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## TOWN OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Office	Name	Appt. Expires
<b>MODERATOR</b>	Paul B. Franklin	2020
<b>TOWN CLERK</b>	Michelle Marsh	2022
<b>DEPUTY TOWN CLERK</b>	Sue Liebowitz	2022
 <b>SELECT BOARD</b>	 Ron C. Eberhardt	 2020
	Robert W. Taylor	2021
	Eric R. Brann	2022
 <b>TREASURER</b>	 Sarah Brookes-Governo	 2020
<b>TAX COLLECTOR</b>	Michelle Marsh	2022
<b>DEP. TAX COLLECTOR</b>	Sue Liebowitz	2022
<b>TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS</b>	Jesse Stalker	2022
	Donald Garfield	2021
	Edward Stansfield	2020
 <b>LIBRARY TRUSTEES</b>	 Richard Davidson	 2020
	Rosemary Mills	2020
	Jeanne Woodward-Poor	2021
	Jennifer Lenz	2022
	Judy Ptak	2023
 <b>SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST</b>	 Harold Jones, Jr.	 2024
	Fern Wilder	2021
	Donald Jordan	2020
 <b>CEMETERY TRUSTEES</b>	 Bradford Atwater	 2020
	James Taylor	2021
	Margaret Drye	2022
 <b>ASSIST. MODERATOR</b>	 Stephen H. Taylor	
 <b>BALLOT CLERKS</b>	 Sarah Brookes-Governo	
	Robin Marsh	
	Elizabeth Lurie	

<b>BALLOT CLERKS (con't)</b>	RoAnne Rogerson Jill Young, Alt
<b>ROAD AGENT</b>	Richard Collins
<b>RECREATION DIRECTOR</b>	Daniel Cantlin
<b>HEALTH OFFICER</b>	Stephanie Schell
<b>ZONING ADMINISTRATOR</b>	Stephen Halleran
<b>BUILDING INSPECTOR</b>	David Lersch
<b>FACILITIES MANAGER</b>	Bradford Atwater
<b>YIELD TAX AGENT</b>	Judith A. Belyea
<b>WELFARE DIRECTOR</b>	Stephanie Schell
<b>EMERGENCY MGT.DIR.</b>	James McCarragher
<b>DEPTUTY EMD</b>	Robert Taylor
<b>TOWN TRUMPETER</b>	Ron C. Eberhardt
<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>	Paul Roberts, Chief Anthony Swett Kyle Dawson Lawrence Dore, PT
<b>PLANNING BOARD</b>	Jane Stephenson, Chair Michael Sutherland Jeffrey Allbright Elise Angelillo Ryan Boynton Judy Belyea Eric Brann, Selectman Stephen Halleran, Alt
<b>ZONING BOARD</b>	Richard Colburn, Chair Edward Moynihan Bradford Atwater William McGonigle Peter Martin Scott MacLeay, Alt
<b>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>	Judy Ptak William Knight David Grobe David Taylor Helen Koehler Victoria Ramos-Glew Anne Donaghy-Alt

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mike Sutherland, Chair  
Bradford Atwater  
Marc Morgan  
Mark Hardy  
Eric Sorenson  
Judy Ptak

**ENERGY  
COMMITTEE**

Evan Oxenham, Co Chair  
Steve Ladd, Co Chair  
Ron Eberhardt  
Betsy Rybeck-Lynd

**UVLSRPC**

John Yacavone

**PLAINFIELD FIRE CHIEF  
DEPUTY CHIEF  
DEPUTY CHIEF**

William Taylor  
Christopher Berry- Plainfield Station  
Matthew Tucker-Meriden Station

**FOREST FIRE WARDENS**

Bruce Elder, Warden  
Douglas Plummer, Deputy  
Christopher Berry, Deputy  
William Taylor, Deputy  
Daniel Boone Rondeau, Deputy  
Lester Bouchier, Deputy  
Mathew Tucker, Deputy  
Jeffrey LeBlanc, Deputy  
Mark Horne, Deputy

**KUA STUDY  
COMMITTEE**

Stephen Beaupre  
John Yacavone  
Andrea Keen  
Robert Hewett  
Kate Whybrow, School Board  
Tyler Lewis, Kimball Union Academy  
Robert Blake, Kimball Union Academy  
Stephen Halleran, Select Board Rep.

**SOLID WASTE  
COMMITTEE**

Marc Morgan  
Richard Atkinson  
Hillary Sundell  
Wayne Tucker  
Susan Williams

**WARRANT**  
**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**COUNTY OF SULLIVAN, SS** **TOWN OF**  
**PLAINFIELD**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Plainfield, in the County of Sullivan, in said State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Plainfield School gymnasium on Tuesday, the 10th day of March next at eight o'clock in the forenoon to act upon the following articles:

**[Polls will be open until 7:00 P.M.]**

**ARTICLE 1.** To choose by ballot: One Select Board member for three years, One Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years, One Library Trustee for three years, One Library Trustee for one year, One Cemetery Trustee for three years, One Supervisor of the Checklist for six years, One Moderator for two years and any other necessary town officers.

**You are further notified to meet at the Plainfield School gymnasium on Saturday, the 14th of March next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon to act upon the following subjects:**

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,046,000** for the replacement of the Meriden Library building and to authorize the withdrawal of \$45,000 from the Town's ADA Capital Reserve Fund, \$18,000 from the Town's Meriden Library Replacement Fund and accept \$800,000 in donations raised on behalf of the Meriden Library by private sources (Meriden Library Building Fund \$214,000 and the Meriden Library Foundation created in 2018 \$586,000). The remaining \$183,000 will be raised by taxation. This special warrant article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the replacement of the Meriden Library building is completed or December 2021 whichever is sooner. Funds from taxation equate to no more than \$.60 of the anticipated 2020 tax rate. A majority of the Board of Trustees for the Plainfield Public Libraries (4-1) and a majority of the Select Board (2-1) recommends this appropriation.

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,449,621** to defray town charges for the 2020 fiscal year. The Select Board proposes the following budget:

<b>1. Executive</b>	<b>\$231,350</b>
<b>2. Election/Registration/Vital Statistics</b>	<b>20,930</b>
<b>3. Financial Administration</b>	<b>88,350</b>
<b>4. Revaluation of Property</b>	<b>12,000</b>
<b>5. Legal Expenses</b>	<b>7,000</b>
<b>6. Personnel Administration</b>	<b>12,500</b>
<b>7. Planning and Zoning</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>8. General Government Buildings</b>	<b>17,025</b>
<b>9. Cemeteries</b>	<b>34,600</b>
<b>10. Insurance</b>	<b>68,430</b>
<b>11. Regional Associations</b>	<b>6,100</b>
<b>12. Police</b>	<b>422,340</b>
<b>13. Ambulance Service</b>	<b>38,000</b>
<b>14. Fire</b>	<b>67,500</b>
<b>15. Building Inspection</b>	<b>15,400</b>
<b>16. Emergency Management</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>17. Hydrant &amp; Forest Fire Expense</b>	<b>4,100</b>
<b>18. Dispatching for Fire, Police &amp; Ambulance</b>	<b>43,000</b>
<b>19. Highway Administration</b>	<b>21,050</b>
<b>20. Highways and Streets</b>	<b>747,035</b>
<b>21. Road Projects</b>	<b>120,165</b>
<b>22. Street Lights</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>23. Solid Waste Collection</b>	<b>180,000</b>
<b>24. Solid Waste Disposal</b>	<b>56,810</b>
<b>25. Health Agencies</b>	<b>13,610</b>
<b>26. Animal Control</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>27. Welfare</b>	<b>25,500</b>
<b>28. Recreation Commission</b>	<b>21,471</b>
<b>29. Library</b>	<b>161,105</b>
<b>30. Patriotic</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>31. Conservation Commission</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>32. Principal Long-term debt</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>33. Interest Long-term debt</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,449,621</b>

This budget is exclusive of other warrant articles.

The Select Board (3-0) recommends this appropriation.

This appropriation less corresponding anticipated revenues equates to approximately \$4.42 of the town's projected tax rate.



**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$257,500** to be placed in existing town capital reserve and general trust funds, pursuant to RSA 35:1 and RSA 31:19-a as follows:

RSA 35:1 funds:

\$15,000	Town Facilities Maintenance Fund created in 2015.
\$10,000	Revaluation Fund created in 1993.
\$75,000	Highway Equipment Fund created in 1987.
\$55,000	Transportation Improvement Fund created in 2006.
\$50,000	Fire Department Equipment Fund created in 2017
\$25,000	Bridge Capital Reserve Fund created 1994.
\$5,000	ADA Access Fund created in 2003.
\$5,000	Police Equipment Fund created in 2011.
\$5,000	Gravel Pit Reclamation Fund created in 2012.

RSA 31:19a funds:

\$10,000	Town Hall Repair Fund established in 1996.
\$2,500	Library Building Repair Fund established in 1992.

The Select Board is named agent to expend for the bridge fund, the town hall repair fund, the library building repair fund, the revaluation fund, the transportation improvement fund, the police equipment fund, the facilities maintenance fund and the highway equipment fund. The Select Board (3-0) recommends this appropriation. This appropriation equates to approximately \$.85 of the town tax rate.

**ARTICLE 5.** Shall the town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28-b, All Veterans' Tax Credit? If adopted, the credit will be available to any resident, or the spouse or surviving spouse of any resident, who (1) served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged or an officer honorably separated from services and is not eligible for or receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35. If adopted, the credit granted will be \$500, the same amount as the standard or optional veterans' tax credit voted by the Town of Plainfield under RSA 72:28. This article by request, the article is fully supported by the Board of Selectmen (3-0).

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the town will direct the select board to appoint a committee to continue the KUA/Plainfield study. The charge to this committee shall be to meet with representatives of the KUA administration and maintain an ongoing review of the relationship between the academy and the town, including any agreement pursuant to RSA 72:23, and to report its findings at next March's annual town meeting.

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the town will vote to instruct the moderator to appoint a finance committee (advisory only) of six Plainfield voters to advise the select board and other officers of the town in the prudential affairs of the town.

**ARTICLE 8.** To see what action the town will take with respect to the reports of town officers.

**ARTICLE 9.** We the town of Plainfield hereby call upon our state and federal elected representatives to enact carbon-pricing legislation to protect New Hampshire from the costs and environmental risks of continued climate inaction. To protect households, we support a Carbon Fee and Dividend approach that charges fossil fuel producers for their carbon pollution and rebates the money collected to all residents on an equal basis. Enacting a Carbon Cash-Back program decreases long-term fossil-fuel dependence, aids in the economic transition for energy consumers, and keeps local energy dollars in New Hampshire's economy. Carbon Cash-Back has been championed by US economists (Jan 17, 2019 WSJ) as the most effective and fair way to deliver rapid reductions in harmful carbon emissions at the scale required for our safety.

We expect our representatives to lead in this critical moment for the health and well-being of our citizens and for the protection of New Hampshire's natural resources upon which we all rely.

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to Plainfield's State Legislators, to the Governor of New Hampshire, to Plainfield's Congressional Delegation, and to the President of the United States, informing them of the instructions from their constituents, by Plainfield's Select Board, within 30 days of this vote  
(Article by Petition).

**ARTICLE 10.** To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

**A True Copy Attest:**

Ron C. Eberhardt  
Robert W. Taylor  
Eric R. Brann  
Plainfield Select Board

## CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

We, the undersigned Select Board of Plainfield, hereby certify that on the 19th day of February in the year 2020, we posted a true attested copy of the within warrant at the Plainfield School, it being the place of meeting, and a like true and attested copy of said warrant at the Meriden Town Hall and the Plainfield Town Hall, said locations being public places in the Town of Plainfield.

### Signed:

Ron C. Eberhardt  
Robert W. Taylor  
Eric R. Brann

Personally appeared before me the above named, Robert W. Taylor, Judith A. Belyea, Ron C. Eberhardt, the Select Board of Plainfield and took oath the foregoing statement is true.

Michelle Marsh  
Notary Public



Boston Post Cane Presentation to Elizabeth "Libby" Backofen  
Photo S. Halleran

**BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF PLAINFIELD**  
**Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue**  
**January 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020**

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Dollar</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>					
Executive	\$ 223,650	\$ 227,997	\$ 231,350	3.4%	\$ 7,700
Election/Registration	\$ 16,030	\$ 20,624	\$ 20,930	30.6%	\$ 4,900
Financial Administration	\$ 77,050	\$ 81,066	\$ 88,350	14.7%	\$ 11,300
Revaluation of Property	\$ 10,000	\$ 14,744	\$ 12,000	20.0%	\$ 2,000
Legal Expense	\$ 8,000	\$ 5,788	\$ 7,000	-12.5%	-\$ 1,000
Personnel Administration	\$ 10,300	\$ 12,871	\$ 12,500	21.4%	\$ 2,200
Planning and Zoning	\$ 1,700	\$ 868	\$ 1,500	-11.8%	-\$ 200
<b>General Government</b>					
Buildings	\$ 17,025	\$ 20,267	\$ 17,025	0.0%	\$ 0
Cemeteries	\$ 34,100	\$ 33,846	\$ 34,600	1.5%	\$ 500
Insurances	\$ 65,200	\$ 48,615	\$ 68,430	5.0%	\$ 3,230
Regional Associations	\$ 6,100	\$ 5,800	\$ 6,100	0.0%	\$ 0
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>					
Police	\$ 431,000	\$ 396,421	\$ 422,340	-2.0%	-\$ 8,660
Ambulance	\$ 38,000	\$ 38,160	\$ 38,000	0.0%	\$ 0
Fire	\$ 60,000	\$ 52,281	\$ 67,500	12.5%	\$ 7,500
Building Inspection	\$ 11,900	\$ 15,701	\$ 15,400	29.4%	\$ 3,500
Emergency Management	\$ 250	\$ 0	\$ 250	0.0%	\$ 0
Hydrant Rentals/FFT	\$ 4,100	\$ 3,600	\$ 4,100	0.0%	\$ 0
Dispatch Service	\$ 38,000	\$ 41,005	\$ 43,000	13.2%	\$ 5,000
<b>HIGHWAYS, STREETS</b>					
Highway Administration	\$ 21,550	\$ 21,970	\$ 21,050	-2.3%	-\$ 500
Highway and Streets	\$ 721,535	\$ 744,480	\$ 747,035	3.5%	\$ 25,500
Road Projects	\$ 119,000	\$ 123,327	\$ 120,165	1.0%	\$ 1,165
Street Lights	\$ 10,000	\$ 9,624	\$ 10,000	0.0%	\$ 0
<b>SANITATION</b>					
Solid Waste Collection	\$ 170,500	\$ 169,900	\$ 180,000	5.6%	\$ 9,500
Solid Waste Disposal	\$ 50,810	\$ 55,526	\$ 56,810	11.8%	\$ 6,000
<b>Health</b>					
Health Department	\$ 13,610	\$ 11,072	\$ 13,610	0.0%	\$ 0
Animal Control	\$ 500	\$ 95	\$ 500	0.0%	\$ 0
<b>WELFARE</b>					
General Assistance	\$ 20,000	\$ 27,459	\$ 25,500	27.5%	\$ 5,500

**BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF PLAINFIELD**  
**Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue**  
**January 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020**  
**(Continued)**

**CULTURE AND RECREATION**

Recreation Commission	\$ 20,000	\$ 18,206	\$ 21,471	7.4%	\$ 1,471
Libraries	\$ 157,040	\$ 151,735	\$ 161,105	2.6%	\$ 4,065
Patriotic Purposes	\$ 1,500	\$ 935	\$ 1,500	0.0%	\$ 0
Conservation Commission	\$ 500	\$ 250	\$ 500	0.0%	\$ 0

**DEBT SERVICE**

Principal Long-term debt	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0
Interest Long-term debt	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0

**OPERATING BUDGET**

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,358,950</b>	<b>\$ 2,354,233</b>	<b>\$ 2,449,621</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>\$ 90,671</b>
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**EXPENDITURES**

<b>Item</b>	<b>2019 Approved</b>	<b>2019 Expenditures</b>	<b>2020 Request</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>	<b>Dollar Change</b>
<b>CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>					
Library New Library Building	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,046,000		\$ 1,046,000
Fire PVFD Debt Retirement	\$ 135,200	\$ 135,200	\$ 0		-\$ 135,200
Hwy Truck Replacement	\$ 123,000	\$ 0	\$ 0		-\$ 123,000
Hwy Transportation Fund	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	0.0%	\$ 0
Hwy Equipment Reserve Fund	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	0.0%	\$ 0
Hwy Bridge Fund	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 25,000	150.0%	\$ 15,000
Hwy Gravel Reclamation Fund	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.0%	\$ 0
Facilities Fund	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	0.0%	\$ 0
Revaluation Fund	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	0.0%	\$ 0
Town Hall Repair Fund	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	0.0%	\$ 0
Library Repair Fund	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	0.0%	\$ 0
ADA Access Fund	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.0%	\$ 0
Police Equipment Fund	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.0%	\$ 0
Fire New Equipment Fund	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 50,000	100.0%	\$ 25,000
Meriden Library Fund	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 0	-100.0%	-\$ 25,000
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>	<b>\$ 500,700</b>	<b>\$ 242,500</b>	<b>\$ 1,303,500</b>	<b>160.3%</b>	<b>\$ 802,800</b>
<b>GROSS EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 2,859,650</b>	<b>\$ 2,596,733</b>	<b>\$ 3,753,121</b>	<b>31.2%</b>	<b>\$ 893,471</b>



**BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF PLAINFIELD**  
**Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue**  
**January 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020**

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Anticipated</b>	<b>Received</b>	<b>Anticipated</b>
<b>TAXES</b>			
Land Use Change Tax (1/2)	\$ 8,700	\$ 8,700	\$ 1,700
Yield Taxes	\$ 20,000	\$ 49,805	\$ 25,000
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,125	\$ 2,500
Interest & Penalties	\$ 47,000	\$ 44,991	\$ 45,000
Excavations	\$ 0		\$ 0
<b>LICENSES AND PERMITS</b>			
Licenses & Fees	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,677	\$ 6,000
Motor Vehicle Registrations	\$ 580,000	\$ 609,342	\$ 610,000
Trash User Fees	\$ 84,000	\$ 92,349	\$ 90,000
<b>STATE REVENUE</b>			
Rooms and Meals Dist	\$ 123,387	\$ 123,767	\$ 123,387
Highway Block Grant	\$ 119,000	\$ 119,890	\$ 120,165
Other State Aide	\$ 100	\$ 15,415	\$ 15,205
<b>CHARGES FOR SERVICE</b>			
Income from Departments	\$ 45,000	\$ 50,825	\$ 45,000
Reimbursements	\$ 0	\$ 79	\$ 0
<b>MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE</b>			
Sale of Town Property	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,875	\$ 6,000
Interest on Deposits	\$ 5,000	\$ 6,193	\$ 6,000
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>			
Longterm Borrowing	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Private Fundraising	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 800,000
Capital Reserve Funds	\$ 132,000	\$ 37,356	\$ 63,000
Trust Funds	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,893	\$ 9,000
Fund Balance Utilization	\$ 135,200	\$ 135,200	\$ 0
<b>BUDGET REVENUE TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 1,323,387</b>	<b>\$ 1,316,482</b>	<b>\$ 1,967,957</b>
<b>NET APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$ 1,536,263</b>	<b>\$ 1,280,251</b>	<b>\$ 1,785,164</b>
Change in dollars from taxation:			\$248,901
<b>Projected tax rate impact (total package)</b>			<b>\$0.828</b>
Meriden Library Replacement			\$0.604
Town Budget Change			\$0.224

**TOWN MEETING MINUTES**  
**March 12, 2019**  
**Plainfield, New Hampshire**

The annual meeting for the Town of Plainfield began at the Plainfield Elementary School on Bonner Road on Tuesday, March 12, 2019. Moderator Paul Franklin opened the meeting at 8:00 am with the reading of Articles 1 & 2 and the posting certifications. Stephen Halleran made a motion to dispense with the reading of the entire warrant, seconded by Ron Eberhardt. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative followed and the polls were declared opened.

**ARTICLE 1.** To choose by ballot: One Select Board member for three years, one Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years, Two Library Trustees for three years, one Library Trustee for two years, one Cemetery Trustee for three years, one Town Clerk for three years and any other necessary town officers.

**Number on Checklist: 1686 Same Day Registrants: 9**  
**Number of Regular Ballots Cast: 559 Number of Absentee Ballots Cast: 42**  
**Percentage of Voting: 35%**

**Town Clerk for three years:**

Michelle Marsh 580

**Michelle Marsh** was declared elected.

**Cemetery Trustee for three years:**

Margaret Drye 404

**Margaret Drye** was declared elected.

**Selectboard Member for three years:**

Judith A. Belyea 255  
Eric R. Brann 309  
Mark Horne 21

**Eric R. Brann** was declared elected.

**Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years:**

Jesse Stalker 513

**Jesse Stalker** was declared elected.

**One Library Trustee for two years:**

John W. Hendrick	255
Jeanne Woodward-Poor	307

**Jeanne Woodward-Poor** was declared elected.

**Two Library Trustee for three years:**

Patricia (Patty) Rondeau	240
Jennifer Lenz	266
Judy Ptak	288
Suzanne Spencer	227

**Judy Ptak** and **Jennifer Lenz** were declared elected.

**ARTICLE 2.** To see what action the town will take with regard to the following question relative to the Plainfield Zoning Ordinance:

**Question 1.** In order to clarify the criteria for the granting of special exceptions ~~delete~~ section 5.6II a) & b) which read

**5.6II CONDITIONS TO BE MET**

**II. Special Exceptions**

In order for the Board to grant a special exception it must find that the special exception being sought by the applicant is in fact permitted and specified in the Zoning Ordinance and that all of the conditions for the special exception are met.

a) A special exception as specified in this ordinance may be permitted only if the Board of Adjustment makes the following findings of fact:

- (1) The use is one that is ordinarily prohibited in the district.
- (2) The use is specifically allowed as an exception under the terms of the Ordinance.
- (3) Appropriate and adequate facilities will be provided for the proper operation of the proposed use.
- (4) The proposed use will comply with the applicable regulations of the district in which it is to be located.

b) For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following are established as general conditions for the granting of all special exceptions (subject



to further conditions as may be defined elsewhere herein as to the uses concerned) namely:

- (1) That the use will not be detrimental to the character or enjoyment of the neighborhood.
- (2) That the use will not be injurious, noxious, or offensive and thus detrimental to the neighborhood;
- (3) That the use will not be contrary to the public health, safety or welfare by reason of undue traffic congestion or hazards, undue risk to life and property, unsanitary or unhealthful emissions or waste disposal, or similar adverse causes or conditions.

**Replace the deleted text with**

## **5.6II CONDITIONS TO BE MET**

### **II. Special Exceptions**

A special exception as specified in this ordinance may be permitted only if the Board of Adjustment makes the following findings of fact:

1. The use is specifically allowed as a special exception under the terms of the Ordinance.
2. That the use will not be detrimental to the character or enjoyment of the neighborhood.
3. The proposed use will comply with the applicable regulations of the district in which it is to be located.
4. The granting of a special exception must include remedy for any existing zoning violations on the property.
5. The capacity of existing or planned community services or facilities, including streets and utilities will not be adversely affected.
6. Traffic on roads and highways in the vicinity shall not be adversely affected.
7. The use will not be contrary to the public health, safety or welfare by reason of traffic congestion or hazards, undue risk to life or property, unsanitary or unhealthful emissions or waste disposal, or similar adverse conditions.
8. Appropriate and adequate facilities will be provided for the proper operation of the proposed use.
9. No undue municipal expense will be created.

Renumber the section as indicated.

Those voting **YES: 443**

Those voting **NO: 79**

**It was a vote in the affirmative and so declared.**

**Question #2.** In order to clarify the local appeal process the following replacement of section 5.5 APPEALS TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT is proposed.

**Delete the existing section 5.5 which reads**

**5.5 APPEALS TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

If it is alleged that an error has been made, any aggrieved person, officer, department, board or bureau of the town affected by any decision of the administrative officer may appeal to the Board. Such appeals must occur within fifteen days of the granting or denial of a zoning permit by filing with the Zoning Board of Adjustment a notice of appeal specifying the grounds for appeal. Work may not continue during an appeal unless the administrative officer states that work stoppage would cause imminent peril to life and property.

An appeal stays all proceeds under the action appealed from unless the officer from whom the appeal is taken certifies to the Board of Adjustment after notice of appeal shall have been filed with him or her, that, by reason of facts stated in the certificate, a stay would, in his or her opinion, cause imminent peril to life or property. In such case, proceedings shall be stayed by a restraining order which may be granted by the Board of the Superior Court.

**Replace with**

**5.5 APPEALS TO THE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT** If it is alleged that an error has been made by any decision of a town administrative official, any aggrieved person, department, or board affected may appeal to the Zoning Board. Such appeals must occur within fifteen days of the decision or the granting or denial of a zoning permit. Such appeal shall be made by filing with the Zoning Board of Adjustment a notice of appeal specifying all the grounds for the appeal.

Any activity or work may not continue during an appeal unless the town administrative official certifies to the Zoning Board of Adjustment that work stoppage would cause imminent peril to life and property.

Those voting **YES: 407**

Those voting **NO: 56**

**It was a vote in the affirmative and so declared.**

Steve Halleran made a motion to recess the Town Meeting, seconded by Stephen Taylor and a unanimous voice vote was in the affirmative. The Moderator closed the polls at 7pm. The moderator announced the results at 9:30 pm and recessed the meeting until Saturday, March 16, 2019 at 10am.

On Saturday, March 16, 2019 Moderator Paul Franklin re-opened the meeting at the Plainfield Elementary School at 10:05am. The meeting began with a salute to the flag, a round of “America the Beautiful ” and a few words of encouragement offered by Reverend Harold “Dewey” Jones.

Moderator Franklin introduced the panel. He then explained the rules of the meeting.

The Moderator then recognized Selectboard member Robert Taylor who awarded the Stephen H. Taylor Community Service award to Daniel P. Cantlin for his service as Recreation Director. Dan got involved in 2004 and took head position in 2006. He puts in many hours organizing team schedules as well as seeking out coaches. In addition to the sports, he organizes our annual spirit day and fishing derby which always run smoothly because of his tireless efforts. Congratulations Dan! He received a standing ovation.

Stephen Taylor made a motion to dispense with the reading of the entire warrant and proceed to Article 3. His motion was seconded and passed unanimously by a voice vote.

**ARTICLE 3.** The Moderator recognized Joseph Crate who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption, that the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$975,000** for the replacement of the Meriden Library building, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$487,500 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and at least \$464,000 of the project cost will come from donations raised on behalf of the Meriden Library Foundation created in 2019.

The motion was seconded by Chris Dye. Joe Crate spoke to the article by giving a brief history of the committee and his involvement. The moderator then recognized Brad Atwater who gave a thorough presentation on the specifics of the new building. He also projected sketches of the completed building inside and out on an overhead for the audience to view. The floor was then open for questions and discussion.

After a couple of hours, the question was called to go to the vote. The moderator saw a show of support by seven voters raising their hands and the majority ruled via voice vote.

The moderator explained the voters would be using their special library paper ballot and voting would be open for at least one hour as per state statute on a bond vote. The Moderator recessed the meeting for one and one half hours to give voters a chance to cast their ballots and eat lunch.

At 1:30 pm, the moderator gave last call for voting on Article 3. He then explained the meeting would continue with Article 4 while the ballot clerks counted the votes.

**ARTICLE 4.** The moderator recognized Robert Taylor, who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption. That the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$135,200** for the purchase of retiring all outstanding debt of the Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance. Note this article is part of the fire department municipalization project approved at the 2017 town meeting. It was seconded by Stephen Halleran.

**A vote by paper ballot was taken.**

**Yes: 235          No: 3**

**It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.**

The moderator read the tabulated results from Article 3 as follows:

**Yes: 249          No: 190**

**A 2/3 majority vote requirement needed 293 affirmative votes to pass. The resolution failed and so declared.**

The Moderator recognized Kesaya Noda who made the following motion and moved its adoption. That the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$975,000 for the replacement of the Meriden Library building, that at least \$464,000 of the project cost shall be defrayed by donations raised on behalf of the Meriden Library Foundation, that \$212,000 be drawn from unassigned fund balance and that \$299,000 be raised by taxation in 2019. The motion was seconded by Chris Dye.

The floor was open for discussion.

Lee Lynd made a motion to table the motion seconded by Joe Crate. In a voice vote, the NO's won; it was declared a lost motion and the floor was once again open to Kesaya Noda's motion.

After more discussion, Kesaya Noda withdrew her motion from the floor and Chris Dye withdrew his "second" to the motion, the motion was declared closed.

**ARTICLE 5.** The moderator recognized Steve Halleran who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption: That the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,358,950** to defray town charges for the 2019 fiscal year. The select board proposes the following budget:

<b>1. Executive</b>	<b>\$223,650</b>
<b>2. Election/Registration/Vital Statistics</b>	<b>16,030</b>
<b>3. Financial Administration</b>	<b>77,050</b>
<b>4. Revaluation of Property</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>5. Legal Expenses</b>	<b>8,000</b>
<b>6. Personnel Administration</b>	<b>10,300</b>
<b>7. Planning and Zoning</b>	<b>1,700</b>
<b>8. General Government Buildings</b>	<b>17,025</b>
<b>9. Cemeteries</b>	<b>34,100</b>
<b>10. Insurance</b>	<b>65,200</b>
<b>11. Regional Associations</b>	<b>6,100</b>
<b>12. Police</b>	<b>431,000</b>
<b>13. Ambulance Service</b>	<b>38,000</b>
<b>14. Fire</b>	<b>60,000</b>
<b>15. Building Inspection</b>	<b>11,900</b>
<b>16. Emergency Management</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>17. Hydrant &amp; Forest Fire Expense</b>	<b>4,100</b>
<b>18. Dispatching for Fire, Police &amp; Ambulance</b>	<b>38,000</b>
<b>19. Highway Administration</b>	<b>21,550</b>
<b>20. Highways and Streets</b>	<b>721,535</b>
<b>21. Road Projects</b>	<b>119,000</b>
<b>22. Street Lights</b>	<b>10,000</b>
<b>23. Solid Waste Collection</b>	<b>170,500</b>
<b>24. Solid Waste Disposal</b>	<b>50,810</b>
<b>25. Health Agencies</b>	<b>13,610</b>
<b>26. Animal Control</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>27. Welfare</b>	<b>20,000</b>
<b>28. Recreation Commission</b>	<b>20,000</b>
<b>29. Library</b>	<b>157,040</b>
<b>30. Patriotic</b>	<b>1,500</b>
<b>31. Conservation Commission</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>32. Principal Long-term debt</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>33. Interest Long-term debt</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,358,950</b>

The motion was seconded by Judy Belyea.

Stephen Taylor made a motion to refrain from the reading of the entire warrant as written, it was seconded and the Ayes were unanimous in a voice vote.

The Moderator turned the floor over to Steve Halleran who gave an explanation to different sections of the budget, highlighting line items only where there were increases or decreases from the previous year. The floor was open for questions and discussion.

**A vote by paper ballot was taken.**

**Yes: 179            No: 15**

**It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.**

**ARTICLE 6.** The Moderator recognized Judy Belyea who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption. That the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$242,500** to be placed in existing town capital reserve and general trust funds, pursuant to RSA 35:1 and RSA 31:19-a as follows:

RSA 35:1 funds:

\$15,000	Town Facilities Maintenance Fund created in 2015.
\$10,000	Revaluation Fund created in 1993.
\$75,000	Highway Equipment Fund created in 1987.
\$55,000	Transportation Improvement Fund created in 2006.
\$25,000	Meriden Library Replacement Fund created in 2017.
\$25,000	Fire Department Equipment Fund created in 2017
\$10,000	Bridge Capital Reserve Fund created 1994.
\$5,000	ADA Access Fund created in 2003.
\$5,000	Police Equipment Fund created in 2011.
\$5,000	Gravel Pit Reclamation Fund created in 2012.

RSA 31:19a funds:

\$10,000	Town Hall Repair Fund established in 1996.
\$2,500	Library Building Repair Fund established in 1992.

The Select Board is named agent to expend for the bridge fund, the town hall repair fund, the library building repair fund, the revaluation fund, the transportation improvement fund, the police equipment fund, the facilities maintenance fund and the highway equipment fund.

The motion was seconded by Stephen Halleran.

**A vote by paper ballot was taken.**

**Yes: 127            No: 15**

**It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared**

**ARTICLE 7.** The Moderator recognized Ron Eberhardt who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption. That the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$123,000** for the purchase of a dump truck with plow and

sanding equipment for the use of the highway department, further to authorize the Select Board to sell or trade the town's existing truck #8. If approved, the Select Board will withdraw said sum from the Highway Equipment Fund. The Select Board recommends this appropriation. The Select Board was named agent to expend the highway equipment fund at the 2015 town meeting.

The motion was seconded by Stephen Halleran.

Mr. Eberhardt explained the sum had been reduced from the original posting of **155,000** to **123,000** due to the road agent finding a less expensive option.

**A vote by paper ballot was taken.**

**Yes: 123            No: 9**

**It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.**

The Moderator recognized Mr. Halleran who made a motion to combine the discussion of Articles 8 and 9 as the qualifications in the articles were identical. The motion was seconded. A voice vote was in the affirmative. The Moderator stated they would still be voted on separately.

**ARTICLE 8.** The Moderator recognized Robert Taylor who offered the following resolutions and moved their adoption. Shall we modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in the town of Plainfield based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$64,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$92,000; for a person 80 years or older, \$141,000? To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 years; own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by his/her spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$28,000 or if married, a combined net income of less than \$35,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$65,000 excluding the value of the person's residence.

**Note:** If approved this article will raise the maximum income eligibility requirements for a single person from \$23,500 to \$28,000 and for a married couple it raises the maximum income from \$30,000 to \$35,000.

Robert Taylor further offered that:

**ARTICLE 9.** Shall we modify the exemption for the disabled, as outlined in RSA 72-37-b? The exemption, based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers shall be \$47,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least five years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$28,000 or if married a combined net income of not more than \$35,000; and own net assets of not more than \$65,000 excluding the value of the person's residence.

**Note:** If approved this article will raise the maximum income eligibility requirement for a single person from \$23,500 to \$28,000 and for a married couple it raises the maximum income from \$30,000 to \$35,000.

**A voice vote was taken on Article 8.  
The aye's were unanimous.**

**The vote was in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.**

**A voice vote was taken on Article 9.  
The aye's were unanimous.**

**The vote was in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.**

**ARTICLE 10.** The Moderator recognized Ron Eberhardt who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption. That the town adopt pursuant to RSA 72:38-b an exemption from property tax in the town of Plainfield for the deaf or severely hearing impaired. Said exemption shall be \$47,000. To qualify the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years; own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by his/her spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$28,000 or if married, a combined net income of less than \$35,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$65,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. See RSA 72:38-b II for the necessary medical qualifications to be satisfied.

The motion was seconded by Robert Taylor.

Mr. Eberhardt explained that the town of Plainfield had not yet adopted this exemption and felt that it was one we should have available to our residents.

**A voice vote was taken.**

**The aye's were unanimous.**

**The vote was in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.**

**ARTICLE 11.** The Moderator recognized Stephen Halleran who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption. That the town direct the Select board to appoint a committee to continue the KUA/Plainfield study. The charge to this committee shall be to meet with representatives of the KUA administration and maintain an ongoing review of the relationship between the academy and the town, including any agreement pursuant to RSA 72:23, and to report its findings at next March's annual town meeting. The motion was seconded by Judy Belyea.

**A voice vote was taken.**



**The aye's were unanimous.**

**The vote was in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.**

**ARTICLE 12.** The Moderator recognized Judy Belyea who offered the following motion and moved its adoption: That the town vote to instruct the moderator to appoint a finance committee (advisory only) of six Plainfield voters to advise the Select board and other officers of the town in the prudential affairs of the town. The motion was seconded by Steve Halleran.

The committee from last year was recognized.

**A voice vote was taken.**

**The aye's were unanimous.**

**The vote was in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.**

**ARTICLE 13.** Moderator Franklin recognized Ron Eberhardt who offered the following motion and moved its adoption: That the town vote to accept the reports of town officers as they appear in the 2017 annual report, subject to any corrections. A certified copy to be kept by the Town Clerk. The motion was seconded by Judy Belyea.

**A voice vote was taken.**

**The aye's were unanimous.**

**The vote was in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared**

**ARTICLE 14.** Moderator Franklin swore in the following newly elected officers:

Judy Ptak – Library Trustee  
Jennifer Lenz – Library Trustee  
Eric Brann – Selectboard  
Margaret Drye – Cemetery Trustee

Dewey Jones moved to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Patty Rondeau and a unanimous voice vote in the affirmative followed. Moderator Franklin declared the meeting closed at 4:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Marsh  
Town Clerk

## TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>Cash on hand, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019</b>	
Cash-Checking	\$ 3,792,213
Cash-Investments	\$ 3,593
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,795,806</b>
Receipts/ transfers in during the year	\$ 8,966,343
<b>Total available</b>	<b>\$12,762,149</b>
Less Select Board's orders/transfers out	\$9,049,689
<b>Cash On Hand, December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019</b>	<b>\$3,712,460</b>
Cash-Checking	\$3,708,539
Cash-Investments	\$3,671
Cash-Petty	\$250

Respectfully Submitted,

Treasurer, Sarah Brookes-Governor

## ONGOING AUTHORITIES

The town endorses the organizational structure of the two fire departments, per RSA 154:1 III. Article 18, 1995 Town Meeting.

Authority for the Select Board to convey real estate acquired by tax collector's deed. RSA 80:80. Article 4, 1995 Town Meeting.

The Select Board to apply for, accept, and expend without further action of the town unanticipated money from state, federal or governmental units. RSA 31:95-b. Article 5, 1995 Town Meeting.

The Select Board to accept gifts of personal property, other than cash to the municipality for any public purpose. RSA 31:95-e. Article 6, 1995 Town Meeting.

The Select Board to accept, on behalf of the town, gifts, legacies and devices made to the town in trust for any public purpose. RSA 31:19. Article 7, 1995 Town Meeting.

Library Trustees to apply for, accept, and expend without further action of the town unanticipated money from state, federal or governmental units. RSA 202-A:4-c Article 8, 1995 Town Meeting.

The Select Board to borrow funds on behalf of the municipality in anticipation of taxes. RSA 33:7 Article 9, 1995 Town Meeting.

The Select Board to accept the dedication of any street shown on a subdivision plan approved by the Planning Board. RSA 674:40 Article 10, 1995 Town Meeting.

Library Trustees to accept gifts, legacies and devices made to the town in trust for any public purpose. RSA 202-A:4-d Article 15, 2006 Town Meeting.

Select Board to appoint a Treasurer to an annual term as allowed by RSA 41:26-e. Article 7, 2010 Town Meeting.

Select Board to appoint a Tax Collector to a term of three years as allowed by RSA 41:2, 41:33 and RSA 669:15. Article 9, 2013 Town Meeting.

Indemnification of Town Officials/Employees, see April 6<sup>th</sup> 2016 Select Board minutes. Official locations of posting of public notices, see August 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 Select Board minutes.

**Further the Select Board is named agents to expend for thirteen funds:**

- The Library Building Repair Fund created in 1992.
- The Town Bridge Capital Reserve Fund created in 1994.
- Town Hall Repair Fund created in 1996.
- Town Revaluation Fund created in 1993, authority 2002.
- Town Building ADA Access Fund created in 2003.
- Transportation Improvement Fund created in 2006, authority 2008.
- Townsend Bridge Fund created in 2006, authority 2006.

Town Beautification, Fund created in 2009.  
Police Department Equipment Fund created in 2011.  
Town Facilities Maintenance Fund created in 2015.  
Highway Equipment Fund created in 1987, authority 2015.  
Fire Department Equipment Fund created in 2018.  
Meriden Library Building Fund created in 2018.

**STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS-March 2019**

**Budget Article 5.**

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

Executive.....	\$ 223,650
Election, Registration & Vital Statistics.....	16,030
Financial Administration.....	77,050
Revaluation of Property .....	10,000
Legal Expense .....	8,000
Personnel Administration.....	10,300
Planning and Zoning .....	1,700
General Government Buildings.....	17,025
Cemeteries.....	34,100
Insurances.....	65,200
Advertising and Regional Expense .....	6,100

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

Police Department.....	431,000
Ambulance .....	38,000
Fire Protection .....	195,200
Emergency Management.....	250
Dispatch and Forest Fire Expense .....	42,100
Building Inspection .....	11,900

**HIGHWAYS, STREETS & BRIDGES**

Administration .....	\$21,550
Highways and Streets.....	721,535
Road Projects .....	119,000
Street Lights .....	10,000

**SANITATION**

Garbage Collection.....	170,500
Solid Waste Disposal .....	50,810

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Health Department .....	13,610
Pest Control.....	500

**WELFARE**

Welfare Department.....	20,000
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**CULTURE AND RECREATION**

Recreation Commission .....	20,000
Libraries .....	157,040
Patriotic .....	1,500
Conservation Commission .....	500

**DEBT SERVICE**

Principal on Long-term debts.....	0
Interest on Long-term debts .....	0

**OPERATING BUDGET TOTAL..... \$2,358,950**

**OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT TO RESERVES**

**RSA 35:1 Funds**

Article 6 Facilities Fund.....	15,000
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Article 6 Revaluation Fund .....	10,000
Article 6 Highway Equipment Fund .....	75,000
Article 6 Transportation Improvement Fund.....	55,000
Article 6 Bridge Fund.....	10,000
Article 6 ADA Access Fund.....	5,000
Article 6 Police Equipment Fund .....	5,000
Article 6 Gravel Pit Reclamation Fund .....	5,000
Article 6 Fire Department Equipment Fund.....	25,000
Article 6 Meriden Library Building Fund .....	25,000
<b>RSA 31:19a Funds</b>	
Article 6 Town Hall Repair Fund.....	10,000
Article 6 Library Building Repair Fund.....	2,500
<b>TOTAL TO RESERVES .....</b>	<b>\$242,500</b>
<b>Capital Outlay</b>	
<b>Article 4 PVFD Debt Retirement.....</b>	<b>\$135,200</b>
<b>Article 7 Dump truck w/plow .....</b>	<b>\$123,000</b>
<b>TOTAL TOWN MEETING APPROPRIATIONS .....</b>	<b>\$2,859,650</b>

## SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION

Land, improved and unimproved .....	\$79,448,686
Buildings .....	220,757,800
Public Utilities.....	7,626,000
<b>Total value before exemptions .....</b>	<b>\$307,832,486</b>
Blind Exemption .....	94,000
Elderly Exemption .....	1,637,500
Deaf Exemption .....	0
Total and Permanently Disabled Exemption.....	0
Solar Energy Exemption .....	2,117,325
Wind Power Exemption .....	8,800
School/Dining/Kitchen Exemption (state law).....	150,000
<b>Total exemptions allowed .....</b>	<b>\$4,007,625</b>
<b>Net value used for local tax rate.....</b>	<b>\$303,824,861</b>
<b>Net value used for state education rate .....</b>	<b>\$296,198,861</b>
(local tax rate value less utilities)	

### Electric Utility Property

Liberty Utilities .....	\$2,144,200
New England Power Company .....	\$2,782,800
New Hampshire Electric Cooperative.....	\$1,431,300
Public Service of NH dba Eversource.....	\$1,267,700
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$7,626,000</b>

## WAR SERVICE CREDITS

Total and Permanently Disabled Veterans .....	\$7,000
Standard Exemptions (\$500/veteran).....	\$52,165
<b>Total War Service Credits.....</b>	<b>\$59,165</b>

## CURRENT USE REPORT

<b>Land Categories</b>	<b>Acres</b>
Farm Land .....	3,000
Forest Land.....	16,889
Forest Land (w/documented stewardship).....	6,875
Unproductive Land.....	528
Wetlands.....	810
<b>Total acres in current use (includes conservation restrictions) .....</b>	<b>28,102</b>

### TAX RATE COMPUTATION

Total Town Appropriation		\$2,859,650
Total Revenues and Credits	less	1,220,821
Fund balance voted from surplus	less	\$135,200
Overlay	add	124,484
War Service Credits	add	59,165
<b>A) Net Town Appropriation</b>	<b>Equals</b>	<b>\$1,687,278</b>
Net Local School Budget		6,190,124
Adequate Education Grant	less	804,126
State Education Taxes	less	552,414
<b>B) Approved Local School Assessment</b>	<b>Equals</b>	<b>4,833,584</b>
<b>C) Approved State Education Assessment</b>	<b>Equals</b>	<b>552,414</b>
<b>D) Approved County Tax Assessment</b>	<b>Equals</b>	<b>811,910</b>
 <b>Total Town, School, and County (a+b+c+d)</b>	 <b>Equals</b>	 <b>\$7,885,186</b>

### TAX COMMITMENT ANALYSIS

Tax Effort	\$7,885,186
Less War Service Credits	59,165
<b>Total Property Taxes to be Raised</b>	<b>\$7,826,021</b>

### TAX RATE BREAKDOWN

	Prior year tax rate	Approved year tax rate
Town	5.56	5.55
County	2.58	2.67
School local	16.73	15.91
School state	2.03	1.87
Combined tax rate	<b>\$26.90</b>	<b>\$26.00</b>
 Net value on which local tax rates are computed	 \$300,586,910	 303,824,861
Net value on which state tax rate is computed (Net local value less utility valuations)	\$292,960,910	296,198,861



**TAX EXEMPT PROPERTIES**

**CHURCHES AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS**

Community Baptist Church & parsonage (map107/lot 6).....	\$782,700
First Baptist Church & parsonage(104/3) .....	520,700
Meriden Congregational Church & parsonage (102/06) .....	1,327,500
Connecticut Valley Christ Community Church (259/7).....	3,412,300

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

Kimball Union Academy (state law educational prop) .....	33,733,750
Kimball Union Academy (state law dorm, kitchen, dining prop) .....	150,000

**CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS**

New England Wildflower Association (239/02) .....	251,500
Plainfield Historical Society (107/25) .....	175,500
Singing Hills Conference Facility (253/24) .....	2,822,100

**PUBLIC SERVICE INSTITUTIONS**

The Nature Conservancy (256/01) .....	22,100
Meriden Volunteer Fire Department (104/29) .....	293,900
Meriden Village Water and Sewer District .(105/14, 102/18.01).....	930,900
Plainfield Village Water District (260-41,256-15).....	436,400
Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department (259-34) .....	346,100

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Land on Stage Road (253/11).....	3,300
Land on River Road (multiple parcels) .....	87,300
Duncan State Forest (231/9,232/10),.....	189,400

**GRANGES**

Blow-Me-Down Grange (107/39).....	431,400
Meriden Grange (104/25).....	198,300

**LAND OWNED BY OTHER TOWNS**

Cornish (271/07) .....	3,400
Grantham (248/01) .....	27,000

<b>TOTAL EXEMPT PROPERTIES .....</b>	<b>\$46,145,550</b>
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**SCHEDULE OF TOWN OWNED LAND  
AND BUILDINGS**

Plainfield Town Hall (map 107/lot 27) .....	\$333,700
-Meriden(includes Police Dept.) (102/1).....	499,300
Libraries –Plainfield (107/8) .....	1,153,500
-Meriden (104/23) .....	303,300
Highway Garage(253-01).....	350,000
Plainfield Elementary School (105/11) .....	4,571,500
Burnap’s Island (203/14).....	51,600
Stage Road land (252/27).....	33,900
Gravel Pit lot (258/12).....	148,300
Gravel Pit Annex lot (258/11) .....	130,700
Spencer Lot (242-04).....	100,100
Whitaker Road Intersections (262/3).....	10,100
Tallow Hill Intersection (254-19).....	3,600
French’s Ledges (243/1).....	47,200
Benson Donation (225/15,225/19).....	156,800
Thompson Donation (Moulton Cemetery) (106/7).....	55,000
Farnum Lot (234/6) .....	113,900
Town Pound (241-15).....	18,200
School Street Land (105/12.1).....	61,900
Meriden Covered Bridge Lot (101/9).....	11,700
Sumner’s Falls Ledges (238/6).....	4,700
Stage Road Land Hewes Field (240/01).....	234,300
Stage Road (253/10).....	18,900
Hedgehog Road Land (236/4) .....	7,400
Willow Brook Land (205/18).....	\$58,200
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>\$8,477,800</b>

## **REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK – 2019**

The Real ID conversion is in full swing. All residents who wish to upgrade to a Real ID license can do so at Newport DMV. As of October 1, 2020, the current old style NH license will no longer allow you to fly within the US. Go to [www.nh.gov/dmv](http://www.nh.gov/dmv) for more details.

We are now accepting credit and debit cards for over the counter transactions! There is a minimum of \$1.95 or a 2.95% processing fee.

Remember to call ahead when planning to register a new car. We can provide a quote with the Vin # and let you know the key paperwork to bring. It's time to register dogs and boats.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your town clerk.

**Michelle Marsh** Town Clerk

**REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR**  
**Fiscal Year ending December 31<sup>st</sup> 2019**

-Debits-		
<b>Uncollected Taxes</b>		
Beginning of fiscal year	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018+</b>
Property taxes		\$249,562
Timber yield tax		\$0
Land use change tax		\$0
Excavations		\$0
Property tax credit balance	(\$3,878)	
<b>Taxes Committed to Collector</b>		
Property taxes	\$7,827,697	
Land use change taxes	\$3,390	
Yield taxes	\$51,052	
Excavation taxes	\$91	
<b>Overpayments</b>		
Property taxes	\$391	
Interest collected on delinquent taxes	\$2,349	\$13,224
<b>TOTAL DEBITS</b>	<b>\$7,881,092</b>	<b>\$262,786</b>
-Credits-		
<b>Remittances to Treasurer During Fiscal Year</b>		
Property taxes	\$7,639,655	\$163,248
Land use changes taxes	\$3,390	\$0
Excavation	\$91	\$0
Timber yield taxes	\$49,806	\$0
Interest on taxes	\$2,349	\$12,097
Penalties	\$0	\$1,127
Converted to liens (principal only)	\$0	\$86,314
Prior year overpayments assigned		
<b>Abatements Granted During Fiscal Year</b>		
Property taxes	\$1,174	\$0
Yield Taxes	\$126	
<b>Uncollected Taxes End of Fiscal Year</b>		
Property taxes	\$188,256	\$0
Yield Tax	\$1,120	
Land Use Change Tax	\$0	
Property Tax Credit Balance	(\$4,875)	
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>\$7,881,092</b>	<b>\$262,786</b>

**TAX COLLECTOR'S LIEN REPORT**  
**December 31<sup>st</sup> 2019**

	-Debits-		
<b>Unredeemed Liens</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
Beginning of year	\$0	\$98,311	\$80,639
New liens	\$93,439	\$0	\$0
Interests/Penalties	\$1,531	\$8,765	\$20,123
<b>TOTAL DEBITS</b>	<b>\$94,970</b>	<b>\$107,076</b>	<b>\$100,762</b>
	-Credits-		
<b>Remittance to Treasurer</b>			
Redemptions	\$21,764	\$33,759	\$51,702
Interest/Penalties	\$1,531	\$8,765	\$20,123
Abatements of Unredeemed liens	\$0	\$0	\$0
Liens Deeded to Municipality	\$1,720	\$1,548	\$1,553
Unredeemed liens	\$69,955	\$63,004	\$27,384
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>\$94,970</b>	<b>\$107,076</b>	<b>\$100,762</b>

**REPORT OF WOOD OR TIMBER CUT**  
**Year ending March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

Total reports filed .....	24
Total yield tax assessed .....	\$51,052
Softwood cut, MBF .....	3,272
Hardwood cut, MBF .....	787
Cordwood cut, cords.....	569
Pulpwood/chips, tons.....	6,801
Pulpwood, cords .....	24
Whole tree chips, tons .....	8,721

Respectfully Submitted,  
Judith A. Belyea,  
Yield Tax Agent

## SELECT BOARD REPORT

Plainfield works as well as it does as a community because of the work of many of its citizens. Our professional staff, the volunteers who give so generously of their time to serve on boards and committees, and the residents who choose to involve themselves all work together to try to realize their vision of what Plainfield should be. Thanks to all who choose to participate in that work. Good people can have honest disagreement about most issues arising in our town. A cornerstone of good government is civil debate and respect for one another. The Selectboard appreciates the fact that this is the norm in our town. Here is an update of some of our 2019 work. Complete minutes of 2019 Selectboard meetings can be found at the town website, [www.plainfieldnh.org](http://www.plainfieldnh.org).

The residents of Plainfield continue to expect round the clock coverage from our police department. The recruitment and retention of police officers is a national problem, and we have seen that reflected locally. Following the resignation of Matt Foss, one of our fulltime officers, we were able to hire Kyle Dawson as a part time officer. After attending the Police Academy in April, 2020, Officer Dawson will be eligible for a full time position. We have also added resident Roland Daniels to the department as a part time officer.

Moderator Paul Franklin has been working with town and school officials and the NH Secretary of State's office to explore changing the scheduling of school and town meetings. The goal would be to maximize citizen participation.

On March 20, 2019, the Plainfield and Meriden Fire Departments officially became a municipal fire department under the direction of Chief Bill Taylor.

Our highway department, with the assistance of Facilities Manager Brad Atwater, has been working on improvements to the town garage. This has included replacement of some of the siding, installation of a fire escape, renovation of the lunch/break room, and general clean-up of the property. We are looking at options for the purchase of a new highway truck, and we have purchased a new pickup truck for our road agent. This replaces a 2006 pickup donated to our town three years ago by TransCanada.

2019 paving projects included the Camp and Hauser Lane bridge approaches, Daniels Road, Hell Hollow, and Mill Village.

When a section of 12A just north of River Road was closed due to a slide, farmers, business owners and residents were worried that a state proposed detour would have a negative impact on their businesses and on residents' travel. State officials were responsive to the residents and town government officials and created the least disruptive solution possible, implementing a short section of single lane traffic on 12A during the repair process. This was a good example of state government, local government, and citizens working together successfully.

The Town Office is now set up to accept credit cards for any payments made to the town. Cash and checks continue to be an acceptable method of payment.

In the effort to make Selectboard meeting attendance as convenient t as possible for the greatest number of citizens, the Board voted to adjust the meeting venues. The first Wednesday meeting of each month will be held at the Meriden Town Hall. The third Wednesday of each month meeting will be held at the Plainfield library.

Our Solid Waste Study Group has been hard at work looking at the best economic and environmental options to deal with trash and recycling in town. With the market down for recyclables, costs are going up. A mail-in survey was returned by over half of the residents. Results showed that 86% of respondents favored continued curbside pickup of trash and 96% favored continued curbside pickup of recycling. This will be discussed further at Town Meeting.

The town's building permit process has been streamlined. Selectmen are no longer part of the approval process. All permits are still reviewed by at least two town officials, (Zoning Administrator and Building Inspector) and the Selectboard is made aware at least on a weekly basis of all permits issued.

Our part time Facilities Manager continues to provide valuable service by helping us to assess repair/replacement needs, future planning, and energy efficiency upgrade possibilities.

Our 30 old voting booths have been at or near the end of their functional life. We have purchased new booths. They should be in use by the time you read this.

Following the sad and untimely death of Library Trustee Nancy Liston, the Selectboard appointed Rosemary Mills to serve as Library Trustee until March, 2020 Town Meeting.

In December, the Selectboard and a number of other town officials went to the home of Libby Bakofen in order to present her with the Boston Post Cane, given to the oldest resident in town. Libby was born on April 22, 1924. This tradition began in 1907 when the Boston Post gave canes to the Selectboards of 700 New England towns. These were to be awarded to the oldest male resident. In 1930, after considerable controversy, eligibility was opened to women as well.

As always, we invite you to join us at our meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. The more citizen participation we have, the greater the likelihood that our community will reflect the hopes and wishes of its residents. We would welcome your engagement.

Select Board Ron Eberhardt, Chair, , Rob Taylor, Eric Brann



## REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

As directed by the select board the town office worked on the following projects during 2019:

**Fire Department Municipalization:** As planned, this project was completed on March 20<sup>th</sup> with the swearing in of William Taylor as the town's first municipal fire chief. See RSA 154.

**Meriden Library Replacement Options:** Based on the information learned at the 2019 Town Meeting, the Meriden Library Building Committee has continued to work on options for replacement of the existing Meriden Library building. A second vote on the project is planned for the 2020 town meeting.

**Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:** To maintain eligibility to receive federal funds a group appointed by the selectmen worked with consultant Jane Hubbard to once again update the town's Hazardous Mitigation Plan. The new plan was approved by FEMA in October 14 2019.

**Route 12A Slide:** The selectboard partnered with the town's Route 12A business community to convince the state that a repair to Route 12A near Beauty Hill could be completed without shutting down the roadway and diverting traffic over Old County Road

**Solid Waste Group:** The office has provided support for a newly formed committee working on reviewing the town's existing curbside collection based solid waste management plan.

**Town Facility Management:** Brad Atwater has continued to work on developing management plans for each of the town's buildings. The fire department project added two significant buildings to the town's inventory of facilities. An open question continues to be the timing of the replacement of the highway garage. The facility was built in 1983. Significant improvements have been made to it in the last five years. A study group has recommended that rather than remodeled the building should be replaced. The building has served the town well and can continue to serve the town well for some years to come, however it is not too early to begin to consider options for its replacement.

Town Administrator, Stephen Halleran

## ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

During the year the zoning board **GRANTED** the following appeals:

- Case 2019-02** Cloud/Tenney Multi family project, 4 units #12 Bean Rd  
**Case 2019-03** BART Industries change in hours of operation #360 Route 12A  
**Case 2019-04** Sonneburg Solar Tracker Array #94 Bonner Road

During the year the zoning board **DENIED** the following appeal:

- Case 2019-01** BART Industries denied hours of operation change #360 Route 12A

Submitted,  
**Richard Colburn** Chair  
Zoning Board of Adjustment

## PLANNING BOARD

During the year the planning board approved the following applications:

**Subdivision:**

Alice P. Hendrick Trust	One new lot subdivision Stage Road
McNamara, Kevin and Clara	Two new lots Camp Road

**Annexation:**

Heirs of Judy Atwater	Lot line adjustment 3.6 acres.
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Submitted  
**Jane Stephenson** Chair  
Plainfield Planning Board

## ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Zoning Administrator: Stephen Halleran      469-3201  
Building Inspector:     David Lersch                      381-1929

### **Permits for the following projects were issued in 2019:**

05	New single family residences	05	Renewals
01	Accessory Dwelling Unit	01	Multi family
02	Institutional projects	12	Barns/Sheds/Outbuildings
04	Garages	13	Electrical upgrades
17	Renovations/Misc.	03	Additions
09	Decks/porches	06	Solar panels
01	Generators	03	Commercial Projects

**Permit total= 82**

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION PROJECT 2019



**Beaver Deceiver Hedgehog Rd**

**Photo S. Halleran**

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Plainfield Conservation Commission spent 2019 adrift after our Chairperson of ten years, Myra Ferguson, moved out of town. Myra was always an enthusiastic advocate for, and energetic practitioner of, land conservation and stewardship. She spent enough time on her tractor and on foot in the fields and forest so that we knew she preferred practicing to preaching, and was a natural fit to lead the Conservation Commission. Like when a large tree is removed from the forest, we trust that Myra's replacement will eventually grow to fill the opening.

In reading through the annual reports that Myra submitted, she clearly recognized the necessity and value of collaborating with other town departments. She would be pleased to know that we assisted the Highway Department in contracting for the construction of a Beaver Deceiver on Hedgehog Road. This device is a non-lethal, non-destructive means of permitting beavers to coexist with our road system by foiling the beavers' instinctive need to block road culverts.

We will continue with many of the other items that have been on our plan of work over the past years, and one in particular cannot be overlooked. There are well over two dozen properties in town that are protected from development by some form of easement. Some of these are owned privately while others are owned publically or by a conservation organization. The Conservation Commission has responsibility for monitoring at least five of these properties to assure the owners' compliance with the terms of their particular easement. We may not have gotten to them all in 2019, but will strive to do better in 2020.

The Conservation Commission continues to have respectable fund balances available for undertaking special projects. The Forest Maintenance Fund was first funded with income from a timber harvest at the Benson Town Forest and has a balance of almost \$20,000. In the past we have received town meeting approval to use this fund for projects like tree planting and boundary marking at our town forests.

<b>Forest Maintenance Fund</b>	
December 31, 2018	\$19,422.52
2019 Interest	<u>\$421.67</u>
December 31, 2019	<b>\$19,844.19</b>
<b>Conservation Fund</b>	
December 31, 2018	\$88,611.01
Current Use Change Tax (50%)	\$8,750.00
2019 Interest	\$2,044.07
2019 Expense (Beaver Deceiver)	<u>(\$2,500.00)</u>
December 31, 2019	<b>\$96,905.08</b>

The Conservation Fund is financed primarily with one-half of the current use change tax proceeds paid when a landowner decides to forego the current use assessment, typically as a prelude to converting the open space to residential or commercial use. This fund has facilitated a number of conservation easement transactions and planning efforts. The balance fluctuates but is now approaching six figures, so we'll be looking for opportunities to advance conservation of open space critical for wildlife habitat, wetland protection, recreational opportunities, scenic value, or other qualities the town determines to be beneficial. Broad public input on planning and implementing these conservation projects will greatly enhance the success of this program, and we hope that we can engage our residents in this process.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Grobe  
pcc@plainfieldnh.org

## RECREATION COMMISSION

We finished the 2018-2019 basketball season in February. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade group of 17 students worked on learning basic skills at the PES gym. We had a large 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys group of 15 and a group of 6 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade girls, who practiced and played several games with local towns during the season. Focus was put on individual skills, playing as a team, and sportsmanship. Practices and home games were held at PES. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys ended the season with a good showing at the Hanover Tournament.

In the spring we started our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade baseball with a group of 15 participants. They practiced and played teams from other area towns. Home games were played on Prescott Field. Skills and sportsmanship were worked on through the season. They also all participated in a 3-Pitch Jamboree in May in Hartford at the Maxfield Sports Complex.

We ran our T-ball during the spring again this year. Participation was at 22 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and an additional 14 participants to make up our farm team. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders practiced skills and played games. The Farm Team worked on basic skills of throwing, catching, batting, and rules of the game. These teams practiced and played on Prescott Field.

Our annual fishing derby was held on the morning of June 1st in Blood Brook behind the Meriden Deli. Trophies for first, second, and third place in each of the four age groups were handed out. Hot dogs were cooked on the grill for the kids to enjoy with drinks including McNamara Dairy Chocolate Milk, Coca Cola soft drinks and water. Ice cream cones were handed out from the Meriden Deli to all participants. We had 69 kids participate in the event and the big catch of the day was made by Finn Stephens with a trout of 11 3/4". There were a total of 86 fish caught during the derby this year. We recorded 52 participants catching at least one fish and 34 of them catching the derby 2 fish limit. As always, it was a lot of fun watching the excitement as the fish were hooked. All kids had the opportunity to fish the brook at the completion of the derby, following NH law. Our 8<sup>th</sup> annual Spirit Day was held on August 25th. This event is an extension of our 250th celebration which was held in 2011. It is a great way to get together as a community as the summer comes to an end. The event started at 5:00 pm with music provided by the band BorderStone. They played throughout the evening while we enjoyed a corn roast, cooking on the grill and Mac's Maple Creamees, while relaxing and visiting with our friends and neighbors. The First Baptist Church provided lemonade and water. Also this year we had Lebanon Police Officer Nick Alden and his K-9 Nitro. Officer Alden and Nick did a demonstration for us and spent the evening mingling and answering questions. The Plainfield Police, Plainfield and Meriden Fire departments as well as Cornish rescue squad were there for our safety and welcomed everyone to see the trucks and ask questions. The evening ended with the playing of our National Anthem as our fire department displayed a large flag hanging high from their ladder truck prior to a spectacular display of fireworks by Northstar Fireworks. It was a fun

evening and I hope it was enjoyed by everyone who was able to attend. This is an event we plan to continue and I hope that if you were unable to attend this past year that you can make it in 2020.

The soccer program in the fall included the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys' team made up of 22 boys and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade girls' team made up of 15 girls. These two teams played other area recreation teams and practiced and played home games on Hewes Field. This group worked on individual skills, working as a team, and sportsmanship. The groups participated in a soccer jamboree at the Sachem Fields. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade had three teams made up of a total of 34 players. These teams practiced basic skill and played games with each other at the Prescott Field. We also had an additional team of 14 girls that wanted to focus on working on skills and team work. We had 19 kids that participated in the kindergarten group. They worked on basic skills of the game. We continued our pre-school group this year with 19 participants in this last group. This continues to be a huge program with 123 participants in our pre-school through 4th grade soccer groups.

The 2018-2019 basketball season got started in November for our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys (team of 11) and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade girls (team of 11). They are working on both individual and team skills and will play games with other area towns. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade group, working on basic skills at the PES gym has 13 participants and started in December.

I would like to thank the Meriden Deli, Hy-On-A-Hill Trout Farm, N.H. Fish and Game, McNamara Dairy, Mac's Maple, Edgewater Farm, Taylor Farm, and First Baptist Church for your donations to the Fishing Derby and/or Spirit Day events. Thank you to the Plainfield School and facilities group for a place to hold our games, practices, events, and the help provided. I would also like to thank both the Fishing Derby Crew and the Spirit Day Crew and participants for all your help in the preparation and work that you do during these events. Thank you to our many volunteer coaches, officials, and helpers that provide an opportunity for our local youth to participate in the sports programs that we offer.

It is a combination of many volunteers that make these programs and events available and successful.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel P. Cantlin ,  
Recreation Director



**Recreation Dan Cantlin receiving the Stephen H. Taylor Award  
from Selectboard member Robert W. Taylor Photo Stephen Halleran**

### **Halloween Fun at the Plainfield Libraries**



**Photo Mart King**



## PLAINFIELD LIBRARY SYSTEM TRUSTEE REPORT

While the Library Board of Trustees can look back on 2019 with satisfaction in several important areas of its responsibilities, and with gratitude for the service of members whose terms ended, the salient memory of this year will always be of the sudden passing of our friend and colleague Nancy Liston in September. Nancy had served on the Board for over eight years, providing her colleagues and the library staff with her deep command of library science, including her oversight of The Library of Congress Cold Region Bibliography Project. Her vigor and expertise were matchless. In Nancy's memory The Friends of Philip Read Memorial Library presented to the Board a memorial donation of \$1,500.00, fittingly designated for use in adult educational programs and the Special Collection, areas wherein Nancy made invaluable contributions. The February 2019 Board meeting marked the conclusion of distinguished terms of service by Suzanne Spencer and Jean Strong, along with much appreciated service of Richard Atkinson, who had graciously agreed to fill an unexpired term. Thus, in April, the Board took on its continuing responsibilities with three new members aboard, and it is fitting, again, to make record here of how essential to our work were the expertise and leadership of Nancy Liston.

In this context, we also offer a necessary record of gratitude and praise for the leadership and assiduous work of Library Director Mary King, and of her staff. Mary led the process of Policy Review, which includes the requirement to review all library policy every five years. She oversaw the weeding of the collections, completed at PRML in July. In program development the advances are nearly countless; selected examples suggest the range of accomplishment: Story Time, Cribbage, Book Group, 'Tech Time' training for Plainfield residents, school break programs, and the development of a new Plainfield Libraries website. We much appreciate Terri Crane's work on the comprehensive email newsletter.

The Board would also like to record our thanks to Plainfield Facilities Manager Brad Atwater for his ongoing work and attention to the libraries' needs - monitoring of lighting level metrics, painting, installation of ceiling insulation at PRML, the removal of the decayed storage building behind PRML, and countless other necessary projects.

2019 – a year of change on the Board, also a year of continuity: in spring and summer Nancy Liston and Richard Davidson co-chaired meetings. Judy Ptak was elected Secretary, Jennifer Lenz Treasurer, and we record with gratitude the ongoing counsel and assistance of former Board member Emily Sands in financial record keeping and procedure. In November the Board welcomed Rosemary Mills, appointed by the Selectboard to fill the vacancy created by Nancy Liston's passing; Judy Ptak became Vice-Chair and Jeanne Woodward-Poor Board Secretary.

As 2019 ends, the Board may look back with sadness but also with confidence and hope for the future. We continue to be invigorated by the enthusiasm of patrons and staff of both of our libraries. We rejoice in resolution of an issue of authority concerning the use of the storage shed behind PRML. We look forward to the continuing service of our newest member Rosemary Mills, and to welcoming a newly elected member in March of 2020 when Richard Davidson's term concludes.

Finally, the Board, by majority vote, is in support of community efforts to raise the necessary funds to build a new Library facility in Meriden.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard B. Davidson, Chair

**Town of Plainfield Library System Proposed Budget**

<b>Income</b>	<b>2019 Budget</b>	<b>2019 Actual</b>	<b>2020 Proposed</b>
Town Appropriation	\$149,941	\$144,462	\$153,864
Town Approp - FICA	\$7,099	\$7,273	\$7,241
Trust Funds	\$2,880	\$3,190	\$2,880
Gifts	\$400	\$1,437	\$400
Book Fines / Copier	\$80	\$570	\$80
Book Sales	\$0	\$0	\$0
Private / Grant Funding	\$0	\$0	\$0
Interest Income	\$50	\$1	\$50
Misc Income	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$160,450</b>	<b>\$156,934</b>	<b>\$164,515</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
Salaries	\$101,181	\$95,074	\$103,204
FICA	\$7,099	\$7,273	\$7,241
Sick Pay	\$600	\$0	\$600
Library Materials	\$17,200	\$16,483	\$17,200
Legal Expense	\$0	\$255	\$0
Telephone	\$1,840	\$1,986	\$1,840
Electricity	\$5,200	\$6,192	\$5,900
Fuel	\$7,700	\$8,755	\$8,300
Water/Sewer	\$830	\$679	\$830
Supplies	\$2,300	\$2,249	\$2,300
Postage	\$300	\$241	\$300
Professional Development	\$800	\$1,381	\$1,000
Programs	\$1,000	\$2,415	\$1,000
Furniture/Equipment	\$800	\$0	\$800
Elevator	\$1,700	\$2,338	\$2,000
Maintenance	\$5,400	\$5,139	\$5,400
Automation/Cataloging	\$2,000	\$2,060	\$2,100
Trustee Expenses	\$650	\$450	\$650
Professional Services	\$1,200	\$1,400	\$1,200
Computer/Software	\$2,400	\$2,395	\$2,400
Misc Expense	\$200	\$34	\$200
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$160,400</b>	<b>\$156,799</b>	<b>\$164,465</b>

**Town of Plainfield Library System**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
<b>Other Income, Expense and Liabilities</b>			
Accrued/Encumbered year end expenses		\$2,467	
<b>Income/Transfers</b>			
Meriden Building Fund - Gifts	\$0	\$200	\$200
Meriden Building Fund - Interest	\$0	\$2,809	\$1,000
Private Donations - PRML	\$0	\$1,680	\$200
Transfer from Building Fund-Meriden	\$15,000	\$0	\$214,000
Transfer from Fines Accounts	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
<b>Expense</b>			
Building Funds Expense-Meriden	\$15,000	\$0	\$215,200
PRML expenses from donations account	\$0	\$250	\$1,630
Web site development	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
<b>Fund Balances - Year End</b>			
Mascoma Checking Account		\$21,785	
Philip Read Fines Account		\$1,441	
Philip Read Donations Account		\$2,476	
Meriden Fines Account		\$698	
Meriden Building Fund		\$214,119	

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The mission of our libraries is to provide access to information and materials to people of all ages in the community in order to meet their recreational, informational, and educational needs.

Our work is to uphold our mission for all the people in the town of Plainfield.

To that end, the Plainfield Public Libraries maintain a collection of organized materials that include print books, audiobooks, videos, periodicals, museum passes, and equipment. The work of keeping our collection current is continuous and so, in 2019, 555 items were added at Philip Read Memorial Library, and 518 were added at the Meriden Library. A large project to weed outdated or worn items removed 1,328 items from the collection at Philip Read. 148 items were removed at the Meriden Library.

The shared catalog of our integrated library system, Evergreen, continues to enhance library operations. Each month an average of 90 holds are placed on library materials allowing easy access to items held at either library. Staff members transport items between the libraries so that our patrons may pick up or return materials to their home library.

To meet the need for non-print materials the Plainfield Public Libraries are members of the New Hampshire Downloadable Consortium, which offers downloadable e-book, audiobooks, and magazines. Our patrons downloaded 4,180 digital items in 2019. We also offer, free of charge, streaming video, genealogy databases, access to on-line newspapers, journals, health information, and readers advisory.

In the past year, patrons visited our libraries not only to borrow materials but to use public access computers, participate in book and cookbook groups, attend story time, hear lectures and performances, attend meetings, view local art, gather to play games, and much more. During the summer reading program, *A Universe of Stories*, teens learned to create comics, families saw a magician and a puppeteer, heard about life in Africa, and collaborated on a community art project.

The updated Plainfield Public Libraries website (<https://plainfieldlibraires.org>) was launched in May. The new website allows patrons to see all of the programs and resources that are available at both of our libraries on one site. Other enhancements of the new site include easy access to our online catalog, front page links to featured resources, a calendar of events, and images of a selection of our newest items. The development of the new website was supported by both the Friends of the Meriden Library and the Friends of Philip Read Memorial Library. I encourage you to visit our website to see all that the libraries have to offer.

Both the Friends of the Meriden Library and the Friends of Philip Read Memorial Library support the libraries by funding programs, museum passes, and equipment. Without their sponsorship, we would not be able to host paid performers who bring their many unique talents to the children and adults of Plainfield.

The Trustees of the Plainfield Public Libraries; Richard Davidson, Jennifer Lenz, Rosemary Mills, Judy Ptak, and Jeanne Woodward-Poor provide the leadership and

governance that guide our libraries. They contribute many hours of their time to support me, and our staff members, in providing the best possible library service to the people of Plainfield.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Mary S. King Director



## Plainfield Public Libraries

MERIDEN LIBRARY &  
 PHILIP READ MEMORIAL LIBRARY

### 2019 By the Numbers

<p><b><u>Circulation</u></b>                      21,892</p> <p>Meriden 10,928                      Philip Read 10,964</p>	<p><b><u>Visits</u></b>                      11,465</p> <p>Meriden 5,910                      Philip Read 5555</p>
<p><b><u>Registered Patrons</u></b>                      1105</p> <p>Meriden 505                      Philip Read 600</p>	<p><b><u>Items Owned</u></b>                      32,989</p> <p>Meriden 12,963                      Philip Read 19,936</p>

## MERIDEN LIBRARY BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

While the Meriden Library Building Committee (as appointed by the Plainfield Library Trustees) hopes that we already have your support for the new Meriden Library, we would like to take this opportunity to share answers to frequently asked questions about the project.

### **Why are we talking about a new Meriden Library?**

At Town Meeting 2017, a warrant article to defund the Meriden Library was voted down 225 to 29. With this show of overwhelming support for the Meriden Library, the latest iteration of the Meriden Library Building Committee was formed to make a recommendation for how to move forward. Seeing as the existing Meriden Library is not ADA-compliant, the building committee was tasked with proposing a plan to rectify this, making the Meriden Library a building all community members can access and enjoy. Our proposed building design is ADA-compliant, is in keeping with Plainfield's Ready For 100 energy goals, and is more than 80% paid for by pledges and existing funds.

### **The town owns a piece of land on Bonner Road, adjacent to the elementary school. Why aren't we building the new library there?**

We've considered the various needs of the town, and the current library site is the one that will best meet the community's needs. We've seen no compelling financial reason to site the building anywhere else. There is not a site within the confines of the town that offers significant savings, and money has already been spent to assess the Bean Road site.

### **I've been hearing a lot about this being a Ready For 100, energy-efficient building. What will the annual energy costs of the new building be? How do they compare to costs of the current building?**

This is the same building we proposed last year as a Ready for 100 building; the only thing that has changed is the financing, as the Meriden Library Foundation has raised significant funds over the last year. This new Meriden Library will cost significantly less on a square foot basis than the existing building. It will have approximately the same operating costs as the current building for a larger space. If approved, this would be the first town-owned Ready For 100 building in Plainfield.

### **This new building features a 30-person meeting room. Why do we need that?**

The Meriden Library runs a number of popular programs for all ages, from after-school early release programs to Humanities Council events with guest speakers, book clubs, poetry evenings, puppet shows, and so on. Right now, many of these programs are moved elsewhere — to the school, the Duckworth Museum (which is no longer a resource), or the Meriden Town Hall. This meeting room would allow the library to grow its roster of programs, and to have a permanent home for existing popular events. The Meriden Library also hosts a great deal of meetings and small community gatherings, and having a suitable, handicap-accessible space to do so is of utmost importance.

### **Was this project put out to bid? How did you arrive at working with Bensonwood?**

The Meriden Library Building Committee considered a variety of approaches to this project, ultimately deciding on the one we considered to be the most fiscally responsible. We did discuss putting different parts of the project out to bid and had some preliminary talks, but this approach would have required hiring a separate architect, and breaking out

the other pieces of the job had too high a degree of uncertainty in terms of both the numbers and the timeline. Working with a design-build firm provides us with a total package and a much tighter sense of financials. As we explored the design-build options, Bensonwood's focus on energy efficiency made them the best fit for the project.

**What is the plan for storing furniture and circulation materials during the demolition and construction process?**

Since the materials don't need to be accessible during the demolition and building process, we're looking into a weather-tight tractor trailer with humidity control. These trailers can be stored on site, or at another town-owned site. We will **not** hire a moving company to pack books in boxes and store them; volunteers will move the books. These storage costs have already been factored into the existing budget for the project.

**What are the overall tax implications for me, specifically, if this project is approved at Town Meeting?**

We currently have approximately \$863,000 toward this project in pledges and existing funds. The Library Trustees are putting forth a warrant article for a **one-time payment** of \$183,000 to be approved at the 2020 Town Meeting. This works out to \$0.60 on the tax rate, or approximately \$60 on a \$100,000 house for **one year only**.

In summary, the Meriden Library Building Committee was formed to look at the challenges presented by the existing library, and to make a recommendation to the town for how best to address those limitations. Building upon the work of previous study committees' efforts and conclusions, we have met regularly over the last 2.5 years, investing a great deal of thought, research, and discussion into our proposal. The new library will eliminate the liabilities associated with the existing building, improve functionality, and minimize costs going forward. It will serve the community safely and efficiently for decades to come. We strongly believe that this is the time to do this project.

**The Meriden Library Building Committee:**

Jeff Albright, Leeli Bonney, Terri Crane, Joe Crate, Shannon Decker, Judy Hallam, Bill Knight, Shawn Rogers, Suzanne Spencer, Library Trustee Liaison *Jeanne Woodward-Poor*

**Advisors:** Mary King, Brad Atwater, Steve Halleran





## PLAINFIELD POLICE REPORT

This year the department had to deal with some personnel challenges. Sgt. Matthew Foss resigned in September and a part-time officer we hired resigned before completion of his probation period.

We had some medical leave that accounted for 4 months of staff shortage. The department still operated at 66% full time staff maintained and covered all requests for police services without farming out any calls. We recently hired full time officer, Kyle Dawson and part-time officer Roland Daniels who comes to us as a retired officer from Lebanon and Newport NH. Officer pay has been addressed and updated to satisfy the going rates.

### Traffic – Motor Vehicle Enforcement:

**2017: 1252    2018: 1061    2019: 1094**

**Summons/Citation/Court Action 53    Warnings 1041**

### Accidents:

A total of 96 accidents were reported to dispatch. A total of 44 accidents were reportable crashes, one being a fatality, the remaining crashes were investigated.

### Coverage:

I have been asked about the departments coverage. Due to staffing (3 FT), we cover two 8 hour shifts a day. However to reduce overtime coverage we shift coverage to 40 hours a week. The remaining hours are covered by on call personnel. Call outs are a new area that we have been keeping track of. This is when no officer is on patrol and the officer is called out from home to respond to calls for assistance.

**2018: 137    2018: 337    2017: 295**

**Paul M. Roberts** Chief of Police

### Police Department Statistical Data

	2019	2018	2017
Accidents no injury	44	66	47
Accidents w/injury	52	17	10
Administrative	77	79	90
Alarms	48	60	85
Animals	54	96	28
Arson-Fire Invest.	0	0	0
Assault	2	0	2
Assist other PDs	50	100	51
Auto theft	0	0	1
Bad checks	2	2	3
Burglary	1	2	2
Car Unlocks	9	18	13
Civil	1	5	62
Court Appearance	25	21	38
Criminal mischief	9	3	17
Criminal threats	4	3	5
Deaths	3	2	2
Disorderly	3	2	3
Domestic violence	28	15	27
DWI	6	3	4
Drugs	3	8	13
E 911 calls	31	28	19
Fire calls	27	72	62
Firing of weapons	6	4	9
Fraud	26	14	28
House/Property	296	271	199
Intoxication	0	0	14
Juvenile Matters	3	8	5
Medical Emer.	74	126	331
Missing person	1	0	8
Motor vehicle	88	54	91
Motorist assist	47	63	55
Open doors	15	10	51
Pistol Permits	16	16	29
Sex Off. Reg.	10	11	9
Sexual assault	4	5	4
Suspicious Persons	99	137	140
Theft	18	14	16
Trespassing	5	2	5
<b>Total Calls Logged</b>	<b>3809</b>	<b>4050</b>	<b>4756</b>

## **PLAINFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### **Chief's Report 2019**

2019 marked the official establishment of the Town of Plainfield Fire Dept. Members of both the Plainfield and Meriden Volunteer Fire Departments worked for nearly two years to draft a plan to merge the two non-profits into the Town of Plainfield Fire Dept. The assets of the two departments, station buildings and apparatus, were transferred to the town following the vote at the annual town meeting in March. Bill Taylor was sworn in as the first Chief of the Town of Plainfield Fire Dept. The vote at the town Meeting also included an appropriation from the town fund balance to pay off the Plainfield Tanker loan.

New self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), was purchased in January for the Meriden side station. The new SCBA replace 15 year old air packs that had reached the end of their useful service life. Each of the 10 new air packs cost approximately \$6,000. A new UTV vehicle was also put into service in 2019. The new vehicle is a 2018 Polaris Ranger XP 1000 side by side with a 70 gallon water tank and a Honda powered high pressure pump. The new UTV also has the capability of transporting injured patients from off road locations. The UTV was used to transport a hiker with a fractured ankle down from French's Ledges shortly after it was put in service in April. A trailer was also purchased to transport the UTV for mutual aid calls outside the Town of Plainfield.

Smokey Bear made an appearance at the Plainfield Fourth of July parade. 2019 marked Smokey's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday and many Plainfield residents were able to wish him a happy birthday.

The Plainfield Fire Dept hired a company to pressure test all of our hose this year. The company came in June and in less than one full day took all of our hose off of the trucks, pressure tested it, and repacked it on the trucks. Over 11,000 feet of hose was tested. Hose testing is a necessary part of readiness and it was good to get all of our hose tested at once.

Firefighter Tim Dupree successfully completed his Firefighter 1 certification this year. The class was held at the Canaan Fire Station and conducted by the NH Fire Academy. Tim invested over 150 hours in order to become a certified firefighter. Congratulations Tim for a job well done!

Remember that working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are essential to protect your home and family. Test detectors monthly, change the batteries annually, and replace the devices every ten years. Please make sure that your 911 house number is clearly visible from the street so that we can find your house in the event of an emergency.

Thank you to all firefighters and their families for their support of the Town of Plainfield Fire Dept. throughout the year. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Plainfield firefighter, do not hesitate to give me a call at my home: 469-3342.

**2019 Fire Department Run Summary**

Motor Vehicle Accident	19	Chimney Fire	02
Structure Fire	00	Car Fire	01
Wildland Fire	01	Alarm Activation	36
CO Alarm	02	Powerline Problem	19
Road Hazard	07	Weather Event	00
Medical	03	Smoke Investigation	04
Mutual Aid Cornish	03	Mutual Aid Lebanon	02
Mutual Aid Ascutney	01	Mutual Aid Claremont	01
<b>Total Runs</b>			<b>103</b>

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Chief, William S. Taylor Meriden and Plainfield Fire Depts.



**The Select Board swearing in Plainfield's first Municipal Fire Chief William Taylor  
 Photo S. Halleran**

**REPORT OF THE FOREST FIRE WARDEN AND THE STATE FOREST RANGER**

This past year we were fortunate enough to have favorable weather conditions in the spring and summer which limited the amount of wildfire activity throughout the state. Your local fire departments and the Division of Forests & Lands worked throughout the year to protect homes and the forests. The statewide system of 16 fire lookout towers continues to operate on high fire danger days. The towers' fire detection efforts are supplemented by the NH Civil Air Patrol when the fire danger is especially high.

As we prepare for the 2020 fire season, please remember to contact your local forest fire warden or fire department to determine if a fire permit is required before doing ANY outside burning. Under state law (RSA 227-L:17) a fire permit is required for all outside burning, unless the ground is completely covered with snow. Fire permits are available online or may be obtained by contacting a the local warden or deputy warden. The burning of household waste is prohibited by the Air Resources Division of the Department of Environmental Services (DES). You are encouraged to contact the local fire department or DES at 603-271-3503 or [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov) for more information. Safe open burning requires your diligence and responsibility. Thank you for helping us to protect New Hampshire's forest resources. For more information please contact the Division of Forests & Lands at (603) 271-2214, or online at [www.nh.gov/nhdf/](http://www.nh.gov/nhdf/).

**NH FIRE STATISTICS**

<b><u>CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED-2019</u></b>		<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u># FIRES</u></b>	<b><u>ACRES</u></b>
Children	00	<b>2019</b>	<b>015</b>	<b>23.5</b>
Smoking	01	<b>2018</b>	<b>053</b>	<b>46</b>
Railroad	01	<b>2017</b>	<b>064</b>	<b>107</b>
Campfires	01	<b>2016</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>1090</b>
Lightning	01	<b>2015</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>635</b>
Equipment	01	<b>2014</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>72</b>
Arson	04	<b>2013</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>144</b>
Debris	03	<b>2012</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>206</b>
Misc*	03	<b>2011</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>42</b>

\*Misc: power lines, fireworks, electric fences, etc.

## LOCAL FOREST FIRE WARDEN

2019 was a good year for outdoor fires. A wet spring and early fall snow kept us from having ANY out of control brush fires in Plainfield. However the fire department was called a few times to investigate the source of smoke seen during times when there should not have been anyone with an outside fire. For ALL days when there is not a significant snow cover, a permit to burn is required, even when it is raining. All outside fires have their own unique set of rules depending on size and what time of day it is, distance from structures and trees and many other variables, so it is best to talk to a forest fire warden or deputy warden prior to starting a fire.

There are a two ways to obtain a fire permit:

1. Contact any of the forest fire wardens for a free of charge permit – they are listed on the town’s web page under Fire&Rescue.

<https://www.plainfieldnh.org/fire.htm>

2. You can purchase (\$3) an online permit through the state of NH web site [www.NHfirepermit.com](http://www.NHfirepermit.com).

If you have any questions about the rules for outside fires, please contact myself or any of the deputy wardens listed on the town web page.

Through the State Forestry Department and the Town Fire Department budget, we were awarded a small matching grant to replace some of our personal protective clothing to insure that all firefighters have the clothing and gear they need to safely fight a wildfire when one breaks out.

As Smokey Bear says “**Remember, Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!**”

Plainfield Forest Fire Warden ***Bruce Elder***

### Plainfield Forest Fire Wardens

Bruce Elder-	Warden	298-0408
Chris Berry	Deputy	843-5204
Lester Bouchier	Deputy	469-3256
Mark Horne	Deputy	996-1522
Jeff LeBlanc	Deputy	359-1031
Doug Plummer	Deputy	443-9616
Boone Rondeau	Deputy	675-6951
William Taylor	Deputy	469-3342
Matt Tucker	Deputy	306-1208

## **CORNISH RESCUE SQUAD**

Dear Members of the Plainfield and Cornish Communities:

One again members of the Cornish Rescue Squad would like to thank you for your financial support through both town funding and individual donations. The funds are used to pay for insurance, dispatch fees, vehicle registration/maintenance, building utilities/maintenance, supplies, equipment, protective gear and training for our members along with other costs.

We have 18 active licensed responders ranging from Emergency Medical Responders to Paramedics. We provide emergency medical services to the towns of Plainfield and Cornish, working with transporting ambulance services to provide EMS care for incidents including medical calls, lift assistance and motor vehicle accidents. We also provide scene support to the Plainfield and Cornish Fire Departments and mutual aid support to neighboring towns. In addition to over 200 calls for service, we provide EMS coverage for events such as the Cornish Fair and the summer concert series at St. Gaudens' National Historic Site.

If you are interested in joining, or if you have questions, please contact either President Gary Chilton at 603-448-7688 or Rob Drye at 603-675-9159.

If you are interested in becoming an EMR or EMT, please contact Jim McCarragher at 603-469-3505. Training is offered through his company Emergency Management and Training Associates, LLC.

PLEASE buckle your seatbelts, check the batteries in your smoke and CO detectors and be SAFE. If you need help with your detectors contact your fire department.

**DIAL 911 for any emergency, Medical, Fire or Police related. NH Poison Control 1-800-222-1222**

Sincerely,  
Gary Chilton, President  
Rob Drye, Vice President

**Deb Trustee of Trust funds here**

**Three pages landscape**

**TRUST FUND #1**



**Deb Trustee of Trust funds here**

**Three pages landscape**

**TRUST FUND #2**

**Deb Trustee of Trust funds here**

**Three pages landscape**

**TRUST FUND #3**

**SELECT BOARD'S REPORT ON RESERVE FUND  
TRANSACTIONS**

The select board is named agents to expend for eleven reserve funds:

- The Library Building Repair Fund created in 1992
- The Town Bridge Capital Reserve Fund created in 1994
- Town Hall Repair Fund created in 1996
- Town Revaluation Fund created in 1993
- Town Building ADA Access Fund created in 2003
- Transportation Improvement Fund created in 2006
- Townsend Bridge Fund created in 2007
- Town Beautification Fund created in 2009
- Police Department Equipment Fund created in 2011
- Highway Department Equipment Fund created 1987  
(expenditure authority 2015)
- Town Facilities Fund created in 2015
- Fire Department Equipment Fund created in 2018
- Meriden Library Replacement Fund created in 2018

**Deposits and withdrawals to these funds during 2019 were:**

**Library Repair Fund**

Deposits-	\$2,500
Town meeting appropriation	
<b>Withdrawals-</b>	<b>\$5,817</b>
Chair storage project	\$3,341
Paint/General repairs	\$1,140
Lighting upgrade	\$1,336

**Bridge Fund**

Deposits-	\$10,000
<b>Withdrawals-</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Camp Road Bridge</b>	

**Town Hall  
Repair Fund**

Deposits-	\$10,000
Town meeting appropriation	
<b>Withdrawals-</b>	<b>\$1,709</b>
PTH Sign	\$1,709

**SELECT BOARD'S REPORT ON RESERVE FUND  
TRANSACTIONS (continued )**

<b>Revaluation Fund</b>	Deposits-	\$10,000
	Town meeting appropriation	
	<b>Withdrawals-</b>	<b>\$9,900</b>
	Revaluation Avitar Assoc.	\$9,900
<b>ADA Compliance</b>	Deposits-	\$5,000
	Town meeting appropriation	
	<b>Withdrawals-</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Transportation Fund</b>	Deposits	\$55,000
	Town meeting appropriation	
	<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>\$13,747</b>
	Culverts	\$1,594
	Pavement sealing	\$7,700
	Equipment Rental	\$4,180
<b>Townsend Bridge Fund</b>	Deposits	\$0
	<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Town Beautification</b>	Deposits	\$0
	<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Police Equipment Fund</b>	Deposits	\$5,000
	Town meeting appropriation	
	<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Town Facilities Fund</b>	Deposits	\$15,000
	Town meeting appropriation	
	<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>\$18,217.85</b>
	MTH flat screen	\$1,009
	Hwy Garage Escape	\$1,182
	Hwy Garage Siding	\$6,850
	Hwy Garage break room	\$7,740.
	Town Hall Repairs	\$1,437

**SELECT BOARD'S REPORT ON RESERVE FUND  
TRANSACTIONS (continued)**

<b>Highway Equipment Fund</b> Deposits	\$75,000
<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>\$37,356</b>
Road Agent Truck	\$37,356
 <b>Fire Equipment Fund</b> Deposits	 \$25,000
<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>\$0</b>
 <b>Meriden Library Replacement Fund</b> Deposits	 \$25,000
<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>\$ 8,609</b>
Atwater Construction	\$ 3,609
Bensonwood	\$ 3,330
Pathways Consulting	\$ 1,784
Mak's Excavating	\$ 425

See the report of the trustee of trust funds for complete details on beginning and year ending balances for each of these funds.



### **TOWN AUDIT**

The firm of Plodzick and Sanderson completed the 2019 audit in January of 2020. To conserve space in this report the following are excerpts from the audit. The full document is available both in printed form and as an electronic file, from the town office and will be posted on the town's website [www.plainfieldnh.org](http://www.plainfieldnh.org).

**TOWN OF PLAINFIELD BALANCE SHEET December 31st 2019**

**ASSETS:**

CASH:		
CHECKING ACCOUNT		\$3,708,539
INVESTMENTS		\$3,671
PETTY CASH		\$250
<b>TOTAL CASH</b>		<b>\$3,712,460</b>
PROPERTY TAX RECEIVABLE		\$188,256
TAX LIEN RECEIVABLE		\$160,342
YIELD TAX RECEIVABLE		\$1,120
<b>TOTAL TAXES RECEIVABLE</b>		<b>\$349,718</b>
DUE FROM COMMERCIAL WASTE CHARGES		\$11,851
DUE FROM OTHERS		\$0
<b>TOTAL ASSETS:</b>		<b>\$4,074,029</b>

**LIABILITIES:**

DUE TO CONSERVATION FUND		\$1,695
DUE TO GENERAL FUND		\$0
DUE TO SCHELL FUND		\$2,920
PAYABLES:		
SCHOOL		\$2,985,998
INVOICES		\$45,592
LIBRARY		\$2,101
ACCRUED PAYROLL		\$12,070

<b>TOTAL PAYABLES</b>		<b>\$3,045,761</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>\$3,050,376</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>		<b>\$1,023,653</b>
RESERVE - UNCOLLECTIBLE TAXES		(\$40,000)
RESERVE-CEMETERY PROJECT (wall)		(\$6,500)
RESERVE-HIGHWAY (Plow)		(\$4,150)
RESERVE-POLICE (Radios)		(\$20,000)
<b>UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE</b>		<b>\$953,003</b>
<b>GRAND TOTALS:</b>		<b>\$4,074,029</b>
<b>UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE-December 31st 2018</b>		<b>\$918,916</b>
<b>UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE-December 31st 2019</b>		<b>\$953,003</b>
<b>CHANGE IN FINANCIAL CONDITION</b>		<b>\$34,087</b>

**TOWN OF PLAINFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**General Fund**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund**  
**Balances**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019**

<b>REVENUES</b>	
Taxes	\$1,715,933
Licenses and permits	\$707,369
Intergovernmental	\$261,131
Charges for services	\$50,825
Miscellaneous	<u>\$17,786</u>
Total revenues	<u>\$2,753,044</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Current:	
General government	\$495,823
Public safety	\$662,372
Highways and streets	\$908,997
Sanitation	\$225,427
Health	\$11,167
Welfare	\$34,368
Culture and recreation	\$184,501
Conservation	\$2,750
Capital outlay	<u>\$37,556</u>
Total expenditures	<u>\$2,562,961</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u>\$190,083</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>	
Transfers in	\$116,652
Transfers out	<u>-\$242,500</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>-\$125,848</u>
Net change in fund balances	\$64,235
Fund balances, beginning	<u>\$920,218</u>
Fund balances, ending	<u><u>\$984,453</u></u>



**TOWN OF PLAINFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**General Fund**  
**Schedule of Changes in Unassigned Fund Balance**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2019**

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Unassigned fund balance, beginning (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)		\$918,916
Changes:		
Amounts voted from fund balance		(\$135,000)
Budget summary:		
Revenue surplus	\$42,783	
Unexpended balance of appropriations	<u>\$126,504</u>	
Budget surplus		<u>\$169,287</u>
Unassigned fund balance, ending (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)		<u><u>\$953,003</u></u>



Annual town holiday celebration, A good time for all . Photo S. Halleran

**TOWN OF PLAINFIELD  
SCHEDULE OF LONG-TERM INDEBTEDNESS**

Outstanding long-term debt as of January 1, 2019	<b>\$0</b>
New debt during the year	<b>\$0</b>
Debt retirement during the year	
Library Addition	<b>\$0</b>
Outstanding long-term debt as of December 31, 2019	<b>\$0</b>

**HIGHWAY BLOCK GRANT/ROAD PROJECT  
EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS**

<b>2019</b>	<b>Block Grant Allocation</b>	<b>\$119,000</b>
	<b>Camp Road/ Houser Lane Bridge Approaches</b>	
	Paving	<b>\$18,411</b>
	<b>Daniels Road</b>	
	Paving work	<b>\$49,079</b>
	<b>Mill Village Road</b>	
	Sweeper Rental	\$360
	Paving work	\$24,880
	Total	<b>\$25,240</b>
	<b>Hell Hollow Reconstruction</b>	
	Excavator Rental	\$3,750
	Drainage (fabric, stone, culverts)	\$1,462
	Paving	\$24,733
	Total	<b>\$29,945</b>
	<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$122,675</b>
	<b>Overage to highway budget</b>	<b>(\$3,675)</b>
		<b>\$119,000</b>

### SIX-YEAR ROAD PROJECT PRIORITIES

As required by the passage of article ten at the 1998 Annual Meeting, the following represents the select board's road reconstruction priorities for the next five years. Note: order of work and timing is subject to change as new information, time and available funds dictate.

Year	Road	Work
'99	River Rd	phase III-prep completion and base paving. <b>Completed</b>
'00	River Rd	phase IV-topcourse paving, shoulder work. <b>Completed</b>
'01	Jenney Rd	base reconstruction/paving <b>Completed</b>
'02	Daniels Rd	base reconstruction/paving. <b>Completed</b>
'04	Bean Rd	base reconstruction/paving. <b>Completed</b>
'05	Bean Rd/Westgate Culvert/drainage work.	<b>Completed</b>
'06	Westgate base reconstruction/paving.	<b>Completed</b>
'07	Beauty Hill Rd	base reconstruction/paving <b>Completed</b>
'08	Colby Hill Rd	base reconstruction/paving <b>Completed</b>
'08	Willow Brook Road	base reconstruction/paving phase 1 <b>Completed</b>
'09	Freeman Road	base reconstruction <b>Completed</b>
'10	Freeman Road paving/Willow Brook Road	phase 2 <b>Completed</b>
'11	Willow Brook Road	base reconstruction/paving phase 3 <b>Completed</b>
'12	Main Street/Bonner Road	resurfacing. <b>Completed</b>
'13	Center of Town Road	resurfacing <b>Completed</b>
'14	River Road Pavement Shim	Phase I <b>Completed</b>
'15	River Road Pavement Shim/Penniman Road	resurfacingI <b>Completed</b>
'15	Ferry Hill Road	resurfacing- <b>Completed</b>
'16	Penniman Road	resurfacing II- <b>Completed</b>
'16	Thrasher Road	resurfacing <b>Completed</b>
'17	Methodist Hill Road	resurfacing <b>Completed</b>
'18	Jenney Rd	resurfacing <b>Completed</b>
'19	Daniels Road resurfacing/Hell Hollow Rebuild-	<b>Completed</b>
	Mill Village resurfacing-	<b>Completed</b>
'20	Gravel Road/drainage way	maintenance
'21	Bean Road	resurfacing
'22	Meriden Covered Bridge	painting
'23	Westgate Road	resurfacing
'24	Beauty Hill Road	resurfacing
'25	Bonner Road	resurfacing



SKETCH of projected new Meriden Library was drawn by Doris Franklin. Recent approval of a federal grant of \$6,920 toward construction of the building brought the project close to actual ground breaking, the target date being about June 1. Townspeople pledged \$3,260 to insure eligibility for the federal grant.

**Sketch by Doris Franklin of the then proposed “new Meriden Library”  
The sketched first appeared in the Daily Eagle March 27<sup>th</sup> 1965  
The Ell shown, was of course, never built.**

### TOWN EMPLOYEE SALARIES -2019

Belyea, Judith	Select Board	\$587.50
Blish, Keith	Truck Driver	\$47,867.50 includes overtime
Brookes-Governo, Sarah	Treasurer	\$6,750
Brookes-Governo, Sarah	Election Staff	\$55.00
Brann, Eric	Select Board	\$1,762.50
Cantlin, Daniel	Recreation Director	\$5,908.36
Collins, Michael	Truck Driver	\$47,159.80 includes overtime
Collins III, Richard	Road Agent	\$76,781.41
Crane, Terri	Library Assistant	\$9,741.26
Dawson, Kyle	Part-Time Patrolman	\$11,325
Dore, Lawrence	Part-Time Patrolman	\$285
Eberhardt, Ron	Select Board	\$2350
Estey, Lori	Library Assistant	\$8,869.75
Foss, Matthew	Patrolman	\$46,448.28 includes overtime
Franklin, Paul	Moderator	\$300
Gillens, Sarah	Library Assistant	\$8,822.15
Halleran, Stephen	Town Administrator	\$85,824.35
Haxhija, Ejona	Part-Time Patrol	\$1,505
Jarvis, Madison	Library Circulation Aide	\$5,123.15
Jones, Harold	Supervisor of Checklist	\$183
Jordan, Donald	Supervisor of Checklist	\$288
Kennett, Joshua	Truck Driver	\$46,008.51 includes overtime
King, Mary	Library Director	\$41,132.65 includes IBO
Legare, Peter	Library Circulation Aide	\$9,604.45
LeMere, Jason	Truck Driver	\$47,248.90 includes overtime
Lersch, David	Building Inspector	\$10,084.40
Liebowitz, Susan	Dep. Tax Collect/Twn Clerk	\$12,448.75
Lurie, Elizabeth	Election Staff	\$195
Marsh, Michelle	Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$63,421.11
Marsh, Robin	Ballot Clerk	\$195
Niboli, Nevin	Part-Time Patrolman	\$4,357.50
McAndrew, Stephanie	Library Circulation Aide	\$3,192.12
O'Sullivan, Denis	Part-Time Patrol	\$3,988
Remmes, Lana	Library Circulation Aide	\$7,358
Roberts, Paul	Police Chief	\$63,732.04
Rogerson, Roanne	Ballot Clerk	\$195
Schell, Stephanie	Human Services Director	\$12,625
Sicard, Brian	Truck Driver	\$54,978 includes OT/ IBO
Smith, Sean	Truck Driver	\$48,385.60 includes overtime
Stalker, Jesse	Trustee of Trust Funds	\$1,000
Swett, Anthony	Patrolman	\$69,045.93 includes overtime
Taylor, Robert	Select Board	\$2,350
Taylor, William	Fire Chief	\$7,200
Wilder, Fern	Supervisor of Checklist	\$384
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$877,066.97</b>

## HUMAN SERVICE REPORT

Dear Plainfield Neighbors,

As your Community Resource Director I am eager to help anyone that might be having a difficult time or that might have questions about local support services. I help many different families in town with housing issues, safety issues, budget planning, as well as applications for electrical, fuel and medical assistance. Additionally, I assist with transportation issues and referrals for support services such as Meals on Wheels, Life-Line Medical Alert Programs, or in-house care. I help to provide food and other necessary items to those who are in need or crisis. All the conversations and services that are provided are strictly confidential.

Our Food Pantry is very well established and helps many families. This past year the food insecurity in our immediate hometown has become very evident. The Christ Community Church (Big Red Barn Church located on Route 12A) continues to allow the town to use a lovely handicap accessible room to operate our food pantry. Although the Pantry is located at the church there is no affiliation or religious connection to this wonderful resource. The Pantry is well stocked with a variety of non-perishable foods, personal hygiene products and pet food. Our Food Pantry is affiliated with the NH Food Bank & Feed America which provides wonderful resources. We warmly welcome anyone living in the towns of Plainfield, Meriden and Cornish that find themselves in need of stretching their grocery budget. The hours of operation are the 1st Thursday, 3rd Friday & 3rd Saturday of each month from 9-12 noon or when there is a serious need. Food Assistance is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for emergency purposes

In addition to our Food Pantry we have also teamed up with The Upper Valley Humane Society. On the 3rd Saturday of every month from 9-11 am UVHS comes to Plainfield with their FREE Mobile Pet Food Pantry. We are delighted that so many residents are taking advantage of this amazing new resource. On average 300 pounds of dry cat and dog food is given out.

As the Community Resource Director my responsibilities include, but are not limited to, dispersing aid in the form of vouchers for rent, security deposits, prevention of eviction, fuel, utilities, food and prescriptions when deemed critically necessary for health and safety reasons. An application is required to determine eligibility of services. As Director I work with many local service agencies. Here are just a few that I work closely with: Social Security Administration, Service Link, DHMC Financial Forgiveness Program, State of NH Health & Human Services, Visiting Nurses Alliance, Volunteers in Action, LISTEN, The Haven, West Central Services, NH Food Bank and Southwestern Community Services in order to provide information, referrals and assistance to residents.

Our Community benefits from many in town outreach programs. Our monthly Foot Care Clinics provided by Lake Sunapee VNA nurses are very popular. Our Annual Community Flu Clinic sponsored by Upper Valley Public Health Council & Dartmouth Medical Students was a huge success providing over 225 FREE Flu vaccines. The UVHS also provided a reduced fee rabies clinic in Meriden this past spring. We hope to continue this service next spring. The newly established Community Health Closet has been assisting many neighbors in need with adaptive medical equipment. Senior Luncheons still occur on the last Thursday of each month at various locations around town. Our fun Super Senior social gatherings offer wonderful nutritious meals and average 60- 70 guests per month. Weekend Care Packages continue to be delivered each week to residents of Plainfield and Meriden. This program helps to fight 68 hours of hunger to ensure that no child goes hungry. An in school snack program has also been established and is thriving. On average 25 students utilize this resource on a weekly basis. Any child who feels hunger pains throughout the day can visit the nurse's office to receive a nutritious snack.

In the year of 2019, a total of \$25,119.39 was distributed to assist households in need. As you can see \$5,119.39 was spent over budget, but please refer to the breakdown below. In the end due to the generosity of many community members, Town of Cornish and their donations in 2019 everything balanced out and my budget was not in the red. The Food Pantry from January-December 2019 provided 10,605 meals to community members.

The breakdown for Human Services monies disbursed for assistance in 2019 is as follows:

<b>Housing</b>	<b>\$2,587.00</b>
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Heating Fuel</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Medical Needs Assistance</b>	<b>\$334.46</b>
<b>Nutrition Insecurity Support Purchases</b>	<b>\$1,250.00</b>
<b>15 Summer Camp Scholarships</b>	<b>\$ 2,630.00</b>

I want to thank our local businesses, local nonprofit trust funds, friends and neighbors and the Town of Cornish who have collected food, donated food and contributed monetary gifts to the Community Resource Room & Food Pantry. With these generous donations in 2019 totaling more than \$6639.29 all needs were met in our immediate community. Fifteen children were able to attend local day summer camp, 246 weekly weekend care packages to stop 68 hours of hunger were delivered, assistance with making full or partial rent payments was provided to ensure secure housing needs, prescription medications were purchased, housing modifications for safety were made, heating fuel was supplied, electricity was reconnected, transportation needs were met, Life Line Medical Alert Systems were set-up for Seniors aging in place and general food assistance was made readily available.

Finally, I sincerely appreciate all the tax deductible donations that were made to the Schell Community Assistance Trust Fund in 2019. The sole purpose of this Fund is to aid the town's Human Services Director with the mission of helping Plainfield's residents who are in need of financial assistance. Donations to this fund will be separate from the fiscal year regular operating budget. This will allow donations to the Community Resource Room & Food Pantry to roll over from year to year to support our community outreach programs. The Trust Fund has done some amazing things in 2019 to support our community members in need. Here are a few highlights:

- \* **Assistance to a disabled senior couple.**
- \* **Provided temporary respite care in a skilled facility to a loved one with dementia while his spouse had surgery & rehabilitation.**
- \* **Replaced a widow's damaged furnace to ensure safe heating of her home.**
- \* **Assisted a homeless family of five to find a safe place to live.**
- \* **The installation of two Lifeline Medical Alert systems.**

If you would like to make a donation to this amazing Trust Fund please make your tax deductible donation to The Town of Plainfield and in your check memo state: *The Schell Community Assistance Trust Fund*.

Thank you to all the residents of Plainfield for supporting our community outreach programs to enhance the lives of all our neighbors! Wishing everyone a Healthy & Happy 2020!

Respectfully Submitted,

**Stephanie M. Schell**  
Community Resource Director



## **KIMBALL UNION ACADEMY STUDY COMMITTEE**

The charge of this committee is to meet with representatives of Kimball Union Academy (KUA) administration to maintain an ongoing review of the relationship between the academy and the town, and to report its findings at annual town meeting. The committee held three meetings between November and January.

This year your committee was pleased to become acquainted with Tyler Lewis, KUA's new Head of School. Tyler and Renee Lewis hosted a dinner at Monroe house for the committee. The Lewis family includes three young children who are attending the Plainfield Elementary School. The Lewis family is genuinely interested in playing an active part of the Plainfield Community. It is our belief that the town/gown relationship is always made stronger with these types of connections.

This is the second year in several decades that there has been no optional tax exemption for Kimball Union Academy (RSA 72:23). By mutual agreement the exemption was allowed to sunset at the end of 2017. Kimball Union has continued to share with your committee the school's concern that its local property tax burden is a competitive disadvantage with other private schools in the region. KUA's property taxes will increase as the Academy makes investments in dormitories.

It is still too early for our committee to fully understand the impact that eliminating the optional exemption will have on local enrollment at the private boarding school. At this time there are 15 non KUA affiliated Plainfield students attending the school. The eleven year average for local non KUA affiliated students attending the school is 25. Again this year the 8th grade class is relatively small in number and consequently will result in fewer students attending Kimball Union. Local students attending Kimball Union continue to be about 30% of the town's total high school population. This is an extraordinarily high number when compared to other towns that are home to a private school.

### **Facts:**

- \*Kimball Union employs 157 people, 86 live in town (50 on campus, 36 off campus).
- \*Currently, 26 local kids attend the private school, 11 of these are children of KUA faculty/staff 15 are children of Plainfield residents
- \*It costs about \$22,000 per year to educate a Plainfield Elementary Student.
- \*There are 18 students at PES from families of KUA faculty/staff.
- \*The student tuition at Lebanon High School is \$16,262
- \*The day student tuition at Kimball Union is \$41,100.
- \*The boarding student tuition at Kimball Union is \$63,750.

The Meriden Fire Brigade, made up of KUA students, continues to provide assistance at many fire and accident calls during a school year.

**Findings affirmed by your committee again this year:**

Kimball Union has continued over the last year to provide local resident access to school facilities, such as trails, meeting space, and the hockey rink.

Kimball Union remains committed to helping to educate those local students who are identified as likely to benefit from its education program, regardless of the student's ability to pay.

The only way for a local student's family to know whether or not Kimball Union is a viable option is to apply to the school. Many of the students attending the school receive significant financial aid.

Kimball Union has a direct interest in maintaining the high quality of the Plainfield Elementary school which educates the children of many staff members.

Plainfield Elementary students have traditionally performed very well at Kimball Union and Lebanon High School.

The town benefits financially from the many local students who choose Kimball Union over our publicly funded high school.

**Recommendations:** The Committee continues to support and work for the establishment of institutional linkage between the Plainfield Elementary School and Kimball Union. It is your committee's view that these connections provide the best possible educational opportunities for local students and the best opportunities for saving tax money.

The Committee continues to feel that the Kimball Union Study Committee should be continued into the future. This committee provides a platform for discussing issues of common concern.

2019/20 Kimball Union Study Committee **Stephen Beaupre, John Yacavone, Andrea Beuno Keen, Robert Blake, Kate Whybrow, Robert Hewett, Stephen Halleran**

## ENERGY COMMITTEE

*Evan Oxenham, Jen Lenz, Nick Cohen, Ron Eberhardt, Steven Ladd.*

The Plainfield Energy Committee focus in 2019 was to work on the implementation of the Ready for 100 goal. As in previous years the Plainfield Energy Committee joined forces with the Cornish Energy Committee.

The Energy Committee sees the implementation of the 100% renewable energy as having the following components:

- Developing a **Plan to achieve the 100% Renewable Energy Goal**
- Providing **Specific Programs** to help the town, its businesses and its residents achieve this goal.
- Continuing the **Renewable Energy Educational Series** consisting of presentations, movies and workshops to help residents understand the costs and benefits of this goal.

Specifically, the committee worked on the following during 2019: the plan to achieve 100% Renewable Energy, the Weatherize campaign, and the Renewable Energy Educational Series.

### **A. Plan to achieve the 100% Renewable Energy Goal**

The Energy Committee continued working a plan to achieve our 100% renewable energy goal, with the main point being how to reduce our use of fossil fuels. Jim Barker from Cornish acted as facilitator at the planning meetings to help us move forward. Unfortunately, we did not complete the development of the plan and will continue working on that in the coming year.

One difficulty that we encountered is how to measure what energy the town uses in order to understand where we can make changes. We know how much electricity, oil and propane is used by the municipal functions of the town, but we still do not have a means to estimate the energy usage by the residents and businesses of the town.

During the planning process we looked into buying our municipal renewable electricity from a third-party vendor and received a proposal which did not meet our needs.

As a small town, Plainfield does not have the buying power to obtain attractive rates for renewable power, so we decided to investigate combining working with other towns to obtain better rates. Representatives from the Energy Committee are participating in the Local Government Community Power committee, which is a committee of eleven towns discussing how to work together to provide renewably generated electricity to their towns.

Under the Municipal Aggregation Statute passed in 2019 towns, acting alone or together, can form Electrical Aggregation (aka Community Power) organizations that provide power to all the electric ratepayers in the area covered by the Electrical Aggregation or Community Power organization. Community Power seems to be a realistic approach which could provide renewably generated electricity that is cheaper than what the utilities currently charge. Note that the utilities would still provide the wires for distribution and transmission, but the power would be obtained from third party energy suppliers.

## **B. Renewable Energy Educational Series**

The Energy Committee continued its presentations in the Renewable Energy Educational Series. The series featured technologies that could be used to meet the 100% renewable energy goal.

### **a. General Renewable Energy Education**

**Heat Pump Event** – Nathan Moore, an expert installer, talked about cold climate heat pumps. He described how they work and what was needed for an installation. A few homeowners who have had heat pumps installed talked about their experience with heat pumps.

**Electric Grid: Looking Toward a Future with Renewable Energy** – A presentation by Graham Turk from Green Mountain Power of Vermont and Henry Herndon of Clean Energy New Hampshire on incorporating renewable energy electrical generation into the electric grid. This was very well attended and stimulated a lively discussion.

**Electric Tools Showcase** - Members of the Energy Committees of both Plainfield and Cornish demonstrated electric tools such as chain saws, brush cutters, battery electric push mowers and battery electric riding mowers that they use.

**Electricity 101** – Steve Ladd of the Plainfield Energy Committee discussed the basics of electricity, how it works in a home and how to understand your electric bill.

### **b. Renewable Energy Transportation**

**National Drive Electric Vehicle Event.** Members of the Plainfield Energy Committee showed their electric vehicles at the fourth annual Electric Vehicle Expo at the Dothan Brook School in White River Junction Vermont. It was a very well attended event which demonstrates the increasing interest in battery electric vehicles such as the Tesla Model 3, Chevy Bolt and Nissan Leaf. The typical range for battery electric vehicles available in 2019 is at least 210 miles, which is the point at which longer distance travel by electric vehicles becomes realistic. Attendees were able to inspect the vehicles and take test drives.

Respectfully submitted,  
Evan Oxenhard and Steve Ladd Co-chairs  
Plainfield Energy Committee

**2019 Turkey Trot**  
**Ellen Abrahamson-Bonner took home the pie.**



**Photos Melissa Longacre Event Director**

## SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Plainfield Select Board created a Solid Waste Group in May 2019 to review Plainfield's solid waste program and recommend any changes for potential vote at the 2020 Town Meeting. Given a variety of factors--including significant resident support for the existing curbside pickup of garbage and recyclables, uncertainty in the recycling markets and resulting rising costs, and proposals to address rising costs (including using totter two-wheel carts for recycling pickup) by Plainfield's current vendor, Casella Waste Systems--the SWG determined that further study and additional resident input was needed before significant changes were made. In January 2020, the SWG made the following recommendations to the Select Board:

- 1) Extend contract for existing curbside pickup and disposal system for garbage and recyclables for one year.
- 2) Identify potential vendors and alternative contract arrangements, and if feasible, create a Request For Proposal to go out to bid by July 2020.
- 3) Continue Solid Waste Group to research options and focus on resident education.

### SOLID WASTE SURVEY RESULTS

Plainfield residents overwhelmingly support Plainfield's current curbside pickup and disposal system for garbage and recyclables. An impressive 61%, or 489 of 800 Plainfield households, responded to a SWG survey in the fall of 2019. Thank you Plainfield residents for your participation!

Some 86% support curbside pickup of garbage.

Some 94% support curbside pickup of recyclables.

**Disposal Methods:** The SWG survey also asked how Plainfield residents handle their garbage and recyclables. While the majority use the curbside program exclusively, many supplement the program with drop off at the Lebanon Landfill and Recycling Center. Interestingly, some residents who do not use the curbside program still indicated support for the program.

	Use Curbside Exclusively	Curbside & Lebanon	Lebanon only
Garbage	370	43	56
Recycling	412	34	20

Further information on Plainfield's solid waste program is available on the town website. Respectfully submitted,

Marc Morgan, Richard Atkinson, Hillary Sundell, Wayne Tucker and Susan Williams

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT -2019**

The Finance Committee, consisting of 6 members, is authorized by the voters and appointed each year by the Town Moderator to advise the Select Board and other officers of the town in the prudential affairs of the town.

### **General Observations on Town and School Finances**

Finance Committee members attended all School Board and Select Board meetings and public hearings related to the budget. In addition, separate Finance Committee meetings were held with public participation to discuss budget related issues.

The school budget, including warrant articles if approved, would reduce the tax rate by about \$.61 from last year. The town budget, including the library warrant article and anticipated revenue, would increase the tax rate by about \$.85. The approximate net impact would be an additional \$60 in taxes for a property assessed at \$250,000.

While we are concerned about ever increasing taxes, when voters are given a choice about warrant articles which add to the overall budgets, most pass overwhelmingly. And the demand for services seems to be increasing, not decreasing. The challenge for a community with a wide range of incomes is to find a level of service that everyone can live with. In this light, one of the primary roles of the Finance Committee is to help ensure the town and school are spending tax dollars responsibly, to effectively accomplish our collective goals.

In addition, we recognize that future costs can impact current budget decisions. To help make future costs more transparent, we are recommending a more robust Capital Improvement Program as described in the Comments and Recommendation section below.

### **Town Warrant**

#### **Meriden Library (Warrant article 2)**

**A Brief History:** At the March 2017 Town Meeting, the community was asked to ‘defund’ the Meriden library and make the Philip Read Memorial Library the single, funded library for the Town. That warrant article was defeated by a vote of 225 against vs 29 in favor. The following year, March 2018, the Meriden Library Building Committee was formed to determine if the existing Meriden library building could be modified to make it a fully accessible building. In the end, because of asbestos in the building, the lack of available space for an accessible bathroom, and the need for an elevator to reach the bottom floor, the committee concluded that modifying the building was not financially responsible. Instead, it recommended that the Meriden Library be replaced and proceeded to research and develop plans and cost estimates for that. In March 2019, a warrant article was proposed that the Meriden Library be replaced at a cost of \$975,000 and that up to \$487,500 be funded by a bond issue. The vote on that warrant failed by a vote of 190 against vs 249 in favor which was less than the required 2/3rds (293) to pass a bond article. Note: At that time, the Finance Committee members opposed the bond article by a vote of 5 to 1.

**The Current Warrant Article** proposes that the Meriden Library be replaced at a cost of \$1,046,000 and that a one-time payment of not more than \$183,000 be raised from taxes.

The remaining funding is to be raised from the existing Town reserve fund for ADA access (\$45,000), the existing Town reserve fund for Meriden Library Replacement (\$18,000) and private funds raised by the Meriden Library Foundation (\$800,000). It also gives the Foundation until December 31, 2021, to meet their funding obligation.

Both the community and the Finance Committee are divided on this issue. Within the committee, objections were raised both on financial and procedural grounds. In particular, concern was expressed that the number of community members being served by the library and the trend of declining use of libraries generally does not support the investment being made. Procedurally, concern was expressed that the committees involved and the Town officers had not followed the existing purchasing policy which requires a competitive bid process for the award of large purchases and that not following the policy should be disqualifying.

A majority of the committee voted to support this article for the following reasons:

- Because the decision about this ‘purchase’ is to be made by the Town’s legislative body at Town Meeting rather than by Town officers, it is unclear if the Purchasing Policy applies. (Interpretation by the Town is that it does not.) In any case, it should be up to the community to decide if the lack of competitive bids in the project design process is disqualifying or if the Meriden Library Building Committee’s research and diligence in selecting a vendor is sufficient.
- Bearing the full cost of 2 libraries might fairly be considered a luxury, or undue burden, for a community our size. However, that is not our situation. On completion of the proposed library the town will own 2 buildings, worth approximately 2.2 million dollars in aggregate, with actual costs borne by the taxpayer of less than \$600k, or roughly half the cost of a single library paid for with taxpayer dollars. In this case, private funds are paying for over 80% of the buildings cost.
- Finding a way to make the existing Meriden library ADA compliant was the initial charge of the Meriden Library Building Committee. The committee found that with hazardous materials in the walls/floors of the existing building, lack of space for an accessible bathroom, and the need to expand the building to accommodate an elevator to reach both floors, renovation of the existing building would be too expensive and would leave all of the basic problems with the existing structure in place. It is true that the Philip Read Memorial Library provides fully accessible library. However, we have an ethical responsibility to make sure all municipal buildings fully comply with ADA requirements, which the proposed building will do.
- In addition, the proposed building will remove the future liability of a building with hazardous materials in the walls and floors that cannot be easily removed. It will also reduce maintenance and operating costs because of its energy efficiency.

We believe that this proposal represents a prudent investment for the community.



Tax Impact: If approved, this article would add \$.60 to the tax rate for one year, or \$150 for a property assessed at \$250,000.

Recommended by the Finance Committee (Vote 4 - 2)

**Town Operating Budget (Warrant article 3)**

The town operating budget increases by about \$91,000 or 4% from last year. The increase consists primarily of cost of living raises for town employees and about \$15,000 for the new trash and recycling contract as discussed above.

Tax Impact: If approved, this article would add \$.30 to the tax rate, or \$75 for a property assessed at \$250,000.

Recommended by the Finance Committee (Vote 6 - 0)

**Reserve Funds (Warrant article 4)**

Reserve funds are taxes collected by the town for specific identified future expenses. The use of these funds has served the community well by preventing large fluctuations in the tax rate from year to year. The \$257,500 requested this year includes an increase of \$25,000 in the Fire Department Equipment fund and an increase of \$15,000 in the Bridge Fund to better match anticipated costs in these areas and the elimination of \$25,000 approved last year for the Meriden Library Fund.

In connection with the development of a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), as described in the General Concerns and Recommendations section below, the town should consider combining related funds to allow more flexibility in meeting the town's needs as they evolve from year to year.

Tax impact: If approved, this article would add \$.05 to the tax rate, or \$13 for a property assessed at \$250,000.

Recommended by the Finance Committee (Vote 6 - 0)

**All Veterans Tax Credit (Warrant article 5)**

This article expands the tax credit to include all veterans who meet certain minimum criteria. It is estimated to impact fewer than 20 taxpayers, so the change to the town tax rate is thought to be minimal. This tax credit seems like an appropriate way to recognize, in a small way, the debt we owe to all the men and women who have served this country in the military.

Recommended by the Finance Committee (Vote 6 - 0)

**Trash and Recycling Contract (No Warrant Article)**

The cost of the trash and recycling program has a significant impact on the Town budget (\$236,810); and, by observation, there seem to be a number of households which do not use the pickup service. In past years, the Finance Committee and others have recommended that the Town examine whether this service should be continued or

revised. As a result, the Solid Waste Committee was established. As part of their assessment, a simple, post-card survey was sent to all households. Over 60% of the households responded. The survey response overwhelmingly favored continuation of both the trash (85%) and recycling (95%) programs.

The Solid Waste Committee has made the following recommendations:

1. Continue the current contract with Casella Waste Service for one year to give the Town time to assess possible modifications to the program to reduce costs.
2. Identify potential vendors who could provide waste and/or recycling collections services to the Town as well as possible modifications to the current contract model. Develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) and solicit bids for this service.
3. Continue the Solid Waste Committee with a focus on residential education and outreach.

The Finance Committee unanimously supports these recommendations.

## **School Warrant**

### **General Observations**

The School Board continues to target budget expenditures to support the adopted school vision. The Finance Committee supports the efforts of the administration and School Board to focus budget requests in this way and feels that the budget requests were well justified.

### **Operating Budget (Warrant article 2)**

The operating budget, not including warrant articles, is \$6,880,509 which is 1.8% lower than last year. Reductions in the education expenses and increases in revenue contributed to an overall decrease of -4.4% in tax dollars needed.

There are requests for additional support:

- \$11,875 for iPads to replace aging and broken equipment in the K-1 program
- \$4,000 for movable furniture to pilot a more flexible instructional environment in one classroom
- \$29,675 in benefit costs related to a teacher who is shared with Cornish. Essentially, a teacher with part-time positions in both schools with no benefits will be in a full-time position shared between the schools which includes benefits. If the model works, it will help both schools keep a well-qualified teacher who would otherwise be seeking full time employment elsewhere.
- \$10,000 to increase the music position from .8 to full time.

Tax impact: If approved, this article would decrease the tax rate by .79 and will reduce the tax on a property assessed at \$250,000 by \$198.

Recommended by the Finance Committee (Vote 6 - 0)

**Floor Replacement (Warrant article 3)**

This article continues the process of replacing existing floor covering with Terrazzo epoxy to address moisture issues in the building. \$35,000

Tax impact: If approved, this article would add \$.12 to the tax rate, or \$30 for a property assessed at \$250,000.

Recommended by the Finance Committee (Vote 6 - 0)

**Building and Grounds Study (Warrant article 4)**

Currently, the school is experiencing drainage issues on the playground and ball fields, lighting issues in the front of the building, and a need for additional paving along the parking lot side of the building. In addition, the gym roof will need to be replaced, and the current classroom configuration may need to be revised to support the instructional program, especially at the middle school level. This article provides funding to support an evaluation of these issues. \$20,000

Tax impact: If approved, this article would add \$.06 to the tax rate, or \$15 for a property assessed at \$250,000.

Recommended by the Finance Committee (Vote 6 - 0)

**General Concerns and Recommendations**

**Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)**

The Finance Committee recognizes the need for both the town and the school to be transparent about anticipated large capital expenditures in future years, to help voters make fiscally responsible decisions at town meeting. While the town currently has a CIP process, it is not well publicized and does not include all large capital expenses. The current process focuses on equipment needs for the highway, police and fire departments and results in updates to the Town reserve funds. It does not include anticipated renovations to Town buildings which now include two fire houses, two libraries, an additional storage building for the highway department, the town garage and two town halls. We strongly recommend that the current CIP process be revised to include members from the Planning Board, Select Board, and Finance Committee and that its scope be expanded to include major repairs and renovations to the town's buildings.

The School District also has a 5 year CIP plan that is not well publicized. While we recognize that the town and school plans are separate because the budgets are separate, both plans impact the same taxpayers. We recommend that anticipated capital expenditures for both school and town be presented together in any publication to the community, so taxpayers can readily see the full impact of all large future expenditures as they consider the town and school budgets.

Mike Sutherland Chair, Finance Committee



## STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT #9

I am honored to represent the communities of Cornish, Croydon, Grantham, Newport, Plainfield, Springfield, Sunapee, and Unity in my third term as State Representative, Sullivan District 9. I serve as the Clerk for the Education Committee, Assistant Majority Floor Leader and Commissioner for the Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission.

This year the House was largely focused on developing a budget for 2020-21. The House priorities were to address the issues surrounding school funding and examine ways to help reduce the burden on local property taxes. The Education Committee heard from many school districts in our state that were in dire financial situations. Bills were passed to help these schools and review school adequacy funding. After many months of negotiations, a compromise to the Governor's veto resulted in the final budget. That budget included targeted revenue sharing for towns, municipalities, and schools who have a higher percentage of students eligible for free and reduced-priced meals. Keno revenues did not meet the funding level for full day kindergarten. As a result, kindergarten costs will now be fully funded from the general fund. Most importantly, an independent commission has been established to study school funding and will deliver a report to the legislature in the 2021 session.

This year laws were enacted for sports betting, hemp farming, establishing municipal energy districts, a much needed expansion of mental health care services and opening coordinated substance abuses services. Towns will now be allowed to make the decision to postpone town meetings in the event of severe weather or other emergencies. From the education committee came two laws that will help students. One that deals with training and policies for all staff for suicide prevention. Suicide is the second leading cause of death in people under the age of 24. The second was inspired by a teenager from Rochester, the Period Poverty Bill became law. This law mandates that all middle and high schools provide essential menstrual products in the female and gender neutral bathrooms. Testimony to our committee revealed that many girls whose families can not afford to buy pads or tampons miss substantial learning time, suffer embarrassment, and low self esteem.

Privatization, accountability, funding and the role of local control of our public school system remain issues of debate in our committee for this next year. In 2021 the legislature will be performing a redistricting of House, Senate, and Executive Council districts. A bill that established an independent commission to give a proposal for new districts based on the recent census passed both the House and Senate but was vetoed by the Governor. I expect to see another bill addressing this issue in this term. Voting rights, marijuana, family leave insurance, and bills addressing gun violence will be a focus in this year of the biennium. We will also see legislation addressing issues around climate change and energy.

Recently, I was honored to receive the Barbara French Advocacy Award from the School Nurses' Association for my work on legislation that reinstates a much needed position of school nurse coordinator at the Department of Education. School nurses play a vital role in the health and well being of our schools, its staff and students.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent you in our state government. Please do not hesitate to call or email with your concerns, comments, and advice.

Linda Tanner  
NH State Representative Sullivan District 9

## **MERIDEN VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT 2019 Operator's Report**

The District continued to pursue groundwater discharge of treated effluent in 2019. The four rapid infiltration basins (RIBs) that were constructed in 2017 were in use throughout the year. Horizons Engineering prepared and submitted a report to the EPA and NHDES summarizing the performance of the RIBs. Based on the information gathered over the past two years we believe that groundwater discharge is a viable concept for gaining compliance with the EPA Order. In August, at the suggestion of Horizons Engineering, the District applied for a Northern Borders Regional Commission (NBRC) grant for the construction of seven permanent RIBs and pumping station to move treated effluent to the RIBs. The NBRC program is a grant program from the Federal Government that is for promoting economic development. We received letters of support from the Town and from KUA regarding the project. In September we received news that our project was selected to be funded. A grant in the amount of \$376,000 has been awarded to the MVWD toward a total project cost of approximately \$470,000. An RFP for engineer qualifications was put out in November and based on the RFP submissions, the MVWD Commissioners selected Horizons Engineering to design and oversee the construction of the basins and pump system. Construction is expected to begin in mid 2020 and be completed by the end of the year.

Work on the removal of inflow and infiltration (I&I) from the wastewater collection system continued during the year. Several illegally connected sump pumps were removed from the system and three locations where the collection pipes are damaged were discovered. These will need to be repaired in 2020. Sump pumps are not allowed to be connected to the wastewater collection system.

An asset management plan was developed by the District with help from Horizons Engineering for the wastewater collection and treatment systems owned by the MVWD. Asset management is a tool to help prioritize maintenance and replacement of critical assets. It is also useful in developing budgets and planning upgrades to facilities based on an asset's useful life. The plan was funded by a loan forgiveness program run by the NH DES. The plan cost \$30,000 and the District only had to pay a small amount of interest, the principal repayment was forgiven.

The roofs of all the buildings at the wastewater treatment facility were replaced in June. The original asphalt shingles lasted 36 years. A SCADA system was installed at the MVWD drinking water well pumping station. The system allows for remote data acquisition and equipment control via an online controller.

PFAS testing was required by the NH DES for all public water systems beginning in the fourth quarter of 2019. The MVWD submitted samples in October and the results came back with no detects of the PFAS chemicals. PFAS is present in non-stick and stain blocking coatings. The State was sued by

several communities over the PFAS testing requirements and a judge issued an injunction suspending the testing requirement pending the court proceedings.

MVWD Commissioner Nat Pierson resigned in 2019. Nat served as Commissioner for 8 years. Thank you Nat. Greg Castell has agreed to serve out the remainder of Mr. Pierson's term as Commissioner.

Respectfully Submitted,

**William S. Taylor** Certified Operator, Meriden Village Water District

**Jeffrey S. Albright**

**Murray Dewdney**

**Greg Castell**

Commissioners, Meriden Village Water District

### THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SULLIVAN, SS.

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD

To the inhabitants of the Town of Plainfield in the said county of Sullivan in said State, who are legal voters residing in the Meriden Village Water District, and qualified to vote in said District affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the MERIDEN FIRE STATION in said Meriden Village Water District on Tuesday the seventeenth day of March 2020 at 7:30 p.m. to act upon the following subjects:

**ARTICLE 01.** To choose the necessary District Officers for the ensuing year, or otherwise as the by-laws direct:

1. A moderator for one year.
2. A clerk for one year.
3. A commissioner for three years.
4. A treasurer for one year.

An auditor for one year.

Such other officers and agents as the voters may judge necessary for the managing of the District's affairs, or as may be directed by law to be chosen.

**ARTICLE 02.** To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund created in 1993 for replacing or upgrading the water distribution system facilities and equipment, pursuant to RSA35:1, with \$24,930 to come from unassigned fund balance, and \$10,070 from the operating budget. The Commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

**ARTICLE 03.** To see if the District will vote to appropriate \$470,000 for construction costs on a Rapid Infiltration Basin System at the wastewater treatment facility, with \$376,000 (80%) to come from a Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) grant, \$65,000 from the sewer capital reserve fund, and the remaining \$29,000 to come from unassigned fund balance. This article will be non-lapsing until 12/31/2022. The Board of Commissioners is named agent to expend from the capital reserve fund. The commissioners recommend this appropriation (Majority vote required).



**ARTICLE 04.** To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250,450 which represents the operating budget, with \$248,030 to come from user charges and \$2,420 to come from unassigned fund balance. Said sum does not include special or individual warrant articles addressed. The Commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 05.** To see what action the District will take with regard to the reports of the District officers.

**ARTICLE 06.** To see what action the District will take with regard to water and sewer user charges.

**ARTICLE 07.** To enact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this eleventh day of February, 2020.

**A true copy attest:**

**Jeffery Albright**

**Murray Dewdney**

**Greg Castell**

**Commissioners Meriden Village Water District**

**MINUTES  
MERIDEN VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT MEETING  
MARCH 19, 2019**

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Meriden Village Water District, in the town of Plainfield, County of Sullivan, State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in District affairs, held at the Meriden Fire Station on Tuesday the nineteenth of March 2019 at 7:30 p.m., the business was disposed of in the following manner:

The Annual Meeting of the Meriden Village Water District was called to order by Moderator Stephen Taylor.

**ARTICLE 01.** The following resolution was offered, and it was moved and seconded that it be adopted:

**RESOLVED:** That the following slate of officers be elected:

Moderator for one year:	Stephen Taylor
Clerk for one year:	Roberta Garfield
Commissioner for three years:	Murray Dewdney
Treasurer for one year:	Donald Garfield
Auditor for one year:	Catherine Legare

The vote was unanimous in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the individuals were elected.

**ARTICLE 02.** The following resolution was offered and it was moved and seconded that it be adopted:

**RESOLVED:** That the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund created in 1993 for replacing

or upgrading the water distribution system, pursuant to RSA35:1, with \$17,360 to come from unassigned fund balance and \$2,640 to come from user charges.  
It was unanimously voted in the affirmative and the Moderator so declared it.

**ARTICLE 03.** The following resolution was offered and it was moved and seconded that it be adopted:

RESOLVED: That the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund created in 1997 for the purpose of replacing or upgrading facilities and equipment for the wastewater treatment system, pursuant to RSA35:1, with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance.  
It was unanimously voted in the affirmative and the Moderator so declared it.

**ARTICLE 04.** The following resolution was offered and it was moved and seconded that it be adopted:

RESOLVED: That the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$285,992, which represents the operating budget, with \$277,832 to come from user charges, and \$8,160 to come from unassigned fund balance. Said sum does not include special or individual warrant articles addressed.  
It was unanimously voted in the affirmative and the Moderator so declared it

**ARTICLE 05.** The following resolution was offered and it was moved and seconded that it be adopted:

RESOLVED: That the reports of District Officers as printed in the Town of Plainfield 2018 Town Report be approved, and that a corrected copy be placed on file with the District Clerk.  
It was voted in the affirmative and the Moderator so declared it

**ARTICLE 06.** The following resolution was offered and it was moved and seconded that it be adopted:

RESOLVED:

1. That District charges for residential sewer service remain at \$115 per quarter.
2. That District charges for sewer service to Kimball Union Academy remain at \$9,730 per month.
3. That District charges for sewer service to Plainfield Elementary School remain at \$550 per month.
4. That District charges for residential water service remain at \$95 per quarter.
5. That District charges for water service to Kimball Union Academy remain at \$6,460 per month.

It was voted in the affirmative and the Moderator so declared it.

**ARTICLE 07.** There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Roberta I Garfield  
Robert I. Garfield, Clerk

**Commissioners,  
Meriden Village Water District  
P.O. Box 84**

Meriden, NH 03770

**SUBJECT: 2019 Audit Findings**

**Gentlemen:**

I have reviewed the MVWD Treasurer's 2019 financial records, per RSA 41:31a and 41:31d, and find these records to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Catherine Legare Auditor  
Meriden Village Water District 01/26/20

**Meriden Village Water District  
Water Department Balance Sheet  
As of December 31, 2019**

<b>Assets:</b>	
Checking account balance	\$90,409.93
Undeposited funds	\$0.00
Capital Reserve Fund	\$113,637.35
Accounts due District: Water charges due	\$16,874.24
<hr/>	
Total Assets	\$220,921.52
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Reserve Funds: Capital Reserve	\$113,637.35
<hr/>	
Total Liabilities	\$113,637.35
Fund Balance- Current Surplus	\$107,284.17
<hr/>	
Grand Total	\$220,921.52
<b>Principal Balance Long Term Debt:</b>	
State of NH Revolving Fund	\$272,813.05

**Sewer Department Balance Sheet  
As of December 31, 2019**

<b>Assets:</b>	
Checking account balance	\$67,474.32
Undeposited funds	\$0.00
Capital Reserve Fund	\$67,912.25
Accounts due District: Sewer charges due	\$18,531.04
<hr/>	
Total Assets	\$153,917.61
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Reserve Funds: Capital Reserve	\$67,912.25
<hr/>	
Total Liabilities	\$67,912.25
Fund Balance- Current Surplus	\$86,005.36
<hr/>	

Grand Total	\$153,917.61
<b>Principal Balance Long Term Debt:</b>	
State of NH Revolving Fund	\$127,834.53

**MERIDEN VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT  
SEWER DEPARTMENT**

<b>Income</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>	<b>2019 Budget</b>	<b>2019 Actual</b>	<b>2020 Budget</b>
Sewer Charges	\$145,000	\$147,297	\$145,000	\$149,579	\$148,000
Hook-Ups	\$0	\$2,250	\$0	\$0	\$0
Interest	\$0	\$15	\$0	\$87	\$0
From Capital Reserve	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$65,000
Xfer from Water			\$0	\$0	\$0
From Surplus	\$18,980		\$20,800	\$0	\$31,420
Solar Energy Generation	\$0	\$1,541	\$1,500	\$3,506	\$3,500
Other Income	\$29,732	\$144	\$29,732	\$29,741	\$376,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$193,712</b>	<b>\$151,247</b>	<b>\$197,032</b>	<b>\$182,914</b>	<b>\$623,920</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Budget 2018</b>	<b>Actual 2018</b>	<b>Budget 2019</b>	<b>Actual 2019</b>	<b>Budget 2020</b>
Office	\$1,200	\$347	\$1,200	\$442	\$1,200
Legal	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200
Electricity	\$7,500	\$9,088	\$9,100	\$8,985	\$9,100
Insurance	\$26,000	\$24,150	\$28,000	\$23,808	\$29,200
Maintenance	\$17,000	\$15,603	\$17,000	\$7,416	\$17,000
Telephone	\$1,200	\$1,150	\$1,200	\$1,168	\$1,200
Wages	\$39,000	\$37,050	\$40,000	\$40,806	\$44,800
FICA, Medicare	\$4,400	\$3,786	\$4,400	\$4,086	\$4,500
Retirement	\$7,700	\$6,948	\$7,700	\$7,171	\$7,700
Interest on debt	\$5,600	\$5,574	\$5,020	\$5,016	\$4,460
Principal on debt	\$15,980	\$15,979	\$15,980	\$15,979	\$15,980
Supplies	\$3,000	\$1,532	\$3,000	\$2,256	\$3,000
Effluent Testing	\$4,700	\$647	\$4,500	\$1,005	\$4,500
Vehicle	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,080
Capital Reserve	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
Grd. Wtr. Monitoring	\$10,000	\$1,980	\$10,000	\$7,162	\$10,000
Special Projects	\$39,732	\$6,361	\$39,732	\$38,307	\$470,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$193,712</b>	<b>\$140,195</b>	<b>\$197,032</b>	<b>\$173,608</b>	<b>\$623,920</b>

**MERIDEN VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT  
WATER DEPARTMENT**

<b>Income</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>	<b>2019 Budget</b>	<b>2019 Actual</b>	<b>2020 Budget</b>
Water Rents	97,000	101,659	98,000	104,879	103,000
Hook-Ups	0	1,500	0	0	0
Hydrant Rentals	3,600	0	3,600	7,200	3,600
Interest	0	27	0	145	0
From Capital Reserve	0	45,000	0	0	0
Transfer From Sewer	0	0	0	0	0
From Surplus	2,780	0	17,360	5,803	24,930
Other Income		108	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>103,380</b>	<b>148,293</b>	<b>118,960</b>	<b>118,026</b>	<b>131,530</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>	<b>2019 Budget</b>	<b>2019 Actual</b>	<b>2020 Budget</b>
Office	1,200	802	1,200	453	1,200
Legal	0	0	200	0	200
Electricity	6,000	4,712	5,000	4,709	5,500
Insurance	7,000	5,874	7,000	6,454	7,100
Maintenance	15,000	12,833	15,000	15,360	15,000
Telephone	380	393	400	264	400
Wages	13,000	12,485	14,000	12,735	14,670
Retirement	2,300	2,347	2,660	2,368	2,600
Interest on debt	11,400	11,393	10,300	10,287	9,200
Principal on debt	33,000	32,978	34,100	34,084	35,300
Supplies	2,000	0	2,000	0	2,000
Transfer to Sewer				0	0
Vehicle				0	360
Water Analysis	2,100	1,594	2,100	4,322	3,000
Water Meter Project	45,000	31,041	5,000	6,989	0
Capital Reserve	10,000	10,000	20,000	20,000	35,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>148,380</b>	<b>126,450</b>	<b>118,960</b>	<b>118,026</b>	<b>131,530</b>

## **PLAINFIELD VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT Commissioners' Annual Report**

The year 2019 marked a major milestone, when the District made the last payment on our Bond issue from 1999 for the storage tank and wells. The District budget will be reduced substantially by removing bonded debt, allowing us to reduce the overall budget while still maintaining a state of good repair.

System operation during 2019 was generally satisfactory. Our system operator Adam Lewis has done a good job keeping up with testing and reporting requirements, the result of which is that we have not had to send out any notices except the annual Consumer Confidence Report. The results of all of our tests were satisfactory, and well within the required limits. We went ahead with PFA sampling even though the rules requiring it were held off by the courts, giving us a baseline (uncontaminated) and removing the threat of further monitoring requirements.

A bill to reduce the violation level for arsenic to half of the current level passed the state legislature this year. While no action will be required by the District until 2021, the commissioners have elected to set aside some of this year's surplus, along with additional money, to create a cushion for the District in the face of unknown costs for additional testing and/or treatment. The State would be responsible for any required expenditures, as this would be a new mandate. The usual process for this involves the District expending the money and getting reimbursed.

Two new connections were completed last year at no cost to the District. We are planning to do some replacement work, most likely on the main 6" line along 12-A, but possibly including replacing a fire hydrant. Some customer curb stops and meters will also be replaced as necessary.

Collections, as always, are difficult. Our "accounts receivable" number still represents about half "old debt" (more than 180 days) and about half accounts that are one billing period overdue. We did recover some of our "old debt" when two residences were sold. Our policy of making settlement offers for delinquent customers has not been particularly fruitful, so we are also considering pursuing other options.

The DES grant program that is expected to bring in about \$4000 this year was funded for the 2019 fiscal year. The slight reduction in rates we were able to adopt in 2012 continues to yield enough revenue to meet our expenses, and we will be adjusting them further now that the bond has been retired.

The commissioners' greatest concern in the future of the District is our inability to replace our volunteer officers. Our longtime treasurer, Sarah Gillens, will be retiring at the end of her term at the District meeting. We are planning to offload much of the treasurer's job, and that of the billing clerk, by contracting for services.

There is plenty of work for anyone interested in helping. Please contact one of the commissioners if you're looking for opportunities. We are still looking for a billing clerk and a meter reader, both of which are paid positions. Our annual meeting is on March 30<sup>th</sup> at the Plainfield Library.

The commissioners  
**Robert Drye**  
**Brad Atwater**  
**Ron Bailey**

**WARRANT  
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PLAINFIELD VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT  
TOWN OF PLAINFIELD**

**SULLIVAN, SS.**

To the inhabitants of the town of Plainfield in the said county of Sullivan in the said State, who are legal voters residing in the Plainfield Village Water District, and qualified to vote in said district affairs.

You are hereby notified to meet at the **Philip Read Memorial Library** in said Plainfield Village Water District on **Saturday the 28th of March 2020 at 9:00 a.m.** to act upon the following subjects.

**ARTICLE I.** To choose the necessary District Officers for the ensuing year or otherwise.

1. A moderator for one year.
2. A clerk for one year
3. A commissioner for three years
4. A treasurer for one year
5. An auditor for one year

**ARTICLE II.** To see what action the district will take with regard to the reports of the district officers.

**ARTICLE III.** To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$46,880** to defray district expenses, and to authorize the Commissioners to direct disbursements of funds by the District Treasurer. Said sum does not include special warrant articles assessed. (Majority vote required for passage.) (The Commissioners recommend passage of this article.)

**ARTICLE IV.** To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15000 to be placed in The System Maintenance Fund established in 2007 pursuant to RSA 31:19a, with the amount to come from the fund balance. (Majority vote required for passage.) (The Commissioners recommend passage of this article.)

**ARTICLE IV.** To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this Twenty Sixth Day of February in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty.

At true copy attest:           **Robert Drye  
Brad Atwater  
Ron Bailey**

**PLAINFIELD VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
DECEMBER 31, 2019**

**ASSETS**

Cash	\$78,686
Accounts receivable	23,850
Machinery and equipment	124,288
Buildings	10,000
Land and improvements	70,000
Tank/Well project	<u>450,000</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 756,824</u>

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

**Liabilities**

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	0
Tax Anticipation Notes	0
Bond payable –NHMBB	<u>0</u>
Total liabilities	\$ 0

**Net Assets**

Unrestricted assets	\$ <u>756,824</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 756,824</u>

**Plainfield Village Water District  
Statement of Cash Flow year 2019**

<b>Opening Cash position</b>	<b>\$69,442</b>
Water Rent	\$50,680
Other Income	<u>\$4,183</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$54,863</b>
Admin Expenses	\$3,204
Operations	\$21,366
Bond Debt - Principal Reduction	\$20,000
Bond Debt - Interest	\$1,050
TAN notes - interest	<u>\$0</u>
<b>Total operating disbursements</b>	<b>\$45,620</b>
<b>Capital Projects</b>	
<b>Transfers to Trust Funds</b>	
System Maintenance Fund	\$0
<b>Transfers from Trust Funds</b>	
System Maintenance Fund	\$0
<b>Net cash flow before TAN borrowings</b>	<b>\$9,243</b>
Net TAN borrowings	\$0
<b>Net change in cash balance</b>	<b>\$9,243</b>
<b>Ending Cash position</b>	<b>\$78,686</b>



**PLAINFIELD VILLAGE DISTRICT  
2020 BUDGET (DRA format)**

	<b>2019 Proposed</b>	<b>2019 Actual</b>	<b>2020 Proposed</b>
Executive	\$1,290	\$1,040	\$1,290
Financial Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0
Legal Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0
General Government Buildings	\$0	\$0	\$0
Insurance	\$1,200	\$1,172	\$1,200
Advertising & Regional Assoc.	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other General Government Administration	\$2,500	\$992	\$3,500
Water Services	\$18,000	\$16,461	\$18,000
Water Treatment	\$400	\$388	\$400
Water Conservation and Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
Princ. Long Term Bonds & Notes	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
Interest-Long Term Notes	\$1,050	\$1,050	\$0
Int. on Tax Anticipation Notes	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Debt Service	\$0	\$0	\$0
Land and Improvements	\$0	\$0	\$0
Machinery, Vehicles & Equip. Buildings	\$1,000	\$0	\$2,500
Improvements other than Bldgs	\$5,000	\$4,518	\$7,500
<b>Operating Budget Total</b>	<b>\$50,440</b>	<b>\$45,619</b>	<b>\$34,390</b>
Improvements other than Bldgs To Capital Reserve Fund	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
<b>Revenues</b>			
<b>State of New Hampshire</b>	\$4,000	\$4,172	\$3,800
<b>Charges for Service</b>			
Water Supply System Charges	\$46,430	\$50,680	\$43,080
<b>Miscellaneous Revenues</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Interest on Investments</b>	\$10	\$7	\$10
<b>From Capital Reserve Funds</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Amounts voted from FB</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Revenues and Credits</b>	<b>\$50,440</b>	<b>\$54,893</b>	<b>\$46,890</b>

**Minutes of Plainfield Village Water District  
March 29 2019**

Moderator Jeff Moore opened the meeting at 9:10 am, declaring that the Warrant and MS-636 were posted as required. Mr. Moore then took up the Warrant. Rob Drye moved to dispense with the reading of the Warrant. Ron Bailey seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

Mr. Moore read Article I. Brad Atwater made a motion under Article I:  
Resolved, that the District choose the necessary District Officers for the ensuing year or otherwise.

1. A moderator for one year.
2. A clerk for one year
3. A commissioner for three years
4. A treasurer for one year
5. An auditor for one year

Seconded by Jeff Moore.

Rob Drye moved the nomination of the following slate:

Jeff Moore – moderator for one year

Margaret Drye – clerk for one year

Bradford Atwater – commissioner for three years

Sarah Gillens – treasurer for one year

Beverly Widger – auditor for one year

Jeff Moore seconded the motion.

Rob Drye moved that the Clerk cast one vote for the slate. Ron Bailey seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote. Mr. Moore declared the slate elected.

Mr. Moore proceeded to the reading of Article II.

Ron Bailey made a motion under Article II:

Resolved, that the District accept the reports of District officers as printed in the 2018 Plainfield Town Report on pages 94-98 as amended, a certified copy to be placed with the Plainfield Town Clerk.

Seconded by Rob Drye. Motion passed by voice vote.

Mr. Moore proceeded to the reading of Article III. Rob Drye made a motion under Article III:

Resolved, that the District raise and appropriate the sum of **\$50,440** to defray district expenses, and authorize the Commissioners to direct disbursements of funds by the District Treasurer. Said sum does not include special warrant articles assessed. (Majority vote required for passage.) (The Commissioners recommend passage of this article.)

Seconded by Ron Bailey.

Vote on Article III was taken by tear-off ballot. Yes 7 No 0

Mr. Moore declared the motion passed.

Mr. Moore proceeded to the reading of Article IV – any other business that may legally come before this meeting. Mr. Moore then swore in new and returning officers. A motion to adjourn was made by Rob Drye, seconded by Ron Bailey. Passed by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 am. Margaret Drye Clerk

**MARRIAGES 2018**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>APPLICANTS</b>	<b>RESIDENCE</b>	<b>TOWN OF ISSUANCE</b>	<b>TOWN OF MARRIAGE</b>
09/15/2018	Hussey, Daniel K. Moore, Julia G.	Cumberland, ME Cumberland, ME	Plainfield	Cornish
10/06/2018	Wood, Ross S. Flynn, Beth M.	Hillsborough, NH Hillsborough, NH	Plainfield	Plainfield

**MARRIAGES 2019**

08/10/2019	Dow, William R. Mosunic, April R.	Plainfield Plainfield	Plainfield	Lebanon
08/17/2019	Devittori, John A. Cook, Hannah G.	Plainfield Plainfield	Plainfield	Lyman
09/07/2019	Marsh, Travis W. Hammond, Avery F	Plainfield Plainfield	Plainfield	Newbury

**BIRTHS – 2019**

<b>D.O.B.</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>PLACE</b>	<b>FATHER</b>	<b>MOTHER</b>
1/19/2019	Swartley, Gideon James	Lebanon	Swartley, Dwight	Swartley, Kimothy
1/28/2019	Larsen, Emmy Louise	Lebanon	Larsen, Daniel	Larsen, Kathryn
2/07/2019	Chhin, Noah James	Lebanon	Chhin, Sotheavy	Targonski, Bethany
2/10/2019	Ramsey, Andrew Carroll	Lebanon	Ramsey, Marc	Ramsey, Jenny
2/12/2019	Sietsma, Anna Mae	Lebanon	Sietsma, Daniel	Sietsma, Rebekah
2/22/2019	Hall, Amos Lockwood	Lebanon	Hall, Troy	Hall, Patricia
4/23/2019	Rondeau, August Daniel	Lebanon		Rondeau, Dominique
6/30/2019	Harrington, Mae Westrate	Lebanon	Harrington, Michael	Harrington, Abigail
7/09/2019	Goulet, Avery Grace	Lebanon	Goulet, Jeremiah	Goulet, Katelyn
9/04/2019	Willocks, Jamison Robert	Lebanon	Willocks, James	Willocks, Whitaker
9/23/2019	Mayo, Jaylen Robert	Lebanon	Mayo, Robert	Mayo, Ashley
9/27/2019	Smith, Oliver Selby	Lebanon	Smith, Garreth	Smith, Sara
10/11/2019	Tebbetts, Nora Sage	Lebanon	Tebbetts, Michael	Tebbetts, Cori
11/03/2019	Austin, Adam James	Lebanon	Austin, James	Miranda, Francesca
12/12/2019	Sheehan, Ernest Omey	Lebanon	Sheehan, William	Porter, Sarah

**DEATHS 2019**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Father</b>	<b>Mother</b>
1/21/2019	Jarvis, Betty	Plainfield	Jarvis, Norman	Garcia, Josephine
4/08/2019	Lapan, Marilyn	Plainfield	Farnsworth, Ralph	Fairbrother, Edna
4/27/2019	Girouard, Kevin	Plainfield	Girouard, Raymond	Safranski, Maryanne
6/09/2019	Cedeno, Douglas	Plainfield	Cedeno, Adrian	Gil De Rubio, Bianca
6/30/2019	West, George	Plainfield	West III, George	McDaniel, Laura
9/13/2019	Chapman, Annamay	Plainfield	LaFlam Sr, Leonard	Miller, Doris
09/24/2019	Bonnier, Donna	Windsor	Bocash, Wilfred	Morse, Verna
9/26/2019	Liston, Nancy	Plainfield	Cummings, Herbert	Landers, Eileen
10/26/2019	Bouchier, Bernice	Lebanon	Howe, Edward	Martin, Hazel
12/02/2019	Belyea, Craig	Grantham	Belyea, Ronald	Mansfield, Judith
12/25/2019	Timmons, Leonard	Lebanon	Timmons, Henry	Santaw, Olive

**Moose enjoying an early summer day on Stage Road**



Photo: Stephen Halleran