martin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Karen Martin
Executive Director
Scarborough Economic Development Corporation

SEDCO

PO BOX 6487 Scarborough, ME 04070-0550
Phone: (207) 883-4893 E-Mail: kmartin@sedcomaine.com

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

KATE DUFOUR, DIRECTOR, ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATIONS

OVERVIEW

- MMA's 70-member Legislative Policy Committee
 - Adopts MMA's two-year legislative platform.
 - Establishes MMA's position on all bills of municipal relevance.
- 2,300 bills in the hopper for the first session, only. Just printed LD 1068 yesterday (3/6).
 - Context: 130th Legislature process 2030 bills over the two-year session.
 - MMA normally tracks 1/3 of all bills... 760 bills of varying impact on municipalities.

2022-2024 MMA LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

- School Budget Referendum (LD 1022)
- Sharing Cannabis Revenue (LD 88)
- 1st Responder Health – Prevention
- Shared Training Cost for EMS/Dispatch
- Non-residential LEO Training (LD 673)
- Affordable Housing TIF/Workforce Pine Tree Zone
- LD 2003 Implementation Delay (LD 665)
- Tree Growth Tax Program
- Increase GA Reimbursement
- GA Program Reform
- Property Tax Stabilization Amendment

HOUSING LEGISLATION

- **LD 2003:** Rulemaking in process. Comments due March 13.
- **LD 337:** Concept draft amending regulation of manufactured housing to increase affordable housing.
- **LD 341:** Reduce Tree Growth Tax program penalty for withdrawing property used to build single-family residential housing.
- **LD 371:** Concept draft bill to address certain local ordinances.
- **LD 388:** Require state and municipalities to reimburse landlords for losses in rental income associated with laws/ordinances placing a moratorium on evictions.

HOUSING, CONTINUED

- **LD 492:** Concept draft bill repurposing vacant shopping malls into mixed-use housing.
- **LD 602:** Concept draft bill providing regional planning partners resources to help the development of ordinances and examine the regional sustainability of new housing development.
- **LD 721:** Concept draft bill preserving historic buildings and promote affordable housing.
- **LD 801:** Requires municipalities to obtain and maintain one housing unit for every 1,000 residents to provide living spaces for persons experiencing homelessness.
- **LD 853:** Amends Constitution to provide a right to housing.

PROPERTY TAX STABILIZATION

- MMA: Replace stabilization law with an enhanced senior resident homestead exemption.
 - All current homestead program regulations apply.
 - 65 years of age or older
 - Earning less than 80% regional median family income, eligible for \$25,000 increase (total of \$50,000),
 - Earning between 80% -100% regional median family income, eligible for \$15,000 increase (total of \$40,000).
 - 100% state reimbursement for the property tax loss due to senior resident homestead.
 - Reduce administration burdens, by directing Maine Revenue Services to determine eligibility.

STABILIZATION LEGISLATION

- **LD 37 & LD 529:** Eliminates the annual application requirements.
- **LD 89:** Clarifies that the widow/widower of an individual for stabilization, remains eligible for the benefit, provided they were married for at least 10 years prior to death.
- **LD 130:** As of April 1, 2024 replaces the stabilization program with a \$75,000 homestead exemption for a 65 year old plus homesteader who has resided in the homestead for at least 10 years.
- Public hearings scheduled for March 16 @ 1:00 p.m.

OTHER TAX POLICY BILLS

- **LD 101:** Requires “excess funds” from the disposal of tax acquired property to be returned to the former owner. Property sold within 180 days of acquisition = the sales price less back taxes and related costs. Property retained by the municipality and unsold after 180 days of acquisition = fair market value less related costs. (Tabled)
- **LD 167:** Extends the homestead exemption to an individual holding a life lease, provided the occupant pays the taxes and utilities, carries homeowner’s insurance and pays for home maintenance costs. (Tabled)
- **LD 191:** Excludes from BETE/BETR eligibility the property owned by a person that bans, boycotts, or otherwise restricts or prevents the sale or distribution of any product that is legally produced, harvested, or grown in Maine.

OTHER TAX POLICY, CONTINUED

- **LD 286:** Use of TIF revenue to repair or build municipal buildings, subject to a cap equal to the lesser of 10% of the district's assessed value or \$3 million. (Tabled)
- **LD 793:** Allows municipalities to elected to swap current revenue sharing distribution for 10% of the sales and use tax revenue collected within the community.
- **LD 996:** Allow municipalities to establish a local option sales take via approval of the legislative body or via municipal referendum.
- **LD 1060:** Increases revenue sharing from 5% to 7%, with the 2% used to employ, train and provide public safety services.

PREEMPTION OF LOCAL CONTROL

- Prohibits municipalities from:
 - **LD 620:** Prohibiting the sale of legal product or service. (SLG)
 - **LD 629:** Assessing tax or fee on firearms or ammunition. (TAX)
 - **LD 662:** Prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products. (SLG)
 - **LD 894:** Prohibiting the installation of a heating or energy systems. (SLG)
 - **LD 1027:** Imposing a local sales tax. (TAX)

FY 2024 – FY 2025 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

- **LD 258**

- 55% of K-12 Education (\$1.40 billion)
- Increased Homestead Exemption Reimbursement
 - FY 24 = 76% (\$103.5 Million)
 - FY 25 = 79% (\$108.5 Million)
- 100% Stabilization Act Reimbursement/Mandate Reimbursement
 - FY 24 = \$15 million & \$500K
 - FY 25 = \$31 million & \$550K
- Revenue Share @ 5%
 - FY 24 = \$252 million
 - FY 25 = \$259 million

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Subscribe to...
 - Legislative Bulletin, printed each Friday during session.
 - LD List, which is posted on MMA's website each Friday and linked to the electronic Bulletin.
 - Potholes & Politics podcast for a summary of the week's legislative activities.
- Connect with...
 - Your LPC representatives.
 - MMA's advocacy staff. Kate Dufour, Rebecca Graham, Rebecca Lambert & Laura Ellis
 - 1-800-452-8786 or email, which is first initial, last name @memun.org (kdufour@memun.org)