



The Greenfield Spirit

Feb-Mar 2021

GREENFIELD'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 28.6

Visit the town website at <http://www.greenfield-nh.gov/> for more information

FREE



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STATE OF THE TOWN

As 2020 is closed out, the Selectboard provides this overview of the year and a brief financial report in advance of the 2021 Town Meeting. At the start of 2020, the economy was very strong and none of the headwinds that are upon us as we move into 2021 were evident. As 2020 unfolded, first with the realization of the pandemic, then the shut-down, and culminating with the announcement of the closure of Crotched Mountain, we've endured a roller-coaster unlike any in modern times.

Looking into 2021, and as we go through the budget process, the landscape is very different from where we were a year ago. With the closure of Crotched Mountain, the Old Town Office is no longer rented. This amounts to over twenty two thousand dollars of lost revenue. In addition, we won't know the disposition of the CMRC property ownership until later in the spring. So we don't know when the property will become taxable. A transfer of the property from Crotched Mountain to Gersh Autism prior to April 1 will mean that the property will become taxable; after April 1 and the property will remain exempt from taxation for the remainder of the year and the town will make arrangements with Gersh for a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) similar to the PILOT with Crotched Mountain.

Greenfield has a limited tax base, and revenues in the form of PILOTs have been a mainstay in the town's finances for many years. The PILOT with Crotched Mountain provided about \$180,000 in revenue directly to the bottom line (as opposed to taxes, which are broken out across the school, county, town and state education tax). The reliance on taxation instead of a PILOT will reset the way that the town handles its cash-flow projections for 1-2 years as the property completes the transition from tax exempt to taxable status.

Additionally, we anticipate that the State of New Hampshire will decrease some of the revenue sharing such as the Highway Block Grant and the Meals & Rooms contributions due to receiving softer revenues in these programs over the past year. All told, we expect revenue in Greenfield will drop somewhat significantly. As a result of the Governor's Emergency Orders in 2020

Continued on page 3

**COVID IS SURGING
STAY SAFE**

~ WEAR A MASK ~

**NOT ONLY A
FACESHIELD**

**Faceshields are only effective
for large droplets
NOT the microscopic mist
we all exhale.**

**Masks Are The Most
Important Tool You Have**

**WASH YOUR HANDS &
SOCIAL DISTANCE**

PUBLIC NOTICE WINTER PARKING BAN

By order of the Board of Selectmen, the Town of Greenfield in accordance with Town Ordinance Chapter 1, Section 4, as well as, RSA 105, Sections 6-7-8, **no vehicle shall be left standing on any street in said Greenfield between the hours of 11:00 PM and 6:00 AM.** Effective, November 1, 2020 - April 1, 2021. This is to allow plowing of the streets during snowstorms.

*Per order of the
Greenfield Selectboard*

TOWN DIRECTORY

TOWN OFFICES

CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC - APPOINTMENTS ARE AVAILABLE

GREENFIELD SELECTBOARD

Executive Selectboard meetings are **Thurs. at 5:30 pm every week unless otherwise posted.**

Selectboard: Robert Marshall Chair, Karen Day, and Michael Borden

Town Administrator: Aaron Patt

Email: greenfieldnhbos@myfairpoint.net

Check the town website for updates.

<https://www.greenfield-nh.gov/>

Office Manager: Catherine Shaw

Tel: 547-3442 Fax: 547-3004

Email: greenfieldnhacct@myfairpoint.net

BUILDING/HEALTH INSPECTOR

Inspections by Appt/as needed

Inspector - Mike Borden Tel: 547-0437

Email: mbordenbi@gmail.com

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meetings As needed via Zoom

Chair: Roger Lessard Tel: 933-3130

Email: mtking@pobox.com

PLANNING BOARD

Meetings: 2nd & 4th Mon. at 6:30 pm

At the Town Offices. Normally the 2nd Mon.

meeting is for hearings and the 4th Mon.

meeting is for other business.

Chair: Mason Parker

Email: greenfieldnhpb@gmail.com

TOWN CLERK (Registrations)

WINDOW HOURS:

M, W, TH, 3 pm-5:30 pm

By mail and by appointment

Office Tel: 547-2782 **Leave message.**

Town Clerk: Dorene Adams

Email: greenfielddeputyclerk@gmail.com

Deputy Town Clerk: Ann Setaro

Email: greenfieldtc2@gmail.com

TAX COLLECTOR

Please make payments by mail or leave message if needed.

Tax Collector - Wendy Drouin

Tel: 547-2782 Fax: 547-2242

Email: greenfieldnhtaxes@myfairpoint.net

WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Welfare Director: Leah Fiasconaro-Conway

Email: greenfieldnhwelfare@gmail.com

Please call: 339-545-1209

Emergency assist: Call Police at 547-2525

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Roads Division Manager:

Jim Morris, Acting Manager Tel: 547-3504

Email: greenfield.nh.dpw@myfairpoint.net

Buildings & Grounds Division Manager:

Rick McQuade Tel: 325-7346

Email: dpwbuildings@myfairpoint.net

STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Tel: 547-2790

Hours: Tues 2-6, Wed 10-8, Thurs 2-8, Fri 2-6, Sat 10-4

Director: David Bridgewater
director@stephensonlibrary.org

youth@stephensonlibrary.org

Circulation/General Questions

circulation@stephensonlibrary.org

RECYCLING CENTER

Hours: Tuesday 8:00 am to 4 pm

Thursday 11:00 am to 6:00 pm

Saturday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

OPEN REGULAR HOURS

Supervisor: Caleb Hall Tel: 547-8617

Email: greenfieldnhrecycling@myfairpoint.net

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Meetings as needed- Gil Morris, Chair

Please call the Town Office for information

Tel: 547-3442

OTHER CONTACTS

SCHOOL BOARD REP:

Katherine Heck - 547-3442 x 1

Email: kheck@conval.edu

TOWN FORESTER

NH Licensed Forester

Karla Allen Tel: 662-5646

Email: karla@garlandlumber.net

GREENFIELD U.S. POST OFFICE

Open Hrs: 8-11:30 am & 1-5 pm, Sat. 8-12 pm

Tel: 547-3310 **OPEN**

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

QUESTIONS 547-3501

Leave Message or

Email:

GreenfieldEMRTQuestions@gmail.com

Sign up for alerts: ReadyNH.gov

EMERGENCIES

DIAL 911

POLICE/FIRE/AMBULANCE

DIAL 911 or 352-1100

FIRE & POLICE

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief: Rick McQuade

Office Tel: 325-7346

Emergency Dispatch: Tel: 352-1100 or 911

Email: chiefrickmcquade@greenfieldfire.org

Monthly meetings: 1st Mon. at 6:30 pm

FIRE BURN PERMITS

To obtain a Fire Permit, please go to

<https://nhdflweb.sovsportsnet.net/>

or call one of the following:

FIRE WARDENS & TEL NUMBERS

Eugene Hennessy, Fire Warden 718-3936

David Hall, Deputy FW2 547-2222

Jeff LaCourse, Deputy FW3 582-3289

Michael Borden, Deputy FW 4 547-0437

Chaz Babb, Deputy FW 5 562-0545

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief: Brian Giammarino

Office: Tel: 547-2535 Dispatch: 547-2525

Email: greenfieldnhpolice@myfairpoint.net



The Greenfield Spirit

The Greenfield Spirit is published 6 times a year by the Town of Greenfield Selectboard's Office at PO Box 256, Greenfield, NH 03047.

Tel: 603-547-3442 Fax: 603-547-3004

Graphic Designer: Karen Day

Editors: Robert Marshall,
Karen Day, Michael Borden,
Aaron Patt, and Catherine Shaw

To submit articles to the Spirit:

E-mail text to: GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com, or drop off typed articles to the Town Offices. Also, please send in photos, articles, event announcements, news of the town, poems, drawings, historical info, etc., with the name of the writer and/or photographer. Thanks!

All opinions in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Selectboard and may not necessarily represent any town official or department.

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the Selectboard had the ability to adjust the appropriation voted at Town Meeting. The Board made the decision to reduce the town's budget to alleviate any financial stress on the community. At the end of the year, we were gratified to find that our revenues were largely intact and as a result of a spending freeze, that the town is on a good footing going into the New Year.

We can't put our investment into our infrastructure on hold indefinitely, so this year we are bringing back the gravel roads warrant article, as well as the paving warrant article - so that we can finish East Road, and we are bringing forward a warrant article to restore Capital Reserve Fund savings that we reduced last year. We also plan on paying for the annual installment of Capital Reserve Fund savings that is slated for 2021 out of fund balance. The Selectboard anticipates that taxes will increase by approximately 75 cents this year, but as in previous years, we'll do everything we can to keep a tight budget and our hands on the wheel as we navigate through the year.

The Greenfield Selectboard

TOWN CLERK HOURS:

M,W,TH 3:00 - 5:30PM

Two options for appointments:

~ Call 547-2782 for appointments and leave a message with your name and number.

~ We will return your call when we are in the office on M, W, & TH.

~ Email one of us, not both of us, please, as we each make separate appointments:

Anne Setaro, Deputy Town Clerk:

Greenfieldtc2@gmail.com

For New Vehicle, Trailer, Motorcycle, Registrations & Renewals, Marriage, Birth & Death Certificates

Dorene Adams, Town Clerk:

Greenfielddeputyclerk@gmail.com

For New Vehicle, Trailer, Motorcycle, Registrations & Renewals, Dog Licensing, Elections & Filing Wetland Permits.

Always check the Town of Greenfield website for changes, updates and detailed information.



**Set Your Clocks
Ahead
One Hour
March 14th**

CONVAL SCHOOL REPORT

Dear Greenfield Residents and Conval Families,

Sending wishes for a happy and healthy 2021 to you all. This pandemic has crossed over two school years now, and I understand the pressure parents are under, being a parent myself, as we have to adjust to changing environments and situations. I understand the cost associated with the school budget weighs on many of our residents, now more so than ever. I realize that nothing about this pandemic has been easy for anyone. But it has become clear that working together we have kept our community generally healthy and we will move away from this pandemic and move forward toward a better future.

For those of you who do not have a student in the district, it is important to note that since August, the school district meets daily with The COVID Monitoring Team. This team consists of two pediatricians, an administrator from Monadnock Community Hospital (MCH), a ConVal school nurse, two public health officers, the MCH Infection Prevention Specialist, the Cheshire County Administrator, the ConVal Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Facilities Director and Athletic Director. The team meets daily, Monday through Friday at 8 a.m., and reviews state, county, town, and school data to issue recommendations related to school phases and our schools being open or the need to close specific schools or the entire district. This is a daily on-going evaluation process. This fall, our schools were able to remain open through Thanksgiving before we entered a planned remote segment, and our students will return to school on January 19th for in person learning, as recommended by the COVID monitoring team.

As you might imagine, COVID-19 presented a substantial and unanticipated addition to the usual financial challenges associated with running a school district. It completely reprioritized the focus and efforts at all levels - from governance, administration and staff to our students and their families.

Literally days after the budget for the 2020-21 school year was approved, Governor Sununu issued Executive Order 2020-04 declaring a state of emergency due to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Since then, we've all become familiar with remote learning, remote working, staying home, Zoom meetings, social distancing and face masks. The Conval team of teachers, professionals and administrators has done a remarkable job in developing and implementing a flexible plan that strives to balance educational goals, health and safety concerns, the social and emotional needs of our students, and fiscal responsibility.

Our current estimate of the financial impact of COVID-19 on this year's budget is over \$3.15 million. Additional staff, technology to implement remote learning, PPE, more frequent and thorough cleaning of facilities, ventilation system upgrades, and use of tents for outdoor classrooms were all unanticipated

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ConVal continued from page 3

when the current budget was approved last March. Federal and state programs and funding are expected to cover approximately two-thirds of this cost but that leaves over \$1 million in costs that must be addressed through budget transfers, program reductions, and/or eliminations.

The recent approval of several vaccines by the federal government may signal the beginning of the end of the pandemic, but our proposed budget for the FY 2021-22 school year must and does include provisions for continued vigilance and adaptation to this "new norm" as no one is certain of the future. The FY 21-22 Budget is being finalized as I write this letter, this is the budget that will be voted on in March. During the annual budget process the Board guidance was to assume a flexible learning model for FY21-22 and beyond.

The budget and warrant articles will include provisions to establish a multi-age, competency-based K-8 remote school that will provide parents and students the option to continue remote learning. This will allow for reconfiguration of the way remote students are grouped in order to provide a more flexible and personalized school experience along with the implementation of multi-age rather than the more traditional graded structure. The budget also includes a scaled back expansion of the current preschool for all program.

In addition, The FY21-22 budget and warrant articles will include provisions to "recover" both losses in learning and facility improvement deferrals. Going forward, plans to shift our focus from the impact of the pandemic to long term planning for needed capital improvements and support of the development of a new Strategic Plan will begin.

I can assure you that I continue to advocate for responsible budgets and spending. Student achievement and student outcomes paired with fiscal responsibility remain my focus as your representative. The Conval School District will continue to strive to deliver quality education equitably, safely, and at a reasonable cost. The districts Strategic Plan currently in development is focusing on recovery and resiliency as the "COVID effect" in education (and in many other areas and industries) will be felt for years to come.

I encourage you all to visit the Conval District website- check out the great things our schools and students are engaged in, look at the COVID monitoring dash board, read more about the budget, access meeting minutes or attend a live virtual School Board meeting via ZOOM.

If you have specific questions, feel free to reach out anytime. Stay healthy and well Greenfield.

Respectfully,
Katherine Heck
Kheck@conval.edu
Greenfield School Board Representative

Visit ConVal web site at www.convalsd.net

EVERYONE BENEFITS



Right down the road, right now, someone needs a ride to somewhere essential. And volunteer drivers for Community Volunteer Transportation Company (CVTC) drive people where they need to go.

When riders can keep their essential appointments, they stay independent, and can live at home in peace. Riders can request to be taken to their doctor's or social service appointments, pharmacy or grocery shopping; all non-emergency. A five business-days' advance notice is all CVTC needs to enter a rider's trip request in our TripList system. And for the rider, it is more than just the free ride. Our drivers are courteous and trustworthy, willing to converse and engage. Sometimes even new friendships are made.

Once our vetted volunteer drivers choose which trips best fit their schedule, they call the rider to verify pick-up times and, when they return home themselves, they track their total mileage for reimbursement from CVTC. Drivers select when, and to where, and for how long they are available. By making this difference in a rider's life, drivers contribute to the health of the Monadnock Region, one person at a time

Please call CVTC for more information at 1-877-428-2882 x 5.

SPIRIT DEADLINES

MARCH 1ST FOR THE APR/MAY ISSUE

May 1st for the Jun/Jul Issue

July 1st for the Aug/Sep Issue

September 1st for the Oct/Nov Issue

November 1st for the Dec/Jan Issue

January 1st for the Feb/Mar Issue

MASKS ARE REQUIRED

in ALL

Town Buildings

for the

safety of our employees and for the safety of our residents during Covid.

Per order of the Greenfield Selectboard



Fire Safety during Winter Storms

Winter storms can happen almost anywhere. They can cause us problems. Know what to do before, during and after a storm. This will help keep you and your family safe from a winter fire.

- » Test all smoke alarms. Do this at least once a month. This way you will know they are working. Install carbon monoxide alarms in your home. Test the alarms.
- » Plan two ways out of the home in case of an emergency. Clear driveway and front walk of ice and snow. This will provide easy access to your home.
- » Make sure your house number can be seen from the street. If you need help, firefighters will be able to find you.
- » Be ready in case the power goes out. Have flashlights on hand. Also have battery-powered lighting and fresh batteries. Never use candles.
- » Stay aware of winter weather. Listen to the television or radio for updates. Watch for bulletins online.
- » Check on neighbors. Check on others who may need help.
- » Generators should be used outdoors. Keep them away from windows and doors. Do not run a generator inside your garage, even if the door is open.
- » Stay away from downed wires. Report any downed wires to authorities.
- » Be ready if the heat stops working. Use extra layers of clothes and blankets to stay warm. If you use an emergency heat source, keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away.
- » Turn portable heaters off when you leave the room. Turn them off when you go to bed.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

There are more home fires in winter than in any other season. Half of all home heating fires happen in December, January and February.

As you stay cozy and warm this winter season, be fire smart!



Fact
Nearly half of all space heater fires involve electric space heaters.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

Brought to you by the
Greenfield Fire Department

FROM THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOWN MEETING APPROVED By Lenny Cornwell

One would gather from reading our town's history that there must have been several meetings held prior to Greenfield's incorporation. In 1784, two petitions were drafted to the state regarding the intent to form a town. Nothing transpired for six years. Then, in 1790, two more petitions were submitted - one from Lyndeborough Gore and one from Society Land. And, Greenfield was finally incorporated on June 16, 1791.

The General Court appointed Charles Emerson, Jr., Esq. of Hollis to call the first Town Meeting at a home (the Bowes' house on Forest Road). Soon, the meeting gathered met at a new site used as a meeting house, also on Forest Road, and now known as Rock Meadow Farm. Here elected officials were chosen and voters approved the official name for the new town - Greenfield.

The first big item facing the new town was a meeting house. Over several years, the project unfolded. Aspects involved finding the "center" of the town in 1793, locating a suitable building site, hiring the building contractor for the structure, and in 1795 getting a frame up and boarded as soon as possible. Horse sheds were added in 1797 and clearing land for the graveyard soon followed.

The practice of "in lieu of taxes" started right when the town was incorporated ! The town was divided into districts with one man put in charge as Surveyor of the Highways. With very little money, the men or "poles", that is, men of legal age, could pay their tax portion by working on the highways or sending a substitute worker in their stead.

In 1899, the townspeople approved the purchase of a snow roller for \$75. Prior to this, a sled with mold board or land plows attached to the front of the sled runners plowed an opening in the snow for sleigh and sled runners to use.

A significant amount of money (\$10,000.) was voted by the town in 1869 toward the building of the Wilton railroad line with the stipulation that the railroad had to be build within a half mile of the village downtown area. In 1874, the train did come to town. A celebration dinner was held at the Meeting House.

As a result of the large 1901 fire downtown, the town borrowed \$1,250.00 to purchase fire apparatus consisting of a hand tub pumper and hose equipment and to dig "fire wells" around the downtown area. Some of these fire wells are still in existence. In 1915, the town voted to build a fire station for the horse drawn pumper at a cost of \$1,500. And, in 1928, the town approved buying the first motorized fire truck.

Schools from the very beginning of the town's incorporation were broken into districts similar to the town's highways. In March of 1792, thirty pounds were raised for schools at the town meeting. The School Report, part of the Town Report, listed the costs to hire teachers, buy wood/coal/oil, and maintain the buildings. Also, early on, the Honor Roll was also included.

In the 1880s, erecting a new school in the village was studied and finally approved. This move eliminated some of the outlying school houses. The building also featured a second floor including a stage for community activities such as musical events, debates and plays. The "consolidation" also resulted in the hiring of fewer teacher and a decrease in costs allotted to maintenance.

For over a decade, warrant articles to supply water to the village for a watering trough were voted down by the townspeople. At last, in 1911, the purchase of a trough was approved at town meeting. One was bought for \$347. By the 1920s, the trough being deemed a hazard to automobiles was removed, and reset in the Middle of Slip Road at the junction of Slip and Forest Roads. This trough now sits at the Historical Society Museum.

Source for this article: The Greenfield Town History

BITS AND PIECES ~

The Greenfield Historical Society is so grateful to all of you who shopped locally at our Museum in early December, and who renewed your membership as well as contributed a donation. In a time of cancelled events and limited fundraising opportunities, these efforts by you go a long way. THANK YOU !

The Museum remains closed, but you may arrange a visit by calling Lenny at 547-2198. Covid-19 protocols are expected.

Anytime is a fine time to consider your membership (Just contact Bruce at 547-3451) or donate. To facilitate your donation, please speak to Amy at 547-3403.

Amazon was one of those enterprises that experienced a boom in 2020. Their Amazon Smiles program, activated when you shop on-line with the company is an easy way to have Amazon send a donation our way.

Dale continues to handle the internet underwriting. He may be reached at 547-3377.





BUILDINGS & GROUNDS DIVISION

Happy new Year! This past month I have been busy helping the DPW with a few projects. Towards the end of December, we pulled all of the winter sand that had been stockpiled from the sand pit on Forest Road. This is the sand that is used to keep the roads safe in the winter months. I spent the day loading the dump trucks as they hauled back and forth to the DPW. I also spent a day helping the guys trim back the brush on Sunset Lake Road. It's amazing how fast the brush can grow and start encroaching on the road. One of the biggest projects for this past month has been the major cleaning and organizing of the DPW Building. Working together, we worked hard to improve the buildings safety and efficiency. A chemical inventory of the building was completed, and safety data sheets will be collected. This is a safety step that will be added to my annual building inspections.

At the end of 2020, the Town took over the Town Building that was rented by Crotched Mountain. Many of you will remember this as the old Town Office Building. Going a bit further back in history, it was also the old Fire Station. Over the last few weeks, we have been very busy getting the buildings utilities switched over as well as getting the fire alarm tested and back on a monitored system. Fire extinguishers have been installed and over the next few weeks the building will be re-keyed. The Selectboard will determine the best use for the building, and a long and short-term plan will be established. For the time being, it will be added to my routine building checks.

At the Recycling Center, we finally got some snow that allowed us to burn the ever growing brush pile. There was so much brush, it took well over two days to get everything burned and the area cleaned up. It's best that we try to reserve all of the burning to the months that have snow cover, as it provides another layer of protection and safety. One of my goals for 2021 is to move the brush pit, clean up the area and make it an even safer area for burning.



In 2020, due to Covid-19, the Buildings and Grounds budget was frozen. This coming year, 2021, I have rolled last year's budget numbers to attempt to capture and complete projects from 2020, that did not get done. As always, I do my best to keep expenses down and get the biggest bang for your buck. Perfect example of this was a storage shelf that was built for the PD evidence room this past month, this was built completely out of materials left over from other projects, but will give well needed storage to the PD.

Mother nature came in like a bit of a lion in December, but

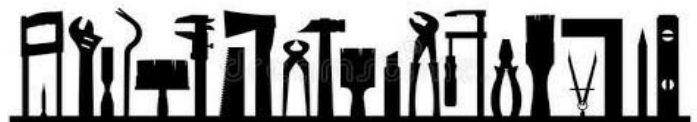


has backed off in January. A few major snow storms gave us a chance to test out the MT sidewalk machine after its overhaul and it came through with flying colors. I can tell you that as an operator of this piece of equipment, it's great to have a sense of reliability in the machine and also have heat in the cab. In the past, sometimes the heat would work and sometimes it wouldn't. This made for some long cold snowstorms clearing the sidewalks. Replacement of the snowblower is next on our radar for this piece of equipment.

In closing, I want to remind everyone that we do our absolute best to keep the Oak Park walking track cleared and maintained in the winter months. I know many of you use this as a safe haven to get needed fresh air and exercise for not just you, but also your fur babies. Please remember that the track cannot always be maintained quickly during weather events. Roads, parking lots, walkways and sidewalks will always take priority. If you choose to use the track during inclement weather, you are using it at your own risk.

Thanks everyone, let hope the groundhog has sharpened his skills and is ready to make a good decision for us in February.

*Rick McQuade
Building & Grounds Manager*





FROM THE DPW ROADS DIVISION

Greetings from the DPW,

So far, winter has been pretty nice us. We have been able to continue working on road projects. In mid December, the crew cut brush along the roadside of Sunset Lake Rd, while also taking inventory of and delineating culverts, and bringing road signage up-to-date with the proper retro-reflectivity so easily seen at night.



The new 6 wheeled Mack truck also arrived from McDevitt Trucks in Manchester and outfitted with a Monroe live body sander and a Monroe front plow and wing. It has been lettered by Bullock Graphics here in Greenfield. This truck will be operated by Matthew Hall and during winter snow removal can be seen on the West end of town. Matthew has been in Public Works for almost 20 years, starting his career in Milford NH and joining our team early last winter.



In early December, the 2012 Ford F250 had a catastrophic engine failure and the technician at the Ford garage said it could not be salvaged. The cost to replace the motor exceeded \$9000 and with the age of the truck that didn't make good fiscal sense. The Selectboard decided to replace the truck this year and we were lucky enough to find a replacement at Hillsboro Ford on the lot, at State bid pricing. We were able to salvage all of the accessories from the old truck and have them installed on the new vehicle. This included the light bar, back-rack system, GEO rack GPS system, and



sander and controls. This vehicle was also lettered by Bullock Graphics. The new trucks have a new lettering scheme that is modern, crisp, and looks very sharp. We try to keep work like this local when we can.

The crew has spent about a week organizing and cleaning the shop. By doing this, we are creating a safer and more efficient work environment. By using existing shelving, each vehicle's maintenance supplies have been separated creating a service standard for the DPW. We will track each vehicle's expenses through the coming year, which will tell us the overall condition of the fleet.

Throughout the winter, you will see the crew out on the roads patching potholes on paved roads with cold patch and filling pot holes on gravel roads with gravel.

The DPW is taking inventory of signage and culverts to continue with the gravel road reconstruction program, starting in the spring.

Please remember all of us at the DPW provide a 24/7 service to the town so please don't hesitate to call or email.

Jim Morris
Acting DPW Roads Foreman

SPIRIT EMAIL ADDRESS

GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com

Please send your articles to this address by March 1st to be in the Apr-May issue.

STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY NEWS

David Bridgewater, Director

Library Contact: 547-2790, director@stephensonlibrary.org

NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - Hours: Tues 2-6, Wed 10-8, Thurs 2-8, Fri 2-6, Sat 10-4

The Stephenson Memorial Library is a not-for-profit public library.



An outing for your children. The library has a Brio wood-en train set with engines, rolling stock, crane, bridges and a tunnel.

We also have Duplo, Lego, K'nex, and Construx Book a play date. One family at a time, one construction set at a time, and one place in the library.

The library continues to be fully open for our patrons to come in to browse, or they can call in their requests. We will then prepare them ready for pick-up either in the building or outside.

"BUT HOW DO I KNOW WHAT I WANT UNTIL I SEE IT?"

1. Go to the library website <https://www.greenfield-nh.gov/stephenson-memorial-library>, either from home or in your car using the library's wifi. You don't need an access code.
2. Click on Catalog.
3. Underneath the library catalog banner, there are books

scrolling right to left. These are a selection of new and old print and Overdrive audio and ebooks.

4. Click on one that looks interesting and more information appears showing its availability and a summary of the story.

OR

1. Click on Catalog.
2. Scroll down to What's New:
 - Find: Choose book
DVD
etc
 - Added in the last: week
2 weeks
etc
 - Search
3. Once again, click on a title and you will find availability and a summary.

At the end of 2020 our student aide Jaelynn Gagnon resigned and was replaced by Violet Fletcher, and Liz Ludeman, who was a student aide here, came back as a circulation assistant. Thank you Jaelynn for your work and your smile and welcome to Violet and Liz.

In November and December the library added 128 new books, DVDs, and audiobooks. Many of these have been donated by our patrons, for which, many thanks.

Don't forget that if you are a library patron you can access the electronic versions of books and magazines - ebooks and audio books - through Overdrive.

Scroll down on the library catalog page to find the link under Electronic Resources. For tips and advice on using this resource check out the NH Downloadable Books blog at <https://nhbooks.blogspot.com>.



MOVING ON!

Now that 2020 is securely in the rearview mirror and we are finding our way through 2021, we want to reflect on what we've been through over the past 10 months, and share the extraordinary efforts of some town departments and employees.

Immediately following Town Meeting on March 14, 2020, an emergency meeting was called and the town buildings were officially closed that day. Though the parking lot at the Town Office is often empty, residents should know that the operation of town government and emergency services have continued. Employees work from home, stagger their hours and require appointments. They got creative with ways to protect themselves and the public.

In no particular order, we'd like townspeople to be aware of the yeoman services of the following during the pandemic: The Police Department never missed a beat, continuing the 24/7 service Greenfield is used to. Since the retirement of Sgt. Glenn Roberge in September, Chief Brian Giammarino and Sgt. Frank Shea have taken a lot of extra shifts and led the part-timers in an exercise in teamwork.

The Fire Department and Emergency Services have worked tirelessly. In addition to facing the obvious hazards of Covid-19, more calls and additional sanitizing meant more work for our volunteers. Working with the Selectboard, the Fire Department helped with grant-writing, and secured specialized disinfection equipment ... all the while responding to emergency calls.

Our new Emergency Management Response Team, under the leadership of Director Dave Martin, has plugged away since March responding to an unprecedented threat to the community. In addition to daily communication with State and Federal authorities, they generated public information fliers to keep the public in the know, coordinated donations, secured potential use of back-up facilities, helped distribute donations for the emergency and in general tried to foresee the unforeseeable. Thanks, too, goes to the Firefighters Association for their work in securing donations for emergency supplies.

In an attempt to stabilize the tax rate, the Selectboard froze spending and looked to the DPW budget, delaying implementation of the new 5-year gravel roads plan and holding off paving the last third of East Road. The DPW team reset their goals and worked on ditching, gravelling and maintenance as the reduced budget allowed.

Building and Grounds Manager Rick McQuade worked hard on a number of building alterations to keep employees and the public as safe as possible, including partitions and air purifiers in public spaces. He regularly disinfected our town buildings, and helped with the layout of the Meeting House for Planning Board meetings, as well as both fall elections.

While managing the Recycling Center by himself for many weeks, CJ Hall was obliged to alter our usual recycling practices but still managed to show an increase in revenues for this year. Excellent work CJ! He was glad to get Bill Gaudette back when he was able to return.

The Town Office continued to operate, sometimes remotely and at other times by appointment. By careful scheduling, social distancing was maintained. By working as a team across town departments and by personal responsibility, town office employees kept Covid-19 at bay while fulfilling the public needs. Kudos to the Clerk's Office, the Treasurer, Supervisors of the Checklists, and the Building Inspector/Health Officer for coordinating a myriad of details to keep the town running in an orderly way and not tripping over one another. The Welfare officer was also impacted as some residents' needs grew and resources dwindled.

Foregoing the usual relaxed summer schedule, the Selectboard met telephonically each week and sometimes more often to respond quickly to changes from the state and federal governments. Town Administrator Aaron Patt worked remotely and on site continuously throughout the crisis, filtering and melding executive orders, expert opinions and legal interpretations. While many focused on the daily details, the Mr. Patt was planning for the long haul. Legal consultation was an almost daily task. Both the town administrator and the Selectboard Chairwoman worked 7 days a week from their home offices and telephonically. Individual board members convened with other committees they serve on as those tasks warranted (Emergency Management, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Friends of the Meeting House, Selectman's Advisory Committee, etc.)

Finally, but by no means least, under the new leadership of David Bridgewater and his staff, the library reached out in creative ways to interact with the public and provide modified services to maintain access to the library collection. The library also provided meeting space for the Emergency Management Team meetings on a weekly basis.

And so, we stepped gingerly into 2021, glad to be leaving 2020 behind and as prepared as possible for the unknown.

The vaccine is here but until everyone gets vaccinated, we must be patient, wear masks, and continue to operate in a safe way.

The Greenfield Selectboard





FROM THE RECYCLING CENTER

Here are a few anecdotes that I have accumulated over 2020 that I thought ought to be shared.

Time magazine proclaimed in one of its covers that 2020 was the "Worst Year Ever." From my perch atop the DPW Drive hill, I can say that it wasn't all bad. Here are a few of the bright spots that I was made aware of while interacting with our townspeople at the GRC.

We supply "blue" bags to folks who want to pick up trash along our roadsides. One fellow bringing full blue bags back to be disposed of told me that he and his wife had just completed a section of road and were ready to call it quits when a car drove by and from the window a plastic bottle flew out. His wife became very angry and disgusted. "Didn't these people see that we just got done picking up the trash here?," she said. He agreed but said it was just one more bottle and then they would be done. Inside the bottle was a piece of paper. Once they got the paper out of the bottle they found a ten dollar bill. The note thanked them for picking up trash.

Near the end of one of the Saturday workdays I noticed a fellow looking closely at one of our scrap refrigerators. I went over and asked whether I could help him with anything. He told me that his refrigerator at home wasn't working and he thought it was the circuit board. Although our refrigerator was a different brand, he was pretty sure that it was made by the same manufacturer. I told him he was welcome to the circuit board on the condition that he come back and tell me if it worked. It took some special tools which we had to get the board out, but he left with his part. A week later he came over and told me that the board did indeed fix his refrigerator, thereby saving him \$1200.

I noticed this summer one of our patrons looking into the mixed paper bin. I asked him if he lost something. He replied, "Sure did-Fifty Bucks!" I was getting ready to slide down the chute and retrieve whatever I had to when he explained that it was a winning pick five lottery ticket. He had left it lying around the house and his wife had tossed it in the mixed paper that he had thrown out the week before! He chuckled and said it was his fault. D.S. Slocomb came shortly thereafter to haul the mixed paper away and I made sure they knew there was a winning lottery ticket in there. I

wonder if the sorters were paying special attention when they went through that container!

Finally, with the windstorms we've had this past year, the DPW has had a lot of tree clean up to do. We started to accumulate a good sized pile of limbs and logs. A couple patrons approached me about cutting the wood up for firewood. In exchange, they offered quarts of maple syrup that they had produced. I accepted the offer with the stipulation that they had to get the wood offsite to cut up. I loaded their trailer with the Bobcat and was able to present to Leah of the Welfare Office several quarts of syrup that went into Christmas packages.

On a personal note, Bill, Steve and I want to thank everyone who gave us cards and goodies of appreciation over Christmas and New Years.

CJ Hall
Recycling Center Supervisor



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SPIRIT DEADLINE

**MARCH 1ST
FOR THE APR/MAY ISSUE**

FRIENDS OF THE GREENFIELD COMMUNITY MEETINGHOUSE NEWS

The Friends of the Meetinghouse is very grateful to announce that a generous, anonymous local donor has pledged \$5000 in matching funds to the Meetinghouse campaign. Any donations in spring of 2021 will be matched up to \$5000. Please consider donating to the Meetinghouse fund now-your money will be doubled! Please contact Friends of the Meetinghouse at greenfieldmeetinghouse@gmail.com or send a check to Friends of the Greenfield Community Meetinghouse, PO Box 256 7 Sawmill Road, Greenfield, NH 03047.

Thank you for your support!

"The Greenfield Meetinghouse is an irreplaceable embodiment of the Town's history, and it is essential that all changes to the building are given the utmost consideration. The National Register-listed building is an important representation of local history, and needs to be respected as such in future renovation projects. Because of its high level of local importance, it is essential that all work to the building follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. Following the standards ensures that the building will continue to evolve in a way that respects its past, while allowing the structure to continually be used into the future."

--Historic Building Assessment for the Greenfield Meetinghouse, Conducted for the Town of Greenfield, NH by Mae H. Williams, Preservation Consultant & Misiaszek Turpin pllc, 2019.

In the last issue of the Spirit, we wrote about the Assessment of the Meetinghouse document completed for the Town of Greenfield by the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program of NH (www.lchip.org) in 2019. This Assessment, available on the town website (under Departments: Greenfield Meetinghouse: Historic Building Assessment Documents, or at <https://www.greenfield-nh.gov/meeting-house/pages/historic-building-assessment-documents>) is a detailed document of over 200 pages which includes an account of the long history of the Meetinghouse, an assessment of the condition of the building, from the belfry to the basement, and a detailed Treatments and Recommendations section for addressing how the problems can be mitigated. The Assessment is an interesting read-but we know most people don't have time to get through all 217 pages. We're going to try to summarize several highlights of the Assessment in the upcoming issues of the Spirit. The Treatment and Recommendations section of the report suggests several areas which could be addressed in a Phase I, if the town chooses to take on the project over a longer period of time. First on the list is waterproofing the foundation and basement. The Meetinghouse basement, which was finished as a community meeting room and kitchen in the 1950's, urgently needs to be sealed against leaks and flooding. The photographs below show the extensive water damage to the basement floor.



Continued on the next page

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Any longtime town residents can remember events in the Meetinghouse - from church and town functions to weddings and funerals. But today, any bride touring the Meetinghouse is likely to run screaming when she sees the basement and there is no avoiding the basement, because that's where the restrooms are! The basement restrooms, while functional and clean, are not up to the standards of a typical event space. Currently, the only handicapped accessible restroom is located adjacent to the upstairs kitchen - probably the best solution available at the time, but now, not very appealing. The Assessment summarizes the condition of the basement floor:


The concrete floor throughout the space is finished with 12"x12" beige vinyl tiles that are in fair-to-poor condition, with areas of water damage, wavy spots and worn-out sections in higher traffic areas. Water seeps through the northern foundation wall due to the exterior grade conditions, most notably after large, heavy storms. Recently, the entire northern structural bay within the Community Room had standing water that stripped the backing glue from the vinyl tiles, causing them to curl and shift out of place.

In the next issue of the Spirit, we'll discuss the Meetinghouse septic system! Until then, stay safe, and support the Friends of the Greenfield Community Meetinghouse! You can reach us at greenfieldmeetinghouse@gmail.com, on the Friends of the Greenfield

Community Meetinghouse Facebook page, or on Instagram at @FGCM2020. Save the Meetinghouse car magnet or sticker at Delay's Harvester Market or Toadstool Books.

The Friends of the Greenfield Community Meetinghouse is a registered 501(c)3 organization in the State of New Hampshire. All donations are tax-deductible.



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SPECIAL NOTICE

TOWN MEETING 2021

This year, due to COVID-19 the Selectboard has voted to make changes to Town Meeting. Town Elections will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at the Meeting House from 10am-7pm. This will be set-up similar to the Nov. Elections with COVID-19 precautions in place. Absentee ballots are available upon request from the Town Clerk.

Forms are on the Town website. Check the Disability box if you have a COVID-19 concern. You can make a note next to the box as well. Following the elections, the business meeting has been moved to May 1st at Oak Park, where everyone can socially distance and stay as safe as possible.

So Town Meeting this year will be as follows:

TOWN ELECTIONS: TUESDAY, MARCH 9TH

Where: The Meeting House

Time: 10am to 7pm

Absentee ballots are available from the Town Clerk

TOWN BUSINESS MEETING: SATURDAY, MAY 1ST

Where: Oak Park

Time: 9am

You must be a registered voter to vote at the business meeting.

In order to vote on either of these days, you must be a registered voter in Greenfield.

Contact the Town Clerk for an absentee ballot or for information on registering to vote.

Greenfielddeputyclerk@gmail.com

SEE MORE INFORMATION ON PAGE 3.

SPONSOR THE SPIRIT

If you'd like to sponsor an issue of the Greenfield Spirit, please call the Town Office at 547-3442. The cost is low, and it's a great way to get the word out about your business or group, as well as an easy way to support your community. Interest has been so great that we now have a sign-up form to keep everyone's turn organized. Please call the Town Office to get on the list.

Apr/May issue deadline: March 1, 2021



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