**Repeal of “The Property Tax Stabilization Program for Senior Citizens”**

The 2023 property taxes for owners of 187 resident homesteads were “stabilized” due to the Property Tax Stabilization Program enacted by the Maine State Legislature in 2022. Simply put, this meant that the 2023 taxes were frozen at the amount of the 2022 taxes.

Pursuant to numerous reasons the Legislature repealed this Act in 2023.

Consequently the 187 homesteads that were “stabilized” in 2023 will no longer avoid the tax increase that non stabilized properties were unable to take advantage of.

Consequently, this year’s tax bills for previously stabilized properties will undoubtedly lead to some “sticker shock”, as these stabilized properties will be looking at a 2024 tax bill that includes the 2023 increase as well as the 2024 increase. Unfortunately, this is a matter that the Town has no control over.

You may be eligible for programs the State offers such as the Property Tax Fairness Credit which is a reimbursable credit that allows eligible individuals to receive reimbursement for a portion of their property taxes or rent paid on their home. You can do this when you file your income taxes.

Another Program to look into is the Property Tax Deferral Program which allows individuals 65 and older to postpone their payment of property taxes. You must apply for this through the Municipal Assessor between January 1 and April 1.