

TOWN ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Selectmen Jonthan Goldman and Robert Nickerson (2023) completed their terms in March. Selectmen Darren Hudgins (2024), Thomas Tombarello (2025) and Eric Olsen (2025) were the returning Board members this year. Selectman Robert Nickerson (2026) was re-elected for another 3-year term and Selectman Benjamin Sharpe (2026) was newly elected for a 3-year term.

TOWN BUILDING MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

This year brought some minor maintenance projects to include replacing the lower door at the Library, repair and repainting of the Town Hall sign, annual maintenance to the water filtration system, furnace and septic cleanouts, annual generator maintenance, and fire extinguisher inspections. The largest and most notable town building project was the renovation of the Town Hall offices and lower meeting room. Two new propane furnaces with heat pumps replaced the oil furnaces and air conditioning was added to the system. The windows were replaced in all lower areas, the kitchen was divided into an office for the Finance Director and smaller remodeled kitchen/break area. The lower meeting room was divided to include additional office space for the Building Inspector, Planning/Zoning/Conservation and Assessing. The entire space, including the hallway, was drywalled, a suspended ceiling was installed, and new flooring installed throughout. The Town Clerk's office received a facelift with new countertop on the service area, new cabinetry in the workspaces, new flooring, and the addition of a third customer service window. In 2024 the project will continue with new filing systems installed in the Town Clerk and the Selectmen offices. The office area that previously housed Finance, Building, Planning/Zoning and Assessing will be the Selectmen's office with a separate office for the Town Administrator and the hallways will receive paint, new doors, suspended ceiling and new flooring. This entire project is funded through money received from the federal and state government under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The act was put in place in 2021 and signed into law by President Biden to stimulate and speed up the country's recovery from effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. When this project is complete, we will enjoy the benefit of better serving the public by separating departments allowing for more focus, productivity and working in a healthier, cleaner environment.

ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

The 2023 Roadway Improvement Plan was funded once again by the voters. The plan included reconstruction of Highland Avenue, Cricket Lane, Bingham Circle, Karen Lane and a small portion of Tenney Farm Road.

ACCEPTANCE OF TOWN ROADS

No roads were accepted as town-owned, town-maintained roadways in 2023.

COMMUNITY

This year we welcomed two new employees, Thomas Perkins joined us as the new Administrative Aide to Planning, Zoning and Conservation and Pamela Gallant will be working at the Transfer Station.

Some accomplishments by the board during 2023 included the receipt and acceptance of grant funds. The State of New Hampshire awarded \$47,160.71 in additional highway block grant money to the town as well as a one-time payment from the State of New Hampshire for bridge aid in the amount of \$26,368. The board was approached by a group of residents to bring back and support an Oktoberfest Committee which would be fully funded by donations. It was a great success with plans to have the event again in 2024. The board also worked with our assessing firm, Municipal Resources, Inc., to conduct the required revaluation of property values and negotiated a new police union contract to present to the voters in March.

As always, the board would like to thank our employees and all those who volunteer as committee members and in various capacities throughout town. The dedication given by volunteers and employees is experienced by all residents of Sandown. As 2023 comes to an end we encourage members of the community to be involved and continue to make Sandown the best place to live.

We look forward to proudly representing Sandown in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandown Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator

