

**Agenda**  
**Town of Skowhegan**  
**Joint Meeting**  
**Selectmen and Budget & Finance Committee**  
**Tuesday, March 26, 2019**  
**6:30 P.M.**  
**Wednesday, March 27, 2019**  
**5:30 P.M.**  
**Council Room**

**Board of Selectmen:**

Paul York, Chairman  
Gene Rouse, Vice Chairman  
Betty Austin  
Roger Staples

**Budget & Finance Committee:**

Christian Savage  
Michelle Cummings  
Patrick Dore  
John Grohs  
David James  
Rebekah Shankar  
Judi York  
Ida Earle

**Town Manager:**

Christine Almand

**Finance Director:**

Trisha Austin

**Call Meeting to order.**

**Regular Agenda:**

1. Discussion and decision regarding Red Cross funding request.
2. Discussion and decision regarding energy savings.
3. Discussion and decision regarding the fire department reserve account.
4. Discussion and decision regarding revenues.
5. Discussion and decision regarding surplus.
6. Other Business.

**Adjourn Meeting.**



**American Red Cross**  
Maine

[www.MaineRedCross.org](http://www.MaineRedCross.org)

## Provide Immediate Assistance to Families in Skowhegan

Serving **every** community in Maine  
Offices located:

**Regional Headquarters  
Southern Maine**  
2401 Congress Street  
Portland, ME 04102  
Tel (207) 874-1192  
Fax (207) 874-1976

**Central & Mid Coast Maine**  
16 Community Way  
Topsham, ME 04086  
Tel (207) 729-6779  
Fax (207) 729-2738

475 Pleasant St., Suite 25  
Lewiston, ME 04240  
Tel (207) 795-4004  
Fax (207) 795-4037

Red Cross / Knox County EMA  
301 Park Street  
Rockland, ME 04841  
Tel: (207) 729-6779 x407  
Fax: (207) 729-2738

**Northern & Eastern Maine**  
145 Exchange St., Suite 1  
Bangor, ME 04401  
Tel (207) 941-2903  
Fax (207) 941-2906

7 Hatch Drive, Suite 250  
Caribou, ME 04736  
Tel (207) 493-4620  
Fax (207) 493-4869

The American Red Cross responds to nearly 70,000 disasters each year, and the vast majority of those are home fires. We work in communities across Maine to prepare for, prevent and respond to natural and man-made disasters and help families to recover.

The Red Cross is committed to meet the emergency needs of each and every family in Skowhegan. In FY2018, the Red Cross responded to the emergency needs of 1182 people from 374 families in Maine and will continue to be there to help our neighbors in need around the clock and across Maine!

The American Red Cross respectfully requests a municipal allocation in the amount of \$1500 from the residents of Skowhegan for the coming year. This money will be put to use locally, right here in Maine to support individuals and families following a disaster.

Within minutes of learning about a home fire, local Red Cross volunteers are on the scene providing care and comfort to those affected. One way we help is by ensuring that their immediate needs, such as food and shelter, are met. We do this by providing families with client assistance cards, which they use to purchase essential items that were lost in the fire. This card often represents the first step in recovery following a home fire, but we need your continued support to offer these vital financial resources to your neighbors.

All Red Cross disaster relief is provided free of charge to individuals and families. The American Red Cross is not a government agency. Though our services are congressionally mandated, the American Red Cross relies on voluntary contributions from individuals, companies, municipalities and charitable organizations to deliver on our mission to alleviate human suffering.

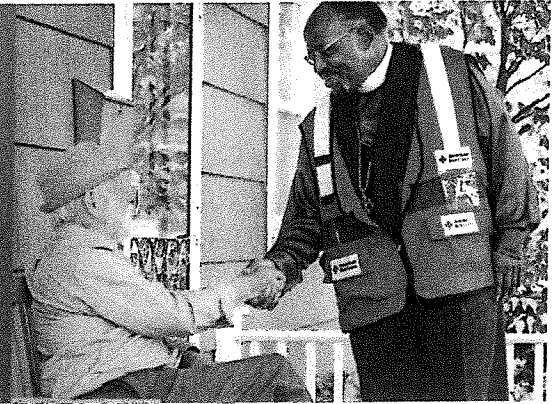
The Red Cross is counting on the people of Skowhegan because we must be there 24 hours a day to answer the call. With the support of neighbors like you, Red Cross will always be ready.

Warm regards,

Caroline King  
Executive Director  
207-272-9561  
[Caroline.King3@redcross.org](mailto:Caroline.King3@redcross.org)

# American Red Cross Maine Region

Impact Report  
for Fiscal Year 2018  
July 1, 2017—June 30, 2018



## Disaster Response

The Red Cross mission is to prevent and alleviate human suffering – work that is carried out by hundreds of local volunteers daily. In responding to about 300 disasters each year, the Red Cross in Maine ensures that people in need have food, shelter and other essentials as well as casework, guidance and other assistance to help them on their road to recovery. All Red Cross disaster assistance is free.

In Maine, with our deep local presence and community knowledge, we stand ready to respond alongside our partners should the need arise. Additionally, we can call on the support of Red Cross chapters nationwide for resources to help our neighbors in need following large-scale disasters.



Responded to 269  
disasters in Maine



Assisted 430 families  
affected by local disasters

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## Home Fire Campaign

Seven people die in home fires each day in the United States and another 36 suffer injuries. Home fires account for more than 90 percent of Red Cross domestic disaster responses.

Research shows that working smoke alarms reduce the risk of home fire fatalities by 50 percent<sup>1</sup>. The Red Cross Home Fire Campaign aims to reduce home fire deaths and injuries by increasing the number of working smoke alarms in at-risk communities. With the generous support of donors, Red Cross volunteers and partners install free smoke alarms, help families create escape plans and provide other preparedness education.



Installed 3,874 free smoke alarms  
as part of the Home Fire Campaign



Made 1,087 homes safer  
through home fire safety visits



Saved 8 lives in Maine and 511 nationally  
since the 2014 launch  
of the Home Fire Campaign



Location/ Utility	Account	FY2019 Budget	Original FY2020 Budget Request	Adjusted FY2020 Budget Amount
<u>Municipal Building - pg. 5</u>				
Electricity	E 01-02-15-01	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 11,000.00
Heat	E 01-02-15-05	\$ 20,655.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 11,000.00
<u>Street Lights - pg. 25</u>				
Electricity	E 05-12-15-01	\$ 107,000.00	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 17,000.00 * \$5,000 moved to Reserves
<u>Pollution Control - pg. 32</u>				
Electricity	E 15-01-15-01	\$ 48,880.00	\$ 50,650.00	\$ 48,000.00
Heat	E 15-01-15-05	\$ 12,800.00	\$ 12,650.00	\$ 9,000.00
<u>Highway - pg. 40</u>				
Electricity	E 25-01-15-01	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Heat	E 25-01-15-05	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
<u>Community Center - pg. 48</u>				
Electricity	E 35-01-15-01	\$ 17,200.00	\$ 17,200.00	\$ 12,400.00
Heat	E 35-01-15-05	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 18,100.00	\$ 18,100.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 256,035.00</b>	<b>\$ 163,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 141,500.00</b>
<b>Savings</b>			Less than Original Request	\$ 21,600.00
			Less than Previous Year	\$ 114,535.00 * Not including Reserves

# Surplus

History of Usage:

FY2008	\$500,000.00	
FY2009	\$700,000.00	
FY2010	\$800,000.00	
FY2011	\$700,000.00	
FY2012	\$400,000.00	
FY2013	\$756,864.25	
FY2014	\$1,000,000.00	
FY2015	\$1,000,000.00	
FY2016	\$1,000,000.00	
FY2017	\$750,000.00	
FY2018	\$750,000.00	<i>\$475,000 to reduce tax commitment; \$150,000 for PW Roads &amp; Sidewalks; \$100,000 for Public Safety Building; \$25,000 for P&amp;R Ballfield Compound</i>
FY2019	\$1,418,000.00	<i>\$1,000,000 to reduce tax commitment; \$300,000 for P&amp;R Ballfield Compound; \$100,000 for PW Roads &amp; Sidewalks; \$18,000 for Police Department</i>

Surplus (Audited Fund Balance)	\$	3,470,194.00
Recommended Surplus (10% of FY2017 Budgets*)	\$	2,303,122.19
Available Surplus	\$	1,167,071.81
* FY2019 Town, School, & County Budgets	\$	23,031,221.93

Town Manager's FY2020 Recommendation:	\$	600,000.00	<i>to reduce tax commitment</i>
	\$	500,000.00	<i>for Public Safety Building</i>
	\$	1,100,000.00	

## Revenue Sharing

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Increase/ (Decrease)</u>
FY08 Revenue Sharing	\$ 1,054,916.33	
FY09 Revenue Sharing	\$ 977,641.19	\$ (77,275.14)
FY10 Revenue Sharing	\$ 840,340.39	\$ (137,300.80)
FY11 Revenue Sharing	\$ 775,602.63	\$ (64,737.76)
FY12 Revenue Sharing	\$ 722,076.76	\$ (53,525.87)
FY13 Revenue Sharing	\$ 659,291.42	\$ (62,785.34)
FY14 Revenue Sharing	\$ 417,392.42	\$ (241,899.00)
FY15 Revenue Sharing	\$ 436,569.85	\$ 19,177.43
FY16 Revenue Sharing	\$ 436,449.38	\$ (120.47)
FY17 Revenue Sharing	\$ 404,074.57	\$ (32,374.81)
FY18 Revenue Sharing	\$ 439,368.23	\$ 35,293.66
FY19 Projected Revenue Sharing	\$ 464,704.70	\$ 25,336.47
FY20 Projected Revenue Sharing*	<b>\$ 1,164,250.79</b>	<b>\$ 699,546.09</b>

\* *Maine State Treasurer projection published 3/13/19.*

**TREASURER'S COMMENTARY 3/15/19:** Governor Mills has proposed an actual increase in revenue sharing over biennium ending 6/30/2019 not reflected below. Any FY 2020 projections are based on December 2018 revenue forecasts and assume a 5% aggregate that has not recently been implemented. Data should not be considered a promise of payment. Final payments cannot be calculated with certainty until a new biennial budget is enacted and effective. The Treasurer has projections based on current proposals on file. Please contact the Office of State Treasurer via email for clarification or assistance: [state.treasurer@maine.gov](mailto:state.treasurer@maine.gov) .

**\*IMPORTANT** Revenue sharing projections are based upon the most recent Revenue Forecast available at the time of publication. The State's Revenue Forecasting Committee may reconvene at any time and issue a revised forecast. Revenue sharing receipts to municipalities almost certainly will differ from projections as distributions are based upon actual tax revenue received and not on projected revenues.

## Christine Almand

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**From:** KeyandElectedOfficials-owner@imail.memun.org on behalf of Kate Dufour  
[KeyandElectedOfficials@imail.memun.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 9:10 AM  
**To:** keyandelectedofficials@imail.memun.org  
**Subject:** Revenue Sharing Distribution - Caution  
  
**Importance:** High

To: Key and Elected Municipal Officials

From: Kate Dufour

Date: Thursday, March 14, 2019

Re: Revenue Sharing Distribution - **Caution**

On Wednesday this week, the Office of the Maine Treasurer published a spreadsheet showing the projected FY 2020 state/municipal revenue sharing distribution for each municipality. Because Maine statutes currently require the state to fully restore funding for the program as of July 1, 2019, the projections assume that five percent (\$174 million) of state sales and income tax revenues will be distributed to municipalities in the upcoming fiscal year.

However, the proposed FY 2020 - FY 2021 biennial General Fund budget includes a provision seeking to increase funding for the program from the current 2 percent of state sales and income tax revenue to 2.5 percent (\$89 million) in FY 2020 and three percent (\$116 million) in FY 2021. Over the next several months, the level of funding for the revenue sharing program will be reviewed and debated first by the Appropriations and Taxation Committees and then by the entire Legislature.

Until the budget is finally adopted and signed by the governor, it remains unknown how much revenue will be distributed to communities under the state/municipal revenue sharing program.

For this reason, we urge municipalities to be cautious with the recently published projections.