

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN 2009

2009 has come and gone with several changes. We lost our Office Manager Dawn Chaput, and our Finance Director, Beth St. Pierre. We worked very hard to find the best replacements for these jobs, and are very pleased with our choices.

Cheryl Eastman, our Office Manager, is a fantastic find. She has a lot of knowledge in her background on the logistics of town affairs. Donna Becker is our new Payroll and Accounting Clerk. She has been a great addition to our office staff. Along with the Administrative Assistant, Andria Hansen, these three ladies manage to keep the office running as smoothly as possible, even with all the bumps in the road that pop up here and there. We are very appreciative of their hard work. They work well as a team.

We managed to replace the main office computers, which were at an age where they were always failing. We also voted to encumber the funds to replace the battery back-ups. We had managed to squeeze as much life expectancy as we could from them. We managed to get several years past their normal life expectancy.

We were able to return to the town approximately \$91,000 by being as conservative as possible with our budget.

Other changes have been made in the town. After Rudy Cartier's resignation due to personal work load commitments, Dean Young has been appointed as the new Fire Chief. Dean comes to us with over 27 years of fire experience. He is working very hard to make a smooth transition as Fire Chief. We support the Fire Department in this change over and are very grateful for the work they do.

We have a new Tax Collector, Candice Stamatelos and Deputy Tax Collector Paula Galatis. This turned out to be another smooth change over in the office.

Due to the sad passing of Mary Hall, our new Welfare Director is Donna DelRosso, who is running the department on a whole new system of checks and balances. She is doing a great job.

Due to the poor economy and rise in crime, the Police Department has been very busy as well.

The economy also affects the Fire Department. More people are trying to economize and stay warm, which results in fire calls for various situations.

We have done some repairs to the Town Hall, and we know a new roof will be needed in the next couple of years. We plan on trying to improve the generator we have to work at greater capacity to take care of the whole town hall if needed.

This year we have put in place an "Employee of the Year" appreciation program. There will be a plaque hung in the town hall meeting room, where each year names will be added. This year there were two recipients, Mike McGillen and Andria Hansen.

Lastly, much appreciation and thanks to all those who extended a hand to help out the town in one way or another throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Kelley, Chairman