
ADMINISTRATION 2018 REPORT

We have completed 2018 and my 3rd year as your Town Administrator. It has continued to be a pleasure to be here in Peterborough, with a hectic and positive pace to so many challenges. Following is an update of our many ongoing challenges and projects;

- Budget concerns continue to be a priority, both expenditures and revenues and capital improvements
- The Main Street Bridge project and the Library of the Future Project continue to move into construction from late 2019 to early 2021 with 2020 being a very busy construction season!
- Began very complex negotiations with Jaffrey for a collaborative effort to purchase the Cold Stone Springs well site located in Jaffrey and Sharon.
- Town House renovations started with a new floor in the Upper Hall, new slate roof and brick repairs for 2019.
- Construction continues of the Riverwalk Park, pedestrian bridge over the Nubanusit Brook, and parking lot with May 11, 2019 scheduled for formal opening
- Completion of our 3rd full year of operation of the one-megawatt solar array at the wastewater treatment facility, the first of its kind in New Hampshire.
- 2nd appointment to the National EPA Local Government Advisory Committee
- Appointment to the NH Drinking Water Groundwater Trust Fund Advisory Commission

Many challenges remain in front of us. The ongoing maintenance of our many assets continues to be a critical concern financially and operationally. Do we repair, renovate, or replace infrastructure, and when do we do this? The Master Plan Committee provides guidance about what the Town's infrastructure needs and goals are in the long term, and the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Committee plays a critical role in sorting out the "who, what, and when?" of asset management both large and small. We will continue to deepen and broaden the understanding of this long-term concern. Whether it is the Town House, Fire Station, Highway Garage, Police Station, roads, parks, dams, and all the assets we own, there has been significant financial investment and long term maintenance costs. Guidance and direction from the Select Board and Budget Committee as well as the Master Plan and CIP committees will provide the parameters for the proposed investment into our assets. Town Meeting voters will ultimately decide future asset management.

Last year the Public Works administrative team introduced an updated roadway maintenance plan with the associated long-term financial needs. Our Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is

an important partner with the information coordination for all our asset management efforts. We started an update of our municipal facilities plan with its financial needs, beginning with the Highway Garage and then moving to Fire/Ambulance facility upgrade after careful consideration with the Select Board and Budget Committee. To fully integrate and incorporate these plans into the existing Capital Improvement Committee plan continues to be a financial challenge. There will be many difficult, complex, and far ranging decisions made to accomplish these goals. This effort will also include reaching out to the School District to understand better their asset management plans and financial projections.

Our commitment to energy conservation and renewable energies remains strong. We tap electric sources that include solar, wind, and hydroelectric, and continue to heat the Town House, Police Station, Community Center, and the Wastewater Treatment Facility with biomass. The Library Renovations include biomass heating and cooling. Not only are these sources of energy sustainable, we consistently find that we can save thousands of taxpayer dollars every year through our renewable energy programs. Recently completed is the transmission of all our street lights to LED lamps with a pay back of 1.85 years. Saving thousands of dollars a year over present expenditures.

I am very excited about the opportunities in Peterborough's future. Our Town is a unique group of individuals, assets, cultures, artists, and many talented residents. I look forward to assisting and facilitating Our Town's future.

Respectfully submitted,

Rodney Bartlett, Town Administrator