



Community Newsletter – Jan/Feb 2026

Stay informed about local events, projects, and community news happening in Kenduskeag.

Town Office: M&T 8AM-5PM, Closed W, Th 9AM-6PM, F 8AM-5PM



Message from the Chair: Sheila Doughty

On behalf of the Select Board for the Town of Kenduskeag, I am happy to provide a list of accomplishments and working projects that the town undertook during 2025. I am looking forward to an exciting 2026 which will continue to more formally structure our policies and procedures for town operations. As community members your support and input are extremely valuable as we chart the future of Kenduskeag. Below is a partial list of items from 2025.

- Successfully negotiated and are actively working on an EMS contract with Northern Light for ambulance services and continued discussions with area providers to plan for better EMS Coverage.
- Implemented a contract to provide additional coverage by Penobscot County Sheriff's Office.
- Secured a contract and clearly established expectations for cemetery mowing and maintenance.
- Implemented a new payroll system to improve efficiency and accuracy. Provide transparent updates to the budget committee.
- Hired a part-time clerk to support administrative operations.
- Hired a cleaner to maintain municipal facilities.
- Explored and evaluated and applied for grant opportunities to support town projects and services.
- Ongoing work is being done to update and improve the town website.
- Updated official town maps (Last updated in the Mid 1980's)
- Actively working to clean up and modernize outdated town ordinances.
- Preparing to organize a committee to begin work on the town's comprehensive plan.

Community Updates



During the fall, the Cemetery Committee with Laurie Cookson serving as the lead along with help from James Smith and other Kenduskeag residents purchased and attached to town power poles these amazing tributes to Kenduskeag Veterans. The Banners will be on display from Memorial Day through Veterans Day each spring

Code Enforcement: Jessefa Murphy

Reflecting on this past year, 2025 was a year of modest and measured growth for construction and development within the town. A total of twenty building permits were issued and twelve plumbing permits were issued, demonstrating a gradual level of growth and investment in the community. Here is a breakdown of the permits issued:

Accessory Structures: sixteen permits	Zero additions
Two decks	Two garages
Six sheds	Five solar installations - residential
One cell tower upgrade	New Homes: four permits
Two manufactured homes	Two single-family homes
Plumbing Permits: twelve permits	Internal Plumbing: six permits
Subsurface Wastewater Systems: six permits	



Fire Chief's Corner

In 2025 Kenduskeag Fire-Rescue responded to 254 calls for service. The department logged 935-man hours for calls and 664 training & education hours last year. Our staff currently includes 22 Senior members, 4 Junior Firefighters and a contracted Medical Director. We continue to collaborate closely with our surrounding communities to provide and receive mutual aid as needed.

Currently our department is an on call / volunteer model department. To supplement this and provide better service we staff a single member on call Monday through Friday 08AM-4PM and 7PM-7AM. This staffing was made possible in 2024 & 2025 through the Maine EMS Sustainability grant. We hope to continue this coverage in 2026. A reminder to check your smoke detectors monthly and change your batteries every six months. We are happy to provide free magnet reminders for smoke detector checks to our community members at the town office. If you or a loved one needs assistance with smoke detectors, please reach out to our department



Kenduskeag Roads Report

- During 2025 all of Tay Rd was tarred, half of Strout Rd prepared for tarring (2026)
- Grinding and base applied to a portion of Morey Rd.
- Culvert and ditching work continue (multi-year project)
- 2026. Remainder of Strout Rd. prepared and all of road tarred in 2026.
- Quotes will be obtained for overlay on Lacey and Kellen Drives.
- Seasonal roadside trimming and winter pothole and washout repairs as needed.



Reminders

- Dog Licenses for 2026 are now available, Reminder that Dogs located in the town of Kenduskeag must be licensed. These fees directly support animal control and the towns contract with the Bangor Area Animal Shelter – Neutered and Spade Dogs are \$6, and Unaltered are \$11.
- Other Town Fees: Notary Fee (\$5), Trash Stickers (\$7 for a sheet of 5) available at the Town Office and at SAM's, Marriage License Application \$40.00, Copy of Marriage Certificate \$15, Birth Certificate \$15, Death Certificate \$15.
- Applications for General Assistance are available at the Town Office.



Municipal Library Project Update



Kenduskeag Public Library Project

“The Kenduskeag Library Project” is supported by federal funding through ARPA and the THUD Community Project Funding program. These funds originate at the federal level and are administered locally for the project by the municipality with project planning support from the Library Committee”

Project Status

- Planning and regulatory review phases complete
- Current State: Project bidding underway
 - PreBid Meeting successfully completed
 - Public Bid Opening scheduled

Next Steps

- Bid review in accordance with procurement requirements
- Contract execution following bid acceptance

Construction Outlook

- Construction anticipated to begin following contract execution
- Construction expected to continue throughout 2026

Estimated Completion Window

- Late 2026 to early 2027
- *(Subject to weather, scheduling, and construction conditions)*



Town Notices/Upcoming Meetings

- February 3, 2026 – Regular Select Board Meeting. 6pm
- February 17, 2026 – Selectboard/ Budget Committee Work Session 6pm-7:30pm.
- March 3, 2026 – Regular Select Board Meeting – 6pm
- March 26 – Local Election Day – Times to be announced
- March 27 – Annual Town Meeting – Fire Station, Time to be announced