

MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE TOWN OF BOW DECEMBER 2016

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Front, l-r: Town Manager David Stack, Chairman Harold Judd, and Vice-Chair Eric Anderson. Back, l-r: Selectman Colleen Hunter, Selectman Christopher Nicolopoulos, Selectman Benjamin Kiniry, Administrative Assistant Nicole Gage.

This is the monthly report from the Bow Selectmen and Town Manager as part of our commitment to keep citizens informed and involved in the community. For additional information, please visit the Town of Bow website at <http://www.bownh.gov>.

Did You Know?

On November 29th, the Town of Bow launched a new, interactive municipal website, www.bownh.gov. In alignment with the Board of Selectmen's goal to continually perfect the dissemination of Town information and communications, new features include:

- "How Do I" directory for quick reference,
- "Notify Me" button to receive texts and/or email updates,
- Community Calendar highlighting town-wide events, and
- A mobile-friendly format for tablet and smartphone users.

In addition to a new domain name (www.bownh.gov), the Town also launched a simplified email system so the public can send messages to Town employees using their first initial and last name (example jdoe@bownh.gov). Updates will continue into 2017, as the Town looks to build upon the design of the site and integrate more solutions to better serve its residents and businesses.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday December 6th – Open Registration begins for Bow residents for winter programming at the Parks & Recreation Department. Sign up for art lessons, archery, tennis, dog obedience training, exercise classes, and much more. [View flyer for details.](#)

Town Project Status Reports

Public Safety Building Project

The exterior framing work is complete and work began on the interior framing; gas and electrical services are installed up to the building; and the base coat of paving was partially completed to facilitate continued construction.

Town Departments

Community Development Department

- Housing starts are up 58% already from the previous year.
- Some may have noticed the new construction along Route 3A. Audley Construction, based right here in Bow, began work on a project that will add over 25,000 square feet of commercial floor space.
- A developer will soon be putting up a sign along Interstate 93, near Dow Road, offering a build-to-suite 40,000 to 500,000 square foot industrial bay warehouse. At last year's Town Meeting, voters approved a zoning amendment that expanded the Limited Industrial District to permit this type and size of facility.
- In December, the Planning Board will begin consideration of a zoning change to present to the voters. The proposal will allow a mixture of commercial and residential uses on properties near the I-89, Exit 1 interchange.

Fire Department

Fire Prevention week occurs annually towards the end of October. This year Firefighters visited several child care facilities, each Kindergarten class, and conducted several fire station tours. During these interactions, age appropriate fire safety topics are presented. The children learned things such as: stop drop and roll, when to call 911, fire drills, exit plans, and meeting places. The department hosted a senior citizen group for a tour and had a discussion on injury prevention. Also, fire drills, lockdown drills, and shelter-in-place drills were conducted throughout the month at all three schools. Bow Fire Department recommends families develop an emergency plan including emergency phone numbers, exit routes from home, and meeting places. It is important to practice this plan with young children.

Police Department

Chief Margaret Lougee thanks the entire Town of Bow for the well wishes, cards and prayers. The turnout at her swearing in was remarkable. The Bow Police Association held the 8th Annual Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day and it was a huge success. There were 439 runners and 58 walkers who participated in the Trot. The Association would thanks the Bow Police Explorer Post, Bow High School's National Honor Society, Bryan Westover, Bow Men's Club, and Lori Fisher for their contributions to the success of the event.



ABOVE: New Bow Police Chief, Margaret Lougee, thanks all those who showed up to congratulate her during the Swearing-In ceremony at Bow Old Town Hall. Photo by Eric Anderson.

Job Announcement - The Police Department has an opening for a full-time Police Officer. Candidates may apply at www.policeapp.com to apply. Both certified and non-certified police officer applications accepted.

Public Works Department

Winter snow shoveling and clearing

- Prevent back injuries by using small shovel loads and shoveling in layers, starting from the top.
- Shovel in time intervals, every hour or two, to reduce the amount of snow accumulation.
- At the road side, pile snow on the side of your driveway, on the downstream-flow of traffic. This reduces the amount of snow the plow truck puts in your driveway.
- Don't throw snow into the street — it creates a driving hazard and eliminates the plows from pushing the snow in front of your driveway.

Prevent damage to your mailbox

- Maintain a sturdy mail box; perform repairs every fall season.
- Add reflectors to mailboxes; Christmas lights work great too!
- Keep snow cleaned away from mailboxes; each winter event, accumulation becomes a block of ice and added plow pressure can cause damage.
- If your mailbox seems to always be a target, contact us at Public Works and ask what can be done to prevent further strikes! The most common contributing factor is the location, post too close to the road, or maybe it is located on a sharp curve and needs to be relocated.

Have a safe winter season and remember the plow trucks are here to help.

Recreation News

A very special thank you to all the Town departments, Bow organizations, and individuals who helped to make our Tree Lighting and Santa Visit so memorable for the hundreds of people who joined us. The old saying "It takes a village" should use Bow as an example! We are very lucky to be able to offer such wonderful events because of all who help us out.

January will be here before we know it! Make sure you are all set to have some fun with us this winter. Registration for our January - March programs will begin on Dec. 6th for residents of Bow, and on Dec. 8th we will open up to non-residents as well (if we have room). Check out our brochure with all of our activities at: <http://www.bownh.gov/DocumentCenter/View/837>. We hope to see you!

Town Clerk / Tax Collector's Office

Property Taxes - The New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration has set the Town of Bow's 2016 property tax rate at \$26.29 per thousand dollars of valuation. The new rate represents a 7.9% decrease from the 2015 tax rate of \$28.54. The 2016 rate breaks down as follows: Municipal - \$6.27, School District - \$14.97, Merrimack County - \$2.83, State Education - \$2.22. Tax bills have been mailed out and are due on December 28.

Personnel Spotlight

Margaret Lougee, Police Department, was recently sworn in as Chief of Police at a ceremony held on November 14 at the Old Town Hall. **Officer Michael Carpenter**, Police Department, has been chosen to serve as Town's next School Resource Officer.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are currently openings on the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and the Recycling and Solid Waste Committee. Learn more about each group and fill out a volunteer application at the Town Manager's office or online at <http://www.bownh.gov/306/Volunteers>.