



The Greenfield Spirit

Feb-Mar 2015

GREENFIELD'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 21.6

Visit the town website at <http://www.greenfield-nh.gov/> for more information

FREE



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TAX RATE & BUDGET EXPLANATION

Since we have just been through a revaluation year, it is important to understand the change in the tax rate.

FY2014 TAX RATE

The Town tax rate applies to each \$1,000 of assessed value in the Town. The rate is arrived by dividing the net appropriations (appropriations less net revenue) by the net assessed value (total value less exemptions). In 2014 the Town held its five year revaluation per RSA 75:8. The Town's valuation dropped nearly 15% from (rounded values) \$158,900,000 to \$136,118,000. As a result the Tax values changed. In 2012 and 2013 the local Town Tax rate was set at 6.67 for both years. In 2014 the Town used less Net-taxes-to-be-Raised than in 2013 but because of the revaluation, the tax rate was a higher number, coming in at \$7.73. In taxation terms the \$7.73 value was approximately five cents less than the previous town tax value of the previous two years. Using the old valuation of \$158,900,000 would have resulted in a town tax rate of \$6.62.

The Town's overall tax rate would have decreased if the Town's valuation had remained the same as the previous year. In each category the amount of taxes to be raised was lower in 2014 than in 2013 (dividing the total of all taxes in 2014 by

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PRE-TOWN MEETING

BUDGET HEARING

Wednesday, February 4th

6:30 pm at the Town Offices

Feature Article

The Greenfield Fire Department

see backcover

TOWN MEETING

Town Official Elections, Zoning Amendments, & ConVal School Warrant Articles

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015
VOTE AT THE MEETING HOUSE
10AM - 7PM

Town Administrative Budgets, Town Issues, Discussion and More! Come and get involved.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2015
9AM AT THE MEETING HOUSE

TOWN DIRECTORY

TOWN OFFICES

GREENFIELD SELECTBOARD

Executive Selectboard meetings are every Wednesday at 4:30 pm unless otherwise posted.

Selectboard: Debra Davidson Chair, Margo Bliss, Karen Day

Aaron Patt, Town Administrator

Email: greenfieldnhbos@myfairpoint.net

Town Offices open: Mon.-Thurs 9:00am to 5:00pm. Closed to the public on Friday.

Please call if you need an appointment during closed hours.

Catherine Shaw, Office Manager

Tel: 547-3442 Fax: 547-3004

Email: greenfieldnhacct@myfairpoint.net

BUILDING/HEALTH INSPECTOR

Insp's by Appt/as needed

Inspector - Mike Borden 547-0437

Town Office Hours: Tuesdays 1-4pm

Email: mbordenbi@gmail.com

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meets 4th Wed. of the Month at 7:30pm

Chair: Carol Irvin Tel: 547-2037

Email: CIrvin@mathematica-mpr.com

PLANNING BOARD

Meetings: 2nd & 4th Mon. at 7:00pm

At the Town Offices. Normally the 2nd Mon. meeting is for hearings and the 4th Mon. meeting is for other business.

Chair: Bob Marshall Tel: 547-3350

Email: greenfieldnhpb@gmail.com

TOWN CLERK (Registrations)

Mon. 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Thurs. 9:00am to 12:00pm

Thurs. 6:00pm to 7:30pm

1st & 3rd Sat. from 9:00am to 12:00pm

Town Clerk - Dee Sleeper

Tel: 547-2782

Email: greenfieldnhct@myfairpoint.net

TAX COLLECTOR

Mon. 1:00pm to 7:30pm

Thursday 6:00pm to 7:30pm

3rd Saturday 9:00am to 12:00pm

Tax Collector - Kathleen Valliere

Tel: 547-2782 Fax: 547-2242

Email: greenfieldnhtaxes@myfairpoint.net

WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Welfare Director: Leah Fiasconaro-Conway

Walk-in Hours: Weds- 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Email: greenfieldnhwelfare@gmail.com

For Appts: 547-3442

Emergency assist: Call Police at 547-2525

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

DPW Director: Tim Murray - 547-3504

Email: greenfield.nh.dpw@myfairpoint.net

STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Wed 10:30am to 8pm, Thurs 11am to 6pm

Fri 10:30am to 4pm, Sat 10am to 2pm

Tel: 547-2790

Julie Steenson, Director

director@stephensonlibrary.org

Kristin Readell, Youth Services

youth@stephensonlibrary.org

Circulation/General Questions

circulation@stephensonlibrary.org

Monthly meetings at the library

Library Trustees 1st Wed at 7:00pm

Friends of the Library 3rd Wed 7:00pm

RECYCLING CENTER

Hours: Tuesday 8:00am to 12:00pm

Thursday 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Saturday 8:00am to 4:00pm

Stickers for residents at the Town Office.

Supervisor: Carol Burgess Tel: 547-8617

Email:

greenfieldnhrecycling@myfairpoint.net

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Meetings as needed

Chair: John Gryval Please call the Town

Office for information Tel: 547-3442

OTHER COMMITTEES OR CONTACTS

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Meetings as needed

Myron Steere - 547-3332

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

Gil Bliss Ch. 547-3606

TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS

Ken Paulsen - 547-2180 Ch.

SCHOOL BOARD REP:

Myron Steere

547-3332

TOWN FORESTER

NH Licensed Forester

Karla Allen

Tel: 662-5646

Email: karla@garlandlumber.net

EMERGENCIES

DIAL 911

POLICE/FIRE/AMBULANCE

DIAL 911 or 352-1100

FIRE & POLICE

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief: David Hall H: 547-2222

Emergency Dispatch: 352-1100 or 911

Email: chiefdavidhall@greenfieldfire.org

Business Mtg. 1st Mon. of month at 7:00pm

Training 2nd & 3rd Tues of month at 7:00pm

Officer's Mtg 4th Tues of month at 7:00pm

FIRE WARDENS

FOR BURN PERMITS CALL:

Fire Warden: Jim Morris, 831-8562

Dep. Fire W. Mike Borden 547-0437

Dep. Fire W.: Steve Coombs 547-5760

Dep. Fire W.: Fred Ierlan 547-6823

Dep. Fire W.: James Murphy 547-6336

Dep. Fire W.: Chaz Babb 562-0545

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Brian Giammarino, Chief

Office: 547-2535 Dispatch: 547-2525

Email: greenfieldnhpolice@myfairpoint.net



The Greenfield Spirit

The Greenfield Spirit is published bimonthly by the Town of Greenfield Selectboard's Office at PO Box 256, Greenfield, NH 03047.

Tel: 603-547-3442 Fax: 603-547-3004

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Editors: Deb Davidson, Margo Bliss, Karen Day, Aaron Patt, and Catherine Shaw

To submit articles to the Spirit:

E-mail text to: greenfieldnhbos@myfairpoint.net, or drop off typed articles to the Town Offices. Also, please send in photos, articles, announcements, news of the town, poems, drawings, historical info, letters to the editor, etc., with the name of the writer and/or photographer. Thanks!

Tax rate continued from page 1

	2013	Difference/2012	Tax Rate		2014	Difference/2013	Tax Rate
Total Town (Net)	\$1,061,106		\$6.67		\$1,052,670	-8,436.00	\$7.73
County Assessment	\$184,849	\$8,412	\$1.16		\$171,522	-13,327.00	\$1.26
LOCAL SCHOOL TAX EFFORT	\$2,237,436	\$330,532	\$14.07		\$2,023,549	-213,887.00	\$14.87
STATE SCHOOL TAX EFFORT	\$372,371	\$10,428	\$2.39		\$368,393	-3,978.00	\$2.77
TOTAL	\$3,859,862	\$354,903			\$3,616,134	-243,728.00	
	2013 Tax Rate		\$24.29		2014 Tax Rate		\$26.63

\$158,900, the per thousand value of the previous year, would yield a tax rate one dollar and fifty four cents lower at \$22.75). The revaluation of the Town in 2014 changed the tax values; therefore an examination of the net-taxes-to-be-raised figure is the best way of determining year over year changes.

Currently a home valued at \$200,000 is paying the following in overall taxes: Using the 2014 Tax Rate of \$26.63, means that the average homeowner pays \$1,546 for Town services, \$3,528 for the combined Local and State School commitment, and \$252 for the County portion. The combined average bill is \$5,326.

Keep in mind that during the 2014 revaluation the total valuation drop was nearly 15% of the Town overall. This does not mean every property value declines. Some properties will hold their value. In many cases however, the difference between a 15% reduction in overall values, and an increase of 10% to the tax rate figures, resulted in lower net taxes for many people in 2014.

2015 Budget Factors

Heading into the 2015 year there are several increases to the budget from outside of town departments. These include an 8.5% increase to health insurance benefits, a 50% increase in the Ambulance fee, and incremental increases in electricity, salt and other products. Heating Oil, Gasoline and Diesel fuel costs may decrease during the course of the year, following national trends.

Departmental increases include twelve months of the third full time officers wage in 2015 (this was a new position voted in 2014 and budgeted at just the nine months following Town Meeting), a significant increase in the Fire Department Budget, wage increases to accommodate a new Library Director, and IT funds to transition the Town Clerk from a dedicated connection to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to a Virtual Private connection to the DMV (cost shifted from the State). There is an increase to the warrant article for Glass Removal at the Recycling Center to accommodate an increase in glass bottle waste, and a warrant article to bring water and a septic system to the Recycling Center. This year's paving warrant article is much lower than last years, reflecting a shim and overlay of Russell Station Road, and not a full reconstruction on Old Bennington Road last year. A 10 year Road Plan is posted on the DPW page of the Greenfield website.

There are two changes to the budget format in 2015 that have

been voted in by the Selectboard. The first is an aggregation of the Computer/IT budgets, the total of which is now in the Other General Government budget. The second is the aggregation of employee benefits (Health Insurance, Disability & Life Insurance, and Dental) into the Personnel Administration line. The change to the Personnel Administration line is helpful in several respects; it helps with comparisons with other towns of Greenfield's size that do not track these benefits in the departmental budgets, it preserves privacy for employees (required per Town Counsel), and it lets the Selectboard make available the accrued savings from employee health contributions rather than having to add the equivalent of a family plan to the budget to account for employee turnover or other contingencies. In 2015 employees will contribute a blended rate, equal to approximately 12% overall, or \$18,060 in employee contributions for their benefits.

In 2012 and 2013 the net appropriation goal of the Selectboard's administration (Town Administrator & Town Treasurer), after the budget was voted at Town Meeting, was net taxes raised of \$1,060,000. In 2014 net taxes raised were \$1,052,000 (approximate). In 2015 if the town votes all warrant articles as presented, the net taxes to be raised figure used to set the tax rate in 2015 will almost certainly increase. It may take up to two years to find a new level of local tax. Some of this will depend on the amount of fund balance available to the Selectboard when they set the tax rate. The new net-taxes-to-be-raised figure will most likely be more than \$1,100,000 and could be as high as \$1,125,000, or 3.7% -5.8%* higher net taxes. These figures will likely generate tax rate values of between \$8.08 and \$8.27, up from the 2014 rate of \$7.73. This represents a change of approximately .35 to .54 cents over 2014.

Since the net tax figure at the time of rate setting (Oct. '15) will depend on fund balance, it may be helpful to know that in 2014 revenues were approximately \$24,000 more than committed and expenses were nearly \$100,000 less than the budget appropriated at Town Meeting in March of 2014. This supports fund balance. Final fund balance figures won't be available until May/June when the Town's annual audit is finalized.

Aaron Patt, Town Administrator

* A petition warrant article came in "for the purpose of finishing the reconstruction of Old Bennington Rd", (\$90,000) just as we were going to print. More information will be available at the Budget Hearing on February 4th.

PETITION FOR A ZONING AMENDMENT

A petition for a Zoning Ordinance amendment was received by the Selectboard on December 8, 2014. The petition, containing more than the required 25 signatures from town residents, certified by the Town Clerk, calls for an amendment to Section III E, 3 of the Zoning Ordinance governing setbacks in the General Residence District.

The proposed amendment to Section III E, 3 of the Zoning Ordinance by the Petition (underlined in the paragraph below) would change the setback requirement for non-conforming, existing buildings from 100 feet to 30 feet in the entire General Residence District throughout town. It would govern setbacks in the General Residence District.is as follows:

There shall be between the nearest side of any public highway and the extreme front of any building a yard having a minimum depth of one hundred (100') feet. There shall be between the side and rear borders of any lot and the nearest part of any building a yard not less than fifty (50') feet. There are, however, two exceptions to these setback requirements. There is an exception for a building, the extreme front of which is not less than 30 feet from the nearest public highway, and, provided that such building is in existence at the time of passage of this amendment, such building shall be deemed a conforming building. For lots smaller than two acres in area and deemed conforming per the following paragraph 4, setback requirements will be reduced in proportion to the actual lot size divided by the minimum lot size, however, in no case will setbacks be less than 30 feet at the front and 20 feet at the sides and rear. No building addition shall have to be set back from the lot line any further than any existing building on the lot."

It is important to note that if this amendment is passed, the existing 100 foot setback for new construction would still exist. This would only affect existing buildings and then, only make them "conforming". In other words, if an existing building was 20 feet from the street, it would still be considered "non-conforming". Existing buildings that were between 30 feet and 100 feet from the street would now be considered "conforming", though still subject to all other requirements of the Zoning Ordinance.

At a regularly scheduled meeting of the Planning Board on January 12, 2015, a public hearing was held on the proposed petitioned amendment, as required by RSA 675:4, II. Fourteen members of the public were in attendance. Members of the public expressed their support for and opposition to the petitioned amendment. When all testimony was completed, the public portion of the hearing was closed. RSA 675:4, III, requires the Planning Board to indicate its approval or disapproval of the petitioned article and to include that position on the ballot that goes to the public at Town Meeting. Following deliberation, the Planning Board voted to indicate its approval of the petitioned amendment.

Voters can find the minutes of the January 12, 2015 Planning Board meeting at the Town Office or on line to see the public testimony and discussion that took place. Voters should expect to see this petitioned amendment on the ballot on March 10, 2015.

Bob Marshall, Planning Board



FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

With tax season approaching please be aware of potential scam calls and letters. There may be phone calls made, even from other countries, that will demand money and claim that they are from a department of the government. Some callers may even say that you are facing imprisonment if payment is not made. Please do not fall for these scams. Write down any information that might prove useful and contact the Greenfield Police Department about any suspicious calls.

Since the winter is in full scale, please ensure that you have the necessities in case of a power outage, whether it is a generator or a wood stove. On the really cold days, if you are gone for a while, ensure that your house is warm enough so the water pipes will not freeze.

If you plan on going away for any length of time please do not hesitate to call the Greenfield Police Department at 547-2525 to set up a vacant property check or fill out the form online, which can be found on our website. Please do not forget to report any suspicious activity.

Enjoy the start of a great New Year.

Respectfully,
Brian L. Giammarino
Chief of Police

MEMORIAL DAY PLANNING

Memorial Day is on May 24th this year. The GIVERS will be discussing plans for the activities on that day at its February 18th meeting. Anyone who has suggestions can contact one of the GIVERS or is welcome to come to the meeting at the library on the 18th at 8:30 am. For more info, call Neal Brown at 547-2023.

SPIRIT DEADLINES

- March 1st for the Apr/May Issue
- May 1st for the Jun/Jul Issue
- July 1st for the Aug/Sep Issue
- September 1st for the Oct/Nov Issue
- November 1st for the Dec/Jan Issue
- January 1st for Feb/Mar

STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Greenfield, NH, 603 547 2790, stephensonlib@myfairpoint.net, Facebook

W 10:30 -8, Th 11-6, F 10:30-4, Sat 10-2

Closed Sunday-Tuesday

The Stephenson Memorial Library is a not-for-profit public library.

If you have visited the library recently, either in-person or online, you have seen some changes. Some are highly visible while others are taking place behind the scenes. All of the changes are strategically designed to grow our library into a modern centerpiece for our community while using our resources in a smart, responsible manner.

In order to keep up with what's happening at the library, please sign up for the library's email newsletter, which is linked on the town website and on our new online catalog, <https://stephenson.biblionix.com/catalog/>. Julie sends out the newsletter about twice a month, and your address is never shared.

Speaking of the new online catalog... Your library's digital branch is now open 24/7 at Stephenson.biblionix.com. The library successfully transitioned from its old circulation system Alexandria to Biblionix Apollo in December 2014. Our new system provides you with online access to your account, the library catalog, and the library's digital services, including ebooks, downloadable audiobooks, newspapers, research articles, and much more. You can log in anywhere you have internet access - at home, at work, even on your smartphone! Your default password is the phone number you have on file at the library, but you can change to a more secure password at any time. If you have trouble logging in, email Julie at stephensonlib@myfairpoint.net or stop by the library for a quick lesson!

Calling all genealogists! The library has partnered with the Greenfield Historical Society to bring you in-library access to Ancestry - Library Edition and Heritage Quest Online! These services must be used from the library's IP address which just means that you need to use a library computer OR your own laptop/tablet connected to the library's Wi-Fi. Stop by for details and find out who is in your family tree. Special thanks to Lenny Cornwell and the Historical Society for their generous support.

Art exhibits and classes at the library! The library is presently hosting a beautiful felting exhibit by NH fiber artist, Michelle Russell. The works of Greenfield artist, Tim Schloemer will grace our walls in March and April. So far, we have artists scheduled through October so even if you aren't looking for a book or movie, be sure to come by to see these impressive collections.

Make your own Felted Animal, with Michelle Russell on February 28 at 10 am - 12 noon in the Wensberg Room. A horse? A lamb? A favorite character from a story? You will learn a technique to make a wet-felted sculpture, using wire for a skeleton, wool, thread, soap and water. After the sculpted animal is made, we will needle felt whimsical details like a horse mane, or fluffy locks for a sheep's coat. Cost is \$25/person.

Materials are included. Class size is limited to 10. Ages 9 and up. Please sign up by calling the library at 547-2790.

****NEW**** Tech Drop-in Sessions for Novices! Friday, February 20 and Friday, March 20 at 3 - 4 pm. Want to learn how to use that new tablet or Kindle to download books? Need a basic lesson on the new online catalog? Julie will offer monthly informal sessions for beginners. No matter what your device or how much you know, drop in for help. You are not alone! Want more individualized help or a different time? Call to set up a one-on-one tech appointment with Julie at 547-2790.

Attention local writers! The library is now hosting a weekly writer's group to get you out of the house and the words on the page. Tuesdays, 1 - 3 pm in the Wensberg Room. Call the library for details.

Watercolor classes with Karen Russell continue every Wednesday evening from 6 - 8 pm in the Reading Room. Call 547-8844 for a materials list. Beginners welcome. The class will exhibit their work this spring!

The library Book Discussion Group meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the Reading Room. All are welcome. Feb. 25 title: Amoskeag by Tamara Hareven; March 25 title: Pay it Forward by Catherine Ryan Hyde. Extra copies of the book are available at the circulation desk.

Adult Programs TBA - Other classes and programs are in the works but not finalized in time for this printing. Get the most up to date information by signing up for our newsletter. Save the date for the NH Humanities Council presentation "Lizzie Borden Took an Axe...Or Did She?" with Dr. Lynette Holba on Thursday, April 16 at 7 pm in the Wensberg Room.

Upcoming events in Youth Services

- Storytime and Craft - Every Thursday and Saturday at 11 am, except holidays and school vacations. (Special events planned for vacations.)
- Read and visit with Toven, the Tail Waggin' Tutor on the last Wednesday of the month at 4:30 pm
- Winter Carnival - Sat., Feb. 7 - 11 am - 1 pm - Special Stories, crafts and hot cocoa
- Silly Stuffie Sleepover - Wed., Feb. 25 at 4:30 pm
Bring your favorite stuffed animal for a special storytime with Toven and leave your stuffie overnight at the library. We have a babysitting crew coming in to make sure all the stuffed animal friends have a good time. Come back to pick

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Library news continued from page 5

them up on Thurs., Feb. 26 at 11 am, enjoy a little brunch and see the photos of their fun time at the library!

- Family Movie Night - Fri., Feb. 27 at 7 pm in the Wensberg Room

Enjoy the newly released PG-rated film based on Judith Viorst's book, Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day. Free popcorn. Pajamas welcome. Our unattended children policy applies so please plan accordingly and make it a family fun event.

- First Day of Spring Drop-in Craft - Fri., March 20

Library meetings

- Library Trustees, 1st Wed. of the month at 7 pm, Wensberg Room
- Greenfield Independent Volunteers, 3rd Wed. of the month at 8:30 am, Wensberg Room
- Friends of the Library, 3rd Wed. of the month at 7 pm, in the library

Wanted:

- The library is seeking gently used ereaders (Kindles or Nooks) or tablets to expand our technology offerings. We can provide you with a tax receipt so please consider us as a place to donate your old tech.
- Are you doing a kitchen renovation? We would like to install cabinets, countertop and a sink in our staff kitchen/storage room. The plumbing is there and the manpower to do the work is free, so we just need the materials. We aren't fussy so if your old style kitchen is being removed, please keep us in mind.
- Please note, the Library has NEW Email Addresses:

Julie Steenson, Director
director@stephensonlibrary.org

Kristin Readel, Youth Services
youth@stephensonlibrary.org

Circulation/General Questions
circulation@stephensonlibrary.org

Thank you!

Julie & Kristin



**FROM THE
RECYCLING CENTER**

Winter's grip won't hold us for long. Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Then daylight savings time will be back in mid-March along with St. Patrick's Day, and before you know it, it will be spring with daffodils and crocus popping up everywhere.

DON'T FORGET: Town Meeting is in March. Remember, the summer hours will start on April 2nd but until then --

WINTER HOURS: Tuesday 8am - Noon, Thursday 1pm - 5 pm, and Saturday 8am - 4pm.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE: At this time the dates have not been selected but we will post them as soon as they come out. This program provides the proper avenue according to state and federal laws to dispose of your household hazardous waste.

WINDOW CHANGE: The window change for #1 plastic is progressing very well but please do not hesitate to ask if you are in doubt which plastics can be recycled. Please remember - Rinse, since we handle all these containers as we process them, Crush the containers to provide more storage space and Recap the containers as this will provide additional revenue. "RCR" when doing your # 1 and #2 plastics. We greatly appreciate your cooperation.

Do you know?

- Americans throw away 20 million mattresses every year.
- Americans receive almost 4 million tons of unwanted mail per year and 44% is never opened.
- Americans go through 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour. The energy saved by recycling 1 bottle will power a computer for 25 minutes.

Here are a few facts: The plastics industry is the third largest manufacturing industry in the United States, directly employs nearly 900 thousand people and accounts for more than \$374 billion dollars in annual shipments.

In this country 96% of all #1 and #2 plastic bottles and containers are recycled. The manufacturing of fiber (carpet and clothing) provides a market for 56% of the PETE (#1) that is recycled. The other large markets for recycled PETE are for strapping (13%) and new containers (14% food and non-food). The HDPE (#2) recycled plastic is used for lawn and garden products (such as edging), plastic lumber (decks, benches, picnic tables), film and sheet, and a variety of injection molding products (buckets, crates, and automobile parts). In addition 29% of recycled HDPE go into making new bottles and the plastic pipe industry consumes 18% of the recycled HDPE.

CORRUGATED CARDBOARD: Please do not stomp on boxes to flatten them, and please, take wet cardboard home to

continued on page 7

Recycling continued from page 6

dry it, then bring it back to recycle. Corrugated cardboard with graphics printed on it is accepted - it does not have to be plain brown cardboard. Please ask if you are in doubt about what is corrugated.

VEGETABLE OILS: We are collecting all types of new or used vegetable and nut oils - we are getting \$\$\$ for it through a commercial vendor!

METAL CONTAINER/BRUSH PILE and MINI MALL/LIBRARY: Please have all items checked.

BICYCLES & LAWN MOWERS: These items are not collected for reuse through the winter months. If the item is unusable, it can be deposited in the metal bin but must be checked first.

ELECTRONICS: Please see attendant.

The Recycling Center is a great resource for the town but not just for recycling. People meet and talk here about what's happening in town. So bring your event poster to the center ahead of time to help spread the news.

We are always ready to answer your questions and we are always open to suggestions.

Carol Burgess and the Recycling Center staff



**From the
Department of Public Works**

In late April of 2014, the Public Works Dept began the annual project of extracting sand/gravel from the town owned land adjacent to the Greenvale Cemetary. This project took ten days to complete and yielded approximately 2895 yards of material. This material was hauled to the DPW yard with the town owned trucks. Then the material was screened and, the sand and gravel were stockpiled for winter use in the town's roadways. The screening produced approximately 2200 yards of sand and 695 yards of gravel. If we were to purchase these materials at today's prices, sand would cost \$10 yard and gravel would cost \$9 yard. Therefore, the material value removed from this site was \$28,255.00. The Department rents an excavator and screener for the period of one week at a cost of \$3050.00 bringing the net value to \$25,205.

As required by the NHDOT issued driveway permit, a paved driveway apron was constructed. The DPW did the prep work and it was paved by Sullivan Bros Paving at a cost of \$750. After the paving work was done, a clean-up of the entrance to the site was completed to keep it presentable.

Tim Murray, DPW

**Volunteer Fire Department Study
Committee Report
January 2015**

At Town Meeting, March 15, 2014, Fire Chief Loren White moved to "...establish a committee for the purpose of seeking ways to increase and preserve volunteerism on Greenfield's Fire Department so we can provide an adequate level of Fire and EMS services." To that end, a committee of resident volunteers was established by the Selectboard.

The Committee met 9 times from April 21, 2014 to January 5, 2015. The size of the committee and attendance at committee meetings fluctuated over time. The final committee consisted of 6 members.

Following an organizational meeting in April, the committee began with a region-wide meeting of Town Administrators, Fire Service personnel and interested citizens from Greenfield, Bennington, Frankestown, Hancock, Lyndeborough and Peterborough in July. At this meeting, Jim Grant from Peterborough made a presentation on the "Decline of Volunteerism in the Fire Service" and on the complexity of this issue nationwide. After this meeting, the Committee began to focus its work on circumstances specific to Greenfield.

In September, the committee reviewed letters from present and

former Greenfield Fire Department (GFD) members. In October, an extensive survey was conducted of present and former GFD members/volunteers. A 6 month call log report was developed and discussed in November. Using all of this information, by December, a draft of this report was developed and at the January 5, 2015 meeting, revised and expanded.

Recommendations and Rationale

Improve leadership & culture

- 1. Make the Fire Chief an appointed position
 - Create a job description and provide for an annual evaluation.
 - Review compensation for the expanded job requirement

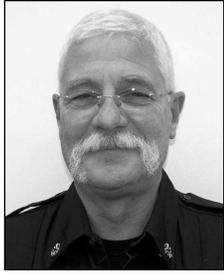
Because New Hampshire has no requirements for an elected Fire Chief and because we felt that the position should be based on solid qualifications and experience, we believe this would be better achieved with an appointment process. There would need to be a job description, an evaluation process and a regular review of our Fire Chief to ensure optimal performance. Volunteers will be attracted to a well-run organization and most of the responsibility for this rests on the Chief.

2. Creation of a professional management system for the Fire Department

- Create a town personnel policy manual, modified for volunteers

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THE GREENFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT



*David Hall
Chief*



*Chaz Babb
Lieutenant*



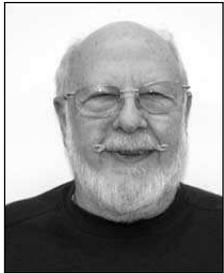
*Chris Borden
EMR*



*Mike Borden
Lieutenant*



*Joel Boutin
Fire*



*Al Burtt
Rescue Captain*



*Zack Davis
Fire*



*Jason Duval
Firefighter/EMT*



*Jeff LaCourse
Captain*



*Alex Lange
EMT*



*Moto Maguire
Engineer*



*Otie Maguire
Mascot*



*Jim Morris
Deputy Chief*



*Jim Murphy
Rescue Chief*



*Chad Murray
Fire*



*Brenda Parker
EMT*



*Ryan Patterson
Captain*



*Jeff Rychwa
Firefighter/EMR*



*David Simmons
EMR*



*Rose Auth
EMR*

The Greenfield Firefighters Association Officers



*Linda Dodge
President*



*Jeff Rychwa
Vice President*



*Dorene Adams
Secretary*



*Chris Borden
Treasurer*



GREENFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTINUED



So where do we want to be? What we all want is a smooth running, well trained department with a full roster of motivated members. For the record, a full roster is thirty members... at present we have twenty. We want well maintained gear and equipment that gets replaced on schedule... the very gear that our lives depend on. We want appropriate insurance to protect us and our families in the event of the unfortunate incident. We want vibrant and up to date training in fire, EMS and leadership for our officers. We want a culture of pride and professionalism in our firehouse! A comment on professional vs. volunteer... I've heard this way too many times and in too many places over the years "we are just volunteers... we don't need all that training". The fires that we fight are just as hot and the emergencies we face just as dangerous as those faced by career firefighters... we need the same tools, end of story.

So how do we get there and what have we done so far? We have begun to fix the equipment and put in place a schedule of maintenance. We have begun to replace equipment and gear that is out of date. We have proposed, with the full support of the SB, gap insurance for the new budget. We have recruited five new members over the past couple months... some of whom come with considerable experience. We have graduated and licensed five of our members as new Emergency Medical Responders and added them to our medical response squad. We have six of our members in a Level 1 Firefighter program. These are significant accomplishments and reflect major commitment from our members! The fire service is no longer just about fighting the occasional fire... 65% to 70% of what we do is medical. For the first time in our history, all of our officers are medically licensed and the overwhelming majority of our members are as well... this is new and exciting territory for us!

Make no mistake... the new Chief is pushing the members hard and they are responding magnificently! At the end of November I imposed mandatory overnight duty crews. Every night, from 6PM to 6AM there are at least two of us on duty (one officer and one member) 7 days a week. We haven't missed a call since! Daytime is harder, but remarkably we have only missed one call in the same time frame and that was a very rare two calls at once... we covered the first but were not able to get a mutual aid crew out to a neighboring town at the same time. This is a far cry from where we were just a few months ago! There are photographs of your fire department members on the previous page. Please look at them and when you see one of these good people out and about, thank them for their service... they have earned it!

So as we move towards town meeting some of you have asked "is it true you are increasing the fire department's budget?" The answer is yes because we have to... we have no choice. Our budget has been flat for nearly ten years. We simply cannot function properly on such a small budget. With the help of the SB and the Budget Committee we have worked diligently to raise the budget the smallest possible amount and make this department run properly... don't forget, we are tax payers too! We will need the support of the citizens of Greenfield to make this happen. We need the tools, equipment and training to perform this difficult and dangerous work safely and effectively. You have our commitment... now we need your support! We hope and trust that the good people of Greenfield will continue to support our mission as we move this department into the 21st century.

Thank you,

Chief David Hall

WINTER GREETINGS FROM THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT

We hope you and your families enjoyed your holiday season and are ready to start your New Year off with great success.

THANK YOU'S: A big thank you goes out to the members of the St. Peters Church in Peterborough, the GIVers and to the Peterborough Rotary club for their support of local families and children during the holiday season. It is people like you who truly make a difference in the world, thank you for your support.

As you may know the Town Welfare Office provides emergency, temporary support to families in need throughout the year. We do our best to keep our local residents in their homes and return to self-sufficiency by providing them with the necessary supports in their time of need and identifying other resources that may be available to them throughout NH.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Welfare hours are Wednesdays from 5 p.m. - 7p.m. or by special appointment as needed.

DID YOU KNOW?

There are many different supports available to families in need throughout the state of NH.

These include but are not limited to:

FOOD PANTRIES

Many towns offer their own local food pantries providing basic food needs to families in emergency situations.

Greenfield Congregational Covenant Church 547-3636
Contact Renie Neonakis at 547-9967 or the Church directly.
The regular hours the food pantry is open to the public are:
Saturday 10:00 am - 12 noon.
Pantry is located at 12 Depot Drive in Greenfield.

Monadnock Area Food Bank 924-3202
Located at All Saints Parish, 51 Concord Street, Peterborough.
The hours of operation are:
Tuesday & Saturday, 10 am - 12 Noon

Open Cupboard Food Pantry Wilton 654-2635
Food pantry service hours: Mondays through Fridays by appointment. *Make sure you check by calling the food pantry to confirm that they still are in operation and the hours have not changed

DISASTER RELIEF

American Red Cross
1-800-224-2214
Offers help in fire, flood, or other disasters. Also, CPR training and other educational services.

SHELTER & CLOTHING

Monadnock Area Transition Shelter - MATS 924-5033
The MATS representative will call you back. Provides shelter, food, clothing & other services

United Church of Jaffrey 532-7047
Provided emergency housing

Salvation Army 924-9621

OTHER HELPFUL NUMBERS

Southern NH Services 924-9601
SNHS offers several federal programs such as WIC, Commodity Supplemental Food Program, Fuel Assistance etc. Below are brief explanations of the programs:

WIC

Women, Infants & Children (WIC) is a special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants and children under the age of 5 years old. WIC provides supplemental nutritious food and education to pregnant and breast feeding women. 1-800-942-1073

CSFP

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) provides supplemental nutritious food for children up to age 6 and elderly persons aged 60 and over, and pregnant and post-partum women. CSFP provides participants with a monthly allotment of USDA commodity foods, including fruit juices, instant potatoes, powdered and evaporated milk, dry cereals, powdered eggs, cheese and canned fruits, meats and vegetables. Gross income criteria apply. Please contact the welfare office or telephone number listed below for more information. 1-800-942-4321

FUEL ASSISTANCE

Heat and Fuel Assistance is a program which helps approximately 19,000 low-income households pay for fuel bills. The program provides up to \$750.00 to the household's fuel supplier. Priority is given to the elderly, handicapped and families with 3 or more children. Participants must meet an income criteria. Applications are expected to be available December 1. To apply for fuel assistance call either of these numbers: 889-3440 or 924-9601

Other services funded through the Fuel Assistance program which may be of help are...

Weatherization Assistance Programs: This program funds energy improvements in homes of approximately 600 low-income families.

Senior Elderly Assistance Program: This program is for elders who are not income eligible for Fuel Assistance but have a compelling need for a one-time grant of up to \$250.00.

Neighbor Helping Neighbor: Helps households facing disconnect or heating emergencies that are not income eligible and have not previously received fuel assistance.
NH Dept. of Health & Human Services 1-800-624-9700

TANF

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) is a federally funded program which provides assistance with money for

continued on page 12

GREENFIELD RECREATION

Call 547-3442 for more information.

Greenfield's Annual Winter Carnival Sat. Feb. 7th Schedule of Events

8:00 - 10:00 Fire Department Pancake Brkfst \$3 & \$5
Station Tours / Car Wash

10:00 - 12:00 Historical Society is Open!

10:00 - 12:00 Clothes Closet is Open
(Sponsored by The Greenfield Cong. Cov. Church)
At the Ministry Center on Depot Dr., off Slip Rd.

10:00 - 2:00 Library is Open!
11am-1pm Stories, crafts & hot drinks!

10:00 - 3:00 Sunset Lake Activities
(Sponsored by The Greenfield Trails Association)
(Conditions permitting) Bon Fire!
Bring skates, sleds & snowshoes! Dress Warm

11:00 - 1:00 Build a Snowman!
(Sponsored by Lamplight Church Youth Group)
Held on the Meeting House lawn. Hot cocoa to!

2:15 Homemade Cardboard Sled Race
(Sponsored by the G.E.S. P.T.O.) The race is held at the end of the Greenfield Inn parking lot.

Sled Race Instructions

- Build sled w/ cardboard & duct tape.
- Use clear packing tape for bottom.
- Decorate it, dress up & ride!
- Race categories are kids to adults!
- Arrive between 2 - 2:15.
- Register immediately upon arrival.
- Race starts promptly at 2:15pm.

6:00 Chili Cook-Off Begins!

(Sponsored by the G.I.V.ers) Admission: Item for Food Pantry.

Chili Instructions

- Register your Chili by Feb. 1st.
Call Agneta Brown at 547-2023.
- Bring your Chili to the Meeting House and check in between 5:30 - 5:45 pm.
- Chili must be hot & ready to serve. We cannot plug in your crock pot when you arrive.
- Cook-off begins at 6pm

Greenfield's Annual *"Variety Show!"*



Sat. April 11, 2015
7pm
Meeting House
Greenfield, NH

Admission is \$2 & a Food Pantry Item

Proceeds benefit the Greenfield Elementary School, PTO
and will be used to fund a program for the children.
Show Director: Dorene Adams 547-2706



Miss Laura's School of Dance

Ballet and Tap Classes

Mondays at the Greenfield Meeting House
Pre-Ballet (ages 2-3) 11:40 - 12:10
\$52/month

Ballet and Tap (ages 3-5) 12:15 - 1:00
\$56/month



Call Laura Horne at (603) 320-6786
www.misslauradance.com

Welfare continued from page 10

food, housing, heat, lights, clothing etc. Medical help for doctors, hospital bills, and medicine. A needs-based eligibility. The number is 1-800-624-9700.

GSIL

Granite State Independent Living (GSIL)

"Founded in 1980, Granite State Independent Living (GSIL) is a statewide nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote life with independence for people with disabilities and those experiencing the natural process of aging through advocacy, information, education and support.

As a statewide non-profit and New Hampshire's only Center for Independent Living, we stay close to our roots with a focus on our 4 core services of education, information, advocacy and support for seniors and people with disabilities.

We are able to speak and think with experience on behalf of the people we serve and support because we are led by a board of directors and staff of which over 51% are people with disabilities.

We carry out our mission through our Home Care Services, Community-Based Disability Supports and Employment Services. With the help of our local New Hampshire communities, we assist people with tools for living life independently, so they can change their lives for the better".

Thank you and Happy New Year,

Leah Conway, Welfare Director

GREENFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A Shout Out To Greenfield Veterans, part 2
by Lenny Cornwell

From the town history, it does not seem as though Greenfield sent any soldiers into the Spanish American War. Perhaps there was a Greenfield representative from another village or state, unknown to us.

During World War I, our men were deployed to distant countries. For many of these men, this in itself was a new experience since they had not traveled much, if at all. Being so far away from home in the midst of such a conflict was a traumatic experience. The longing for home was intense. Communication would have been solely by letter; mail took a long time to be delivered to and from the troops. The manner of warfare changed dramatically as well - moving from rifles, cannons, and horses to more motorized and chemical strategies.

World War II expanded into an even larger scale war. Advances in technology led to the involvement of more nations, and a more extensive damage to lives and properties. Women were active as well. One local aspect of the war involved the use of air plane spotters. A tower was erected in the small field across from the Greenvale Cemetery. Townspeople were trained as spotters with identification charts of planes flying over the town.

Continued military service during the Korean and Viet Nam Wars right up to the contemporary Iraq and Afghanistan Wars has utilized some of our town's residents proudly serving their country.

All of these folks are the people whom Frank Shea wanted to include in his Salute To Greenfield Veterans. Frank envisioned photos, letters and stories accompanying the names collected. He desired something more complete than a mere listing - more of a definite connection that townspeople could share.

We will once again be open for this year's Winter Carnival on February 7, 2015. Stop by the Museum from 10 AM until 12 PM to see old ice harvesting equipment, ski train photos, and to sample some maple milk.

Some of the now antiquated reel movies of town events have been transferred to DVDs. We look forward to showing these films early in the year. Notices as to the date will be posted.

For those of you interested in a family tree sort of endeavor, the Stephenson Library is now equipped with a couple of websites upon which to research genealogy. The Historical Society has sponsored the site "Heritage Quest Online" at the library. All you need to log into this is a library card. Visit the library and Julie or Kristin will be glad to help you get started.

Have you checked out the Society on its Facebook page yet? Simply go to facebook.com/ GreenfieldHS to find out what is new or about an upcoming event.

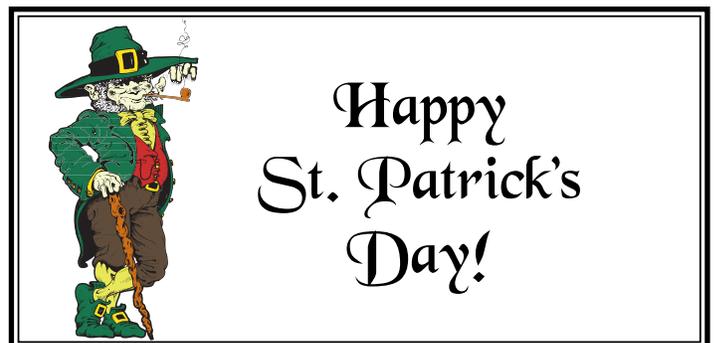
The Museum is open on the last Saturday of every month, except December, from 11 AM until 1 PM. A Work Bee occurs in the morning of those Saturdays. Appointments to do research or to see the collection may be made for other times by calling Lenny at 547-2198. Jane handles new or renewal of memberships. She may be contacted at 547-2759.

TOWN TRIVIA

1973: The ecology movement was recognized by a collection of newspapers, glass, and cans by the Woman's Club and citizens.

One or two golden eagles were seen in South Greenfield !

Camp Union (now the Barbara Harris Center) gave its Annual Christmas Buffet.



Vol. Study Committee continued from page 7

- Provide training for officers and other volunteers on personnel issues
- Provide for data collection related to GFD issues to help in management and budget decision (i.e. tracking calls, attendance, and other relevant data).
- Update Bylaws, operating standards and establish minimum call attendance for volunteers.

A policy manual would insure enforcement, accountability in professional procedures, and fairness in all personnel interactions. Data collection is an important part of Greenfield Fire Department management. It is important in decision making, but also in keeping the town apprised of the call load and the need for support from the town. The by-laws and operating standards are out of date and need to accurately reflect changes in Fire service professional standards. Again, volunteers will be attracted to a well-run organization where there is a structure in place to insure fair treatment and clear directives for all personnel.

3. Elevate the Greenfield Fire Department to professional Firefighter and EMS standards

Promoting professional training standards will attract volunteers to the Fire Department's professionalism and safety conscious environment.

Increase community support

1. The Town must ensure adequate liability insurance

Gap insurance is needed to protect Fire Department volunteers who may be injured in the performance of their duties and which is not covered by the Town's primary liability insurance. No Fire Department volunteer should suffer financial difficulties due to injuries suffered on the Town's behalf.

2. Ensure the Fire Department budget covers the costs of training

Since training is required for certification of Fire/EMS personnel, the Town should pay these costs. The commitment of their time, effort and the risk to themselves is asking more than enough of our volunteers.

3. Create more involvement and interaction between Fire Dept. members and the townspeople

More interaction between the townspeople and the Fire Department would ensure that townspeople know who the volunteers are as well as the work and training they do. This will promote confidence in our Fire and Rescue Services and an understanding that the commitment and risk taken by our volunteers is a gift to the Town.

Incentives

1. Explore financial incentives for volunteers

Fire Department volunteers are filling a huge need in the community. Exploring financial incentives for volunteers such as increased compensation for calls, waived recycling fees, and/or reduction of taxes are all ideas that could and should be considered.

2. Increase Fire Department transparency concerning the requirement for fire department membership

Increased transparency would educate the public about what is required for membership and would allow potential volunteers to see themselves as part of a professional organization that they would be proud to join.

In the last few months, although arrived at separately, many changes have occurred or are underway at the Fire Department that we have listed as recommendations. We feel it is important that we promote and support what we believe are improvements that will benefit the GFD and our town as a whole.

Respectfully submitted by committee members:

- Glenn Roberge, Chair, Police Department
- Bob Marshall, Vice Chair
- Diane Boilard, Resident
- Karen Day, Selectboard member
- Kristine Hall, Past GFD Officer
- Jim Murphy, GFD Deputy Rescue Chief

The GREENFIELD
FOOD PANTRY

The GREENFIELD
CLOTHES CLOSET

12 Depot Drive • Off Slip Road • Behind Harvester Market

HOURS: Food Pantry: Saturdays, 9 – 12
Clothes Closet: Fridays & Saturdays, 10 – 12

These are services of the Greenfield Community Church. Food is available to anyone in need. Great clothes at great prices. (You can donate food at the post office or at Depot Drive, good clean clothes at Depot Drive. We have a drop box.) ☛ To our friends who contribute \$\$ to the Food Pantry: THANK YOU! You are helping your neighbors more than you may realize!

Serving the Community since 1791

GREENFIELD
COVENANT
CHURCH

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Worship Sundays @ 10am
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See "Heating"

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Bill Doherty 801-0564

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Tom Wozniak - 547-6308

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547-2768

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547-3766

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217 Forest Road Unit E - 547-6800 or 831-8360

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547-3311 ext. 1370

CLOTHES

Greenfield CC Church Clothes Closet
Open Sat.10-1pm Donated clothing at low
prices. website: greenfieldchurch.org. 12 Depot
Drive. Call the Church Office 547-3626

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Debra Davidson, Justice of the Peace

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www.allgodscreaturespetsitting.com
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Jan Moller, Sales Assoc.

603 547 5521 direct number
jan@farmsandbarns.com

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Kat Carpenter, Real Estate Agent

Exit Realty
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Linda K. Gray

Realtor/Appraiser
Brin Realty Group
603-801-8002 or lindagray09@gmail.com

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GREENFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT



From the Fire Chief,

Mid winter greetings from the Fire Department... it certainly has been cold! I'm pleased to report that we, as a department, have made much progress in the last few months. When I was asked several months ago if I would be willing to be Greenfield's next Fire Chief... I initially declined but after some persuasion and reconsideration I agreed to accept the position. I did so with the understanding that I would attempt to modernize and professionalize this department... because that is what we as citizens of this town deserve. To that end I was asked by the Select Board (SB) to write a vision statement for the department. Although I don't want this to be about me, for those of you who don't really know me... you should probably know this. I have spent the last twenty-nine years working in public safety... in police, fire and EMS jobs. I own a company that trains firefighters and EMTs. I train seventeen fire departments in the greater Monadnock region on a monthly basis. Although I have worked with career/full time departments in the past... I now focus exclusively on small town call/volunteer departments like Greenfield. The rural fire service is my world.

The vision statement is in three parts... where have we been, where do we need to be, and how do we get there... pretty straight forward stuff. The Greenfield Fire Department has been run for many years like many other small town departments in a very old school part time way. This is no one's fault, sadly it is not uncommon. But it is also less than ideal. This is public safety infrastructure... lives depend on it. The department that I inherited had several deficiencies. With such a small budget the apparatus and equipment were not being properly maintained... insufficient preventative maintenance. Nor was there a long term plan to replace equipment when it had reached the end of its service life. This includes a lack of a well coordinated Capital Improvement Plan. Record keeping was spotty, not where it should be. Some of our equipment requires periodic performance testing; this too was not always being done. The insurance that the town was carrying to protect our firefighters and EMTs had significant gaps. The result of all this was a department with less than ideal morale, we were losing members and having difficulty recruiting new people. On a day to day basis we were not covering all of our calls. All departments miss some calls and default to mutual aid for coverage... we were missing more than most. I'm sorry to be so blunt, but this is where we were.

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