

REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

As directed by the Select Board the town office worked on the following projects during 2018:

Fire Department Municipalization: The passage of article 3 at the 2018 town meeting established a timeline for the creation of a new municipal fire department to be made from the assets of our two private fire companies. This change is at the request of the fire departments and as dictated by state law will be completed one year from the date of the authorizing vote. See RSA 154.

Camp Road and Houser Lane Bridges: Both bridges were replaced this past summer. The early onset of winter made the end of the project difficult, but guardrail was installed (during a two day snow storm) and the paved approaches will be completed in 2019. Essentially the two bridges are now complete, save some final site work and the paving of the approaches.

Assessing Update: As required by the state constitution, towns must update their assessing records every five years. Plainfield's last update was in 2013; our next update will be 2023 and will feature a full measure and list project similar to the one completed in 2013. The 2018 project resulted in values increasing on average about 14%.

GIS System: As part of the assessing update the Select Board approved and we brought on line a GIS system for Plainfield. The web based system allows tax maps and assessing data to be viewed on line. Tax maps can be projected with a variety of layers including, flood maps, zoning district, areal photos. The new system can be access from the town's website or by navigating directly to www.axisgis.com/PlainfieldNH/ The system is a very powerful tool that has been well received.

Mill Cemetery: The merging of the private Mill Cemetery into the public cemetery system that was approved at the 2014 town meeting (article 9) was finally completed this year. The concepts were easy the legalities complex, but the work is now done. Public Cemetery Trustee James Taylor, who also served on the private Mill Cemetery board provided the necessary leadership to complete this project. Local attorney James Mulligan assisted the association by doing the necessary legal work.

Meriden Library Replacement Options: Following the passage of article 7 at the 2018 town meeting, many hours and a lot of money has been allocated this year to developing a price certain option for replacing the Meriden Library building with a barrier free, energy efficient structure that, if built, will serve our town well for decades. Town Facility Manager Brad Atwater took on this project and has served as the town's representative through countless planning sessions with a wide variety of consultants. The town's legislative body will decide whether or not to move forward with this project; our job has been to develop a creditable replacement plan that meets a variety of objectives and has more than 95% certainty on final costs. We feel we have achieved that goal.

Town Administrator, Stephen Halleran