

# Town of PLANFELD New Hampshire

### ANNUAL REPORT 2020



#### COVID 19 Word Wide Pandemic

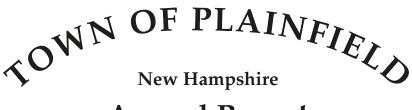
Thanks to Covid-19, 2020 was a year unique in our lifetime. As news of what was then called the Corona Virus became more widespread and serious, changes happened quickly. The voting portion of Town Meeting happened as usual on Tuesday, March 10 in the Plainfield Elementary School gym. By the following Saturday, it became clear that it would be ill-advised to hold our Town Meeting as scheduled on Saturday, March 14. The terms "quarantine" and "lock-down" quickly became part of our lived experience. Town Meeting was postponed and ultimately held outdoors in July under tents provided by Smith's Auction Gallery. Family or household groups were able to sit together, but people not in the same household were asked to sit six feet apart. "Social Distancing" was now part of our everyday conversation. Public health officials informed us that in addition to social distancing, wearing of masks was the most effective way to control the spread of the virus. With little guidance on the federal level, there was a national controversy about the seriousness of the virus and the benefits of mask wearing. In August, Plainfield was one of the first towns in the state to pass a mask ordinance. The state of New Hampshire followed suit in November.

Plainfield's local government has, using teleconferencing technology and recommended safety protocols, remained open throughout the pandemic. Likewise, the Plainfield School has done an extraordinary job of continuing with the education of our children, offering both an online virtual program and in person education.

As we have worked through this most difficult year together, the tireless work our Human Services Director Stephanie Schell to keep all of our residents as safe as possible stands out among the many extraordinary efforts that town and school officials, employees and our residents have put forth.

We will get through this together.

Plainfield Board of Selectmen



# Annual Report 2020

Annual Reports of the Officers and Selectmen and the School District



Please bring this Report to the School District and Town Meetings. Take care of this book: each costs \$4.50 to produce and deliver.

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### TOWN OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Office	Name	Appt. Expires
MODERATOR	Paul B. Franklin	2022
TOWN CLERK	Michelle Marsh	2022
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK	Susan Liebowitz	2022
SELECT BOARD	Robert W. Taylor	2021
	Eric R. Brann	2022
	Ron C. Eberhardt	2023
TREASURER	Sarah Brookes-Governo	o 2021
TAX COLLECTOR	Michelle Marsh	2022
DEP. TAX COLLECTOR	Susan Liebowitz	2022
TRUSTEES OF		
TRUST FUNDS	Jesse Stalker	2022
	Donald Garfield	2021
	Edward Stansfield	2023
LIBRARY		
TRUSTEES	Rosemary Mills	2023
	Jeanne Woodward-Poo	
	Jennifer Lenz	2022
	Judy Ptak	2023
	Adrienne W. Cedeno	2021
SUPERVISORS OF		
THE CHECKLIST	Harold Jones, Jr.	2024
	Fern Wilder	2021
	Beverly Widger	2021
CEMETERY TRUSTEES		
	Bradford Atwater	2023
	James Taylor	2021
	Margaret Drye	2022
BALLOT CLERKS	Sarah Brookes-Governo	2
	Robin Marsh	-
	Elizabeth Lurie	
	Linzabour Durio	

### BALLOT CLERKS (con't)

### **ROAD AGENT**

RECREATION DIRECTOR HEALTH OFFICER ZONING ADMINISTRATOR BUILIDNG INSPECTOR FACILITIES MANAGER YIELD TAX AGENT HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR EMERGENCY MGT.DIR. DEPTUTY EMD TOWN TRUMPETER POLICE DEPARTMENT

### PLANNING BOARD

**ZONING BOARD** 

### CONSERVATION COMMISSION

UVLSRPC

RoAnne Rogerson Jill Young, Alt

**Richard Collins** 

Daniel Cantlin Stephanie Schell Stephen Halleran David Lersch Bradford Atwater Judith A. Belyea Stephanie Schell James McCarragher Robert Taylor Ron C. Eberhardt Paul Roberts, Chief Anthony Swett Roland Daniels Wanda Daniels, Admin Assit

Jane Stephenson, Chair Michael Sutherland Jeffrey Allbright Elise Angelillo Ryan Boynton Judith Belyea Eric Brann, Selectboard Stephen Halleran, Alt

Richard Colburn, Chair	2021
Edward Moynihan	2023
Bradford Atwater	2022
Peter Martin	2021
Mathew Decker	2023
Scott MacLeay, Alt	2021

Judy Ptak William Knight David Grobe David Taylor Helen Koehler Victoria Ramos-Glew Anne Donaghy-Alt

John Yacavone

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

### ENERGY COMMITTEE

### PLAINFIELD FIRE CHIEF DEPUTY CHIEF DEPUTY CHIEF

### FOREST FIRE WARDENS

### KUA STUDY COMMITTEE

### SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

Mike Sutherland, Chair Elizabeth Underhill Marc Morgan Mark Hardy Eric Sorenson Pattie Hall

Evan Oxenham, Co Chair Steven Ladd, Co Chair Ron Eberhardt Jen Lenz Jordy Green Lexx Oxenham Nicholas Cohen

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

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

Stephen Beaupre John Yacavone Andrea Bueno Keen Robert Hewett Stephanie Schell Melissa Underhill Kate Whybrow, School Board Robert Blake, Kimball Union Academy Stephen Halleran, Select Board Rep.

Marc Morgan Richard Atkinson Hillary Sundell Wayne Tucker Susan Williams

## TOWN BUILDING COMMITTEE:

Jody Perkins Douglas Plummer Todd Godfrey



A masked Turkey Trot Paul Merchant took home the pie and Golden Turkey Photo S. Halleran

### 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 9th 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, Two Library Trustees for three years, One Cemetery Trustee for three years, One Supervisor of the Check list for six years, and any other necessary town officers.

### Due to the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic, the business portion of town meeting will again this year be delayed until an outdoor meeting is possible. An early June meeting is being considered and will be widely advertised once a date and location is set.

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,150,000** for the replacement of the Meriden Library building and to authorize the withdrawal of \$55,000 from the Town's ADA Capital Reserve Fund, \$17,761 from the Town's Meriden Library Replacement Fund and accept \$1,077,239 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 \$863,239). No dollars (\$0.00) will be raised by taxation to fund this article. 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 2026 whichever is sooner. This appropriation less corresponding anticipated revenues equates to \$0.00 of the town's projected tax rate. A majority of the Board of Trustees for the Plainfield Public Libraries (4-1) and a majority of the Select Board (2-0 with one abstention) recommend this appropriation.

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,466,662** to defray town charges for the 2021 fiscal year. The Select Board proposes the following budget:

bes the ronowing budget.	
1. Executive	\$228,086
2. Election/Registration/Vital Statistics	17,430
3. Financial Administration	88,100
4. Revaluation of Property	16,000
5. Legal Expenses	5,000
6. Personnel Administration	17,000
7. Planning and Zoning	2,200
8. General Government Buildings	17,025
9. Cemeteries	27,600
10. Insurance	68,430
11. Regional Associations	6,100
12. Police	413,709
13. Ambulance Service	38,000
14. Fire	67,500
15. Building Inspection	15,400
16. Emergency Management	250
17. Hydrant & Forest Fire Expense	4,100
18. Dispatching for Fire, Police & Ambulance	50,000
19. Highway Administration	23,750
20. Highways and Streets	734,145
21. Road Projects	114,412
22. Street Lights	10,000
23. Solid Waste Collection	216,000
24. Solid Waste Disposal	63,310
25. Health Agencies	8,910
26. Animal Control	500
27. Welfare	25,500
28. Recreation Commission	20,971
29. Library	165,174
30. Patriotic	1,500
31. Conservation Commission	500
32. Principal Long-term debt	0
33. Interest Long-term debt	0
Total:	\$2,466,662
udget is evolutive of other woment entitles	

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 \$4.48 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:

1001100111011001	
\$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, fire department equipment fund and the highway equipment fund. The Select Board (3-0) recommends this appropriation. This appropriation equates to approximately \$0.83 of the town tax rate.

**ARTICLE 5.** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by **Visiting Nurse and Hospice of VT and NH** (by petition). This appropriation equates to approximately \$0.03 of the town tax rate. The Selectboard (3-0) does not recommend this article.

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

### A True Copy Attest:

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

Plainfield Select Board

### **CERTIFICATE OF POSTING**

We, the undersigned Select Board of Plainfield, hereby certify that on the 17th day of February in the year 2021, 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: Robert W. Taylor Eric R. Brann Ron C. Eberhardt

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

### Michelle Marsh

Notary Public

### **BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF PLAINFIELD** Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2021

EXPENDITURES	2020	2020	2021	Dollar Change	Percent
Item	Approved	Expenditures	Request	Change	Change
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	¢221.250	¢ 001 500	¢ 229 096	¢ 2 2 4	1 407
Executive	\$231,350	\$ 231,533	\$ 228,086	-\$ 3,264	-1.4%
Election/Registration	\$20,930	\$ 18,193	\$ 17,430	-\$ 3,500	-16.7%
Financial Administration	\$88,350	\$ 83,258	\$ 88,100	-\$ 250	-0.3%
Revaluation of Property	\$12,000	\$ 17,200	\$ 16,000	\$ 4,000	33.3%
Legal Expense	\$5,000	\$ 3,407	\$ 5,000	\$ 0	0.0%
Personnel Administration	\$12,500	\$ 18,874	\$ 17,000	\$ 4,500	36.0%
Planning and Zoning	\$1,500	\$ 1,699	\$ 2,200	\$ 700	46.7%
General Government					
Buildings	\$17,025	\$ 16,894	\$ 17,025	\$ 0	0.0%
Cemeteries	\$29,600	\$ 31,445	\$ 27,600	-\$ 2,000	-6.8%
Insurances	\$68,430	\$ 65,921	\$ 68,430	\$ 0	0.0%
Regional Associations	\$6,100	\$ 5,528	\$ 6,100	\$ 0	0.0%
PUBLIC SAFETY					
Police	\$412,340	\$ 403,461	\$ 413,769	\$ 1,429	0.3%
Ambulance	\$38,000	\$ 38,060	\$ 38,000	\$ 0	0.0%
Fire	\$67,500	\$ 67,674	\$ 67,500	\$ 0	0.0%
Building Inspection	\$15,400	\$ 16,347	\$ 15,400	\$ 0	0.0%
Emergency Management	\$250	\$ 0	\$ 250	\$ 0	0.0%
Hydrant Rentals/FFT	\$4,100	\$ 3,600	\$ 4,100	\$ 0	0.0%
Dispatch Service	\$43,000	\$ 49,187	\$ 50,000	\$ 7,000	16.3%
HIGHWAYS, STREETS					
Highway Administration	\$21,050	\$ 22,492	\$ 23,750	\$ 2,700	12.8%
Highway and Streets	\$741,743	\$ 696,511	\$ 734,145	-\$ 7,598	-1.0%
Road Projects	\$108,836	\$ 109,232	\$114,412	\$ 5,576	5.1%
Street Lights	\$10,000	\$ 8,758	\$ 10,000	\$ 0	0.0%
SANITATION					
Solid Waste Collection	\$180,000	\$ 191,029	\$ 216,000	\$ 36,000	20.0%
Solid Waste Disposal	\$56,810	\$ 63,655	\$ 63,310	\$ 6,500	11.4%
Health					
Health Department	\$13,610	\$ 6,300	\$ 8,910	-\$ 4,700	-34.5%
Animal Control	\$500	\$ 95	\$ 500	\$ 0	0.0%
WELFARE					
General Assistance	\$25,500	\$ 25,471	\$ 25,500	\$ 0	0.0%

### BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF PLAINFIELD Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2021 (Continued)

#### CULTURE AND RECREATION Recreation Commission \$15,471 \$ 10,337 \$ 20,971 \$ 5,500 35.6% Libraries \$161.105 \$ 138.059 \$ 165.174 \$ 4.069 2.5% Patriotic Purposes \$1.500 \$636 \$ 1.500 \$0 0.0% Conservation Commission \$500 \$ 250 \$ 500 \$0 0.0% DEBT SERVICE \$0 Principal Long-term debt \$0 \$0 \$0 \$0 Interest Long-term debt \$0 \$ 0 \$0 **OPERATING BUDGET** TOTAL \$ 2,410,000 \$ 2,345,106 \$ 56,662 2.4% \$ 2,466,662 **EXPENDITURES** 2020 2020 2021 Dollar Percent Item Approved Expenditures Request Change Change CAPITAL OUTLAY \$ 1,150,000 Library New Library Building \$0 \$0 \$ 1.150.000 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 \$ 25,000 \$ 25,000 \$ 25,000 \$0 0.0% Hwy Gravel Reclamation Fund \$ 5,000 \$ 5,000 \$ 5,000 \$0 0.0% \$0 Facilities Fund \$ 15,000 \$ 15,000 \$ 15,000 0.0% \$0 0.0% Revaluation Fund \$ 10,000 \$ 10,000 \$ 10,000 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% \$0 Police Equipment Fund \$ 5,000 \$ 5,000 \$ 5,000 0.0% \$0 Fire New Equipment Fund \$ 50,000 \$ 50,000 \$ 50,000 0.0% \$ 8,500 Visiting Nurse and Hospice (petition) 449.9% TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY \$ 257,500 \$ 257,500 \$ 1,416,000 \$ 1,158,500 GROSS EXPENDITURES \$ 2,667,500 \$ 2,602,606 \$ 3,882,662 45.6%

### BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF PLAINFIELD Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2021 (Continued)

REVENUES	2020	2020	2021	Dollar	Percent
Item	Anticipated	Received	Anticipated	Change	Change
TAXES					
Land Use Change Tax (1/2)	\$ 1,700	\$ 10,650	\$ 13,350	\$ 11,650	685.3%
Yield Taxes	\$ 25,000	\$ 10,309	\$ 15,000	-\$ 10,000	-40.0%
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,125	\$ 2,500	\$ 0	0.0%
Interest & Penalties	\$ 45,000	\$ 32,886	\$ 35,000	-\$ 10,000	-22.2%
Excavations	\$ 0	\$ 120	\$ 0	\$ 0	
LICENSES AND PERMITS					
Licenses & Fees	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,434	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,000	16.7%
Motor Vehicle Registrations	\$ 610,000	\$ 590,263	\$ 600,000	-\$ 10,000	-1.6%
Trash User Fees	\$ 90,000	\$ 93,086	\$ 95,000	\$ 5,000	5.6%
STATE REVENUE					
Rooms and Meals Dist	\$ 123,387	\$ 123,387	\$ 123,387	\$ 0	0.0%
Highway Block Grant	\$ 120,165	\$ 120,165	\$ 114,412	-\$ 5,753	-4.8%
Other State Aide	\$ 15,205	\$ 49,096	\$ 15,205	\$ 0	
CHARGES FOR SERVICE					
Income from Departments	\$ 45,000	\$ 34,819	\$ 45,000	\$ 0	0.0%
Reimbursements	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE					
Sale of Town Property	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,175	\$ 6,000	\$ 0	0.0%
Interest on Deposits	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,894	\$ 5,000	-\$ 1,000	-16.7%
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES					
Longterm Borrowing	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
Private Fundraising	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,077,239	\$ 1,077,239	
Capital Reserve Funds	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 72,761	\$ 72,761	
Trust Funds	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,883	\$ 10,000	\$ 1,000	11.1%
Fund Balance Utilization	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	
BUDGET REVENUE TOTALS	\$ 1,104,957	\$ 1,093,292	\$ 2,236,854	\$ 1,131,897	
NET APPROPRIATION	\$ 1,562,543	\$ 1,509,314	\$ 1,645,808	\$ 0	5.3%
Change in dollars from taxation:			\$83,265		
Projected tax rate impact (total pa	ickage)		\$0.274		

### TOWN MEETING MINUTES March 14, 2020

Plainfield, New Hampshire

The annual meeting for the Town of Plainfield began at the Plainfield Elementary School on Bonner Road on Tuesday, March 10, 2020. Moderator Paul Franklin opened the meeting at 8:00 am with the reading of Article 1 and the posting certifications. Stephen Halleran made a motion to dispense with the reading of the entire warrant, seconded by Rob Taylor. 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, One Library Trustee for three years, One Library Trustee for one year, One Cemetery Trustee for three years, One Supervisor of the Check list for six years, One Moderator for two years and any other necessary town officers.

### Number on Check list: 1709 Same Day Registrants: 5 Number of Regular Ballots Cast: 592 Number of Absentee Ballots Cast: 31 Percentage of Voting: 36%

Town	Mod	erator	for	two	years:
------	-----	--------	-----	-----	--------

Paul Franklin 509

Paul Franklin was declared elected.

### **Cemetery Trustee for three years:**

Bradford Atwater 451

Bradford Atwater was declared elected.

### Select board Member for three years:

Ron C. Eberhardt	345
Marc Morgan	215

### Ron C. Eberhardt was declared elected.

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

Ed Stansfield 484

Ed Stansfield was declared elected.

### **One Library Trustee for three years:**

Rosemary Mills	326
Beverly Widger	215

Rosemary Mills was declared elected

### **One Library Trustee for one year:**

Adrienne W. Cedeno	320
John Hendrick	207

Adrienne W. Cedeno was declared elected.

The moderator closed the polls at 7pm. Rob Taylor made a motion to recess the Town Meeting, seconded by Michelle Marsh and a unanimous voice vote was in the affirmative. The moderator announced the results at 9:34 pm and recessed the meeting until Saturday, March 14, 2020 at 10am.

Alice Eberhardt was sworn into office on 3/13/2020 Adrienne Cedeno and Rosemary Mills were sworn into office on 3/16/2020 Paul Franklin and Edward Stansfield were sworn into office on 3/18/2020 Bradford Atwater was sworn into office on 3/19/2020 Ron Eberhardt was sworn into office on 3/20/2020 All officials were sworn in by Town Clerk, Michelle Marsh at the Town Office.

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

After conferring with State of New Hampshire officials, being mind full of the recommendations of federal health agencies relative to COVID 19, and with input of the selectboard and other local officials the moderator pursuant to RSA 40:4, postpones the Plainfield Town Meeting until 10:00am Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup> 2020 at the Plainfield School.

In the event the COVID 19 situation has not improved sufficiently to allow for a safe town meeting on June  $13^{th}$  a determination will be made at that time about a subsequent date.

Questions can be addressed to Moderator Paul Franklin at 298-8519.

Stephen Halleran Town Administrator

At the May 20<sup>th</sup> Select Board meeting, the moderator announced, due to ongoing COVID 19 issues, his decision to postpone the meeting again until 10:00am Saturday, July 11th 2020 with the location and details to be determined.

### **Plainfield Voters**

### **Town Meeting**

The postponed March 14<sup>th</sup> business portion of town meeting will reconvene on **Saturday** July 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am at the Smith Auction Gallery 1064 Route 12A in Plainfield Village. It will be held outside under the Smith's two large tents.

To address COVID-19 concerns and provide as safe a meeting venue as possible: 1) we will request that masks be worn (masks will be provided if you need one); 2) pre-meeting sanitizing will be done and hand sanitizer will be available; 3) seating will be configured to allow for social distancing; 4) cold water and bathrooms will be available but there will be no concessions or child care provided; and 5) meeting procedures will be expedited to reduce overall meeting time.

Please bring your 2019 Town Report that contains the warrant to be covered (also posted at <u>www.plainfieldnh.org</u>). There are eight articles to complete; four of them are procedural and can be dealt with in moments. With the endorsement of the library trustees, building committee and select board, it is the intention to amend the Meriden Library replacement article to zero dollars, putting off any substantive decision to 2021 or later. The Board of Selectmen also intends to amend the town budget article to reflect current conditions and the capital reserve funding will be held as proposed. The resulting 2020 tax rate is projected to be smaller than the 2019 tax rate (\$26) which was smaller than the 2018 tax rate (\$26.90).

While we plan for the meeting venue to be as safe as possible, we understand if there are those who don't feel they can attend, our goal is to meet the statutory requirement to hold town meeting, obtain necessary approval for more routine town spending and to push into the future new proposals and new ideas to a time when we can all feel safe gathering and debating these issues.

### Fall Elections

We will be holding two traditional ballot elections this fall with all day voting. However, <u>anyone</u> concerned about COVID 19 may vote via absentee ballot. Please call the town office (469-3201) or e-mail our Town Clerk <u>mmarsh@plainfieldnh.org</u> for the details.

We appreciate your patience and understanding in this most difficult year.

Paul Franklin	Robert Taylor, Ron Eberhardt, Eric Brann
Town Moderator	Plainfield Selectboard

On Saturday, July 11, 2020 Moderator Paul Franklin re-opened the twice postponed town meeting at the William A. Smith Auction Gallery under the big tent located at 1064 Rte 12A in Plainfield Village at 10:00am. The meeting began with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence for all community members we have lost in the past year.

Moderator Franklin introduced the panel and explained Select board member, Ron Eberhardt's absence was due to his personal health concerns over COVID 19 but he asked the moderator to express to the crowd his belief that we were carrying on the meeting in the safest way possible given the circumstances.

The moderator announced all articles would be voted on via voice vote; however, if the outcome is undeterminable we would vote by a hand count or paper ballot.

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

**ARTICLE 2.** The moderator recognized Jeanne Woodward-Poor who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption: That the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$0.00** for the replacement of the Meriden Library building for budget year 2020.

The motion was seconded by Jennifer Lenz.

Jeanne Woodward-Poor explained that due to COVID 19, the library trustees and library building committee all agreed this is not the right time to build the new library.

The floor was open for discussion.

A voice vote was taken.

The "ayes" were unanimous.

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

**ARTICLE 3.** The moderator recognized Stephen Halleran who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption, that the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,410,000** to defray town charges for the 2020 fiscal year. The select board proposes the following budget.

	****
1. Executive	\$231,350
2. Election/Registration/Vital Statistics	20,930
3. Financial Administration	88,350
4. Revaluation of Property	12,000
5. Legal Expenses	7,000 <b>5,000</b>
6. Personnel Administration	12,500
7. Planning and Zoning	1,500
8. General Government Buildings	17,025
9. Cemeteries	34,600 <b>29,600</b>
10. Insurance	68,430
11. Regional Associations	6,100
12. Police	422,340 <b>412,340</b>
13. Ambulance Service	38,000
14. Fire	67,500
15. Building Inspection	15,400
16. Emergency Management	250
17. Hydrant & Forest Fire Expense	4,100
18. Dispatching for Fire, Police & Ambulance	43,000
19. Highway Administration	21,050
20. Highways and Streets	747,035 <b>741,743</b>
21. Road Projects	120,165 <b>108,836</b>
22. Street Lights	10,000
23. Solid Waste Collection	180,000
24. Solid Waste Disposal	56,810
25. Health Agencies	13,610
26. Animal Control	500
27. Welfare	25,500
28. Recreation Commission	21,471 <b>15,471</b>
29. Library	161,105
30. Patriotic	1,500
31. Conservation Commission	500
32. Principal Long-term debt	0
33. Interest Long-term debt	0
Total \$2,449,	621 \$ <b>2,410,000</b>

The motion was seconded by Eric Brann.

The moderator turned the floor over to Steve Halleran who explained which line items in the budget had been decreased to create the new appropriation request.

The floor was open for discussion.

### A voice vote was taken. The "ayes" have it. It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

**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 **\$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:

Sellerar trast runds, pur	sualt to Roll 55.1 and Roll 51.17 a as follows.
\$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 motion was seconded by Steve Halleran.

A voice vote was taken. The "ayes" have it. It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

**ARTICLE 5.** The moderator recognized Eric Brann who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption. That 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. The motion was seconded by Steve Taylor.

### A voice vote was taken. The "ayes have it. It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

**ARTICLE 6.** 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 Eric Brann.

A voice vote was taken. The "ayes" have it. It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

**ARTICLE 7.** The moderator recognized Robert Taylor 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 Rod Wendt.

A voice vote was taken. The "ayes" have it. It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

**ARTICLE 8.** Moderator Franklin recognized Eric Brann 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 2019 annual report, subject to any corrections. A certified copy to be kept by the town clerk. The motion was seconded by Steve Halleran.

A voice vote was taken. The "ayes" have it. It was a vote in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted and so declared.

**ARTICLE 9.** Moderator Franklin recognized Lee Oxenham who offered the following resolution and moved its adoption: That 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) The motion was seconded by Rod Wendt.

The floor was opened and discussion ensued.

A vote by paper ballot was taken.

### Yes: 77 No: 53

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

Eric Brann moved to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Stephen Taylor and a unanimous voice vote in the affirmative followed. Moderator Franklin declared the meeting closed at 11:20 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Michelle Marsh* Town Clerk

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Cash on hand, January 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2020	
Cash-Checking	\$ 3,708,539
Cash-Investments	\$ 3,671
Cash-Petty	\$ 250
Total	\$ 3, 712,460
Receipts/ transfers in during the year	\$ 8,722,634
Total available	\$12,435,094
Less Select Board's orders/transfers out	\$8,578,871
Cash On Hand, December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2020	\$3,856,223
Cash-Checking	\$3,852,278
Cash-Investments	\$3,695
Cash-Petty	\$250

Respectfully Submitted,

Treasurer, Sarah Brookes-Governo,

### **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, 1994 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.

### **ONGOING AUTHORITIES (continued)**

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- 2020

### GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Executive	
Election, Registration & Vital Statistics	
Financial Administration	
Revaluation of Property	12,000
Legal Expense	
Personnel Administration	
Planning and Zoning	
General Government Buildings	
Cemeteries	
Insurances	
Advertising and Regional Expense	
PUBLIC SAFETY	
Police Department	
Ambulance	,
Fire Protection	,
Emergency Management	
Dispatch and Forest Fire Expense	
Building Inspection	
HIGHWAYS, STREETS & BRIDGES	
Administration	
Highways and Streets	
Road Projects	
Street Lights	
SANITATION	
Garbage Collection	
Solid Waste Disposal	
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	10 (10
Health Department	
Pest Control	
WELFARE	05 500
Welfare Department	
CULTURE AND RECREATION Recreation Commission	15 471
Libraries	· · · ·
Patriotic	
Conservation Commission	
DEBT SERVICE	0
Principal on Long-term debts	
Interest on Long-term debts	
OPERATING BUDGET TOTAL	

### STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS- 2020 (continued)

#### OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT TO RESERVES DSA 35-1 Funds

KSA 55.1 Fullus	
Article 4 Facilities Fund	
Article 4 Revaluation Fund	
Article 4 Highway Equipment Fund	
Article 4 Transportation Improvement Fund	
Article 4 Bridge Fund	
Article 4 ADA Access Fund	
Article 4 Police Equipment Fund	
Article 4 Gravel Pit Reclamation Fund	
Article 4 Fire Department Equipment Fund	
Article 4 Meriden Library Building Fund	
RSA 31:19a Funds	
Article 4 Town Hall Repair Fund	
Article 4 Library Building Repair Fund	
TOTAL TO RESERVES	
	. ,

### TOTAL TOWN MEETING APPROPRIATIONS ...... \$2,667,500



Highway Employee Mike Collins snow blowing the sidewalks in Plainfield Village. Photo Brad Atwater

### SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION

Land, improved and unimproved	\$79,646,899
Buildings	
Public Utilities	
Total value before exemptions	
1	. , ,
Blind Exemption	
Elderly Exemption	
Deaf Exemption	
Total and Permanently Disabled Exemption	
Solar Energy Exemption	
Wind Power Exemption	
School/Dining/Kitchen Exemption (state law)	
Total exemptions allowed	
Net value used for local tax rate	\$308,439,574
Net value used for state education rate	, ,

### **Electric Utility Property**

Liberty Utilities	\$2,452,400
New England Power Company	
New Hampshire Electric Cooperative	
Public Service of NH dba Eversource	
Total	\$8,214,800

### WAR SERVICE CREDITS

Total and Permanently Disabled Veterans	\$8,400
Standard Exemptions (\$500/veteran)	\$52,665
Total War Service Credits	\$61,065

### **CURRENT USE REPORT**

Land Categories	Acres
Farm Land	
Forest Land	
Forest Land (w/documented stewardship)	6,881
Unproductive Land	
Wetlands	
Total acres in current use (includes conservation restrictions)	

### TAX RATE COMPUTATION

Total Town Appropriation		\$2,667,500
Total Revenues and Credits	less	1,101,535
Fund balance voted from surplus	less	\$0
Overlay	add	22,919
War Service Credits	add	61,065
A) Net Town Tax Effort	Equals	\$1,649,949
Net Local School Budget		6,148,898
Adequate Education Grant	less	793,632
State Education Taxes	less	563,463
B) Approved Local School Assessment	Equals	4,791,803
C) Approved State Education Assessment	Equals	563,463
D) Approved County Tax Assessment	Equals	813,706
Total Town, School, and County (a+b+c+d)	Equals	\$7,818,921

### TAX COMMITMENT ANALYSIS

Tax Effort	\$7,818,921
Less War Service Credits	61,065
Total Property Taxes to be Raised	\$7,757,856

### TAX RATE BREAKDOWN

	Prior year	Approved year
	tax rate	tax rate
Town	5.55	5.34
County	2.67	2.64
School local	15.91	15.54
School state	1.87	1.88
Combined tax rate	\$26.00	\$25.40
Net value on which local tax rates are computed	\$303,824,861	\$308,439,574
Net value on which state tax rate is computed (Net local value less utility valuations)	\$296,198,861	\$300,224,774

### TAX EXEMPT PROPERTIES

### **CHURCHES AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS**

CHERCHES AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS	
Community Baptist Church & parsonage (map107/lot 6) \$782,700	
First Baptist Church & parsonage(104/3)	
Meriden Congregational Church & parsonage (102/06) 1,327,500	
Connecticut Valley Christ Community Church (259/7)	
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS	
Kimball Union Academy (state law educational prop)	
Kimball Union Academy (state law dorm, kitchen, dining prop) 150,000	
CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS	
New England Wildflower Association (239/02)	
Plainfield Historical Society (107/25)	
Singing Hills Conference Facility (253/24)	
PUBLIC SERVICE INSTITUTIONS	
The Nature Conservancy (256/01)	
Meriden Volunteer Fire Department (104/29)	
Meriden Village Water and Sewer District .(105/14, 102/18.01)	
Plainfield Village Water District (260-41,256-15)	
Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department (259-34)	
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE	
Land on Stage Road (253/11)	
Land on River Road (multiple parcels)	
Duncan State Forest (231/9,232/10),	
GRANGES	
Blow-Me-Down Grange (107/39)	
Meriden Grange (104/25)	
LAND OWNED BY OTHER TOWNS	
Cornish (271/07)	
Grantham (248/01)	
TOTAL EXEMPT PROPERTIES \$46,338,550	

### SCHEDULE OF TOWN OWNED LAND AND BUILDINGS

Plainfield Town Hall (map 107/lot 27)	\$333,700
-Meriden(includes Police Dept.) (102/1)	
Libraries –Plainfield (107/8)	
-Meriden (104/23)	
Highway Garage(253-01)	
Plainfield Elementary School (105/11)	
Burnap's Island (203/14)	

### SCHEDULE OF TOWN OWNED LAND AND BUILDINGS (continued)

Stage Road land (252/27)	
Gravel Pit lot (258/12)	
Gravel Pit Annex lot (258/11)	
Spencer Lot (242-04)	
Whitaker Road Intersections (262/3)	
Tallow Hill Intersection (254-19)	
French's Ledges (243/1)	
Benson Donation (225/15,225/19)	
Thompson Donation (Moulton Cemetery) (106/7)	
Farnum Lot (234/6)	
Town Pound (241-15)	
School Street Land (105/12.1)	61,900
Meriden Covered Bridge Lot (101/9)	
Sumner's Falls Ledges (238/6)	
Stage Road Land Hewes Field (240/01)	
Stage Road (253/10)	
Hedgehog Road Land (236/4)	
Willow Brook Land (205/18)	
TOTAL	

### **REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK – 2020**

The Real ID conversion got interrupted when DMV offices were forced to close due to the pandemic. Homeland Security has extended the compliance date for flying within the USA to 10/01/2021. Driver's License transactions are now being handled by appointment only. Go to <u>www.nh.gov/dmv</u> for more information.

We were fortunate enough to keep our doors open all through 2020 and plan to continue offering full services going forward. Any changes will be posted on our town website <u>www.plainfieldnh.org</u>

Thank you all for your continued cooperation and doing your part to help keep our community safe. Please call the office anytime with questions or concerns. I am honored to serve as your town clerk.

Michelle Marsh, Town Clerk

### **REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR** Fiscal Year ending December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020

	-Debits-		
Uncollected Ta	axes		
	Beginning of fiscal year	2020	2019+
	Property taxes		\$188,256
	Timber yield tax		\$1,120
	Land use change tax		\$0
	Excavations		\$0
	Property tax credit balance	(\$4,875)	
<b>Taxes Commit</b>	tted to Collector		
	Property taxes	\$7,759,393	
	Land use change taxes	\$37,140	
	Yield taxes	\$9,222	
	Excavation taxes	\$120	
Overpayments			
	Property taxes	\$7,023	
	Interest collected on		
	delinquent taxes	\$1,488	\$7,252
TOTAL DEBI		\$7,809,511	\$196,628
	-Credits-		
Remittances to	• Treasurer During Fiscal Y		
	Property taxes	\$7,602,004	\$121,034
	Land use changes taxes	\$26,700	\$0
	Yield Taxes	\$9,222	\$0
	Excavation	\$120	\$0
	Interest on taxes	\$1,488	\$6,721
	Penalties	\$0	\$531
	Converted to liens (principal	l only) \$0	\$67,911
Abatements G	ranted During Fiscal Year		
	Property taxes	\$1,513	\$432
Uncollected Ta	axes End of Fiscal Year		<b>.</b>
	Property taxes	\$165,593	\$0
	Yield tax	\$0	
	Land use change tax	\$10,440	
	Property tax credit balance	(\$7,568)	
TOTAL CREI	DITS	\$7,809,512	\$196,629

### TAX COLLECTOR'S LIEN REPORT December 31<sup>st</sup> 2020

	-Debits-		
Unredeemed Liens	2019	2018	2017
Beginning of year	\$0	\$69,955	\$90,388
New liens	\$71,922	\$0	\$0
Interests/Penalties	\$1,138	\$7,500	\$15,796
TOTAL DEBITS	\$73,060	\$77,455	\$106,184
	-Credits-		
<b>Remittance to Treasurer</b>			
Redemptions	\$17,599	\$27,131	\$48,391
Interest/Penalties	\$1,138	\$7,500	\$15,796
Abatements of Unredeemed liens	\$261	\$5,756	\$2,263
Liens Deeded to Municipality	\$0	\$0	\$0
Unredeemed liens	\$54,063	\$37,068	\$39,735
TOTAL CREDITS	\$73,060	\$77,455	\$106,184

### **REPORT OF WOOD OR TIMBER CUT** Year ending March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Total reports filed	
Total yield tax assessed	\$11,962
Softwood cut, MBF	
Hardwood cut, MBF	
Cordwood cut, cords	
Pulpwood/chips, tons	
Pulpwood, cords	
Whole tree chips, tons	

Respectfully Submitted,

**Judith A. Belyea**, Yield Tax Agent

### SELECT BOARD REPORT

Perhaps the most difficult year in anyone's memory has come to an end for the Town of Plainfield and as is customary, here is an update of the Board of Selectmen's activities for the previous twelve months. Like every year, many issues were addressed, and decisions made. Unlike other years, the Town of Plainfield faced a global pandemic that brought challenges never seen before in our corner of the world. In the interest of being concise, we are listing our most notable work here in bullet form. For your information, our complete meeting minutes are available on the Town's website: <u>www.plainfieldnh.org</u> or in hard copy at the Plainfield Town Offices in Meriden.

- COVID19 Pandemic- A dominant issue for 2020 has been the onset of a global health crisis. Confirmed cases in Plainfield quickly made it clear that Plainfield would not escape the impacts of the virus that has swept the USA and the rest of global civilization. The move to remote meetings (of the Selectboard and other boards and committees) was one consequence. Our choice was to move to the Zoom web meetings platform, and for the most part we have been successful in this change. In fact, we have noticed an uptick in the average attendance for most meetings and people have appreciated being able to be involved from the comfort of their homes.
- Town Meeting Delays- The onset of COVID19 was also unfortunate in timing for the Town Meeting. We were able to hold the Tuesday voting/ election, however by the subsequent Saturday it was determined to be too risky to have everyone in the Plainfield School gymnasium. Months of delays followed with a decision finally coming to have the traditional Town Meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup> at William A. Smith's Auction tents in Plainfield Village. The Selectboard wishes to thank the Smiths for their accommodations and we were pleased with everyone's patience and cooperation through the delays and execution of the eventual meeting. It will certainly be a unique memory for all that attended the July event. The entire warrant was disposed of in about one hour.
- Solid Waste Committee- At the direction of the Selectboard, the Plainfield Solid Waste Committee was refreshed and took on the task of reviewing the services offered and the provider's contract. It was determined that the community is generally supportive of our existing curbside trash and recycling programs. A request for bids was issued, however the only submission that we received was from Casella Waste Services, our existing provider. The Solid Waste Committee made the recommendation

to ultimately renew our contract even with a significant increase in cost. It is clear that Plainfield will have to pay more for the same services. This is due largely to the collapse in the value of recyclables and increased trucking and tipping costs.

- Increased Trails Usage Issues- As a result of the increased usage related to the COVID19 crisis, Plainfield has had some issues arise related to the Town's trails system. Examples of these issues include graffiti, un-permitted burning, dogs out of control, and parking congestion to name a few. The Selectboard met with the trail users, land-owners and easement holders and has advanced some preliminary solutions. The first idea is improved signage at trailhead parking areas. Another idea is to improve the navigational signage along the trails. We will continue to monitor the usage issues and to coordinate with all involved to protect this incredible resource. We appreciate the hard work of our trail volunteers and trail boss, Bill Knight, who have helped to create this extensive network of well-maintained outdoor recreation options.
- Facemask Ordinance- On 8/26/2020, Plainfield became one of the first ten communities in NH to mandate the use of facemasks. It became clear that this simple precaution could have an impact on the transmission of the COVID19 virus. We have been happy to see widespread conformance with this new ordinance and have also heard positive feedback from local businesses who are happy to point to the Town as being responsible for the enforcement and compliance.
- Employee Handbook- The Selectboard was happy to work with a local HR expert, Bev Widger, on an update to our employee handbook. This long overdue project brought us up to current employment standards and implemented some key policies that the board felt were important to the hiring and retention of our most valuable asset, our employees.
- Facilities Upgrades and Improvements- Our facilities director, Brad Atwater, successfully oversaw some significant upgrades to our Town buildings. These included lighting upgrades as well as insulation, and weatherization projects. The Selectboard also created a new Building and Facilities Committee to work directly with the Facilities Manager. They will help set priorities and act as a consulting group for the Selectboard as well. We would like to thank the members of this new committee: Jody Perkins, Doug Plummer and Todd Godfrey. We look forward to using their combined, significant knowledge to help us keep up with our many different buildings and facilities.
- Highway Truck Delivery- The long overdue delivery of a new 24,000 lb GVW International 4X4 truck was made to the

highway department. The delay was largely due to supply chain issues at manufacturers and the installation of the plow and body equipment. We are happy to report that this truck is now a primary implement in our road maintenance program, particularly in the winter for the application of road salt.

- Elections Trailer- The Selectboard approved the purchase and acquisition of a new trailer to facilitate the set-up of a mobile election storage unit. We decided that all the associated gear (polling booths, barricades, etc.) for the elections should be kept together in an easily transportable and dry storage system. This year was a particular challenge for us because we had four elections and the COVID19 pandemic made everything more difficult.
- Meriden Town Hall Heating System- The Selectboard has approved the installation of a new heat and cool system at the Meriden Town Hall. This decision was the result of many meetings and extensive consultation with our facilities manager, our energy committee, and our finance committee. This decision is consistent with our "Ready for 100" renewable energy commitments as well as our desire to make our Town Office more comfortable and efficient. The system will likely be installed in the spring of 2021.

Finally, the Selectboard would like to thank everyone who serves the Town in all roles. From the members of our various boards and committees, to the Police, Fire and Rescue personnel who answer our calls for help. It is this volunteer spirit that means so much to Plainfield. A few people to specifically call out include Stephanie Schell for her work as our Human Services Director/ Health Officer during the still ongoing COVID19 pandemic health crisis. We would also like to acknowledge the work of Michelle Marsh, our Town Clerk, and Steve Halleran, our Town Administrator for their dedication in providing uninterrupted services to our citizens during the health emergency and also for piloting us through four elections and a summer Town Meeting safely and efficiently. As always, please join us at one of our meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Until we make it through the COVID19 state of emergency, our meetings will continue to be held via the Zoom web meetings platform. Check the Town's website for the necessary login information. You can also call the Town office at 603-469-3201 during weekday business hours to ask a question or express an opinion. If you are interested in serving the Town on a board, committee or in one of our many volunteer capacities, there is always a need. We are hoping for a safe and successful 2021 for Plainfield!

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

#### **REPORT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

As directed by the select board the town office worked on the following projects during 2020:

**COVID 19:** The world wide pandemic dominated everything about 2020. Plainfield has been fortunate to have a very deep team in the areas of Human Services, Police, Fire and EMS. Plainfield was quick to adopt a mask ordinance. Community outreach and connecting our local government with access to state and federal resources was a constant theme all year. In the midst of this crisis we were required to hold four elections this year including a presidential election. The extraordinary work of Town Clerk Michelle Marsh cannot be overstated this year.

**Meriden Covered Bridge:** In early spring, realizing that the summer was going to be very uncertain with respect to COVID, the select board, after meeting directly with Modern Protective Coatings, authorized the cleaning, repair and recoating of the Meriden Covered Bridge still super structure as our annual road project. Modern Protective Coatings too was facing uncertainty with their work schedule and were able to provide favorable pricing if they could start in late spring. The risk was that we would get the bridge closed and torn apart and be shut down due to COVID. Thankfully, that did not happened. The work now completed will insure that the bridge remains a part of our community for decades to come.

**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. In 2020 this group tested the regional market for other options for refuse collection and recycling processing. Finding no other viable option the town remains with Casella Waste Management.

**Town Facility Management:** The Selectmen appointed a town's building committee to work with Facility Manager Brad Atwater on the management of town buildings. Significant weatherization and energy improvements were made to the Plainfield Fire Station, the Meriden Fire Station, and the Plainfield Library. In the case of the two fire stations our private Fire Associations helped to cover the cost of these improvements. The town also took advantage of funding opportunities from utility companies for these upgrades.

**Employee Handbook:** Working with local resident and consultant Bev Widger the Select board authorized a complete rework of the town's employee policies and handbook. The project was completed in December. A second phase of the project will continue into 2021 and will include a review of employee compensation.

**Meriden Library Replacement Options:** 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 2021 town meeting.

Town Administrator, Stephen Halleran

#### ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

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

Case 2020-01	Cannon, Andrea Accessory Apartment 16 Westgate Rd 108-25
Case 2020-02	George, Victoria Accessory Apartment 23 Freeman Rd 259-23
Case 2020-03	Taylor, Stephen Accessory Apartment #166 Main Street 101-19
Case 2020-04	Sheehan, James Accessory Apartment #82 True Rd 214-18
Case 2020-05	Lundrigan Patrick, modification of case 17-02 to include auto repair at #235 Rte 120 226-10.1
Case 2020-07	Morgan, Marc Accessory Apartment #290 Porter Rd 223-12
Case 2020-09	School House Condos LLC, multi-family building #21 Bean Rd 104-6
Applications Co	ntinued into 2021
Case 2020-10	Stark, Specialty ammo business, #168 Croydon Turnpike 227-17

Case 2020-10Stark, Specialty ammo business, #168 Croydon Turnpike 227-17

Applications withdrawn: Case 2020-06 Venditto, Michael, Event center at #393 Bean Road 250-09

Applications Extended:

**Case 2020-08 Landmark Property Management case 18-06** one year extension requested, six month extension granted. Approval now expires April 16<sup>th</sup> 2021

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



#### PLANNING BOARD

During the year the planning board approved the following applications:

Subdivision:	None
Annexation: Rondeau, Armand & Patricia Fauver & Sanzone School House Condos LLC	<ul><li>6.6 acres to Daniel and Diane Rondeau. 253-13</li><li>2.86 acres annexed to land of Kuwayama 214-4.</li><li>1.0 acres to 19 Bean Road Associates 104-05</li></ul>
Site Plan Review: Cloud /Tenney	Former pottery studio to three unit apartment building 104-26 (July 2019)
Landmark Property Management School House Condos LLC	Application rejected by the Planning Board insufficient information. 218-11 Former Duckworth Museum to three unit condominium complex. 104-06
<b>Lot Merger:</b> Kuwayama, David	Lots 214-4 and 214-5 merged at applicant's request.
Scenic Road Hearings: Everysource Energy Liberty Utilities Submitted	Kenyon, Daniels and lower River Road Pierce, Black Hill and River Road

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 2020:

02	New single family residences	
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- 06 Accessory Dwelling Unit
- 03 Institutional projects
- 06 Garages
- 13 Renovations/Misc.
- 08 Decks/porches
- 04 Generators

- 03 Renewals
- 00 Multi family
- 12 Barns/Sheds/Outbuildings
- 02 Electrical upgrades
- 03 Additions
- 08 Solar panels
- 00 Commercial Projects

#### Permit total= 70

#### **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

2020 saw relatively little activity from the conservation commission with no in person meetings due to the pandemic. We are encouraging the town to use Beaver Deceivers whenever possible to control the buildup of water near our roads due to the ever industrious beavers. Beaver dams provide flood and erosion control on our waterways by slowing the flows of our increasingly severe flood events such as the Christmas rain/melt of this past year. Beaver ponds also provide critical habitat for plants and animals - wetlands like these are the most productive of the natural resources in our town. We continue to provide information and support to individual landowners as questions about land use arise. The fund balances are healthy, which could mean that we need to seek out projects that protect our natural resources. Input on possible projects from folks in town would be appreciated.

Forest Maintenance Fund		
January 01, 2020		\$19,844.19
2020 Interest		<u>\$124.38</u>
December 31, 2020		\$19,968.57
<b>Conservation Fund</b>		
January 01, 2020		\$96,905.08
2020 Interest		<u>607.38</u>
December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2020		\$97,512.46
Current use penalties due to CC from 2019 Current use penalties due to CC from 2020	\$1,695 \$13,350	

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Knight pcc@plainfieldnh.org

#### **RECREATION COMMISSION**

Due to the unfortunate COVID-19 Pandemic, much of our recreation program was canceled or limited, keeping the safety and health concerns of all students, coaches, and family as our top priority. Throughout the year, I met with local officials and other area recreation department heads to assure all recreation decisions made, were consistent and in the best interest of our Plainfield residents.

We finished the 2019-2020 basketball season in February. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade group of 13 students worked on learning basic skills at the PES gym. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys group of 11 and a group of 11, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade girls, 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. Both the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls ended the season with a tournament in Hanover. Throughout the spring and summer we unfortunately had to cancel our baseball and Tball programs along with our annual fishing derby, Fourth of July parade and activities, and then Spirit Day.

The soccer program in the fall included the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys' team made up of 18 boys and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade girls' team made up of 17 girls. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade had three teams made up of a total of 23 players. We had 11 kids that participated in the kindergarten group. All teams this year were an in house program and practiced in Plainfield working on individual and team skills with some scrimmages.

In October, I had the pleasure to work with our Human Services Director, Stephanie Schell, who led the organization of a safe alternative to the towns traditional door to door trick or treat. Many volunteers came together to help provide a drive through trunk or treat at the Plainfield School where many children enjoyed a safe drive through to receive treats on Halloween. It was fun to see people from the community set up their stations, and to see many children dressed up in costumes. Thank you to all that made this a successful event.

The 2020-2021 basketball season was unfortunately canceled due to COVID-19 safety reason.

I would like to thank 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.

As we begin a new year, I reflect on the challenges that we have faced in the past year, and how we have come together as a community with patience and understanding. If we have learned anything this past year, it would be don't take anything for granted. Moving into 2021 our hope is that we can soon move ahead with all the programs that we have had in the past. We will take on the challenges, hopefully better prepared. I look forward to a healthier and safer 2021.

Respectfully submitted, Daniel P. Cantlin, Recreation Director



2020 November Election, socially distanced.

**Photo Robert Taylor** 



2020 Drive thru flu clinic, socially distanced

Photo S. Schell

#### PLAINFIELD LIBRARY SYSTEM TRUSTEE REPORT

Oh my goodness, what a year 2020 was! We have seen so much turmoil and experienced so much stress this year, but, through it all, our wonderful library staff has worked hard to meet the town's needs. Yes, the libraries did close for a period of time, but they opened back up with curb-side pickup and then visits by appointment as soon as our director Mary King felt it was safe to do so. Under Mary's leadership we were able to carry out our mission to "provide access to information and materials (both print and non-print) to people of all ages in the community in order to meet their recreational, informational, and educational needs." On behalf of all the Library Trustees, I would like to thank Mary and her staff for all their work this year to maintain our libraries in as safe a manner as possible. Kudos to all of them!

Last year's chair Richard Davidson ended his report with a statement about the majority vote by the trustees "to support community efforts to raise the necessary funds to build a new Library facility in Meriden." As I write this on January 16, the trustees are thrilled and grateful to report that this looks like it has happened; our financial goal is within reach. We are looking forward to an affirmative vote at town meeting to build a new Meriden Library **with no dollars raised by taxation.** Many committees have worked hard for many years, and scores of townspeople have been generous with their time and money to see that this will occur. The work has not always been easy, but it has been worth it.

It is still cold and dark here in New Hampshire, but spring always gets here along with town meeting and seeing neighbors again. This year I especially look forward to seeing you all to thank you for your generous support of this building project. Libraries are for everyone.

Respectfully Submitted, Jeanne Woodward-Poor, Chair



Plainfield Public Libraries

Town of Plainfield Library System Proposed Budget				
Income	2020	2020	202	
	Budget	Actual	Propose	
Town Appropriation	\$153,864	\$132,151	\$157,72	
Town Approp - FICA	\$7,241	\$6,774	\$7,44	
Trust Funds	\$2,880	\$3,800	\$3,80	
Gifts	\$400	\$6,329	\$3,40	
Book Fines / Copier	\$80	\$63	\$8	
Book Sales	\$0	\$59	\$	
Private / Grant Funding	\$0	\$3,750	\$	
Interest Income	\$100	\$0	\$10	
Misc Income	\$0	\$0	\$	
Total Income	\$164,515	\$152,927	\$172,55	
Expense				
Salaries	\$103,204	\$94,094	\$106,34	
FICA	\$7,241	\$6,774	\$7,44	
Sick Pay	\$600	\$0	\$60	
Library Materials	\$17,200	\$17,864	\$17,20	
Legal Expense	\$0	\$0	\$	
Telephone	\$1,840	\$2,393	\$2,40	
Electricity	\$5,900	\$3,901	\$4,70	
Fuel	\$8,300	\$5,425	\$8,30	
Water/Sewer	\$830	\$605	\$83	
Supplies	\$2,300	\$2,763	\$2,30	
Postage	\$300	\$269	\$30	
Professional Activities	\$1,000	\$450	\$1,00	
Programs	\$1,000	\$7,059	\$4,00	
Furniture/Equipment	\$800	\$1,769	\$80	
Elevator	\$2,000	\$2,711	\$2,30	
Maintenance	\$5,400	\$3,580	\$5,40	
Automation/Cataloging	\$2,100	\$2,060	\$2,10	
Trustee Expenses	\$650	\$225	\$65	
Professional Services	\$1,200	\$545	\$3,20	
Computer/Software	\$2,400	\$900	\$2,40	
Misc Expense	\$200	\$182	\$20	
Total Expense	\$164,465	\$153,342	\$172,47	

#### a

Town of Plainfield Library System			
	2020	2020	2021
	Budget	Actual	Proposed
Other Income, Expense and Liabili	ities		
Accrued/Encumbered year end exper	ises	\$3,792	
Income/Transfers			
Meriden - Private Moneys	\$200	\$100	\$200
Meriden Building Fund - Interest	\$1,000	\$1,708	\$600
PRML - Private Moneys	\$200	\$1,300	\$200
Transfer from Building Fund - Meriden	¢214.000	¢2 500	¢212 500
	\$214,000	\$2,500	\$213,500
Transfer from Fines Accounts	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Expense			
Meriden - Building Funds Expense	\$215,000	\$2,500	\$214,000
PRML - Private Moneys Expense	\$2,726	\$650	\$1,000
Fund Balances - Year End			
Mascoma Checking Account		\$23,189	
Philip Read Fines Account		\$1,505	
Philip Read Donations Account		\$3,126	
Meriden Fines Account		\$698	
Meriden Building Fund		\$213,428	

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Our libraries wrote a new chapter in providing services this year! Before the pandemic was declared in March, who could have imagined closing the libraries to patrons, quarantining books, offering curbside pickup, and conducting virtual programs? Those practices became our new reality and how we successfully managed the libraries for most of 2020.

In the first months of 2020, circulation numbers at both libraries were higher than the previous year and programs and activities for children and adults continued as normal. With funds from the Nancy Liston Memorial Fund given by the Friend of the Philip Read Memorial Library, several special programs were held at Philip Read Memorial Library, including Online Security Basics and instructional classes in Mah Jongg.

For the safety of patrons and staff, and in compliance with the Governor's "Stay at Home" order, the Meriden Library and Philip Read Memorial Library closed to the public on March 17, 2020. To get library materials out to patrons, curbside pickup was coordinated for March 23rd and 24<sup>th</sup>. Almost five hundred items were circulated.

Within days of closing the buildings, we adapted our services and hosted our first virtual program; on March 26 the Philip Read Memorial Library book group held their discussion via Zoom. Our book groups, Storytime and Cookbook Club held regular meetings virtually for the remainder of the year. Special Summer Reading and adult programs were also offered.

One essential service that quickly became apparent was the need for public internet access. The libraries' Wi-Fi connection was set so that the public could access free internet outside the building. When we learned that the connection at Philip Read was performing slowly, new equipment was installed to improve internet access. Our access became a lifeline for many community members who were working from home, learning virtually or connecting with healthcare providers.

During the period March through June, when the libraries were not able to circulate materials, we worked to inform patrons of the many electronic resources available to them. Information and opportunities for training were provided for New Hampshire Downloadable Books, Kanopy, New York Times Digital, ProQuest Ancestry databases, and Tumblebooks. For enhanced access, the digital media service, Hoopla, was added in May and proved to be immensely popular. This added service was possible because of the generous funding from the libraries' Friends groups, the Friends of the Meriden Library and the Friends of Philip Read Memorial Library.

In May, the Plainfield Public Libraries received a CARES grant in the amount of \$3,500. The funds were used for improved digital equipment and resources, programming, along with supplies for community StoryWalks®.

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, the libraries began offering curbside pickup of library materials. Library staff worked hard to process the thousands of items that were returned during the first weeks of June, and to assist patrons to again check out books, periodicals and DVDS.

Even with the doors of the libraries closed, fifty-six children participated in a summer reading program. Again, with the support of the Friends groups, programs and reading incentives were offered. Weekly, children received "take and make" with projects and challenges that supported literacy.

In August, our first StoryWalk® was installed at the Meriden Bird Sanctuary. In times of social distancing, the StoryWalk® allowed us to promote literacy, exercise, and nature for people of all ages. In September, the second walk was installed at the Corey Taber Memorial Park in Plainfield Village. Combined, over two hundred individuals participated in this fun activity.

This year the town libraries received its first award from The Elizabeth Sweet Dunlap Fund. The libraries will receive an annual award to provide programs regarding historical events in New Hampshire or New England. The donor also requests that a Fall Foliage program with food be held for senior citizens of Plainfield. In October, working with Stephanie Schell, the Plainfield Libraries sponsored a senior luncheon at Riverview Farm. Because of the restrictions in place due to COVID-19, Stephanie coordinated a special drive-thru event. We are very grateful for her time and effort.

In reviewing final statistics for 2020, I am proud to report that the libraries completed the year with only a minimal decrease in the number of items circulated. This is incredible since we were closed for a ten-week period. Circulation, as in past years, was predominantly print materials. Electronic resources account for approximately twenty percent of total circulation. Visits were of course down and, given the circumstances of this year, cannot be compared to previous years. I credit our successful year on how we adapted our services and to the staff who thought outside the box to deliver what patrons wanted the most: books!

It's necessary to end this report by expressing my thanks to the dedicated people who manage the Plainfield Public Libraries. First to the staff who worked cooperatively with the goal of providing the best possible service to our patrons. Special thank must to go to Library Assistant, Terri Crane, who developed the very popular "Masked Reads" program, coordinated "pop-up" outdoor libraries and strengthened our communication with the weekly newsletter. I am grateful to the Library Board of Trustees, Adrienne Cedeno, Jennifer Lenz, Rosemary Mills, Judy Ptak, and Jeanne Woodward-Poor, who devote countless hours of their time to offer the governance necessary to lead our libraries forward. And thanks also go to our Friends groups who offer the financial support to enhance existing resources to make our libraries even better.

Respectfully submitted, Mary S. Kinq, Director



# Plainfield Public Libraries

#### 2020 By the Numbers

Circulation	<u>Visits</u>
18,067	3,784
Meriden 9,933	Meriden 2,025
Philip Read 8,184	Philip Read 1,759
Registered Patrons	<u>Items Owned</u>
1077	32,585
Meriden 517	Meriden 12,547
Philip Read 560	Philip Read 20,038

#### Meriden Library Building Project Frequently Asked Questions



proposed project sketch courtesy of GeoBarns

#### Remind me: 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 make the Meriden Library a building **all** community members can access and enjoy. This is the second half of a two-phase project to bring both of our wonderful village libraries into the 21<sup>st</sup> century — a goal that originated in the 1990's. Hazardous materials, accessibility issues, and energy inefficiencies are all issues facing the current Meriden Library building. Our proposed building design is ADA-compliant, is in keeping with Plainfield's Ready For 100 energy goals, and **we plan to pay for it entirely with donations and existing funds**.

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

The Library Trustees are putting forth a warrant article for <u>zero additional tax dollars</u> to be approved at the 2021 Town Meeting. This means we plan to raise the rest of the necessary funds independently to meet our \$1.15M budget. We currently have approximately \$1.12M toward this project in pledges and existing funds (as of January 19, 2021), and are well within reach of that goal. Thanks to the generosity of our friends and neighbors all around Plainfield, we will have an incredible gift — a town building and community hub that will last for generations!

#### Is this really the time for this type of project?

After COVID-19 hit, the Building Committee and Library Trustees voted unanimously to take this project off the table for the 2020 Town Meeting. We have used the intervening time to interview potential architects, look into additional design/build firms, and obtain an updated project cost estimate. This library represents an excellent value for the town, with low operating costs and accessibility for all residents, and we have a great deal of funding in hand now. We are in the process of putting together an incredible, experienced, and enthusiastic team of builders, engineers, and architects to bring this project to fruition. We feel it is important to give Plainfield taxpayers the opportunity to vote to move forward this year, with **no additional money required from taxation**.

Even in this strange year, we have heard from many people that our town's two libraries have been a vital resource and lifeline, providing a continued sense of community in an isolating time. Looking to the future, this library will be a gathering space for decades to come.

#### What work has been done on the project so far?

The current Meriden Library Building Committee was formed in 2017. In the intervening years, the group considered how best to make an ADA-compliant Meriden Library, assessed space and resource needs, sourced detailed design estimates from a variety of sources, created a building design and model, and worked with a design-build firm to come up with a realistic plan and budget. We have sourced two different cost estimates to confirm our budget. This budget includes all elements of building the new library, including demolition and abatement of the existing building, storage of materials, and construction and sitework for the new building. Simultaneously, the Meriden Library Foundation has raised a tremendous amount of money in pledges, donations, and through grants.

In 2020, we have worked hand-in-hand with the Library Trustees to gather updated information in a COVID-19 world, with the goal of presenting the best possible plan to the town in 2021. Our intent has always been to propose a building that we feel will best meet the needs of the town, and let the taxpayers vote on it.

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

In non-COVID times, 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, plus book clubs, poetry evenings, puppet shows, storytimes, and more. This meeting room would allow the library to grow its roster of programs and have a permanent home for existing popular events, as well as to showcase local art now that the Duckworth Museum is no longer open. The Meriden Library also hosts a great deal of meetings and small community gatherings, from the Energy Committee to game times and knitting groups, and having a suitable, handicap-accessible space to do so is of utmost importance. This meeting room will also be accessible from a separate entryway, so it can be utilized outside of normal library operating hours.

#### 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 essentially the same building we proposed in 2018 as a Ready for 100 building, with a slightly different look; the only thing that has changed dramatically is the

financing, as the Meriden Library Foundation has raised significant funds over the last two years. 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 of about \$8,000/year as the current building for a larger space. If approved, this would be poised to be the first town-owned Ready For 100 building in Plainfield.

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 3½ 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 be a beautiful building that will serve the community safely and efficiently for decades to come.

#### The Meriden Library Building Committee:

Leeli Bonney, Terri Crane, Joe Crate, Shannon Decker, Bill Knight, Shawn Rogers, Suzanne Spencer, Library Trustee Liaison Jennifer Lenz Advisors: Mary King, Brad Atwater, Steve Halleran

#### What will the new Meriden Library be like?

The Meriden Library Building Committee has been working hard since 2017 to create plans for a new facility that will meet the established needs of the town in a modern building while preserving the warmth and charm that we love in our existing building. Since this is a public project, we have given significant attention to ensure that the building and grounds are designed to be accessible, durable, easy to maintain, and exceptionally energy-efficient (using environmentally sustainable materials and methods), to maximize the value to taxpayers over the long term.

Here are some highlights of the new Meriden Library building:

- The new building will be on the site of the current library. It will be single-story, positioned on a slight rise above street level, with walkways leading to entries at grade level.
- The scale of the new building is appropriate for a public building in a rural New England village, with slightly larger surfaces and volumes than a house, but not overpowering to the neighborhood.
- A new meeting room will see regular use for library-sponsored activities. It is also designed so that it can be used for activities outside of library hours.
- The library building itself will provide a welcoming, comfortable experience for patrons. It will be well-lit using natural and (controlled) mechanical light. It will

be heated, cooled, and ventilated with equipment that is extremely energy efficient and more easily and cheaply maintained, using heat pumps and energy-recovery ventilators.

- The new building will include familiar materials and colors for siding, roofing, and interior finishes that will be selected for their aesthetics, durability, and ease of maintenance.
- The new building is sized to accommodate all of the existing functions of the current library and incorporates the necessary features to make the building safe, accessible to all, and compliant with all applicable building codes.
- The building includes spaces tailored to the needs of children, teens, and adults, and takes advantage of the beautiful outdoor area, as well.
- The entry lobby includes bathrooms and a kitchenette that allow for independent use without disturbing functions in either the library proper or the meeting room.
- Parking will be expanded to provide 18 parking spaces along the western side of the building, including ADA compliant parking spaces.
- To improve safety for pedestrians and vehicles, curbing and sidewalks will separate cars and people, and new sidewalks will lead from the street and parking areas to the main entrance.
- Energy-efficient exterior lighting will allow drivers and pedestrians to safely navigate parking areas and walkways.

Information provided by the Meriden Library Committee: Shannon Decker, Chair, Leeli Bonney, Terri Crane, Joe Crate, Bill Knight, Shawn Rogers, Suzanne Spencer, Library Trustee Liaison Jennifer Lenz

Advisors: Mary King, Brad Atwater, Steve Halleran

#### PLAINFIELD POLICE REPORT

The Covid 19 world wide pandemic dominated the department's work in 2020. Our officers had to devote a lot of time and attention to new protocols for handling all of the various types of calls for service. The department has been able to continue most operations; many things just take more time now. Invaluable to the department has been the efforts of Human Service Director Stephanie Schell. Our public safety team's commitment to serving all the residents of our community remains unchanged in these very odd times.

The department spent the entire year with reduced staff and hiring new police officers is a challenge these days. This situation has been further complicated when at the very beginning of 2021 the Selectboard accepted the resignation of Chief Paul Roberts who served as Chief since 2010. Sargent Anthony "Tony" Swett is now serving as Interim Chief. The hope is to get back to two full time officers and two part time officers during 2021. Special thanks are due to residents Roland and Wanda Daniels. Roland is a retired police officer who has kept his certifications and has filled in a lot of shifts for us. Wanda is a retired police administrator who now works for us part time and is helping with the department's administrative work load.

Despite all that has gone on in 2020 the department handled 4,233 calls in 2020 as compared to 3,809 in 2019 and 4050 in 2018. A sampling of the call types can be found on the next page.

In closing, the Selectmen's office thanks Chief Roberts for his service. We offer our full support and assistance to Interim Chief Anthony Swett as he leads us through this period of transition.

Stephen Halleran-Town Administrator

Police Department Statistical Data					
	2020	2019	2018		
Accidents no injury	34	44	66		
Accidents w/injury	18	52	17		
Administrative	93	77	79		
Alarms	47	48	60		
Animals	94	54	96		
Arson-Fire Invest.	00	00	00		
Assault	03	02	00		
Assist other PDs	19	50	100		
Auto theft	02	00	00		
Bad checks	02	02	02		
Burglary	03	01	02		
Car Unlocks	09	09	18		
Civil	01	01	05		
Court Appearance	09	25	21		
Criminal mischief	06	09	03		
Criminal threats	06	04	03		
Deaths	00	03	02		
Disorderly	06	03	02		
Domestic violence	04	28	15		
DWI	08	06	03		
Drugs	01	03	08		
E 911 calls	12	31	28		
Fire calls	00	27	72		
Firing of weapons	08	06	04		
Fraud	21	26	14		
House/Property	410	296	271		
Intoxication	02	00	00		
Juvenile Matters	02	03	08		
Medical Emer.	74	74	126		
Missing person	07	01	00		
Motor vehicle	58	88	54		
Motorist assist	14	47	63		
Open doors	14	15	10		
<b>Pistol Permits</b>	21	16	16		
Sex Off. Reg.	05	10	11		
Sexual assault	02	04	05		
Suspicious Persons	86	99	137		
Theft	32	18	14		
Trespassing	05	05	02		
-					

#### **Police Department Statistical Data**

#### PLAINFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### **Chief's Report 2020**

2020 was an interesting year to say the least. The Covid 19 pandemic has changed the way that we all go through our daily tasks. The wearing of masks turned out to be the most important way to help keep the virus from spreading through the community. All Fire Department calls and training have been conducted with masks and social distancing when possible. The Town was able to procure PPE for the fire department and it has been put to good use. Mask wearing was a little slow to be adopted at first but eventually all firefighters recognized the need to wear them and mask wearing became automatic at all department calls and training. The Plainfield Select Board was way ahead of the rest of the State when they adopted the Plainfield Mask Ordinance. Because of the ordinance, the Covid infection rate remained low in Plainfield through the end of the year. The virus put most department fundraising activities on hold. A drive through chicken BBQ was held in August and sold out quickly.

With the help of Brad Atwater, Plainfield Town Facilities Manager, several energy efficiency projects were completed at both stations during the year. The lighting at both stations was switched to LED technology and the upgrades were paid for by the two Volunteer Fire Associations. An air sealing project was completed at the Plainfield Station and the two entry doors were replaced. These two projects were paid for with a mix of rebates from the electric utility and town funds.

Several new firefighters joined the department during the year. The Fire Department roster now consists of 33 firefighters, 14 KUA Fire Brigade members, and 2 Fire Explorers. Firefighter Ryan Teffner received his Firefighter 1 certification in Keene and firefighter Will Forman received his Firefighter 1 and 2 certifications at the NH Fire Academy. Congratulations to both Ryan and Will.

2020 was a very busy year as the total number of calls was up over 25%. A two alarm structure fire in April on Colby Hill Rd was the largest incident of the year. Fire departments from nine towns helped battle the blaze on a sunny but windy spring day. Unfortunately, the home was a total loss. Several factors made it difficult to contain the fire. First, the Meriden covered bridge was closed while it was being sandblasted and painted requiring fire trucks to use Ladieu Rd to access the scene, adding more than ten minutes to the response time. And second, the lack of a reliable water supply required water to hauled with tanker trucks to the scene.

Thank you to all firefighters and their families for their support throughout the year. Please make sure that your home has working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. These devices save lives. Also, please make sure that your house number is visible from the street so that emergency responders can find your house quickly in the event of an emergency.

#### 2020 Fire Department Run Summary

	Total Runs	133	
Mutual Aid Hartford	03	Other	13
Mutual Aid Hanover	01	Mutual Aid Enfield	03
Mutual Aid Cornish	07	Mutual Aid Lebanon	07
Medical	02	Smoke Investigation	04
Road Hazard	07	Weather Event	01
CO Alarm	05	Powerline Problem	20
Wildland Fire	03	Alarm Activation	32
Structure Fire	01	Car Fire	01
Motor Vehicle Accide	ent 19	Chimney Fire	04

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



Plainfield Fire Captain Bruce Elder teaches kindergarteners at the Plainfield School about fire safety during fire prevention week.

#### LOCAL FOREST FIRE WARDEN

2020 was an interesting year for the threat of wildfires in the town of Plainfield and the State of NH. Most of the State of NH was in drought conditions for most of the summer with super dry conditions in the fields and woodlands that resulted in the Governor instituting bans on outdoor burning. It was a stressful time for people in the fire service, but I am thankful to the people of Plainfield that we had NO out of control wildfires in our town in 2020. However, we did respond to a few unpermitted campfires, smoke investigations, a lightning strike, and a very small leaf fire due to the improper disposal of ashes. Our fire crews assisted other Upper Valley towns with containing 3 larger wildfires. The one call that was the most concerning was when someone had lit a "cooking" fire on French's Ledges They were gone upon our arrival and had tossed the still hot remnants of the sticks to the side in an attempt to put it out. It is NEVER ok to light a fire on someone else's land without their permission- no matter how small. There are no public locations in Plainfield that you can have an outside fire that do not require a permit or notification to a Forest Fire Warden. 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. A seasonal permit is available and required for any cooking fires or fire pits that is valid for the calendar year.

There are two ways to obtain a fire permit:

 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. <u>https://www.plainfieldnh.org/fire.htm</u>
 You can purchase (\$3) an online permit through the state of NH web site <u>www.NHfirepermit.com</u>.

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

Again – many thanks to the people of Plainfield for being safe in 2020 and looking forward to 2021.

#### Bruce Elder-Plainfield Forest Fire Warden

As Smokey Bear says "Remember, Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!"

	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	

#### **REPORT OF THE STATE FOREST RANGER**

This year we experienced challenging wildfire conditions which led to deep burning fires in remote locations that were difficult to extinguish. 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.

Many homes in New Hampshire are located in the wildland urban interface, which is the area where homes and flammable wildland fuels intermix. Every year New Hampshire sees fires which threaten or destroy structures, a constant reminder that wildfires burn more than just trees. Homeowners should take measures to prevent a wildfire from spreading to their home. Precautions include keeping your roof and gutters clear of leaves and pine needles, and maintaining adequate green space around your home free of flammable materials. Additional information and homeowner recommendations are available at <u>www.firewise.org</u>. Please help Smokey Bear, your local fire department, and the state's Forest Rangers by being fire wise and fire safe!

As we prepare for the 2021 fire season, please remember to contact your local Forest Fire Warden or Fire Department to determine if a fire permit is required before doing <u>ANY</u> 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 also available online in most towns and may be obtained by visiting <u>www.NHfirepermit.com</u>. 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 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 <u>www.nh.gov/nhdfl/</u>. For up to date information, follow us on Twitter: **@NHForestRangers** 

NH FIRE STATISTICS				
CAUSES OF	FIRES REPORTED-2020	Year	<u># FIRES</u>	<b>ACRES</b>
		2020	113	89
Children	04	2019	015	23.5
Smoking	03	2018	053	46
Railroad	01	2017	064	107
Campfires	21	2016	351	1090
Lightning	10	2015	124	635
Equipment	04	2014	112	72
Arson	04	2013	182	144
Debris	22	2012	318	206
Misc*	44	2011	125	42

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

#### **CORNISH RESCUE SQUAD**

Dear Members of the Plainfield and Cornish Communities:

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

Our 16 active licensed responders range from Emergency Medical Responders to Paramedics. In addition to calls where we provide direct medical care in cooperation with transporting ambulance services, we also provide scene support to Plainfield/Meriden and Cornish Fire, as well as mutual aid support to neighboring towns.

Some of our usual activities were curtailed due to closures, such as the Cornish Fair First Aid booth and concerts at St. Gaudens National Historic Park. We still provided support for several events where conditions allowed them to proceed.

Thanks to good support from the State EMS Bureau and Emergency Operations we were able to get past the few periods when we were unable to obtain protective equipment in the open market. Supplies are easier to obtain at this point. Thanks to the proper use of personal protective equipment, none of our members were subject to quarantine.

If you are interested in joining, or if you have questions, please contact Chris Chilton at (603) 398-8855.

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 seat belts, 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 dial 1-800-222-1222.

Sincerely, Rob Drye, President Chris Chilton, Vice President

		Principle		•	•	-	Interest	-		
	Principle	New			Principle	Income	Income	Income	Income	
	Balance	Funds	Funds	GAIN/	Balance	Balance	Earned	Expended	Balance	TOTAL
	Begin Year	Added	Expended	LOSS	Year End	Begin Year	During Year	<b>During Yea</b>	Year End	
School Spec Ed Fund	\$324,986.56			-\$16.60	\$324,969.96	\$15,150.58	\$6,747.22		\$21,897.80	\$346,867.76
Library Repair Fund	\$6,803.48	\$2,500.00	-\$9,274.56	-\$0.41	\$28.51	\$463.19	\$160.72	-\$623.91	\$0.00	\$28.51
Town Hall Fund	\$26,072.40	\$10,000.00		-\$1.54	\$36,070.86	\$837.98	\$600.05		\$1,438.03	\$37,508.89
ADA Access Fund	\$49,997.94	\$5,000.00		-\$2.64	\$54,995.30	\$2,323.74	\$1,071.01		\$3,394.75	\$58,390.05
Police Equipment Fund	\$22,499.08	\$5,000.00		-\$1.24	\$27,497.84	\$793.15	\$495.18		\$1,288.33	\$28,786.17
Town Facilities Maint Fund	\$33,680.04	\$15,000.00	-\$8,443.63	-\$2.06	\$40,234.35	\$1,725.85	\$801.73		\$2,527.58	\$42,761.93
Schell Community Assist Fund*	\$30,576.36	\$39,130.00	-\$5,967.69	-\$2.48	\$63,736.19	\$1,401.17	\$959.48		\$2,360.65	\$66,096.84
Bridge Reserve Fund	\$10,792.18	\$25,000.00		-\$1.68	\$35,790.50	\$12,742.85	\$632.47		\$13,375.32	\$49,165.82
New Equipment Fund	\$193,634.57	\$75,000.00	-\$115,773.00	-\$11.42	\$152,850.15	\$7,871.76	\$4,494.14		\$12,365.90	\$165,216.05
Revaluation Fund	\$38,616.71	\$10,000.00		-\$2.27	\$48,614.44	\$3,354.20	\$898.81		\$4,253.01	\$52,867.45
Meriden Water Reserve Fund	\$106,495.52	\$35,000.00		-\$5.64	\$141,489.88	\$7,141.85	\$2,368.72		\$9,510.57	\$151,000.45
Meriden Sewer Reserve Fund	\$64,997.32			-\$3.31	\$64,994.01	\$2,914.93	\$1,347.17		\$4,262.10	\$69,256.11
School Building Fund	\$28,498.83			-\$1.46	\$28,497.37	\$1,181.39	\$588.75		\$1,770.14	\$30,267.51
School Benefits Payable	\$48,997.93			-\$2.57	\$48,995.36	\$3,530.27	\$1,041.99		\$4,572.26	\$53,567.62
Cemetery Care Fund	\$42,348.24			-\$2.16	\$42,346.08	\$2,173.49	\$883.16		\$3,056.65	\$45,402.73
Townsend Bridge & Trail Fund	\$4,367.82			-\$0.21	\$4,367.61	\$270.83	\$92.03		\$362.86	\$4,730.47
Plainfield History Fund	\$15,440.38			-\$0.93	\$15,439.45	\$3,787.12	\$381.40		\$4,168.52	\$19,607.97
Gravel Pit Reclaim Fund	\$39,998.35	\$5,000.00		-\$2.14	\$44,996.21	\$1,758.38	\$861.46		\$2,619.84	\$47,616.05
Town Beauty Fund	\$149.99				\$149.99	\$6.18	\$3.09		\$9.27	\$159.26
Transportation Imprvmnt Fund	\$41,250.78	\$55,000.00		-\$3.26	\$96,247.52	\$1,465.64	\$1,211.73		\$2,677.37	\$98,924.89
Fire Dep't Equipment Fund	\$49,997.98	\$50,000.00		-\$3.57	\$99,994.41	\$1,154.96	\$1,345.97		\$2,500.93	\$102,495.34
Meriden Library Bldg Fund	\$17,846.73		-\$1,000.00	-\$0.90	\$16,845.83	\$550.93	\$364.95		\$915.88	\$17,761.71
Plainfield Water Fund	\$25,517.82			-\$1.29	\$25,516.53	\$917.41	\$524.40		\$1,441.81	\$26,958.34
TOTAL: ALL CAP RES FUNDS * Expendable Trust Fund	\$1,223,567.02	\$331,630.00	-\$140,458.88	-\$69.78	\$1,223,567.02 \$331,630.00 -\$140,458.88 -\$69.78 \$1,414,668.35	\$73,517.85	\$27,875.63	-\$623.91	\$100,769.57 \$1,515,437.92	\$1,515,437.92

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD CAPITAL RESERVES & EXPENDABLE RESERVES FUND

		REPORT OI	TRUSTEES	<b>REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUND - 2020</b>	ND - 2020				
	Principle	New	Gains or	Principle	Income	Income	Income	Income	Fund
NAME OF TRUST FUND	Balance	Funds	Losses	Balance	Balance	Earned	Expended	Balance	Balance
	Begin Year	Created	From Sale	Year End	Begin Year	During Year During Year	During Year	Year End	Year End
<b>CEMETERY TRUST FUNDS</b>									
Daniels Cemetery	\$12,671.40		\$676.64	\$13,348.04	\$267.98	\$297.88	-\$331.82	\$234.04	\$13,582.08
East Plainfield Cemetery	\$5,967.21		\$318.10	\$6,285.31	\$116.10	\$140.08	-\$149.74	\$106.44	\$6,391.75
Freeman Cemetery	\$4,394.84		\$234.29	\$4,629.13	\$85.19	\$103.12	-\$110.05	\$78.26	\$4,707.39
Gilkey Cemetery	\$628.13		\$33.48	\$661.61	\$12.22	\$14.75	-\$15.76	\$11.21	\$672.82
Gleason Cemetery	\$42,650.97		\$2,273.74	\$44,924.71	\$830.11	\$1,001.07	-\$1,070.37	\$760.81	\$45,685.52
Methodist Hill Cemetery	\$628.13		\$33.48	\$661.61	\$12.22	\$14.75	-\$15.76	\$11.21	\$672.82
Mill Cemetery	\$54,257.38		\$2,883.90	\$57,141.28	\$892.19	\$1,269.67	-\$1,255.53	\$906.33	\$58,047.61
Moulton Cemetry	\$12,676.34		\$675.73	\$13,352.07	\$246.67	\$297.51	-\$318.07	\$226.11	\$13,578.18
Penniman Cemetery	\$1,884.39		\$100.45	\$1,984.84	\$36.67	\$44.23	-\$47.29	\$33.61	\$2,018.45
Plainfield Cemetery	\$93,379.90		\$4,978.03	\$98,357.93	\$1,815.98	\$2,191.90	-\$2,342.56	\$1,665.32	\$100,023.25
Raynsford Cemetery	\$2,512.52		\$133.93	\$2,646.45	\$48.89	\$58.98	-\$63.05	\$44.82	\$2,691.27
River Cemetery	\$3,340.24		\$177.96	\$3,518.20	\$63.58	\$78.38	-\$82.90	\$59.06	\$3,577.26
Westgate-Peterson Cemetery	\$1,570.31		\$83.72	\$1,654.03	\$30.55	\$36.85	-\$39.40	\$28.00	\$1,682.03
Town Cemeteries	\$6,281.20		\$334.83	\$6,616.03	\$122.23	\$147.41	-\$157.70	\$111.94	\$6,727.97
TOTALS	\$242,842.96	80.00	\$12,938.28	\$255,781.24 #	\$4,580.58	\$5,696.58	-\$6,000.00	\$4,277.16	\$260,058.40
LIBRARY TRUST FUND									
Meriden Library	\$40,247.40		\$2,112.17	\$42,359.57	\$568.82	\$934.88	-\$1,000.00	\$503.70	\$42,863.27
Philip Read Memorial Library	\$115,810.44		\$6,073.64	\$121,884.08	\$1,527.55	\$2,688.00	-\$2,800.00	\$1,415.55	\$123,299.63
TOTALS	\$156,057.84		\$8,185.81	\$164,243.65	\$2,096.37	\$3,622.88	-\$3,800.00	\$1,919.25	\$166,162.90

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD, N. H. REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUND - 2020

		<b>REPORT O</b>	F TRUNTEEN	KEPORT OF TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUND - 2020	ND - 2020				
	Principle	New	Gains or	Principle	Income	Income	Income	Income	Fund
NAME OF TRUST FUND	Balance	Funds	Losses	Balance	Balance	Earned	Expended	Balance	Balance
	Begin Year	Created	From Sale	Year End	Begin Year	During Year During Year		Year End	Year End
MISCELLANEOUS TRUST FUNDS									
Ward Christmas Fund	\$6,301.81		\$335.43	\$6,637.24	\$160.78	\$148.42	-\$114.00	\$195.20	\$6,832.44
Ward Worthy Poor Fund	\$15,846.61		\$1,611.96	\$17,458.57	\$14,979.01	\$709.66		\$15,688.67	\$33,147.24
Ward Essay Prize Fund	\$6,457.35		\$367.22	\$6,824.57	\$633.64	\$160.49	-\$200.00	\$594.13	\$7,418.70
Elijah Burnap Poor Fund	\$26,970.34		\$2,603.45	\$29,573.79	\$22,814.73	\$1,146.25		\$23,960.98	\$53,534.77
Earl Mower Fund	\$2,599.05		\$137.89	\$2,736.94	\$65.77	\$61.03	-\$65.76	\$61.04	\$2,797.98
Duncan Piano Fund	\$2,757.03		\$252.28	\$3,009.31	\$2,067.17	\$111.05		\$2,178.22	\$5,187.53
Vernon Hood Fund	\$779.37		\$61.26	\$840.63	\$391.94	\$26.96		\$418.90	\$1,259.53
Bill Hendrick Vision Fund	\$3,617.35		\$285.49	\$3,902.84	\$1,842.05	\$125.68	-\$571.00	\$1,396.73	\$5,299.57
Mother's & Daughter's Fund	\$3,528.37		\$187.19	\$3,715.56	\$89.25	\$82.82	-\$89.28	\$82.79	\$3,798.35
Beulah Pickering Fund	\$18,264.05		\$10.26	\$18,274.31	\$34,083.68	\$1,132.80		\$35,216.48	\$53,490.79
Ruth F Koe Brady Camp Fund	\$1,855.61		\$132.43	\$1,988.04	\$676.68	\$58.25		\$734.93	\$2,722.97
Stage Set Fund	\$16,620.13		\$1,227.38	\$17,847.51	\$6,850.93	\$540.34		\$7,391.27	\$25,238.78
Mericrafters Fund	\$816.30		\$43.33	\$859.63	\$20.68	\$19.16	-\$20.66	\$19.18	\$878.81
Stalker Cemetery Flag Fund	\$15,526.62	\$1,700.00	\$845.66	\$18,072.28	\$448.47	\$371.07	-\$528.75	\$290.79	\$18,363.07
TOTALS	\$121,939.99	\$1,700.00	\$8,101.23	\$131,741.22 #	<b>#</b> \$85,124.78	\$4,693.98	-\$1,589.45	\$88,229.31	\$219,970.53
TOTAL: ALL TRUST FUNDS	\$520,840.80	\$1,500.00	\$1,833.93	\$520,840.80	\$91,801.70	\$14,013.44	-\$11,389.45	\$94,425.69	\$615,266.49

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD, N. H. REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUND - 2020

#### 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 2020 were:

#### **Library Repair Fund**

Town Hall

	Deposits-	\$2,500
	Town meeting appropr	iation
	Withdrawals-	\$9,898
	Weatherization	\$4,975
	Lighting Upgrade	\$2,930
	Shed Painting	\$ 521
	Electric work Misc	\$ 122
	Meeting Room	\$1,350
Bridge Fund	Deposits-	\$25,000
	Withdrawals-	<b>\$0</b>

	Withdrawals-	\$0
	Town meeting appro	priation
Repair Fund	Deposits-	\$10,000
I O W II II MII		

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

Revaluation Fund	Deposits- Town meeting appropriat Withdrawals-	\$10,000 ion <b>\$0</b>
ADA Compliance	Deposits- Town meeting appropriat: Withdrawals-	\$5,000 ion <b>\$0</b>
Transportation Fund	Deposits Town meeting appropriat Withdrawals	\$55,000 ion <b>\$0</b>
Townsend Bridge Fund	Deposits Withdrawals	\$0 <b>\$0</b>
Town Beautification	Deposits Withdrawals	\$0 \$0
Police Equipment Fund	Deposits Town meeting appropriat Withdrawals	\$5,000 ion <b>\$0</b>
Town Facilities Fund	Deposits Town meeting appropriat <b>Withdrawals</b> Fire station doors Fire station lighting PS Weatherization PS	\$15,000 ion <b>\$8,444</b> \$947 \$3,832 \$3,665

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

Highway Equipment Fu	<b>ind</b> Deposits	\$75,000
	Withdrawals	\$115,773
	New dump/plow truck	\$115,773
Fire Equipment Fund	Deposits	\$25,000
	Withdrawals	\$0
Meriden Library Repla	cement Fund Deposits	\$ 0
	Withdrawals	\$ 1,000
	Atwater Construction	\$ 1,000

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 Plodzik and Sanderson completed the 2020 audit in January of 2021. The full document will be available both in printed form and as an electronic file, from the town office and will be posted on the town's website <u>www.plainfieldnh.org</u>. once available, usually in June.

#### ASSETS:

ASSEIS:		
	CASH:	
	CHECKING ACCOU	JNT \$3,852,278
	INVESTMENTS	\$3,695
	PETTY CASH	\$250
	TOTAL CASH	\$3,856,223
	PROPERTY TAX RECEIVABLE	\$165,593
	TAX LIEN RECEIVABLE	\$130,743
	LAND USE TAX RECEIVALBE	\$10,440
	TOTAL TAXES RECEIVABLE	\$306,776
	DUE FROM COMMERCIAL WASTE CHARGES	\$11,855
	DUE FROM OTHERS	\$11,855
	TOTAL ASSETS:	\$4,174,854
LIABILIT		\$4,174,054
LIADILII	DUE TO CONSERVATION FUND	\$15,045
	DUE TO GENERAL FUND	\$13,350
	DUE TO SCHELL FUND	\$2,920
	PAYABLES:	φ2,920
	SCHOOL	\$2,955,266
	INVOICES	\$41,668
	LIBRARY	\$0
	ACCRUED PAYROI	
	TOTAL PAYABLES	\$2,996,949
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$3,028,264
	FUND BALANCE	\$1,146,590
	RESERVE - UNCOLLECTIBLE TAXE	ES (\$40,000)
	RESERVE-CEMETERY PROJECT (wa	all) (\$2,947)
	RESERVE-TOWN OFFICE (Computer	s) (\$7,000)
	RESERVE-HIGHWAY (Loader door)	(\$2,200)
	RESERVE-POLICE (Cruiser Proj)	(\$40,000)
	RESERVE -FIRE (Airpacks)	(\$19,400)
	RESERVE-HUMANSERVICES	(\$2,540)
	UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE	\$1,032,503
	GRAND TOTALS:	\$4,174,854
UNASSIG	NED FUND BALANCE-December 31st	2019 \$953,003
UNASSIG	NED FUND BALANCE-December 31st	2020 \$1,032,503
CHANGE	IN FINANCIAL CONDITION	\$79,500

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD, NEW H	AMITSHIKE	
General Fund		
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Cha	inges in Fund	Balances
For the Fiscal Year Ended Decemb	ber 31, 2020	
REVENUES		
Taxes	\$	1,634,261
Licenses and permits		689,614
Intergovernmental		338,308
Charges for services		37,359
Miscellaneous		36,037
Total revenues		2,735,579
EXPENDITURES		
Current:		
General government		495,224
Public safety		573,024
Highways and streets		838,803
Sanitation		254,685
Health		11,595
Welfare		40,221
Culture and recreation		149,834
Conservation		250
Total expenditures		2,363,636

## TOWN OF DIAINFIELD NEW HAMDSHIDE

OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)

Excess of revenues over expenditures

OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)		
Transfers in		7,695
Transfers out		(257,500)
Total other financing sources (uses)		(249,805)
Net change in fund balances		122,138
Fund balances, beginning		984,453
Fund balances, ending	\$	1,106,591
	-	

371,943

#### TOWN OF PLAINFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE General Fund Schedule of Changes in Unassigned Fund Balance For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020

Unassigned fund balance, beginning (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)		\$953,003
Changes:		
Budget summary:		
Revenue surplus	-\$23,718	
Unexpended balance of appropriations	\$103,218	
Budget surplus		\$79,500
Unassigned fund balance, ending (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)		\$1,032,503

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

Outstanding long-term debt as of January 1, 2020	<b>\$0</b>
New debt during the year	\$0
Debt retirement during the year	
Library Addition	\$0
Outstanding long-term debt as of December 31, 2020	\$0

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

2020	Block Grant Allocation	\$108,836
Mill C	overed Bridge rehab	
	Engineer Review	\$675
	Clean and paint steel supporting structure	\$90,820
	New wooden deck	\$16,070
	Attachments (screws, nails, anchors)	\$1,071
	Misc hardware and supplies	\$596

Total Expenditures \$109,232



Meriden Covered Bridge 2020 (steel cleaned painted, new deck installed) Modern Protective Coatings Inc/Plainfield Highway Department

#### 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. Completed		
<b>'</b> 00	River Rd	phase IV-topcourse paving, shoulder work. Completed		
'01	Jenney Rd	base reconstruction/paving Completed		
'02	Daniels Rd	base reconstruction/paving. Completed		
'04	Bean Rd	base reconstruction/paving. Completed		
<b>'</b> 05	Bean Rd/W	n Rd/Westgate Rd culvert/drainage work. Completed		
<b>'</b> 06	Westgate Rd base reconstruction/paving. Completed			
'07	Beauty Hill Rd base reconstruction/paving Completed			
'08	Colby Hill Rd base reconstruction/paving Completed			
<b>'</b> 08	Willow Brook Rd base reconstruction/paving phase 1 Completed			
<b>'</b> 09	Freeman Rd base reconstruction Completed			
'10	Freeman Rd paving/Willow Brook Road phase 2 Completed			
<b>'</b> 11	Willow Brook Rd base reconstruction/paving phase 3 Completed			
'12	Main Street/Bonner Road resurfacing. Completed			
'13	Center of Town Rd resurfacing Completed			
'14	River Rd Pavement shim Phase I Completed			
'15	River Rd Pavement shim/Penniman Road resurfacing I Completed			
'15	Ferry Hill Rd resurfacing-Completed			
'16	Penniman Rd resurfacing II- Completed			
'16	Thrasher Rd resurfacing Completed			
'17	Methodist Hill Rd resurfacing Completed			
'18	Jenney Rd resurfacing Completed			
'19		s Rd resurfacing/Hell Hollow Rebuild-Completed		
	0	Rd resurfacing-Completed		
'20		vered Bridge steel painting/new deck- Completed		
<b>'</b> 21		Chellis Rd resurfacing		
'22	Westgate Ro	d/Hayward Rd roads resurfacing		
'23	Bonner Rd/Main Street resurfacing			
'24	Beauty Hill Rd resurfacing			
'25	Bonner Rd resurfacing			
'26	Willow Bro	ok Rd Phase I		

#### **TOWN EMPLOYEE SALARIES -2020**

Blish, Keith	Truck Driver	\$48,808.94 includes overtime
Brann, Eric	Select board	\$2,350
Brookes-Governo, Sarah	Treasurer	\$6,870
Brookes-Governo, Sarah	Election Staff	\$255.75
Cantlin, Daniel	Recreation Director	\$6,500.04
Collins, Michael	Truck Driver	\$48,532.56 includes overtime
Collins III, Richard	Road Agent	\$81,218.31
Crane, Terri	Library Assistant	\$11,106.58
Daniels, Roland	Patrolman	\$42,255.90
Daniels, Wanda	Police Administrative Ass't	\$2,080
Dawson, Kyle	Part-Time Patrolman	\$19,350 includes overtime
Eberhardt, Ron	Select board	\$2,350
Estey, Lori	Library Assistant	\$8,929.44
Franklin, Paul	Moderator	\$900
Gillens, Sarah	Library Assistant	\$5,849.95
Halleran, Stephen	Town Administrator	\$89,493.51
Jarvis, Madison	Library Circulation Aide	\$5,235.62
Jones, Harold	Supervisor of Checklist	\$603.30
Jordan, Donald	Supervisor of Checklist	\$299.40
Kennett, Joshua	Truck Driver	\$46,797.85 includes overtime
King, Mary	Library Director	\$40,152.27
Legare, Peter	Library Circulation Aide	\$8,411
LeMere, Jason	Truck Driver	\$47,730.80 includes overtime
Lersch, David	Building Inspector	\$9,710.40
Liebowitz, Susan	Deputy Town Clerk	\$12,365.40
Lurie, Elizabeth	Election Staff	\$490.75
Marsh, Michelle	Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$70,227.32
Marsh, Robin	Ballot Clerk	\$490.75
McAndrew, Stephanie	Library Circulation Aide	\$3,074.17
O'Sullivan, Denis	Part-Time Patrol	\$208
Remmes, Lana	Library Circulation Aide	\$7,012.86
Roberts, Paul	Police Chief	\$85,446.77
Rogerson, Roanne	Ballot Clerk	\$490.75
Schell, Stephanie	Human Services Director	\$20,500
Sicard, Brian	Truck Driver	\$55,716.25 includes OT/ IBO
Smith, Sean	Truck Driver	\$49,440.38 includes overtime
Stalker, Jesse	Trustee of Trust Funds	\$1,000
Swett, Anthony	Patrolman	\$77,724.91 includes overtime
Taylor, Robert	Select board	\$2,350
Taylor, William	Fire Chief	\$7,200
Widger, Beverly	Supervisor of Checklist	\$232.80
Wilder, Fern	Supervisor of Checklist	\$977.48
	TOTAL	\$930,740.21

# HUMAN SERVICE REPORT

Dear Plainfield Neighbors,

As the year 2020 comes to a close, we all can reflect on all the positive things that have come from the current pandemic. Plainfield has done a remarkable job in navigating these uncharted waters. As a community we have come together to support one another's health and well-being.

It is with deep appreciation and gratitude that I express my thanks for everyone's patience, random acts of kindness and donations. The Community Resource Room & Food Pantry has received hundreds of dollars to provide food security to the residents of Plainfield, Meriden & Cornish. Willing Hands has been instrumental in providing fresh produce, milk, eggs, and bread products on a weekly basis. The Upper Valley Humane Society continues to help support our pet lovers with their monthly Free Mobile Pet Pantry.

Donations of durable medical equipment has provided many residents a sense of security while recovering at home.

To our amazing educators who strive to keep our schools open and continue to provide exemplary education to our youngsters. To all the children in Plainfield, Meriden and Cornish who have adjusted so well to all the new safety measures without much fuss --- you are my HEROS!

To all our Caring Neighbor Volunteers for making phone calls to check in on neighbors, for picking & delivering groceries & medications, dropping off lunches to neighbors and for providing rides to medical appointments.

To our volunteer fire departments and rescue squad for always being on call to help a neighbor in an emergency. Your dedication to our communities is admirable and so appreciated.

Recognizing our local 4-H Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Daisy Troop whose members have all stepped up to lend a helping hand. Whether it was raking leaves, shoveling snow, delivering & piling wood, donating Christmas trees, organizing, and collecting nonperishable food items, creating holiday cards and decorative ornaments for one's holiday cheer they all have contributed to building our hometown spirit even stronger this past year.

In the year of 2020, a total of \$18,285.80 was disbursed to assist 68 households in need. The Community Resource Room & Food Pantry from January-December 2020 provided 12,384 meals to community members.

The breakdown for monies disbursed in 2020 is as follows:

Housing	\$1,500.00
Electric	\$ 908.00
Heating	\$ 530.00
Medical	\$ 930.62
Food	
	\$6,266.95
(Food Pantry & COVID-19 Grocery Support Purchase grant awards)	es made with donations &
Senior Drive Thru Luncheons	\$8,150.23
(Meals supported by monies obtained from donations of	& grant awards)
	¢10 005 00

TOTAL

Despite the pandemic our community outreach projects have flourished. Sometimes when we are forced to step outside the box new and exciting things can and do happen. When a glass is half full many positive opportunities can be created.

Thank you again for all your continued support of our community outreach projects. Together we are here for one another and we are making a difference!

# Do you need assistance or know of a neighbor that could use a helping hand? Please contact:

#### Town of Plainfield's Resource Director Stephanie M. Schell (603)469-3201 or cr.director@plainfieldnh.org

May 2021 bring peace and hope to you and yours.

Respectfully Submitted,

# Stephanie M. Schell

**Community Resource Director** 

In addition to our local resources, residents have access to the following Upper Valley human service organizations, many of these request and receive funding each year:

Grafton County Senior Center Lake Sunapee Alliance Volunteers in Action Mascoma Health Headrest Community Alliance Southwest Community Services West Central Services Listen

# 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's committee focused on a dialogue between the town and the school concerning efforts to minimize the impact of COVID 19 on our community. Town Human Services Director Stephanie Schell and KUA's Director of Health Services Melissa Underhill joined the group.

Over the summer Kimball Union developed a health and safety program for operating in person. This program involves all KUA employees and students and their families. The program includes a social contract that guides behaviors such as hand washing, social distancing and mask wearing during the pandemic. The program also includes an

extensive COVID 19 testing program, daily monitoring of students and employee health and daily disinfection of surfaces and filtration of the air in its buildings. Like many other educational institutions KUA adopted a school year model that was divided into only two segments (i.e. September to November and January to May). Understandably, Kimball Union has had to close all campus facilities to those that are not directly associated with the school.

The Academy received a Payroll Protection Program loan under the CARES Act. The loan proceeds have been instrumental in enabling KUA to maintain full employment and have limited the economic impact of the pandemic on KUA and the community. Town and School health officials have, as needed, been in constant contact.

In other news, Kimball Union has signed a new lease for the Meriden Post Office for a term of five years. The Academy has the option to terminate the lease with 365 days notice but no earlier than August 31<sup>st</sup> 2022. Kimball Union remains committed to working with the community to find a more suitable long term location for the village post office.

While slowed by the pandemic, Kimball Union has continued to make improvements to its campus to ensure that the school remains competitive. Capital projects over the summer of 2020 were focused on improving dormitory corridors, bathrooms and common areas.

The KUA Study Committee continues to pursue safety issues in and around the campus. In particular, the crossing of Main Street by the students is of the upmost concern. Suggestions of how to improve the safety of the crosswalks is an on-going priority.

#### Facts:

\*Kimball Union employs 144 people, 81 live in town (49 on campus, 32 off campus). \*Currently, 19 local kids attend the private school, 11 of these students are from families unaffiliated with KUA.

\*It costs about \$22,000 per year to educate a Plainfield Elementary Student.

\*There are 28 students at PES from families of KUA faculty/staff.

\*The student tuition at Lebanon High School is \$16,818

\*The day student tuition at Kimball Union is \$42,400.

\*The boarding student tuition at Kimball Union is \$66,700.

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 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 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 existing and to advocate for new cooperative linkages 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.

2020/21 Kimball Union Study Committee Stephen Beaupre, John Yacavone, Andrea Bueno Keen, Robert Blake, Kate Whybrow, Robert Hewett, Stephanie Schell, Melissa Underhill, Stephen Halleran

# **ENERGY COMMITTEE**

Evan Oxenham, Jen Lenz, Jordy Green, Lee Oxenham, Nick Cohen, Ron Eberhardt, Steven Ladd.

The Plainfield Energy Committee's mission is to encourage energy conservation, energy efficiency practices and to promote the use of renewable energy in homes, businesses and public buildings through education and community outreach.

The Plainfield Energy Committee teamed up with the Cornish Energy Committee once again to run a second **Weatherize Plainfield/Cornish** campaign. These measures help residents implement effective insulation and air sealing measures to reduce the energy cost to heat and cool their homes. Nine homeowners qualified for NHSaves' increased rebates of up to \$8,000 which covered up to 90% of the certified building contractors' costs. Despite the pandemic, almost all the work was safely completed this year. We followed up with two **Button Up** presentations tailored for the DIY homeowner, with tips and instructions on how to do simple, low-cost weatherization and later followed up with more advanced techniques and projects.

The Plainfield and Cornish Energy Committees in partnership with the Upper Valley E-Bike Lending Library ran a two-week **E-Bike Loaner Program** this past summer with glowing results. Two days were devoted to 1-hour test drives and all the slots for the 3-day rentals were filled! We've seen a few more E-Bikes around town because of this! We hope to be able to have the rentals available again in 2021.

Also, in conjunction with the Cornish Energy Committee, we provided and/or cosponsored many educational events in our **Renewable Energy Educational Series** via online webinars and created a **Did You Know?** series of short articles for Connect Cornish and for our website to help residents understand the shortterm costs and long-term benefits of reaching our town's commitment of using 100% Renewable Energy by 2050.

Brad Atwater, Plainfield's Facilities Manager, commissioned **Energy Audits** for four of our town buildings in 2020: the Meriden Town Hall, Philip Read Memorial Library and our two Fire Stations. These audits were deemed necessary as a prerequisite for planning how best to replace the aging heating systems in all seven of our municipal buildings over the next 10-15 years. The audits also enabled us to better understand our town's energy profile, to determine how well our energy efficiency updates are working, and informed us as to the best path forward as we transition from fossil fuels to renewable sources of energy. The Energy Committee has identified cold-climate heat pumps capable of using renewable electricity as the most cost-effective long term replacement option and is investigating possible sources of grant funding to assist with up-front costs.

The Energy Committee continues to work on the Town's Renewable Energy Plan and we anticipate having a preliminary document available in time for the upcoming town meeting.

Key features of the Renewable Energy Plan:

- 1. Reduce overall energy use by improving the efficiency of our buildings, vehicles and appliances.
- 2. Phase out the use of fossil fuels as town equipment ages and requires replacement.

- 3. Preferentially invest in and utilize cost-effective local renewable energy sources.
- 4. Purchase electricity generated from renewable sources from third party suppliers.
- 5. Replace fossil fuel powered equipment by switching from oil furnaces, boilers, and gas-powered vehicles to electrical equipment such as cold climate heat pumps and battery electric vehicles.
- 6. Educate and promote ways for town residents to move into the renewable energy future.

We are already taking steps to meet our **Ready for 100 goals**. As but one example, Community Aggregation, also known as Community Power, provides a realistic near-term mechanism through which to obtain renewably generated electricity at prices below those the utilities charge. To this end, the Plainfield Energy Committee is participating in a Local Government Community Power committee, with representatives of eleven other local towns. We are looking to provide cost-effective renewably generated electricity to our towns by pooling our combined electricity load and purchasing in bulk. By working together, we can spread out the relatively minor administrative costs and reap the major economic benefits for residents across the eleven participating towns.

We are always looking for new recruits to serve on our **Ready for 100% transition and implementation team**. If interested, you will help: finalize our Ready for 100 plan, devise strategies for realization, and build a local coalition to support the 100% renewable energy transition. It's a great opportunity to work with our town administrator, the select board, and members of other town committees as we work toward implementing our plan. You will also help continue our educational seminars and workshops and maintain and expand our relationship with other local communities and organizations. Please contact any committee member if you'd like to get involved.

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

# SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE REPORT

This year, the Plainfield Solid Waste and Recycling Group spent time addressing the end of the town's curbside collection contract. The Group evaluated the current program and developed a request for proposals for waste and recycling contractor. A number of vendors were contacted, however, only one responded. The town will renew its contract with Casella for another three years.

In 2020, recycling markets were hit hard. We would like to strongly encourage everyone to read the recycling flyer and only recycle items on the list. Pease no bowling balls, winter sleds or turkey carcasses in the recycling bin. Putting the wrong items in the bins costs money; we all need to do our part to recycle right.

The focus in 2021 will be on outreach. Group members have been writing articles for Plainfacts and researching other programs. It is our hope to encourage our neighbors to reduce food waste at home through composting. Currently, two options are available: 1) back yard composting is a great way to reduce waste at no cost and 2) participate in the food scrap drop off program at the Lebanon Solid Waste Facility. Both options reduce waste, save money and are good for the environment.

Respectfully submitted,

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

# FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

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.

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.

#### Summary of Town and School Finances

To say the least, 2020 has been a challenging year. The Covid-19 pandemic had significant impacts on the school program and its budget. More importantly, it had a significant impact on the students and parents and school staff who were trying to make the best of an unprecedented situation. The pandemic continues to create uncertainty about future school programs, state funding and the financial needs of our community. Please keep this in mind as you review and consider the Town and School budget proposals. The perspective of the Finance Committee is that both the Town and School

officials have worked tirelessly to make good projections, cut expenses where they could and minimize the pandemic's impact on taxpayers while still maintaining the services that this community expects.

The town budget, including warrant articles, would increase the tax rate by about \$0.28 which would add \$70 in taxes for a property assessed at \$250,000. In addition, the school budget, including warrant articles, would increase the tax rate by \$1.38 which would add \$345.00 in taxes for a property assessed at \$250,000.

#### **Town Budget**

#### Meriden Library – Article 2

The Library Trustees bring to the town a warrant to raise and appropriate a sum of \$1,150,000 for the replacement of the Meriden Library Building, and to authorize a withdrawal of \$55,000 from the town's ADA Capital Reserve Fund, \$17,761 from the town's Meriden Library Replacement Fund, and accept the remaining balance of \$1,077,239 in donations from the Meriden Library Building Fund and the Meriden Library Foundation.

The project will bring a new building and community space to the town that will be energy efficient and in compliance with the town's "Ready for 100" initiative. The new library building will also be ADA compliant.

Tax Impact: None. No additional dollars \$0.00 will be raised by taxation. The finance committee supports this article. (Vote 6-0)

#### **Operating Budget – Article 3**

The operating budget request for \$2,466,662 represents an increase of \$56,662 or 2.4% from last year. The largest increases in the budget were the contracts for solid waste collection and disposal accounts (\$42,500) and dispatch services (\$7,000). In addition, revenues from the State are uncertain as a result of the pandemic. However, we believe that the projections and line-item decisions made by the Select Board are reasonable and should be supported.

Tax Impact: The operating budget, exclusive of other warrant articles, accounts for \$4.51 of the tax rate or \$1,127.50 for a property assessed at \$250,000. The finance committee supports this article. (Vote 6-0)

#### **Reserve Funds - 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 requested allocation of \$257,500 is unchanged from last year.

The finance committee strongly recommends that the leasing option be evaluated by the Select Board and the CIP be provided to voters before supporting any future allocations to these funds. (See Recommendation below)

Tax Impact: Support for the reserve funds' allocations would account for \$.83 of the tax rate or \$207.50 for a property assessed at \$250,000.

The finance committee supports this article. (Vote 6-0)

#### VNA (Petitioned Article)

Although there are three visiting nurse associations which serve Plainfield families, the Town has traditionally supported the VNA and Hospice of NH & VT with a contribution as recommended by our Community Resource Director. This year, the VNA placed petitions in the Meriden and Plainfield stores to allocate \$8,500 to that organization which is nearly twice the amount recommended by the CR Director. The petitions were duly signed by Plainfield residents and are reflected in Article 5. However, the Finance Committee believes that the allocation of limited funds in the Health budget to a particular service organization is best left to the Community Resource Director and Select Board where it can be considered in light of other competing needs and, further, that any request for additional funds by a health service organization should be directed to those offices.

Tax Impact: This article would add \$.03 to the tax rate or \$7.50 for a property assessed at \$250,000.

The Finance Committee does not support this article (Vote 6-0)

#### **School Budget Commendation**

The Finance Committee commends the Plainfield Elementary School (PES) Administration, Staff, and School Board for successfully re-opening PES to 5-day, full time instruction during the COVID-19 pandemic. Their efforts have allowed the children of Plainfield to continue to learn and grow despite the crisis surrounding the community and have enabled Plainfield families to continue their employment in a very challenging time. The Finance Committee cannot express enough appreciation for everything PES is doing this year to keep Plainfield kids safe and in school.

#### **Operating Budget – Article 2**

The School Board began this budget process by asking the Administration for two budget choices: one planning for a 'normal' school year with students in school and one planning for a 'Covid-19 year' requiring a remote learning program, the latter being much more expensive because of extra curriculum costs and staffing. After much discussion, the School Board chose to move forward with the less expensive, 'normal' budget in combination with the 'insurance' offered by Article 7. We believe that this was a prudent decision on the part of the School Board.

The operating budget request of \$7,298,336 represents an increase of \$417,828 or 6.07% over the previous year. This results primarily from increases in tuition expense (more students going to Lebanon), employee benefits and required contributions to the NH retirement system combined with a reduction of non-tax revenue. <u>Non-tuition, non-benefit expenses increased less than 0.3% (\$8,244)</u>. After multiple meetings, including a public hearing, the School Board reduced the initial budget request by over \$148,000 with no new programs planned for next year. However, the budget request results in a 6.4% increase in tax dollars needed. While this has a significant impact on taxpayers, we believe that the School Board and administration have worked diligently to control costs where possible and still maintain the quality of the program which the community expects.

Tax Impact: This article would account for \$16.64 of the tax rate or \$4,160 for a property assessed at \$250,000.

The Finance Committee supports this article. (Vote 6-0) **Negotiated Contracts** 

The School Board has negotiated three-year contracts with both the support staff and teaching staff. Note that the figures below apply only to the base salaries and do not reflect the yearly step increases received by employees who are not at the top of the salary scale. The resulting salary increases will keep Plainfield's school employees near the mid-range of comparable salaries for our cohort districts: Claremont, Grantham, Lyme and Lebanon. We believe that it is in the school's interest to maintain competitive salaries and that the contracts should be supported.

# **PSSA Contract – Article 3**

The support staff contract provides yearly increases to the base salary of 1%, 1.5% and 2% during the three years. The associated cost increases are 10,978 - FY2022, 12,211 - FY2023, and 12,850 - FY2024. Although approval of this article applies to all three years, only the first year's expense is included in this budget.

Tax Impact: This article would add \$.04 to the tax rate or \$10.00 for a property valued at \$250,000.

The Finance Committee supports this article. (Vote 6-0)

# **PSA Contract – Article 5**

The teacher contract provides yearly increases to the base salary of 2.25%, 2.25% and 2% during the three years. The associated cost increases are \$49,590 in FY2022, \$50,706 in FY 2023, and \$46,085 in FY2024. Although approval of this article applies to all three years, only the first year's expense is included in this budget.

Tax impact: This article would add \$.16 to the tax rate or \$40.00 for a property valued at \$250,000.

The Finance Committee supports this article. (Vote 6-0)

#### Change Purpose of Tuition/Special Education Reserve Fund – Article 7

In making the decision to move forward with a budget designed to support a return to full time attendance for all students, the School Board is fully aware that the future impact of the pandemic is out of their control. Based on the past year's experience, the cost of moving back to a fully remote organization could approach \$300,000. The Tuition/Special Education reserve fund has a balance of \$344,000 at present. By changing the purpose to include pandemic expenses, this fund could be used in an emergency to cover those unexpected costs. Note that the change is for one year only. Tax Impact: None

The Finance Committee supports this article. (Vote 6-0)

#### **Contingency Fund – Article 8**

RSA 198:4-b allows the School Board carry over a certain amount of unassigned balance for use in the following fiscal year. While it sounds similar, this is quite different than the rights the Town (a municipality) has to build an unassigned reserve fund over a period of years.

- Funds to be carried over are limited to 5% of the net assessment (total expense budget minus revenue and State aid). However, the amount available is limited by the funds left over at the end of the fiscal year. (For Plainfield that would be the total surplus minus any unused tuition which the School Board has committed to return to taxpayers.)
- The decision to place funds in the contingency account would likely occur in September following the close of the fiscal year on July 1 and would be at the

discretion of the School Board. Any funds put into the contingency fund would reduce the amount that would have been returned to taxpayers.

- The funds put in the contingency reserve are held for one year only. Any unused funds are returned to the taxpayers at the end of the year so the reserve will not build over time.
- The School Board must have a public hearing before any contingency funds can be used. Note: The Board is required to give notice of a planned expense, but it is not required to get permission to continue its plan.
- The advantage of a contingency fund would be the flexibility to mitigate the impact of unexpected expenses e.g. an influx of students over the summer which requires an additional teacher.

The Finance Committee understands the benefit of adding flexibility to address unexpected expenses. However, the school has always been able to adjust its budget to accommodate all but the largest expenses; and the Tuition/Special Education reserve fund exists to help manage the most likely exceptions. We also understand that this is an unusual year. Assuming the passage of Article 7, the funds in the Tuition/Special Education/Pandemic Reserve would be committed in three different ways, any one of which could empty the reserve. Given the significant increase in the school budget, we are reluctant to add an unknown expense.

Tax Impact: The tax impact is unknown since the contingency reserve would not be funded until later in the year.

The Finance Committee does not support this article. (Vote 6-0)

#### Add \$25k to Tuition/Special Education Reserve Fund – Article 9

While many unknowns exist this year, the current Fund balance of \$344,000 exceeds the goal set by the School Board for Tuition/Special Education Reserve (\$325,000) and is sufficient to cover the estimated costs of returning to a remote learning model (\$300,000 +/-).

Tax Impact: This article would add \$.08 to the tax rate or \$20.00 to a property valued at \$250,000.

The Finance Committee does not support this article. (Vote: 6-0)

#### AREA Agreement – Article 11

The Authorized Regional Enrollment Area (AREA) Agreement determines the tuition Lebanon charges to Grantham and Plainfield and guarantees placement of Plainfield students at Lebanon High School. The current agreement was negotiated in 2010 and has saved the taxpayers thousands of dollars by providing lower tuition rates and preventing tuition spikes greater than the percent increase in the Lebanon school budget. The agreement was for ten years and has now been revised. There are minor adjustments to the agreement, but the most important economic incentives for Plainfield remain. The basic formula for determining tuition rates includes 'the cap' which limits the percentage increase of tuition in a given year and the three-year rolling average for student daily membership which limits sharp fluctuations in tuition based on changes in student census. It is in the taxpayers' interest to continue this agreement. The Finance Committee supports this article. (Vote 6-0)

**Donations to community organizations:** It came to our attention that some money authorized for community organizations at previous District Meetings was not spent because the recipients did not send an invoice to the Town. We recommend that the Town make every effort to contact each organization designated to receive funds regarding the Town's requirements for completing the distributions approved by the voters.

**Town Reserve Funds:** Several municipalities in NH have adopted a leasing program for capital equipment in lieu of or in conjunction with a smaller reserve program. In addition, the current Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is being revised and updated. A summary of the Town CIP (and School CIP) should be included in the Town Report to give voters an overview of future expenses and the leasing option should be evaluated by the Select Board before supporting any future allocations to these funds.

**Town Spending on Clean Energy:** At the 2018 town meeting, the Town set a goal of having 100% reliance on renewable energy sources by 2050. Since then, the Energy Committee has worked tirelessly to provide resources to help the community achieve that goal, and we commend their efforts. However, we see a need to develop a Clean Energy Plan for the Town which sets priorities and guides decisions about which projects and expenditures are most cost effective (i.e., of highest value) as we work toward a clean energy future. We further recommend that the town consider establishing a Clean Energy reserve fund which could be used to support the Plan as it matures and spawns actionable investments. The use of a reserve fund would provide visibility and give the tax payers a voice in future spending.

#### Mike Sutherland Chair, Finance Committee

# **STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT #9**

I am honored to serve my fourth term as State Representative for Sullivan County, District 9, serving the towns of Cornish, Croydon, Grantham, Newport, Plainfield, Springfield, Sunapee, and Unity. I will again be a member of the House Education Committee. At the County Level I will be a member of the Executive Finance Committee.

Last March when the Covid pandemic caused a shutdown of all non-essential businesses, much of the legislation from the House was no longer moving forward to the Senate. Bills to address the education committee's priorities and to provide adequate funding for our public schools and colleges were, for the most part, tabled or vetoed. However, the independent Commission to Study School Funding had started their work and continued through the year. Based on independent data and input from many and various stakeholders, the commission released its report. The full report can be found at, <u>https://carsey.unh.edu/sites/default/files/media/2020/12/final\_report\_forcommission\_v5\_12012020.pdf</u>

Some of the findings from the study indicated that, "the current funding system does not provide for an equitable opportunity for an adequate education for all New Hampshire Students." The commission adopted an Education Cost Model formula that takes in several factors, "specific to the school district, including information about the students who attend schools of varying sizes and at different grade levels." I look forward to the hard work it will take in this budget year to meet the challenges of school funding addressed in the Commission report and other issues that affect our schools and colleges. I would like to thank our public schools, administrators, teachers, and staff who continue to meet the challenges of the pandemic which made more visible the underfunded role of our schools in meeting needs of students such as food, health and safety, access to the internet and technology, and mental and behavioral supports, special education, and building requirements and safety. In addition, thank you to all those in town government, our police, fire, and EMS along with essential workers in all fields for their commitment to serve, protect, and help all of us through these tough times. We are stronger together.

We know that many people and many small businesses in our communities are suffering. I will continue to work to help our communities, schools, small businesses, and those who have lost their livelihoods, jobs, and homes to recover from this pandemic. Thank you for giving me the honor of representing you in the New Hampshire House. Please get in touch with me with comments or concerns.

#### Linda Tanner

NH State Representative Sullivan District 9

#### MERIDEN VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT 2020 Operator's Report

The MVWD wastewater treatment facility continued to discharge to temporary rapid infiltration basins during the year. Horizons Engineering worked on and submitted the design for the permanent basins to the NH DES. The project to build the permanent basins has been approved by the district voters and funding is in place in the form of a Northern Borders grant. The project will go out for bid in early 2021 and construction will begin in the spring and continue through the summer. The MVWD has asked the Plainfield School Board for an easement modification to allow for construction of two of the proposed five basins. The School Board supports the request and it will be on the School District warrant.

There will be another construction project over the summer in the MVWD. The Commissioners are proposing to replace 1300 feet of water main on Main St. The project will replace a section of heavily corroded 2 inch pipe that has been in the ground since the 1940's. The pipe begins at the Bonner Rd and Main St intersection and continues down the hill to #133. The new main will be upgraded to 6 inch and several fire hydrants will be added. This project will be on the MVWD warrant in March.

The last two lots in the Baynes Rd development were sold during the year. The development was begun in 2004 and now includes 12 homes. All of the lots are connected to MVWD water and sewer. The former Duckworth Museum building was sold and will be converted to 3 condos. The building was connected to MVWD sewer in December.

Commissioner Murray Dewdney retired from the board in 2020. Murray lived and worked at KUA for many years. Murray served as MVWD Commissioners for 23 years. Thank you to Murray for his many years of service to the district.

Respectfully Submitted, William S. Taylor, Certified Operator, Meriden Village Water District Jeffrey S. Allbright Greq Castell Derek Gueldengoph 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 sixteenth day of March 2021 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
- 5. An auditor for one year

6. 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 \$415,000 (gross budget) for the replacement of a portion of water main on Main Street, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$265,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the commissioners to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; further, to withdraw \$150,000 from the water capital reserve fund (the commissioners are agents to expend). The commissioners recommend this appropriation (3/5 ballot vote required).

**ARTICLE 03.** To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 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 funds to come from user charges. The commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

**ARTICLE 04**. To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the Sewer Capital Reserve Fund previously established, with funds to come from unassigned fund balance. The commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

**ARTICLE 05.** To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$57,000 for funding the district share of RIB construction costs and authorize the withdrawal of \$25,000 from the Sewer Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose. The balance of \$32,000 is to come from user charges. The commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

**ARTICLE 06.** To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$236,261 for general district operations, with \$222,600 to come from user charges, and \$13,661 to come from unassigned fund balance. This article does not include

appropriations contained in special or individual warrant articles addressed separately. The commissioners recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

**ARTICLE 07**. To see what action the District will take with regard to the reports of the district officers.

**ARTICLE 08.** To see what action the District will take with regard to water and sewer user charges.

ARTICLE 09. To enact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this tenth day of February, 2021.

A true copy attest:

Jeffrey S. Allbright Greg Castell Derek Gueldenzoph Commissioners, Meriden Village Water District

# MINUTES MERIDEN VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT MEETING MARCH 17, 2020

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 seventeenth of March 2020 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: Gregory Castell 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 \$35,000 to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund created in 1993 for replacing or upgrading the water

distribution system, pursuant to RSA35:1, with \$24,930 to come from unassigned fund balance and \$10,070 to come from the operating budget.

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 \$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.

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 \$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.

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 2019 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 be increased from \$115 per quarter to \$120 per quarter.

2. That District charges for sewer service to Kimball Union Academy be increased from \$9,730 per month to \$9,980 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 be increased from \$6,460 per month to \$6,610 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 J Garfield Robert I. Garfield, Clerk

# Meriden Village Water District Water Department Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2020

Assets:	
Checking account balance	\$80,714.74
Undeposited funds	\$0.00
Capital Reserve Fund	\$151,000.45
Accounts due District: Water charges	
due	\$16,776.88
Total Assets	\$248,492.07
Liabilities:	
Reserve Funds: Capital Reserve	\$151,000.45
Total Liabilities	\$151,000.45
Fund Balance- Current Surplus	\$97,491.62
Grand Total	\$248,492.07
Principal Balance Long Term Debt:	
State of NH Revolving Fund	\$237,586.78
Sewer Department Balance S	heet
As of December 31, 2020	
Assets:	¢70 (12 0)
Checking account balance	\$79,612.86
Undeposited funds	\$0.00
Capital Reserve Fund	\$69,256.11
Accounts due District: Sewer charges due	\$19,492.41
Total Assets	\$168,361.38
Liabilities:	
Reserve Funds: Capital Reserve	\$69,256.11
Total Liabilities	\$69,256.11
Fund Balance- Current Surplus	\$99,105.27
Grand Total	\$168,361.38
Principal Balance Long Term Debt:	
State of NH Revolving Fund	\$111,855.22

WIEKI.	SEWER DEPARTMENT				
Income	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Income	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021
Sewer Charges	\$145,000	\$149,579	\$148,000	\$150,390	\$150,000
Hook-Ups	\$0	\$0	\$1 10,000 \$0	\$6,750	\$0
Interest	\$0 \$0	\$87	\$0	\$18	\$0
Finance charges	\$0 \$0	\$0	\$0	\$15	\$0
From Capital Reserve	\$0	\$0	\$65,000	\$0	\$25,000
Xfer from Water	\$0	\$0	\$00,000 \$0	\$0	\$0
From Surplus	\$20,800	\$0	\$31,420	\$0	\$23,661
Solar Energy Generation	\$1,500	\$3,506	\$3,500	\$6,868	\$6,000
Other Income	\$29,732	\$29,741	\$376,000	\$1,169	\$0,000 \$0
Total Income	\$197,032	\$182,914	\$623,920	\$165,210	\$204,661
Expenses	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
<b>r</b>	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021
Office	\$1,200	\$442	\$1,200	\$689	\$1,200
Legal	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200
Electricity	\$9,100	\$8,985	\$9,100	\$9,133	\$9,200
Insurance	\$28,000	\$23,808	\$29,200		
Health	\$0	\$0	\$21,100	\$23,055	\$24,000
Co-Pay	\$0	\$0	\$4,000	\$980	\$2,000
Property	\$0	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,452	\$2,600
Treas.					
Bond	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$100
Work	**	**	*	** ***	** ====
Comp.	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,116	\$1,500
SUB-TOTA			***	\$27,702	\$30,200
Maintenance	\$17,000	\$7,416	\$17,000	\$4,588	\$15,000
Telephone	\$1,200	\$1,168	\$1,200	\$1,336	\$1,400
Wages	\$40,000	\$40,806	\$44,800	\$39,131	\$42,000
FICA, Medicare	\$4,400	\$4,086	\$4,500	\$3,974	\$4,000
Retirement	\$7,700	\$7,171	\$7,700	\$7,197	\$7,500
Interest on debt	\$5,020	\$5,016	\$4,460	\$4,459	\$3,902
Principal on debt	\$15,980	\$15,979	\$15,980	\$15,979	\$15,979
Supplies	\$3,000	\$2,256	\$3,000	\$1,336	\$2,000
Effluent Testing	\$4,500	\$1,005	\$4,500	\$1,115	\$2,000
Vehicle	\$0	\$0	\$1,080	\$0	\$1,080
Capital Reserve	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
Grd. Wtr. Monitoring	\$10,000	\$7,162	\$10,000	\$1,828	\$2,000
Special Projects	\$39,732	\$38,307	\$470,000	\$0	\$0
RIB	\$0	\$0	\$470,000	\$31,961	\$57,000
Project Total Exponses				\$31,961 \$150,429	
Total Expenses	\$197,032	\$173,608	\$623,920	\$130,429	\$204,661

# MERIDEN VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT

WATER DEPARTMENT					
Income	Budget	Actual	Budget		
	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021
Water Rents	\$98,000	\$104,879	\$103,000	\$104,017	\$105,000
Hook-Ups	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$0
Hydrant Rentals	\$3,600	\$7,200	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600
Interest	\$0	\$145	\$0	\$29	\$0
Finance charges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$469	\$0
From Capital Reserve	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150,000
Transfer From Sewer	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
From Surplus	\$7,360	\$5,803	\$24,930	\$13,364	\$0
Other Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$265,000
Total Income	\$108,960	\$118,026	\$131,530	\$122,978	\$523,600
Expenses	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
	2019	2019	2020	2020	2021
Office	\$1,200	\$453	\$1,200	\$1,297	\$1,200
Legal	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200
Electricity	\$5,000	\$4,709	\$5,500	\$4,628	\$6,169
Insurance	\$7,000	\$6,454	\$7,100	\$7,054	\$8,000
Maintenance	\$15,000	\$15,360	\$15,000	\$7,684	\$15,000
Telephone	\$400	\$264	\$400	\$396	\$400
Wages	\$14,000	\$12,735	\$14,670	\$12,984	\$15,000
Retirement	\$2,660	\$2,368	\$2,600	\$2,398	\$2,700
Interest on debt	\$10,300	\$10,287	\$9,200	\$9,145	\$7,964
Principal on debt	\$34,100	\$34,084	\$35,300	\$35,226	\$36,407
Supplies	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	\$229	\$2,000
Vehicle	\$0	\$0	\$360	\$0	\$360
Water Analysis	\$2,100	\$4,322	\$3,000	\$2,955	\$3,200
Special Projects					
Water					
Main	\$5,000	\$6,989	\$0	\$3,983	\$415,000
Water	* ~	¢ 0	¢ 0	<i>t</i> ~	<b>*</b> ~
Meter	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Reserve	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$10,000
Total Expenses	\$108,960	\$118,026	\$131,530	\$122,978	\$523,600

# MERIDEN VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT WATER DEPARTMENT

#### **Commissioners, Meriden Village Water District**

# SUBJECT: 2020 Audit Findings

# Gentlemen:

I have reviewed the MVWD Treasurer's 2020 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 01/30/21

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

The year 2020 Presented many challenges the district budget as it did for everyone else. None of the planned projects were completed, which meant that even with a reduced overall budget we ran a surplus while still maintaining a state of good repair.

System operation during 2020 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. Because we did PFA testing last year with negative results we are not required to retest for some time.

A bill to reduce the violation level for arsenic to half of the current level passed the state legislature last year. The district will have to take some action in 2021, so 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. Normal 2020 difficulties in starting new projects means that we do not yet know what our costs and other impacts will be.

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. Two properties in arrears were sold this year at which time we recovered any back charges, plus interest.

The DES grant program that is expected to bring in about \$3600 this year was not funded for the 2020 fiscal year, but may be in 2021. The slight reduction in rates we were able to adopt in 2020 due to retiring the 1999 bond issue continues to yield enough revenue to meet our expenses.

The commissioners' greatest concern in the future of the district is our inability to replace our volunteer officers. Our new Treasurer, Anne Grover, has done an excellent job, especially considering some of the restrictions we were operating under. We were unable to offload some of the treasurer's job, and that of the billing clerk, by contracting for services as planned, but we will be looking into that in the future.

#### Notes on the other documents:

Testing costs have been shifted from Water Service to Water Treatment (no change in amount).

Transfer of \$15,000 to Expendable Trust from last year's Article IV was completed in January, but is charged to 2020.

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  $27^{\text{th}}$  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 <u>Saturday the 27th of March 2021 at 9:00 a.m.</u>, 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 <b>\$34,390</b> 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 <b>\$15,000</b> to be placed in the System Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund established in 2007 pursuant to RSA 31:19a, with the amount to come from the unrestricted fund balance. (Majority vote required for

passage.) (The Commissioners recommend passage of this article.)

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

Given under our hands and seal this Thirteenth Day of January in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty One.

At true copy attest:

Robert Drye, Brad Atwater, Ron Bailey

# PLAINFIELD VILLAGE WATER DISTRICT STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2020

#### ASSETS

Cash	104,101
Accounts receivable	15,300
Machinery and equipment	124,288
Buildings	10,000
Land and improvements	70,000
Tank/Well project	<u>450,000</u>
Total assets	\$ 773.689

#### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 15,000
Tax Anticipation Notes	0
Bond payable – NHMBB	<u>0</u>
Total liabilities	0
Net Assets	
Unrestricted assets	<u>758,689</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 773,689</u>

# Plainfield Village Water District Statement of Cash Flow for the year 2019

Opening Cash position	78,565.61
Water Rent	51,725.24
Other Income	8.98
Total Income	51,734.22
Admin Expenses	7,379.01
Operations	18,819.52
Bond Debt - Principal Reduction	
Bond Debt - Interest	
TAN notes - interest	
Total operating disbursements	26,198.53
Capital Projects	
Transfers to Trust Funds	
System Maintenance Fund	15,000.00
<b>Transfers from Trust Funds</b> System Maintenance Fund	
Net cash flow before TAN borrowings	10,535.69
Net TAN borrowings	0.00
Net change in cash balance	10,535.69
Ending Cash position	89,101.30

# PLAINFIELD VILLAGE DISTRICT 2020 BUDGET (DRA format)

	2020	2020	2021
	Proposed	Actual	Proposed
Executive	\$1,290	\$1,290	\$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	\$1,384	\$1,200
Advertising & Regional Assoc.	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other General Government	\$3,500	\$2,130	\$3,500
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water Services	\$18,000	\$14,720	\$15,000
Water Treatment	\$400	\$3,975	\$3,400
Water Conservation and Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
Princ. Long Term Bonds & Notes	\$0	\$0	\$0
Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes	\$0	\$0	\$0
Int. on Tax Anticipation Notes	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0
Other Debt Service	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0
Land and Improvements	\$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0
Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment	\$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0
Buildings	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
Improvements other than Bldgs	\$7,500	\$2,699	\$7,500
Operating Budget Subtotal	\$34,390	\$26,199	\$34,390
Individual Warrant Articles	<i>+</i>	+,	<i>+</i>
Improvements other than Bldgs	\$0	\$0	\$0
To Capital Reserve Fund	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
SOURCE OF REVENUE			
Other	\$3,800	\$0	\$3,600
Water Supply System Charges	\$30,580	\$51,725	\$30,780
Interest on Investments	\$10	\$9	\$10
From Capital Reserve Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Financing Sources	\$0	\$0	\$0
Amounts voted from Fund			<b>445</b> 000
Balance	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Total Estimated Revenue	\$49,390	\$66,734	\$49,390

# Minutes of Plainfield Village Water District March 28 2020

Moderator Jeff Moore opened the meeting at 9:10am, declaring the warrant and budget had been posted as required. Mr. Moore then took up the warrant. Rob Drye moved to dispense with the reading. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

**ARTICLE I.** A motion to approve the following slate of officers was made and seconded and voted in the affirmative on a vote of 10 to 0: Jeff Moore moderator for one year. Virginia Drye clerk for one year Robert Drye commissioner for three years Anne Grover treasurer for one year Beverly Widger auditor for one year.

**ARTICLE II.** To see what action the district will take with regard to the reports of the district officers. Motion to accept the district reports, with corrections, as printed in the 2019 annual report was made and seconded and voted in the affirmative.

**ARTICLE III.** Resolved that the district vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$34,390** 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 motion was made seconded and voted in the affirmative 10-0

**ARTICLE IV.** Resolved that the district vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$15,000** 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. The motion was seconded and voted in the affirmative 10-0.

**ARTICLE IV.** Sarah Gillens was thanked for her years of service as the district treasurer and Margaret Drye for her years of service as clerk.

Moderator Moore swore in the new and returning slate of officers. A motion to adjourn was made seconded and voted in the affirmative on a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 9:21am. Margaret Drye- Clerk

MARRIAGES 2020						
DATE	APPLICANTS	RESIDENCE	<b>TOWN OF</b>	TOWN OF		
			ISSUANCE	MARRIAGE		
4/19/2020	Sawler, Andrew C.	Plainfield, NH	Plainfield	Pittsfield		
	McCann, William D.	Plainfield, NH				
6/17/2020	Del Porte, Scott H.	Plainfield, NH	Plainfield	Lebanon		
	Schwan, Carolyn A.	Radnor, PA				
8/03/2020	McGraw, Trevor F.	Plainfield	Plainfield	Plainfield		
	Dunn, Elise H.	Plainfield				
9/08/2020 Hill, Taylor E. Plainfield		Plainfield	Lebanon			
	Sampson, Logan M.	Plainfield				

# **BIRTHS – 2020**

	DIRING 2020						
D.O.B.	NAME	PLACE	FATHER	MOTHER			
1/14/2020	Hunnewell-Liston,	Lebanon	Hunnewell,	Liston, Alexis			
	Windsor Gray Harriet		Joshua				
1/28/2020	Hassard, Zoella Skye	Lebanon	Hassard, Robert	Munsell, Crystal			
1/28/2020	McNamara, Easton	Lebanon	McNamara,	McNamara,			
	William		Nathan	Kaleigh			
2/01/2020	Medeiros, Eloise	Lebanon	Medeiros, Jesse	Medeiros,			
	Ruth			Kathryn			
2/20/2020	Liston, Sylvie Argyle	Lebanon	Liston, Robin	Mellow, Erin			
	Mellow						
2/28/2020	Mersel, Eleanor Sonu	Lebanon	Mersel, Matthew	Mersel, Carolina			
7/10/2020	Young, Bryson David	Lebanon	Young III, David	Young, Ashley			
7/31/2020	Lowe, Skyler Faith	Lebanon	Lowe, Alan	Lowe, Colleen			
8/01/2020	Lord, Camryn Helen	Lebanon	Lord, Thomas	Lorefice,			
				AnneMarie			
8/24/2020	Boland, Clover Rose	Lebanon	Boland, Kenneth	Logan, Stacey			
11/03/2020	Ayotte, Aiden Robert	Lebanon	Ayotte, William	Ayotte, Caroline			
12/12/2020	Sietsma, Emily Grace	Lebanon	Sietsma, Daniel	Sietsma, Rebekah			

#### **DEATHS 2019**

Date	Name	Place	Father	Mother
4/06/2019	McNellis, John		McNellis, Harold	Cummings, Harriet

# **DEATHS 2020**

Date	Name	Place	Father	Mother
2/18/2020	Ford, Dorian	Lebanon	Day, Howard	Pennebaker,
	Jean			Bernita
3/03/2020	Dessert, Marion	Lebanon	Gault, Ernest	McCormick, Edith
	G.			
3/20/2020	LaFlam Jr,	Meriden	LaFlam Sr,	Gosselin, Lucille
	Thomas R.		Thomas	
4/01/2020	McNamara,	Plainfield	Howe, James	Whitney, Sena
	Hazel H.			
5/15/2020	Skinner, Laurie	Plainfield	Bergeron, Walter	Bedard,
	А.			Jacqueline
6/21/2020	Fleming, Bernard	Plainfield	Fleming, Robert	Rollins, Doris
7/20/2020	McMurtry,	Lebanon	McMurtry,	Delair, Frances
	Holland W		Walter	
8/25/2020	Osgood, Arlene	Meriden	Hansen, Ragnar	Maland, Magnhild
	М			
10/10/2020	Young, Andrew	Lebanon	Young, Andrew	Martin, Ruth
11/02/2020	Thibodeau Jr,	Plainfield	Thibodeau,	Wheeler, Doris
	Norman		Norman	
12/20/2020	Witzel, Erich A.	Hillsborough	Erich F. Witzel	Letitia
				Loughridge

