

WATER SEWER DISTRICT TRUSTEES

Trustees of the Southwest Harbor Water Sewer District work with the District Manager to oversee the operation and maintenance of the water and sewer departments. The combined budgets are over \$1 million, and operation and maintenance costs are required by town ordinance to be covered by user fees. Because capital expenses with a life of 20 years or more are paid by the town's taxpayers, the Trustees also have a fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers. The water/sewer infrastructure (worth more than \$10 million) comprises about a third of the Town's total assets.

The Trustees work with the District Manager to see that the water filtration plant and the wastewater treatment plant meet local, state and federal requirements for routine testing and water quality after treatment. They plan for future infrastructure needs and seek voter approval and grants and other funding as needed. Currently the Town has a policy of evaluating and performing any water or sewer infrastructure work as needed whenever a road receives major maintenance or reconstruction. The wastewater treatment plant is likely to need major renovation within the next five years.

Four of the five Trustees, who must be residents of the Town, are appointed by the Select Board for a term of three years. They receive a minimal stipend of \$1200 per year plus \$50 for any additional meetings attended. The Town Manager as the fifth Trustee is a liaison to the Town since the taxpayers are required to fund necessary capital improvements.

**ONE TRUSTEE TO BE APPOINTED or re-appointed
VOLUNTEERS get information and register in Town Office
by Dec. 11th**