

KENNEBUNK CURRENTS

Town of Kennebunk, 1 Summer Street, Kennebunk, Maine 04043 207-985-2102 www.kennebunkmaine.us

Special Town Meeting Referendum Election February 11, 2025



A Special Town Meeting Referendum Election will be held on February 11, 2025 from 6 a.m.- 8 p.m. in the Edward C. Winston Town Hall Auditorium. Early voting is now open in the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Items to be voted on include: Amendments to the Noise Control Ordinance & Trash Handling and Collection agreements.

View the Voter Guide at www.kennebunkmaine.us/election or pick up a copy at the Town Clerk's Office.

Absentee Ballots

You can request a ballot or vote early in one of the following ways:

- Complete an online request form at www.kennebunkmaine.us/election. Your ballots will be mailed to you.
- Call 207-604-1326 and request ballots be sent to your mailing address.
- Visit the Town Clerk's Office and take ballots home to all in your household.
- Visit the Town Clerk's Office and vote in person.

Additional Voting Hours

In addition to regular office hours, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., the Town Clerk's Office will also be open for early absentee voting on:

- Saturday February 1, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Sunday February 2, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Thursday February 6, 2025 until 7:30 p.m.

Learn more at www.kennebunkmaine.us/election.

KENNEBUNK PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT SPRING PROGRAMS ARE OPEN FOR REGISTRATION!

Visit www.kennebunkrec.com for more information.



Maine is Replacing its Chickadee Plates in 2025

Starting May 1, 2025, the BMV will no longer issue standard license plates with the chickadee design. Anyone who currently has plates with the chickadee design will be required to obtain new plates when their registration is due to be renewed. New plates will be issued at the Town Hall for re-registrations only.

Registrants who would like to keep their current chickadee plate numbers may reserve their plate number for a \$25 one-time fee. This includes vanity plates. Non-chickadee plates will not have the option to reserve.

There are four ways registrants may reserve their plate(s).

1. Online via the stand-alone reservation portal at maine.gov/online/reservemyplate
2. Online via the BMV Rapid Renewal website.
3. In person at a BMV branch location.
4. By mailing the application to reserve a plate to the State Administrative Office.



Town Staff Updates

Congratulations to the following employees:

- James Lamie went from a per diem to a full-time Firefighter/EMT

Thank you to our departing staff:

- Thomas Miskell, Police Officer
- Thomas Merryman, Maintenance Worker/Truck Driver
- Heather Balsler, Town Manager



Current Job Openings:

- Maintenance Worker/Truck Driver, Public Services
- Police Officer, KPD
- Director of Public Services

To apply visit www.kennebunkmaine.us/jobs

Kennebunk Free Library Happenings

- **Creative Collective (2/18 from 6 p.m.-7 p.m. and monthly on the third Tuesday):** Explore your creativity with whatever your passion is in a relaxed atmosphere with other creative people of all skill levels. Bring any portable project you are working on along with your own supplies.
- **Teen Spa Day Science (2/20 from 1 p.m.-2 p.m.):** We will delve into the science of formulation technology, design and process engineering, and scaling and conversion skills to create lip balms, sugar scrubs, face masks, and supplies for nail art. Registration required.
- **Die Well Death Education (2/24 from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.):** Leona Oceania will discuss the Film: 'In the Parlor: The Final Goodbye': Rejecting the mainstream tradition of hiring funeral professionals to care for the deceased, families in search of a more personal and fulfilling way to say goodbye are taking an active role in caring for relatives who have died.
- **Thursday Family Fun Play (2/6, 2/13, 2/20, & 2/27 from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.):** We bring out the toys for a library play date. These toys are best enjoyed when the whole family plays together! Before we say goodbye until next time, Miss Maria will read a story. Come play and make new friends at the library! For children ages 0-5 and their grown-ups.

For more information and the rest of our program lineup, or to provide feedback, email us at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org, call us at 985-2173, or visit kennebunklibrary.org



Manager's Corner

Bryan Laverriere, Town Manager

We hope you make your voices heard by voting on February 11th in the Special Town Meeting Referendum Election. The ballot includes key decisions on trash collection that must be made to ensure trash and recycling services continue after the current contract ends on June 30, 2025. Voters will also weigh in on amendments to the noise ordinance.

The budget process is underway and the Select Board and Budget Board will be holding joint meetings to review the upcoming budget. We encourage you to participate by attending or watching these meetings.

Meetings are held in Room 300-301 at Town Hall. Learn about all of the ways to watch televised meetings at www.kennebunkmaine.us/tv. Budget information will be posted at www.kennebunkmaine.us/budget as it becomes available. See the meeting schedule below.

Budget Meeting Dates for the 2025-26 Proposed Budget

- Tuesday, February 4, 6:30 p.m. – Budget Presentation
- Thursday, February 6, 6:30 p.m. – Capital Improvement Plan & Debt Service
- Thursday, February 13, 6:30 p.m. – TIFs
- Thursday, February 27, 6:30 p.m. – Expenditures
- Tuesday, March 4, 6:30 p.m. – Expenditures
- Thursday, March 6, 6:30 p.m. – Expenditures
- Thursday, March 13, 6:30 p.m. – Revenues
- Tuesday, March 18, 6:30 p.m. (if additional meeting is needed)



Public Hearing Dates

- Tuesday, March 25, 6:30 p.m. – 1st Public Hearing (Budget)
- Tuesday, April 8, 6:30 p.m. – 1st Public Hearing (Warrant Articles)
- Tuesday, May 27, 6:30 p.m. – 2nd Public Hearing (Budget & Warrant Articles)

Assessment Update Information

The Assessing Division has begun reviewing real estate sales to be utilized in the Assessment Update for 4/1/2025. A brief outline of the schedule of activities for the project is as follows:

- Sales Review – 12/1/2024 - 3/1/2025 (recent sales can be viewed at www.kennebunkmaine.us/realestatesales)
- Land and Building Analysis – 2/1/2025 - 5/1/2025
- Field Review – 3/15/2025 – 6/1/2025
- Market Study – 2/1/2025 - 5/1/2025
- Commercial Study – 4/15/2025 - 6/8/2025
- Final Review of Proposed Values – June 2025
- Assessment Notices and Hearings – 6/17/2025 - 7/21/2025
- Project Completion – 7/30/2025



Please note these timeframes are subject to change given time & resources.

Important Yearly Reminders

VETERANS EXEMPTION - Deadline April 1st

All veterans and unmarried veterans' widows should file for exemption by April 1st of any given year.

To qualify for an exemption you must:

- Be 62 years old before April 1st (widows claim veteran's age)
- Be a property owner and primary resident in Kennebunk
- Have served (other than dishonorable discharge) during a recognized war period

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION - Deadline April 1st

All resident taxpayers wishing to receive the Homestead Exemption must apply by April 1st of any given year. (If you already receive this exemption, you are not required to reapply.)

To be eligible you must:

- Be a legal resident of the State of Maine (registered voter, Maine driver's license, motor vehicle excise tax paid in Kennebunk, etc.)
- Have owned a homestead in Maine for the last 12 months
- Declare Kennebunk homestead as permanent place of residence
- Notify the Assessing office in writing should your permanent residence change

PERSONAL PROPERTY - Deadline April 1st (extension to May 15)

All commercial and industrial firms should file a listing of personal property by April 1st of any given year (automatic extension to file by May 15). Go to www.kennebunkmaine.us/personalproperty for new ways to file your personal property inventory form online!

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 11: Special Town Meeting Referendum Election
6 a.m.- 8 p.m. in the Edward C. Winston Town Hall Auditorium.

Meetings

Select Board: Meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in Town Hall Room 301

Planning Board: Meets on the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in Town Hall Room 301

See the 2025-2026 Budget Meeting schedule above.



Town Hall Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM