

REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

As directed by the Selectboard the town office worked on the following projects during 2014:

Emergency Response Trailer: The town was recipient of a Homeland Security Grant to fund 50% of a small enclosed trailer stocked with emergency response equipment. Barricades, road closed signs, traffic cones, etc. The trailer is stored at the Plainfield Fire Station and is also available for all town functions, such as Spirit Day, town elections and the Fourth of July parade.

Toter Test Program: Using the cooperation of Center of Town Residents a test program was run over the summer to help gauge as to whether or not going to a uniform garbage / recycling container would be a good fit for Plainfield. The test program had more favorable results/comments than was expected. At this time a phased in approach to the toters is likely, starting first with the recycling portion of the program. This change could occur as early as the summer of 2015, but more likely in 2016.

Ski Groomer: The cross country ski group, was able to secure a grant to purchase a second grooming machine. The funds for this new machine were taken in and dispersed by the town. Like the first groomer, this second one is a piece of town owned equipment that is inventoried as part of the Recreation Department.

Highway Department Generator: The highway garage facility now has a standby generator capable of running the entire building for an extended period of time. This project has been a priority for a number of years and was finally accomplished this year.

Highway Garage Roof: Utilizing some of the building expertise on the Energy Committee a complete evaluation of the condition of the highway garage roof is underway. The work under consideration is to fortify existing trusses to make them compliant with the current building code. Likewise planning for the replacement/repair of the existing metal roof is part of this work. The roof does not leak, but it is near the end of its expected life.

Solar Zoning Ordinance: Assisted the Planning Board with the development of a draft zoning ordinance for voter consideration that would provide a basic framework for regulating solar projects that are either large scale or have the potential to impact neighbors due to the size of the lot they are to be located on. If approved, most residential solar installations will not require any land use approvals other than a building permit.

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