



**Town of Bow  
Annual Report 2015**



Annual Reports of the Selectmen, Treasurer,  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Departments, Boards, Commissions,  
Committees and Organizations of the

## **TOWN OF BOW, NEW HAMPSHIRE**



Together with the Reports of the  
Bow School District

## **FOR THE YEAR 2015**

Please bring this report with you to:

**Town Meeting  
Wednesday, March 9, 2016  
6:30 p.m. at Bow High School**

The 2016 Bow Town Meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. on March 9, 2016 at the Bow High School. The first 30 minutes will be dedicated to the opening ceremonies, with the discussion and voting on warrants beginning at 7:00 p.m.

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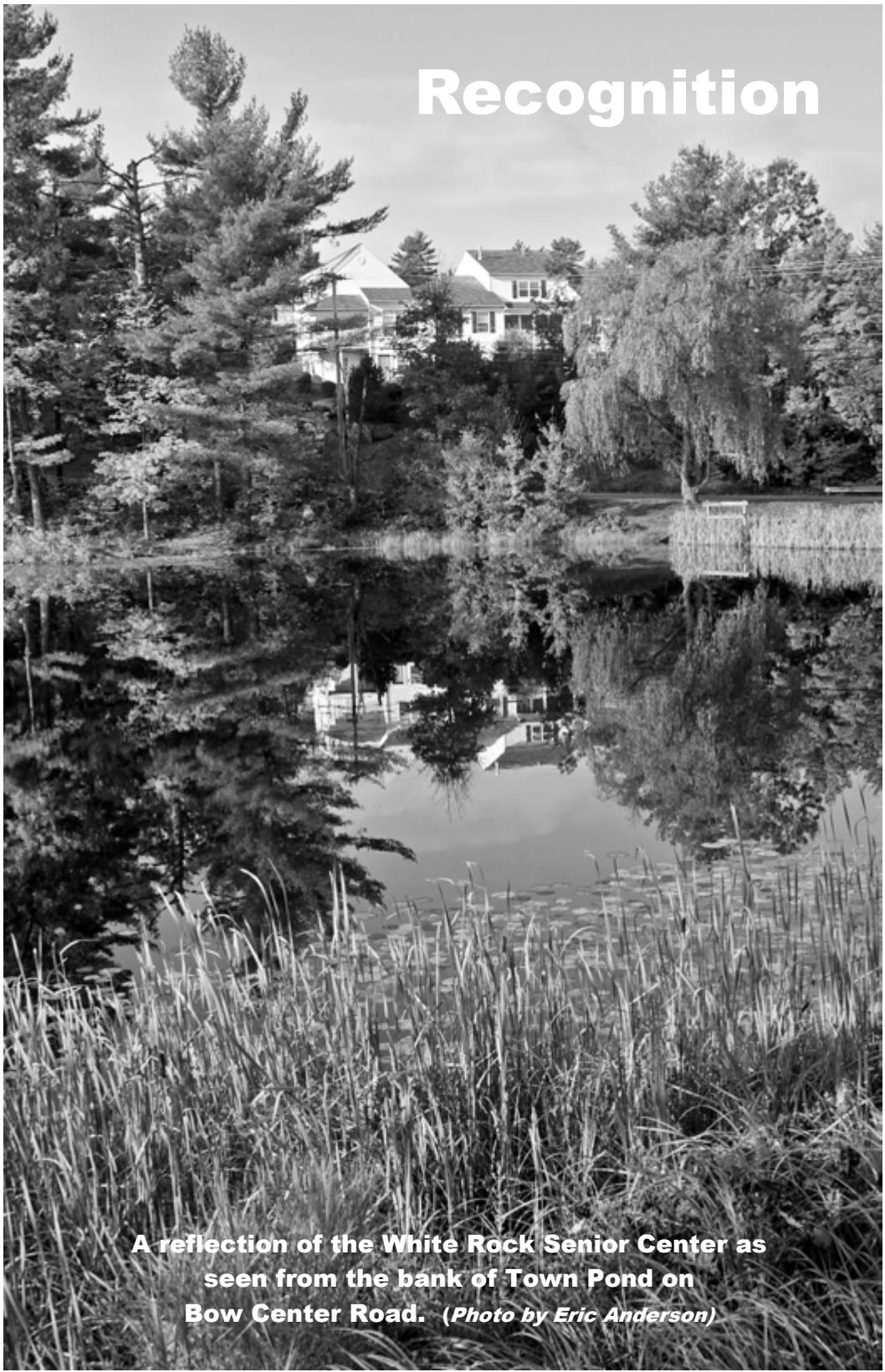
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# Recognition



**A reflection of the White Rock Senior Center as  
seen from the bank of Town Pond on  
Bow Center Road. (Photo by Eric Anderson)**

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## 2015 Dedication

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The Selectmen are pleased to dedicate the 2015 Annual Report to three individuals who exemplify the community spirit of Bow: Harry Hadaway, Jill Hadaway and Nancy Rheinhardt.



**Nancy Rheinhardt**

Nancy Rheinhardt moved to Bow in May of 1983. She served on the Planning Board from 1984 – 1996, while also serving as the secretary for all Bow boards and commissions for a total of 4 years. Nancy served a term as President of the Bow PTO and often served on numerous boards when vacancies needed to be filled. Nancy served as Chair of the Conservation Commission from 1996 until 2016, during which time she helped establish standards for the acceptance of land by the Town, and oversaw the management of the Town forest. Nancy was a member of the 1992 and the 2004 Master Plan Committee, and she was the recipient of the Bow Rotary Club's Community Service Award in 2013. All of this was done while she and her husband Chuck managed to raise a family and Nancy held a full-time job with one of our most significant corporate citizens, Public Service Company.

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## 2015 Dedication

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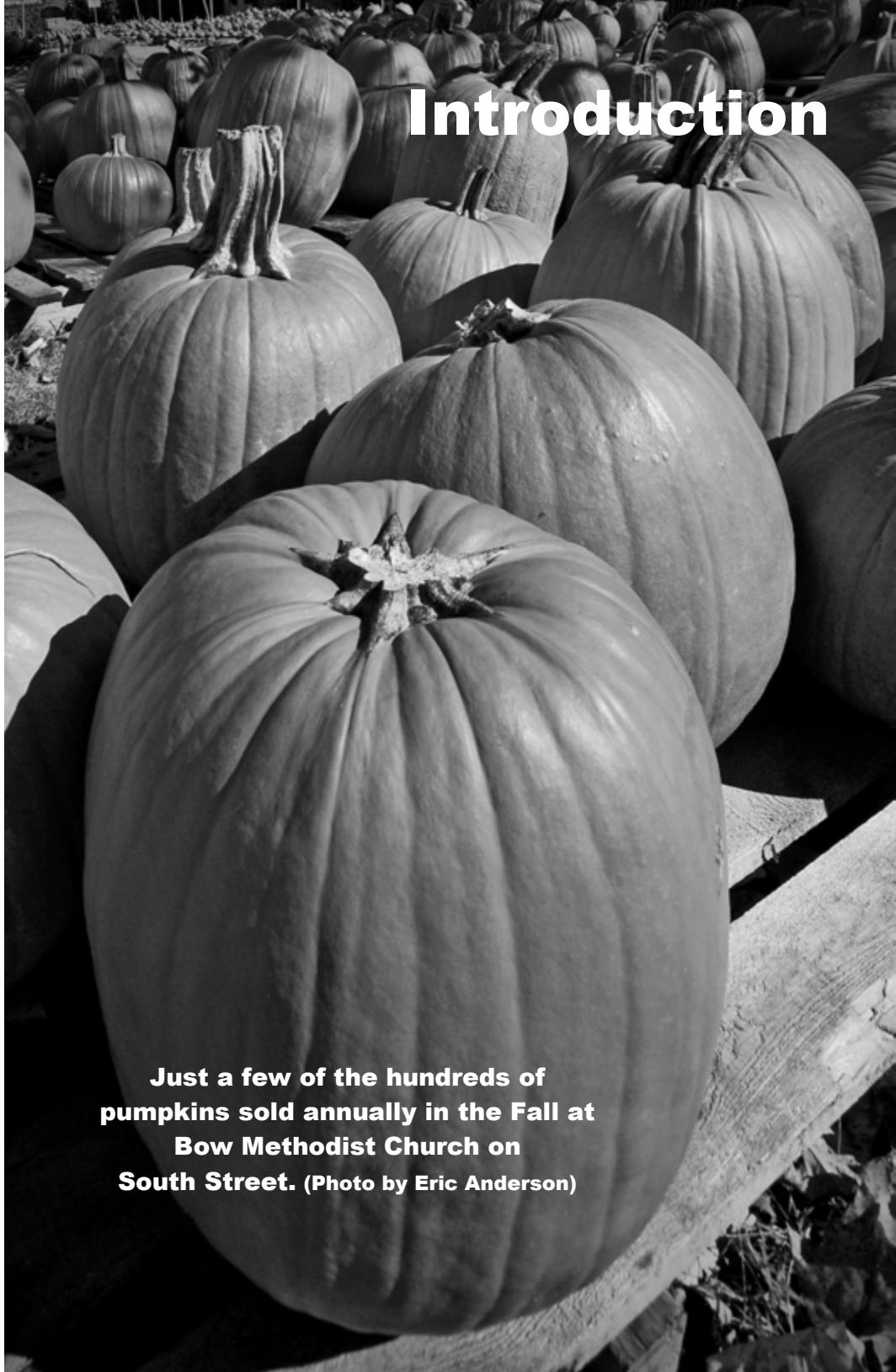
### **Jill and Harry Hadaway**

Jill and Harry Hadaway moved to Bow in 1988 and immediately became involved in town governance and service, while also raising their three children. Harry is the longest serving member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, having first been appointed in 1997. Harry has served as Chairman of the ZBA for 12 years, conducting hearings with thoroughness and respect for all citizens. Also, Harry is a long term member and current President of Bow Open Spaces, working to preserve open areas in town. Jill Hadaway served the Town as Town Clerk for 12 years, from 1996 until 2012. Unwilling to retire from community service, Jill served as a Selectman from 2012 until 2015.

*Photos by Eric Anderson.*



# Introduction



**Just a few of the hundreds of  
pumpkins sold annually in the Fall at  
Bow Methodist Church on  
South Street. (Photo by Eric Anderson)**

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## Selectmen's Message

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2015 was a busy and productive year for our Town as we continue to progress and evolve. Thanks to the tireless efforts of so many volunteers, numerous community events and activities were hosted, and significant progress was made on some of our most pressing challenges.

The Selectmen formed yet another citizen committee to fulfill the directive of the 2015 Town Meeting that a design for a combined public safety building be developed. This was to be the eighth citizen committee to work on the issue, and the sixteen members built on the work of prior committees. The building parameters established by the votes was a building of up to 25,000 square feet costing up to \$5 million. During the year a professional solicitation was conducted and the committee reviewed bids, identified the most attractive proposal and recommended that the Selectmen select Chicoine Construction Company of Weare NH as the winning bidder. The winning bid is for a 23,000 square foot building to house the police, fire and emergency response departments, constructed on the town land at the corner of Knox Road and Logging Hill Road, at a cost of less than \$4.2 million. If the 2016 Town Meeting approves a bond, construction will begin in March 2016. At the same time the Selectmen and Town Manager continue to work with the State Fire Marshal to postpone closing our existing facilities for failure to meet life safety and fire code requirements.

The Selectmen formed another citizen committee to study how to meet the recreational goals of the community, with either a renovation of the existing Community Building/fire department after the fire department, or in another way. Our robust recreation program is one way we provide activities valued by our citizens, and the Selectmen support citizen-initiated efforts to develop and deliver recreation for citizens of all ages. The citizen committee was comprised of representatives of most of the youth and adult groups in Bow, providing diverse views on the ways recreational goals could be achieved. The committee retained the services of SMP (Sherr McCrystall Paulson), an architectural design firm, to examine the existing facility and provide concepts for refurbishing the Community Building. At the 2016 Annual Meeting the committee will recommend further study and the development of options for providing recreation facilities for the Town. This effort was complimented by major improvement in the quality of sports fields at Hanson Park on Albin Road thanks to the installation of an irrigation system by Town personnel.

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## Selectmen's Message (continued)

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2015 Bow Board of Selectmen (left to right).

Seated: Chairman Harold T. Judd, Vice Chair Colleen S. Hunter.  
Standing: Selectman Benjamin J. Kiniry, Selectman Jack P. Crisp Jr.,  
Selectman Eric E. Anderson.

The Selectmen and the Town Manager hosted a reception for the volunteers serving on the many boards and commissions as a very small ‘thank you’ for all they do to make Bow function. Clearly, we could not accomplish a small fraction of what is done for the Town without our many volunteers. At the same time, the number of people who volunteer continues to dwindle, resulting in a smaller number of people shouldering the responsibilities of the Town. The Selectmen continue to seek out ways to encourage citizens to be engaged in the Town through service on boards and commissions.

The Selectman and the Town Manager honored town employees, especially those with many years of service to Bow, with a reception and award ceremony. Too often we take for granted the people who

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## Selectmen's Message (continued)

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protect our homes and families, plow and pave our streets, and appear with an ambulance or fire truck at any hour of the day or night, regardless of weather conditions, because help is needed. Their dedication to service is inspirational, and we the Selectmen honor and thank each employee.

Working with the leadership of the Bow Fire Department, a management study was conducted in anticipation of reorganizing the department in conjunction with relocation to a new facility. The Selectmen, Town Manager and Department leadership are actively pursuing implementation of recommendations from the management consultants with the goal of continuing to provide the level of professional service the Town deserves and expects.

The Selectmen periodically review employee benefits, and the task was taken up again this year by a committee of citizens. The committee will recommend any changes they believe would be appropriate, after weighing costs and potential impact on employees, and the Selectmen will decide what, if any, changes are to be implemented.

The effort continued to reach agreement with the City of Concord to extend water service to the Bow Junction. The effort will have to continue in 2016 as issues are resolved.

The review of street names and home numbering continued. The standards established four years ago were designed to have Bow conform to the state and federal standards for emergency response. The Selectmen phased the implementation to minimize inconvenience while improving emergency response, especially when provided by units from another community under the mutual aid program.

Of course, the fiscal restraint remained a major focus for the Selectmen. With the diligence of the department heads and the Town Manager the operating budget for 2015 was held within the limit set by Town Meeting, and will likely be lower as presented to the 2016 Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold T. Judd, Chairman  
Colleen S. Hunter, Vice Chair  
Eric E. Anderson  
Jack P. Crisp, Jr.  
Benjamin J. Kiniry

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## Town Manager's Report

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At the end of 2015, I completed my fifth year of service as Town Manager. It has been a challenging yet rewarding five years and I look forward to our continued efforts to provide services while managing the cost of those services.

I am pleased to report that the financial condition of the Town is good. The Town portion of the property tax rate continues to drop and the 2015 tax rate is lower than it was back in 2012. This has been achieved through the efforts of the Town department heads, Town employees and the Board of Selectmen. We are constantly discussing and analyzing how the services offered by the Town may be provided in the most cost effective and efficient manner. This has resulted in an operating budget appropriation that has stayed level.

Since 2011, the net assessed valuation of property in the Town has increased from \$1.041 billion to \$1.085 billion, an increase of \$45.0 million. This increase is attributable to the development and construction of commercial and residential properties. It is also attributable to steady increase in the value of homes, buildings and properties in the community. This is a good sign and the increase in value has helped to stabilize the Town portion of the tax rate.

Over the past five years, the Town has begun to address some of the infrastructure needs of the community. The need to build a new public safety building remains a top priority need. A proposal for the new facility will again be presented to the voters for approval. A citizens committee has been working with a consultant to determine various options for the renovation of the Community Building once the Fire Department moves out of the building.

In the spring, the NH Department of Transportation reported to the Town that the Birchdale Road bridge was no longer able to carry a live load and the bridge was closed. The Town is working on addressing this problem. A proposal has been forwarded to spend \$100,000 on a temporary fix that is hoped to last for 10 years. The need to plan for a long term fix will still remain. The Town also has two other bridges



Town Manager David L. Stack

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## Town Manager's Report (continued)

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that have been named as red-listed bridges and will soon need to be replaced. One project (Dunklee Road Bridge) is almost ready for construction and the second (Page Road Bridge) will require further planning and design.

Through the creation of the Capital Improvements Committee, we have been able to better plan for our capital needs. The Committee's role is to review and prioritize the capital needs of the Town, including infrastructure repair and replacement, Town facility renovation and replacement, and the replacement and acquisition of Town vehicles and equipment. The Committee has a plan in place to spread out the funding for these items and ensure that the tax rate stays stable.

The Business Development Commission and Town staff continue to work hard to promote the Town and find ways to expand the Town's commercial and industrial tax base. One of the tasks that is already



### **Leadership Team**

Standing left to right: Town Clerk/Tax Collector Mridula Naik, Public Works Director Timothy Sweeney, Baker Free Library Director Lori Fisher, Finance Director Robert Blanchette, Community Development Director Matthew Taylor, Emergency Management Director Leland Kimball, Parks and Recreation Director Cindy Rose.

Seated left to right: Police Chief Erin Commerford, Town Manager David Stack, Fire Chief Dana Abbott.

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## Town Manager's Report (continued)

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underway is a review of our land use regulatory processes to find ways that the process may be made more efficient. This will help us to streamline the approval process for projects and attract more commercial developers to the Town. The Committee and Town staff also have many other initiatives underway to promote the Town and the desirability of locating a business in Bow.

More information and highlights of the activities undertaken by the Town in 2015 may be found throughout the rest of the Annual Report.

I would like to once again thank the Town's department heads and employees, Board of Selectmen, and all of the volunteers who serve on Town Board's, Committees and Commissions. We could not do what we do without all of you.

Respectfully submitted,  
David L. Stack  
Town Manager

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## Town Officials

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### Board of Selectmen

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Colleen S. Hunter, Vice Chairman ..... | Term Expires 2016 |
| Jack P. Crisp Jr. ....                 | Term Expires 2016 |
| Harold T. Judd, Chairman .....         | Term Expires 2017 |
| Eric E. Anderson .....                 | Term Expires 2018 |
| Benjamin J. Kiniry .....               | Term Expires 2018 |

### Budget Committee

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| John Heise, Chairman.....              | Term Expires 2016                  |
| Dominic Lucente - until next election  |                                    |
| (Jennifer Strong-Rain, resigned) ..... | Term Expires 2016                  |
| Bob Arnold.....                        | Term Expires 2017                  |
| Jeffrey Knight.....                    | Term Expires 2017                  |
| Robert Hollinger.....                  | Term Expires 2018                  |
| Chuck Douglas .....                    | Term Expires 2018                  |
| Jack Crisp, Jr. ....                   | Board of Selectmen Rep.            |
| Colleen Hunter.....                    | Board of Selectmen Rep., Alternate |
| Robert Louf.....                       | School Board Rep.                  |
| June Branscom .....                    | School Board Rep., Alternate       |

### Supervisors of the Checklist

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Susan Stevens ..... | Term Expires 2016 |
| Lisa Cohen.....     | Term Expires 2018 |
| Sara Swenson .....  | Term Expires 2020 |

*Ballot Clerks, Democrat*  
Virginia Urdi  
John Urdi, Alternate  
Jill Hadaway, Alternate

*Ballot Clerks, Republican*  
Betty Finan

### Town Clerk / Tax Collector

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Mridula Naik ..... | Term Expires 2018 |
|--------------------|-------------------|

### Town Moderator

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Peter Imse ..... | Term Expires 2016 |
|------------------|-------------------|

### Treasurer

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Roland Gamelin.....   | Term Expires 2018 |
| Suzanne Campbell..... | Deputy Treasurer  |

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## Town Officials (continued)

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### **Trustees of the Baker Free Library**

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| Ann Hoey .....                          | Term Expires 2016 |
| Thomas Ives .....                       | Term Expires 2017 |
| Dr. Peirce Hunter - until next election |                   |
| (Paris Awalt, resigned) .....           | Term Expires 2018 |
| Christine Carey - until next election   |                   |
| (Mark Levin, resigned) .....            | Term Expires 2019 |
| David Withers .....                     | Term Expires 2020 |

### **Trustees of the Trust Fund**

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Mary Beth Walz .....  | Term Expires 2016 |
| John Caron .....      | Term Expires 2017 |
| Jonathan Marvin ..... | Term Expires 2018 |

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## Boards, Committees & Commissions

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|                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Board of Selectmen</b> ..... | (see Town Officials, p. 16) |
| <b>Budget Committee</b> .....   | (see Town Officials, p. 16) |

### Benefits Committee

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| George Lagos .....   | Resident         |
| Jack Crisp .....     | Selectman        |
| Ben Kiniry .....     | Selectman        |
| John Heise .....     | Budget Committee |
| Lori Fisher .....    | Library Director |
| Bob Blanchette ..... | Finance Director |
| David Stack .....    | Town Manager     |

### Business Development Commission (BDC)

|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Garett Lewis .....        | Term Expires 2016    |
| Christopher Johnson ..... | Term Expires 2016    |
| John Meissner.....        | Term Expires 2017    |
| Stan Emanuel.....         | Term Expires 2017    |
| Larry Haynes .....        | Term Expires 2017    |
| Bill Hickey, Chair.....   | Term Expires 2018    |
| Don Berube, Jr.....       | Term Expires 2018    |
| Richard Kraybill .....    | Term Expires 2018    |
| Colleen Hunter .....      | Selectman            |
| Ben Kiniry .....          | Selectman, Alternate |

### Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Committee

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Mike Wayne, Chair .....       | Term Expires 2016 |
| Dik Dagavarian.....           | Term Expires 2017 |
| Bill Hickey, Vice Chair ..... | Term Expires 2018 |
| Colleen Hunter .....          | Selectman         |
| June Branscom .....           | School Board      |
| Bill Oldenburg.....           | Planning Board    |
| Jeffrey Knight.....           | Budget Committee  |
| Bob Blanchette .....          | Finance Director  |
| David Stack .....             | Town Manager      |

### Conservation Commission

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Jim Nelson.....               | Term Expires 2016 |
| John Meissner.....            | Term Expires 2016 |
| Wendy Waskin .....            | Term Expires 2016 |
| Nancy Rheinhardt, Chair ..... | Term Expires 2017 |
| Philip Downie.....            | Term Expires 2017 |
| Kitty Lane.....               | Term Expires 2018 |
| Dave Kirkpatrick .....        | Term Expires 2018 |

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## Boards, Committees & Commissions (continued)

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### Drinking Water Protection Committee

|                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Cynthia Klevens, Chair.....    | Term Expires 2016              |
| Kevin Leonard, Vice Chair..... | Term Expires 2016              |
| Richard Kraybill.....          | Term Expires 2017              |
| Wendy Waskin.....              | Term Expires 2017              |
| Sandra Crystall.....           | Term Expires 2017              |
| Matt Taylor.....               | Community Development Director |
| Noel Gourley.....              | Public Works Dept.             |
| Erik Burkett.....              | Whitewater                     |

### Heritage Commission

|                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Gary Nylen, Chair.....      | Term Expires 2016 |
| John Meissner.....          | Term Expires 2016 |
| Darren Benoit.....          | Term Expires 2017 |
| Susan Wheeler.....          | Term Expires 2017 |
| Nancy Knapp, Alternate..... | Term Expires 2017 |
| Faye Johnson.....           | Term Expires 2018 |
| Mark Leven.....             | Term Expires 2018 |
| Eric Anderson.....          | Selectman         |

### Planning Board

|                               |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Arthur Cunningham, Chair..... | Term Expires 2016   |
| Bill Oldenburg.....           | Term Expires 2016   |
| Betsey Patten, Alternate..... | Term Expires 2016   |
| Sandra Crystall.....          | Term Expires 2017   |
| Allen Lindquist.....          | Term Expires 2017   |
| Chris Fortin, Alternate.....  | Term Expires 2017   |
| Don Berube, Jr.....           | Term Expires 2018   |
| Tony Reynolds.....            | Term Expires 2018   |
| Willis Sloat, Alternate.....  | Term Expires 2018   |
| Adam Sandahl.....             | Term Expires 2018   |
| Ben Kiniry.....               | Selectman           |
| Harold Judd.....              | Selectman Alternate |

### Public Safety Building Committee

|                           |                                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Richard Tanguay           | Dave Cook                       |
| Ray Johnson               | Mike Sampo                      |
| Art Cunningham            | Ken Demain                      |
| Bob Pike                  | Fred Twombly                    |
| Willis Sloat              | Dick Siciak                     |
| Glenn Dugas               | Bill McGonagle                  |
| Jeffrey Knight            | Karen Wadsworth                 |
| Colleen Hunter, Selectman | Harry Judd, Selectman Alternate |

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## Boards, Committees & Commissions (continued)

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### **Recreational Needs Study Committee**

|   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Bret Pfeifle                              | Megan Rheinhardt                   |
| Brian Gott                                | Dave Krause                        |
| Donna Morrison                            | Jim Kaufman                        |
| Deb Alfano                                | Darren Benoit                      |
| Jessica Ralston                           | Laura Beaudette                    |
| Jack Crisp, Selectman                     | Eric Anderson, Selectman Alternate |
| Cindy Rose, Parks and Recreation Director |                                    |

### **Recycling and Solid Waste Committee**

|                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Gary Lynn.....           | Term Expires 2016 |
| Cynthia Klevens .....    | Term Expires 2017 |
| Beth Titus .....         | Term Expires 2017 |
| Sarah Brown, Chair ..... | Term Expires 2018 |
| Sherri Cheney .....      | Term Expires 2018 |

### **Zoning Board of Adjustment**

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Harry Hadaway, Chair.....     | Term Expires 2016 |
| Tom Fagan, Alternate .....    | Term Expires 2016 |
| Robert Ives, Vice Chair ..... | Term Expires 2017 |
| Donald Burns.....             | Term Expires 2017 |
| LeaAnne Haney .....           | Term Expires 2018 |
| Jeff Klaiber .....            | Term Expires 2018 |
| Tony Reynolds, Alternate..... | Term Expires 2018 |

### **Representatives to Central NH Reg'I Planning Commission**

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Stephen Buckley..... | Term Expires 2017 |
|----------------------|-------------------|

### **Representatives to Regional Solid Waste Co-op**

|                        |
|------------------------|
| David Stack            |
| Tim Sweeney, Alternate |

### **Representatives to Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee**

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Michael Hansen ..... | Term Expires 2017 |
| Krista Crowell ..... | Term Expires 2018 |
| Gary Lynn.....       | Term Expires 2018 |

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## Town Departments and Employees

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### **Town Manager's Office**

David Stack, Town Manager

Nicole Gage, Administrative Assistant

### **Assessing Department**

Wil Corcoran Associates, Assessor

### **Community Development Department**

Matthew Taylor, Community Development Director

Bryan Westover, Community Development Assistant

Janette Shuman, Building and Assessing Clerk

Louise Knee, Recording Secretary

### **Emergency Management Department**

Leland Kimball, Emergency Management Director

Mitchell Harrington, Deputy Emergency Management Director

### **Finance Department**

Robert Blanchette, Finance Director

Joyce Mooers, Bookkeeper

### **Human Services**

Debra Bourbeau, Human Services Director

### **Town Clerk / Tax Collector's Office**

Mridula Naik, Town Clerk / Tax Collector

Tonia Lindquist, Deputy Town Clerk / Tax Collector

Lois Richards, Account Clerk

### **Baker Free Library**

Lori Fisher, Library Director

Jennifer Ericsson, Children's Librarian

Amy Bain, Library Assistant

Kate Kenyon, Library Assistant

Betsy Mahoney, Library Assistant

Jennifer Griffin, AM Circulation Desk Assistant

Kaitlynn Leary, PM Circulation Desk Assistant

Kailey Andrew, PM Circulation Desk Assistant

Kate Ess, PM Circulation Desk Assistant

Amelia Holdsworth, PM Circulation Desk Assistant

Beth Titus, Page

Deb Barlow, Library Assistant, Page, Substitute

Abe Anderson, Bookkeeper

Bob Garland, Custodian

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## Town Departments and Employees (continued)

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### **Celebrating Children**

Cindy Greenwood-Young, Director

Joy Van Wyck, Lead Teacher

Kathy Lagos, Lead Teacher

Alicia David, Lead Teacher & Kidz Kamp Instructor

Laura Beaudette, Teacher Assistant, Lead Sports Day & Kidz Kamp Instructor

Julie Guerrette, Sports Day Instructor & Science Teacher

Bill Hyslop, Teacher Assistant & Sports Day Instructor

Jessica Ralston, Teacher Assistant & Kidz Kamp Instructor

Jennifer Konstantakos, Teacher Assistant & Sports Day Instructor

Michelle Lover, Teacher Assistant & Sports Day Instructor

Alexandra Welch-Zerba, Teacher Assistant & Kidz Kamp Instructor

Dotty Weiss, Teacher Assistant Substitute

Jennifer Hittle, Teacher Assistant Substitute & Kidz Kamp Instructor

Kate Crabb, Story Time Volunteer

### **Health Department**

Richard Pistey, Health Officer

Thomas Ferguson, Deputy Health Officer

Mitchell Harrington, Deputy Health Officer

### **Fire Department**

Dana Abbott, Fire Chief

Richard Pistey, Assistant Chief

Donald Eaton, Captain EMT-I

Mitchell Harrington, Captain EMT-A

Thomas Ferguson, Lieutenant EMT-A

James Beaudoin, Lieutenant Paramedic

Michael Van Dyke, Lieutenant First

Tony Camp, Chief Engineer First

Richard Bilodeau, Engineer EMT-I

Kenneth Judkins, Engineer

Robert Purcell, Engineer

Adam Seligman, Firefighter EMT

Brandon Skoglund, Firefighter Paramedic

William Wood, Firefighter EMT-I

Justin Abbott, Firefighter

Jacob Anderson, Firefighter

Edwin Bardwell, Firefighter

Craig Beaulac, Firefighter EMT-A

Eliot Berman, Firefighter Paramedic

Gregory Brown, Firefighter Paramedic

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## Town Departments and Employees (continued)

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### **Fire Department (continued)**

David Eastman, Jr., Firefighter EMT  
Matthew Espinosa, Firefighter  
Thomas Ferguson, Lieutenant EMT-A  
Margaret Francoeur, EMT  
Jillian Gamelin, EMT  
Christopher Girard, Firefighter EMT  
Chris Gow, Firefighter EMT-A  
Timothy Ives, Firefighter EMT  
Maria Koustas, EMT  
Keith Lambert, Firefighter EMT-I  
Kevin Marquis, Firefighter EMT  
Anne Mattice, EMT  
Mark Mattice, Firefighter  
Richard Mattice, EMT  
Anna McGee Hanson, EMT  
Parker Moore, Firefighter EMT-A

### **Police Department**

Erin Commerford, Police Chief  
Gale Kenison, Administrative Assistant  
Scott Hayes, Lieutenant  
Margaret Lougee, Sergeant  
Arthur Merrigan, Sergeant  
Stacey Blanchette, Detective, Police Officer  
Tyler Coady, Master Patrol Officer  
Philip Lamy, Master Patrol Officer  
Matthew Pratte, Police Officer  
Philip Goodacre, Police Officer  
Michael Carpenter, Jr., Police Officer  
David Hinkell, Police Officer-part time  
John MacLennan, Police Officer-part time

### **Police Communications Department**

Tricia Currier, Communications Specialists Supervisor  
Scott Eaton, Communications Specialist  
Stephanie Vogel, Communications Specialist  
Krystal Haseltine, Communications Specialist  
Kathryn Cook, Communications Specialist  
Kimberly Hetherman, Communications Specialist-part time  
Laura Cattabriga, Communications Specialist-part time

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## Town Departments and Employees (continued)

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### **Department of Public Works**

Timothy Sweeney, Director of Public Works  
Todd Drew, Mechanical, Building and Grounds Foreman  
Noel Gourley, Highway, Cemetery and Recreation Foreman  
Lynn LaBontee, Administrative Assistant  
Michael Hague, Mechanic  
Gerald Verville, Jr., Mechanic  
Michael Aborn, Heavy Equipment Operator  
Marcelino Acebron, Heavy Equipment Operator  
Robert Cepurneek, Driver Laborer  
Mark Nelson, Equipment Operator  
Patrick Nylen, Driver Laborer  
Brian Piroso, Driver Laborer  
Corey Welcome, Driver Laborer  
Daniel Freeman, Groundskeeper  
Myrton Fellows, Custodian  
Dana Gourley, Part-Time Carpenter, Seasonal Driver Laborer  
Michael Rabbitt, Seasonal Driver Laborer  
Lance Stoutenburgh, Seasonal Driver Laborer  
Leonard Virgin, Seasonal Driver Laborer

### **Parks and Recreation Department**

Cynthia Rose, Recreation Director  
Anne-Marie Guertin, Program Coordinator  
Malinda Blakey, Recreation Assistant  
Elsa Chern, Program Instructor  
Karen Krause, Program Instructor  
Emily St. Hiliare, Program Instructor  
Laura Beaudette, Sports Instructor  
Tracey Berube, Sports Instructor  
Matthew Davis, Sports Instructor  
Amanda Degelsmith, Sports Instructor  
Julie Guerette, Sports Instructor  
Jennifer Konstantakos, Sports Instructor  
Michelle Lover, Sports Instructor  
Lucy Morris, Sports Instructor  
Mark Stewart, Sports Instructor  
Tracey Beaulieu, Fitness Instructor  
Becca Cleary, Fitness Instructor  
Christine Cook, Fitness Instructor  
Kristina Lucas, Fitness Instructor  
Michelle Vecchione, Fitness Instructor  
Carrie Young, Camp Director

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## Town Departments and Employees (continued)

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### **Parks and Recreation Department (continued)**

Derek Blunt, Summer Day Camp Staff

Alison Howard, Summer Day Camp Staff Assistant Director

Hannah Kearns, Summer Day Camp Staff

David McDonald, Summer Day Camp Staff

Jillian Morrone, Summer Day Camp Staff

Estefania Acebron, Summer Day Camp Bus Driver

Brooke Marshall, Summer Day Camp Staff

Albert Gunnison, Summer Day Camp Staff

Alexandra Des Ruisseaux, Summer Day Camp Staff

Haley Parker, Summer Day Camp Staff

Lindsay Kirouac, Dance Instructor

Joan Cook, Bridge Instructor

Lucia Cote, Mindfulness Meditation Instructor

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## 2015 Employee Service Award Ceremony

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**5 Years:** Timothy Ives, Fire Department  
Carrie Young, Parks and Recreation  
Estefania Acebron-Peco, Parks and Recreation  
David Stack, Town Manager  
Christopher Girard, Fire Department

**10 Years:** John MacLennan, Police Department  
Brian Piroso, Public Works

**15 Years:** Debra Bourbeau, Human Services  
Mitchell Harrington, Fire Department  
Bryan Westover, Community Development  
Jennifer Ericsson, Baker Free Library

**20 Years:** Mark Stewart, Parks and Recreation  
Justin Abbott, Fire Department

**40 Years:** Tony Camp, Fire Department  
Margaret Francoeur, Fire Department



Top row, left to right: David Stack, Tony Camp, Mitchell Harrington, Justin Abbott, Timothy Ives, Mark Stewart, Bryan Westover. Bottom row, left to right: Debra Bourbeau, Margaret Francoeur.  
Photo by Eric Anderson.

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## U.S. Congressional Delegation

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### United States Senate

#### **The Honorable Kelly Ayotte**

Website: <http://www.ayotte.senate.gov/>

144 Russell Senate Office Building ..... (202) 224-3324  
Washington, D.C. 20510

1200 Elm Street, Suite 2 ..... (603) 622-7979  
Manchester, NH 03101-2503

#### **The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen**

Website: <http://www.shaheen.senate.gov/>

520 Hart SOB ..... (202) 224-2841  
Washington, DC 20510

1589 Elm Street , Suite 3 ..... (603) 647-7500  
Manchester, NH 03101

### United States House of Representatives

#### *2nd Congressional District of New Hampshire*

#### **The Honorable Ann McLane Kuster**

Website: <http://kuster.house.gov/>

137 Cannon House Office Building ..... (202) 225-5206  
Washington, DC 20515

18 North Main Street, Fourth Floor ..... (603) 226-1002  
Concord, NH 03301

## **Governor of New Hampshire**

### **Governor Maggie Hassan**

Website: <http://www.governor.nh.gov/>

Office of the Governor ..... (603) 271-2121  
State House, 107 North Main Street, Concord, NH 03301

## **Executive Council - *District 4***

### **Councilor Christopher C. Pappas**

Website: <http://www.nh.gov/council/index.html>

629 Kearney Circle, Manchester NH 03104

Office ..... (603) 271-3632

Cell ..... (603) 867-8438

## **Bow Representatives to the N.H. General Court**

### *New Hampshire House - District 23*

#### **J.R. Hoell**

32 Ordway Road ..... (603) 315-9002  
Dunbarton, NH 03046-4320 | Email: [jr.hoell@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:jr.hoell@leg.state.nh.us)

#### **Bill Kuch**

348 Page Road ..... (603) 856-0957  
Bow, NH 03304-4513 | Email: [bill.kuch@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:bill.kuch@leg.state.nh.us)

#### **John F. Martin**

96 Woodhill Road ..... (603) 774-3098  
Bow, NH 03304-5310 | Email: [john.martin@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:john.martin@leg.state.nh.us)

### *New Hampshire Senate - District 16*

#### **David R Boutin**

1465 Hooksett Road #80 ..... (603) 203-5391  
Hooksett, NH 03106  
Legislative Office Building, Rm 102A ..... (603) 271-3092  
33 N. State St., Concord, NH 03301  
Email: [david.boutin@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:david.boutin@leg.state.nh.us) or  
[dboutin1465@comcast.net](mailto:dboutin1465@comcast.net)



# *Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting*

**(Photo by Eric Anderson)**

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# Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting

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## MINUTES OF THE 2015 TOWN MEETING

### WARRANT and MINUTES

Town of Bow, New Hampshire

The 2015 Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator, Peter Imse at 7:00 A.M on Tuesday March 10, 2015 at the Bow Memorial School. Peter and all in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The Ballot box was inspected by Mr. Imse and members of the audience before the polls opened. At 7:00 P.M the polls were closed and the meeting was adjourned until Wednesday March 11, 2015 at 7:00 P.M

### WARRANT ARTICLE #1 – TOWN AND SCHOOL ELECTIONS

| Office                     | Vote for not more than: | YEAR TERM | CANDIDATE (IN BALLOT ORDER) | RESULTS WINNER* |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| SELECTMAN                  | Two                     | Three     | Michael G.Wayne             | 325             |
|                            |                         |           | Eric Anderson               | 785*            |
|                            |                         |           | Jill Desrochers             | 518             |
|                            |                         |           | Benjamin John Kiniry        | 541*            |
| BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBER    | Two                     | Three     | Garth Orsmond               | 491             |
|                            |                         |           | Chuck Douglas               | 647*            |
|                            |                         |           | Robert Hollinger            | 731*            |
| TOWN CLERK / TAX COLLECTOR | One                     | Three     | Mridula Naik                | 1006*           |
| TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS     | One                     | Three     | Jonathan Marvin             | 913*            |
| LIBRARY TRUSTEE            | One                     | Five      | David A Withers             | 953*            |
| TREASURER                  | One                     | Three     | Roland Gamelin<br>Write-In  | 68*             |

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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| Office                | Vote for not more than: | ...<br>YEAR<br>TERM | CANDIDATE<br>(IN BALLOT ORDER) | RESULTS/<br>WINNER* |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| School Board Member   | One                     | Three               | Jennifer Strong – Rain         | 1018                |
|                       |                         |                     | Misc. Write Ins                |                     |
| School District Clerk | One                     | Three               | John Rich                      | 1022                |
|                       |                         |                     | Misc. Write Ins                |                     |

### **WARRANT ARTICLE #2 – 2015 Zoning Amendments**

Are you in favor of the adoption ... to revise 7.05 to add a requirement for standby emergency electricity generators for Elderly and Multi-Family Residential Dwellings to provide sufficient power during outages to operate lighting, water supply, elevators and chair lifts, heating systems, and life and health sustaining appliances, and revise 3.02 to add a definition for Multi- Family Dwelling? (Recommended by the Planning Board by a vote of 7-0)

**YES: 854 – NO: 260**

Are you in favor ... to update 7.10 Personal Wireless Service Facility (PWSF) to exempt certain antenna installations from local zoning restrictions, to limit local time period of review, and to generally bring provisions for PWSF into compliance with the statutory authority of RSA 12:K? (Recommended by the Planning Board by a vote of 5-0)

**YES: 810 – NO :268**

Are you in favor ... to adopt a new Supplementary Regulations and Standards 7.26 with a reference in 5.11 Table of Uses to add criteria for Dwelling Unit for Resident Caretaker or Security Personnel in non-residential zone districts to limit such dwelling units to occupancy by owners and employees, to limit them to 800 Sq. Ft and one bedroom, and to require adequate sewage disposal? (Recommended by the Planning Board by a vote of 5-0)

**YES: 797 – NO:267**

Are you in favor ... to revise 10.01 E Uses Prohibited, Permitted, and Requiring a Conditional Use Permit in the Wetlands Conservation District to exempt logging operations in Prime Wetlands and buffers from Planning Board review in compliance with state law RSA 674:1? (Recommended by the Planning Board by a vote of 5-0)

**YES: 740 – NO: 338**

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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***The 2015 Town Meeting was reconvened at the Bow High School Auditorium on Wednesday March 11, 2015 at 7:03 P.M.*** by the Town Moderator Peter Imse. As is tradition, Mr. Imse stated that the meeting will officially begin with the Color Guard presenting the flags, the Pledge of Allegiance and the national anthem. This year, Girl Scout Junior Troop #20727 members Sierra Mason, Campbell Lucey, Maddie Ess, and Sydney Mason did the honor of presenting our National and State flags and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Bow High School student Samantha Aulka (or Lulka) played our National Anthem, *The Star Spangled Banner*, on her trumpet.

Mr. Imse introduced the head table from the far left: Finance Director Bob Blanchette, Town Manager David Stack, Selectmen Jack Crisp, Selectmen Vice Chair Eric Anderson, Selectmen Chair Jill Hadaway, Selectmen Colleen Hunter, Selectmen Harry Judd and Town Counsel Paul Fitzgerald. To his right were Administrative Assistant Nicole Gage, Town Clerk Mridula Naik and Recording Secretary Louise Knee. A special thank you went to Bob Jacques up in the control booth manning the lights, microphones and recording. Mr. Imse noted that there were several Heads of Department, Boards and Committees present and they will introduce themselves as they speak. He acknowledged the assistant moderators who he had appointed and all the volunteers.

Mr. Imse noted the locations of the two microphones in the middle of the Auditorium and the cordless microphone by the head table and asked that each speaker state their name and address.

Mr. Imse stated that, per tradition, the Men's Club presents the Citizen of the Year award and recognized Rob Hollinger. Mr. Hollinger came forward, took the cordless microphone, thanked the Moderator and introduced himself as representing the Bow Community Men's Club honored to present the 2015 Bow Citizens Award.

Conceived in 1989 by a group of concerned citizens, Bow's Recycling Program was born. Many good people have been involved since 1989 to make this program successful, but one individual has contributed countless hours towards its success. The Bow Community Mens' Club recognized Sherri Cheney as Citizen of the Year. Ms. Cheney received applause and came forward to receive the award. Ms. Cheney stated that this recognition is totally unexpected, that it has been her honor to work on the Committee all these years and thanked everyone.

Mr. Imse stated that the Selectmen wish to make a presentation. Eric Anderson stated that on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and the residents of the Town of Bow, the Selectmen would like to present a token presentation to Jill Hadaway who has served as a Selectman for the past three years and Chair this past year. Mr. Anderson read the inscription on the plaque: "Presented in grateful appreciation on behalf of the residents of the Town of Bow to Jill Hadaway who dedicated three years of service as a Selectman from March of 2012 to March of 2015, presented this eleventh day of March 2015." Jill Hadaway received applause as she approached the podium and thanked everyone very much. Ms. Hadaway stated that she just realized yesterday at the election that this is actually her 20<sup>th</sup> year working for the Town of Bow starting in 1995 as Tax Clerk. Ms. Hadaway stated that she has thoroughly enjoyed working with everyone and thanked everyone for their support over the past twenty years.

Mr. Imse stated that traditionally at this stage of the meeting he announces that he will conduct the meeting as per the Moderator Rules printed in the Town Report; however, at a recent Moderator workshop, he learned that many Moderators ask the meeting to

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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adopt the proposed Rules as their Rules for the meeting. Motion and second came forward from the citizens to adopt the Rules as printed in the Town Report. There was no discussion or comment. Unanimous Voice vote received. Motion passed.

Mr. Imse stated that if the business of the meeting has not concluded by 11:00 PM tonight, it would reconvene next Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM; unless, of course, the business is near complete and a motion is made and voted to stay late and finish the business. Mr. Imse noted that should there be any motion for reconsideration on any Warrant Article, it would be addressed next Thursday, March 19, 2015.

Mr. Imse stated that everyone should have received a wristband, voter card and stack of colored ballots when they signed in. Should anyone need to leave the meeting room, they need to turn in their voter card and ballots. Voter cards will be used unless a Warrant Article requires a ballot vote and two ballot box stations exist – one up front on the stage and another at the rear of the meeting room. Assistance provided, if needed, by any Assistant Moderator.

Mr. Imse shared the following quote from Benjamin Franklin: “Like a man traveling in foggy weather, those at some distance before him on the road he sees wrapped in fog, as well as those behind him and those in the fields on each side, but near him all appears clear, but in truth, he is as much in the fog as any of them.” Mr. Imse read the introduction to the Town Warrant: “To the Inhabitants of the Town of Bow in the County of Merrimack, in said State, qualified to vote in Town affairs. You are hereby notified to meet at the Bow Memorial School in said Bow on Tuesday, the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015, at 7:00 a.m. in the forenoon to act upon the subjects hereinafter set forth. The voting on Articles 1 and 2 will be by official ballot and the polls shall be open for balloting at 7:00 a.m. in the forenoon and shall not close before 7:00 p.m. in the evening. You are hereby notified, in accordance with the provisions of RSA 39:1-a, adopted at the 1980 Annual Meeting of the Town of Bow, to meet at the Bow High School Auditorium in said Bow on Wednesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the evening to consider the remaining Articles on the Warrant.”

Mr. Imse announced the results of the elections held 3/10/15 and noted that the four proposed Zoning Amendments in Warrant Article 2 were all adopted by majority vote.

Mr. Imse stated that before proceeding to the Warrant Articles, he understands that someone wishes to make a motion. Chuck Douglas made a **motion** that discussion on Warrant Article 30 be held immediately after discussion on Warrant Article 3 and prior to the vote on Warrant Article 3 and that a vote be taken on Warrant Article 30 after voting on Warrant Article 3 has concluded. Motion seconded by Brian Gould. Mr. Imse opened the meeting for public comment. The following people spoke:

Chuck Douglas, 40 Stone Sled, stated that the intent is to have the discussion regarding the public safety building to occur at once.

Garth Orsmond, 36 Tonga Drive, asked why not Article 4 before Article 30. Mr. Douglas started that Article 30 may moot out Article 4.

Van Mosher, 99 Allen Rd, asked if the voter cards be used instead of voice vote. Mr. Imse confirmed that voter cards are to be used when he calls for a vote.

Karen Wadsworth, Bettys Lane, stated that if one Article is moot, if discussed before another it works both ways and she would really like to think that an Article presented by the Board of Selectmen that is a result of studies and Committee recommendations should come first before a petition article and would argue against what Mr. Douglas is proposing.

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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Mary Beth Waltz, 25 Stack Drive, asked if the results of Article 3's vote would be needed before considering any petition amendment. Mr. Imse stated that if the motion passes, Article 3 would be discussed followed by discussion of Article 30, then the polls would be opened to vote on Article 3 and the polls would need to remain open for an hour, but usually the voting is done within fifteen minutes and while waiting for the hour to pass, the business of the meeting would continue, skipping over Articles 4 & 5 as they are contingent on the results of Article 3, and proceed to Article 6, 7 and possibly 8 and once the vote is in for Article 3, a vote would be called for Article 30.

Mr. Imse called for a vote on the **motion to discuss Article 30 after the discussion of Article 3 is concluded and prior to voting on Article 3. Motion passed by majority.**

Mr. Imse stated that at this point, a motion is needed to bring Article 3 and 30 to the table for discussion. Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded to bring Article 3 forth for discussion. Chuck Douglas moved and Brian Gould seconded to bring Article 30 forth for discussion at the conclusion of discussion of Article 3.

**WARRANT ARTICLE #3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,030,000 (gross budget) for the design, construction and equipping of a public safety building, for expenses relating to relocation of the Fire Department, Emergency Management and Police Department to this facility, and for expenses relating to the issuance of municipal bonds or notes, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$5,000,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any other action or pass any other vote relative thereto; with the balance of \$30,000 to be raised by taxation. The first payment for this bond or note will not be due until after the bond for the Bow High School project, issued in 1996 by the NH Municipal Bond Bank, matures on 8/15/16.**

(2/3 ballot vote required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 6-1)

**VOTE: YES (376) NO (200). Motion failed (2/3 vote would require 384 in the affirmative).**

**Motion made and passed to reconsider at the 3/19/2015 meeting.**

Selectmen Colleen Hunter presented the Article. A Public Safety building is necessary to improve the safety for our Police, Fire and Emergency Management personnel and to effectively improve the safety and services for the residents. The Selectmen have used the extensive review of the options provided by the Public Safety Review Committee (PSRC) who considered the recent State Fire Marshall's report and listened to the concerns of the Fire, Police and Emergency Management departments on personnel and public safety, including the issues each Department faced during the recent Thanksgiving Day storm. Most concerning was the inability of the Departments to communicate with one another; therefore, the Selectmen decided that the most cost effective and best option for the Town is to build a combined facility this year in order to immediately reduce the risk to our Emergency Responders and to provide the most effective rapid improvement in public services and safety. After almost twenty years

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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and seven different citizen committees, four professional studies and over a dozen visitations to other facilities throughout the State, the time has come for us to listen to the repeated recommendations to build a new combined Public Safety Facility.

Ms. Hunter stated that as the Town's Public Officials, it is a priority to keep not only our own citizens safe but also our employees as well. We no longer feel that we can do that effectively with the obsolete dysfunctional facilities. The existing shortcomings have been presented in recent years and depicted in the slides above. None of the existing facilities were built to the Essential Facility standards, they are not strong enough to withstand earthquake, hurricane, flood or wind sheer and still be functional after the event. Neither building is ADA accessible or provides an exit from their upper levels. Other major concerns with the Fire Department include the inadequate wiring, the wet basement, the poor ventilation, the asbestos and the limited space for their needed apparatus and now the separation of Fire Personnel from their equipment delaying their response time. At the Police Station there is a lack of a Sally Port, a lack of a holding cells to separate males from females from juveniles, an unsafe booking entrance with its step up and step down and one bathroom on the first floor shared by the employees and detainees. The Emergency Management Department lacks a designated space and is isolated from both Fire and Police. There is a significant price tag to correct all these inadequacies, but more importantly just addressing the electrical, life safety, environmental, accessibility and critical building criteria does not change the dysfunctional footprint of these Departments. Putting any more money in the existing facilities is a poor investment of our taxpayers' money. A combined facility is what the Town of Bow needs.

Mr. Hunter stated that currently interest rates are historically low and emphasized that there will be **no** impact on taxes until after the High School Bond has been paid off and added that only what is needed will be drawn from the five million dollar bond to complete the project and the cost **will not** be more than the five million recommended by the Committee. All these factors make this the year to build while we move forward to address the needs of the safety facilities. The Fire Department is not the only resident at 2 Knox Road and Warrant Article 5 recognizes the need to hire professional help to develop options to either renovate the existing Community Building for its continued use or to move toward constructing a new Community Building. The residents will decide on that resolution.

Ms. Hunter stated that the Selectmen will rescind Article 4 and Article 12 if Article 3 passes with the required 2/3 vote. The Fire, Police and Emergency Management personnel knowingly have high-risk positions; however, we as a Community do not have to add to that risk. Now is the perfect time for the residents of Bow to provide them with a facility they so desperately need to continue to serve us with the services we expect.

Ms. Hunter encouraged everyone to listen with an open mind to the presentation from Ed Roberge of the Public Safety Building Review Committee so that an informed decision can be made. Please listen carefully to the work that has been done by the Citizens Review Committee.

Ed Roberge of Hampshire Hills Drive stated that he is a member of the Public Safety Building Review Committee (PSBRC). He was first asked to participate in the early part of last summer, July 2014, when the group was formed with a cross section of people to look at this project and all the material that has been accumulated over the years and present their recommendation of the best approach to meet the immediate and future needs of Fire and Rescue, Police and Dispatch and the Office of Emergency

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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Management to the Board of Selectmen in October 2014. Mr. Roberge thanked the Members of the Committee: Eric Anderson, Arthur Cunningham, David Cook, Jack Driscoll, Ken Demain, Ray Johnson, Mike Sampo, Richard Tanguay, Karen Wadsworth, Colleen Hunter, Chris Johnson, Garth Orsmond and their Recording Secretary Wendy Gilman. Mr. Roberge stated that their challenge was to look at the facts, understand the problems, identify the real needs and get creative.

Mr. Roberge reported that their first order of business was to set up an Organizational Plan and establish five Subcommittees: (1) Visitation; (2) Building Options; (3) Funding; (4) Design Review; and (5) Public Relations. The Visitation Subcommittee was chaired by Ray Johnson and they visited twelve facility sites in NH were visited. Pictures of similar facilities in Epping, Hooksett and New Hampton were displayed. Mr. Roberge interjected that all the Committee's work can be found on the Town's web site.

Mike Sampo headed the Building Options subcommittee and they reviewed all the notes, meeting and listening sessions Minutes, the history of buying the 17-acre parcel on the corner of Logging Hill Road and Knox Road, prior professional studies, the last two Town Meetings and the public comment expressed. Concerns with design were noted along with the size of the building and what was driving the "wants versus needs" debate. They inspected the current Fire, Police and Emergency Management Services locations; considered their functional and operational needs as well as safety issues; and concluded that there is a need to do something.

The Design Review Subcommittee looked at presentations by design professionals and contractors and solicited input from the previous design team, H.L. Turner, and the one before them from Bonner, Page and Stone, as well as inviting a design-build contractor, Richie Construction, who has done a lot of these types of projects with real-time experience. The Funding Subcommittee looked at developing potential funding sources and what was critically important, funding scenarios to reduce tax impact. Mr. Roberge noted that they had regular attendees at their meetings that were open to the public and appreciated their participation.

A list of project alternatives was generated from this information and fell into eight general categories: (1) prioritize Fire/EM only; (2) develop a leased back facility; (3) construct new Fire Station only; (4) rehabilitate Fire building for code compliance; (5) use the Hews Building for Fire and Police and relocate DPW; (6) explore other locations for Fire/EM; (7) scale down version of the Safety Complex Building; and (8) evaluate Alternative Proposal from Public Input that included an alternate proposal to add a 10,000 square feet addition to the backside of the Fire station. The Committee decided that the "do nothing" alternative was not an option.

Mr. Roberge stated that PSBRC utilized an Alternative Screening Guidance Tool, a point scoring technique, to evaluate the options and three alternatives were advanced for more detailed consideration: (1) Fire/EM facility only; (2) a combined Safety Facility between 20,000 – 25,000 square feet; and (3) renovate existing Fire Station to code compliance. Next they looked at categories of the most important functions of a building. Some of the categories included building type, size, location, life expectancy, project cost, project administration and what was a realistic project to present to the Selectmen. Mr. Roberge went through the process, what was considered and the resulting votes. The only option that received majority vote (12:1) was a combined Fire/Police/EM. Mr. Roberge stated that the options were debated at great length and it came down to best value and size of the building.

In 2013, a proposal for a combined 30,000 square foot building was estimated at \$7.6M

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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(million dollars) and in 2014 the building was reduced to 25,000 square feet with a price tag of \$6.8M. The current facilities total about 17,000 square feet. Using average pricing and the needs assessment, they evaluated different size facilities and the one that received unanimous vote (13:0) was a building sized between 20,000 – 25,000 square feet. They also looked at location and took into consideration the comments from the previous proposal that placed the facility at the lower portion of the lot on the corner of Logging Hill and Know roads where the gazebo and sliding hill is located. Site work was also taken into consideration and it was noted that an irregular shaped building designed to fit into the land cost more. The Committee recommended using the upper flatter portion of the lot and a standard building design.

Life expectancy and return on investment were also evaluated and they debated the option of renovating or building new. Renovation could service the need for ten to twenty years. Building new would serve for fifty to ninety years. The Committee unanimously voted that the best value is to build a new facility.

Mr. Roberge acknowledged that this is the seventh such Committee to review a Safety Facility and cost seemed to be the crux of the issue. Size of the Facility does matter. The current facilities total approximately 17,000 square feet and considering nominal growth, a 20,000 – 25,000 square feet building at a cost of \$200 per square foot would fall between \$4M - \$5M.

The Committee also looked at project administration elements that included a Construction Manager, Design-Build and Design-Bid-Build. Based on the information gathered and the successes of other projects in the State, the Committee recommended Design-Build as it allows the Town the most flexibility, that could deliver a project quickly, control cost, avoid ‘scope-creep’ and be the most cost effective. Mr. Roberge stated that Article 4 would allow the hiring of a design professional in 2015.

Mr. Imse stated that before addressing Article 30, he would open the meeting for Public Comment on Article 3. The following individuals addressed Article 3:

Jim Hoffman, 3 Nathaniel Drive, urged voters to vote against Article 3, that bonding five million dollars is equivalent to a mortgage, that the Town already has two big bond investments with the High School and the water/sewer project, that adult management and financial prudence is needed, that is the NH way, and urged everyone to vote for Article 30.

Gil Rogers, 15 Jonathan Lane, voiced concern that Warrant Article 3 does not specify the delivery system on how it would work. Mr. Rogers stated that he was a Professional Engineer in his career and has experience in Design-Build and Design-Bid-Build Projects and offered examples of why he prefers Design-Bid-Build process. Design-Build does not include competitive bidding so there is no opportunity to let the market work in our favor to come up with the lowest *responsible* bid and there is minimal owner control in the design and construction quality. The design and price selection can arouse public suspicion, which could lead to a loss of public confidence. In the Design-Bid-Build process, the owner controls the design and construction quality and the design is complete prior to construction award and that is a benefit to know exactly what is being bid upon and to know that the needs of the occupants is being met. The Design-Build process is intended save time and that too is important because time is money but there is no guarantee for savings in cost. Mr. Rogers offered an amendment to Article 3 that was seconded by Mr. Ives, 4 Bow Bog Road.

**Motion to amend Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,030,000 (gross budget) using the Design-Bid-Build delivery method**

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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**for the design, construction and equipping of a public safety building, for expenses relating to relocation of the Fire Department, Emergency Management and Police Department to this facility, and for expenses relating to ...**

Mr. Imse opened the floor for comments on the Amendment.

John Urdi, 51 Putney Road, stated that he is not sure the \$35,000 presented in one of the Warrant Articles is clearly noted and should address what Mr. Rogers is intending. Having the \$35,000 would allow architects and engineers to provide outline specifications on how the building would be constructed so that the specifications along with a floor plan can go out to a group of design build teams to bid. Mr. Rogers clarified that he wants the project to be by a sealed bid based on the architect design that includes the specifications given by Fire, Police and EM.

Ray Johnson, 110 Knox Road, stated that what they learned when they visited other such facilities is that the owner has better control of the project, the cost is less and the time is less. They also received some studies that showed the three different types and by far the Design-Build was the best and more reasonable option. Mr. Johnson encouraged everyone to vote against the amendment.

John Johnson, 9 Crocket Drive, asked the Fire, Police and EM individuals to stand up and be recognized and stated that he wants to give these individuals what they need to provide the service we all need.

Paul Roy, 42 Woodhill Road, stated that he represents the State's largest Design-Build contractor and takes offense at the description offered. As far as the Design-Build process, there is a bidding process, it is completely transparent and as far as the timeliness of the process he agrees that it is a faster process. All buildings constructed must comply with Building Codes. Mr. Roy stated that the Excel Building on Route 3-A is a Design-Build project and recommended against the proposed amendment.

Being no one else to speak on the Amendment, Mr. Imse called for a vote.

**Motion to amend Article 3 failed.**

Mr. Imse resumed public comment on Article 3 as presented.

Ted Bardwell, 14 Bow Bog Road, stated that he and his family moved to Bow in April of 1962 because they wanted a home in the country. Their four children went to Bow schools and Concord High School and they enjoyed an excellent tax rate that lasted for many years as well as the construction of the three schools which increased their taxes. Mr. Bardwell stated that we are now at a time when certain building infrastructures are hurting. Defeating Article 3 puts us in a worse predicament. Passing any other Article will only prolong the inevitable. Patching something that is worn out is like chasing good money after bad. Mr. Bardwell asked everyone to make a small sacrifice in their daily lives and support Article 3. Mr. Bardwell stated that his sacrifice will be not to buy \$15 worth of sweepstake tickets every week which will net him \$780 a year so that if taxes go up, he has the money.

Mr. Bardwell stated that he has been a member of the Bow Fire Department for 53 years and shared the founding of the Bow Volunteer Fire Department. The year was 1945 when Concord told Bow we had to take care of ourselves. Bow procured two 1½ ton chasses that were used until almost the 1970's. In late 1950's, the Town purchased a FWD Fire Truck. These trucks have since been retired and Bow now has 2 fire engines, 2 tankers, a rescue truck, a forestry truck and 2 ambulances. The first Fire Station in Bow was where the Bow Mobile gas station is now located. Mr. Bardwell concluded by saying that as President of the Bow Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., they

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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fully support Article 3 as written, thanked the people who spent many hours to reach a workable solution and asked everyone to vote in favor.

Lorna Landry, 35 Bow Center Road, asked if there were any graphics to show the tax impact on a home worth X amount of dollars to put it in real terms for us. Ms. Landry stated that she is curious to know how many folks attended meetings on the Public Safety Facility and noted that there has been ample opportunity for public input and admitted that she did not attend any as she had faith that the folks involved would do due diligence.

David Cook, 15 Laurel Drive and Member of the Safety Committee, stated that in the first year this bond goes through, which will be after the 1996 sewer bond and school bond are paid off, a home that is assessed at \$274,000, the tax bill, at the present rate, would go down by approximately \$104 a year. Over the 20-year life of the bond, there will be on average \$92 tax dollars per year to pay down the bond.

Brian Gould, 2 Parsons Way, called for a point of order noting that the Rules adopted at the beginning of the meeting limit the initial presentation to ten minutes and each speaker to three minutes limit, that it is now 8:35 PM and asked to please bring forth Article 30 now so that those present can weigh the two Articles and not have to recycle through the same set of debates.

Mr. Imse agreed, invited the presenters of Article 30 forward to set up their presentation and would recognize the two speakers currently at the microphones.

Van Mosher, 99 Allen Road, stated that right now Bow has two paths, and the path taken yesterday shows a light at the end of the tunnel. Bow taxes are too high. Mr. Mosher thanked the many people who turned out last year and defeated a similar proposal by 200 votes and unfortunately doesn't believe that we have been heard.

John Johnson, 9 Crocket Drive, applauded the Police, Fire and EMT folks for everything they do. These are the people who will save your life – not a building, but the people who will come to your rescue.

Mr. Imse turned the meeting over to a presentation on Article 30.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 30. (By Petition) To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$550,000 to implement recommendations provided to the town to bring the fire and community building into conformity with correction of electrical deficiencies, asbestos removal and other fire safety corrections as set forth in the reports by Enviro Vantage, Cummings Associates, and Yeaton Associates, Inc. notwithstanding the decision of the building inspector on February 25, 2014, to require earthquake and other catastrophic standards to be imposed to an existing building. Source of funds shall be 1) the withdrawal of \$350,000 from otherwise unappropriated funds, 2) the withdrawal of \$100,000 from the Municipal Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Funds and the remainder raised by taxes.**

(Majority vote required)

(Not Recommended by Budget Committee 6-1)

**Discussed. Vote deferred to March 19, 2015.**

Chuck Douglas, 40 Stone Sled Lane, introduced himself, noted that the last presentation lasted 33 minutes and promised his would not be as long. The first thing to point out is that there were five other towns in the State that voted on a combined fire police safety facility – North Hampton, Salem and three others – and they all voted them down. The

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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second point is that Concord, who has almost 50,000 people, does not have a combined facility, they have separate facilities and seem to be doing just fine and, in fact, their Fire Chief even lives in Bow. The one thing no one even mentioned with Article 3 & 4 is the interest on that \$5M bond, which comes to \$2.38M for a total debt of \$7.238M.

Mr. Douglas stated that Article 30 has several pieces in it. It is \$500,000 dollars that will come out of three pools of monies, it would fix the issues raised by the Fire Marshall, and it would take care of the electrical on both sides of the building as well as the life and safety issues and remove the asbestos. Article 3 does not remove the asbestos, does not fix the electric, does not open up the kitchen and allow the Community Center to be back to where it was. Only Article 30 addresses those needs.

Mr. Douglas noted that in the Board of Selectmen Minutes from the year 2013, they hired a company called Yeaton Associates to come in and do a full assessment of the electrical and they came in with a range of \$175,000 - \$225,000. Last year, the Town hired Cummings & Associates, and their report estimated a cost of \$177,500 to do the life safety upgrades that the Fire Marshall wanted and \$85,000 to do the roof and get the Pitco range hood and stove replaced. Mr. Douglas stated that Pitco is in Bow and now that he is on the Budget Committee, he intends to visit Pitco and ask them if they would be willing to donate a stove every fifty years. The Selectmen also had a report from Kittredge Equipment that came in lower than Cummings. With regard to asbestos, Mr. Douglas stated that in January, they received a copy of the report from the company the Town hired to assess the asbestos and the estimate received is \$60,000 to remove the asbestos.

Mr. Douglas stated that is how the \$550,000 figure was derived. He had worked with Bob Arnold and Jeff Knight on the Budget Committee and a number of concerned citizens. Jeff Knight works for the Tampozzi Company in Nashua, and they use a company called Aho Construction out of Ipswich, NH. Mr. Knight was able to get a walk-through with Aho with the two Fire Marshall reports, the asbestos report, the electric report and they came up with a firm estimate. Mr. Douglas stated that there estimate has been reproduced on the yellow sheet of paper handed out at the door coming into this meeting. The total to get this building up to par is \$554,000 and would include a fire alarm system, electrical renovations, asbestos removal, the kitchen and fire suppression and two egress stairwells. Mr. Douglas acknowledged that the fix should be sent out to bid.

Next Mr. Douglas addressed the funding sources. There is an “unassigned fund balance” in Town that is a float or cushion and the State requires that it contain 5% of the total budget, but Finance Director Bob Blanchette likes to keep it at 7%. There is a Capital Reserve Fund for Municipal Buildings Maintenance and Repair and as of last year it had a balance of \$288,000 and today the balance is \$340,000, so \$100,000 could be applied to this project. And lastly, there are taxes.

Mr. Douglas stated that there is talk about earthquake, meteor, fire, flood etc and noted that we are not obligated to do a Level 3 repair if there is no major structural change being made. Mr. Douglas referenced another handout and stated that it is a nuance code that allows existing public buildings, like Concord Hospital, have additions put on all the time and they do not have to re-do the older portions to bring them to the standards of an Essential Facility. Mr. Douglas stated that removing asbestos and fixing the building does not warrant an Essential Facility upgrade and that Aho agreed that the building can be brought into full compliance without having to upgrade it to Essential Facility standards.

The Police Station is admittedly not being addressed this year. Mr. Douglas stated that

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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the Town just finished investing \$100,000 in renovations on the building and on the east side of it a Sally Port can be constructed. Mr. Douglas displayed a picture of a double length Sally Port in in Pembroke and noted that Bow would only probably need a single length because basically a Sally Port is a garage for a cruiser to enter and close the door before getting a person out of the vehicular and into the building. A Holding Cell can also be added without having to spend millions and millions of dollars because basically it is a cinder block room with a little window. The former Police Chief got a quote in 2004 from Cobb Hill who estimated that it would cost \$200,000 - \$220,000 to construct a Sally Port. Mr. Douglass stated that the Town can address that next year.

Mr. Douglas stated that the tax rate has increased 34% from 2008 – 2014 and Bow is in the top 10% of the highest in the State, Berlin being the highest at the top of the list and Bow at 206. Bow has a problem with spending and the power plant. We were promised lower taxes when the school bond was paid off and if the we vote in the combined safety facility center, followed next by a new Community Center, Article 5, there will be no tax savings but another tax increase Mr. Douglas began to explain the CIP (Capital Improvement Plan) and the proposed cost when Mr. Imse asked him to keep comments strictly to Article 30. Mr. Douglas agreed and added that the point was the demolishing the existing fire/community center will be yet another expense.

At 8:56 PM, Mr. Imse stated that, as voted earlier, opened the floor for public comment on both Article 30 & 3 and recognized the first voter at the microphones. The following individuals shared their comments:

Faye Johnson, 110 Knox Road, stated that she objects to Article 4 not being considered as part of this conversation as it was the recommendation of the public Safety Facility Committee. Ms. Johnson stated that she attended one of the meetings on the safety complex where they were reviewing a design produced from H&L Turner and converting it to an economically shaped one story building, placing it at the top of the hill where it is flatter and would save site work and save costs. Ms. Johnson stated that the Emergency Manager, Police Chief and Fire Chief approved the alternate design layout. As far as Article 30, yes that could repair some of the deficiencies, would definitely improve our Community Building but making those changes will not solve the problems of the Fire Department. The fire equipment will be still too big for the doors and the firemen will still be up on the hill and not at the Station. It is at best a stopgap measure and eventually we will still be faced needing a new building.

Ms. Johnson asked about the word choice in Article 30, specifically “notwithstanding the decision of the building inspector on February 25, 2014, to require earthquake and other catastrophic standards to be imposed to an existing building.” What does that mean? Does that include the recommendations of the Fire Marshall? Will the Fire Marshall be satisfied with the proposed repairs under Article 30? Mr. Imse asked Mr. Douglas to briefly respond. Chuck Douglas stated that the middle sentence has nothing to do with the Fire Marshall, but with the decision of the Building Inspector stating that the building is an Essential Facility. Mr. Douglas stated that: the folks in Town have not had the opportunity to be heard on that decision; that the Town’s people can vote that the building need not be brought to essential facility standards; that the Selectmen never took a vote to accept the Building Inspector’s decision. Mr. Douglas stated that the building can be fixed, the Fire Marshall satisfied and not turn it into an essential facility.

Mr. Imse asked Town Counsel for input.

Paul Fitzgerald, Town Counsel, stated that the situation is simple and straightforward. There is a determination by the Building Inspector, correctly outlined in the Warrant Article and correctly addressed by Mr. Douglas, indicating that the determination was

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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made that the existing building would have to meet certain criteria in order to move forward. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that it was an Administrative decision and was not appealed by any party who had standing to do so. From the point of view of Town local government, the Inspector's decision is now final and binding and did not need Selectmen action.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he has been asked by the Board of Selectmen to offer his opinion as to what we would do with regard to the prior determination by the Building Inspector if Article 30 were to pass and what the implications would be. Mr. Fitzgerald stated the he has looked but has not found anything on point and does not believe that the matter is as clear as what has been presented on either side. The reason we have courts is to resolve different point of views. If Article 30 were to pass, you have set up a potential dispute between the Building Inspector and the intent and clear meaning of Article 30 that could only be resolved through litigation through the Merrimack County Superior Court in the form known as the Declaratory Judgment Action. The parties to that action would be probably be the Town vs. the Town in terms of Selectmen trying to carry out the duties imposed by this meeting and the Building Inspector potentially challenging that. The Building Inspector stands firm on his determination.

Bruce Buttrick, Building Inspector / Code Enforcement Officer, introduced himself and stated that he would like five to ten minutes to present needed information. Moaning arose from the audience and Mr. Buttrick stated that in all fairness it is important to know the history because the Codes are complex. The Fire Marshall basically administers Life Safety Codes, NFPA 101, for both new construction and maintenance. The Fire/Community Building has fallen out of compliance. The two inspections by the Fire Marshall's office cited primarily life safety and fire code violations, of which some fall under the category of 'alterations' and others under 'repairs'. Repairs require Building Permits, and Buildings Permits are subject to and must satisfy the requirements of the International Existing Building Code (IEBC) and the International Building Code (IBC).

There have been numerous architectural engineering studies on this building. The one from 2007 Sheer McCrystal Palson Architecture Inc., the 2012-2013 Public Safety Facility Committee, the two Fire Marshall inspections were relied upon when he issued his determination in February 2014. The list of needed repairs is much more than what has been identified in Article 30. There are structural elements that need to be addressed and noted the rusted columns in the basement of the Fire Department. The fix proposed in Article 30 will be incomplete. Accessibility, sometimes referenced as ADA compliance, has to be addressed. Twenty percent (20%) of construction costs has to be applied to bringing the building up to Accessibility standards. For this building, it would involve handicap bathrooms, door handles, etc.

Mr. Buttrick stated that both the Fire and Police stations are being used as Essential Facilities and if they were constructed new, they would be expected to be Essential Facilities. The existing Building Code has various levels of compliance and utilizes three methods: prescriptive, work area (which Article 30 attempts to address) and performance. Mr. Buttrick stated that within the scope of each method, there is also a provision to require a structural evaluation, which he would strongly recommend when the Building Permit Application is submitted, because the 2007 Sheer McCrystal Palson Architectural analysis questioned the building's structural integrity. Mr. Buttrick stated that Article 30 would add a sprinkler system that needs to be supported by a super structure as well as constructing a couple of rooms and those alterations are reaching the point where seismic evaluations could be required. Both the H.L. Turner report and the Shear McCrystall Paulson analysis deem the structure as an Essential Facility

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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Bob Hollinger, 6 Sharon Drive, asked if he could pose a quick question to Mr. Buttrick. Mr. Imse agreed. Mr. Hollinger asked if Article 30 passes, would he (Bruce Buttrick) sue the Town of Bow. Mr. Buttrick responded that he, personally, would not like to be in that position but would follow the direction of the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen and added that he is willing to review the numbers and applicable Codes but first he would need a better defined scope of the repairs and restorations.

Mr. Imse resumed public input and recognized the next speaker at the microphone.

Garth Orsmond, 36 Tonga Drive, stated that the real issue is police, public and emergency safety, it is not dollars. All he has heard from the supporters of Article 30 is money, money, money, and that's fine. The Police Fire and Emergency Management personnel are the real issue and their needs should be approached with an open mind. These individuals have a high risk, high stress positions and should have the safest working conditions possible, which, in turn, improves public safety. The problems of the Police Station are well known but ignored in Article 30. Nationally, Sally Ports are standard for police stations and required for new and retrofitted stations. Separate juvenile accommodations are also necessary. The fact is the Police Department needs a Sally Port and holding cells. There are issues related to access in every part of our Police Station. All of their needs are being ignored as if they do not exist. Please talk with the Police Chief, as he has, many times, and to the policemen of our Town, and then, if you can, tell them that you understand the risks and the safety problems but do not want to spend the money. There are real issues. We have real issues.

Dr. Orsmond stated that firemen, safety and all the problems with the fire station require further discussion. The size of the doors at the Fire Station impacts exit and response time because equipment has to be loaded onto the trucks after exiting the building. The fact that their sleeping quarters are in another building up the hill adds another five-minute delay. Dr. Orsmond stated that five-minutes is critical. If resuscitation is required, it has to be administered quickly as brain-death occurs within ten minutes. Fires can double in size over 30-60 seconds. Delay adds risk to residents and firemen. There are broader safety issues at hand. Please don't pay lip service to supporting Fire and Police as they...

Chuck Douglas rose from his seat in the audience and called for a point of order noting that the Rules of the meeting limit public comment to three minutes and this speaker just broached it. Murmured assent and grumbles arose from the audience. Mr. Imse asked Dr. Orsmond to wrap up his comment in the next minute.

Dr. Orsmond asked everyone to talk with Police and Fire to understand the risks. The current proposal of Article 30 ignores a common sense approach and purposely ignores police. We as a community need to do what is right.

Voices continued to come from the audience and Mr. Imse utilized the gavel to bring the meeting back to order. Mr. Imse stated that the chaos is offensive and people have a right to express their concerns and opinions. Voice rose from the audience to 'call the question' and was seconded by another unrecognized in the audience. Mr. Imse stated that everyone currently standing at the microphone would be allowed to speak. Vote on the motion to call the question passed by majority vote. Mr. Imse recognized the next speaker at the microphone.

Susan Belair, 8 Edgewood Drive, stated that it is time to stop putting Band-Aids on fatal wounds. Both buildings have outlived their usefulness. What's at stake is basic safety. We have a Fire Marshall who wants to shut down our fire station and having to rely on Concord or another community to come to our aid adds time and jeopardizes our safety.

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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We need to take care of this as it has been years since we've known of the problem and have done nothing. Half of the issues are not being addressed in Article 30. We could be sued for not meeting ADA requirements and Article 30 doesn't address that. The fire station is out of date and out of usefulness for years now. Article 3 is the only solution to fixing the problems.

John U드리, 51 Putney Road, stated that he is in favor of Article 3 because after so many years we do need a new building. The fire station building was built in 1956 and has outlived its use and does not meet the needs of today's firemen. Mr. U드리 stated that he is against Article 30. Meeting ADA requirements affect the entire building and that includes hallways. The yellow sheet passed out at the doors entering the building supporting Article 30 does not include design fees, so the proposed \$550,000 is not the total price tag.

Rich Tanguay, 34 Allen Road, stated that he has been in Bow thirty-seven years and has seen the fire department grow to professional status, and the police department too. And they have achieved it under very adverse conditions. The firemen should not have to walk sideways between trucks. Space needs are important. The Police department has real needs too. We have the opportunity tonight to do something and move forward with Article 3 to provide them with the support they need to service us. It is the right thing to do and the right time to do it while the interest rates are so low.

Steve Destefano, 7 Sharon Drive, stated that he has three questions for either Jeff Knight or Chuck Douglas. The walk-through that has been referenced was it an hour walk through the building or did someone actually take measurements? Did they come up with their own original numbers because it seems that the numbers presented all came from a Right-to-Know request? Is there anything in writing to guarantee that it is not to go above this number? The number on the yellow sheet second question doesn't mean much and is not in favor of Article 30.

Willis Sloat, 4 Longview Drive, stated that he and his wife moved to town about a year and a half ago despite the tax rate because Bow has one of the best school systems in the State. Mr. Sloat stated that there have been a lot of numbers tossed out at this meeting that are greatly misleading. Mr. Douglas stated in his presentation that the five million dollars (\$5M) is actually more like \$7.38M with interest payments. That is dollars over an extended period of time. Five million dollars today is five million today and noted that when someone buys a house for \$300,000 they don't then say "darn, I just spent \$600,000" because they tallied all the payments. The \$5M is the amount to be bonded, that is what we are paying for and yes it will cost more over the term but hopefully we will also be earning more money in thirty years.

Mr. Sloat stated that it has been being said that we need to bring more business into Bow to help with the tax base. Business people don't like variables and when they look at Bow, they don't know have no feel to know if their tax rate is going to go up or down and fluctuating taxes is a deterrent. This bond solidifies it for thirty plus years.

Mr. Sloat stated that the items identified in Article 30 are compliance items and does not fix the problems. The doors of the fire station will remain undersized and we will be forced to buy equipment that fits a building instead of the need. \$500,000 is being asked for now, then there's \$300,000 for the Police Station, maybe next year. With a new building the operating costs will be less. Mr. Sloat stated that the interest rates are the lowest they have been and if we don't do it this year, the construction costs and interest rates will be much higher. The time is now. Mr. Sloat stated that we are fortunate with the quality of our police and fire personnel we have, but if he were one and had an opportunity to work elsewhere with a better facility, it would be an easy decision to

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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leave Bow.

Bob Cummings, 181 Bow Bog Road, stated that he seems to be the author of one of the documents referenced in Article 30 – Cummings and Associates. The numbers that are quoted in the Article appear, in his opinion, to be low in several areas and in particular the sprinkler system quote of \$65,000 that is to include a fire pump and water tank that must meet the requirement of a one-hour water supply. Typically, the cost of the tank is about one dollar per gallon of water and a building this size would require between 25,000 – 30,000 gallons. There are additional costs associated with putting the tank into the ground and anchoring it. The pump needs to be in a “rated” room – at least a one-hour rate for a fully sprinklered building – and that does not appear to be in the estimate either. There are other items that may not be complete. Mr. Cummings stated that he was never contacted regarding the numbers or for verification that his Company was being quoted properly.

Mr. Cumings stated that he is not in favor of Article 30, that, in his opinion, Article 3 serves the Town much better in the long run.

Lee Kimball, 32 Ridgewood Drive and Emergency Management Director, stated that he has been a resident of Bow since 1977 and has prepared a power point and wishes to speak in opposition of Article 30 and in favor of Article 3. Article 30 is just another postponement of the inevitable, the construction of a new safety facility that is long overdue. The need has been addressed on twenty-one occasions and by seven Committees over the past twenty-eight years. Article 30 is the equivalent of treating a shotgun wound with a band aid. The need to demonstrate responsible and prudent care to our safety services has been clearly stated in two engineering studies that were funded in 2006 and 2011. In the interest of time, Mr. Kimball referenced page 43 of the Town Report for more details history. Article 30 does not address the problems or needs of Emergency Management or the Police Department, it does not deal with ADA compliance issues or the holding cell issues, doesn't provided a required Sally Port or separate detention for females/males/juveniles or address the fact that the one bathroom has to be shared by staff and detainees. Mr. Kimball stated that the 2011 study estimated that it would cost \$1.5M (one and a half million dollars) to renovate the Police Station.

As for the fire station, Article 30 does not address the footprint of the existing building or the heating system; it does not increase the functionality of the Fire Department or the Community Building. The Building is not and would not be designed to withstand seismic, hurricane, windstorm, or snow load, or inadequacies of the bays and doors. The estimate to replace the bays and doors alone is \$267,000. Cobb Hill Construction Company estimated \$64,000 to “total” the building or \$77,775 to remove the asbestos from building while it is in use as the removal effort will have to be compartmentalized in order to protect the people working there during the removal. There is the Fire Marshall issue, the ADA compliance issue ...

Mr. Imse advised Mr. Kimball that he has approached the three-minute mark. Mr. Kimball wrapped up his position by stating that reports both indicate that the cost to repair exceeds intrinsic value of the buildings and both have functional deficiencies that impede the effectiveness of the departments. These deficiencies were highlighted during the last Thanksgiving storm that led to a total failure of inter-departmental connect-ability due to lack of power, lack of telephone service, internet access and inadequate housing for duty personnel. Mr. Kimball stated that at one point they could not even get needed apparatus out of the building. It just does not make sense to invest \$500,000+ in a building that is assessed at \$335,400. Please vote for Article 3.

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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Erin Commerford, Police Chief and Bow resident stated that she does not want to 'beat a dead horse' but wanted to share a real occurrence to give a point of reference. A couple of months ago, one of her Police Officers made an arrest, brought the individual into the Station who was being cooperative and was giving every indication that he would continue to do so but during the course of the booking process, the person arrested became volatile and upset and proceeded to throw a chair at the Officer. The only reason the Officer was not significantly hurt was because someone else was working in the building. Those two Officers together were able to subdue the person, put him in a cruiser and bring him to the County Jail in Boscawen, which is eighteen miles away and takes thirty-three minutes to drive. Chief Commerford stated that they have to use the County Jail because their station does not have holding cells.

There was also another incident where an arrested person was left sitting in the cruiser while the Officer, because there is no Sally Port, walked inside the building and secure his firearm and while he was doing that, the person arrested proceeded to kick out the cruiser's window. Later that person tried to bring civil litigation lawsuit against the Town for being kept locked in the cruiser, because there is no Sally Port, and the Town was fortunate to have video recording of the incident that disproved the alleged excessive timeline.

Chief Commerford stated that they had had 25,000 calls for service last year and made 192 arrests. The year before they made 275 arrests. They are a busy department. Chief Commerford stated that what they are asking for is based upon needs, real needs, and not wants. Chief Commerford stated that the last comment is a clarification of a statement made earlier that the renovations made to the building were recent. Those renovations were the result of moisture issues and involved nothing more than residing and reinsulating. The building is owned by the Town and fixing it would have had to been done whether it housed the Police Department or not. Those renovations made absolutely no difference to our operational deficiencies. Thank you.

Parker Moore, 42 Knox Road, stated that he has lived in Bow since 1989, been in Town his whole life, been involved with the Town his whole life and now it is time to find a home. Bow is still where he wants to live, but taxes are important. He wants to vote smartly and only once on the fire station during his tenure in Bow, not again in twenty years because it needs to be taken cared of again.

Mr. Moore stated that he went to the Concerned Taxpayer's website, pulled up the Right-to-Know and noticed on the letter on 1/15/2015 to Todd Drew the estimate for removing asbestos was for 4 Knox Road and not 2 Knox Road. For those not familiar, 4 Knox Road is the blue building behind the Fire Station. The figure being quoted is not for the Fire Station.

Mr. Moore stated that he is a firefighter and Advanced EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) Specialist and has been employed with the Town since 2008. Mr. Douglas pointed out that Concord does not have a combined fire police safety facility, that is true, but Concord has multiple Fire Stations and even a Police Substation in their Penacook Station. Location is important and the location proposed is the optimum location based on the number of call his Department receives. Please vote yes for Article 3 and no for Article 30.

Fred Twombley, 17 Heidi Lane, thanked the Committee for all their hard work and thanked the First Responders. Mr. Twombley questioned the location and placement of the proposed facility and if it has been approved. If it is located to the back of the lot, it will be much closer to the residential neighborhood and asked if Article 3 passes whether there will be discussion on the actual placement of the building. Selectmen

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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Crisp responded that the final citing of the building will have to be approved by the Planning Board who will hold a Public Hearing, so there will be opportunity for discussion.

Mr. Imse asked Mr. Hoffman if he was really standing up at the microphone when the motion to call the vote was made. Mr. Hoffman stated that he was at the microphone.

Jim Hoffman stated that he wants to make three quick points. The first point is that it's people who save lives and provide our safety and security, not buildings. All the focus tonight has been about buildings. Article 30 is the quicker path to compliance and some improvements in the more critical areas. Mr. Hoffman stated that it may not be the ultimate, and that is recognized, but it is a good temporary step. To Mr. Steve Destefano, there are quotes provided and available. Mr. Hoffman stated his support for Article 30.

Mr. Imse closed the public comment session at 9:50 PM and noted that, as voted at the beginning of the meeting, both Article 3 and 30 have been presented and now it is time to vote on Article 3. Mr. Imse explained the ballot voting process, identified the two locations of the ballot boxes and instructed everyone to utilize the orange vote slip.

At 10:20 PM, Mr. Imse noted that the ballot lines were empty and that, by law, votes on bonds require the polls to remain open for one hour. The voting on Article 3 will close at 10:50 PM. Once the count is tallied, a vote will be called for Article 30. As noted earlier, the Selectmen will withdraw Articles 4 & 12 if Article 3 fails to pass by the required 2/3 vote.

Mr. Imse directed the voters Warrant Article 6.

At 10:30 PM, Mr. Imse reminded everyone that the ballot boxes are still open for voting on Article 3, and again at 10:45 noting that there was only five minutes left.

At 10:54 PM, Mr. Imse closed the ballots and asked that the votes be counted. Mr. Imse stated that while the votes are being counted, the meeting would continue and directed everyone's attention to Article 17.

At 11:10 PM, Mr. Imse announced the **results of the ballot vote on Article 3**: of the 576 votes submitted, the yes count is 376 and the no count is 200; however, the 2/3 count required would be 384 in the affirmative. Mr. Imse declared that the motion for Article 3 failed to receive the required number of votes by a count of eight.

Paul Burkett, 41 Ridgewood Drive, made a **motion to reconsider Article 3**. Mr. Imse stated that under State Law, it would not be able to be reconsidered for seven days and under the Moderator Rules, a motion to reconsider can only be made by someone on the prevailing and in this case that would be someone who voted against the Article. Mr. Burkett confirmed that he voted 'no'. Mr. Imse stated that if the motioned is seconded and passes, reconsideration for Article 3 would occur at the 3/19/15 meeting.

Jill Desrochers offered a second. Mr. Imse opened the motion for public comment. No one was at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that the **motion to reconsider Article 3 passes**.

Mr. Imse stated that per prior agreement, he would call a vote on Article 30. Tina Kirkpatrick, 3 Beaver Brook Drive made a **motion to postpone voting on Article 30** until after Article 3 has been reconsidered on 3/19/15. A second was heard from the audience. Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment at 11:14 PM. An unidentified male questioned the proceedings stating that the decision and discussion had already been made and probably should have had a ballot vote too. Mr. Imse stated

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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that changes can be made at the will of the People, the Article did not require a ballot vote as it did not involve a bond and nor was it requested and added that if this motion passes, the vote on Article 30 would occur next week after Article has been reconsidered. The unidentified male commented that it will be a different group of people at next week's meeting. Being no one else to speak on the motion to postpone voting on Article 30, Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voted cards, declared that the **motion to postpone voting on Article 30 to 3/19/15 passes.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to develop detailed Design-Build specifications and Request for Proposal documents for the construction, based upon on the supplied design specifications and with input from the police, fire and emergency management departments, of a combined Public Safety Building ranging in size from 20,000 FSF to 25,000 SF, at a cost not to exceed \$5,000,000.**

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 6-1)

**Not addressed – deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the purpose of hiring architectural, engineering and/or consulting firms to develop the cost of options to renovate the existing Fire Station/Community Building for continued use or to construct a new community building.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 2-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Not addressed – deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's recommended sum of \$10,026,016 for general municipal operations. The Selectmen recommend \$10,051,985. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 5-2)

### **Article 6 passed by majority vote.**

Moderator Imse read the Article into the record. Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded . Selectman Crisp presented the Article and referenced the pie chart on the inside of the back cover to the Town Report noting that for every tax dollar paid, only \$0.24 is applied to the Town with the remainder allocated to the School District, County and the State property taxes. Mr. Crisp stated that there is a difference between what the Selectmen recommended and what the Budget Committee approved and added that the most significant part of that difference is related to whether the Town can have another part-time employee added to the Town Clerk Office. An additional part-time position has been requested for several years now and this year the Selectmen decided that there is a need, but the Budget Committee saw the need differently. Mr. Crisp referenced the slide that depicted the 2014 net Town appropriations (\$7,422,140)

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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and the actual tax rate (\$7.01) along with the 2015 net appropriations (\$7,320,574) and projected tax rate (6.94). The result is a seven cent (\$0.07) projected decrease in the Town portion of the tax rate. The next slide identified the total assessed value of all properties in Town at \$1,148,940,794 and identified all the deductions that are applied, such as exemptions as elderly and disabled, for a net assessed value for taxation at \$1,054,318,690. The calculation of the tax rate is based on the net assessed value.

At 10:27 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote on Article 6 and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 6 passes. Question came from the audience to clarify whether it was the Selectmen's number of the Budget Committee's umber that was voted in and Mr. Imse confirmed that the vote was based on the Budget Committee number of \$10,026,016.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200,000 for improvements to the intersection of Dunklee Road and Route 3-A; to authorize the receipt of federal and state grants in the amount of \$800,000 and the withdrawal of \$400,000 from the Road Construction I-2 Zone and Business Development District Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7,VI which will not lapse until the earlier of project completion or June 30, 2020.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Article 7 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded to adopt Article 7.

Selectman Hadaway stated that the original appropriation for this project was done in 2010 and it has taken several years to get it designed and approved. The project consists of a four-way traffic signal at the intersection Dunklee Road and Route 3-A to secure the safety of the intersection. The project is being funded with \$800,000 from a State Aid Grant and a \$400,000 withdrawal from the Road Construction I-2 Zone & Business Development District Capital Reserve Fund. Since it was approved, the Town's engineer, DuBois & King, has completed a study and preliminary design that has been approved by the NH Department of Transportation (DOT). DOT has given the Town approval to complete the final design and once that is approved by DOT, the project will be sent out for bid and constructed. The original Article contained a non-lapsing appropriation clause specifying that the appropriation will not lapse until project completion or June 30, 2015. The project will not be completed by June 30, 2015, so the Town needs to re-appropriate the funds in order to continue with the final project design and construction. The re-appropriation will be until the project is completed or June 30, 2020. There will be no property tax increase as a result of passing this Article.

At 10:30 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote on Article 7 and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 7 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$730,000 for the reconstruction of the Dunklee Road Bridge; to authorize the receipt of federal and state grants in the amount of \$584,000 and the balance of \$146,000 to come from legal settlement proceeds. This will be a non-lapsing**

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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**appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI which will not lapse until the earlier of project completion or June 30, 2020.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Article 8 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded to adopt Article 8. Selectman Crisp read the Article into the record and provided a brief history. Back in May 2006 when severe flooding washed away the existing corrugated metal culvert that carries water from the Bow Bog Brook under Dunklee Road. At the time, the Town signed a contract with Provan & Lober to develop a project estimate, plans and to oversee the installation of a pre-cast concrete box culvert. In August, the project was put out to bid and Gordon Construction was awarded the job. In November, Provan & Lober issued a Certificate of Substantial Completion, which declared that the work was performed in accordance to the contract. In mid April of 2007, a storm damaged and undermined the new bridge. The Town immediately took remedial measures, including the installation of metal plates to hold the culvert walls. In September 2008, the NH Department of Transportation issued a letter of deficiency regarding the bridge and recommended immediate stabilization, repair and monitoring and added it to the State's Red List. In 2009, the Town brought suit against the Project Contractor, the four engineering firms involved with the design of the bridge and culvert and the Contractor's Performance Bond. Town Counsel handled the claim and a settlement was reached. Mr. Crisp stated that there will be no tax impact as the repair will be funded through the settlement received, up to 20% of the cost, and funds from the State Bridge Aid program for the remaining 80%.

At 10:33 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 8. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 8 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$350,000 for the paving of Hampshire Hills Drive and the paving of other Town roads. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or by December 31, 2017, whichever is sooner.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Article 9 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded to adopt Article 9. Selectman Anderson stated that our Department of Public Works (DPW) maintains 156 Town-owned and Town-maintained roads covering nearly 95 miles. At the present rate of paving, it will take almost 31 years to tend to all of our roads. The cost is currently \$72 per ton. The cost is approximately \$115,000 to overlay two inches of pavement for just one mile of road, including drainage work and culverts maintenance/replacement. Last year, DPW paved Putney Road, the upper section of Brown Hill Road, Chandler Circle (formerly known as Birch Tree Lane), Rising Wood Drive and the lower section

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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of Vaughn Road. This year, the plan calls for paving Hampshire Hills Drive, Shoreview Drive, Jonathan Lane, Kelso Drive and Branch Londonderry Turnpike West for a total of three miles. Mr. Anderson referenced DPW's report in the Town Report beginning on page 188-190. Mr. Anderson stated that the tax rate impact this year will be \$0.33 for every one thousand dollar of assessed value.

At 10:35 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 9. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 9 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$120,000 to be added to the Public Works Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Article 10 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded. Selectman Hunter stated that each year the budget process begins with the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Committee. They take a look at the large projected capital projects and prioritize them. The Committee reviews all the items listed in the Capital Reserves and evaluates them as well. This year, the CIP Committee began in April and spent much of its time meeting with Department Heads and Fleet Foreman Todd Drew to review the equipment in the Capital Reserves. A list of equipment was displayed that identified their anticipated cost to replace, the year replacement would be needed and the estimated life of the equipment. Some of the items were able to have their replacement postponed due to the maintenance received prolonging their usefulness. Other items were adjusted to keep pace with inflation. After analyzing each item, the CIP Committee was able to make a list of recommendations that can be found on page 25 of the CIP Plan. This snapshot in time helps the Selectmen, School Board and Library Trustees and the Budget Committee in the budgeting process.

Ms. Hunter stated that Article 10 is a contribution to DPW Capital Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The CIP Committee suggested reducing the contribution by \$10,000 from the previous \$130,000 schedule to \$120,000 without negatively impacting the Department's future needs. The total replacement cost of DPW equipment is \$2,551,011. The balance of this fund is estimated to be \$784,354 by the end of the current fiscal year. The tax impact of this Article is \$0.11 per one thousand dollar of assessed value.

At 10:38 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 10. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 10 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$115,000 to be added to the Municipal Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund previously established.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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### **Article 11 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded. Selectman Crisp stated that this Article is to make a contribution to the Municipal Building and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund and is part of the CIP that Ms. Hunter spoke to in the previous Article. The CIP Committee identified a variety of items that our Municipal buildings are going to need over the next six years. The estimated the cost of the needed repairs between 2015–2021 totals \$640,000. The balance of this fund is estimated to be \$343,018 at the end of this fiscal year to be \$640,000. An excerpt of the CIP was displayed that identified the items needing repair over the next six years. Mr. Crisp stated that the CIP Committee determined that the average age of the Municipal buildings is 97 years. The tax impact will be \$0.11 per one thousand of assessed value.

At 10:40 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 11. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 11 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$98,000 for the purchase of dispatcher radio and equipment for the Police Department and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$98,000 from the Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

### **Pended – waiting for results of Article 3**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 to re-roof the Municipal Building and for the installation of insulation and venting in the attic and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$75,000 from the Municipal Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

### **Article 13 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded. Selectman Judd stated that this Article is to allow withdrawal in order to reroof the Municipal Building. It is considered standard repairs, just as we would for our homes, and would also involve insulation and venting in the attic. The new roof should have a life of twenty five years. There will be no tax impact.

At 10:42 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 13. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 13 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be added to the Library Lower Level Capital Reserve Fund previously established.**

(Majority Vote Required)

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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(Recommended by Library Trustees)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

### **Article 14 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded. Selectman Anderson stated that in the 2012 Town Meeting, the voters decided to establish the Library Lower Level Capital Reserve Fund with an initial contribution of \$32,000 to begin conceptual design work. In the March 2013 Town Meeting, an additional \$50,000 was voted to be added to the Reserve Fund and in March 2014 Town Meeting, \$150,000 was voted to be added. Mr. Anderson noted that 2014 marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Library. The Article is to add another \$50,000. Ann Hoey, Library Trustee and Chairman of the Library Board of Trustees, will share an update on the Project as well as the current private fundraising underway.

Mr. Imse reminded everyone that there five minutes left to vote on Article 3.

Ann Hoey stated that the renovation project will provide a 75-seat meeting room and will be the largest in Town. A list of what the project includes was displayed – in addition to a 75-person meeting room; the project will also have a 16-person meeting room, two Group Tutoring rooms and also a climate-controlled Heritage Room with public access to Town historical documents. The Friends of the Baker Free Library will also have space to continue with the Perpetual Book Sale, which is a major fundraiser for the Library. Ms. Hoey displayed another slide that showed the total cost of \$600,000 for the Project and the equal breakdown between Town monies and private fundraising. Ms. Hoey thanked everyone for the \$200,000 already received from the Town and that they would appreciate another \$50,000 this year with the last \$50,000 next year. Currently over \$160,000 has been raised through private fundraising.

Ms. Hoey stated that the Project has been broken down into two phases. Phase 1 will address accessibility and the old section of the basement and is scheduled to begin in May 2015 with the installation of a new elevator, widening of existing interior stairway for code compliance and the construction of the Heritage Room and the two Group Tutoring rooms. The cost for Phase 1 is \$195,000 and will use a mixture of public and private funds. It is hoped to begin Phase 2 in August of 2016 and complete the remaining meeting rooms, the construction of a new egress stairway, kitchenette and bathrooms and the HVAC needed for the Heritage Room. The cost for Phase 2 is estimated at \$405,000 and will be a combination of public and private funds.

Ms. Hoey stated that Article 4 is asking for \$50,000 to be contributed to the Reserve Fund. Currently the Fund has \$200,000 balance and the original request was to seek \$100,000 this year from the Town but at the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, the amount was divided and spread over two years. The tax impact on the \$50,000 allocation will be \$0.05 per one thousand dollars of assessed value. Ms. Hoey thanked everyone for their support.

At 10:48 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 14. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 14 passes.

Mr. Imse stated that it is “last call” on the voting for Article 3.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be added to the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established.**

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Article 15 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded. Selectman Hunter stated that this Article seeks a contribution to the Reserve Fund and noted that it is for a lesser amount than originally sought based upon closer evaluation by the CIP Committee reducing the amount from \$60,000 to \$50,000 while still being able to meet the Department's future needs. A list of items was displayed that showed their replacement cost and anticipated year of replacement. The total current replacement cost is \$424,000. The balance of this fund at the end of the fiscal year is anticipated to be \$226,716. The tax impact will be \$0.05 per one thousand of assessed value.

At 10:49 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 15. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 15 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the surveying, engineering and design of a new salt storage shed to replace the salt storage shed at the Department of Public Works and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$40,000 from the Municipal Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Article 16 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded. Selectman Hadaway stated that the Bow Highway Department stores up to 600 tons of salt each year and as of today has been storing it in a three-sided shed that was poorly built in 1996 and is now failing badly with a leaky roof and bulging walls. It could probably be band-aided and serve another couple of years, but it is located in the Wellhead Protection area. The potential for contamination of the Municipal well should be of grave concern to all of us and we should also protect the huge investment we recently made toward providing Municipal water.

Because of the location, EPA requires a topographical and physical evidence survey is required, and can be done by our Town engineers, DuBois & King, to determine the appropriate setbacks for the new structure. Once the survey is done, DuBois & King will design the all-important drainage system and grading necessary to protect the Wellhead as well as determine how to demolish the existing structure safely. Because of the material being stored and mixed as well as the location of the structure, it does require a very thorough and specific design. The need for a replacement has been known for several years and has been part of the CIP, so there will be no property tax impact.

At 10:52 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 16. Sandy Crystal, 1 Shore View Drive, expressed her support of the Article as a resident and Chairperson of the Bow Drinking Water Committee. The salt and sand should be stored in a shed that provides enough coverage to allow the mixing of salt and sand and also

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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the loading of the mixture into the trucks on a protected base. Being no one else at the microphones, Mr. Imse closed the public comment session at 10:53 PM, called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 16 passes.

At 10:54 PM, Mr. Imse closed the ballots and asked that the votes be counted.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be added to the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Article 17 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded. Selectman Judd the Article calls for a contribution to the fund for such emergency equipment as air packs, the jaws-of-life, defibrillators and turnout gear. The total cost of replacement is \$636,000. The current fund balance is expected to be \$166,251 at the end of the fiscal year. The \$50,000 contribute will carry a tax impact of \$0.05 per thousand dollar of assessed value.

At 10:55 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 17. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 17 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000 to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority Vote Required)**

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Article 18 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded. Selectman Hunter stated that this Article seeks a contribution to the fire truck fund. After reviewing maintenance records and discussions with Fire Chief Dana Abbott, Lieutenant Michael VanDyke and DPW Foreman Todd Drew, they were able to make adjustments. One of the changes made was to the life expectancy of one of the vehicles from ten years to twenty years. A reduction of \$20,000 was made without jeopardizing the future needs of the Department.

Ms. Hunter stated that the total cost to replace the equipment on the list is \$2,581,000. The fund balance is estimated to be \$1,434,682 at the end of the current fiscal year. The tax impact of a \$45,000 contribution is \$0.04 per thousand dollar of assessed value.

At 10:57 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 18. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 18 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000 for the purchase of repeater station equipment for the Police Department and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$45,000 from the Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.**

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

### **Article 19 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded. Selectman Hadaway stated that the Article is to replace the repeater station for the Police and is located offsite at 52 Woodhill Road, one of the highest elevation in Bow, and houses both the Town's and the School's communication equipment in a climate control 6' x 12' shed surrounded by a 9' galvanized chain link fence with barbed wire at the top. The antenna system, a generator and two fuel tanks are housed inside the structure. The equipment was purchased in 2005 with a Homeland Security grant, which, unfortunately, are no longer available. The replacement had been added to the CIP. The \$45,000 includes installation and the labor and the majority of the funds will be used to replace the base station radios, antenna system and antenna structure to increase its integrity and longevity. There is also a need to improve the security of the shed. Any remaining monies will be used for structure maintenance and grounds upkeep. The generator will not be replaced at this time, as it is good for another twenty to thirty years. The propane tanks will be to be repositioned and enlarged. There is no tax impact.

At 10:59 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 19. Parker Moore, 42 Knox Road, asked for clarification that there is no grant money available, and asked if the Emergency Management Performance grant share program has been checked out. Mr. Moore stated that he is in favor of the Article because the repeater is needed, but if grant funding is available, that would be preferred. Ms. Hadaway stated that she is not aware of the share-program and asked that Chief Commerford look into it. Being no one else to speak, Mr. Imse closed the public comment session, called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 19 passes.

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the purchase of a mower for the Parks and Recreation Department and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$40,000 from the Parks and Recreation Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

### **Article 20 passed by majority vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded. Selectman Hunter stated that over the past year and a half, an attempt was made to privatize our recreational fields; however, it was not the right fit for our community as problems arose with the frequency of the mowing and lack of attention to detail. This Warrant Article is for the replacement of the current mower with a Toro Groundsmaster 7210 that has a polar track system that can be used to not only mow the fields but also plow the ice rink in the winter. It also has an attachment that will allow the groundskeeper to groom the infields without having to return to the shop for another piece of equipment. The mower has already been funded through the CIP so there will be no tax impact.

At 11:01 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 20. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 20 passes.

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing Parks and Recreation Parking and Roads Capital Reserve Fund to the Parks and Recreation Improvements Capital Reserve Fund**

(2/3 vote required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Article 21 passed by required 2/3 vote.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded. Selectman Crisp started that he would speak to Article 21 & 22 at the same time because they relate to one another. Some time ago, there was a Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) established for the purpose of parking and roads at the fields of Hanson Memorial Park – Goodwin field, Gordon field and Gosling field. The need for parking has been addressed and a new need has arisen, as any parent can attest, is the condition of the fields. Complaints regarding these fields are received not only by the residents but also by visiting teams. This year, the Recreation Needs Committee and our new groundskeeper focused on what can be done regarding these fields to meet the huge demands put on them by all the soccer players, lacrosse players, baseball players and all our Youth Programs.

Mr. Crisp stated that our new Groundskeeper, Dan Freeman, has done an amazing job bringing the fields back to life but the limitation is the fact that there is no irrigation. Over the past years, the Town has looked at several potential options to irrigate the fields that including the digging of several wells that proved unsuccessful and bringing water from Turee Pond. The Groundskeeper has been able to get one of the wells to function and now the possibility of irrigating the fields has a source of water. There is now a plan in place that can bring irrigation to those fields and requires a couple of steps to implement. The first step is to change the Use of this CRF to include fields. If changed, then Article 22 will authorize a withdrawal of \$22,000 towards the cost of an irrigation system. The irrigation will allow for greater use of the fields and possibly extend their life and the hope is that additional fields will not be necessary. Mr. Crisp concluded by stating that both Cindy Rose, Park & Recreation Director, and Dan Freeman, Groundskeeper, are present and can answer questions.

At 11:05 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on Article 21. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 21 passes by approximately 90% of voter cards displayed in the affirmative.

Mr. Imse noted that it was past 11:00 PM, the predetermined adjournment of the meeting, and is assuming that everyone is still present to hear the results of Article 3 and vote on Article 30. Mr. Imse stated that they would continue addressing the Warrant Articles until the count for Article 3 has been tallied and, if agreed, could complete addressing the remaining Article so that the meeting would not need to be continued to March 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,700 for the purchase and installation of field irrigation equipment at Goodwin, Gordon and Gosling Fields and to authorize the withdrawal of \$22,200 from the Parks and Recreation Improvements Capital Reserve with the balance of \$11,500 to come from Subdivision Regulation donations and \$2,000**

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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**funded by donations.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Article 22 passed, as amended.**

Jill Desrochers moved and Jennifer Strong-Rain seconded. Selectman Crisp stated that the funding initially discussed was to use \$22,000 as described in Article 22 with the balance of \$11,500 from the Subdivision Regulation donations; however, the developer has offered land in lieu of a cash donation and the decision was made that it was a greater benefit to the Town to accept the land.

Selectmen Anderson made a motion to amend Article 22 that was seconded by Selectman Hunter as follows: strike “from the Subdivision Regulation donations” and replace with “to be raised by taxation”.

**AMENDMENT TO WARRANT ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,700 for the purchase and installation of field irrigation equipment at Goodwin, Gordon and Gosling Fields and to authorize the withdrawal of \$22,200 from the Parks and Recreation Improvements Capital Reserve with the balance of \$11,500 to be raised by taxation and \$2,000 funded by donations.**

At 11:09 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on the Amendment to Article 22. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote on the Amended Article and by majority display of voter cards, stated that the **motion passes and the Article stands amended.**

At 11:10 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on the Amended Article 22. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 22 passes, as amended.

The tally of Warrant Article 3 was submitted to the Moderator.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 for the replacement of the emergency generator at the Municipal Building and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$35,000 from the Municipal Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Not addressed – deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,000 for the replacement of a police utility vehicle for the Police Department and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$32,000 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Not addressed – deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 25.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the repair of the sill and floor joists at the Old Town Hall and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$30,000 from the Municipal Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Not addressed – deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 26.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,000 for the replacement of a police cruiser for the Police Department and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$27,000 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Not addressed – deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 27.** To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 to be known as the Municipal Facilities Emergency Repair Capital Reserve Fund, for the purpose of providing funds to address unforeseen emergency or urgent repairs to municipal facilities and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 towards this purpose, and to further appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from the fund.

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Not addressed – deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 28.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the Recreation Improvements Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 3-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Not addressed – deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 29.** To see if the Town will vote to convey a permanent conservation easement on the following tract of land acquired by the Town in 1976 under Article 3 of the 1976 Town Warrant, and established as a Town Forest by the Town in 1977 under Article 4 of the 1977 Town Warrant, to Bow Open Spaces, Inc. comprised of Directors who are registered voters of the Town of Bow: Block 4,

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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**Parcel 56, consisting of 55 acres.**

(Majority Vote Required).

**Not addressed – deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 30. (By Petition)** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$550,000 to implement recommendations provided to the town to bring the fire and community building into conformity with correction of electrical deficiencies, asbestos removal and other fire safety corrections as set forth in the reports by Enviro Vantage, Cummings Associates, and Yeaton Associates, Inc. notwithstanding the decision of the building inspector on February 25, 2014, to require earthquake and other catastrophic standards to be imposed to an existing building. Source of funds shall be 1) the withdrawal of \$350,000 from otherwise unappropriated funds, 2) the withdrawal of \$100,000 from the Municipal Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Funds and the remainder raised by taxes.

(Majority vote required)

(Not Recommended by Budget Committee 6-1)

**Discussed above. Vote deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 31. To hear reports of standing committees and take any action relating thereto.**

**Not addressed – deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 32. To transact any other business which may legally come before such meeting.**

**Not addressed – deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

Ray Johnson, 110 Knox Road made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Several individuals seconded the motion. At 11:16 PM, Mr. Imse stated that the first order of business for the continuation meeting scheduled for next Thursday, March 19, 2015, will be to reconsider Article 3, vote on Article 3, vote on Article 30 and then address the remaining Warrant Articles.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mridula Naik  
Town Clerk  
Minutes recorded and prepared by Louise Knee

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# Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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## MARCH 19, 2015 TOWN MEETING

Continuation of the March 11, 2015 Meeting

TOWN OF BOW, NEW HAMPSHIRE

MINUTES

As Revised on November 25, 2015

\*Revision to Warrant Article 5 to correct a typing error

Town Moderator Peter Imse called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM, introduced himself and welcomed everyone and announced that there might be a delayed start due to the large number

Of people. At 7:10 PM, Mr. Imse stated that the Fire Chief has noted that the Auditorium has reached capacity and that the cafeteria is being set-up with a remote feed and asked everyone standing in the aisles to go to the cafeteria. At 7:22 PM Mr. Imse stated that there will be an additional delay as the capacity of the cafeteria has been reached and they are now in the process of pulling out the bleachers in the gymnasium and establishing a remote feed there.

At 7:37 PM, Mr. Imse stated that the meeting will officially begin and added that because the gathering is a continuation of the 3/11/15 meeting and considering the late start there would be no Color Guard presentation or National Anthem and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Imse stated that he would not take the time to introduce everyone at the head table and noted that there are the same individuals that were present at the 3/11/15 meeting and seated in the same chairs. Head table included from left to right: Finance Director Bob Blanchette, Town Manager David Stack, Selectmen Jack Crisp, Selectmen Vice Chair Eric Anderson, Selectmen Chair Jill Hadaway, Selectmen Colleen Hunter, Selectmen Harry Judd, Town Counsel Paul Fitzgerald, Administrative Assistant Nicole Gage, Town Clerk Mridula Naik and Recording Secretary Louise Knee; and up in the control booth was Bob Jacques. Mr. Imse extended a special thank-you to Mr. Jacques for the quick set up of the remote audio and video feeds in the cafeteria and then in the auditorium so this meeting could get underway.

Mr. Imse stated that additional Assistant Moderators have been deputized, that they are recognizable by the orange reflective vests and thanked Jim Hatem, Rick Minard, Ben Kiniry, Judy Goodnow, Richard Swett, Mike Griffin, Gerry Carrier and Tamar Roberts, Robert Louf, Dave Scanlan and Bryan Westover for volunteering.

Mr. Imse stated that the Assistant Moderators for the gymnasium under the lead of Robert Louf and noted that he and Mr. Louf are connected through walkie-talkie and

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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confirmed the connection and Mr. Louf added that the visual feed is functioning.

Mr. Imse noted that the last order of business at the 3/11/15 meeting was a motion to reconsider Warrant Article 3 and to suspend the vote on Warrant Article 30 after the vote on Article 3. Once that has been honored, the meeting will proceed to address the remaining Articles beginning with Article 23 as Articles 4, 5, and 12 are dependent upon Article 3.

Mr. Imse stated that the meeting will be conducted as per the Moderator Rules printed in the Town Report and as adopted at the last meeting. Mr. Imse noted that reconsideration of an Article generally means to start as if were “new” and allow ten minutes for presentation followed by public comment; however, with regard to Article 3 there was extensive presentations and would like to suggest that all speakers be allowed three-minutes, including presenters. Mr. Imse stated that he did bring a timer to the meeting and would be diligent in monitoring it for every speaker. With regard to the question of “how many times can an Article be reconsidered”, Mr. Imse stated that under most Parliamentary Rules, there can only be one reconsideration; however, if an amendment is proposed, the question then becomes can an Article can be reconsidered as amended. Mr. Imse asked for a motion.

**Motion** made by Ken Swanson, 85 Allen Road, and seconded by Van Mosher, 99 Allen Road, that with regard to Article 3: (1) each speaker will be limited to three-minutes, including presenters; (2) that there be no second reconsideration; and (3) that there be no amendments considered. Mr. Imse noted that there are approximately 300 people in the gymnasium who will be voting and noted that if they wish to speak to the motion, they would have to come to the auditorium and speak at the microphones. At 7:50 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment regarding the motion. No one arrived at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote. Mr. Louf stated that the gymnasium vote was overwhelming to pass the motion. Auditorium vote received majority. Mr. Imse declared that the motion passed.

Mr. Imse stated that there was an error of sorts made at the last meeting when he allowed a motion to call the question from the audience instead of from a speaker at the microphone and clarified that any such motion made at this meeting will only be accepted if made from the microphone, that anyone standing in line at the microphone will be allowed to speak and added that should anyone be in transit from the gymnasium they will be considered to have been at the microphone when the question was called.

Mr. Imse stated that if the business of the meeting has not concluded by 11:00 PM tonight, it would reconvene next Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM; unless, of course, the business is near complete and a motion is made and voted to stay late and finish.

Mr. Imse asked everyone to be respectful and courteous and not applause as that can be distracting. Mr. Imse stated that everyone should have received a wristband, voter card and colored ballots when they signed in. Voter cards will be used unless a Warrant Article requires a ballot vote and three ballot box stations exist – one up front on the stage and another at the rear of the meeting room in the auditorium and a third in the gymnasium. Assistant Moderators are available if anyone is unable or needs assistance. Ballot votes are required to remain open for one hour.

### **RECONSIDERATION OF WARRANT ARTICLE 3**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,030,000 (gross budget) for the design, construction and equipping of a public safety building, for expenses relating to relocation of the Fire Department, Emergency

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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Management and Police Department to this facility, and for expenses relating to the issuance of municipal bonds or notes, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$5,000,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any other action or pass any other vote relative thereto; with the balance of \$30,000 to be raised by taxation. The first payment for this bond or note will not be due until after the bond for the Bow High School project, issued in 1996 by the NH Municipal Bond Bank, matures on 8/15/16.

(2/3 ballot vote required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 6-1)

**VOTE 3/11/15: 376 – 200. Motion failed (2/3 vote would require 384 in the affirmative).**

**Motion made and passed to reconsider at the 3/19/2015 meeting.**

**VOTE 3/19/15: 612 – 503. Article failed (2/3 vote would require 743 in the affirmative).**

Mr. Imse stated that a motion and second to bring Article 3 forth for reconsideration is not required as it was made at the last meeting and turned the meeting over to Selectmen Colleen Hunter for a brief three-minute presentation.

Ms. Hunter stated that the Public Safety Building Review Committee recommended the design-build of a new Public Safety Facility to solve all of the problems associated with the electrical, life safety, environmental, accessibility and critical building criteria of our obsolete facilities. First and foremost, we need to provide our Emergency Responders with a safe working environment. In doing so, we will be immediately addressing all of the functional needs of the Fire, Police, Emergency Management and Dispatch. The result of these changes will improve safety and services for the residents. The building of a new Public Safety building is a good, wise, long-term investment of tax dollars. With interest rates being historically low, as well as low fuel prices, which is a driver of construction cost, there is no better time to build. There will be no impact on taxes until after the High School bond is paid and we will draw only as much of the \$5M (Million) bond as needed to complete the whole project. The cost will not exceed the \$5M as recommended by the Review Committee, the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee. To be clear, this \$5M number includes everything, even the HVAC system. This is the time for you, the residents of Bow, to provide our Fire, Police and Emergency Management with a facility they so desperately need and deserve. Thank you.

Ms. Hunter stated that she would like to turn over the microphone to Mr. William Smagula the Vice President of Eversource Energy, formerly known as PSNH. Mr. Imse stated that Mr. Smagula is not a registered voter in Town and per the Rules, non-registered voters do not get to speak without permission of the meeting; however, the news regarding the plant has become very timely considering the events that have occurred since the 3/11/15 meeting and the Selectmen asked if there could be an opportunity for him to address the meeting, within the three minute time frame that applies to voters. Mr. Imse called for a vote to allow Mr. Smagula to speak. By

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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majority vote in both the auditorium and the gymnasium, the will of the people was to let Mr. Smagula speak. Mr. Kiniry stated that if Mr. Smagula speaks, he should be required to stay and answer questions until the end of the discussion. Mr. Smagula stated that what he will speak to will be a summary of the facts that he is familiar with and may not have the answers to questions but is willing to stay if need be.

Mr. Smagula stated that he has been asked to come here tonight to share with you a number of facts in order to supplement the knowledge you have and add to the information that you will need in order to make an informed decision this evening. There are two important points to consider. One is the question "When was the information made public and when did people know about the decision that had been made and the commitment the Company has made regarding the divestiture decision for our generating assets which includes the Merrimack Station in Bow?" The announcement was made public a week ago today, last Thursday, 3/11/15. It was communicated to the Town and to Eversource employees at the same time. There was no knowledge in the public arena on this issue until last Thursday.

Mr. Smagula stated that the second point is with regard to the timing of the operations at the Merrimack Station in Bow. A number of events will need to take place. First, a bill has to be introduced in the Legislature and go through the Senate, which will be voted on next week, and then go through the House of Representatives process and ultimately signed by the Governor which could occur sometime in May or June. That will be address refinancing of existing debt, at lower interest rates. Subsequent to that, the Public Utilities Commission will take up an item to review in order to review a complex settlement agreement and could, in their estimation, consume the remainder of this year (2015). Only once that is done, can the divestiture process take place.

Mr. Smagula stated that a divestiture process of the complex and diverse assets is a very complicated process involving only extremely qualified bidders who are competent in operating such facilities. That process will take approximately one and a half years, through 2016. Subsequent to that, the new owner will be required to operate the plant for a minimum of eighteen months. Eversource has made the commitment to operate the plant until May of 2019. The Merrimack Station will remain in operation for at least five more years. It is possible that the qualified bidder may have other operational plans for the plant beyond 2019. The plant is not closing and will only be sold to qualified professional companies who will operate it.

Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment and recognized the first speaker at the microphone.

Jim Hoffman, 3 Nathaniel Drive, stated that at the end of the last meeting there was talk about "essential" buildings and the discussion ended rather "fuzzily". He did some independent research and shared the following: (1) directly from California Code, Chapter 27 on Health and Safety, "This Chapter shall be known and may be cited as the Essential Services Buildings Seismic Safety act of 1986". Mr. Hoffman stated that California sits atop the Andreas Fault and is prone to frequent earthquakes. (2) This is not a NH building requirement and is not in either the Fire Safety Code or Building Services Code nor is it in any of the RSAs. (3) NH is not "silent" on the concept of essential services. Mr. Hoffman encouraged everyone to follow the "lean principles" and the lead of our NH Governor and vote "no" on Article 3 and "yes" on Article 30.

Adam Seligman, 52 Brown Hill Road, stated that he is a call-member of the Bow Fire Department and also a full-time Police Officer in another community and can attest to the deficiencies in both Departments in Bow and believes that now is the time for a new public safety building. Like so many people, he moved to Bow for what it has to offer,

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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schools, public safety and community services, and knew that the taxes were not the cheapest in the State. He could have selected a different town. We heard last week that an average home would pay approximately \$94 a year towards a new public safety center. That breaks down to \$7.87 a month. An average person spends about a thousand dollars a year, or \$83 a month, on coffee. By cutting down four cups of coffee a month, one has saved enough money to pay for the new safety complex. Please think long and hard about this. Is not paying an average of \$7.87 a month not worth the health, safety and welfare of the residents of Bow? It most certainly is in his opinion.

Mr. Seligman stated that the response time for the Fire Department is crucial. Today, if there is a fire, the crew at the Rescue Building have to go down the stairs, get in the ambulance, respond to the Fire Station, park the ambulance, gear up and get into the fire truck and then respond to the call. This process adds about three to five minutes to the response time to get to your house to save life and property. We heard last meeting that seconds count in saving lives. It is important to shovel hydrants and keep them clear because seconds count with fire too. By voting "no" on Article 3, you are telling your family, friends and neighbors that you don't care about their lives and property, that you care more about saving less than \$8 a month.

Mr. Seligman stated many have read from the Concerned Taxpayers of Bow that the power plant accounts for 17% of the tax base. That is not true. The power plant is only 9.3% of the tax base. Everyone also heard last week that many of the reports from the Concerned Taxpayers of Bow regarding the repairs to the Fire Station are not correct. Let's not let them use fear of the dollar to get you to vote "no" on Article 3. Mr. Seligman stated that his fear is that if we don't vote "yes" on Article 3, it will only be a matter of time before life or property is lost, just to save a few dollars a month.

Mr. Seligman stated that the concerns the Police Chief noted last week, especially with regard to a Sally Port, the booking area and the bathroom need to be taken seriously. Article 30 totally ignores the needs of the Police department. By voting "no" on Article 30 and "yes" on Article 3, you are saying that you care about everyone's safety.

Robert Counter, 16 Albin Road, stated that he moved to Bow in 1956, became a member of the Fire Department and was a Captain on one of the fire trucks. Mr. Counter stated that he is not in favor of Article 3. If we're considering investing \$5M, why not put a couple of million dollars into the Fire Station building and eliminate some of the facilities in that building so it can be a workable building for the Fire Department and use some of DPW space to beef up the Police needs. Mr. Counter stated that he is concerned with placing all "the eggs in one basket" creating a terrorist threat/opportunity. Mr. Counter stated that he is against Article 3.

Craig Beaulac, 5 Rand Road, stated that he is a Member of the Fire Department and thanked Mr. Counter for his service to the community. Mr. Beaulac stated that he has been to many homes in Town when folks were sick, injured or had a fire and supports Article 3.

Chuck Douglas, 40 Stone Sled Lane, stated that Selectman Hunter noted that the HVAC costs were included in Article 3 but last week there was a statement made that HVAC was not included and would like the point clarified. He would also like to know whether site work is included in the \$5M bond. Selectman Judd responded and stated that the \$5M is the maximum price and that the chart referred to the price listing for construction at different dollar amounts. The exclusions listed at the bottom of the chart would have been picked up in the dollar amount, that in fact there is \$800,000 to use for HVAC and other items. The bid will go out as a design-build project and the project will not exceed \$5M.

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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Rob Hollinger, 6 Sharon Drive, stated that two years ago we had a plan put forth for \$7.7M, last year a plan for \$6.7M and this year a \$5M plan. The big difference between this year and the other years is that this year we don't know what we are getting. As of now, there is no design, and to the dismay of the residents living on Jonathan Lane and Knox Road there's no exact location for the building. We're not even sure what will be added to next year's vote. Last year, the proposal did not include geothermal heating. Does this year's proposal include geothermal, paving, landscape? We are being asked to vote on a single sentence "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,030,000 (gross budget) for the design, construction and equipping of a public safety building" between 20,000 – 25,000 square feet. This is pretty vague and asked if anyone in the room would pay a contractor who said "I'll build you a 2500 – 3000 square foot home for \$500,000, just sign here and pay me now"? Unlikely but this is what Article 3 is asking us to do tonight.

Jeffrey Knight, 2 Peaslee Drive, stated that he was the person who brought Aho Construction to the Town for a walkthrough of the Fire Station to address the comments from the Fire Marshall. The walkthrough lasted about two hours and included the Town Manager and Building Inspector. In response to a comment from the last meeting from Steve Destefano, yes, things were measured and inspected. The only number that Aho used was the asbestos estimate previously given to the Town. Another comment from last meeting questioned the address. He checked with Todd Drew and the estimate was for the Fire Station building and that the address was listed wrong on the estimate. The difference in the estimate amounts has to do with whether the building will remain standing or be taken down. There was another comment/question about the sprinkler system. Mr. Aho obtained a quote from a sprinkler company that was actually willing to install a sprinkler system in that building for \$65,000. With regard to ADA compliance in the building, there is an existing ADA bathroom in the building as well as ADA doors and in his discussion with Mr. Buttrick, Building Inspector, they both agreed that additional items may need to be brought into ADA compliance but they are not substantial.

Don Berube, 27 River Road, stated that he voted for Article 3 last week and is sad to admit that he cannot vote for it this week because of the events that changed between then and now. Was willing to spend the \$94 but now it has to go to all-day kindergarten and is still wondering where the members of the Coalition of Taxpayers were last Friday. After that vote, it seems like everything else was voted in. We're going to spend \$30,000 to study a salt shed. We have spent out money. The Committee did a wonderful job planning for this safety facility and hopes they bring back the same proposal next year because he does not feel there is a need for a new Committee. As for Article 30, it is throwing good money after bad. If it is just a little bit of money to do the bare necessity for the electricity to get by another year, then that's probably what should happen. There is no need to fix the kitchen and we have proven that we can put on a Community dinner without that stove. We need businesses in Town to help with taxes. And there's uncertainty regarding the Merrimack Station, even though we've heard tonight that it will be there for another five years, we are looking at a twenty-year bond. The biggest deterrent Bow has to businesses wanting to come to Town is the tax rate. Excel came in and in eight or nine months since their first Planning Board meeting to opening their doors, they put up 250,000 square foot building. Bow is receptive to business. If we can slow down our tax rate even for a couple of years, that could go a long way to inviting businesses. Mr. Berube stated that he is sad to say that he has to vote "no" to both Article 3 and Article 30.

Ray Johnson, 110 Knox Road, stated that he was on the Committee and would like to answer some of the questions. The groundwork and the asphalt were figured into the

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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\$5M price. The Committee wanted \$35,000 to go to a design-build and get the building built properly. The Town voted no money whatsoever to be able to prepare and present a plan to show what the \$5M would provide. But, what the Committee did do was take a good look at H&L Turner's Plan and one of the reasons it was expensive had to do with the location and configuration of the building. We had a design-builder come to a meeting and explain to us what drives cost. Square footage and gas prices are the two biggest factors. The option of relocating the building to the top of the lot, where it is flatter and require less groundwork and would allow for a more traditional building design. Last year the estimate for groundwork alone was \$800,000. As far as Article 30 goes, it is throwing money up in the air and letting the wind blow it away. The existing building is 59 years old but, more important, it is inadequate in size for the Fire Department. The picture that was shown at the beginning of the meeting displayed 1947 & 1948 fire trucks. Take a look at the fire trucks we have today. Will they fit through those doors? Just barely without even six inches on either side. Our fire fighters cannot squeeze by one another when the trucks are inside. That is not how we should treat our people. Please vote "yes" on Article 3.

Sue Eastman, 1 Poor Richards Drive, stated that she has logistical questions that have potential significant financial impact concerning Article 30. Is there a cost analysis for adjunct costs associated with the renovations? Specifically, where are you going to locate equipment, ambulances and fire trucks during renovations? And how long will the renovations take? Ms. Eastman stated that from her observations, asbestos abatement requires containment. The present workspaces would need to be cleared. On the Fire Department side, this would have to be a functioning structure and not static storage. Fire and EMS equipment have requirements that include exhaust extraction, heat vent control, weatherproof, electrical service, equipment security and communication. Office files, including HIPPA related documents, require additional security. If renovations continue through the winter, snow load needs to be considered. The logistics bring many questions to mind, not the least of which is cost. If we are looking at our tax burden, why would we continue to put good money into a bad building, a building that does not address the issue or needs of the Police Station, the Fire Station or EOC.

Lee Kimball, 32 Ridgewood Drive, stated that he is in favor of Article 3 and in opposition to Article 30. Last week he questioned the intrinsic value of Article 30 that amounts to placing a \$550,000 band aid on a structure appraised only at \$335,400 value. There are deficiencies and functional needs of our existing service facilities. These deficiencies were highlighted during the last Thanksgiving Day storm that experienced a total failure of inter-departmental connect-ability due to lack of power, lack of phone communications, radio communications, internet access and inadequate housing for duty personnel within the EOC, the Fire Department and the Police Department. At one point during the event, we could not even open the overhead doors to get apparatus out of the Fire Station due to system failures. Mr. Kimball stated that this evening he would like to put a little lighter spin to encourage everyone to vote "yes" on Article 3 and "no" on Article 30.

Karen Swanson, 85 Allen Road, moved the question. Several seconds to the motion were called out from the audience. Mr. Imse noted that a motion to call the question requires a two-thirds vote of the assembled multitude and called for the vote. Mr. Louf reported that the vote in the gymnasium was overwhelming in support of the motion. By majority vote in both the auditorium and gymnasium, Mr. Imse declared that the motion passed. Mr. Imse asked that Assistant Moderators stand at the end of the line as everyone standing at the microphone will be allowed to speak.

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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Garth Orsmond, 36 Tonga Drive, stated that neither Article 30 nor Article 3 have a firm build quote. Article 3 was based on a design-build contractor giving overall advice and rough estimate of approximately \$4M based on his experience of having built eight or nine such facilities in New Hampshire. On the other side (Article 30) there was a hand-picked person come through. The last time this was considered, the contractor, who was voting, also gave an estimate for remodeling and that remodeling cost was for \$4M.. Dr. Orsmond stated that with regard to the essential building code, every person that they have spoken to did not hesitate to say yes when asked if it should be built to essential building code. Dr. Orsmond stated that it is people who take care of you, the firemen, the police and emergency personnel and added that they have to be alive to do so.

Ted Bardwell, 14 Bow Bog Road, stated that he would like to reiterate all the 'yes' comments spoken earlier on Article 3. The Bow Volunteer Fire Department Association, of which he is President, also endorses Article 3. Please vote "yes". Thank you.

Sandy Crystall, 1 Shore View Drive, stated that she wants to correct some misinformation that was mentioned earlier in the meeting. Clearly, the word "lean" is a good buzz word and may seem to indicate that it means 'frugal', but it does not. The 'lean process' was started many years ago by Toyota and really addresses efficiency and not being cheap. Ms. Crystall stated that basically if a fire engine has to be dis-attached to enter the Station and re-attached, that is clearly not efficient and supports Article 3. Ms. Crystall stated that it is not cheap, that she drives a twelve year old vehicle and a fifteen year old vehicle, and feels strongly that the money is well spent on emergency services.

Ben Kiniry, 9 Van Ger Drive, stated that he was recently voted to work with the Select Board starting after this meeting, that he has written a couple of letters in the Concord Monitor and has had people call him and correct him on some points that he now wishes to share. The School Board did not vote to support the \$390,000 for all-day kindergarten and neither did the Budget Committee. It was the taxpayers who voted that in. Also, there's not a \$5.2M bond to make renovations to the school. The \$5.2M number represents possible things that could be done, that need to be done, that are very expensive and will need to be addressed during the course of the bond.

Mr. Kiniry stated that he has a question for Mr. Smagula. He was reading the PSNH Generation Asset and PPA (Power Plant Agreement) Evaluation report dated 3/31/14 and it comes across as stating that once the sale is done for approximately \$20M, there were six scenarios with overwhelming research to support them, and it seemed in the end, if he read it correctly, that the only way this power plant can function is if natural gas process skyrocket. If that doesn't happen, then the plant cannot be profitable. If we get power from Quebec, it cannot survive. And if we get new gas lines in New England to increase the amount of supply, the power plant can't survive. Mr. Kiniry asked Mr. Smagula to comment on that or correct his thinking.

Mr. Smagula stated that the report did not factor in a number of elements that relate to the current business circumstances in New England. It is a report that is thorough, but it does not factor in future capacity markets and other aspects of the business side of running a generating plant. Regarding the gas prices, it is clear that gas prices are going to fluctuate greatly, particularly in winter periods, as they have the last two winters, creating extreme costs to customers. Fairmax Station has provided significant protection to PSNH customers to the order of tens of millions of dollars during winter periods, and it is their opinion that will continue for many more years. That is a

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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consideration a buyer will take into consideration to run the plant.

Mr. Imse asked if anyone else at the microphones had a question for Mr. Smagula. No one indicated they had. Mr. Imse stated that if Mr. Smagula wished to leave, he could, or he is welcome to stay and listen to the rest of the meeting. Mr. Smagula wished everyone a good evening and good luck with the remainder of the meeting.

Willis Sloat, 4 Longview Drive, stated that Article 30 is a band aid approach and is like discovering you have a leak in your fuel line and deciding to fix it with duct tape. Will that work? Yes. Will it work for long? No. Is it a cheap fix? Heck yeah. But you'll end up with a much more expensive problem down the road. Sooner or later, the Fire and Police Stations need to be replaced. This is not a question about taxes. It is about safety. He and many others moved to Bow because it is the best Town and has the best schools. The cost for electricity and heat for the two Stations runs around \$42,000 per year, and a new building will be highly insulated, super energy efficient with solar panels, with the possibility of geothermal, and save about \$30,000 a year. A delay just means more money. Voting it today, we're talking \$94 a year, next year will coast us more.

Joanne Ives, 4 Bow Bog Road, stated that she is here tonight to speak in favor of passing Warrant Article 3. I am here speaking in an ambulatory condition thanks to Bow Rescue Squad. In a dangerous storm last February 18<sup>th</sup>, one year and twenty-eight days ago, the Rescue Squad came to my home, stabilized my condition, which allowed me to receive life-saving care. If I had to wait thirty minutes for Mutual Aid rescue, I would not be standing here tonight. I urge you to support the construction of the new Public Safety Building and so you too, if needed, can be assured the fast exceptionally trained personnel to save your life. My life was saved. Think of your own.

Gary Nylen, 38 Robinson Road, thanked all the people who signed his get-well poster at the last Town Meeting while he was in the hospital. I've been a Member of a lot of Commissions in Town, been here fifty years, was the Town's first full time Police Chief, worked with the Fire Department and was on the Committee that made the ambulance service we have today and supports the idea of Article 3, but his pocketbook can't.

Bob Ives, 4 Bow Bog Road, stated that he would like everyone to go home tonight and if you voted against Article 3, look at your loved ones and say "its okay, you can wait the extra five minutes it will take to get help." I didn't have to do that, thank the Lord. My wife is still alive.

Jean Rich, 11 Nesbitt Drive, stated that she loves and agrees with Lee Kimball's poem, that she is in favor of Article 3 and that we can't delay the inevitable any longer. It is clearly a "need" and not a "want". One point that has not been mentioned yet, is the affect on homeowner's insurance because the quality of service is reflected in the premiums charged. Article 30 is flawed, it does not address all the safety concerns, it does not address the issues at the Police Station at all, and only provides an incomplete band aid for the current problems at the Fire Station, that, as an attorney, there is a concern that if we, the Town, does nothing or adopts Article 30, we put Bow at risk for lawsuits for delayed response time, for unsafe working conditions for Town employees that will cost Bow more money in the long run and more importantly costing lives and additional fire property loss. Please vote for Article 3.

Jonathan Baier, Hollow Road, stated that he personally doesn't worry about a major contributor disappearing out of Town, but the facts are that Article 3 is an improvement to the infrastructure in Town and that is important for strong businesses. My taxes are

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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absurd and this Article will not amount to a drop in the bucket. I'm also sick of coming here every year. Two years ago I could not support over \$7M for a Public Safety Building, nor could I support last year's number. I can support \$5M. The problem will not go away. The sooner it is done, the less it will cost. To dump a half a million dollars into the existing building is not even a band aid.

Richard Tanguay, 34 Allen Road, stated that we are here tonight to decide upon safety.. Mr. Tanguay stated that he was on the Committee that went to visit other facilities in the State and can testify that there are much smaller Towns than Bow have done more for their Police and Fire Department than we have, at this point in time. We have the opportunity tonight to step forward and do something for our Police, Fire, EM, Rescue and Dispatch. Civic duty is what this is about tonight. Do we want to pay attention to lower taxes only or do we want to be somewhat responsible and recognize that this is not a lot of money with all things considered. We made the determination as a Committee that this is doable for \$5M or less. We will not draw more than what is necessary for the building. Tonight we have the opportunity to do what is necessary. Let's take a step up and do our civic duty. Please vote "yes" on Article 3 and "no" on Article 30. Thank you.

Bob Arnold, 24 Dow Road, stated the he just completed his "rookie" year on the Budget Committee and when he was running for election, I had more than one resident tell me that folks would get mad at me. In fact, while standing outside by the polls on Election Day, I noticed one of our Town Officials walking by and I called him by name to introduce myself and got the comment "Oh, you're one of the enemy". The comment took me back. It was said with a smile and a handshake, but he did kind of mean it. Being on the Budget Committee, we were handed two binders, each two to three inches thick, filled with spreadsheets and it was kind of overwhelming. I was told we would be going through every single line item with the Town and the School. For some reason, I kept track of my time on Town business, and since last April to today, he has dedicated close to seventy hours. There are Town Officials who spend a lot more time and he has a lot of respect for them, always have.

When I was running for election, I noticed two distinct types who indicated that taxes are way too high for them and they would be looking to move, if they could get a reasonable price for their home. Once was parents of kids who graduated from our school system, and the other was retirees. What struck me at the time was that these are the two types of groups that we want to stay in our tax base. They are not utilizing our schools any longer and are probably not causing any problems for our Police Department. We all know schools consume more than 50% of the taxes. To my surprise, when I brought this up with an Elected Official, I was told Bow was not a good place for a retiree. Having lived here nine years now and turning sixty-three, this comment took me back. Of course, I am one of the people whose taxes have increased 30% while living here.

One thing I heard over and over again during the Budget Committee's review of the budgets was how small an increase a line item was going to be this year - \$50, \$500, \$1,000 – or comments like "it's only a 1% increase in our taxes". I remember one comment that was made at this meeting, was that the new Safety Building being proposed would cost each taxpayer the cost of a pizza. Until I ran for Office, I am embarrassed to say that I didn't participate in our Town Meetings. I wonder if that pizza comment was ever made regarding our other expenditures. I bet if folks here were given a check for the \$2,000 my property taxes have gone up, many would spend that money catching up on bills and not sunning in Aruba. Personally, I think we need to start being a more frugal Community, especially since we have little or no

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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control over a large portion of our tax dollars and we're seeing the demise of the "golden goose" (PSNH), yet we voted for a new bass boat for \$1,350 and to implement all-day kindergarten at \$359,000. "Just another pizza."

Erin Commerford, Police Chief, stated that she is also a resident in Town and spoke last week on how the Police Department responded to over 25,000 calls for service last year and made 192 arrests, down from the 275 arrests made the year before. Crime does happen in Bow. There are two reasons why we have not had a serious issue: (1) the caliber of people working in the Department; and (2) luck. I also shared an incident with you last week where one of my Officers had a chair thrown at him by a detainee and because we don't have a holding cell, he was forced to bring the person to the County Jail in Boscawen, which is eighteen miles away, through three Towns and takes thirty-three minutes to drive. I also shared with you another incident where the Officer had to go inside the Station to secure his firearm and leave the person in the cruiser because there is no Sally Port and the person kicked out the window of the cruiser and later filed for a civil litigation lawsuit against the Town claiming to be stuck in the cruiser for hours and treated like a dog in the hot sun. The people who work in the Department and serve you every day, navigate, manage and handle daily situations such as these. If we don't do anything and just keep crossing our fingers, our luck will run out. The last point I wish to make is in behalf of the men and women who serve you. They get up, put on their uniform and go out without question. I ask that you support them and at least get them adequate conditions to do their job for you. Thank you.

Robert Rolla, 6 Sterling Place, stated that he rises to speak against Article 3. On the front page of the Concord Monitor today, there was an article on the Bow power plant and some things that were said in the article was that the power plant is currently on our tax roll at \$80M for approximately 10% of the tax base. It also mentioned that the Excel Warehouse is assessed around \$20M for about 2% of our tax base. The article further said that there is a market and possible buyer for that plant and that it is likely to go to auction for \$10M. The difference from the \$80M it is assessed at and the \$10M it might sell for, could possibly leave us with a \$70M decline. That decline is the equivalent of three Excel Warehouses. I hope that as we plan for the next Town Meeting that the Committees start to talk about where can we get the other three Excels just to put back our tax base to where it's going to need to be in order to make up the hole we're potentially looking at when this power plant goes through its auction and the new plant owner then appeals its tax evaluation based on some sophisticated analysis and presumption that the auction price is the assessed value. Whether that actually happens or not, we are still needing to be in business to Town. We are putting the cart before the horse. We have too many Committees focusing on ways to spend money and not enough Committees working to see how we are going to back-fill the hole/void that is looming in front of us with the power plant. I strongly recommend against Article 3.

Dana Abbott, Fire Chief, stated that he has been a resident of Bow for a mere sixty-four years and has seen many a Town Meeting, but none with this many people in attendance, and appreciates everyone for coming regardless of how the vote turns out. Congratulations to the residents of Bow for coming out. Chief Abbott stated that he had prepared a lengthy speech regarding all the issues and Code violations, and in the interest of moving the meeting along, he won't read it because he knows people know most of the issues. The time for this project is now. The interest rate is the lowest it has ever been and the cost of construction is also down. Delay will add 5% - 7% to the cost each year it is delayed, and that is based on my forty-three years of service to the State of NH as Project Manager. I ask the Town residents to support Article 3. The Fire Department, the Police Department and the Emergency Management Director thank you for your support.

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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Mr. Imse closed the public comment session on Article 3 at 9:08 PM and reviewed the bidding process that included the location of the ballot boxes, the need to show your voter wristband and that the polls need to remain open for one hour. Mr. Imse opened the voting at 9:10 PM.

At 9:41 PM, Mr. Imse called the meeting back to order; noted that the vote on Article 30 will be called after the votes for Article 3 have been tallied; that Article 4 & 5 could be withdrawn depending on the outcome of Article 3 & 30; that Article 12 is contingent upon Article 3; and directed everyone's attention to Article 23.

At 10:00 PM, Mr. Imse announced that there was ten minutes left to cast a vote on Article 3. At 10:09 PM, Mr. Imse announced that there was just a minute left. At 10:10 PM, Mr. Imse closed the ballot boxes and asked that the count be tallied.

At 10:34 PM, Mr. Imse announced the vote of Article 3. Of the 1,115 votes cast, 612 were "yes" and 508 were "no". A two-thirds vote would require 743 in the affirmative. The vote is 131 shy of the required number to pass. Mr. Imse declared that Warrant Article 3 failed.

Mr. Imse stated that the next order of business is to vote on Article 30.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to develop detailed Design-Build specifications and Request for Proposal documents for the construction, based upon on the supplied design specifications and with input from the police, fire and emergency management departments, of a combined Public Safety Building ranging in size from 20,000 FSF to 25,000 SF, at a cost not to exceed \$5,000,000.**

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 6-1)

**Passed by majority vote 3/19/15.**

John Heise moved and June Branscom seconded to adopt. Selectman Anderson stated that the Public Safety Building Review Committee's report can be viewed on pages 218 -224 of the Town's Annual Report and would like to publically thank the Members of the Committee who worked over the past summer and into the fall visiting other communities, gathering information and discussing various options for the Board of Selectmen's consideration. Mr. Anderson recognized each Member individually: Art Cunningham who served as Vice Chair, David Cook, Ken Demain, Jack Driscoll, Ray Johnson, Ed Roberge, Mike Sampo, Richard Tanguay, Karen Wadsworth and Alternate Members Colleen Hunter, Chris Johnson and Garth Orsmond. They listened to what you had to say, at the Listening Sessions and prior Town Meetings, and brought your thoughts and ideas to the table for discussion and many were adopted.

Mr. Anderson stated that the Article is a "fallback" position should Article 3 fail to obtain the required 2/3 votes and also a fallback should Article 30 and 3 both fail. This Article provides for a lifeline to keep this important Public Safety Building Project moving forward.

Mr. Anderson stated that no funds were appropriated for the past two years at Town Meetings to bring professionals on board to assist the Committee of dedicated resident volunteers to formulate a recommendation for the Board of Selectmen. This Article is an attempt to rectify that shortcoming. With the passing of this Article, professionals in the construction business can be brought on board to assist in the development of design-build specifications and assemble the request for proposal documents so the Town can

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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move forward on this project.

At the current Committee's presentation to the Selectmen in the fall, they made the recommendation that a new professional Public Safety Building Committee be formed that would include Town Staff professionals, police, fire, emergency management, town management as well as town residents with expertise in design-build process and a representative from the Board of Selectmen. In preparation for the 2016 Town Meeting, time can be spent doing the necessary site evaluation and geotechnical work on the upper portion of the Town Center site to insure that it is desirable for the citing of a Public Safety Building. Because it is a new location, a new building design, new infrastructure layout, including roads, utilities and other building sites need to be addressed. This would provide some time to insure that the Town's many needs for facilities now and in the future will function well together without interfering with one another. With the help of professionals in the field, the Committee would be better equipped to make its recommendation to the 2016 Annual Town Meeting to proceed with the construction and to recommend bonding authority for an amount not to exceed \$5M. a plan can be prepared that will not exceed the \$5M. Equally important, bonds for the High School and the Phase III Sewer project to the school will be closer to retirement. The property tax impact to adopt this Article is \$0.03 per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation.

At 10:46 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting for public comment on Article 4. The following individuals expressed their comments:

Mark Vincent, Brown Hill Road, stated that he would like to amend the Article 4 by striking the word "police" and changing the building size to 15,000 square feet and the total not to exceed \$2.5M. Mr. Imse asked if this amendment is intended to mirror the amendment Chuck Douglas intends to submit and noted that it does not contain all the changes in Mr. Douglas's proposed amendment. Mr. Vincent stated that they are one and the same. Mr. Imse asked if there was a second to the proposed amendment and a female voice was heard in the audience to second the motion.

### **MOTION TO AMEND WARRANT ARTICLE 4 as follows:**

**To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to develop detailed Design-Build specifications and Request for Proposal competitive bid documents for construction, based upon the supplied design specifications and with input from fire and emergency management departments, for a combined Fire and Emergency Management Building not to exceed 15,000 square feet, at a bonded cost not to exceed \$2,000,000 and a total cost from bonds, reserve funds and private fundraising not to exceed \$2,500,000. The \$35,000 shall be withdrawn from the Municipal Building and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund.**

At 10:54 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on the proposed amendment to Article 4. The following individuals addressed the gathering:

Mark Vincent, Brown Hill Road stated that one of the speakers last year asked if there was a \$2M option and there wasn't any proposed then or now. The firehouse seems to be the biggest issue. He's lived here in Bow for 21 years and has been hearing about Sally Port for years now and it seems foolish to take on an additional \$2M bond debt when a couple hundred thousand dollars could fix the police station. If we go forward with a Fire and Emergency building of a decent size, we can probably get it passed.

Garth Ormond, 36 Tonga Drive, stated that this proposal as originally designed is the result of hundreds of hours of work by an open process satisfying all the open meeting rules. Everyone was invited. I never heard anyone propose this option. In fact, I have

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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never seen anyone who has spoken in opposition to the Facility at any of the meetings. If anyone expects people to dedicate hundreds of hours for the best proposal they need to be there and need to participate. This was considered, the possibility of doing a fire station only was considered, the possibility of renovating the existing fire station was considered, and several options were considered. That's the democratic informed process. To come up with a proposal such as this amendment at the last minute, by the backdoor, is irresponsible. Please vote against this amendment.

Ray Johnson, 110 Knox Road, stated that he disagrees with the amendment, the numbers are questionable and agrees with Dr. Orsmond. The Committee spent many hours to come up with a proposal for the Town. Last year, I voted for Fire Department only but I have since seen the situation in our Police Department and to leave them out is terrible. I would hope everyone would vote this amendment down and support the original proposal.

Ingrid White, 6 Wilderness Lane, stated that she would like to hear the opinion of the Select Board regarding the amendment before other people speak so she has a base for comparison.

Selectmen Eric Anderson responded by saying that based on the needs of the Town and the facilities that we have and the work that the Committee has done, it became obvious to the thirteen people on the Committee that, when all is said and done, if we fix one of the facilities we are still left with two others that need fixing and the Committee determined that a combined facility was the best and most cost effective option. A combined facility has been recommended since 1996 and reaffirmed five years ago and is the first recommendation from the latest Committee, which can be found on page 221 of the Annual Report.

Jeff Knight, 2 Peaslee Hill Drive, asked everyone to consider this amendment as it gives the Town a direction and if you vote for this amendment the only thing you are voting for is just \$35,000, you're not looking to bond anything, you are just looking to explore building a new Fire Station and it's not going to cost you anything because the money will come from a Reserve Fund. There's no question that the Police Station requires some additional items and those can be addressed next year. This amendment will allow the Town to take a look at the Fire Station.

Selectman Colleen Hunter stated that the money will not come out of a Capital Reserve Fund. Mr. Imse clarified that the original Article sought the funds from taxation but the Amendment proposes that the money be taken from the CRF (Capital Reserve Fund)

Lee Kimball, 32 Ridgewood Drive, encouraged everyone to defeat this amendment for a couple of reasons. First of all, the Committee has identified, through their dissertation process and looking at the Police Station, and realized that the issues at the Police Station are in dire need of correction. Secondly, \$2M is not going to do it. There was a study done around 2006 by Cobb Hill to address just the Fire Department and the estimate back then to build just a Fire Station was around \$3.8M. I put together a grant proposal through the Federal Emergency Management Agency about four years ago for 100% funding just to address the fire station and the cost then was \$4.8M. Recent studies have indicated that the cost to build a fire station alone would also be \$4.8M. The numbers being proposed totally underestimate the cost of building. The \$35,000 proposed in the original Article is to address the issues and do long term planning and encourages everyone to vote the amendment down and support the original Article.

Jon Urdi, 51 Putney Road, stated that he is against the amendment also. The term "competitive bid documents" was not intended in the original Article because it is

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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unreasonable to expect working drawings for a building for \$35,000. The \$35,000 was set up so that someone can give an outline specification and a schematic design to a Design-Build firm during the bidding process so they can do the drawings and pricing. You will not get a competitive bid set of documents for \$35,000. You won't get a 15,000 square foot building built for \$2M. Buildings being constructed today for police and fire stations are running over \$200 a square foot. And we haven't addressed the Police Station so we will be looking at another \$2M+ and could end up spending \$8M when all is said and done.

Willis Sloat, 4 Longview Drive, stated that he heard that the intent of the amendment is to "focus the effort" but it does just the opposite. The Article wants to use the \$35,000 to determine if we can get the combined facility building built for \$5M, what will the schematics look like, what will the general view look like. This amendment essentially reduces it and asks us to spend the money on an impossibility. The amendment is effectively trying to defeat the entire project and all it will accomplish is push the project back another year or two and potentially come up with a lot more problems. One worker's comp case would pay for the building. To take and eviscerate it is throwing money away. The amendment should be voted down and the original Article should be voted in so that we at least get a look at what this building could be for \$5M.

Chuck Douglas, 40 Stone Sled Lane, stated that we have had four votes now that have failed on multi-million-dollar combined buildings. This amendment presents an opportunity to thread the needle. Another combined facility proposal of \$5M is not going to get a different vote. Everyone who is concerned about the Fire Department should support this amendment. The argument that it wouldn't work is because people want to spend \$200 - \$250 a square foot. The Committee viewed buildings around the State that were built at \$150 a square foot and they are adequate, essential and meet of the required standards – at \$150/per square foot. The point of competition is that you don't select one Design-Build person, you let them compete and then make a selection. The bonded cost will only be \$2M. The other \$500,000 will come from Capital Reserve funds. If you want something to fly next year, this is the way to go. If you want the same results you've had for the last three years, then kill the amendment, but don't be surprised come next year that you're no further along then you are right now.

Lisa Cohen, 104 Brown Hill Road, stated that she has been here a long time too, over twenty years, has seen the Town Center get voted down and all the public safety proposals shot down. The Committee has looked at other buildings and some have come in at the \$2.5M mark. There have been reports put out and even referenced by the Concerned Taxpayers Group. This makes more sense. Not saying we don't need the Sally Port and bathrooms at the Police Station, but why have a \$5M building just to gain a Sally Port and bathroom?

Dick Swett, 1 Putney Road, stated that he is a licensed architect and in the design-build process, a standard of quality is set and then you let the design-build team figure out how they will meet that quality. I do not believe we should be spending \$35,000 on putting together a design-build bid. I believe we have the talent and professional expertise in our own Community who should volunteer and work to put together the design-build specification. With regard to the proposed amendment, this is not the place for us to be designing. The Committees have done a good job, we just haven't gotten it right yet and see no problem with working on a solution for one more year. Might even want to consider designing a building that can be built in stages, first addressing the Fire Station with the pre-design capability of adding on for the Police. Vote down bot the Article and the amendment and let's look at how we can do this properly and do it right and get together as a Community using the expertise we have right here at home.

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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Jean Rich, 11 Nesbitt Drive, stated that this amendment is an example of the diverseness in Town and is really kind of upsetting at this late hour and at the second meeting. It appears from the comments made earlier that the people presenting this amendment that they should become involved in the next Committee. Please take an active role before presenting an amendment at the last minute and asked where their participation has been in the past year.

Robert Rolla, 6 Sterling Place, stated that perhaps this amendment is an attempt to salvage Article 4, to put something forth to put it on the right track. We have been going on the wrong track in a relentless drive to bring in a combined facility for millions of dollars and a sizeable bond debt. We've seen tricky financing and claims that we won't have a bond payment until the school bond is paid. If you vote for this amendment, we might get on the track that Town Meeting would support; otherwise, that \$35,000 will be wasted putting in more detail in a plan that will be voted down because of the economic situation and possible decrease in tax revenues.

Jon Caron, 24 Putney Road, stated that he is concerned, understands the costs, but is torn and wonders why, as a Community, can't we come together and get it done. It is very frustrating. We're telling the Policemen and the Firemen we don't care about them with all this conversation when that is not the case – we really do care about them. I went to the School District Meeting and in one amendment they raised their budget by almost \$2.3M over the next two years. I'm sorry, but if the Town Fathers took that option and raised your budget by \$2M in any year, would you tolerate it? The answer is 'no', it has never been done. I commend Eric Anderson for all his work and desire to see our Community come together. The Committee did a great job and we should all be talking to one another like friends. Let's get settled in and find a solution.

Steve Buckley, 28 Brown Hill Road, moved the question. Mr. Imse noted that there is one person left at the microphones and called for a vote on the motion just made and noted that it has to pass by a 2/3 majority. Mr. Imse declared that the motion passes and recognized the last speaker.

Faye Johnson, 110 Knox Road, stated that she was born in Bow and is now over seventy years old. I am very disappointed in my Town. I have come to every Town Meeting, except when I was having a baby and in the last few years have seen the cooperation in this Town look like the Federal Government and I see it happening again. The Concerned Taxpayers and Mr. Douglas were aware of this Committee but they didn't show up, make comments or contributions, but yet they come to a meeting and constantly make changes based on last minute figures. There are no right or wrong votes. People vote for what they believe in. Once again, this is moving forward to nothing. Right now, I'm kind of ashamed of the Town I live in because we should be working together, caring about people. Instead of trying to cut things down, we should be building things together.

Chuck Douglas called for a point of order and requested the opportunity to respond to the criticism he just received and told Faye Johnson that he did go to several of the meetings and did make proposals. Garth Osmond noted that he came to one meeting.

**At 11:21 PM, Mr. Imse called for a vote on the Amendment to Article 4. By majority display of Voter Cards in the negative, Mr. Imse declared that the motion to amend the Article 4 fails.**

Mr. Imse stated that Article 4 as it appears in the Warrant is back on the table and asked if anyone wanted to speak to it.

Don Berube, 27 River Road, stated that he will be quick. The Committee did a good

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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job and next year we will have a plan if this Article passes.

Steve Buckley, moved the question. Mr. Imse noted that there is no one left at the microphones and called for a vote on the motion just made and noted that it has to pass by a 2/3 majority. Mr. Imse declared that the motion passes.

At 11:24 PM, Mr. Imse called for a vote on Article 4 as it appears in the Warrant. By majority display of Voter Cards in the affirmative, Mr. Imse declared that Article 4 passes.

Mr. Imse noted that there are only two Warrant Articles (#5 and #13) left to address and even though it is 11:25 PM, asked if they could be addressed now instead of having to come back for a third meeting. Murmured consent was received.

### **WARRANT ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the purpose of hiring architectural, engineering and/or consulting firms to develop the cost of options to renovate the existing Fire Station/Community Building for continued use or to construct a new community building.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 2-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Passed by majority vote 3/19/15.**

John Heise moved and June Branscom seconded. Selectman Judd introduced Bryce Larrabee of the Recreational Needs Committee to present the Article.

Mr. Larrabee stated that this Article relates to the other side of the Community Building, the Park & Rec side, not the Fire Station side. Money is being asked to study whether to repair the facility or to replace it. Mr. Larrabee stated that he had prepared a lengthy presentation, but due to the hour, will just have the slides presented overhead and briefly comment on them. Their mission was to look at the short term and long term recreational needs in Bow, they put together a Committee and had no funds to really do anything. They did do a survey that included questions on the Community Center and the fields and the gym. They had access to over a thousand email addresses and tried to get notice to everyone and the survey was also available in paper form as well. There were 455 surveys completed. Mr. Larrabee noted that the questions on the survey and the results were displayed overhead: 71% indicated the Rec Center was below average; 73% preferred to replace or repair the facility; 26% did not want to pay anything to upgrade the Rec Center while 29% would be willing to pay up to \$2M and 4% would be willing to pay between \$2M - \$5M. Mr. Larrabee stated that essentially the majority of people in Town are interested in knowing how much it will cost to repair or replace the Community Center as it relates to their recreational needs. Thank you.

At 11:29 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting for public comment on Article 5. Being no one at the microphones, Mr. Imse called for a vote. The display of Voter Cards was close. Mr. Imse asked the Assistant Moderators to count their sections and called for the vote again. By a tally of 178 votes in the affirmative and 170 \* votes in opposition, Mr. Imse declared that Article 5 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 6: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 7: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.**

**WARRANT ARTICLE 8: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.**

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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WARRANT ARTICLE 9: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.

WARRANT ARTICLE 10: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.

WARRANT ARTICLE 11: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$98,000 for the purchase of dispatcher radio and equipment for the Police Department and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$98,000 from the Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Passed by majority vote 3/19/15.**

Moderator Imse noted that the Article is on the overhead screen and is as it appears in the Town Report. John Heise moved and June Branscom seconded to adopt Article 12 and bring forth for discussion. Selectman Hadaway stated that this Article is to replace the dispatch equipment and console in the police communication center. The current two consoles and related base were obtained in 2005 with a Homeland Security Grant, which unfortunately is no longer available. A Capital Reserve Fund was established to cover the replacement cost when needed, so there will be no tax impact resulting from this purchase. Initially it was thought that the replacement would coincide with the new combined facility, but Article 3 did not pass. The price of the equipment includes installation and the possibility of a modified installation exists so that the equipment can be moved if the Police Station is relocated.

At 11:34 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting for public comment. No one was at the microphone. Mr. Imse called for a vote and by majority display of Voter Cards, Mr. Imse declared that Article 12 passes.

WARRANT ARTICLE 13: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.

WARRANT ARTICLE 14: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.

WARRANT ARTICLE 15: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.

WARRANT ARTICLE 16: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 17: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.**

WARRANT ARTICLE 18: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.

WARRANT ARTICLE 19: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.

WARRANT ARTICLE 20: Passed by majority vote 3/11/15.

WARRANT ARTICLE 21: Passed 3/11/15 by required 2/3 vote.

WARRANT ARTICLE 22: Passed, as amended 3/11/15.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 for the replacement of the emergency generator at the Municipal Building and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$35,000 from the Municipal Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.**

(Majority Vote Required)

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Passed by majority vote 3/19/15.**

John Heise moved and June Branscom seconded. Selectman Anderson stated that the emergency generator was initially installed at the Municipal Building on Grandview Road in 1993, that it is twenty-two years old, no longer reliable and experienced several costly breakdowns in the past year. There will be no tax impact by passing this Article as the funds have been accruing in the Reserve Fund.

At 9:44 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote on Article 23 and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 23 passes.

Mr. Imse stated that it appears that a lot of residents voted and left the meeting, as there are a lot of vacant seats in the auditorium. Mr. Louf stated that there is only about five or six people left in the gymnasium. Mr. Imse invited the folks in the gymnasium to come join the group in the auditorium.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,000 for the replacement of a police utility vehicle for the Police Department and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$32,000 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Passed by majority vote 3/19/15.**

John Heise moved and June Branscom seconded. Selectman Judd stated that the cruiser needing replacement is seven years old, has over 100,000 miles on it and noted that there will be no tax impact by passing this Article as the funds have already been accumulated in the Reserve Fund.

At 9:47 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote on Article 24 and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 24 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the repair of the sill and floor joists at the Old Town Hall and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$30,000 from the Municipal Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.**

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 5-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Passed by majority vote 3/19/15.**

John Heise moved and June Branscom seconded. Selectman Anderson stated that the sill that is affected and in need of work is on the left/north side of the building over a three-foot crawl space where moisture over time has penetrated the structure and now there is dry rot. The building was originally built in 1847 and completely resided in

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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1999. The interior of the building was renovated in the early 1990's by the Bow Rotary Club and the Bow Community Men's Club. There will be no property tax impact with the passing of this Article.

At 9:50 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote on Article 25 and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 25 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 26.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,000 for the replacement of a police cruiser for the Police Department and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$27,000 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose.

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Passed by majority vote 3/19/15.**

John Heise moved and June Branscom seconded. Selectman Hadaway stated that the Article is to replace a 2008 Ford Crown Victoria with a Ford Interceptor. The 2008 Crown Victoria was assigned as the K-9 unit. Its condition and long useful life is attributed to having been assigned to one person and the K-9 handler is responsible for the maintenance of the vehicle. Maintenance is performed by the DPW mechanics and in the past year consumed thirty hours of labor and \$1,080 in parts. As of October 2014, the vehicle had 96,000 miles on the odometer and will have over 100,000 by the time it is replaced. The vehicle is no longer covered by any warrantee and is part of the scheduled replacement of the Department's fleet. Retrofitting the car for the K-9 will be covered in the trade-in cost. There is no property tax impact for passing this Article as the money has already been accrued in the CIP.

At 9:52 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote on Article 26 and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 26 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 27.** To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 to be known as the Municipal Facilities Emergency Repair Capital Reserve Fund, for the purpose of providing funds to address unforeseen emergency or urgent repairs to municipal facilities and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 towards this purpose, and to further appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from the fund.

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 4-0)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Passed by majority vote 3/19/15.**

John Heise moved and June Branscom seconded. Selectman Hunter stated that this Article will establish a Capital Reserve Fund and will be similar to the emergency fund the Library has in place. DPW is now responsible for all Town buildings, minus the Library. This transition has resulted in accurate information and evaluation of each of our buildings. The facilities are inspected each year, from the foundation to the roof,

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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inside and outside and the results are documented in a book at DPW that is available for public inspection. In total, DPW is responsible for over three million dollars of assessed Town buildings whose average age is 97 years. Buildings of these ages, emergencies arise. The Capital Improvement's Committee recommended that a Capital Reserve Fund be established for the purpose of funding cost overruns and emergency repairs of Town buildings. The CIP Committee recommended a sum of \$50,000 to establish the Fund but during the budget review process, the amount was reduced to \$25,000. As with all accounts, the Selectmen would be the Agents to expend funds. The tax impact of this Warrant Article is \$0.02 per thousand of assessed value.

At 9:54 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote on Article 27 and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 27 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 28.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the Recreation Improvements Capital Reserve Fund previously established.

(Majority Vote Required)

(Recommended by Selectmen 3-1)

(Recommended by Budget Committee 7-0)

**Passed by majority vote 3/19/15.**

John Heise moved and June Branscom seconded. Selectman Hadaway stated that last year we voted to open the use of this CRF to better match the needs and this year would like to add \$25,000 towards the much needed improvements to our fields and playground. There will be a \$0.02 tax impact per thousand with the passing of this Article.

At 9:55 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse called for a vote on Article 28 and by majority display of voter cards, declared that Warrant Article 28 passes.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 29.** To see if the Town will vote to convey a permanent conservation easement on the following tract of land acquired by the Town in 1976 under Article 3 of the 1976 Town Warrant, and established as a Town Forest by the Town in 1977 under Article 4 of the 1977 Town Warrant, to Bow Open Spaces, Inc. comprised of Directors who are registered voters of the Town of Bow: Block 4, Parcel 56, consisting of 55 acres.

(Majority Vote Required).

**Failed by majority vote 3/19/15.**

John Heise moved and June Branscom seconded. Selectman Judd stated that Harry Hadaway, President of Bow Open Spaces, will address the Article.

“What is the Page Road Forest?” Harry Hadaway stated that it is a 55-acre parcel of land that the Town voted to purchase in 1976 that has frontage on Page Road and abuts Village Shore Estates. Its purpose is to protect open space for the environment, wildlife, recreation and control growth as well as the rural nature of Bow. Mr. Hadaway noted the highlighted area on the overhead map. It was established as a Town Forest in 1977. Town forests are to protect the land until the Town chooses to take it out of Town Forest for other uses. Adding or removing Town Forest Land requires a majority vote at a Town Meeting. The Bow Conservation Commission manages Town Forests and carries

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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out a Forest Management Program for all parcels. Approving this Article would place the 55-acres into a permanent conservation easement with Bow Open Spaces which in turn preserves the land forever, prevents future development within its borders and being close to other protected lands establishes a valuable wildlife corridor. The map on display shows the close proximity to other Town Forests and land placed in Conservation Easement and noted that it stretches all the way to the Hammond Nature Preserve at the bottom of the screen.

Mr. Hadaway provided background information on Bow Open Spaces. It was established by Town vote in 1977, who's Board of Directors are Bow residents and our Mission is to be stewards of conservation land in Bow. Contributions enable land protection efforts. Bow Open Spaces Members join with Bow Pioneers, Bow students and Boy Scouts in creating and maintaining trails. Membership includes Bow citizens and others who enjoy our public lands and welcomed everyone to become a member for as little as \$20 for a single person or \$30 for a family.

At 10:00 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment. While an individual was making his way to the microphone, Mr. Imse announced that the ballots will be open ten more minutes to vote on Article 3. The following individuals shared their comments:

Jon Eriksson, 17 Rocky Point Drive, stated that they have been residents of Bow for the last 46 years and are in one of the few areas in Town that has a Community Well system with private septic systems. They have no access to any kind of Municipal water or sewer. As was shown on the previous map, there are approximately ten to twelve homes on Rocky Point Drive and Old Coach Road that are direct abutters to Page Forest. What he would like to see taken into consideration is giving the direct abutters the option to purchase a half acre up to one and a half acres of land for what would be a total cost of the Current Use taxes from the date of its donation or inheritance by the Town and the survey costs for ownership transfer. The reason for the land is in the event of septic system failure. Should there be a septic system failure, there is no where to locate a new system as there is a brook in the back and they would be forced to have a four foot mound in the front yard which would kill the aesthetics of the neighborhood. It could also provide an opportunity to put in an artesian well and get off the Community Well system. The purpose is for septic and well only and not used to build something like a 40' x 60' garage with a cement floor or install a swimming pool. He is willing to contact his neighbors if such a consideration would be granted. The additional land will also serve as a buffer from snowmobile trails with their sound invading privacy and preserve the rural quiet environment us longstanding residents have been enjoying for years.

Mr. Imse noted that the Warrant Article as written does not provide for that option and added that an amendment could be made to present such an opportunity. Town Manager David Stack stated that one concern he has is that he does not know the background on how this was named as a Town Forest; that some land is donated with conditions or clauses that it be retained as Town Forest; so there may be some legal entanglements even if the Town voters decided this sounded like a good idea, may actually not be able to be executed. Mr. Stack stated that he needs to do some research. Mr. Eriksson asked of the decision on the Article could be postponed until the research is done so a knowledgeable decision can be made.

Barbara Lawler, 48 Woodhill Road, stated that most would like, if we found ourselves in this gentleman's position, to at least have all of the facts in order to make a decision about a property we have lived in for forty-seven years. Ms. Lawler asked everyone to

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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vote down to give it the appropriate time for the considerations that need to be made so we can make an informed decision based on facts.

Being no one else at the microphones, Mr. Imse closed public comment on Article 29 at 10:08 PM and called for a vote. With majority display of voter cards in opposition, Mr. Imse declared that Warrant Article 29 fails.

Mr. Imse noted that there are just a few minutes left before the ballot voting is closed and directed everyone's attention to Warrant Article 31.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 30.** (By Petition) To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$550,000 to implement recommendations provided to the town to bring the fire and community building into conformity with correction of electrical deficiencies, asbestos removal and other fire safety corrections as set forth in the reports by Enviro Vantage, Cummings Associates, and Yeaton Associates, Inc. notwithstanding the decision of the building inspector on February 25, 2014, to require earthquake and other catastrophic standards to be imposed to an existing building. Source of funds shall be 1) the withdrawal of \$350,000 from otherwise unappropriated funds, 2) the withdrawal of \$100,000 from the Municipal Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Funds and the remainder raised by taxes.

(Majority vote required)

(Not Recommended by Budget Committee 6-1)

**Discussed 3/11/15. Vote deferred to the March 19, 2015 meeting.**

**Vote 3/19/15: Motion failed.**

Mr. Imse stated that this Article was presented and discussed at the 3/11/15 meeting and voting was deferred until after the results were announced for Article 3.

Paul Burkett, 41 Ridgewood Drive, stated that he would like to propose an amendment to require a 2/3 vote and not a simple majority. Mr. Imse responded that, in his opinion, it is not appropriate to do so as the 2/3 requirement is a creature of Statute and applies to bonds and deferred to Town Counsel. Paul Fitzgerald, Town Counsel, stated that the majority vote requirement is a matter of State Law and in his view, not to be changed by the Rules of the meeting. Mr. Burkett stated that he is not aware of anything in Statute or Case Law that codifies a majority vote requirement and appears to him to be a rule of convenience and should be amendable.

Mr. Imse stated that he is going to rule that this Article be acted on by majority vote. Mr. Burkett made a motion to overrule the Moderator's ruling/decision. A second was received from an unidentified female voice in the audience. At 10:38 PM, Mr. Imse opened the meeting to public comment on the motion to overrule his decision and require a 2/3 vote to pass Article 30. The following individuals expressed themselves:

Gary Nylen, 38 Robinson Road, stated that we have been here for two nights now doing business by majority vote, that is has always been his understanding that only bonds require a 2/3 vote, and that in the fifty years he's been attending Town Meeting, this is a first and unnecessary in his opinion and doesn't want to see it happen at all, tonight.

Paul Burkett, 41 Ridgewood Drive, stated that the reason he made this motion is because he believes Article 30 sets up the Town to take on significant financial risk, similar to the risk taken on by a bond issuance requiring expenditures in the future and feels the vote should be on the same basis for Article 3.

Mr. Imse closed the public comment session, called for a vote and clarified that if one

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## Minutes of 2015 Town Meeting (continued)

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votes in favor of the motion they are voting to overrule his decision and require a 2/3 vote on Article 30. With the majority of Voter Cards raised in opposition, Mr. Imse declared that the motion to overrule the Moderator fails.

Mr. Imse stated that Article 30 has been fully discussed already and called for a vote. With the majority of Voter Cards raised in opposition, Mr. Imse declared that Article 30 fails.

Mr. Imse stated that the next order of business is to address Article 4, 5 and 12.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 31.** To hear reports of standing committees and take any action relating thereto.

**Nothing presented for consideration.**

Mr. Imse stated that this Article is a “catch-all” to hear reports from committees and asked if there were any to be presented. Selectmen Judd stated that he is not aware of any such reports for this meeting. There was no one at the microphones. Mr. Imse stated that there is nothing to address regarding this Warrant Article.

**WARRANT ARTICLE 32.** To transact any other business which may legally come before such meeting.

**Nothing presented for consideration.**

Mr. Imse asked if anyone else has business for consideration at this meeting. No one spoke up.

Mr. Imse stated that there are two minutes left to cast a vote on Article 3 and no business left to address until the votes are counted, which takes five to ten minutes, and then the meeting can address Article 30, 4, 5 and 12. Mr. Imse suggested a recess. No opposition voiced.

Van Mosher, Allen Road, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Several individuals seconded the motion. At 11:35 PM, Mr. Imse declared that the Town’s business for 2015 has concluded and thanked everyone for their participation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mridula Naik, Town Clerk  
Recorded and Prepared by Louise Knee

# Departments & Library



**Former library trustee Paris Awalt (right) points out the various meeting spaces planned for the Library's Lower Level Renovation project to Paul Rizzi (left), a director of the Baker Free Library Foundation and former President of Merrimack County Savings Bank, during the Library's Phase I Lower Level Donor Reception on May 27, 2015. Merrimack County Savings Bank donated \$35,000 towards the Lower Level Renovation Project.**

**(Photo by Eric Anderson)**

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## Assessing Department Report

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For the fiscal year 2015, Bow had a total of 3,413 parcels, of which 3,249 were taxable and 164 were tax exempt. There were 2,690 improved residential properties. This includes 156 residential condominiums. The vacant residential land included 100 parcels, 22 condominium sites, and 143 tracts of land solely under the Current Use program. There were 202 developed commercial and industrial properties. This includes 89 commercial and industrial condominiums. There were 69 vacant commercial/industrial parcels. The remaining 23 properties were in the public utility category.

We are continuing with the Cycled Inspection process, whereby one-fifth of the town is measured and inspected each year on a rotating basis. The streets and neighborhoods we will be visiting is currently posted on the Town's website. Property owners in the selected area receive notification from the Assessing Department informing them that a data collector will be in their neighborhood at which time the data collector will measure the outside and ask an adult for permission to inspect the interior of the home. In addition, all properties that have had a building permit issued over the last year or that have sold in the last year will also be visited by the Assessing Department to verify the details of the building permit and or the sale.

The annual tax rate applies to your property's assessed value and determines the amount of tax you will pay. The municipal, the local school district, the county, and the state education taxing agencies all contribute to the total tax rate. The following chart compares the tax rates of each agency per \$1,000 of assessed value for the last five years:

| YEAR                | 2015           | 2014           | 2013           | 2012            | 2011            |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Town of Bow         | \$6.71         | \$7.04         | \$7.05         | \$ 6.76         | \$ 5.88         |
| Bow School District | \$16.48        | \$17.18        | \$17.61        | \$ 16.38        | \$ 15.46        |
| State Education     | \$2.38         | \$2.42         | \$2.57         | \$ 2.61         | \$ 2.70         |
| County              | \$2.97         | \$2.87         | \$2.96         | \$ 3.32         | \$ 3.11         |
| <b>TOTAL RATE</b>   | <b>\$28.54</b> | <b>\$29.51</b> | <b>\$30.19</b> | <b>\$ 29.07</b> | <b>\$ 27.15</b> |

Bow offers various property tax exemptions and credits to eligible residents, including veterans, elderly, blind, and disabled, as well as for solar and central wood heating systems. All financial information is kept confidential and returned after review. The deadline for all these applications is April 15<sup>th</sup>.

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## Assessing Department Report (continued)

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Bow offers the maximum amount allowed by the State of New Hampshire for all Veteran's Tax Credits. The Veteran's Tax Credits' allocations were as follows for 2015:

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Standard Veteran's Tax Credit of \$500 (328) .....            | \$163,500*       |
| Permanently Disabled Veteran's Credit of \$2,000 (6).....     | \$12,000         |
| Surviving Spouse of Service member Killed of \$2,000 (3)..... | \$6,000          |
| <b>Total Amount of Veterans Credits .....</b>                 | <b>\$181,500</b> |

\*Some recipients receive partial credits.

The following is the official summary of inventory in Bow of all real estate which was used to calculate the 2015 tax rate:

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| Residential Land .....                         | \$245,085,754        |
| Commercial/Industrial Land .....               | \$ 52,486,350        |
| Discretionary Preservation Easement Land ..... | \$ 2,000             |
| Current Use Land .....                         | \$ 323,770           |
| <b>Total of Taxable Land .....</b>             | <b>\$297,897,874</b> |

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Residential Buildings .....                         | \$494,198,105        |
| Commercial/Industrial .....                         | \$109,375,975        |
| Discretionary Preservation Easement Buildings ..... | \$ 49,800            |
| <b>Total of Taxable Buildings .....</b>             | <b>\$603,623,880</b> |

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Public Utilities .....                          | \$211,156,487        |
| Other Utilities (private water companies) ..... | \$ 79,500            |
| <b>Total of Utilities.....</b>                  | <b>\$211,235,987</b> |

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Total Valuation (before exemptions) ..... | \$1,112,757,741 |
|---|-----------------|

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Less Air Pollution Control Exemption to PSNH.....    | -\$19,300,600 |
| Less Improvements to Assessing the Disabled (2)..... | -\$ 84,549    |

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| <b>Modified Assessed Valuation .....</b>              | <b>\$1,093,372,592</b> |
| (This is used to calculate the total equalized value) |                        |

Total Exemptions in Bow for 2015:

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Blind Exemption (3) .....              | \$ 225,000         |
| Elderly Exemption (48) .....           | \$7,148,300        |
| Disabled Exemption (6) .....           | \$ 854,100         |
| Wood-Heating Exemption (8).....        | \$ 18,800          |
| Solar Energy Exemption (5) .....       | \$ 29,331          |
| <b>Total Amount of Exemptions.....</b> | <b>\$8,275,531</b> |

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## Assessing Department Report (continued)

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In 2014, our equalization ratio, as determined by the Department of Revenue Administration was at 97.1%. The new ratio for the Town will be given in the spring 2015. Based on continued increases in the Bow real estate market, our sales analysis from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015 indicates the equalization rate for 2015 will be approximately 92.8%. The equalization rate measures the level of assessment and equity for each municipality. The ratio of 92.8% means our assessments are 7.2% below market value.

The following averages were found for 2015:

|                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Single Family Home sale price      | \$296,000                  |
|                                    | (3.8% increase from 2014)  |
| Residential Condominium sale price | \$287,000                  |
|                                    | (12.1% increase from 2014) |

The commercial and industrial real estate market remains stable.

If you wish to file an abatement application form, because you feel your assessment is not in line with the equalized market value, or if there is a data error on your property record, the deadline is March 1<sup>st</sup> following receipt of the final tax bill. Applications are available in the Assessing Office. We maintain a record of sales for your convenience. For property information, please visit [www.visionappraisal.com](http://www.visionappraisal.com) along with our online maps at [www.caigisonline.com/BowNH](http://www.caigisonline.com/BowNH). If you have a question, or you need to obtain the most current, official property information, please contact the Assessing Office. We are here to help you however we can.

We would like to encourage everyone to visit the Town of Bow's website at [www.bow-nh.com](http://www.bow-nh.com). The Assessing Department can be found under Services, where more detailed information is provided, including links to our tax maps, assessing data, and various applications. You may call 228-1187, Ext. 115, or email the [assessor@bow-nh.gov](mailto:assessor@bow-nh.gov).

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Hurley, Certified New Hampshire Assessor, Corcoran Consulting Associates

Janette Shuman, Assessing and Building Clerk

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## Baker Free Library Trustees

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This past year was filled with lots of activity for the Baker Free Library and the Board of Trustees. In March, David Withers was elected to serve a term through 2020, and the Board welcomed Christine Carey as an interim Trustee. She replaced Mark Leven, who vacated his board position to become a director of the Baker Free Library Foundation. Library Trustee Paris Awalt resigned in the August, and Dr. Peirce Hunter was appointed to fill out the remainder of her term until the town elections in March 2016.



From left to right: Tom Ives, Trustee Treasurer (2017); Ann Hoey, Trustee Chairperson (2016); Lori Fisher, Library Director; Christine Carey, Interim Trustee (2016); and David Withers, Trustee (2020). Missing from photo: Dr. Peirce Hunter, Interim Trustee (2016). *Photo by Eric Anderson.*

Throughout 2015, the Baker Free Library Trustees devoted much time toward the renovation of the lower level of the library, a project designed to bring meeting and program space to the community and the library. At the 2015 town meeting, Bow voters passed the library's warrant article for \$50,000 toward the lower level project. Construction began in the spring on phase one of the renovations, which focused on accessibility issues such as installation of an ADA-compliant elevator. At the end of phase one, several rooms in the lower level were made functional including the Baker Heritage Room, two tutoring rooms and the Welch Meeting Room. To comply with parking requirements for phase two, the Board secured long-term parking lease agreements from Bovie Screen, Bow Mills United Methodist Church and the NH Automobile Dealers Association.

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## Baker Free Library Trustees (continued)

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The Trustees also supported ongoing efforts to raise the remaining private funds needed to complete the project. The wreath auction in November, co-sponsored by the Baker Free Library Foundation and the Friends of the Baker Free Library, raised nearly \$4,000. The Granite State Miniaturists donated a handmade doll house; raffle ticket sales brought in over \$1,000. In addition, the Bow Rotary Club donated \$3,375 to the library in memory of Charlotte Buxton, a retired long-time library employee who died earlier this year. Along with members of the Lower Level Committee, the trustees helped to conduct a year-end distribution of flyers outlining the needs of the renovation project. The trustees appreciate the support of individuals, community organizations and businesses that have contributed so generously toward the lower level renovation project. Together with the Foundation and the Friends, the Trustees are working hard to make completion of the project a reality.



Residents enjoy the Baker Free Library Wreath Auction on November 7, 2015, which raised almost \$4,000 towards the Lower Level Renovation. *Photo by Eric Anderson.*

The Baker Free Library continues to flourish under the capable direction of Lori Fisher and her staff. The Board recognizes children's librarian Jennifer Ericsson for her 15 years of service and thanks her for all of her work with children and families in Bow. The Baker Free Library is committed to meeting the changing needs of the Bow community with innovative programs, services, technology and materials. Stop by or visit online and discover all that the Baker Free Library has to offer!

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## Baker Free Library Director's Report (continued)

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### **Mission Statement**

Baker Free Library serves the informational, educational and leisure needs of the residents of Bow. It promotes, develops, and maintains open access to the facilities, resources, and services available locally and through inter-library networks. Baker Free Library assures an environment that stimulates knowledge, culture, and the pure enjoyment of reading.

### **New Staff**

In 2015 we said goodbye to Trevor Naughton (obtained a full-time accounting position), Anna Morrison (attending Dickinson College in Pennsylvania), Andrew Schwartz (attending Penn State) and Molly Milazzo (accepted a full-time Youth Services Librarian position at a branch of the Sacramento Public Library in California). We welcomed two new staff and three returning former staff members in 2015: Kailey Andrew, a student at BHS, is one of our PM Circulation Assistants; Kate Ess, a Bow resident, is another of our PM Circulation Assistants; Kaitlynn Leary, a senior at BHS, returns as a PM Circulation Desk Assistant; Deb Barlow, former AM Circulation Assistant, returns as a part-time page and part-time Library Assistant; and Amelia Holdsworth, a graduate of BHS, returns as a PM Circulation Desk Assistant. Please welcome our new staff during your next visit!



Kailey Andrew



Kate Ess



Amelia Holdsworth



Kaitlynn Leary

### **Support for Charlotte Buxton**

The Library staff and I would like to express our great appreciation to the entire town for their support of retired library employee Charlotte Buxton during 2015. She worked at the Library for over 22 years, and fought a courageous battle with cancer while coping with the loss of her home to a fire in April. The way many Bow residents came together to assist her was so amazing and heartfelt – not only through monetary donations, but cards, letters, clothing and household goods, and simply visiting her so that she knew she was supported. Her passing in

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## Baker Free Library Director's Report (continued)

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September was felt keenly and she is missed by many. Her legacy of community service will live on, however, through the many generous donations in her name to the Library and through monies raised at the Bow Rotary Auction in November 2015 to the Lower Level Renovation fund. While Charlotte would not have liked all of the attention, she would have been grateful for the community spirit generated in Bow over the past year.

### **Phase I Renovations Completed**

In March 2015, the first phase of the Lower Level Renovation project began with the closure of the Lower Level and the lift put in during the 2000 renovations. Phase 1 focused on addressing accessibility issues (replacing the elevator and bringing the interior stairway up to code), as well as creating the Baker Heritage Room, Small Meeting Room, and two Group Tutoring Rooms. Those areas are part of the old 1967 basement area of the library. The construction was completed in May, with a donor's reception on May 27<sup>th</sup>. The grand public opening of the space, along with the re-opening of the Friends of the Baker Free Library Book Sale, occurred during the annual Summer Reading Kick-Off event on Friday June 19<sup>th</sup>. Since the completion of the Phase I renovations, we have seen an increased number of meeting room requests, as well as some very happy residents regarding the re-opening of the Friends Book Sale! Phase II of the renovation project is tentatively slated to begin in fall 2016, so stay tuned for updates as the public and private fundraising efforts are completed.

### **Service Improvements**

The Library staff is constantly striving to improve the services we offer to residents, focusing on effective and efficient use of the taxpayer dollars allocated to us every year at Town meeting. This year, we added digital magazines to our offerings of digital downloadable materials through New Hampshire Downloadable Books, online Transparent language software and Atomic Software training modules to our web site offerings, and participation in the NH 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program through the New Hampshire State Library.

In the spring we streamlined our printing/copying capabilities, and reduced our printers/copiers from 8 machines to four...effectively reducing the amount of toner and maintenance needed. This did affect the integration of printing with our public Internet Chromebook computers, but the situation was rectified in late 2015 with the installation of thin-client machines for our public Internet needs and re-

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## Baker Free Library Director's Report

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purposing the Chromebooks as library catalog-only stations. Last, we replaced the 15 year old phone system (which was no longer supported either technically or equipment-wise) with a new system with much better functionality. While the new phone system does have a voicemail component, we will not be implementing that for our open hours – expect to still get a live person when you call us when we are open!

### **Residents See Amazing Value Through Library Use**

One of the services offered by our library catalog software is the ability for patrons to see the total retail value of the items they have borrowed each calendar year so they can know how much money they saved by borrowing materials instead of purchasing them. **From January through December 2015, our users borrowed almost \$1.5 million worth of materials!** With each household in Bow paying an average of \$10 per month in taxes to support the library, the savings per household is an average of \$520 annually. To see the amount of money you actually saved by borrowing materials from the library, simply request a receipt when you check out. The number may surprise you!

Comments and feedback about the library and its services are always welcome. This information is shared among both staff and trustees so that we can all work towards keeping the Baker Free Library a vital part of the Bow community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Fisher, Director

### **Registered Patrons**

| Type of Card Holder 2015                     | Number of Cardholders |
|--|-----------------------|
| Adults                                       | 3,119                 |
| Children                                     | 1,276                 |
| School Staff                                 | 59                    |
| Out of Town                                  | 69                    |
| ILL libraries                                | 255                   |
| Courtesy Cards - Employees of Bow businesses | 119                   |
| <b>Total Registered Patrons</b>              | <b>4,897</b>          |

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## Baker Free Library Director's Report (continued)

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### Items Circulated

|                   | 2011           | 2012           | 2013           | 2014           | 2015          |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Adult Circ        | 62,584         | 66,725         | 70,336         | 68,265         | 64,248        |
| Juv Circ          | 37,991         | 39,316         | 38,659         | 37,090         | 35,221        |
| <b>Total Circ</b> | <b>100,575</b> | <b>106,041</b> | <b>108,995</b> | <b>105,355</b> | <b>99,469</b> |

|  |
|--|
| Total Number of Titles in the Collection: 46,973 |
| Total materials added: 4,330                     |
| Adult program attendance: 1,650                  |
| Teen program attendance: 302                     |
| Children program attendance: 2,439               |
| Meeting Room Bookings: 204 (49 different groups) |
| Computer/Internet Use: 1,667 individual sessions |
| Volunteer Hours: 565 hours                       |



Susan Wheeler (right) watches as Carol G. Bailey places a bid on one of over 60 wreaths available at the Baker Free Library Wreath Auction held on Saturday November 14, 2015. Between ticket sales, wreath bids, and donations, almost \$4,000 was raised by the event. All proceeds benefitted the private fundraising to finish the Library's Lower Level Renovation project. *Photo by Eric Anderson.*

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## Building Inspector / Code Enforcement Officer's Report

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From the tabulation that follows below, the residential construction activity for new single family starts maintain its' usual yearly average of 17 units. The commercial sector remained the same in comparison to last year.

### What work needs a permit?

Some activities are exempt from building permits such as: fences less than 6'0" high, retaining walls less than 4'0" in height (unless supporting a surcharge), sidewalks, prefabricated swimming pools less than 24" deep, swings and other playground equipment accessory to one and two family homes. There are some exemptions for electrical, plumbing and mechanical (HVAC) permits, typically maintenance items. It is best to assume that permits are required, unless the Building Code specifically states that a permit is not required.

If anyone has questions about whether or not a permit is required, visit the Town's website at [www.bow.nh-gov](http://www.bow.nh-gov), or call the Building Department at (603) 228-1187 ext. 114 or email: [codeenforce@bow-nh.gov](mailto:codeenforce@bow-nh.gov).

| <b>Permits Issued</b>                                      | <b>2013</b>      | <b>2014</b>      | <b>2015</b>      |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| New Single Family Homes .....                              | 10 .....         | 27 .....         | 12 .....         |
| New Homes over 55 (consolidated above*) .....              | 7 .....          | 0 .....          | 5 .....          |
| Additions.....   | 20 .....         | 20 .....         | 22 .....         |
| Garages .....  | 1 .....          | 6 .....          | 7 .....          |
| Decks .....  | 8 .....          | 14 .....         | 9 .....          |
| Residential Renovations.....                               | 21 .....         | 21 .....         | 18 .....         |
| Commercial new starts.....                                 | 3 .....          | 2 .....          | 3 .....          |
| Commercial Renovations .....                               | 14 .....         | 10 .....         | 12 .....         |
| Electrical .....   | 45 .....         | 67 .....         | 77 .....         |
| Plumbing .....   | 22 .....         | 10 .....         | 6 .....          |
| Pools.....   | 11 .....         | 11 .....         | 8 .....          |
| Sheds .....  | 7 .....          | 16 .....         | 12 .....         |
| Basement Remodels .....                                    | 5 .....          | 3 .....          | 3 .....          |
| Mechanical (Heating, A/C, Gas Piping etc.) .....           | 94 .....         | 79 .....         | 112 .....        |
| Wood Stoves .....  | 1 .....          | 1 .....          | 2 .....          |
| Pellet Stoves.....   | 1 .....          | 3 .....          | 0 .....          |
| Gas Inserts.....   | 0 .....          | 5 .....          | 1 .....          |
| Signs .....  | 12 .....         | 3 .....          | 8 .....          |
| Misc. .....  | 13 .....         | 22 .....         | 17 .....         |
| Demolition .....   | 5 .....          | 1 .....          | 2 .....          |
| Fire rebuild.....  | 0 .....          | 0 .....          | 1 .....          |
| Sewer Connection .....                                     | 1 .....          | 1 .....          | 1 .....          |
| Water Connection .....                                     | 8 .....          | 2 .....          | 1 .....          |
| <b>Permit Totals .....</b>                                 | <b>310 .....</b> | <b>324 .....</b> | <b>339 .....</b> |
| Inspections for permits (not including plan reviews) ..... |                  |                  | 636 .....        |

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## Building Inspector / Code Enforcement Officer's Report (continued)

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| <b>Building Permit Revenues</b>          |                  |                 |                  |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
|  | <b>2013</b>      | <b>2014</b>     | <b>2015</b>      |
| Residential Single Family                | \$17,236         | \$14,804        | 17,380.00        |
| Other residential activity & Sub Permits | \$24,085         | \$33,702        | 32,943.00        |
| Commercial starts                        | \$36,706         | \$3,195         | 6,513.00         |
| Other commercial activity                | \$33,188         | \$7,442         | 6,876.00         |
| <b>Total - building permit revenues</b>  | <b>\$111,215</b> | <b>\$59,143</b> | <b>63,712.00</b> |

| <b>Building Permit Construction Costs (est)</b>   |                     |                    |                   |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|   | <b>2013</b>         | <b>2014</b>        | <b>2015</b>       |
| Residential S.F. starts                           | \$4,781,095         | 4,635,256          | 4,931,000         |
| Other residential activity                        | \$1,851,988         | \$2,359,441        | 2492,043          |
| Commercial starts                                 | \$8,800,000         | \$1,209,003        | 1,675,000         |
| Other Commercial activity                         | \$1,832,767         | \$904,933          | 1,017,771         |
| <b>Total - building permit construction costs</b> | <b>\$17,265,850</b> | <b>\$9,108,633</b> | <b>10,115,814</b> |

### **Code Enforcement**

Code Enforcement is primarily responsible to administer, interpret, and enforce the provisions of the Town of Bow Zoning Ordinance, Site Plan Review Regulations and Subdivision Regulations.

The following is a compilation of typical Code Enforcement activities, complaints and investigations:

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Signage                           | 3 |
| Construction without permits      | 3 |
| Site plan violations              | 0 |
| Side yard setbacks                | 0 |
| Illegal/undocumented apartments   | 0 |
| Request for Zoning Determinations | 5 |
| Building Code Violation           | 0 |

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## Building Inspector / Code Enforcement Officer's Report (continued)

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Number of Code Enforcement actions initiated:

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Site Plan noncompliance: | 3 |
| Notice of Violations:    | 7 |
| Cease & Desist Order     | 1 |

I would alert you that the most common oversight which becomes a violation is the “construction without permits” activity which results in costly removal and sometimes remediation if activity has affected a wetland or buffer area. I would recommend that any homeowner or business owner to please call 228-1187 Ext 114 before contemplating any construction activity to ascertain if the proposal will conform within the Town’s regulations.

December 31, 2015 was my last day of employment with the Town of Bow. I wish to thank all the Townspeople, Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, Town Committees and Departments for their continued support. Bow is a wonderful community and has a lot of great potential.

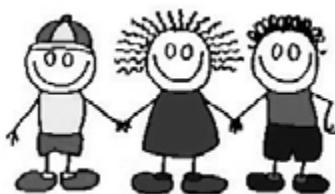
Respectfully submitted,  
Bruce Buttrick, MCP

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## Celebrating Children Preschool

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2015 marked the eighteenth year that Celebrating Children has been a Bow Parks and Recreation Department Program. The Preschool enjoyed another successful year! Time passes quickly when there is so much fun to be had! This unique four day preschool program develops the whole child through hands-on activities in music, recreation, art, play and education. Our goal each year is to have each child reach their full potential through playing, learning & growing! Our classrooms are located the Bow Town Municipal Building.



With over 31 families participating throughout this year, we not only worked to build a strong individual learning foundation, but a sense of community. Included in our yearly activities were many field trips to Meadow Ledge Apple Farm, Bow Baker Free Library, the production of “Goldilocks & the Three Pigs” by the Concord Junior



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## Celebrating Children Preschool (continued)

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Service League, a comfy “Pajama Day” just to name a few...plus many, many parties & feasts!

Visiting the White Rock Senior Living Center for our annual Trick or Treat Walk, Christmas Concert & Easter Parade were also events that brought our community together in celebration of the holidays! We continue to participate in Holiday Gifts & Food Drives for our Human Services Department & Family Services of NH. Our highlight and grand finale for the school year was our annual “Class Night Presentation” held at the Bow Elementary School for all our Family & Friends!

In addition, Celebrating Children & our experienced staff also offered the very popular *Sports Day* at the FieldHouse Sports Complex for children ages 3-5 during the school year. *Kidz Kamp* was in full swing the first two weeks in June of this year! A fun-

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## Celebrating Children Preschool (continued)

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filled camp for children ages 3-6 was held at Celebrating Children and taught by our preschool staff. If you would like to learn more about any of these programs, please give *Celebrating Children* a call at 224-2214 or email us at [celebchildren@bow-nh.gov](mailto:celebchildren@bow-nh.gov).

Again, a very special thank you to all our past and present Celebrating Children Families & Staff for continuing to make the school such a wonderful program for our youngest citizens!

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Greenwood-Young, CC Director



Celebrating Children staff picture.

BACK - Kate Crabb, Julie Guerrette, Alicia David, Bill Hyslop, Jenn Konstantakos, Jessica Ralston, Jennifer Hittle, Cindy Greenwood-Young.

FRONT - Joy Van Wyck, Dotty Weiss, Kathy Lagos, Michelle Lover, Alex Zerba, Laura Beaudette.  
*Photo by Eric Anderson.*

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## Communications Center

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|                              |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Emergency Phone</b>       | <b>9-1-1</b>    |
| <b>Non-Emergency Phone</b>   | <b>228-0511</b> |
| <b>Administrative Number</b> | <b>228-1240</b> |

The Bow Communications Center is located at the Police Department, at 12 Robinson Road and is open twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.

This past year up until December the Bow Communications Center provided emergency and non-emergency dispatching services to Bow, Dunbarton, Weare and New Boston residents and Police Departments. In December, services were discontinued for the Towns of Dunbarton and Weare.

The Center also works with the public works departments, school districts and numerous other town agencies in monitoring radios and making emergency call outs.

The Communication Center is currently staffed by five experienced full time, one permanent part-time, and one part-time Communication Specialists. They work eight hour shifts and the shifts have double coverage some of the time.

During the year of 2015, the Communications Center handled a total of 48,966 calls for service. The calls for service total for the Town of Bow alone was 20,838. The members dispatched officers from all four towns to, but not limited to, 696 Arrests, 129 Domestic Disturbances, 905 Burglar Alarms, 485 Motor Vehicle Collisions, 763 Animal Complaints, 1363 Vacant/Vacation House Checks, 1318 Welfare Checks, 6862 Building Checks, 1210 Citizen Assists, 1085 Suspicious Vehicle/Persons and 10,514 Motor Vehicle Stops.

The Center also provides other services such as Vacant/Vacation House Checks, residential and business alarms, pistol permit application record checks, criminal and motor vehicle record checks, monitoring several radio frequencies and answering multiple phone lines. In 2015 we experienced an increase in walk-ins, pistol permit requests and citizen assists at the Center.

The Center is always seeking participants for our “Operation Call In” program. This program is for the elderly community and facilitates daily communication between a resident and a Communications

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## Communications Center (continued)

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Specialist. If you or anyone you know may be interested in participating in this program please call 228-0511. We would love to hear from you. The benefit of having our own Police Communications Center is extremely important when it comes to ensuring the safety of our officers and residents. Having this direct connection and line of communication with our community allows for quicker response times, more accurate and up to date information sharing and ability for the public to seek emergency and non-emergency assistance at the Police Department twenty-four hours a day.

The Bow Communications Center would like to thank everyone for their endless support and we look forward to serving all of you in 2016.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tricia L. Currier  
Communications Supervisor

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## Community Development Department

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The primary role of the Community Development Department is to assist current and future residents and taxpayers with plans to use and develop property. In that capacity, the Department advises and provides support to the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Business Development Commission, Board of Selectmen, and various other committees; details of those activities are described elsewhere in the Town Report. The Department reviews site plans, subdivision plans, building permits, conditional use permits, septic permits and variance and special exception applications. The Department also works on a variety of special projects with the aim of expanding the Town's commercial and industrial tax base and assists with updates to the Town Master Plan.

2015 was a year of transition for the Community Development Department. Bill Klubben, the Department Director, retired in August after nineteen years of service to the Town. Upon his retirement, Bill received a commendation (included below) from Governor Hassan citing his achievements. Also this year in December the Town lost its Building Inspector, Bruce Buttrick, who accepted a position in another community after serving for seven years in Bow. Both Bill and Bruce will be missed. The Town is very fortunate to have other long-serving employees in the Department. Many thanks to Janette Shuman and Louise Knee for all their hard work and a special thanks to Bryan Westover, who just celebrated his fifteenth anniversary with the Town! Bryan filled in as the acting Director for more than two months and by all accounts did an excellent job.

I started at the end of October and I have lived and worked in New Hampshire for the past sixteen years, most recently employed by the City of Nashua and prior to that by the Town of Hillsborough. I look forward to getting to know and working with Bow residents and business owners who need help with their development projects, as well as all the citizens who volunteer their time on boards and committees. Planning for the future is everyone's job. If you would like to get involved or need help with a project, please contact me or stop by the office.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matt Taylor  
Community Development Director

*The State of New Hampshire*  
*By Her Excellency*  
*Margaret Wood Hassan, Governor*

*A Commendation*

**WILLIAM KLUBBEN**

**WHEREAS**, William Klubben served as Executive Director of the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission from 1986 to 1997, assisting communities with both local and regional planning efforts and coordination; and

**WHEREAS**, While serving as Executive Director of the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission, William Klubben was instrumental in developing and implementing the development of regional impact guidelines to facilitate communication between communities and help them to work together and review development plans that may affect adjacent communities; and

**WHEREAS**, William Klubben served as Director of Community Development for the Town of Bow from 1997 to 2015, during a period of tremendous growth and development, and helped to incorporate innovative land use practices including open space development, growth management measures and the introduction of an impact fee program; and

**WHEREAS**, William Klubben created and implemented the Town of Bow Source Water Protection Plan, helping to ensure that the residents of Bow have continued access to clean drinking water; and

**WHEREAS**, William Klubben oversaw the creation of the Town's Business Development District in order to spur economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, William Klubben oversaw and coordinated the planning and design phases of the Town's \$12 million sewer and water system project in the Town's commercial area, including the hiring of consultants and engineers, and property and easement acquisition; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARGARET WOOD HASSAN, GOVERNOR** of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby command **WILLIAM KLUBBEN** on his service to the Town of Bow and his contributions to the State of New Hampshire and wish him all the best in the future.



Given this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and fifteen, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and forty.

*Margaret Wood Hassan*

Margaret Wood Hassan  
Governor

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## Community Development Department (continued)

### *Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission Report*

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CENTRAL NEW HAMPSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
28 Commercial Street Suite 3 | Concord, New Hampshire 03301  
phone: (603) 226-6020 | fax: (603) 226-6023 | internet: [www.cnhrpc.org](http://www.cnhrpc.org)

Established in accordance with state law, the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) is a voluntary association of 20 communities in Merrimack and Hillsborough Counties. The Town of Bow is a member in good standing of the Commission. Stephen Buckley (CNHRPC Executive Committee) is the Town's representative to the Commission.

CNHRPC's mission is to comply with State statute (RSA 36:47) by preparing and adopting regional land use and transportation plans and a regional housing needs assessment. CNHRPC also evaluates developments of regional impact (RSA 36:54-58) and provides data, information, training, and high-quality, cost-effective services to our member communities. CNHRPC advocates for member communities and assists and encourages them in both municipal and regional endeavors.

In 2015, the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission undertook the following local and region-wide activities:

- Provided technical assistance services for member communities, including zoning ordinance development, grant writing assistance, circuit rider assistance, plan review services, local master plan development, capital improvements program development and guidance, hazard mitigation guidance, and planning board process training. In Bow, staff provided assistance to the Planning Board to begin the update of the 2004 Master Plan, and provided plan review and technical assistance to the Community Development Department.
- Provided Hazard Mitigation Plan update development assistance to seven community Hazard Mitigation Committees and developed Plan implementation and evaluation documents available for use by all communities.
- Completed Fluvial Geomorphic Assessment (FGA) planning activities for eight communities along the Piscataquog River, Turkey River, Soucook River, and Suncook River, including coordinating a public information meeting for the Suncook River

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## Community Development Department (continued)

### *Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission Report*

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FGA assessment results, and compiling data, preparing maps of river features, meeting with communities, and developing Hazard Mitigation Plan Addendums for several communities. In Bow, developed the Bow Turkey River Fluvial Geomorphic Assessment (FGA) Addendum to Hazard Mitigation Plan with the Hazard Mitigation Committee by compiling the newly surveyed river data and developing a set of fluvial geomorphic feature maps.

- Completed the preparation of the Central NH Regional Plan which was adopted by the CNHPRC Full Commission on February 12, 2015.
- Completed the preparation of the Central NH Region Broadband Plan which was adopted by the CNHPRC Full Commission on June 11, 2015.
- Began the development of the CNHRPC Regional Brownfields Program through funding from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Tasks completed in 2015 included the formation of the regional Brownfields Advisory Committee and the initial steps to select qualified environmental professionals to prepare assessments of potential brownfields sites in the region. For more information on brownfields and the CNHRPC Brownfields Program please go to [www.cnhrpc.org/cnhrpc-brownfields-program](http://www.cnhrpc.org/cnhrpc-brownfields-program).
- Assisted the Currier and Ives Byway with its member towns of Henniker, Hopkinton, Webster, Warner, and Salisbury. In 2015, the Council continued to meet quarterly to support its efforts in public outreach to promote the Byway.
- Provided assistance to the Warner River Nomination Committee, including representatives from Bradford, Warner, Sutton, Webster, and Hopkinton, related to the possible future nomination of the Warner River into the NH Rivers Management and Protection Program. Work included drafting the nomination document which includes inventorying natural resources including common, invasive, threatened and endangered species of animals and plants. Data on existing dams, community resources, and existing land use controls were also included. Regular meetings were held to discuss progress, various interests and to gain additional information from local knowledge.
- Coordinated the activities of the CNHRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). Matt Taylor is the Town's TAC representative.

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## Community Development Department (continued)

### *Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission Report*

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In 2015, CNHRPC staff worked with the TAC to complete the preparation of the 2017-2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to ensure that the region's needs were adequately addressed in the State Ten Year Highway Transportation Plan. Information related to the TIP update process can be found at [www.cnhrpc.org/transportation/transportation-improvement-program-tip](http://www.cnhrpc.org/transportation/transportation-improvement-program-tip).

- Worked with NHDOT and UNH to assist Bow implement a Road Surface Management System (RSMS) program, which will provide an overview and estimate of the Town's road system condition and a management plan with approximate costs for future improvements. In 2015 CNHRPC began the data collection and analysis of the town owned roads.
- Completed over 200 traffic counts in the region as part of its annual Transportation Data Collection Program. In Bow, CNHRPC conducted fourteen (14) traffic counts along state and local roads.
- Assisted five communities with the preparation of Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant applications for pedestrian and bicycle improvement projects.
- Continued to support an enhanced volunteer driver program (VDP) in our region that was established in November 2011 through CNHRPC's 2010 Coordinated Transportation Plan efforts. In 2015, the VDP provided over 5,000 rides to seniors and people with disabilities for essential medical appointments and vital services that help the residents of our region remain independent. The goal of the planning effort was to reduce transportation costs for those in need while increasing coordination between existing transportation providers. In Bow, there are currently five (5) residents receiving rides and one (1) driver providing rides through the enhanced Mid-State RCC Volunteer Driver Program. For more information, visit [www.midstatercc.org](http://www.midstatercc.org).
- Tracked state highway paving projects and coordinated with municipalities to ensure annual repaving and lane striping met community needs, with a particular emphasis on bicycle and pedestrian safety.
- CNHRPC provided assistance to the Regional Trails Coordinating Council, a coalition of local rail trail and shared-use path groups in roughly the Salem-Manchester-Concord corridor. In 2015, the group worked on implementing tasks recommended in the Regional

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## Community Development Department (continued)

### *Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission Report*

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Trails Plan for the region. Activities included awareness and outreach activities such as distributing trail marker signs, developing interactive maps for the public, and other activities to promote the use and development of rail trails in the region.

- Provided assistance to NH Department of Transportation's (NHDOT) Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Advisory Committee (BPTAC), advising NHDOT on bicycle and pedestrian related matters. BPTAC activities included various projects such as level of traffic stress analysis, lane striping policies, and the development of a statewide bicycle and pedestrian traffic counting program.
- CNHRPC provided assistance with the development of a regional transportation model comprised of over 400 traffic analysis zones as part of the I-93 Bow-Concord expansion project. The transportation model was developed using a base year of 2010 and a future year of 2035 using projections for population and employment. The model allows CNHRPC to demonstrate what effects specific demographic changes and roadway projects may have on traffic throughout the region.
- CNHRPC completed a NHDES 604(b) impervious cover study for the Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee (UMRLAC) with its member towns of Bow, Concord, Boscawen, and Canterbury. CNHRPC completed the creation of an impervious cover GIS layer for the UMRLAC region, developed several maps of the region and each town displaying impervious cover and other pertinent map layers. Reports with a detailed discussion of local areas of concern were developed for each community.
- Continued to acquire, update, and utilize Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data for planning, cartography, and analysis across all projects.

For additional information, please contact the CNHRPC staff or visit us at [www.cnhrpc.org](http://www.cnhrpc.org). CNHRPC Commission meetings are open to the public and interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

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## Emergency Management Department

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Bow Emergency Management is responsible for initiating, coordinating, and sustaining an effective local response to disasters and emergency situations. The emergency management director's role is to ensure that all departments and participating partners are aware of their responsibilities and provide a basis for providing protective actions prior to, during, and after any type of disaster impacting the community and its residents.

The community was fortunate to not experience any major emergencies or disasters this past year that required full activation of the Town Emergency Operations Center (EOC), but we did monitored four winter storms and two utility outages. During the activation, the emergency management team worked aggressively to identify problems and find resolutions to ensure the safety and health of the community.

The Emergency Management Team continued to enhance its' capabilities and the way it does business through planning, training, exercising, enhancement of operational facilities, securing of grants, participating in professional development activities, and ensuring compliance with state and federal standards.

The EM team participated in training activities that included: shelter operations, EOC operations, public health emergency planning, CERT training and WebEOC training. We conducted incident management training for the school crisis teams and Bow Police Explorers. We participated in the Town Safety Day program, Town Halloween party, Methodist Church Strawberry Festival, and conducted informational sessions with organizations within the community to enhance awareness, preparedness, and recruitment of volunteers to assist in the process.

We are grateful for the support and cooperation on the part of the Town manager, board of selectman, department heads, school district, and citizen for their support during this past year.

Citizens wishing to seek additional information are encouraged to contact:

Lee Kimball, Director  
Bow Emergency Management  
10 Grandview Road, Bow, NH 03304  
228-1187 X130 (Office) / 568-8096 (Cell) / 226-3670 (Home)  
[boweoc@bowfiredpartment.org](mailto:boweoc@bowfiredpartment.org)

**BE PREPARED – EMERGENCY PLANNING STARTS AT HOME**

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## Fire Department

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During the year, the Fire Department responded to 1066 fire and medical calls. This was a 10.4% decrease in call volume from 2014.

It is the mission of the Bow Fire Department to protect lives, property, and the environment. The Fire Department is dedicated to improving the overall quality of living for each resident, through life safety, prevention, education and emergency response.

At the Departments Holiday Party in December, several members were recognized for years of service to the Town of Bow in the Fire Department. Margaret Francoeur and Tony Camp earned certificates for 40 years of service, Justin Abbott for 20 years of service, Mitchell Harrington for 15 years of service, Christopher Girard and Timothy Ives for 5 years of service. Congratulations to those recognized. I would also like to thank all members for their dedication to the Department during the past year.

Again, this year, the Bow Fire Department members showed their commitment to training and excellence. The Bow Fire Department trains nearly every Wednesday in order to maintain critical skill proficiency and meet regulatory licensing requirements. Examples of critical skills are medication administration, firefighter safety, self-contained breathing apparatus proficiency, child passenger safety, and rescue skills to name a few. This year was our first year recertifying our own Advanced EMT providers under the new national standards. Our own Paramedics, James Beaudoin, Eliot Berman and Brandon Skoglund delivered a phenomenal recertification course. The course was focused on pediatric emergencies. Pediatric calls are very difficult because they don't happen often, they are serious in nature, and are emotionally challenging. This year, two of our Paramedics attended the required refresher training program at Concord Hospital. The program was put on by Concord Hospital Physicians in the state of the art simulation lab. The past year has also focused on enhancing our response to our numerous commercial and industrial sites in town. Part of this process included; developing pre incident plans, training in large area search and rescue, hazardous materials response planning and facility familiarization.

During the past three plus years, the Public Safety Facility Building Committees have spent countless hours planning the future needs of the Fire Department, Police Department and the Office of Emergency Management. With the hiring of a Design/Build Contractor, we are all hopeful that this will be the year that we are successful at Town Meeting in getting a new facility. The plans and building program

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## Fire Department (continued)

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have been revised to meet the current needs of the three Departments. We are asking for your support for the replacement of the existing Fire Station and the relocation of the Police Department and the Office of Emergency Management. Thank you for your support of our request for a new facility.

The members of the Bow Fire Department would like to thank Chief Commerford and the members of the Bow Police Department for their continued support and assistance at various calls during the past year. The Public Works Department has also provided assistance at calls and providing vehicle maintenance to the Fire Department vehicles. We appreciate the support from all Town Departments with their assistance during the year.

The Department would like to give a special thanks to the members of Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary for their assistance during 2014 at calls, mutual aid drills and other activities.

The Fire Department asks that all residents number their houses. These numbers should be visible from the street and be on both sides of your mail box.

### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS TO REMEMBER**

**TO REPORT A FIRE OR REQUEST AN AMBULANCE**  
**CALL 911**

**ALL OTHER FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**  
**CALL 228-4320**

**OUTSIDE BURNING PERMITS ARE REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES**  
**EXCEPT WHEN THE GROUND IS COVERED WITH SNOW**

**PERMITS ARE AVAILABLE 24/7**  
**AT THE FIRE STATION**  
**228-4320**

Respectfully submitted,  
H. Dana Abbott  
Chief

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## Fire Department (continued)

### *Forest Fire Warden and State Forest Ranger Report*

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Your local Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department, and the State of New Hampshire Division of Forests & Lands, work collaboratively to reduce the risk and frequency of wildland fires in New Hampshire. To help us assist you, please contact your local Forest Fire Warden or Fire Department to determine if a permit is required before doing ANY outside burning. Under State law (RSA 227-L:17) a fire permit is required for all outside burning, unless the ground is completely covered with snow. The ability to obtain fire permits on line was initiated in 2015. Approximately 120 towns participated in the online system with over 4,000 permits issued. To obtain a permit on line visit [www.NHfirepermit.com](http://www.NHfirepermit.com). The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services also prohibits the open burning of household waste. Citizens are encouraged to contact the local fire department or DES at 603-271-3503 or [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov) for more information. Safe open burning requires diligence and responsibility. Help us to protect New Hampshire's forest resources. For more information please contact the Division of Forests & Lands at (603) 271-2214, or online at [www.nhdfi.org](http://www.nhdfi.org).

This past fire season burned **635 acres** which was the most recorded since 1989 when 629 acres burned. The fire season began in early April with the first reported fire occurring on April 8th. The largest fire was the 275 acre Bayle Mountain fire in Ossipee. This fire started on May 5<sup>th</sup> and burned for several days. The Bayle Mt. fire was also the largest individual fire in NH in over 25 years. There were also a number of other sizable fires in May which definitely kept NH's wildland firefighting resources stretched to the limit. These larger fires increased the average wildland fire size to 5.12 acres. As usual our higher fire danger days correlated well with the days that there were fires actually reported. The statewide system of 16 fire lookout towers continues to operate on Class III or higher fire danger days. Our fire lookouts are credited with keeping most fires small and saving several structures due to their quick and accurate spotting capabilities. The towers fire spotting capability was supplemented by the NH Civil Air Patrol when the fire danger was 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. Several of the fires during the 2015 season threatened structures, and a few structures were burned, a constant reminder that forest fires burn more than just trees.

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## Fire Department (continued)

### Forest Fire Warden and State Forest Ranger Report

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Homeowners should take measures to prevent a wildland fire 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 [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org). Please help Smokey Bear, your local fire department, and the state's Forest Rangers by being fire wise and fire safe!

### 2015 Statistics for Wildland Fires in the State of N.H.

| COUNTY STATISTICS |       |            |
|-------------------|-------|------------|
| County            | Acres | # of Fires |
| Belknap           | 15.3  | 11         |
| Carroll           | 276   | 2          |
| Cheshire          | 27.6  | 18         |
| Coos              | 1.6   | 6          |
| Grafton           | 22.6  | 17         |
| Hillsborough      | 49.7  | 22         |
| Merrimack         | 228   | 16         |
| Rockingham        | 7     | 13         |
| Strafford         | 5.5   | 15         |
| Sullivan          | 1.1   | 4          |

| CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| Arson .....              | 7  |
| Debris.....              | 14 |
| Campfire .....           | 12 |
| Children .....           | 2  |
| Smoking.....             | 12 |
| Railroad .....           |    |
| Equipment.....           | 6  |
| Lightning .....          | 4  |
| Misc.* .....             | 67 |

\*Miscellaneous ( power lines, fireworks, electric fences, etc.)

| Year | Total Fires | Total Acres |
|------|-------------|-------------|
| 2015 | 124         | 635         |
| 2014 | 112         | 72          |
| 2013 | 182         | 144         |
| 2012 | 318         | 206         |
| 2011 | 125         | 42          |

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## Fire Department (continued)

### Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact Report

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The 2015 annual report is prepared for the Board of Directors of the Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact as a summary of general activities and events occurring through December 31, 2015. It is also provided to the Town offices of the Compact's member communities for information and distribution as desired.

The Compact's operational area is 769 square miles with a resident population of 132,983. The Equalized Property Valuation in our coverage area is currently listed as over twelve billion dollars. We also provide and receive mutual aid responses with communities beyond our member area.

The Compact provides 24/7 emergency dispatch service to its twenty-two member communities. This service is contracted with the City of Concord Fire Department's Communications Center. Dispatched calls totaled 22,348 in 2015, an increase of 2.1% from the previous year. The detailed activity report by town/agency is attached.

The 2015 Compact operating budget was \$ 1,133,108. Funding of all Compact operations is provided by the member communities. We continue to apply for State and Federal Grant Funds when available. During 2015 we were awarded a grant of \$161,284.05 for Phase 3 of our communication system improvements. Work funded by this grant will begin during 2016. The Compact was also the recipient of a grant for \$5,250 on behalf of the Hazmat Team to fund their medical surveillance program. The Phase 1 and 2 communications work funded in 2014 with a \$499,403 grant has been started. Equipment purchases are being made and FCC licensing and tower site-use agreements are underway. During 2015 work for the \$19,500 grant for a continuity of operations plan to formalize our backup operations with the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid was completed and that plan is now in place. The Compact has received a total of \$1,499,225.59 in grant funding since 2007.

The Chief Coordinator responded to 196 incidents throughout the system in 2015, and provided command post assistance on those mutual aid incidents. He also aids all departments with response planning, updating addressing information, and represents the Compact with several organizations related to public safety.

Compact officers serving during 2015 were:

President, Chief Ray Fisher, Boscawen  
Vice President, Chief Jon Wiggin, Dunbarton  
Secretary, Chief Alan Quimby, Chichester  
Treasurer, Assistant Chief Dick Pistey, Bow

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## Fire Department (continued)

### Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact Report

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The Training Committee chaired by Henniker Captain Mick Costello; with members Bow Assistant Chief Dick Pistey, Chichester Deputy Chief Matt Cole and Warner Deputy Chief Jon France assisted departments with mutual aid exercises. These combined drills provide valuable training in the delivery of mutual aid services.

The Central New Hampshire HazMat Team represents 58 Capital Area and Lakes Region area communities and is ready to assist or respond to hazardous materials incidents in our combined areas. Hazardous Materials Team Chief Bill Weinhold encourages all communities to participate in the Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC) planning programs and to take advantage of hazardous materials training for local departments.

The Compact worked to facilitate some group purchasing during 2015. 13 EMS services responding to 17 of the Compact communities were in need of a new EMS billing service. We met as a group and investigated several companies who offered the required services. Acting as a group, we were able to secure an attractive rate and 11 of the services chose the same vendor to benefit from the enhanced pricing. Work is currently underway to secure pricing as a group for SCBA purchases to be made during 2016.

2015 was marked by significant brush fires throughout the Compact and all of the State. The importance of mutual aid was highlighted by these large scale incidents as Compact departments travelled far outside their normal response areas to provide help to other communities and some received assistance from multiple departments. The dispatch center was busy coordinating Compact responses and fulfilling their role as the primary contact for the Statewide Mobilization Plan.

All departments are encouraged to send representation to all Compact meetings. Your input is needed. The Compact was created for the mutual benefit of member communities and active participation is a necessity to ensure the needs of all are being met.

I invite anyone with questions or comments to contact me. I thank all departments for their cooperation. Please contact any Compact officer or the Chief Coordinator if we may be of assistance.

Sincerely,  
Keith Gilbert, Chief Coordinator  
CAPITAL AREA FIRE COMPACT

57 REGIONAL DRIVE, CONCORD, NH 03301

ALLENSTOWN · BOSCAWEN · BOW · BRADFORD · CANTERBURY · CHICHESTER · CONCORD · DEERING · DUNBARTON · EPSON · HENNIKER · HILLSBOROUGH · HOOKSETT · HOPKINTON · LOUDON · NORTHWOOD · PEMBROKE · PITTSFIELD · SALISBURY · WARNER · WEBSTER · WINDSOR

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## Human Services Department

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The Department of Human Services mission is to reduce social and economic dependency by providing interim financial assistance and other related services. These services are provided to needy, disabled and elderly individuals who reside in the town of Bow. The Department refers individuals onto agencies within the Capital Region for services not necessarily provided by the town.

During the calendar year 2015, the Human Services Department had four new applications for assistance requests. Two of the applications were for homeless resource availability and two were for rental assistance.

The residents in the Town of Bow continue to be very caring and generous. Donations are received throughout the year. Donations include non-perishable food items for our food pantry, personal care items, warm clothing for the cold winter months and holiday gifts and items for the town children.

One of the busiest times for the Department is during the holiday season. This past December, Thirty-six children received gifts from Toy's for Tot's, the Giving Tree located at the Bow branch of Merrimack County Savings Bank, and residents and business who adopted families to ensure they had a happier and brighter holiday. The Capital Region Food Program provided the holiday meal for forty-two families. Local organizations and businesses provided Thanksgiving food basket for those in need.

Food drives are held throughout the year by local businesses, neighborhoods and town organizations. The Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Young at Heart Club, Bow Men's Club, and Bow Recreation have assisted with donations of non-perishable food and personal care items

I would like to thank our town organizations, Citizen's and businesses for the continued generosity, caring and support over the past year.

Respectively submitted,  
Debra A. Bourbeau  
Human Services Director

## Parks and Recreation Department



Boot Camp 2015.

Dear Residents and Friends,

Thank you for a terrific 2015 here at The Bow Parks and Recreation Department. We hope you have had the opportunity to stop in for a visit and join us at one of our many activities or Special Events. We are pleased to be able to offer programs for children as young as 3 through adults in their 90s! We enjoy you all. Do you **have an idea** of something you would like to see offered or have a talent that you would like to share? Please stop in and talk with us.

Below is a listing of the various programs and events that we offered during 2015:

| Youth Programs                 | Family/Adult Programs      | Fitness/Health Programs |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Art Classes                    | Archery                    | 30 Day Challenge        |
| Baby Sitter Training           | Basketball                 | 50+ Fitness             |
| Basketball Camps               | Dog Obedience              | Basic Conditioning      |
| Celebrating Children PreSchool | Duplicate Bridge           | Body Blast              |
| Girls on The Run               | Golf                       | Cardio Revolution       |
| Girls on Track                 | Hiking                     | Mindful Meditation      |
| Granite State Track & Field    | Moonlight Hike/Snowshoe    | Mixed Cardio & Strength |
| Gym Time                       | Tennis Lessons             | Pay It Forward          |
| Kidz Camp                      | Volleyball                 | Tai Chi                 |
| Engineering/Science Camps      | Young at Heart             | Teen Fit Camp           |
| Safe On My Own                 |                            | Yoga                    |
| Shake it Off                   | <b>Seasonal Events</b>     | Yoga for Kids           |
| Summer Camp                    | Easter Egg Hunt            | Zumba®                  |
| Tip-Tap-Toe Dance              | Gingerbread House Workshop | Zumba®                  |
| Summer Trips                   | Halloween Party            | Zumba Sentao®           |
| Swim Lessons                   | Mother's Day Tea           |                         |
| Vacation Week Activities       | Sleigh Rides               |                         |
|                                | Tree Lighting/Santa Visit  |                         |

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## Parks and Recreation Department (continued)

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Summer Camp and T-Ball Fun!

| Youth Sports |                        |
|--------------|------------------------|
| Basketball   | Bow Brawlers Wrestling |
| Field Hockey | Floor Hockey           |
| Golf         | Lacrosse               |
| Soccer       | Sports Day             |
| T-Ball       | Tennis                 |

In 2015 we began offering “**Kindergarten Sports**” right after school at The Bow Elementary School. This gives the children the opportunity to go right from school to their activity, without parents needing to worry about transportation. At the end of the activity, the children are picked up by parents or their childcare.

Children may ride the school bus to most of our “**After School Activities**”, held here at the Community Building. They must be picked up here, following their activity.

**2015** marked the year we were able to get our long awaited **irrigation at Hanson Park!** This has been a project that has been pursued for years by both Town Residents and Town Employees. Through funding from sport participants and leagues, tax dollars, Sub Division Regulation Donations and CIP Funds, along with the expertise and

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## Parks and Recreation Department (continued)

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Grooming and expanding fields at Hanson Park.

work of the Town Groundskeeper Dan Freeman and The Bow Department of Public Works, we were able to hire a company to install the system. This project was completed in December of this year. This is exciting news for our fields! Thank you to all who made this possible!

**Looking to find out about our programs and event?** Program Flyers are available to pick up at the Bow Town Office, Baker Free Library, local schools, and at The Bow Community Building. Check out the town website [www.bow-nh.com](http://www.bow-nh.com). Click on *Town Departments*, then *Parks & Recreation* to bring you to our home page. Check out our flyers, print a registration form, see our instructors, and find various other “Parks and Recreation News”. We also add links to the various local youth sport leagues. To register for a program, stop in our office, fill out a registration form (one/school year/person), make payment and put participant’s name in the activity book. Feel free to give us a call at 228-2222 for any assistance needed. At this time, we do not offer online registration.

**Not sure how to find us?** We share the Bow Community Building with the Fire Department. Just park on the pond side of the building and enter the front door. Our office is on the left. Our mailing address is: 10 Grandview Rd, Bow, NH 03304. Our phone number is 228-2222.

**Celebrating Children**, the department’s preschool program is housed at the Bow Municipal Building. Please look for their own page in this town report with more information about all of their great offerings. If you would like to learn more, please give *Celebrating Children* a call at 228-2214.

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## Parks and Recreation Department (continued)

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The Town of Bow has five athletic fields, three playgrounds, one team practice area, the Rotary Park, Bandstand Park and the town ice skating pond. Maintenance for these facilities is under the direction of the Department of Public Works. In 2015, much work was done to expand playing areas by removing fencing boundaries, clearing land and planting seeds. Renovating and expanding our fields and park areas will continue. Our fields are open in April and close the end of October. Playgrounds are closed during the winter.

All teams or organizations that wish to use the fields must contact the Parks and Recreation office at 228-2222 to reserve time slots. We greatly appreciate the assistance that we receive from those who use our facilities and help to keep them clean and free of any dangers. Please, if when using any of our facilities, let us know if you find any damage or problems.

The relationships this department shares with organizations such as the Bow Athletic Club, Bow Youth Lacrosse, Bow Youth Soccer, Bow Rotary Club, Bow Men's Club, Bow Garden Club, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and many other local groups, are relationships that we truly value and appreciate. These relationships allow us all to make a difference for the residents of Bow.

The Community Building and the Bandstand may be rented for private functions. Please stop in or call the office to arrange such rentals.

In closing, I want to again thank everyone who helps to make this



Bow Parks and Recreation Staff:  
Left - Malinda Blakey, Office Assistant.  
Center - Cindy Rose, Director.  
Right - Anne-Marie Guertin, Program Coordinator.

department such a success and asset to The Town of Bow. I thank the residents of Bow who continually support and value our department, the town officials and employees who work with our department with the best interests of the town, The Department of Public Works who continuously work with us to make sure our fields, equipment and facilities are the best they can be, the Bow School

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## Parks and Recreation Department (continued)

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District for continued use of their facilities, our program instructors who allow us to offer so many great programs, to our terrific summer staff who give so many children of Bow an amazing summer, the caring and dedicated staff at our Celebrating Children Preschool and the permanent employees here at Bow Parks and Recreation who strive to make this office such a welcoming experience to all who walk through our doors.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Rose, Director



Above - Basketball camp.

Left: Field - trip thrills.

Below - Bowgie and friends.



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## Police Department

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The mission of the Bow Police Department is to provide the highest quality of safety services while maintaining the highest degree of courtesy and professionalism, and assuring fair and equal treatment for all.

In 2015, the Police Department handled 20,838 calls for service.

**Officers made a record breaking 301 arrests this past year.** There were 121 motor vehicle collisions covered. There were 2,695 citations and warnings issued and 157 alcohol related offenses investigated. There was an increase in pistol permits issued during 2015, rising to 170. A robbery and 38 reported burglaries were investigated. There were 71 reports of theft that were investigated. There were 58 related Driving While Intoxicated and protective custody arrests. There were 89 arrests involving controlled drugs/illegal narcotics. 38 arrests were made for outstanding bench warrants and numerous arrests were made for bail jumping/breach of bail conditions. Officers handled 21 cases of assault and a total of 19 restraining orders were served. There were serious investigations that involved Aggravated Felonious Sexual Assault and Criminal Threatening/Intimidation. There were 32 reports criminal mischief (vandalism), 28 reports of identity fraud, and numerous reports of bad checks and forgery. While the Bow Police Department was noted in national media sites this past year for working to apprehend an emu, a recap of the actual type of typical work they did included some of the following:

In February, Master Patrol Officer Lamy and Officer Goodacre assisted the Hooksett Police Department after a car failed to stop for the Hooksett Police and came into Bow. The car eventually stopped near several Bow businesses and the two men inside fled on foot. Officer Pratte and K-9 Roxy were called and they successfully tracked the men to a location where they were hiding. Both men were arrested and the charges included, but were not limited to, criminal trespass, prowling, habitual offender, and the possession of controlled drugs. It was later learned that one of the individuals had been armed with a handgun and had discarded it when he was fleeing from the officers.

In April, as a result of his patrol work, Master Patrol Officer Coady arrested a man who was wanted for an outstanding parole violation. With the assistance of Officer Goodacre, MPO Coady also found the man was in possession of two bags of heroin and over \$3,300 dollars in cash. He was further charged with possession of a controlled narcotic with intent to distribute. The Department has since learned that a portion of the seized cash will be awarded to the Police Department through the asset forfeiture program under the NH Attorney General's Office.

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## Police Department (continued)

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In May, Lieutenant Hayes, Master Patrol Officer Coady, and Officer Carpenter learned two people who were staying at a local business were wanted for felony and misdemeanor warrants. When they went to arrest them, they found another person with them. Based on their behaviors, the officers used their investigative skills and officer safety tactics and ultimately found a needle and heroin on one of the people and a significant amount of heroin on one of the others. A search warrant was completed and additional drugs and evidence were found. In addition to arresting the first two, the third person was arrested and charged with possession of drugs with intent to distribute.

Also in May, Master Patrol Officer Lamy keenly recognized a passenger in a car who was wanted on an outstanding warrant. After stopping the car and arresting the man, MPO Lamy found the driver's license was suspended. She was also found with ten grams of heroin, illegal possession of numerous prescription pills, and \$1,500 in cash. The driver was also arrested and charged with felony level offenses.

That car stop was subsequently related to an intense investigation managed by Detective Blanchette and resulted in two major search warrants executed in June. With the assistance of the New Hampshire State Police, and lead by Detective Blanchette, Bow officers searched two homes for illegal drug activity. Three people were safely arrested on charges that included possession and sale of controlled/narcotic drugs, resisting arrest, bail jumping, outstanding bench warrants, and disorderly conduct. A significant amount of illegally possessed prescription medications, marijuana, heroin, additional narcotic drugs, ammunition, and firearms, were seized.

In December, while on patrol, Officer Pratte stopped a car for a motor vehicle violation. There were three men in the car, whom during the stop, acted in ways that caused Officer Pratte to fear for his safety. With assistance from the NH State Police, Officer Pratte found the men were in possession of several stun gun types of firearms and one long gun that resembled real guns, burglary tools, black gloves, and camouflage bandannas. Two of the men were also charged with felony level drug possession and one of the men was also charged with falsely identifying himself.

As mentioned earlier, Detective Blanchette managed several intense investigations this past year which also included investigations of criminal activity and burglaries in a particular neighborhood. Partnering with Sergeant Merrigan's continued strong efforts in his assignment of the Department's Public Information Officer, they held a community forum in November at the Baker Free Library directed to

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## Police Department (continued)

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these particular residents. Sergeant Merrigan and Detective Blanchette provided information, answered questions, gave safety tips, and offered suggestions in reporting events to the Department. There was a tremendous attendance and it also resulted in neighbors building a stronger communication network amongst themselves. Sergeant Merrigan and Detective Blanchette plan on expanding the forums this coming year as well as working to establish a type of neighborhood watch groups with interested residents.

Sergeant Margaret Lougee continued her established and highly recognized work as the School Resource Officer. Her responsibilities of working in all three schools expanded due to the inclusion of the Dunbarton students. Sergeant Lougee again focused her efforts on safety and she worked with the safety teams in both districts this past year. Together, they worked on updating the bomb threat procedures and the lockdown procedures. Sergeant Lougee oversaw numerous safety drills in all the schools and she also commanded a joint training with school staff and the Police Explorers. She continues to serve on the Crisis Team which had a higher than normal response this past year. Sergeant Lougee is also serving on the newly formed Bow/Dunbarton Community Wellness Coalition which was created to concentrate on drug and alcohol abuse and destructive behaviors involving students. Sergeant Lougee teaches many sessions in all three schools and she maintains a high level on interaction with students in all grade levels. Lastly, Sergeant Lougee continued to oversee the Bow Police Explorer Post, a youth oriented program sponsored by the Department. Members of the Post are exposed to real operations of law enforcement and receive trainings and opportunities, such as attendance of the cadet academy. The Post has established its participation and efforts as being critical to the success of several community events, such as Town elections, the Memorial Day Parade, Public Safety Day, and the annual tree lighting ceremony.

The Police Department took on a great community initiative this past year in installing a permanent medication collection box. This is to help decrease unused and expired medications from our community and therefore, reduce the chance of abuse/misuse of medications as well as provide proper disposal instead of flushing medications or throwing them away. The collection box is accessible 24 hours a day/seven days of week, is free of charge, and anonymous. Only pharmaceutical drugs are accepted and any packaging is allowed.

In August, the Police Department partnered with the Bow Fire Department again to host Public Safety Day. The theme of promoting

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## Police Department (continued)

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safety while having fun was evident in the demonstrations, parade, and food. The crowd enjoyed a K-9 demonstration, displays from NH Homeland Security, the Baker Free Library, Concord Crimeline, and various police and fire departments. The Department looks forward to continuing to work with the Fire Department to make this an annual event for the community.



Bow Public Safety Day 2015.

On Thanksgiving morning, the Bow Police Association hosted its annual Turkey Trot. This 5k road race was again organized and lead by Detective Stacey Blanchette for the seventh year. This year's race saw approximately 475 runners and walkers. Free food was offered as well as an opportunity to have a free photo done in a fun photo booth. The Bow Men's Club supplied free coffee, hot chocolate, and donuts this year. A special thanks to Lori Fisher, who joined on as the new MC for the race. As always, thank-you to the Bow Public Works Department, the Bow High School, the Bow Police Explorers, Lily Woo, Beth Piroso, and Bryan Westover. I would also like to extend great gratitude to Mike Wayne, Charles Griswold, and the other members of Bow Men's Club; Their assistance and all they continually offer is beyond words.

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## Police Department (continued)

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The winner of the 2015 Bow Police Association Turkey Trot finishing with a police escort.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the members of the Bow Police Department for their hard work, dedication to our efforts, and cohesive commitment to this team. I would also like to thank the Town Manager, Board of Selectmen, and all other Town Officials, and Town Departments, for their assistance, support, and continued promotion of professional working relationships. On behalf of the men and women of the Bow Police Department, we look forward to continuing our efforts and serving the citizens of Bow.

Respectfully submitted,  
Erin A. Commerford  
Chief of Police

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## Public Works Department

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As I prepare the following statement, I first want to acknowledge that I am very proud of the entire staff of the Public Works Department. Their unified dedications for the achievements that follow are just a few of the examples that prove the community has a great crew providing many skills of trade maintaining the infrastructure of the Town of Bow.



Left to right, back row first:

Bob Cepurneek, Dan Freeman, Mike Rabbitt, Rick Nylen,

Brian Piroso, Myrton Fellows, Mark Acebron,

Gerry Verville, Mike Aborn, Corey Welcome, Lance Stoutenburgh

Noel Gourley, Tim Sweeney, Lynn LaBontee, Mike Hague, Todd Drew

Not pictured : Mark Nelson, Dana Gourley and Lenny Virgin

The first winter storm event of 2015 developed on January 3<sup>rd</sup> followed by 31 snow events and never-ending low temperatures. The traditional “January thaw” that we all look forward to, passed us by. The last snow event occurred on March 16<sup>th</sup>, followed by ideal weather for our construction season.

**The Roads Division** worked diligently on the replacement of approximately 20 drainage cross culverts and the installation of over 4,000 lineal feet of under drainage prior to paving of the following roads: Hampshire Hills Drive, Johnathan Lane, Wood Hill Hooksett (Bow Bog end), Shoreview Drive, Blueberry Lane, Branch Londonderry Turnpike West, Kelso Drive and parking lot repairs at the Old Town Hall.

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## Public Works Department (continued)

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**The Fleet Division** worked very diligently managing the upkeep of 45 municipal vehicles and numerous pieces of machinery, accounting for over 725 hours of maintenance. They composed bid specifications for new equipment purchases including the purchase of a new Caterpillar loader, which proved to be a major dependability benefit during one of the harshest winters we have experienced in many years.



**The Parks Division** was busy in the spring tending to various Playground upgrades, with a major focus on the safety of the young children at play.

The Hanson Park area received many makeovers, increasing usable field space. Gosling Field was expanded approximately one acre by removing 1000 feet of chain link fence and omitting a baseball diamond. The BAC and Bow Soccer Club funded the rental of a bulldozer with the talent of Foreman Gourley we were able to do grubbing and leveling off a large area along the wood line for this expansion. The lower, Gergler Field area was modified by moving the batting cage area and clearing an area of rough terrain to allow for an additional third of an acre of usable field space.

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## Public Works Department (continued)

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The much anticipated new irrigation system was installed for the three fields at Hanson Park in December and we look forward to plush playing fields in the spring and summer of 2016 and every year after for everyone to enjoy.



**The Cemetery Division** assisted families during their time of sorrow. The employees assisted the families and made the effort to assure them their plot purchase was appropriate, instilling confidence and comforting the family through the burial process.



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## Public Works Department (continued)

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**The Buildings Division** managed daily custodial chores in many town owned buildings and accomplished numerous town wide projects and tasks including resetting and leveling the old granite steps at the Historic Bow Bog Meeting House. The extension of a roof section over the exterior stairway of the Rescue Building, moving a wall and installing a handicap door at the Police Station, plus 80 additional other requests for maintenance action were addressed, accounting for over 500 staff hours of maintenance repairs amongst the nine town managed buildings. The Buildings Division also composed specifications, coordinated and supervised concerns from contractors who were hired to address many projects including two sections of foundation sill replacement at the Old Town Hall, installation of additional insulation in the basement of the municipal building and numerous plumbing and electrical repairs that required licensed contractors.



Beyond all the projects that were accomplished by the Public Works crew, the two foremen and administration spent many hours working with the Water and Waste Contractor troubleshooting the operations systems.

In closing, I wish to thank the Town Residents, Clubs and Committee members, Administration, and Board of Selectmen for their continual support the Public Works Department receives.

Respectfully submitted,  
Timothy P. Sweeney  
Public Works Director

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## Town Clerk / Tax Collector Department

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Left to right: Lois Richards, Mridula Naik, Tonia Lindquist.

*Photo by Eric Anderson.*

It's hard to believe that over a year has passed since December of 2014, when I was fortunate enough to take over as town clerk. Since that time a few notable staff changes have taken place, including the hiring of Ms. Tonia Lindquist to replace me as deputy. Ms. Lindquist lives in Bow with her husband, Michael Lindquist, and her kids, McKenzie, Tyler, and Levi. Tonia has picked up the ropes very quickly and has been a tremendous help to me in my first year.

Another new addition to the office was Ms. Lois Richards, who is the new part-time account clerk. Lois' warm and friendly personality is well liked by the public. In other news, Ms. Sara Swenson has officially retired, and we bid her farewell with heavy hearts. Her years of service and her support are very much appreciated.

I would also like to thank Ms. Jill Hadaway, the former tax collector and selectwoman whose constant support and assistance enabled me to acclimate seamlessly into this position. She has been there for me every step of the way, and I cannot thank her enough.

In regards to the business front, our revenue from motor vehicle registrations has increased tremendously in the past three years. This has led to quite a bit of foot traffic within the office. Our online services

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## Town Clerk / Tax Collector Department (continued)

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and over the counter credit card options have become increasingly popular with individuals and companies, but through it all we have managed to keep our turn around time for online and mailed-in registrations within 24 hours.

I am proud to say that, in this past year, my staff and I have been able to provide high quality service within a friendly and welcoming environment. However, we are always looking for ways to improve, so any comments or suggestions from our taxpayers are always welcome. I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve the community that my family and I have been a part of for the past 21 years, and I am honored to continue my work as your town clerk and tax collector.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mridula Naik

# Boards, Commissions and Committees



**Maryellen Hayes plays the newly restored Prescott reed organ at the Bow Bog Meeting House during a public event hosted by the Bow Heritage Commission in June. (Photo by Eric Anderson)**

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## Bow Benefits Committee

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The Employee Benefits Committee began with a discussion of the challenges facing the town, and all other communities, in light of the rising cost of healthcare and health insurance, the so-called “Cadillac tax” that would be added to the cost of the town’s current plan if action were not taken and the need to protect our town employees as much as reasonably possible.

The Committee met with representatives of HealthTrust, the town’s current health insurance provider, Schoolcare and InterLocal Trust. These meetings took place on separate days and each lasted several hours. A fairly significant amount of information was obtained from each provider. The Committee concluded costs would continue to rise and the Cadillac tax would have to be paid unless some action was taken. It was noted that prescription benefits would be changing for town employees in the near future, whether or not the town decided to change the existing plans.

The next step taken by the Committee was to meet with representatives from the Bow-Dunbarton School District and the Concord School District which had or were undergoing a change in their health insurance benefit that involved so-called “high deductible” plans. Finally, the Committee met with a representative from Benefit Strategies, a company that could administer a Health Reimbursement Account program for the town that, if funded, would provide town employees with a way to cover some or all of the cost of a high deductible under a new plan.

An important factor the Committee looked at was what kind of education and training each of the potential providers were able to provide to town employees if a change from the current plan occurred. It was noted such education would work best if were done at each town department’s facility and on multiple occasions to cover all shifts. It was suggested spouses should be included.

The Committee looked at the current premium cost to the town and to town employees of coverage and the projected future cost of coverage under a variety of different options. Savings in premium costs for the town and the town’s employees that would be realized from a change in the plan were also reviewed. The Committee also looked at some of the additional costs employees would encounter under a change in the current plan.

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## Bow Benefits Committee (continued)

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There was a consensus that a change may be inevitable, but the Committee did not reach a final recommendation. The Selectmen have asked the Committee to continue its work during the next few months with a particular emphasis on educating town employees on any change in the plan.

Respectfully submitted,  
Selectman Jack P. Crisp, Jr.

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## Bow Budget Committee

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Standing left to right: Robert Louf, Rob Hollinger, Jack Crisp, Chuck Douglas, Dominic Luente. Seated left to right: Bob Arnold, John Heise, Jeff Knight.  
Not pictured: June Branscom, Colleen Hunter. *Photo by Eric Anderson.*

The Bow Budget Committee consists of an eight member group of fiscally conscious individuals. These individuals have experience in various facets of professional fields from finance, Law, private industry, and public service. Each individual brings their own unique perspective to the budget review process in an effort to be thorough in our analysis. The eight member group is comprised of six elected budget committee members, Bob Arnold, Chuck Douglas, John R Heise, Robert Hollinger, Jeff Knight, and Dominic Luente, along with an appointed selectman, Jack Crisp, and a school board delegate, Robert Louf. The budget review process consists of a line by line review and analysis through each and every department both at the town as well as the School. Both the Town as well as the school perform a similar process as detailed below.

The town departments compose their budgets and submit to the Town Manager for review. The town manager makes any necessary adjustments and then submits to the select board for their review. Once the Select board has had an opportunity to analyze to their standards it is then released to the budget committee for its analysis.

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## Bow Budget Committee (continued)

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The School Board acts in similar fashion. Each respective department composes their budget as they believe necessary to deliver upon the educational goals and objectives for the Town of Bow. Those departmental budgets are then handed over to the School Board and Office of Superintendent for further review and ultimately to the Budget Committee for final review.

The budget review process really kicks into gear at the beginning of January as committee meets twice a week for 6 weeks leading up to public hearings for both the town and school budgets. Each week the committee meets with both the town and school on separate evenings and walks through each departmental expenditures as well as the revenues. We spend a great deal of time discussing the merits of various expenditures, discussing alternate ways of achieving similar results for reduced costs, reviewing present and future expenses, warrant articles, alternative revenue creation, as well as many others in order to be prudent with your tax dollars. It should be noted that a great deal of work goes into the creation of the budget review packages by both the town officials as well as school department. Their input is invaluable to our process and we greatly appreciate all that they do for the town.

Many of the individuals whom have chosen to dedicate their valuable time to the budget review process also serve on various other committees throughout the town such as the CIP (Capital Improvement Program), Public Safety Committee, and Benefits Committee, to name a few. Their dedication to community service is welcomed and appreciated. A special thank you to our recording secretary Wendy Gilman as you do a great job accurately recording our meeting minutes.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Heise

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## Bow Business Development Commission

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Standing left to right: Garrett Lewis, Matt Taylor, Don Berube Jr., David Stack, John Meissner, Bryan Westover, Colleen Hunter, Richard Kraybill.  
Seated left to right: Stan Emanuel, Bill Hickey and Larry Haynes.  
Not pictured: Christopher Johnson and Ben Kiniry. Photo by Eric Anderson.

The Bow Business Development Commission (BDC) started out as the Industrial Development Committee, which was created by Town Warrant in 1978. While its name may have changed and its membership has grown, its primary objective remains the same—to expand the Town's commercial and industrial tax base. The BDC has been working on a number of projects over the past year with that objective in mind.

The BDC engaged Arnett Development Group (ADG) to update the Town's economic development strategy, which was last done in 2000. Stuart Arnett, the firm's founder and managing partner has been an invaluable resource for the Commission with his many years of experience in economic development; Mr. Arnett served for eight years as the Director of the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development. A final report titled "Route 3A Sales and Outreach Strategies" was issued in June. ADG will continue to assist the Commission in 2016 with several projects, including the creation of a web marketing tool for commercial properties in Town.

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## Bow Business Development Commission (continued)

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The BDC sponsored two “Business to Business” events, which are after hour gatherings of business owners and residents to exchange ideas. The first event was hosted by the Baker Free Library in April and the second was hosted by Exel in October and included a tour and overview of the operation. Both events were very well attended.

At the October event, business owners were interviewed by Bow High School student Aditya Shah as part of a promotional video. Mr. Shah is working with the BDC to create a video that will be used to market Bow’s business corridor; the project will be completed early in 2016.

Over the past year the Commission also researched a number of issues that impact the Town’s business climate, including the installation of signs and pedestrian improvements within the State right-of-way, the possibility of bringing water to Bow Junction, and the creation of a tax increment finance district. The BDC also investigated potential roadblocks for new development and created a flowchart explaining the Town’s review process. A renewed effort is underway to make visits to businesses and interview business owners to get a better perspective for what is working and what could be improved.

The BDC meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:15 AM in the Municipal Building. Occasionally we have guest speakers and light refreshments, but there is always a good discussion. Many thanks go out to Bow residents, business owners, and volunteers for your continued support. The public is encouraged to attend our meetings and get involved. For additional information, please visit the Town’s website.

Respectfully submitted,  
William Hickey, Chair

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## Bow Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Committee

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The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Committee was established to provide the Town with a unified (Town, Library, School) plan for the timing and financing of the construction and rehabilitation of Town, Library, and School facilities and for the acquisition and replacement of equipment. The committee consists of the following members, Colleen Hunter, Board of Selectmen; June Branscom, School Board; Bill Oldenburg, Planning Board; Jeffery Knight, Budget Committee; and citizen representatives Mike Wayne, Dik Dagavarian and Bill Hickey.

The Committee met numerous times throughout the spring and summer and it adopted the Bow Capital Improvements Plan for FY2016-17 through FY2021-22. The committee concentrated on the Town's vehicle and equipment inventory to improve our understanding of departmental lifecycle management and added improved vehicle identification as well as inflation adjustments. The plan does not include estimates for the Public Safety Building, Community Building and School District anticipated construction projects due to the uncertainty of their scope and cost, all other anticipated capital expenditures of the Town, Library and School District for the next six years are included in the plan. The Committee met with the Board of Selectmen, Library Trustees and School Board to present and discuss the Plan and will be meeting with the Budget Committee during the budget review.

The preparation and adoption of a Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) is an important part of Bow's planning process. A CIP aims to recognize and resolve deficiencies in existing public facilities and anticipate and meet future demand for capital facilities.

A CIP is an advisory document that can serve a number of purposes, among them to:

- Guide the Board of Selectmen, School Board, Library Trustees and the Budget Committee in the annual budgeting processes;
- Contribute to stabilizing the Town's real property tax rate;
- Aid the prioritization, coordination, and sequencing of various municipal improvements;
- Inform residents, business owners, and developers of planned improvements;
- Provide the necessary legal basis, continued administration and periodic updates of the Bow Impact Fee Ordinance.

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## Bow (CIP) Committee (continued)

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It must be emphasized that the CIP is purely advisory in nature. Ultimate budgeting decisions are made by the Board of Selectmen, Budget Committee, Library Trustees, and the School Board and the ultimate funding of projects is subject to the Town and School budgeting processes and the annual Town and School District Meetings.

The full CIP document can be viewed by visiting the Town's Web Site at [www.bow-nh.gov](http://www.bow-nh.gov).

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Wayne, Chair  
Bill Hickey, Vice-chair

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## Bow Conservation Commission

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Left to right: John Meissner, Nancy Rheinhardt, Wendy Waskin, Barbara Downey.

Not pictured: Jim Nelson, Philip Downie, Dave Kirkpatrick and Kitty Lane.

*Photo by Eric Anderson.*

We are very fortunate to be able to conserve diverse properties throughout our town and leave a lasting legacy to our future generations to enjoy the panoramic views, wildlife, beautiful fields, stone walls, waterfalls, prime wetlands and wooded uplands.

Our Commission strives to enhance Bow's environment by preserving open space and water resources for forestry management, wildlife, outdoor recreation, environmental awareness and education while trying to balance growth and maintain our quality of life.

Many thanks to Bow Open Space members, the Boy Scouts and residents for volunteering their time developing and maintaining our trails, educating our citizens and for leading outdoor activities year-round on our conservation lands. Bow would not have the beautiful trail system that we do without all of these dedicated volunteers.

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## Bow Conservation Commission (continued)

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Thanks especially to the following members of the BCC who spend countless hours volunteering to make Bow a better place:

Wendy Waskin  
Jim Nelson  
Kitty Lane  
Barbara and Phil Downey  
Dave Kirkpatrick  
John Meissner

Our volunteer commission, appointed by the Selectmen, meets every third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Meetings are open to the public.

Nancy Rheinhardt  
Chairman

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## Bow Drinking Water Protection Committee

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Standing left to right: Noel Gorley, Wendy Waskin, Richard Kraybill.

Seated left to right: Sandra Crystall, Cynthia Klevens, Matt Taylor.

Not pictured: Kevin Leonard, Erik Burkett.

*Photo by Eric Anderson.*

The BDWPC was created by the Board of Selectman in May 2005 to support drinking water protection activities in Town. The committee currently has six members and welcomes any interested residents to attend our monthly meetings which are typically held the first Monday of each month, at the Town Municipal Building. In 2015, the committee focused its efforts on the Brown Hill Road Area Well Water Quality study, and coordinated a special Private Well Testing Day with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) and the Dartmouth Toxic Metals Superfund Research Program.

### **Brown Hill Road Area Water Quality Study**

As a result of resident complaints about plumbing corrosion in July 2013, the Select Board requested that the BDWPC work through the Town Community Development Director and Town Manager to perform a water quality study of the Brown Hill Road area. In 2013 and 2014 the Committee reviewed historical data from the Town and well driller reports on file with the state. In 2014 a homeowner survey was distributed to Brown Hill Road area residents to gather information regarding well and septic locations, water quality complaints, and

existing treatment systems. Fifty percent (79 of 158) homeowners responded and approved sampling of their private wells for water quality parameters associated with salt in groundwater and conditions related to corrosion in plumbing, in addition to other parameters of interest. Well water quality reports were distributed to each homeowner in late 2014. Compilation and evaluation of the data were completed in 2015. A draft report will be presented to the Select Board in February, and a public outreach session with area residents is planned for Spring 2016.

### Private Well Testing Day

In Spring 2015, the BDWPC was approached by Dartmouth and the NHDES to participate in a focused, private well testing day as part of a grant to identify barriers to private well testing from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Bow was one of six New Hampshire towns selected to identify the effectiveness of different community activities to promote private well testing. Working through the BDWPC, Bow's testing event was held in June 2015 at the

**You can't see it.  
You can't smell it.  
You can't taste it.**

# IS THERE ARSENIC IN YOUR WELL WATER?

|   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <br><b>1 in 5</b><br>homeowners' wells in<br>New Hampshire contain<br>unsafe levels of arsenic | <br><b>\$ 15</b><br>dollars<br>is all it costs to test your<br>well water for arsenic | <br><b>10</b><br>minutes<br>is all it takes to<br>collect a water sample | <br><b>3-5</b><br>years<br>is the recommended<br>frequency for testing |
|---|--|---|---|

**ARSENIC IS COMMON IN WELL WATER.**

- Arsenic is present in New Hampshire well water because of the state's granite and other types of rock.
- Arsenic in well water can cause serious health issues over time, such as heart problems and bladder, skin, and lung

**TESTING YOUR WATER IS EASY.**

- The first step to keeping your family safe is to test your well water for arsenic and other contaminants.
- The cost to test your water ranges from about \$15 for just arsenic to \$85 for a standard package of tests

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## Bow Drinking Water Protection Committee (continued)

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Community Center. The event was very well received and successfully distributed 122 private well testing kits! If you obtained a kit and have not had your water analyzed, please bring you water sample to the state lab for testing!

In 2016, the committee plans to finalize the results and hold a public meeting on the Brown Hill Area Water Quality Study and will continue to provide information about drinking water protection to area residents. Residents can do their part to protect drinking water and the health of their families by:

1. Testing your private well for common groundwater contaminants in New Hampshire including bacteria, nitrate, arsenic, uranium, radon, lead and copper;
2. Regularly have your septic system inspected every 2 – 3 years and pumped out to ensure proper treatment and prevent premature system failure; and
3. Not flushing unused medications or other hazardous material down the drain to prevent contamination of water supplies. Unused medications should be crushed and disposed as household trash, or taken to the medications drop box at the Bow Police Department.

The committee would like to extend our special thanks and best wishes to Bill Klubben, Community Development Director, who accompanied the BDWPC from its creation in 2005 to his retirement in 2015, and a warm welcome to our new Community Development Director, Matt Taylor. Special thanks also to Bryan Westover, Community Development Assistant, for his continued support to the committee, and to Bow resident Brandon Kernen, for his significant contributions to the Brown Hill Area Water Quality Study.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia Klevens, Chair

Members:

Kevin Leonard, Vice Chair

Sandy Crystall, Planning Board representative

Dick Kraybill, Business Development Commission representative

Noel Gourley, Dept of Public Works representative

Wendy Waskin, Conservation Commission representative

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## Bow Heritage Commission

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Back row left to right: Gary Nylen, Darren Benoit, John Meissner, Mark Leven.

Front row left to right: Faye Johnson, Nancy Knapp, and Sue Wheeler.

Not pictured: Eric Anderson. *Photo by Commissioner Eric Anderson.*

Members of the Bow Heritage Commission (BHC) had an extremely active and rewarding year, celebrating the completion of the Baker Free Library (BFL) History Room and other projects both large and small, as well watching new projects begin.

**Bow Bog Meeting House (BBMH).** The LCHIP grant for the shutters and second phase of the windows has been extended to June 30, 2016. The shutters have been restored and painted, the remaining windows are in process and installation will occur when weather permits.

Department of Public Works (DPW) leveled the granite steps and BHC is working on a portable handicap ramp. DPW also built a blind for our portable toilet enabling 3-season use of the building. The 1880 Prescott reed organ was restored by Edgar Broadway of Claremont with funds donated by Carol Goodsell Bailey, Louise Carr in Memory of Carol Allbee Gouin, and the Family of Dana Abbott in Memory of Virginia F. Abbott and Olive W. Totten.

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## Bow Heritage Commission (continued)

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Maryellen Hayes plays the newly restored Prescott reed organ.

*Photo by Commissioner Eric Anderson.*

Due to the extension of the LCHIP grant, BHC will continue to accept charitable deduction donations to the **"BBMH \$100 Club"** through June 2016 when donors names will be placed on a plaque that will hang in the BBMH.

In June BHC hosted a **NH Humanities Council 40th Anniversary Signature Event** - "N. E.'s Colonial Meetinghouses and their Impact on American Society by Paul Wainwright, Photographer", using excellent photographs of the few remaining "mint condition buildings. Maryellen Hayes provided music on our newly restored Prescott reed organ. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. It was wonderful to see lights on in the BBMH after dark.

Descendants of Abraham Colby of Bow rented the Town Hall and BBMH for the **Colby family reunion** in August. At one time there were more Colbys in Bow than any other family, and many residents still claim the Colby heritage.

**BFL History Room.** BHC is in the process of acquiring cases, shelving and cabinet units to hold its inventory, as well as the BFL Baker collection. Residents wishing to make memorial donations for these

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## Bow Heritage Commission (continued)

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units should contact Faye Johnson 228-8149, *fjohnson915@myfairpoint.net*

**Video.** Thanks to Mae Allquist for sharing information on her life at Bow Mills and on Hall Street, as well as her memories of a teenage war worker in Scotland.

The **White Family Account Book 1802-1832** was preserved and dedicated to the Paul and Jane Lindquist Family. This is a handwritten account of transactions among the residents of the River Rd./3A area, including some information on the Bow Canal. We thank Beth Lindquist Titus for the donation of this book.

**Fall Heritage Day.** The Town Pound was open. Narrated Tours of the 1894 Bow Center School House and Old Bow Center were conducted by Dick Stevens and Sue Wheeler in period costume. Four former students attended and shared their school house memories. The 1880 vault at the Old Town Hall was open and residents examined some of the contents. Bow Men's Club provided lunch. A pie social and sing-a-long was held at the Bow Bog Meeting House with music provided by Maryellen Haynes on the 1880 Prescott reed organ. Caitlin and Lauren Craven received Old Hancock sun catchers of the BBMH as winners of the daylong scavenger hunt. Pastor Durwood Sargent officiated at the 2nd annual bell remembrance ceremony, reading the names of the 37 Bow residents deceased in the past year with the bell rung for each.



Dick Stevens and Sue Wheeler in period costume.

*Photo by Commissioner Eric Anderson.*

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## Bow Heritage Commission (continued)

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The 1880 vault at the Old Town Hall was open and residents examined some of the contents. Bow Men's Club provided lunch. A pie social and sing-a-long was held at the Bow Bog Meeting House with music provided by Maryellen Haynes on the 1880 Prescott reed organ. Caitlin and Lauren Craven received Old Hancock sun catchers of the BBMH as winners of the daylong scavenger hunt. Pastor Durwood Sargent officiated at the 2nd annual bell remembrance ceremony, reading the names of the 37 Bow residents deceased in the past year with the bell rung for each.



Caitlin and Lauren Craven with the Old Hancock sun catchers.

*Photo by Commissioner Eric Anderson.*

In the past year BHC has supplied information for Discretionary Preservation Easements for Historic Agricultural Structures; conducted a tour of historic buildings for Cub Scout badge requirements; assisted a Boy Scout on his Eagle project, identifying and recording information on grave markers in Alexander Cemetery; provided artifacts and information for 8th grade civil war/antebellum period BFL program; and assisted residents in researching their home histories for historic sign eligibility.

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## Bow Heritage Commission (continued)

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(Applications for signs are available at the Municipal Building or online at [www.bow-nh.gov](http://www.bow-nh.gov).)

Old Hancock sun catchers of the Meeting House and new photo note cards are for sale at the administrator's office in the Municipal Building and at our table on voting days. All proceeds help preserve Bow history. Thanks to Eric Anderson for our note card photos, as well as the photos in this report.

BHC is looking to fill one alternate position on the Commission. Applications are available at the Municipal Building. We can also use volunteers in a variety of places. If you would like to share your Bow memories in a video, help care for our historic buildings, take part in open houses, share your historic photos of Bow (we can copy); assist with inventory, help staff the new history room or have a great fundraising idea, contact Faye Johnson (228-8149 [fjohnson915@myfairpoint.net](mailto:fjohnson915@myfairpoint.net)). A few hours, a few days or more; "many hands make light work"!

Gary Nylen, Chair  
Mark Leven, Vice Chair  
Faye Johnson, Secretary  
Sue Wheeler  
John Meissner  
Darren Benoit  
Eric Anderson, Selectmen's Representative  
Nancy Knapp, Alternate

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## Planning Board

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Standing left to right: Matt Taylor, Ben Kiniry, Allen Lindquist, Don Berube, Tony Reynolds, Chris Fortin, Louise Knee.  
Seated left to right: Bill Oldenburg, Arthur Cunningham, Sandy Crystall.  
Not pictured: Harry Judd, Willis Sloat, Betsey Patten, Adam Sandahl.  
*Photo by Eric Anderson.*

The Bow Planning Board was established by Warrant Article 12 of the March 1953 Town Meeting “to make a study of the town’s development and report to the town appropriate recommendations for the promotion and maintenance of the town’s best development.” The Board prepares and updates the Master Plan, participates in the Town’s Capital Improvement planning process, and proposes amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for consideration at Town Meeting. Subdivision and Site Plan Review Regulations are adopted by the Board. In addition to its planning and rulemaking functions, the Board has the authority to regulate the subdivision of real property and the development of property for non-residential and multi-family uses.

The Board met 18 times during 2015 to perform public review of development applications and proposed changes to Town ordinances and regulations. In addition, the Board conducted four site walks. Site walks provide the board and other interested residents an opportunity to view properties proposed for development. The Board received sixteen new applications in 2015, compared to nineteen in 2014. From 1996 to 2007, the Board received at least 32 applications each year, with a high of 48 in 2001.

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## Planning Board (continued)

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In 2015 the Board approved six site plans for new or expanded businesses, five requests for minor modifications to site plans, three residential subdivisions, and two conditional use permits. No residential site plans for new dwelling units were presented to the Planning Board in 2015. Commercial projects included a new 17,600 square foot building for Matt Brown Truck Repair and a new 2,700 square foot office building for Weaver Brothers Construction. The Town issued seventeen building permits for new dwelling units compared to twenty-seven last year.

The Planning Board continued to work on the Master Plan update over the past year. Drafts of chapters were reviewed and an online survey was available on the Town's website in December. Community meetings will be held in the Spring of 2016 to present survey results and further develop the Town's vision for the future.

For the March 2015 Town Meeting, the Planning Board submitted four zoning amendments for adoption, all of which voters approved. Changes to the Zoning Ordinance included a requirement for backup generators for elderly and multifamily housing, revisions to the telecommunications ordinance to bring it into line with State law, a provision to allow an accessory dwelling unit to be used for a caretaker or security personnel, and an exemption in the wetlands ordinance for logging operations.

In January of 2016, the Planning Board held hearings for two proposed revisions to the Zoning Ordinance and one revision to the Official Zoning Map. The proposed amendments include minor changes to the use tables and a zoning designation change to increase the size of the Limited Industrial zone on Dow Road by approximately 35 acres.

In 2015 the Town collected \$77,759 for schools under the impact fee ordinance (over \$1.7 million has been collected since 2001). That compares to \$100,846 in 2014 and \$108,616 in 2013. The Town also received cash contributions of \$774 for roads. The Impact Fee Ordinance authorizes the Planning Board to prepare and adopt additional impact fees once the Board identifies the need and prepares legally defensible formulas.

The members of the Planning Board work hard for you and appreciate the continued support of the citizens of Bow. Thank you. The Board

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## Planning Board (continued)

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encourages every resident to participate in its efforts. I encourage citizens willing to join us to submit a volunteer application form to the Select Board.

Long-serving Planning Board member Bill Cohen resigned in 2015. I thank Bill and believe the citizens of Bow owe him thanks for his service.

I also wish to thank the members of the Planning Board. Each member commits many hours to meet the challenges of planning for and managing the growth and development of the Town. In addition I wish to thank our Community Development Department, including Bill Klubben, who retired in August after 19 years of service, Bryan Westover, who filled in after Bill's departure, Matt Taylor, Bill's replacement who started in October, and Recording Secretary Louise Knee, for their many contributions in 2015.

Respectfully submitted:  
Arthur J Cunningham, Chair

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**Planning Board (continued)**  
*Notice to Owners of Parcels Involuntarily Merged*

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**NOTICE**

TO OWNERS OF PARCELS  
INVOLUNTARILY MERGED  
BY THE TOWN OF BOW

Per sections 11.01 B and 11.02 B 1 of the Town of Bow Zoning Ordinance, the Town has merged certain abutting non-conforming parcels of land held in common ownership. Sections 11.01 B and 11.02 B 1 were amended March 13, 2012 to remove the provisions for involuntary merger.

Per RSA 674:39-aa, effective July 24, 2011, parcels that were involuntarily merged prior to September 18, 2010 by the Town, shall at the request of the owner, be restored to their pre-merger status.

The request must be submitted to the governing body prior to December 31, 2016.

Restoration of lots to their pre-merger status shall not be deemed to cure any non-conformity with existing local land use ordinances.

Per RSA 674:39-aa, VI, the Town of Bow shall post this notice in a public place no later than January 1, 2012 and the notice shall remain posted through December 31, 2016. The Town shall publish a notice in its 2011 through 2015 annual reports.

Posted in the Bow Municipal Building on December 15, 2011.

Revised 1/16/13

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## Bow Public Safety Building Committee

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Standing left to right: Glenn Dugas, Willis Sloat, Fred Twombly, Bob Pike, Dick Siciak, David Cook, Ray Johnson, Bill McGonagle, Michael Sampo, David Stack, Harry Judd, Karen Wadsworth, Jeffrey Knight, Richard Tanguay.

Seated left to right: Art Cunningham, Colleen Hunter, Ken Demain.

*Photo by Eric Anderson.*

Voters at the 2015 Town Meeting approved funding to develop Design-Build specifications and Request for Proposal documents for the construction of a combined Public Safety Facility ranging in size from 20,000 SF to 25,000 SF at a cost not to exceed \$5,000,000. Soon after the meeting, the Select Board once again established a Public Safety Building Committee (PSB). The Committee's charge was to meet the criteria set by the voters. Fortunately, individuals from the community volunteered their time and services. While some of the sixteen members had served on previous PSB committees, which brought historical knowledge and insight, the new members provided significant expertise in building development and construction.

The Committee began meeting in the middle of May and spent its initial meetings reviewing and evaluating the space needs of each of the Fire Department, Police Department and Emergency Services. Input was received from the Fire and Police Chiefs as well as the Emergency Management Director. The Town contracted with CMA Engineers to

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## Bow Public Safety Building Committee (continued)

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help the committee establish the space needs of each department and to assist in the development of a Request for Proposal document. Prior committees identified the Town-owned land at the intersection of Knox Road and Logging Hill Road as the most appropriate location for a Public Safety Building. The Committee revisited the idea of siting the new building on top of the hill, as first proposed in 2008. In order to minimize costs, the Committee reached out to the Department of Public Works to dig test pits in the proposed area, which confirmed that the uphill location was a viable site. Members took a site walk of this area with residents from the surrounding neighborhoods and listened to their concerns. The uphill location was presented to the Planning Board in July so that potential issues could be addressed. Between the recommendations of the Planning Board, and in response to input from the neighbors, the PSB committee established a 100 foot buffer around the building site, instead of the normal 50 foot buffer. This requirement was added to the RFP to address the neighbors' concerns.

A bidder's conference was held on September 9<sup>th</sup> and approximately fifteen architectural design firms and design-build construction companies gathered and participated in a site walk of two potential sites for the project. The Request for Proposal for the design build specification of a combined facility was released the week of September 16<sup>th</sup>. While the building size range criteria remained the same, the Committee agreed that \$500,000 would be held by the Town for hard costs, Town responsibilities and a project contingency. Therefore, bidders were limited to a \$4.5 million dollar cap. Bids were submitted in October and the Town of Bow received three complete bids.

The bid evaluation subcommittee, made up of the seven members with the most extensive construction knowledge, decided to interview all three bidders, even though not all of the bids met all of the criteria. After extensive review, interviews and background checks, the PSB Committee recommended to the Board of Selectman in November that the Gary Chicoine Construction Company be chosen for the project.

The Public Safety Building Committee continues its outreach to the Bow community through e-alerts, the Town website, a Facebook page, newsletters and, most recently, presentations to various Town organizations.

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## Bow Public Safety Building Committee (continued)

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With the endorsement and support of both the Select Board and Budget Committee, the Public Safety Building Committee is proud to present the residents of Bow with proposal to construct a combined Public Safety Building that not only meets but exceeds the criteria set forth by the Townspeople. Many thanks to all of you on this Committee, as well as all those who served on the last seven committees. They have all given so selflessly of their time, efforts and expertise to see this building become a reality.

Respectfully submitted,  
Colleen Hunter  
PSB Committee Chairperson

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## Bow Recycling and Solid Waste Committee

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The Bow Recycling and Solid Waste Committee is actively involved in the town's waste management activities including encouragement of recycling and the disposal of solid and hazardous wastes. In 2015, the committee involvement focused primarily on outreach and coordination of the annual Household Hazardous Waste Day.

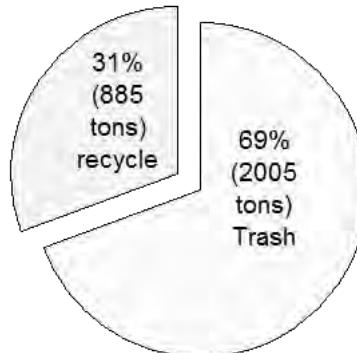
### **Waste Disposal and Recycling General Information**

Pinard Waste Systems of Manchester, New Hampshire has collected our wastes and recyclables since 2009. Our relationship with Pinard will continue until at least June 30, 2018 when the current contract expires. The cost for waste disposal is divided relatively equally into hauling costs and waste disposal costs. The waste disposal cost, in contrast to Pinard's hauling contract, is not fixed and depends on the amount of recycling and waste disposal. Recycling, composting, waste minimization and other activities reduce the waste disposal tonnage and hence taxpayer cost.

The waste disposal cost (tipping fee) for trash this year was \$66.8/ton. There is no cost to the town for the disposal of recyclables. Bow disposed of 2,005 tons of residential trash last year at the Wheelabrator Incinerator (December to December), which is 69% of our waste stream. The Town paid approximately \$130,000 for residential waste disposal. This cost would have increased by 30% without the town's recycling efforts.

An analysis of recycling rates over the last decade in Bow reveals a significant increase in recycling following the addition of single stream recycling and a separate toter for recyclables. Between 2010 through 2013 town recycling rates were fairly stagnant at 26 to 27% of the waste stream. In 2014 the recycling rate jumped to 30.5% and in 2015 the recycling rate once again exceeds 30%.

**Bow Solid Waste Tons  
2015**



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## Bow Recycling and Solid Waste Committee (continued)

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The committee attributes the increase in recycling to the added convenience and simplicity of single stream recycling. Diversion of 31% of the waste stream saved taxpayers approximately \$60,000 in waste disposal tipping fees. There is room for additional taxpayer savings, however, with over 60% of all waste recyclable according to studies conducted by EPA. Each ton of recycling represents immediate budget savings; increasing recycling and reducing waste benefits everybody by reducing taxes.

### **Household Hazardous Waste Day**

Bow relies on shallow groundwater for all of its drinking water supply. Proper disposal of hazardous wastes is essential to maintaining uncontaminated groundwater for our drinking water wells. To help protect town groundwater and to ensure safe disposal of chemicals, Bow holds an annual hazardous waste collection event. In 2015, the Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics collection event had a higher than average participation rate (361 households). Each year, Bow hosts this important event in conjunction with the Town of Dunbarton. Joining forces saves costs for both towns and makes Bow eligible for a higher reimbursement rate from a state grant. This year the State will reimburse the town for \$1,875 in expenses (Dunbarton and the state grant reimburse the town for about a fourth of the cost of the event). Each year the electronics collection event is held concurrently; the electronics disposal is self-financed by a small fee charged to each participant by the electronics collection contractor.

Hazardous wastes disposed of in 2015 included nearly 9 tons of waste oil, oil paint, oxidizers, acids, pesticides, flammables, bad gasoline, etc. Event volunteers also separated certain wastes such as rechargeable batteries, small sealed lead acid batteries, car batteries, propane tanks and an incredible amount of fluorescent light bulbs for either recycling or less expensive disposal options.

### **Future Activities**

The committee will continue to work toward increasing recycling rates and reducing trash by performing outreach to residents. The committee intends to hold household hazardous waste day again the first Saturday in October. The committee will continue its community educational and outreach efforts on the benefits of recycling and waste collection logistics (maintaining separation between toters to facilitate pickup,

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## Bow Recycling and Solid Waste Committee (continued)

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orientation of toters with the lid hinge away from the street and DPW's ability to do some toter repairs). The committee encourages all residents and businesses to maximize recycling and reduce waste generation because this benefits everybody by reducing town expenses and protecting the environment.

Prepared by Bow Recycling and Solid Waste Committee



Left to right. Seated - Sarah Brown (Chair) and Gary Lynn (Secretary).

Standing - Cynthia Klevens and Beth Titus.

Not pictured - Sherri Cheney (Treasurer). *Photo by Eric Anderson.*

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## Bow Recreational Needs Study Committee

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Last year the Recreation Needs Committee focused on issues related to the town's athletic fields and conducted a town-wide survey intended to assess the needs and interests of our town residents. Last year's town meeting approved a budget of \$25,000.00 to be used by the committee to evaluate options relating to the Community Building in light of the possible construction of a new public safety building that would relocate the Bow Fire Department.

The first task for the Committee was to determine the recreation related activities organized by the Recreation Department that were currently happening at the Community Building and elsewhere in town. From there the Committee discussed what facilities were needed in order to properly continue and expand on these activities. It was clear the facilities that exist now in the Community Building are not adequate and present a variety of concerns.

Cheryl Killam, an expert on compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), was engaged to evaluate the Community Building, along with other town buildings. In addition, the firm of Sheerr McCrystal Palson Architecture (SMP) was engaged to provide the Committee with technical assistance. SMP had done a study of the Community Building in 2006 which was shared with the Committee members along with the other studies and reports that had been prepared. SMP provided the Committee with some potential ideas on how the space of the existing Community Building could be used, if the Fire Department would relocate. Most of these options, if not all, were not possible unless that occurred. It was determined the code requirements would change if the Fire Department moved out of the building along with all other vehicles and any fuel. It was felt the electrical, plumbing and HVAC systems were badly in need of replacement to achieve code compliance and for safety related issues.

SMP provided drawings showing options for renovating the existing building or constructed a new building. The Committee was surprised by the possibilities for renovating the existing Community Building should the Fire Department relocate. However, the work necessary would be extensive.

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## Bow Recreational Needs Study Committee (continued)

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The Committee concluded additional work was needed before a reliable cost estimate could be determined. SMP agreed to assist with this work. A boundary survey of the land and certain geotechnical testing would be needed. It was decided to ask the Selectmen to present a warrant article to cover the cost of these services.

Respectfully submitted,  
Selectman Jack P. Crisp, Jr.



Cindy Rose, Director of the Bow Parks and Recreation Department, looks over drawings provided by SMP Architecture. *Photo by Eric Anderson.*

## Zoning Board of Adjustment



Standing left to right: Bruce Buttrick, LeaAnne Haney, Tom Fagan, Louise Knee.

Seated left to right: Bob Ives, Harry Hadaway, Jeff Klaiber.

Not pictured: Tony Reynolds, Donald Burns.

*Photo by Eric Anderson.*

The Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Bow was first established on March 8, 1955 when the Town's voters approved Warrant Article 4 at the Town Meeting. Article XII of the newly adopted Zoning Ordinance directed the Board of Selectmen to appoint members to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA or Board) and to establish the Board's purpose. RSA 674:33 and Article 13 of the Zoning Ordinance describe the ZBA's powers, duties and procedures.

The ZBA performs in a judicial capacity with regard to the Zoning Ordinance and hears requests for variances, special exceptions, and equitable waivers of dimensional requirements, as well as appeals from decisions made by the Code Enforcement Officer / Building Inspector. There are also provisions for a rehearing of ZBA decisions under some circumstances.

The Zoning Ordinance undergoes a yearly review by the Planning Board resulting in proposed amendments that are presented as Warrant Article(s) for Town Meeting and vote. In 2015, the ZBA reviewed residential principal and accessory uses for each Zone and suggested

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## Zoning Board of Adjustment (continued)

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changes to the Planning Board that was the catalyst for amendments proposed to the Table of Uses that would permit: Cottage Industries in all Zones by special exception; the keeping of livestock in the Commercial Zone by special exception; and to permit an Accessory Dwelling Unit (aka in-law apartment) as a Use by right in all zones.

In 2015, the Board lost two staff support personnel. In August, Bill Klubben, Community Development Director resigned after nearly twenty years of service and Matt Taylor was hired as his replacement in October. In December 2015, Building Inspector / Code Enforcement Officer Bruce Buttrick resigned from the Town of Bow after seven years of service in support of the ZBA. Mr. Buttrick's service to the Board has been valuable and greatly appreciated and he will be missed by the Board.

The ZBA is a 10 member Board consisting of 5 regular members and 5 are alternate members appointed by the Board of Selectmen to a 3-year term. In 2015, the Selectmen reappointed Jeff Klaiber and LeaAnne Haney to another 3-year. There are currently 3 vacant positions. If you are interested in becoming a Member, please complete a Volunteer Application form, which can be obtained at the Municipal Office or found through the Town's web site (<http://www.bow-nh.com>) under Forms & Applications or at [http://www.bow-nh.com/Pages/BowNH\\_WebDocs/Forms](http://www.bow-nh.com/Pages/BowNH_WebDocs/Forms) under the Town Manager tab. Thank you.

The ZBA meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM in meeting room 'C' at the Town Municipal Building, 10 Grandview Road and the public is always welcomed and will be given the opportunity to address the Board as cases are heard.

In 2015 the Board held 10 meetings, having to cancel the February and March scheduled meetings due to lack of applications.

The Board reviews each application for completeness and applicability to the Zoning Ordinance prior to accepting the application. Once accepted, a public hearing is scheduled and abutters are notified by certified mail. The Board generally schedules an on-site visit, called a site walk, prior to the public hearing for a visual inspection. A site walk is official Board business and open to the public.

In 2015, the Board received 8 applications and 2 Motions for Rehearing. Of the two special exceptions received, one was granted conditional approval and the other was carried forward into 2016. Of the five variances received, four were conditionally granted and one was dismissed. Two motions for rehearing were filed on two of the

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## Zoning Board of Adjustment (continued)

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conditionally approved variances that resulted in nullifying the variances previously granted. The Board also heard an appeal on the Building Inspector's determination.

The ZBA meeting schedule as well as agendas, minutes, rules of procedure, application forms and the Zoning Ordinance can be found on the Town's web site at <http://www.bow-nh.com> under the 'Boards & Committees' tab.

The Board would like to thank the Town officials, citizens and businesses for their support, with special thanks to Bruce Buttrick, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer; Bill Klubben, Town Planner; Louise Knee, Recording Secretary; and Janette Shuman and Bryan Westover for their administrative support.

On behalf of the Town, the Chairman extends appreciation to each and every Board Member for their commitment of time, energy and ideas.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry C. Hadaway, Jr., Chairman

Robert W. Ives, Vice Chairman

Jeffrey A. Klaiber, Secretary

Donald A. Burns, Regular Member

LeaAnne Haney, Regular Member

Tony Reynolds, Alternate Member

Thomas A. Fagan, Alternate Member

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## Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee

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The Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee, affectionately known as UMRLAC (pronounced Uhm'-re-lack), marked its twenty-fifth anniversary this year with many and diverse activities including a full slate of summer and fall field work; participating in presentations, workshops, and other training sessions; extended laboratory time for Bug Nights; presentations to civic groups and to the public; and continuing its co-hosting with St. Paul's School of the Winter Series Birckhead Science Lectures partnership.

Established in 1990, the UMRLAC represents its six communities of Boscawen, Bow, Canterbury, Concord, Franklin, and Northfield in state permit review by serving as the upper Merrimack River towns' and cities' advisory board through its designation in the New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Program. The UMRLAC updates the Merrimack River Management and Implementation Plan (<http://www.merrimackriver.org/managementplan/>) and conducts the activities in it. The UMRLAC's discretionary programs include a variety of studies, planning activities, and programs related to the upper Merrimack River and its watershed.

The UMRLAC continues to lead and manage the Upper Merrimack Monitoring Program (UMMP) as it entered its twentieth year in 2015. The UMMP depends on the high quality work of over a hundred volunteers each year who monitor river and stream health on the upper Merrimack River and its tributaries at a total of seventeen sites from Franklin to Bow. During the summer, volunteers collect river water samples and the Franklin Waste Water Treatment Plant analyzes them at no charge to detect the presence or absence of E. coli bacteria. The resulting data are used to determine if the upper Merrimack River is safe for swimming, fishing, boating, and other recreational activities. The information is shared with municipalities and other local officials for their health officers' and other local officials' use, as well as to the State of New Hampshire and the US Congress. Thanks this year to sample couriers Anne Emerson, Canterbury and Bill Dawson, Northfield. These Concord-to-Franklin pick-up and drop-off runs, carried out by these volunteer sample couriers, are time-consuming but are essential for timely sample chain-of-custody and processing.

St. Paul's School continues to be the gracious host for "Bug Nights," the UMMP's educational and research program, which continues its popularity in the region with dozens of individuals volunteering their sample sorting and identification services each Wednesday evening. The commitment and quality of volunteers that participate in the UMMP cannot be overstated and is the primary reason this program has been recognized nationally for generating superior citizen science results. Thank you to Claudette Verville and Chantal McGuire for taking home bugs over the summer as "home work" to keep the program on track.

This year, the UMRLAC was fortunate to secure the services of an intern, Max Maynard, who is a student at the New Hampshire Technical Institute (NHTI) in Concord. Max had attended Bug Nights as well as participated in summer fieldwork. He wanted to go beyond his volunteering to provide more in-depth work as part of

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## Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee (continued)

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NHTI's Capstone Project program. Max spent weeks reviewing macroinvertebrate and E. coli data, entering data into spreadsheets, and calculating metrics. He graphed data and formed recommendations for the UMMP as it moved into its twenty-first year of data collection and processing. Michele Tremblay and Steve Landry provided mentoring and attended his final presentation at NHTI. The UMRLAC looks forward to a presentation from Max at an UMRLAC meeting in early 2016 and his continued work at Bug Nights and during the spring and summer fieldwork.

The UMRLAC conducted a request for proposals for macroinvertebrate data analysis and production of photographic identification tools for the UMMP. The response was excellent and the UMRLAC selected Rhithron Associates in Montana. The firm provided a digital image library that will be used at Bug Nights and will expand as new organisms are discovered.

The UMRLAC is grateful to the NH Department of Environmental Services Volunteer River Assessment Program for servicing the UMMP water quality-testing meter. Thank you to UMMP volunteer Ken Edwardson, who provided a revised E. coli data entry and analysis tool for the UMMP. A technical information team will be reviewing the last twenty years of data to form recommendations for future monitoring.

This year, the UMRLAC was able to secure a small, rental storage area in Boscawen for its field and other equipment.

The UMMP work would not be possible without the generosity of all six of its municipal supporters and eleven Adopt-a-River Site Sponsors. Their support assures that the program has the resources that it needs to continue its programs. Adopt-a-River Site Sponsors include Aries Engineering, Inc., Elektrisola, Essex/Briar Hydro, Franklin Savings Bank, Franklin Wastewater Treatment Facility, GZA Environmental, Inc., Nelson The UMRLAC was proud to partner again this year with St. Paul's School on the "UMRLAC Winter Community Program and SPS Birckhead Science Lecture Series" with an event featuring Michael J. Caduto, who presented "Bones of Stone: How New Hampshire's Geology and Glaciology formed the Granite State." The partnership is exploring program options for the 2016 event. Please visit [www.MerrimackRiver.org](http://www.MerrimackRiver.org) to sign up for email announcements on this and other events.

The UMRLAC reviewed and provided local comment on several project plans and proposals in the upper Merrimack. Reviews included Northern Pass throughout the UMRLAC area; an after-the-fact shoreland permit in Bow; alteration of terrain and wetlands permit applications for Amoskeag/New Hampshire Distributors in Bow and Concord; and alteration of terrain, wetlands, and shorelands permit applications for Sewalls Fall Bridge and a wetlands permit application for a boat launch in Concord. The UMRLAC continued to monitor the Federal Energy and Regulatory Commission applications and updates on the Eversource Merrimack Station at Garvins Falls and Eastman Falls facilities. UMRLAC representatives updated the

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## Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee (continued)

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committee's review guidelines and created a form to assist with pre-review before meetings.

The UMRLAC continued to invite experts to present on a variety of issues to help representatives better understand complex issues and policies. This year, the UMRLAC hosted Steve Couture, Chair, Hooksett Conservation Commission, who discussed connectivity of conservation and agricultural lands in Hooksett; Brian Sullivan, City of Franklin Department of Public Works, who shared his experiences on stormwater utilities; Jim MacCartney, National Park Service, who provided information on Wild and Scenic rivers designation; Carrie Brewster, Cody Ferlow, Rachel Merrill, Tim Morrow, and Harvey Pine, students and faculty, Colby Sawyer College on the stormwater component of their Franklin community project; and Craig Tufts, Sam Durfree, and Steve Henninger, Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission, who presented the final versions of the impervious surface study maps and documents.

The impervious study was conducted with the UMRLAC as part of the Merrimack River Management and Implementation Plan. This study implements a major component of the Plan (Goal 14, pg. 19). Other components include a buffer and setback study and local ordinance study and matrix. UMRLAC representatives are contacting local land use boards in 2016 to schedule presentations of the study.

The UMRLAC continued to be a resource and provide technical assistance to Colby Sawyer College students with their practicum on the stormwater component of the City of Franklin downtown revitalization. The City of Franklin Mayor and Council voted unanimously to move forward with Wild and Scenic program designation for the portion of the river within the City's boundaries. The program provides technical assistance, financial support, and other resources for municipal projects such as trails and public access, which dovetails well with the City's downtown and other local revitalization and permaculture efforts. The UMRLAC is working with the National Park Service, City of Franklin municipal staff and elected officials, other partners, and the New Hampshire Congressional delegation on an Act of Congress relative to Wild and Scenic designation.

Michele Tremblay served on the NH Department of Environmental Services "Lean" efficiency process for local river management advisory committee permit review and commenting. The objective was to identify current process flow, areas where improvement is needed, and design new steps for the process. Many of the group's process improvements were implemented within weeks and several others are planned for legislative and rule changes. The UMRLAC hosted its second New Hampshire Rivers Council River Runners™ training session this summer with over a dozen volunteers participating. Unfortunately, a new infestation of a non-native milfoil was confirmed in the upper Merrimack through DNA testing. The UMRLAC continues to support the New Hampshire Rivers Council and Friends of the Northern Rail Trail.

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## Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee (continued)

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The UMRLAC welcomed Michael Hansen from Bow, Anne Dowling and Adrienne Hutchinson from Canterbury, and Gary Lemay from Concord, as the newest UMRLACers. The UMRLAC bid a reluctant farewell to retirees Anne Emerson and Nancy Roy from Canterbury. Anne and Nancy have served for many terms and their contributions and excellent reviews have been invaluable. The UMRLAC also recognized and thanked retiree Harry Anderson from Northfield. Harry served for many terms and was very active with permit reviews. At its annual meeting in November, the UMRLAC elected officers Michele Tremblay, Chair; Steve Landry, Vice-Chair, Krista Crowell, Treasurer; and Gary Lynn, Secretary. The UMRLAC is represented by Mike Hansen on the Brownfields Advisory Committee administered by the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission.

UMRLAC representatives provided a thorough review of the NH Department of Environmental Services fact sheet on the upper Merrimack River. As part of its biennial reporting to the New Hampshire General Court for 2013-2014, the UMRLAC documented over 20,543 hours of volunteer time to the people of the State of New Hampshire.

The Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee was nominated and approved as a “1% for the Planet” nonprofit. This means that the UMRLAC can accept donations and other gifts from certified corporate members as part of their certification. The UMRLAC is working on the formation of a 501(c)(3) nonprofit to serve as its fiscal agent and programming organization.

Please visit the UMRLAC’s new blog at [www.MerrimackRiver.org/forum](http://www.MerrimackRiver.org/forum) as well as its website, [www.MerrimackRiver.org](http://www.MerrimackRiver.org) for further information on the river, committee membership, activities, summaries from prior meetings, upcoming meeting agendas, maps, water quality data, and photographs of brave and selfless volunteers demonstrating their passion for water quality monitoring in the upper Merrimack watershed. Information is also available on Facebook and Twitter.

The UMRLAC meets on a rotating basis in its six represented communities on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. Thank you to the Towns and Cities of Boscawen, Bow, Canterbury, Concord, Franklin, and Northfield for graciously hosting Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee meetings and for their financial support during 2015. All are welcome to attend the meetings. For further information, please contact Michele Tremblay, Chair via telephone at 603.796.2615, or email at [UMRLAC@MerrimackRiver.org](mailto:UMRLAC@MerrimackRiver.org), or through your municipal representatives listed below.

*Boscawen:* Stephen C. Landry, Michele L. Tremblay  
*Bow:* Krista Crowell, Michael Hansen, Gary Lynn  
*Canterbury:* Anne Dowling, Anne Emerson (retired), Adrienne Hutchinson  
Nancy Roy (retired)  
*Concord:* Rick Chormann, Gary Lemay, Madeleine Mineau  
*Franklin:* Wayne Ives, Alan Larter, Donna Liolis, Nita Tomaszewski  
*Northfield:* Harry Anderson (retired), Glen Brown, William Dawson

# Community Organizations



**Bow Rotary Club's  
Annual Scholarship  
Auction. In recent years  
the Club has awarded an  
average of \$25,000 each  
year in scholarships and  
camperships to  
qualifying students.  
(Photo by Eric Anderson)**

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## Bow Athletic Club

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### **Participation in Youth Sports at All-time High**

Over 500 Children are playing sports in Bow, supported by more than 75 volunteers. Our town's newest program, the Bow Brawlers wrestling team, has 25 grapplers already. There are 25 basketball teams competing in grades 1 through high school, the most ever. And with the field hockey program, now in its 4<sup>th</sup> year, the fall sports programs have the highest participation ever! All this is supported by fund raising, donations, registration fees, and is organized by the hard work of volunteers.

The Bow Athletic Club (BAC) was founded in 1974 as a private, non-profit organization to foster the participation of the town's children in sports programs. These youth sports programs work as a complement or supplement to existing Town of Bow Recreation programs and Town of Bow school teams. It has always been the goal of the BAC to keep registration fees modest, and to offer equipment and financial scholarships if needed to ensure that every child has a chance to play.

To help keep up with this demand and to support the children of our town, the BAC needs help in many different ways. For anyone who would like to donate money or time, there are plenty of opportunities ([www.bowathleticclub.com](http://www.bowathleticclub.com) or e-mail [info@bowathleticclub.com](mailto:info@bowathleticclub.com)). Some examples of opportunities:

- Annual Bow Invitational Basketball Tournament will be held over February Vacation, Sponsors and volunteers are needed.
- The Bow Brawlers will be working towards hosting a large wrestling tournament here in Bow in the near future.
- Donations are always welcome, and can be directed for general support, or for specific needs like the continual improvement of our town fields and facilities.
- Volunteer your time, either to a specific sport through coaching or participating on committee, or join the board.

The BAC is run by a board of directors consisting of community volunteers, each of whom shares in the various responsibilities of recruiting coaches and officials, scheduling, game management, and other duties.

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## Bow Athletic Club (continued)

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BAC Board Meetings are held the second Monday of each month with elections at the January Annual Meeting. Meetings are open to the public and all are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Thank you to all who have supported the Bow Athletic Club. Our continued success rests with those who volunteer their time and spirit. Anyone interested in becoming a part of this exciting and rewarding effort is invited to contact a BAC officer or director.

Please visit the BAC website to learn more about our programs and opportunities to volunteer, [www.bowathleticclub.com](http://www.bowathleticclub.com).



The newly formed Bow Brawlers Wrestling Team.  
Photo by Derek Rousseau.

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## Bow Community Men's Club

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Throughout the year the Men's club continues to be heavily involved in many aspects of town functions. 2015 was no different in that regard, when, working with just about every organization and town department, we feel we have contributed to each project's success.

Six o'clock comes early on New Year's morning, but that is when our loyal breakfast crew starts preparing the tasty treats which will be served a couple hours later. The seven degree temperature inspired us to move at a brisk pace, as everything has to be cooked outdoors. A couple of minivans acted as a windbreak to keep the fires from blowing out. The food was good, enjoyed by a modest crowd of towns people.

In recent years weather has affected turnout at the annual Winter Fest sponsored by the Bow Rotary Club. Our club is responsible for serving the lunch at this event. We had a great response this year, selling out of some items on the menu.

In February we hosted Lady's Night for our wives with a buffet at the Old Town Hall and also featured live music provided by Lani Kangas and Roger Bergeron singing lots of our old favorite love songs.

March saw us team up with the PTO and the Parks and Recreation Department to cook and serve breakfast prior to the annual Easter egg hunt at the Bow Elementary School. A heavy snow squall obscured lots of the hidden eggs and made little sizzling sounds as the large flakes landed on the pancake grills, as our hardy and mostly water-proof crew were once again cooking outdoors. We are getting quite proficient with this process and have been invited to participate in this event in 2016.

Our springtime roadside cleanup had to be delayed twice due to the long lasting snow cover, but in early May we were able to gather almost 50 bags of trash and assorted items. Forty Scouts from Troop 75 and parents joined club members for this project. The five dozen donuts added incentive, to be sure, as there were none left at the finish. The planning for our other May event, the Memorial Day observance

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## Bow Community Men's Club (continued)

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actually begins in early April. This has become our biggest event of the year, involving literally hundreds of people. We were fortunate to have Town Manager Dave Stack print out agendas for each meeting and to contact major participants. Bryan Westover, Art Merrigan, Lee Kimball, Warren Perry, Mike Wayne and I rounded out the committee to help continue this long time town tradition and to try to make it better each year. Prior to the parade and memorial service Kirk Hemphill and crew served chicken barbecue at the community building.

Once again this year the weather was great. After the meal we formed up the procession at the Bow Memorial School. This year we were joined by the North Shore Pipe Band and many veterans. Grand Marshal Ray DeCorse led the parade to the Bow High School football field where the New Hampshire Patriot Guard Riders provided an escort had formed a flag line honor guard to greet us as we filed onto the field. Iraq War veteran Scott Bacon was our keynote speaker. Many thanks go to all the musicians, participants and to everyone who contributed in any way to making this high point of our activity year a success.

At the May 28th meeting we honored retiring Troop 75 Scoutmaster Andy Richardson, for his many years of service to the troop, Daniel Webster Council and the club. We welcomed Jim Weber as our new Scoutmaster. Sadly we had to bid farewell to long time member Marcel Duhaime who was also the leader of Venture Troop 75 at Bow High School. Marcel and his wife Beth, both beloved teachers in our community, left us for a teaching opportunity in North Carolina. Club president Rob Hollinger presented Marcel with a plaque and mementos at the school awards night on June 7th before the entire student body.

Our activities do not end with Memorial Day or the May meeting. The very next day, May 29th, we hosted a picnic for all town employees and just one week later a barbecue for the PTO. On June 16th we served over 250 people at the annual lacrosse picnic at Hanson Field. The Sunday evening concerts on the green, sponsored by the Bow Rotary Club, have proved to be quite popular. Our part in that project is to serve food and refreshments. Thanks to our past president Mark Dartnell, who furnishes us with the needed equipment from his Taylor Rental store, we serve popcorn, hot dogs, chips and beverages. On Public Safety day we again teamed up with the police and fire departments to provide breakfast coffee and donuts and then our famous lunch of grilled hot dogs, cheeseburgers and sausages

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## Bow Community Men's Club (continued)

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smothered with peppers and onions. We set up and served in the DPW parking lot.

A new venture this year was the hosting of the anniversary picnic for all of the staff and crews of the Excel liquor warehouse cooked and served at their new facility on rte.3A. Three of our new members are employees of that firm. Following that event we once again teamed up with the Heritage Commission to do coffee and donuts at the old schoolhouse, lunch at the old town hall, and beverages for the organ recital/dessert

Bow Bog Meeting House. Heritage Day has become a popular event with the townspeople. The members of the commission deserve a great big shout out for organizing this outstanding event. The timing was nearly flawless.

We were asked to cook a lunch to supplement pot luck items for the Young at Heart group. Tom Francis and Dik Dagavarian cooked the meat entrées and we served over 80 people --nothing got cold! About 100 people showed up for our annual Lobster Fest and chicken barbecue. Some of the folks wanted take home meals and in a couple of cases we delivered them. All in all it was a modestly successful evening.

This year we served about 500 cotton candy cones at the annual Halloween party at the high school. Thanks to Cheryl Stack, Bill Kuch, Mike Wayne, Dave Stack and crew. All of us got really involved in the production and left the hall in various shades of pink and purple. A similar number of folks showed up at the high school for the seventh annual Turkey Trot Road Race. We again furnished hot beverages and donuts for the runners and spectators. This event is sponsored by Bow Police Department.

It would appear that our primary activities seem to involve food of some kind, but it does help us to raise cash to support other projects and causes which require our attention. The last such meal was a prime rib dinner for the firemen's annual Christmas Party. Some of us got to wear our new chef's tunics furnished by Matt Bailey and Saint Paul's School.

The club continues to support Troop75, Pack 75 and Venture Crew 75 with their projects; right now they are considering a permanent campsite with assistance from the club. We also continue to support the food pantry and McKenna House homeless shelter with both gifts of money and food. Food donations collected at the annual tree

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## Bow Community Men's Club (continued)

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lighting was distributed to local food pantries. Speaking of the tree lighting, member Tim Morrison cut down the donated tree and pruned it prior to transportation by the DPW to the gazebo. Club members and their wives baked cookies and helped the kids make s'mores.

Sadly, long time member George Tasker passed away on December 16th. Several members of the club were able to attend the beautiful service at the NH Veterans Cemetery. His cheerful smile and wry sense of humor will be sorely missed.

We are looking forward to another productive year in 2016 and urge any guy of any age who enjoys camaraderie and community service to check us out. If you need additional information please visit our web site at [www.bownensclub.org](http://www.bownensclub.org) or Charlie at (603) 228-9621. We meet on the fourth Thursday evenings, January through May, September and October at the Old Town Hall, 91 Bow Center Road for fellowship, great food and excellent speakers.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlie Griswold, Secretary

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## Bow Boy Scouts

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### **Boy Scouts of America Pack and Troop 75**

With 40 boys in the Pack and 45 boys in the Troop, scouting is alive and well in Bow, NH!

Cub Scout Pack 75 serves boys 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The Pack spent a week at resident camp at Camp Carpenter over the summer. They held their pinewood derby race over the winter and the winners raced their pinewood derby cars at the Wannalancit district pinewood derby race! The Pack held their annual kids fishing derby in May on the town pond.

The Scouts participated all year in several community service activities such as placing flags at veteran graves on Memorial Day, helping the Recreation Department during the Christmas Tree Lighting, helping at the Bow Winterfest, assisting Bow Open Spaces in cleaning up dumpsites in the woods and the Bow Men's Club during their annual Roadside Pickup.

Boy Scout Troop 75 serves boys age 11 to 18. Troop 75 had a great year in 2015. The Troop is led by Duke Biehl and Joe Lulka as Senior Patrol Leaders, Alex Saffian as Quartermaster, Henry Tanner as Scribe, Andrew Nicholls as Order of The Arrow Representative, and Parker Richardson, Coleman Plummer, and Riley King as Patrol Leaders. Mark Langille and Grant Richardson assisted as Junior Assistant Scoutmasters.

Please join us in congratulating Andy Saffian, Art Aznive and Grant Richardson for earning Scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scout. Many other scouts earned ranks last year from Tenderfoot to Life. The Troop has several other Scouts currently with the maturity and prerequisites to start their Eagle projects.

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## Bow Boy Scouts (continued)

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Pack and Troop 75 scouts attended the New Hampshire State (International) Jamboree in September at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway. This Jamboree had almost 5,000 scouts and others attending from all over New England and Canada and a great time was had by all.

In June, Troop 75 held its annual Scout Yard Sale. The yard sale was formed in the early 1980s as a service project to the town, specifically for the fire department. It has been used since then to help families in Bow to clear out unwanted items from their homes to and increase access to firefighters and emergency response personnel in the event of a fire or another emergency. The scouts spend several weeks removing items from hundreds of homes each year for free. After collecting all of these items, the yard sale provides the ability to reuse as much as possible. Many of these items were destined for the garbage, reuse of items is the purest form of recycling, and we are pleased to prevent as much of these items as possible from entering the garbage stream. After the yard sale is finished, we donate several truck and trailer loads of supplies to local charities. We also recycle many of the left over raw materials after the sale is finished. The Scout Yard Sale is quite a community event, please come next year! Thanks to Brandi Richardson for leading such a huge service project for the town.

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## Bow Boy Scouts (continued)

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This year's Scouting for Food campaign was another huge success. With the help of the Bow and Dunbarton Selectmen, Pack 75, lots of scout parents and other volunteers; we collected food donations from Bow and Dunbarton, bringing in food to help both towns and the surrounding area. The Boy Scouts and older Cub Scouts camped out on the sledding hill adjacent to the gazebo and collected food throughout the entire weekend as generous residents stopped by to drop off food donations. We collected 8,000 items of food that went directly to the Bow Food Pantry, the Dunbarton Food Pantry, Christ the King Food Pantry and to the Concord Armory where it was then distributed right back to the surrounding area. Transporting this many food items is a daunting task, made easier by the generous assistance of Uhaul International. The citizens of Bow and Dunbarton did a lot to help their neighbors in a time of need, and we thank you for all. We realize we sometimes miss bags at homes and we thank you for bringing them down to us at the gazebo. With your help, we continue to be one of the largest contributors to Scouting for Food in the area.

Troop 75 scouts attended summer camp at Camp Hidden Valley and Camp Bell at the Griswold Scout Reservation in Gilmanton Iron Works, NH. Many of the scouts went for two solid weeks of summer camp fun and learning. Everyone had a good time participating in activities such as swimming, boating, rock climbing, team building, blacksmithing, cooking and camping to name a few. We had many

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## Bow Boy Scouts (continued)

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dedicated leaders take a week or more off from work to make summer camp possible, and I'd like to publicly thank all of them.

Our thanks to the Selectman, the residents of the Town of Bow, the Bow Recreation Department, and finally the Bow Community Men's Club, our chartering organization, for their support and efforts in making Boy Scouts available and successful here in Bow. I'd like to thank all of our critical adult volunteers in the Pack and Troop, we are lucky to have so many great role models in Bow.

If any 1st through 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys are interested in joining the fun and exciting world of Cub Scouts, Pack 75 generally meets at the Bow Community Center on the second Thursday of the Month from 6:30 – 7:30 PM. Any boys from the age of 11 - 17 interested in joining the challenging and exciting world of Boy Scouts or any adults are interested in assisting; we meet at the Bow Community Center every Tuesday night from 7:00 to 8:45 PM. For more information about the Troop or Pack please use the contact information below.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Weber, Scoutmaster  
[bowscouts.org](http://bowscouts.org)  
[sm.bowtroop75@gmail.com](mailto:sm.bowtroop75@gmail.com)  
(603) 340-3063

Seth Pingree, Cubmaster  
[pack75bow.org](http://pack75bow.org)  
[cubmaster.pack75bow@gmail.com](mailto:cubmaster.pack75bow@gmail.com)  
(603) 715-0063

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## Bow Garden Club

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The Bow Garden Club, now a half century old, is very much alive and well, closing out 2015 with forty-two (42) members on their roster with a bright future ahead. Our club is fortunate to have a diverse group of members--young mothers, career women, newly and not-so-newly retired women as well as "a few good men". Every member brings something to the table as our garden club goes about doing what they do best --"keeping Bow beautiful". Some members do not have much free time and others have physical limitations that prevent them from doing some of the necessary gardening tasks throughout the year, but it all just seems to work out as they volunteer their time and lend their expertise by planning the club's educational programs, putting together the members' annual booklets, handling the duties of membership, keeping the books, taking notes at meetings, etc.

The garden club held six regular membership meetings in 2015, plus a Progressive Dinner and Garden Tour with invited guests in July and their Annual Business Meeting & Holiday Brunch in December. April's meeting featured a program on "Raised Bed Gardening" presented by Laura Morrison, an organic farmer and member of the Northeast Organic Farmers Association (NOFA) and a Concord South End resident; "Successfully Growing Heirloom Tomatoes" with Ken Cook of Rusty's Heirloom Tomatoes in Dunbarton was our program in May; June's educational program was "All About Daylilies" featuring Greg Marquis of Capitol Daylilies right here in Bow; Ruth Axelrod, a UNH Cooperative Extension Master Gardener presented a program in September called "Composting from Garbage to Garden—Black Gold"; "Cacti & Succulents" was the topic for October's meeting with Aaron Kinne of Kinne Botanicals, LLC of Concord and November gave us "Holiday Tablescape" with Amelia Holdsworth of Holdsworth Interiors, a former Bow resident.

The garden club benefited from two successful fundraisers this year, their spring plant sale over Memorial Day Weekend where we sold out of plants by noon and our annual poinsettia pre-sale which exceeded any previous year in sales. Thank you, citizens of Bow for supporting our efforts! The proceeds allow us to continue planting and maintaining the gardens at Rotary Park, the Town Gazebo, the Municipal Building and all the planters located around town and to decorate the town buildings, gazebo and road signs each year for the holidays.

The garden club is proud to be able to provide patriotic wreaths each year for the Memorial Day Parade, one to be displayed at the Evans

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## Bow Garden Club (continued)

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The 2015-2016 Bow Garden Club Officers, left to right:  
Bonnie Addario, Co-Secretary; Stefanie Reed, Co-Secretary; Lorraine Dacko,  
Treasurer; Susan Johnson, President and Beverly Gamlin, Vice-President.

Cemetery during the dedication ceremony and another to be floated in the Town Pond in recognition of our naval service men and women. Our garden club also annually donates monies to the Town Food Pantry at Thanksgiving and collects new pajamas and nature-related books via their annual “Pajama Project”. The pajamas and books are donated to local shelters. This year alone, 132 pairs of pajamas and 75 books were collected for this purpose. Again, “Thank you Bow residents”! The garden club also annually provides a small scholarship for a graduating Bow Senior and offers a Conservation Camp scholarship.

The Bow Garden Club, a member of the New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. (NHFGC) and National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC) received several awards in 2015, including a G.R.O.W. award from NGC for increasing its membership and First Place for both their 2014 historical scrapbook and their 2014 membership booklet. The Junior Garden Club they mentor at Bow High School also won NHFGC awards for both a civic beautification and a horticulture project they completed in 2014.

Although certainly not one of the largest garden clubs in the state, the Bow Garden Club is consistently one of the most successful and

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## Bow Garden Club (continued)

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productive garden clubs in the state and is highly respected by its peers. The Bow Garden Club meets in the early evening, usually the second Monday of the months of April, May, June, September, October and November and guests and prospective members are always welcome at our meetings, Social time begins at 6:00 p.m. followed by the evening's educational program and a brief business meeting and light refreshments are available throughout the evening. Please join us in helping to keep Bow beautiful!

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Johnson, 2015-2016 Club President  
BOW GARDEN CLUB  
[www.bowgardenclub.org](http://www.bowgardenclub.org)



Spring Clean-up at the Town Gazebo. Left to right:  
Club President Susan Johnson, Catherine Wittliff, Sue Smith and Kerry Buckley.

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## Bow Girl Scouts

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For over one hundred years, Bow Girl Scouts has been developing girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. Bow Girl Scouts is a part Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, which serves nearly 10,000 girls throughout New Hampshire and Vermont with over 5,000 trained volunteers.

Five Girl Scout grade levels are offered: Daisies (K-1); Brownies (2-3); Juniors (4-5); Cadettes (6-8); Seniors (9-10) and Ambassadors (11-12). Girls may participate individually or as part of a troop. A variety of participation options are available, including special interest groups and virtual programming. Annual membership in the Girl Scouts is \$30 and runs from October 1 to September 30. Registration traditionally takes place in the springtime, but girls may register anytime throughout the year by visiting [www.girlscoutsgwm.org](http://www.girlscoutsgwm.org) or calling 888-474-9686.

Under the direction of trained volunteers, Bow Girl Scouts are making a difference in our community and throughout the world. Some of Bow Girl Scouts' long-standing community service projects include:

- Providing Thanksgiving meals to families in collaboration with Bow's welfare department
- Supporting Bow Parks and Recreation's annual Halloween party with children's games and activities
- Baking cookies for the Town of Bow's annual tree lighting and holiday celebration
- Donating thousands of Girl Scout cookies to our military men and women through our Operation Cookie program
- Filling thousands of Easter eggs for Bow Parks and Recreation's annual Easter egg hunt
- Remembering and honoring our military service personnel through our participation in Bow's annual Memorial Day service and parade
- Conducting flag ceremonies at Town and School Board Meetings

Other service projects over the past year have included visiting nursing home residents during the holidays, collecting shoes for underdeveloped countries, providing special treats for pediatric hospital patients, making blankets, toys and other items for animal shelters, collecting books and pajamas for children in need, participating in community clean-up projects, and more.

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## Bow Girl Scouts (continued)

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In addition to making difference in our community and the world, Bow Girl Scouts are trying new experiences, visiting new places and learning new skills. Activities reported by volunteer leaders this year include: rock-climbing, taking field trips to art galleries, attending special overnight programs at the Boston Museum of Science, learning to ride and care for horses, attending cooking classes, touring New York City, and planning their own summer camporee. As the girls get older, they become increasingly involved in selecting, planning, and organizing such activities.

Many Bow Girl Scouts annually attend GSGWM's girl-led summer camp programs, another one of the many opportunities available to registered members.

The majority of Bow Girl Scouts' financial support comes from our fall product and Girl Scout Cookie sales, which also teach girls five key life skills: Goal Setting, Decision Making, Money Management, People Skills, and Business Ethics.

Girl Scouts is always looking for adult volunteers interested in helping girls reach their fullest potential. There are many ways to help! For further information, visit us at [girlscoutsgwm.org](http://girlscoutsgwm.org) or contact us at 888.474.9686 or [info@girlscoutsgwm.org](mailto:info@girlscoutsgwm.org).

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Krause  
Assistant Director, Sales and Marketing  
Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains  
1-888-474-9686 x 4110  
[www.girlscoutsgwm.org](http://www.girlscoutsgwm.org)

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## Bow Open Spaces

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Standing left to right: Eric Thum, Martin Murray, Bob Dawkins, Hillary Warner.  
Seated left to right: Ken Demain, Frank Boucher, Harry Hadaway, Mike Morris, Bob Lux.  
*Photo by Eric Anderson.*

The past year was a busy and successful one for Bow Open Spaces. The organization worked on numerous trail projects led by our trails director, Hillary Warner. Hillary has successfully applied for a grant to help fund a new trailhead parking lot on Robinson Road, which will provide additional access to the Knox Road Town Forest trails. The grant will also provide funding for trail signage and kiosks. A new recreation trail was completed in the Knox Road Town Forest, completing the Boulder Trail loop. Three wood bridges were constructed over wetlands on trails in the Knox Road Town Forest. Decking was replaced on the wood bridge for the Boundary Trail in the School Forest.

Bow Open Spaces volunteers regularly maintain recreational trails throughout the town by clearing fallen trees and branches, marking trails, leaf blowing, plus repairing signs and kiosks. Illegal dumping of rubbish continues to be a problem, and we do our best to cleanup and report problems to the police. Martin Murray our public relations Director, continues to make improvements to our web page [bowopenspaces.com](http://bowopenspaces.com) and Facebook page [facebook.com/bowopenspaces](http://facebook.com/bowopenspaces). On our web page you can view trail maps, newsletters, as well as information regarding a permanent orienteering course/geocache, and an invitation to "adopt-a- trail." Additionally, there is a Paypal link which will allow you to either join, contribute or renew your membership. Ken Demain, our stewardship director,

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## Bow Open Spaces (continued)

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with the help Bow Open Spaces volunteers, continues to monitor our conservation easements. This is accomplished by walking and marking the boundaries of lots with conservation easements to ensure compliance.

I hope the citizens of Bow will take of advantage of the many miles of recreational trails maintained by Bow Open Spaces throughout the town and enjoy the open space preserved by conservation easements. We welcome new members of the organization. By joining you demonstrate your support for protecting and caring for our public spaces. Check the website for membership information!

Respectfully submitted,  
Harry C. Hadaway, Jr. President, Bow Open Spaces

Bob Dawkins, Director of Membership  
Mike Morris, Secretary  
Ken Demain, Director of Stewardship  
Martin Murray, Director of Public Relations  
Frank Boucher, Treasurer  
Hilary Warner, Director of Trails  
Eric Thum  
Bob Lux

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## Bow Pioneers Snowmobile Club

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The winter of 2015 had a slow start for us, but by February, the snow was flying and our trails were in great shape. We were able to ride well into March. We had some terrific club rides with our members, and wrapped up the season in April with our Annual Dinner at the Old Town Hall.

The summer is our downtime, when we try to spend some valuable time with our families. Things kick back up in the fall as we try to get our trails ready for the following winter. We also have our most successful fundraisers, including our mum sale at the Bow gazebo, and the flea market at HK Powersports in Hooksett. We have completed our trail work, and our Christmas party was a huge success, with over 30 club members in attendance. The winter of 2015-2016 is off to a slow start with no snow so far. We are hoping that turns around like it did last season.

We welcome anyone to apply for club membership, whether you use the trails for snowmobiling or other activities. Our club membership dues are \$35.00 per person/family. This membership includes

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## Bow Pioneers Snowmobile Club (continued)

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membership to the New Hampshire Snowmobile Association as well as a subscription to the “Sno-Traveler” the official newspaper of NHSA. We welcome all winter activity enthusiasts to come and join us. Whether you snowshoe, cross-country ski or just enjoy walking, we invite you to join us for our club activities.

You can visit us on the web at [www.bowpioneers.org](http://www.bowpioneers.org) to find out more. We welcome any and all volunteers with open arms. No matter how much snow we get, we still spend many hours in the fall cleaning up trails, building bridges, and cutting new trails to get ready for winter. We are also on the lookout for people who would like to be more active with the club, as we will have several leadership positions available this spring.

I would like to give all of the generous landowners around Bow and Dunbarton a big thank you for allowing us the use of their land. Without you, our trail system could not be what it is today.

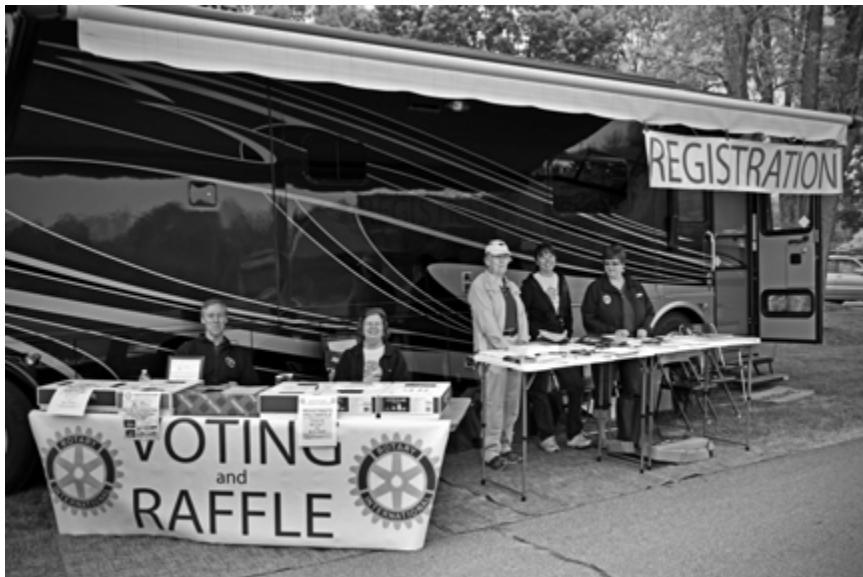
Respectfully submitted,  
Chip Johnson, President

Vice President: Mike Perry  
Secretary: Robert Pickard  
Treasurer: Sue Eaton  
Trail Administrator: Craig Ott  
Trail Master: Dan Weed

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## Bow Rotary Club

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*Photo by Eric Anderson.*

The Bow Rotary Club had another wonderful year supporting our beautiful community and larger communities including, but not limited to: the state, the district and the world. Rotary is an International Service Club. We are made up of engaged and motivated community members who wish to work together, in an atmosphere of fellowship, to make our communities a better place for everyone and to have fun doing it! We exceed this goal regularly and welcome you to come check us out to see if you would like to join our ranks. We are always looking for more friends to help.

Here's some of the fun we had this year:

In January we held our annual WinterFest day of winter fun and games at the town center. It was on a Sunday this year hoping to be able to attract more families to participate. It was our hope that Bow's rampant support of sporting activities would not compete with a Sunday event. It was a great success! We had help from the Baker Free Library, the Bow Pioneers and many more community groups. We would love to see you and your family there in years to come. We have been hosting this event for the past 30 plus years!

In February 2015 we hosted a membership event at the Hampton Inn. But if you weren't able to make it and may be interested in joining our

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## Bow Rotary Club (continued)

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club, please contact me and we will be happy to have you at one of our regular Friday morning meetings at the Old Town Hall at 7:30am.

In April or May we team up with the Garden Club to beautify Rotary Park – located across from the Gazebo in the town center. The Garden Club does a magnificent job keeping the park pristine. We show up and lend some labor, at their direction, to their efforts. It's a nice partnership and we appreciate their care and support of many town spaces. If you see beautiful landscaping around town, it's likely due to them.



*Photo by Eric Anderson.*

In May we held our annual Car Show – see the great picture above by Eric Anderson. This is a newer event for us and a fundraiser that enables us to help the community financially with community service projects and donations to Bow Welfare and other community groups. It is the giving policy of our club to support Bow and Bow area families with the monies we raise. Yes, we do International projects too. We have been very active in Honduras for the past decade, but the predominance of funds raised in our local events stay right here in our community. This year's car show will be on May 14, 2016 in the same location on South Main Street by Allied Insurance and Merrimack

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## Bow Rotary Club (continued)

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County Savings Bank. We look forward to seeing you and your family there.

For six weeks in July and August we host our annual concert series at the Gazebo in the town center. The bands vary from week to week. The concerts are free to all. As with our other events, we partner with other local community groups like the Bow Men's Club (best hot dogs, popcorn and lemonade ever!), the Garden Club, the Heritage Commission and more.

Then, in November, we hold our most famous event, our annual Scholarship Auction. For the past decade we have been able to clear an average of \$25,000 annually from this event. About \$20,000 of which go to scholarships and \$5,000 goes to camperships. What are camperships? Well, those are monies that help the underprivileged in our community be able to attend summer day camps, programs through the Bow Parks and Recreation Department, do winter ski programs, therapeutic riding programs, Camp Spaulding, and much, much more. We work closely with the school social worker to make sure we are able to help as many kids as possible.

So, I've covered our main events here, but I haven't even touched on all of the work we do with the school system, such as giving personalized books to 1<sup>st</sup> graders, hosting school-to-career days, read-ins, the 4-way Test Speech Contest and more.

We are a very active club. We are driven, motivated and good at what we do. We are friendly people who want to make a difference and we welcome you to help us and the other great organizations in this fine town. Our meetings are at the Old Town Hall, 91 Bow Center Road, Friday mornings at 7:30am. Join us!

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Griffin, President  
Bow Rotary Club

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## Bow Soccer Club

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The Bow Soccer Club is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the game of soccer for the children of Bow. We seek to provide an environment that will be fun and wholesome for all participants while developing players in the



fundamentals of soccer. All participants of Bow Soccer Club (players, coaches, referees and parents) represent the community with honor, dignity, integrity and sportsmanship.

For the Spring 2015 season we had approximately 175 players. For the Fall 2015 season we had approximately 210 players playing on 19 different teams ages U8-U14. Our teams play in the New Hampshire Soccer League.

The Bow Soccer Club is made up of volunteer coaches, board members and parents. Along with developing competitive soccer players we work with the Town and the community to help set up, maintain and improve the fields for the youth of Bow. Go to [bowsoccerclub.com](http://bowsoccerclub.com) for more information. Our current board members are: *Chris Leonard, Jay Voght, Patty Wachsmuth, Mike Berrigan, Rob Dolder, Joe Evans, Tom Hoey, Jamie Smith, Elizabeth Duncan.*



Bow Soccer Club U12 division 2 championship.

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## Bow Youth Football

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### **BULLDOGS**

The Bow Youth Football (BYF) is a private non-profit organization and was founded in 2005 dedicated to providing the youth of our community the opportunity to participate in the game of football. The success of the current program can be credited to the founding fathers of the program and the subsequent boards of directors, coaches, parents, and corporate sponsors.

In addition to affording players the opportunity to develop football skills the program fosters, teamwork, physical and mental fitness, self-confidence, friendships, and pride. The program also serves as a feeder program for the high school, which has witnessed a great deal of success the last few years.

The kick-off season of 2005 consisted of only two teams (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade) with a total of thirty players and seven coaches. The program is currently comprised of four teams representing (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades) with a total of 85 players and 25 coaches. Although the success of the program is not measured in wins or losses, The Bulldog 4-5 Grade team ended its season with a record of 6 wins and 1 loss, the 5-6 Grade team ended its season with a record of 5 wins and 2 losses, and the JR Varsity team ended its season with a record of 3 wins and 5 losses. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade varsity team ended the season with a record of 10-0 and winning the championship of the Granite State Football League.



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## Bow Youth Football (continued)

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The BYF Board of Directors are indebted to the numerous corporate sponsors, the Bow High School for the use of the game field and concession stand, PSNH for use of their fields for practice and assistance with lighting, coaches, volunteers, and parents. Visit our website at [bowyouthfootball.org](http://bowyouthfootball.org) or check us out on our Facebook page. Registration for the 2016 season is open. Go to our website at [bowyouthfootball.org](http://bowyouthfootball.org) to access registration form under documents and mail them to Bow Youth Football, P.O. Box 1473, Concord, NH 03302.

### **2014 Bow Youth Football Board of Directors**

Mike Robbins, President  
Brian Gott, Treasurer  
Kevin Kimball,  
Ken Bliss  
Steve Krause

Steve Boisvert, Vice President  
Richard Conley, Secretary  
Jeff Doward  
Lee Kimball  
Don Berube

**GO BULLDOGS**

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## Bow Young at Heart Club

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Young at Heart Club members in Boston on a "Duck Tour" in July 2015.

The Bow Young at Heart Club meets twice a month, the second and fourth Wednesdays with the exception of the months of January, February, November and December when we meet on the second Wednesday only. Members meet at the Bow Community Building at 11:30 a.m. for a brown bag lunch and social hour with desserts and beverages provided. Our meetings start at 1:00 p.m. Seventeen meetings were held during 2015 with an average attendance of 41 members present.

The end of 2015 finds the Club with a membership of 69 and 4 honorary members. We received 6 new members into the club and sadly, 4 members, Norman Jobin, Sandy Ball, Lyman Richards and Connie Lehoux passed away.

Programs for the year were as follows:

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| Feb 11 | Ray Johnson, Public Safety Building               |
| Mar 11 | Dick Pitsey, Bow Fire Department                  |
| Mar 25 | Suzanne Fitch, Friends Youth<br>Mentoring Program |

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## Bow Young at Heart Club (continued)

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|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Apr 8  | Shannon Camara, SPCA   |
| May 13 | Kevin Wall, Audubon Society  |
| May 27 | Lori Fisher, Baker Free Library                                      |
| Jun 10 | Susan & Jack Eberth, Guiding Eyes for the Blind                      |
| Jul 8  | David Stack, Bow Town Manager, and Colleen Hunter, Bow Public Safety |
| Aug 26 | Calvin Herst, Concord Community Music School                         |
| Sept 9 | Donna Rosco, NH Fish & Game (black bears)                            |
| Oct 28 | Vivian Llewelyn, Capital Center of the Arts                          |

Trips during the year were as follows:

|      |   |
|------|---|
| May  | Ogunquit Playhouse (Sister Act) with Lunch at Warren's in Kittery             |
| July | Boston Duck Tours with Lunch at Venezia                                       |
| Sept | Tour of Kennebunk/Portland with Lunch at The York River Landing in York       |
| Dec  | Winnipesaukee Playhouse (Sleigh Bells Swing) with Lunch at Hart's Turkey Farm |

Ongoing projects are: Contributions to Bow Human Resources, Collect can tabs for the Shriners Hospital.



Young at Heart Club members sort food for Thanksgiving Basket donations.

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## Bow Young at Heart Club (continued)

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Potluck luncheons were held in April and November, and our pizza bash was held on August 26. October 14 meeting we hosted a cook out and games with the Sunset Club of Concord.

The year closed with a Christmas Luncheon at “Makris Lobster Pool” on December 9th.

Officers for 2016 are:

|                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| President       | Ray Johnson   |
| V-President     |               |
| Secretary       | Kendra Ricard |
| Treasurer       | Cynthia Boyce |
| Member at Large | Irene Muir    |

Committees:

|             |                                 |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| Hospitality | Nancy Johns                     |
| Publicity   | Faye Johnson                    |
| Trips       | Carol Walter                    |
| Speakers    | Bill Aitchison                  |
| Scrapbook   | Loni Aitchison,<br>Peggy Nadzan |
| Sunshine    | Isabel Sinclair                 |
| 50/50       | Carol Shea                      |

A very special Thank You to the Recreation Dept., Cindy Rose, Anne Marie Guertin, Malinda Blakey and Dan Freeman for table set-up and take down at our meetings.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Maschi, President  
Kendra Ricard, Secretary  
Cynthia Boyce, Treasurer

