

## Report of the Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen, Department Heads and the Town Administrator have worked hard throughout the year to meet the Town's needs and while at the same time, live within the Town's budget. It should be pointed out the NH small town government and communities depend significantly on volunteers and those who seek public office for little or no compensation. The Board of Selectmen wishes to thank everyone who makes it possible: elected and appointed officials, Department Heads and employees and the ever present volunteers. Thank you for all your service and commitment to the Town of Fremont.



In March, Gene Cordes was elected to the Board of Selectmen for a 3 year term. The current Board is very experienced and dedicated and collectively has over 35 years of experience as Selectmen.

One of the biggest and most unique accomplishments in 2014 was the work of the 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Committee and the wonderful events that occurred during the week of Fremont's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in June. For those that attended the events, you could tell that it was very special, that a lot of hard work went into the planning and preparation and that many volunteers dedicated many hours to make the week so special. As a community we are thankful for their hard work, the great celebration and the fond memories.



Other events within the year included, the Memorial Day parade and ceremony at the Village Cemetery, the Veteran's Day event at the Fremont Town Hall, Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Fremont Town Hall, and a ribbon cutting at our new Highway Building on Danville Road.

Important accomplishments in 2014 include:

- Completed the build out of the Highway Department's former salt/sand shed. It is now an enclosed garage / workshop space. This was funded by the use of Capital Reserve



Funds dedicated to that purpose and surplus budgeted funds from 2013. A ribbon cutting and Open House event was held on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

- Completed the lease / purchase of two replacement police cruisers. Four old vehicles were retired. The first half of the cost, was funded from existing the Capital Reserve Fund dedicated to this purpose and the balance was financed with a short-term lease.
- Completed the repairs to two old fire trucks from the Fire Department's operating budget. A tanker truck that was no longer operational was disposed of.
- Updated /replaced radios for the Fremont Fire Department utilizing funds from a Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose and the Fire Department's operating budget.
- Replaced / repaired about 60% of the library roof and contracted for the balance to be replaced at year end utilizing funds from the operating budget. This was not an anticipated need and so it was necessary to rearrange spending priorities to address this urgent need. There is a 2015 Warrant Article (# 7) to establish an Expendable Town Trust Fund for the major repairs and mechanical replacement at the Fremont Public Library.



- Continued with the engineering design work for the replacement of the Martin Road Bridge utilizing funds from a Capital Reserve fund dedicated for this purpose. Fremont has been moved up on the funding timeline for NH Bridge Aid funds, and we anticipate bringing forward a Warrant Article in 2016 to construct this red-listed bridge.
- Provided pay increases to Town's employees for the second time in six years.



- Replaced the fencing around the Playground at Memorial Fields.
- Completed replacement of the exterior front steps and handrails at the Town Hall.



The Town has some very important unaddressed needs. For several years there has been a Warrant Article to purchase a replacement fire truck for the Fremont Fire Rescue Department. Although there has been strong support there has not been enough support for the 60 % voter support needed to authorize this purchase (as proposed as a bond issue). This purchase is back on the Warrant again this year (Article # 6)

because the need still exists and the Board and the Fremont Fire Department feels strongly that the Town needs to purchase a replacement fire truck. The Board is proposing it to be a one year expense, funded about 1/3 from existing Capital Reserve Funds. A majority vote would approve this purchase.

The heating system at the Fremont Town Hall is in need of replacement as it is in excess of 40 years old. Only one working furnace exists, and has been kept operational through the use of used parts on the sister furnace which has not worked in a few years. Other needs include repairs and resurfacing of several roads. These needs will need to be addressed in the near future. At the time of this writing, the Board is in the process of contracting with a mechanical engineer to assist in the design of a new and efficient heating system for the building.

The Board also acknowledges Town Administrator Heidi Carlson for her 20 years of service to the Town. This anniversary dates back to her first day of work on April 21, 1994. We are appreciative of her many efforts for the Fremont community.

As we look ahead to 2015 we are pleased that long unfilled volunteer positions have been filled. They include Fremont's representative to the 53 B Waste Disposal District and two representatives to the Exeter River Local Advisory Committee. We are also pleased that there is a developing interest in Fremont Community Access Television and anticipate the more public meetings will be broadcast, some live, in the near future.

Finally, the Board of Selectmen joins many Fremonters in thanking the individuals that make up our Police and the Fire Rescue Departments. In 2014, they have once again demonstrated that they put themselves in harm's way for our safety and protection. We sincerely respect and appreciate their dedication and commitment.



The Board of Selectmen wishes to thank you for the opportunity to serve the Fremont community and look forward to working with everyone again in 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

The Fremont Board of Selectmen  
Brett A Hunter, Chair  
Leon F Holmes Sr  
Gene Cordes



Heidi Carlson, Brett Hunter, Chief Jon Twiss, Leon Holmes Sr  
Fremont Police Department First Annual Awards Ceremony  
30 November 2014



Fremont Town Flags

Get yours soon at the

Town Hall, Library or Safety Complex!

Photos courtesy of Meredith Bolduc, Heidi Carlson, Brett & Emelie Hunter and Chris Kania