

REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

As directed by the Selectboard the town office worked on the following projects during 2013:

Comcast Cable: The Town finalized a 12 year contract renewal with Comcast. The new contract provides some modest increase in cable plant over the next two years.

Library Loan Refinancing: Acting in a suggestion from a resident, the town was able to refinance the loan for the Plainfield Library addition saving about \$4,000 over the remaining life of the loan. The old rate was 4.0% the new rate is 2.27%. The loan is paid in full in the year 2018.

Revaluation: The town completed a full measure and list of all properties in 2013. The new values showed an average decrease of about 10% from the 2008 base year values. The new values were used to establish the 2013 tax rate in early November. Avitar Associates was the contract assessing firm that did the project at the direction of Town Assessor George Hildum.

Hazard Mitigation Project: A prerequisite for towns to receive federal monies is the existence of a current Hazard Mitigation Plan. Our plan was last updated in 2009 and was due for updating in 2014. The field work for the update was done this year utilizing a State of New Hampshire Homeland Security Grant.

FEMA ASSISTANCE: The town applied for assistance for two Federally declared disasters in Sullivan County in 2013. The first was a snow event on February 8th the second was a flash flooding event on July 2nd. The snow event returned \$11,000 back to the town to assist with the cost of cleaning up the storm. The flash flood event will return some \$61,000 back to the town which sustained something in the area of \$80,000 worth of road damage from the storm.

Energy Committee: The Selectboard made \$6,000 of town funds available to the energy committee to work on energy improvements at the town office. Most of this money has been used for air sealing, furnace improvements and more energy efficient lighting.

Emergency Service Communication: Police and Fire have been the lead agencies on this project which is designed to improve the town's emergency service communications for portable radios and pagers. The Town Office has been assisting with zoning approval and the development of a long-term contract for the service.

Local Zoning Approval for Septic System Designs: All septic system designs in the town must now be submitted to the State of New Hampshire with Town Zoning Administrator Approval attached. Like many towns Plainfield had experienced the state approving septic systems for projects that had not received necessary local zoning approval. This prerequisite prevents that from happening.

Community Tree Lighting Dedication: In partnership with Kimball Union Academy the annual tree lighting ceremony held on KUA property at the intersection of Main Street and Route 120 was dedicated to the memory of David Chellis. A stone with David's name on it was placed at the base of the tree in honor of all he meant to this community.

Stephen Halleran, Town Administrator