

DURHAM NEW HAMPSHIRE



Annual Report 2023





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FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

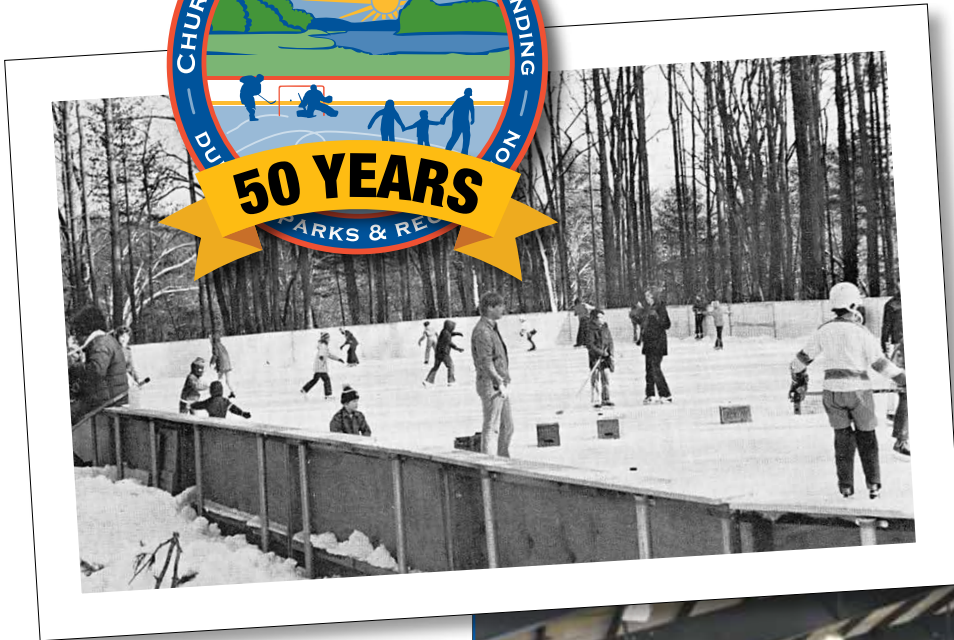
8 Newmarket Road ■ Durham, NH 03824 ■ 603-868-5571 ■ www.ci.durham.nh.us

ON OUR COVER: Some of Durham's young citizens enjoying ice skating at the Churchill Rink. (standing l-r): Ben Gasowski, Charlie Kell, Ava Gasowski, Samantha Anderson, Paige Jorgensen, Jillian Smith, Lydia Jeong, Alexa Lawrence. (front l-r): Caeden Nash and Parker Ahn. Jeremy Gasowski Photo

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Celebrating 50 Years of the Churchill Rink!



With the 2023-2024 season The Churchill Rink at Jackson's Landing Park celebrates its 50th year of recreational ice skating and hockey from 1973 to 2023.

In 1961 Mrs. Erma Jackson, and her husband, Professor Cicero F. Jackson took the first step toward establishing a recreational area at Jackson's

Above: 1973 photo of Churchill Rink. Right: Showing the Rink as it looks now. Craig Stevens Photo

Landing by donating the 3-acre waterfront boat landing lot to the Town of Durham. In this deeded gift, the Jackson's stipulated the land be used "as a park and recreation area." Thus Jackson's Landing Park was created!

In 1973, the town purchased another sixteen adjacent acres from Mrs. Jackson for \$80,000. The acreage included a piece of land suitable for a skating rink. This prompted local civic-minded individuals Dr. Robert Barth and Mr. Bill Davison, and others, to start work building the first ice rink at Jackson's Landing Park. The rink had a gravel base and wooden boards. It was maintained each winter by town staff and volunteers. It was not much, but was functional when the weather was right and provided the Oyster River community with an opportunity for ice sports that would serve as the foundation for a facility that would evolve to become a local treasure.



The rink was operated in a similar fashion from that first season until 1993 when Oyster River Youth Association took over management and would run it until 2006. It was during ORYA's tenure that other civic-minded individuals, led by Mr. Doug Churchill, would take the rink to a higher level of functionality. They added a roof, ice refrigeration system, newer rink boards, and scoreboards, all but the roof was scavenged from Snively Arena which was being renovated while the Whittemore Center was being built. There was also a warming hut, Zamboni room, Zamboni, and over time, bathrooms, four small changing rooms, and an office.

In 2006, the town was approached by ORYA to take over operations as it was proving difficult for them to make

a go of it financially. Before agreeing to take the rink back under its umbrella, the town stipulated the rink must be operated in a financially self-sufficient way, with no taxpayer dollars being used, or the arrangement would end, and the rink would need to close. The arrangement was finalized and as of today, the Churchill Rink Fund on the town's books sits at a positive balance of \$274,000. Projected FY 2023 year-end net revenue of \$75,000 will bring the rink's fund balance to \$349,000. In the ice rink business, it is



Above: Entrance to the Churchill Rink. Below: Skaters enjoy the ice inside. Craig Stevens Photo



comforting to have reserve cash on hand for use in emergency maintenance situations or for making capital improvements. The rink has averaged a net positive operating income of approximately \$45,000 per fiscal year since 2013.

The Public Works Department would run it until 2015 when it was moved under the Department of Recreation. Since 2007, many required and ongoing maintenance issues have been addressed and

many improvements have been made, but the facility to a large degree remains similar to what it has always been. Simple and functional when the weather is right, cold, sometimes not functional due to weather, and often uncomfortable or dangerously cold. The still bare bones facility remains partially outdoors, has no lobby or warming area, has small changing rooms with no shower facilities, and a Zamboni room situated where it creates safety concerns for guests, especially children. Due to some of these deficiencies, the local high school teams must book ice at other area facilities for hosting games and in extreme freezing weather, the rink closes for safety reasons.

In 2020, Bill Page, the current Rink Manager was transitioned from a full-time seasonal status to become the rink's first ever full-time year-round manager. Major reasons for this change were to allow the manager time to be proactive toward maintenance and improvements as well as to spearhead an effort to prepare Churchill Rink for the next 50 years of service to the community. Transforming the facility from what is currently an ice rink 5 months a year, to a facility that can be used for recreation and other events and activities for another 7 months a year, was a contributing factor when the sitting council approved this strategic change in how the rink would be operated in the future. ■



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Honorable Mentions

In 2023, many town citizens volunteered their time, talents, and efforts to serve on various elected and appointed boards, commissions, and committees. We would like to take this opportunity to thank and recognize the following individuals for the important contributions they made to the community.

Town Council

Katherine Marple
Sally Tobias

Library Board of Trustees

Karen Damtoft
Nancy Lambert

Trustee of the Trust Funds

Bill Cote
Craig Seymour

Cemetery Committee

Bill Cote
Sally Needell, *Council Representative*
Craig Seymour

Agricultural Commission

Paul Rasmussen, *Planning Board Representative*

Conservation Commission

James Bubar, *Planning Board Representative*

Energy Committee

Jim Lawson, *Council Representative*
Bianca Leonard
Townsend Zwart

Housing Task Force

Cathy Frierson
Heather Grant, *Planning Board Representative*

Human Rights Commission

Katherine Marple

Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee

Mary Caufield
Barbara Dill, *Planning Board Representative*
Al Howland

Land Stewardship Subcommittee

Sally Needell, *Council Representative*
Sally Tobias

Parks & Recreation Committee

Nate Fitch

Planning Board

James Bubar
Barbara Dill

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Chris Sterndale



In Memoriam

In 2023, Durham lost several longtime community members and public servants.

DALE LEO "PETE" CHINBURG

Dale Leo "Pete" Chinburg passed away on February 20, 2023 at the age of 93. He was surrounded by his beloved wife and family. He served in the Air Force from 1953-1958 and graduated with the class of 55-I to earn his pilots wings. It was while he was briefly stationed in North Carolina that he met the love of his life, Ellen Hastings, a beautiful young nurse. The adventurous couple had 4 sons in quick succession, and then moved across the country to Durham so that Pete could take a job as Associate Director of the Space Science Center at University of New Hampshire. He held various program management positions at UNH from 1967-1981. Upon leaving UNH he started several entrepreneurial ventures, including a survival kit called the Boony Box that his kids assembled at home, and they were sold nationally by LL Bean. Pete served on the Durham Town Council from October of 1996 until March 2003 and was a long-term Rotarian. Pete will be remembered as a gentleman who adored his wife and loved his family, friends and country.

SALLY PAINE FORD

Sally Paine Ford, a lifetime resident of Durham, died on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. Sally was a writer, editor, and children's book author in a family of writers that includes her grandfather, her father, her husband, and her daughter. With her deep roots in seacoast history through the Pickering, Knight, Coe and Paine families, Sally was a lifetime member of the Durham Historic Association and served on the DHA Executive Board. Sally faithfully wrote and produced the DHA Newsletter for many years, utilizing DHA's photo collection to give life to stories of Durham's forgotten characters and places. All who knew Sally will miss her gentle kindness and positive spirit.

LAWRENCE O'CONNELL

Lawrence O'Connell of Durham died December 28, 2022, at Portsmouth Regional Hospital after a brief illness. Born February 18, 1935, in Longmeadow, MA, Larry was the son of Lawrence and Helen (Murphy) O'Connell. He moved to Dover in 1942 and graduated from Dover High School in 1952. Larry graduated from UNH in 1956 and then served in the U.S. Air Force through 1959. Following his time in the Air Force Larry studied at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. After finishing his class work at Syracuse, Larry taught for one year at SUNY Brockport and then, after he was awarded a Carnegie Foundation grant, he and Jane moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts where he studied public education in large cities. Larry finished his Ph.D. while in Cambridge and then moved to Durham where he was a faculty member in the Political Science Department at UNH for 34 years.

Larry was a very active member of both his local and statewide community serving on the State of New Hampshire Air Resources Commission, Board of Trustees at Portsmouth Regional Hospital, the New Hampshire State Board of Registration of Medicine and the State Judicial Conduct Committee for the New Hampshire Supreme Court. Larry remained most proud of his service as a Selectman in the Town of Durham from 1971-1980 where he proudly and defiantly fought against the proposed Onassis oil refinery.

GEORGE ANTHONY RIEF

George Anthony Rief, 82, of Durham passed away peacefully on December 13th, 2023 surrounded by family in the home he designed and loved. After attending the University of Miami in Florida, George joined the U.S. Navy Submarine Service, graduating from their Nuclear Power School in 1963, and serving until 1968 on the nuclear submarine USS Seawolf (SSN -575). He subsequently received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of New Hampshire in 1970, and did post-graduate study in Environmental Engineering at Northeastern University.

George generously shared his wealth of knowledge and skills, volunteering and contributing his time and efforts to various community projects by serving on the Durham Town Council for several years, the Planning Board and the Economic Development Committee, and as an active member of Rotary. Additionally, he dedicated himself to serving the community by cooking gourmet suppers for UNH students with other parish families for many Sunday evenings at St. Thomas More Church.

DOUG WHEELER

Doug Wheeler, a valued former member of the Durham Historic Association Board of Directors and a University of New Hampshire emeritus professor of history, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family on December 22, 2022, after a heart attack. Wheeler, who made his home in Durham, N.H., was 85 years old. He, along with his wife, former state senator Katie Wheeler, were deeply and actively involved in the Durham community. Professor Wheeler was a member of the Durham Public Library Board of Trustees and of the DHA Board of Directors for many years. He continued as an invaluable advisor to the DHA until his death.

Doug earned an A.B. in history with high distinction from Dartmouth College in 1959, followed by an M.A. and Ph.D. in History from Boston University in 1960 and 1963. Doug taught history at UNH for nearly 40 years, working in a number of different areas – African history, Portuguese history – colonial and modern, world history and the topical field of espionage.

New Faces in 2023



Robert Atwater
Deputy Fire Chief of Operations & Training
Hire Date: 12/18/23



Sean Cassidy
Police Officer
Hire Date: 12/4/23



Matthew Collins
Wastewater Chief Operator
Hire Date: 5/22/23



Tracey Cutler
*Administrative Assistant for
Planning, Zoning & Assessing*
Hire Date: 6/6/23



Dina Gosselin
Accounting Clerk
Hire Date: 5/8/23



Susan King
Library Assistant Youth Services
Hire Date: 1/3/23



Kyle Kustra
Firefighter/AEMT
Hire Date: 9/11/23



Scott M. Leduc
Solid Waste Collection Equipment Operator
Hire Date: 10/30/23



Audra Lewis
Assistant Library Director
Hire Date: 8/28/23



Audrey D. MacKenzie
Deputy Town Clerk
Hire date: 4/3/23



Karen Reynolds
Administrative Assistant, Public Works
Hire date: 1/12/23



Michael Rohr
Assistant Manager of IT
Hire date: 3/27/23



Andrea Seledce
Code Enforcement Officer
Hire date: 9/28/23



Officers, Boards, Commissions and Committees

OFFICIAL/BOARD	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	TERM	EXPIRES	APPT.AUTH.
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ELECTED OFFICIALS

DURHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Sally Needell, <i>Chair</i>	36 Bagdad Rd.	603-868-1552	sneedelltc@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
James Lawson, <i>Chair Pro Tem</i>	24 Deer Meadow Rd.	603-868-1540	lawsonje24@comcast.net	3 Yrs	3/24	Elected
Wayne Burton	106 Madbury Rd.	508-517-7188	wburton@northshore.edu	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Joe Friedman	24 Woodman Road	603-957-1600	Joe.Friedman42@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/25	Elected
Emily Friedrichs	18 Garden Lane	603-706-8174	emilyfriedrichs@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Charles (Chuck) Hotchkiss	2 York Drive	603-868-1028	cmhdct@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/24	Elected
Eleanor (Ellie) Lonske	14 Stone Quarry Dr. Apt. 319	603-590-9183	ellielonske@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/25	Elected
Eric Lund	31 Faculty Road	603-969-0966	ejlund@myfairpoint.net	3 Yrs	3/25	Elected
Carden Welsh	3 Fairchild Drive	Private	cardentc2@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/24	Elected

DURHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robin Glasser, <i>Chair</i>	1 Roysann Way	508-530-2933	book.woman11@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Randall O'Brien	14 Stone Quarry Dr. Apt. 126	603-312-0979	rlobrien2@rcn.com	3 Yrs	3/24	Elected
Charlotte Ramsay	3 Sophie Lane	315-854-1997	charlotte_ramsay@yahoo.com	3 Yrs	3/25	Elected
Andrew Sharp	20 Cowell Dr.	814-404-0691	Asharp100@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/25	Elected
Kimberly Sweetman	6 Morgan Way	646-408-9831	kimberly.sweetman@mac.com	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Erik Waddell	8 Sumac Ln.	617-894-4042	erik@athousandmoments.com	3 Yrs	3/25	Elected
Susan Wagner	10 Edendale Lane	978-499-1831	susanwagner31@icloud.com	3 Yrs	3/24	Elected
Martha (Martie) Gooze, <i>Alt.</i>	9 Meadow Rd.	603-781-1111	mtgooze@gmail.com	1 Yr	4/24	Council
Callie Langton, <i>Alt.</i>	14 Ross Road	925-579-4020	callie.langton@gmail.com	1 Yr	4/24	Council
Vacant, <i>Alt.</i>				1 Yr	4/24	Council

MODERATOR

Christopher T. Regan	16 Littlehale Rd.	603-868-2293	chrisregan@durhamnhlaw.com	2 Yrs	3/24	Elected
Michael Everngam, <i>Asst.</i>	49 Emerson Rd.	603-868-5765	meverngam@aol.com	2 Yrs	3/24	Moderator

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Ann Shump, <i>Chair</i>	10 Fogg Dr.	603-868-1342	shump@comcast.net	6 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Deborah Hirsch Mayer	19 Garden Ln.	603-868-7150	hirschmayer2@gmail.com	6 Yrs	3/28	Elected
Christian N. Kuhn	3 Razorbill Circle	603-841-0895	christian.n.kuhn@gmail.com	6 Yrs	3/24	Elected

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

Rachel Deane	8 Newmarket Rd.	603-868-5577	rdeane@ci.durham.nh.us	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
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OFFICIAL/BOARD	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	TERM	EXPIRES	APPT. AUTH.
TOWN TREASURER						
Karl Van Asselt	17 Fairchild Dr.	603-868-6353	vanasselt@aol.com	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Catherine Leach, <i>Deputy</i>	14 Fairchild Dr.	603-868-5992	leachfam@comcast.net	3 Yrs	3/26	Treasurer
TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS						
Michael Everngam, <i>Chair</i>	49 Emerson Rd.	603-868-5765	meverngam@aol.com	3 Yrs	3/24	Elected
Tom Bebbington (C. Seymour) <i>(Must run for one-year term in 2024)</i>	25 Park Court	603-498-5881	tpbebbington@mac.com	3 Yrs	3/25	Elected
Theodore Howard	12 Burnham Ave.	603-868-1152	ted.howard@unh.edu	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Albert Manalo, <i>Alt</i>	11 Sumac Lane	603-502-0539	alberto.manalo@comcast.net	1 Yr	3/24	Appointed/TC
VACANT, <i>Alt</i>				1 Yr	3/24	Appointed/TC
CEMETERY COMMITTEE						
Tom Bebbington, <i>Chair</i>	25 Park Court	603-498-5881	tpbebbington@mac.com	3 Yrs	3/25	Elected
Michael Everngam	49 Emerson Rd.	603-868-5765	meverngam@aol.com	3 Yrs	3/24	Elected
Theodore Howard	12 Burnham Ave.	603-868-1152	ted.howard@unh.edu	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
James Lawson, <i>Cncl Rep.</i>	24 Deer Meadow Road	603-868-1540	lawsonje24@comcast.net	1 Yr	3/24	Council
Ellie Lonske, <i>Cncl Rep.</i>	14 Stone Quarry Dr. Apt. 319	603-590-9183	ellielonske@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/24	Council
Eric Lund, <i>Cncl Rep.</i>	31 Faculty Road	603-969-0966	ejlund@myfairpoint.net	1 Yr	3/24	Council
CONSERVATION COMMISSION						
Jacob Kritzer, <i>Chair</i>	8 Timberbrook Ln.	617-869-1336	jake.kritzer@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Erin Hardie Hale, <i>V. Chair</i>	74 Mill Road	603-957-7233	ehardiehale@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
John Nachilly	260 Packers Falls Rd.	603-953-3638	nachilly@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
Roanne Robbins	343 Dame Rd.	617-947-6864	roannerobbins@me.com	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
Neil Slepian	12 Fairchild Drive	781-690-7625	neil.slepian@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Nicholas Lanzer, <i>Alt.</i>	12 Ambler Way	603-391-1978	nicholaslanzer@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Dwight Trueblood, <i>Alt.</i>	11 Tall Pines Road	603-205-1775	dwight.trueblood@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
VACANT, <i>Alt.</i>				3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Carden Welsh, <i>Cncl Rep.</i>	3 Fairchild Drive	Private	cardentc2@gmail.com	1 Yr	4/24	Council
Richard Kelley <i>PB Rep.</i>	5 Garden Ln.	603-767-9795	richard.kelley@hdrinc.com	1 Yr	4/24	Council
LAND STEWARDSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE (SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CONS. COMMISSION)						
Ann Welsh, <i>Chair</i>	3 Fairchild Dr.	-----	annwelsh@mac.com	N/A	N/A	At-large Member
Jim Lawson, <i>Cncl Rep., V. Chair</i>	24 Deer Meadow Road	603-868-1540	lawsonje24@comcast.net	1 Yr	3/24	Council
Sara Callaghan	8 Newmarket Rd.	603-686-4679	scallaghan@ci.durham.nh.us	N/A	N/A	Contract staff
Larry Brickner-Wood	1 Colony Cove Rd.	603-868-6917	revlarry77@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	HDC
Gale Carey	49 Oyster River Road	603-969-4165	gale.carey@comcast.net	N/A	N/A	At large Member
John Carroll	54 Canney Rd.	603-868-2935	john.carroll@unh.edu	N/A	N/A	Ag Comm
Michael Drooker	7 Marden Way	603-397-5681	michael.drooker@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Parks & Rec
Michael Everngam	49 Emerson Rd.	603-868-5765	meverngam@aol.com	N/A	N/A	Trustees of the Trust Fund
John Nachilly	260 Packers Falls Rd.	603-953-3638	nachilly@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Conservation Comm
Marty Gorham	11 Burnham Ave,		marty.gorham@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	At large Member

HISTORIC DISTRICT / HERITAGE COMMISSION

Larry Brickner-Wood, <i>Chair</i>	1 Colony Cove Rd.	603-868-6917	revlarry77@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Charlotte Hitchcock, <i>V. Chair</i>	14 Stone Quarry Dr. Apt.104	603-590-9164	charlotte.rose.hitchcock@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Michael Hoffman	300 Durham Pt. Rd.	603-817-8071	mhoffman33@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Carolyn Singer	5 Woodridge Rd.	603-498-6570	nhgrantwriter@aol.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Aaron Wolfson-Slepian	47 Newmarket Rd.	603-767-0348	aaron.slepian@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
Jennifer Becker, <i>Alt.</i>	2 Bartlett Road	603-953-6465	dayhoofj@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Thomas Janosz, <i>Alt.</i>	23 Durham Point Road	603-623-5439	tomjano@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
VACANT, <i>Alt.</i>				3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Eric Lund, <i>Cncl Rep</i>	31 Faculty Road	603-969-0966	ejlund@myfairpoint.net	1 Yr	3/24	Council
William McGowan, <i>PB Rep</i>	135 Packers Falls Rd.	603-396-2032	wfmcg@icloud.com	1 Yr	4/24	Plan Board

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Cathy Leach, <i>Chair</i>	14 Fairchild Dr.	603-969-0785	leachfam@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Genevieve Brown	15 Burnham Ave.	603-590-0052	genbbrown@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Michael Drooker	7 Marden Way	603-397-5681	michael.drooker@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Al Howland	32 Ffrost Drive	603-868-5928	thehowl@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
Brian Keegan	112 Madbury Road	603-988-6059	info@oysterrivercycle.com	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
Tracy Schroeder	18 Bagdad Road	603-868-7575	tlsinnh@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Erin Guyotte, <i>Alt.</i>	14 Old Landing Road	603-312-8717	ering257@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Myrta Janosz, <i>Alt.</i>	23 Durham Pt. Rd.	603-493-8497	janosz.myrta@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Matthew Swiesz, <i>Alt.</i>	17 Sumac Lane	603-817-7536	drswiesz@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
Joe Friedman, <i>Cncl Rep</i>	24 Woodman Road	603-957-1600	joe.friedman42@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/24	Council

PLANNING BOARD

Paul Rasmussen, <i>Chair</i>	5 Glassford Lane	603-397-5359	pnrasmus@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Heather Grant, <i>V. Chair</i>	7 Emerson Rd.	603-285-2913	hcgrant51@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Peyton McManus, <i>Sec.</i>	54 Ross Road	603-479-3764	peyton_mcmanus@yahoo.com	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
Richard Kelley	5 Garden Ln.	603-767-9795	richard.kelley@hdrinc.com	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
William McGowan	135 Packers Falls Rd.	603-396-2032	wfmcg@icloud.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Sally Tobias	107 Madbury Road	603-397-0802	sally.tobias@me.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Chris McClain, <i>Alt.</i>	54 Edgewood Road	603-969-6435	chris@mcclainsells.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Tom DeCapo, <i>Alt.</i>	315 Durham Point Road	917-859-4848	tdc.decapo@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Erika Naumann Gaillat, <i>Alt.</i>	14 Schoolhouse Lane	269-903-6801	enaumanngaillat@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
VACANT, <i>Alt.</i>				3 Yrs	4/25	Council
VACANT, <i>Alt.</i>				3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Emily Friedrichs, <i>Cncl Rep</i>	18 Garden Lane	603-706-8174	emilyfriedrichs@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/24	Council
Chuck Hotchkiss, <i>Alt Cncl Rep</i>	2 York Drive	603-868-1028	chuckhotchkiss@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/24	Council

RENTAL HOUSING COMMISSION

Owner of rental property				N/A	N/A	DLA
Owner of rental property				N/A	N/A	DLA
				N/A	N/A	UNH
				N/A	N/A	UNH
<i>Student Senate Rep</i>				N/A	N/A	UNH
<i>Neighborhood Rep</i>				N/A	N/A	Council
<i>Neighborhood Rep</i>				N/A	N/A	Council
<i>Tenant Rep</i>				N/A	N/A	Council
<i>Cncl Rep</i>				1 Yr		Council

OFFICIAL/BOARD	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	TERM	EXPIRES	APPT.AUTH.
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ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Micah Warnock, <i>Chair</i>	45 Woodman Rd.	540-421-3705	warnockmr@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Neil Niman, <i>Vice Chair</i>	10 Cold Sprint Road	603-659-8853	neil.niman@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
Mark Morong, <i>Sec.</i>	21 Emerson Rd.	603-661-1296	mduffm@comast.net	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
James Bubar	4 Old Piscataqua Road	603-343-7890	jamesabubar@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Kevin Lemieux	11 Bartlett Road	617-999-4489	lemieux_kevin@hotmail.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Leslie Schwartz, <i>Alt.</i>	24 Laurel Lane	-----	totographs@metrocast.net	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Joseph Warzin, <i>Alt.</i>	102 Madbury Road	586-933-6336	warzin@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
VACANT, <i>Alt.</i>				3 Yrs	4/26	Council

TOWN WORKING COMMITTEES

DOWNTOWN TIF DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD

Tom Elliott	26 Edgewood Rd.	995-1666	Tom.elliott@manyspears.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Roger Hayden	4 Lexington St., Dover	674-4834	Rod.hayden@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Sean O'Connell	22 Shearwater St.	361-4771	soconnell@shaheengordon.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
VACANT, <i>Prop Owner</i>				3 Yrs	4/24	Council
VACANT, <i>EDC Rep.</i>					4/24	EDC

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Theresa Walker, <i>Chair</i>	62 Bennett Rd.	603-659-7226	theresawalker@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
Raymond LaRoche Jr., <i>V. Chair</i>	41 Bennett Rd.	603-292-5563	larochefarmdurham@aol.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Lee Alexander	32 Dover Rd.	603-868-5822	leelaine-alex@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Anton Bekkerman	2 Stonewall Way	406-589-0079	anton.bekkerman@unh.edu	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
John Carroll	54 Canney Rd.	603-868-2935	carroll@unh.edu	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Alberto Manalo	11 Sumac Dr.	603-868-9883	alberto.manalo@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Bryan Cassidy, <i>Alt.</i>	342 Dame Rd.	603-819-1397	bryancassidy77@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Ellen Karelitz, <i>Alt.</i>	113 Madbury Rd.	603-868-6070	ellenkare51@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
David Langley, <i>Alt.</i>	234 Longmarsh Rd.	603-793-9331	davelangleydesign@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
Holly Philbrick, <i>Alt.</i>	35 Cedar Point Road	603-997-1781	holly@emeryfarm.com	3 Yrs	4/24	Council
Daniel Winans, <i>Alt.</i>	109 Madbury Rd.	603-834-5523	dan.winans@unh.edu	3 Yrs	4/25	Council
Ellie Lonske, <i>Cncl Rep</i>	14 Stone Quarry Dr. Apt.319	603-590-9183	ellielonske@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/24	Council
Tom DeCapo, <i>PB Rep</i>	315 Durham Point Road	917-859-4848	tdc.decapo@gmail.com	1 Yr	4/24	Plan Bd

ENERGY COMMITTEE

Matthias Dean Carpentier, <i>Chair</i>	265 Packers Falls Rd.	678-907-1837	matthiasdeancarpentier@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Council
Nathaniel Balch	20 Wiswall Rd.	603-969-6596	natster3413@comcast.net	N/A	N/A	Council
Thomas (Ti) Crossman	26 Coe Drive	603-868-5655	tcrossman26@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Council
Steve Holmgren	20 Perley Lane	732-977-6142	sholmgren2@outlook.com	N/A	N/A	Council
Michael Klein	28 Sumac Lane	603-401-2914	mike@pwiconsulting.net	N/A	N/A	Council
John Lannamann	156 Packers Falls Rd.	603-659-6145	John.lannamann@edu.unh	N/A	N/A	Council
Michael Lehrman	20 Cedar Pt. Rd.	603-560-5024	mdlwindham@comcast.net	N/A	N/A	Council
Wayne Burton, <i>Cncl Rep</i>	106 Madbury Rd.	603-868-5037	wburton@northshore.edu	1 Yr	3/24	Council
Matthew Davis <i>UNH Rep.</i>	James Hall Rm. 230	603-862-1718	matt.davis@unh.edu	N/A	N/A	UNH President
Emily Friedrichs, <i>PB Rep.</i>	18 Garden Lane	603-706-8174	emilyfriedrichs@gmail.com	1 Yr	4/24	Plan Bd
VACANT				N/A	N/A	Council

OFFICIAL/BOARD	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	TERM	EXPIRES	APPT. AUTH.
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HOUSING TASK FORCE

Sally Tobias, <i>Chair</i>	107 Madbury Road	603-397-0802	sally.tobias@me.com	N/A	N/Z	Council
Michael Saputo, <i>Citizen Rep</i>	5 Rocky Lane	603-817-0234	msaputo5@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Council
Al Howland, <i>Citizen Rep</i>	32 Ffrost Drive	603-868-5928	al.howland.13@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Council
Judith Spang, <i>Citizen Rep</i>	55 Wiswall Road	603-828-6419	judith@kestrelnet.net	N/A	N/A	Council
Eileen E. Murphy, <i>Citizen Rep</i>	9 Bayview Road	443-626-7203	eemurphy.5@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Council
Charlotte Hitchcock, <i>Citizen Rep</i>	14 Stone Quarry Dr., Apt 104	203-397-3803	charlotte.rose.hitchcock@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Council
VACANT, <i>Citizen Rep</i>				N/A	N/A	Council
VACANT, <i>Citizen Rep</i>				N/A	N/A	Council
Nick Taylor, <i>Advisor</i>			director@seacoastwhc.org	N/A	N/A	
Mimi Kell, <i>Advisor</i>			mkell@madburyproperties.com	N/A	N/A	
Charles (Chuck) Hotchkiss, <i>Cncl. Rep</i>	2 York Drive	603-868-1028	chuckhotchkiss@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/24	Council
Paul Rasmussen, <i>PB Rep</i>	5 Glassford Lane	603-397-5359	pnasmus@gmail.com	1 Yr	4/24	Plan Bd

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Sally Needell, <i>Council Chair</i>	38 Bagdad Road	603-868-1552	sneedelltc@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/24	Council
Gail Jablonski, <i>Business Mgr.</i>	8 Newmarket Rd.	603-868-8043	gjablonski@ci.durham.nh.us	N/A	N/A	Council
Todd Selig, <i>Administrator</i>	8 Newmarket Rd.	603-868-5571	tselig@ci.durham.nh.us	N/A	N/A	Council
Richard Belshaw, <i>Citizen Rep.</i>	2 Cutts Road	603-498-4935	rwbshaw@earthlink.net	3 Yrs.	4/26	Council
Janet Perkins-Howland, <i>Citizen Rep.</i>	32 Ffrost Dr.	603-234-5905	thehowl@comcast.net	3 Yrs.	4/26	Council
Deborah Hirsch Mayer, <i>Citizen Rep.</i>	19 Garden Lane	603-397-7730	hirschmayer2@gmail.com	3 Yrs.	4/25	Council
Kathy Collins, <i>Citizen Rep.</i>	31 Oyster River Road	603-502-8436	kcollins15@mac.com	3 Yrs.	4/24	Council

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Nell Neil, <i>Chair</i>	11 Riverview Rd.	603-866-2153	Nellneal2@comcast.net	N/A	N/A	Council
Julie Kelley	5 Garden Ln.	603-767-9796	Ricjulkelley@comcast.net	N/A	N/A	Council
Naomi Kornhauser	27 Edgewood Road	603-868-6698	naomi.kornhauser@comcast.net	N/A	N/A	Council
Sally Needell	36 Bagdad Rd.	603-868-1552	Sallyneedell@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Council
Mike Pazdon	163 Dame Road	603-770-9414	mpazdon@comcast.net	N/A	N/A	Council
VACANT				N/A	N/A	Council
Susan Richman, <i>Alt.</i>	16 Cowell Drive	603-868-2758	susan7richman@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Council
Carden Welsh, <i>Cncl Rep.</i>	3 Fairchild Dr.	Private	cardentc2@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/24	Council
Heather Grant, <i>PB Rep.</i>	7 Emerson Road	603-285-2913	hcgrant51@gmail.com	1 Yr	4/24	Plan Bd

LAMPREY RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Richard Lord	85 Bennett Rd.	603-659-2721	rhlord@comcast.net	3 Yrs	7/29/25	State-NHDES
David Steinberg	271 Packers Falls Rd.	215-262-0214	steinbds@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/9/26	State-NHDES
VACANT						
VACANT						

OFFICIAL/BOARD	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	TERM	EXPIRES	APPT.AUTH.
OYSTER RIVER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE						
Catherine Ashcraft	14 Stevens Way	603-397-5186		3 Yrs	5/16/25	State-NHDES
Jim Hornbeck	19 Woodridge Rd.	603-868-5419	jnhornbeck@comcast.net	3 Yrs	5/11/25	State-NHDES
Michael Sullivan	UNH Ritzman Lab	603-862-1437	Michael.sullivan@unh.edu	3 Yrs	2/14/26	State-NHDES
VACANT				3 Yrs		State-NHDES
PEASE AIRPORT NOISE COMPATIBILITY STUDY COMMITTEE						
Michael Lehrman	20 Cedar Point Road	603-560-5024		3 Yrs	4/24	Council
STRAFFORD REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION & MPO POLICY COMMITTEE						
Wayne Burton	106 Madbury Rd.	868-5037	wburton@northshore.edu	4 Yrs	4/24	Council
Leslie Schwartz	24 Laurel Ln.	502-9216	totographs@comcast.net	4 Yrs	4/25	Council
VACANT				4 Yrs.	4/25	Council

Wagon Hill Farm Shoreline. Todd Selig Photo





Retirements



Jennie Berry began her service with the Town in July 1990 and on January 27, 2023, she retired from her position in the Administrator's Office, completing 33 years of service faithfully supporting the citizens of Durham.

Over her long tenure, Jennie served members of the Town Council, hundreds of committee members, citizens, and five administrators – Ralph Freedman, Larry Brickner-Wood, Larry Shaffer, Ilene Healy, and Todd Selig. She was the face and the voice of the Town for over a generation.

The Town of Durham extends a sincere thank you and congratulations to Jennie for the dedication, hard work and excellence she has provided to the community over the past 33 years. We wish Jennie and her family a very happy retirement and the best of luck as she enters this new period of her life. ■

Firefighter Scott Campbell retired from the Durham Fire Department on August 31, 2023. Scott served the department and the community with honor and distinction since he was hired as a career firefighter on December 20, 2001.

In addition to his duties as a firefighter/AEMT, Scott filled many leadership roles within the department including serving as a CPR instructor as well as serving on the Durham Professional Firefighters Association Executive Board as president of IAFF Local 2253 and serving on the negotiating committee. He has also been a pioneer, leader, and mentor in firefighter physical fitness.

The Town of Durham extends a sincere thank you and congratulations to Scott for the dedication, hard work and excellence he has provided to the community over the past 22 years. We wish Scott and his family a very happy retirement and the best of luck as he enters this new period of his life. ■





Lorrie Pitt began her service with the Town of Durham as a Deputy Town Clerk-Tax Collector in July 1992 and was later elected Town Clerk in March 2004. Lorrie retired on March 31, 2023 marking the end to her 30-year journey in the Durham Town Clerk-Tax Collector's office.

Over her long tenure, Lorrie accomplished many things, but her biggest feat is the efforts she took to modernize the Town Clerk's office. These upgrades created a more efficient office that reduced lines and wait times. She was one of the first Town Clerks in the state to advocate for residents to be able to use credit cards to pay for registrations and taxes. Lorrie served on several state boards and committees, including membership in the NH City and Town Clerks Association, the New England Clerks Association, and the NH Tax Collectors Association.

Lorrie's contributions to the Town of Durham over the last three decades are endless, but it is her warm, caring nature and giving spirit that will be her legacy. We sincerely thank Lorrie for her dedicated service to the community and wish her well in the years ahead! ■

Town Landing in January. Todd Selig Photo





Town Election Results

March 28, 2023

ARTICLE 1:

Town Councilor

(Three, 3-year terms)

Wayne Burton - 446

Emily Friedrichs - 439

Sally Needell - 461

Public Library Trustee

(Two, 3-year terms)

Kimberly Sweetman - 454

Robin Glasser - 458

Public Library Trustee

(One, 1-year term)

Randall O'Brien - 463

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

(One, 3-year term)

Rachel Deane - 485

Town Treasurer

(One, 3-year term)

Karl Van Asselt - 469

Trustee Of The Trust Fund

(One, 3-year term)

Theodore Howard - 470

Total regular ballots: 514

Total absentee ballots: 90

Total ballots cast: 604



Town Warrant

Election, Tuesday, March 12, 2024

To the inhabitants of the Town of Durham, the County of Strafford, New Hampshire.

You are hereby notified to meet at the Oyster River High School, Multipurpose Room, located on Coe Drive in said Durham, New Hampshire, on Tuesday, the 12th day of March 2024 (the polls will be open between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM) to act upon the following subjects:

ARTICLE 1:

To bring in your votes for three (3) Councilors (3-year terms); one Councilor (1-year term); two (2) Durham Public Library Board of Trustees (3-year terms); one (1) Moderator (2-year term); one (1) Supervisor of the Checklist (6-year term); one (1) Trustee of the Trust Funds (3-year term); and one (1) Trustee of the Trust Fund (1-year term)

Given under our hands and seal this day of December 4 in the year of Two Thousand Twenty Three (2023).

Sally Needell, *Chair*
Wayne Burton
Joe Friedman
Emily Friedrichs
Charles (Chuck) Hotchkiss
James Lawson
Eric Lund
Carden Welsh

Councilors of Durham



Administrative Summary



ADMINISTRATOR

ADMINISTRATOR: Todd Selig

It was a solid year in 2023 for the Town of Durham. Town staff, elected, and appointed officials worked hard to address the community's needs and maintain transparency, integrity, respect for one another, a welcoming atmosphere, a high quality of life for residents, outstanding service delivery, and improvement in sustainable practices across the organization. Despite competing pressures, we also managed to maintain the municipality's fiscal position and ensure long-term resilience for the community.

Our Independent Auditor's most recent year-end audit (FY 2022) prepared by Plodzick and Sanderson indicates strong financial health with no adverse findings. In addition, Moody's Investors Services continues to indicate that the credit position for Durham is very high quality. Our Aa2 bond rating is a little stronger than the US cities median of Aa3. The Town's unassigned fund balance of the General Fund has increased to \$6,253,954, which is, at long last, in line with Town goals and best practices. These metrics are all indicative of measured success in realizing the Town's fiscal goals.

The FY 2024 proposed General Fund budget, which was unanimously approved unchanged by the Town Council on December 4, 2023, is projected to maintain the 2024 municipal portion of the tax rate with a 0% increase.

For comparative purposes, the municipal tax rate had remained at \$7.37 (formerly \$8.48 but adjusted due to 2018 statistical revaluation update) for 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018. The budget was consistent with Council goals. It included the elimination of the annual spring curbside bulky waste pickup commencing in 2024.

The Town Council approved moving forward with Phase I of the Madbury Road Complete Streets Project as part of the FY 2024 CIP, which at full buildout over an anticipated four years, will reconstruct the approximately 8,200 lineal foot Madbury Road corridor, connecting Main Street to Route 4 utilizing a Complete Streets framework. Complete Streets is an approach to planning, designing, building, and maintaining streets that enables safe access for all people who need to use them, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders (think Wildcat Transit) of all ages and abilities. The Town was successful in obtaining substantial American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding totaling over \$608,000 to address culvert and drainage improvements associated with the project and continues to pursue external funding for project components, including water distribution system replacement, sewer collection system rehabilitation, and stormwater system improvements.

The Town Council adopted several notable resolutions in 2023. Resolution #2023-05

recognized resident Craig Seymour for his many years of dedicated community service dating to 1984. Resolution #2023-02 increased the membership of the Human Rights Commission from five to seven. Resolution #2023-09 recognized Administrative Assistant Jennie Berry for her dedicated service upon her retirement after serving 33 years with the Town. Resolution #2023-13 established a policy, proposed by the Trustees of the Trust Funds, for the addition of veterans' names on the memorial at Memorial Park. Resolution #2023-17 recognized June 19th as Juneteenth Independence Day and reaffirmed Durham's opposition to any form of oppression. Resolution #2023-18 culminated a year-long effort to rewrite our public assistance guidelines, replacing an older draft that had been adopted more than twenty years earlier. Resolution #2023-19, recommended by the Conservation Commission, recognized traditional indigenous foraging rights on Town lands.

Durham's weekly "Friday Updates" continue to keep the Town Council and members of the community informed of news and happenings in Durham. Nearly 3,600 individuals subscribe to this weekly publication, which doubles as a part of our local emergency broadcast system. Our goal is to keep residents informed of local affairs so they may become engaged when issues are of interest/importance to them. Durham also continues to utilize its web site, Twitter (now X), and Facebook presence in order to meet the demands of residents' varying preferences for information distribution.

The State requires all real estate within a municipality to be reappraised (revaluated) at least every five years (per RSA 75:8-a) for property tax purposes, so assessments are at their full and true value. To keep in compliance with this law, we contracted with Municipal Resources, Inc. (MRI) to reappraise all residential and commercial properties in Durham for tax year 2023. The project was completed over a two-year period. We greatly appreciate the cooperation of Durham property owners as part of the process. Kudos are extended to the Assessing Office for coordinating the effort.

Durham again received the top-ranking score in NH by the Human Rights Campaign's Municipal Equity Index (MEI) in 2023 relative to addressing LGBTQ inclusive practices – 96 out of 100 points. Durham had sought to be the top scoring NH community twelve years ago when the MEI was launched, and we have to date

succeeded; endeavoring to incrementally improve our openness and inclusiveness over time as appropriate. Durham's score is up 2 points over last year.

Three years ago, Durham approved a project to replace the Town's public safety Land and Mobile Radio (LMR) communication infrastructure because it exceeded its scheduled end of life. The 2021 CIP allotted \$1,385,000 (Police - \$665,000 and Fire - \$720,000). The project was initially conceived as a direct replacement for the core infrastructure the Town purchased as part of transitioning dispatching service to the Strafford County Dispatch Center over a decade ago, but ultimately evolved to become a fully redesigned system to better suit the Town's needs. We were notified by the US Department of Justice in 2022 that an application submitted by Durham was approved, and funds were awarded under the COPS Technology and Equipment Program for Durham's LMR project in the amount of \$900,000. This Federal funding ultimately offset a significant portion of the \$1.3M overall project budget. The LMR project is now in service with only punch list items outstanding. It has been a major lift for our IT, police, and fire staff in 2023.

We have a fire department in Durham filled with dedicated, committed, and talented individuals. People who come to work, day after day, year after year, performing important and dangerous tasks, and provide assistance and support to the Durham and UNH combined community with compassion and care. Chief Emanuel has worked with staff over the last two years to develop a strategic plan that will help to guide the department into the future. However, headwinds are impacting the department. Several staff members, after many years of dedicated service, have chosen to move on, some through retirement and others in pursuit of different job opportunities or vocations, and we have struggled to attract new prospects. We have had some long-term medical issues/injuries to work through. An increased competition for personnel between fire departments across NH has emerged providing alternatives for staff in terms of where to work for increasingly competitive pay. And fewer people across society appear to be moving into emergency service professions, making it harder to fill vacancies that do occur across the board. This will demand additional focus in 2024.

The Durham Police Department has long been certified by a professional external accreditation process through CALEA (www.calea.org) because

it provides the Town with assurances that our department is engaged in providing best practices to Durham citizens as evidenced by ongoing inspections by an outside independent entity. We recognize locally that the delivery of policing services to the community must involve transparency and open opportunities for input and feedback. CALEA provides a comprehensive accreditation review providing a wide array of topical evaluations concerning the department's use of force, police discipline, bias, community engagement, and more. I'm proud of the DPD staff for their ongoing commitment to professional accreditation.

This was a busy year for Durham Parks & Rec. where the department carefully balanced the goal of offering a regular line-up of high-quality events and community programs while continuously working within the limited resources allotted to provide such programming. Despite challenges faced, Parks & Rec. once again had a successful year both financially and through program participation. The presence of our new assistant director has put the department on a path to long-term sustainability.

Through the efforts of Sara Callaghan, our part-time

Administrator, Todd Selig and Administrative Assistant, Karen Edwards



contract Land Stewardship Coordinator, and the Land Stewardship Subcommittee of the Conservation Commission, the Town continues to make significant inroads in sustainably managing the numerous lands and easements under the Town's stewardship.

Oyster River School District School Superintendent James Morse and I remain in regular communication with one another regarding issues of mutual interest and have developed a strong and positive mutual working relationship between the Town and the District. Dr. Morse will be retiring from the district after twelve years of service in June 2024. As part of the hiring process for his successor this fall, the School Board included me as part of its screening subcommittee for prospective candidates.

We completed our first Climate Action Plan (CAP) in 2022, a requirement of the Town's membership with the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy. This plan outlines mitigation and adaptation actions, measures how much each action will contribute to Durham meeting its mitigation and adaptation goals, and includes a plan for implementing the identified tasks. It establishes a clear

course of action for local efforts toward a reduction in GHG emissions of 2019 levels by 42.8% by 2030, and achieving zero emissions by 2050. The Town will report on progress and update the action strategies every two years. In 2023, our UNH Sustainability Fellow has been updating a Greenhouse Gas Inventory for Durham utilizing 2021 and 2022 data.

The Energy Committee and staff have made numerous strides in our local sustainability efforts, in particular shepherding an initiative for the Town to join the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) to work toward providing wider accessibility of green energy for our community's residential and business electric utility customers, at a price equal to or less than Eversource, and working to assist Durham residents and business owners make the built environment more energy efficient, thereby reducing overall emissions. As part of this work, we are right now poised to launch Durham Community Power, offered through CPCNH, in February 2024.

The Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee (IWMAC) and our DPW staff are working on a variety of initiatives associated with reducing solid waste generation, increasing recycling participation, and supporting composting. As part of our upcoming planned DPW solid waste collection vehicle replacement program in 2024/25, we are moving forward with a volume-based collection system in which each household will be issued a standard size solid waste collection container for trash and another for recycling. DPW will then accept solid waste, limiting trash materials collected curbside to what can fit within the issued standard-size receptacles, utilizing new collection vehicles equipped with hydraulic arms to grab and dump each container, thereby encouraging less solid waste per household generation, enhancing recycling, and reducing employee exposure to potential lift, poke, and strain injuries. A new "Sustainable Durham" branding campaign spearheaded by the IWMAC but available for use for other sustainability-related initiatives was also launched in 2023. Finally, DPW was able to secure external state grant funds to offset 45% of the purchase price of two electric (EV) collection vehicles, which if secured, we understand would be the first two EV collection trucks in NH.

Much work has been undertaken by the Energy Committee, the Town Council, and the Planning Board on a revamp of our zoning ordinance with

respect to the topic of solar energy systems. After literally years of review, public hearings, and revisions, the Town Council adopted a comprehensive ordinance framework in 2023.

A number of high profile applications were concluded by the Planning Board in 2022/2023: a new project at 74 Main Street was approved and appealed (still pending in Superior Court); a new subdivision off Gerrish/Ambler was approved, appealed, remanded back to the board, approved by the board, and appealed again to Superior Court, denied, and appealed by the abutter to the NH Supreme Court (still pending); the long-standing application for redevelopment of the Mill Plaza was denied, appealed, and ultimately withdrawn by the owner prior to selling the property outright to Torrington Properties; and a parking lot proposal on Church Hill at 19-21 Main Street was denied, appealed, and ultimately withdrawn. Each of these projects demanded significant time and energy from the Planning Board, citizens coming to express their perspectives, applicants, and staff. The Planning Board also spent a good deal of time in 2023 working to methodically review and provide recommended updates to definitions as needed within the Zoning Ordinance.

The Housing Task Force has been working to analyze the Seacoast NH regional housing inventory and to advocate for a balanced housing mix within the Durham community, providing a variety of choices that meet the economic, environmental, social, and physical needs of the community's current and future residents, including those of varying financial resources. An initial set of recommendations was sent by the Task Force to the Planning Board in 2022 for initial review, which generated some spirited community engagement this year. The Town Council extended the charge for the Housing Task Force in 2023 to enable the committee to continue its important work.

Following the breaking of ties with Elliott Sidewalk Communities concerning the redevelopment of 66 Main Street in 2022, a working group of Town and UNH officials met in early 2023 to think anew about how the Town might want to move forward with a redevelopment at this strategically placed downtown Durham parcel. It was mutually decided to wait until both Durham and UNH had completed separate housing needs assessments and circle back to touch base and discuss further in early 2024. The parties are also interested in observing over time implications

stemming from the Covid-19 pandemic for downtown Durham including commerce, housing, parking, and traffic patterns.

The Durham Town Council voted 7-2 on September 13, 2021, to award a Final Design Contract to Vanasse Hagen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) for removal of the Mill Pond Dam. Subsequently, the Town Clerk on October 18, 2021, certified a referendum petition to put the approval of the VHB final design contract to a vote of the residents of the Town of Durham. On November 1, 2021, following receipt of the referendum petition, the Council rescinded the initial September 13, 2021 contract approval that triggered the petition, and then awarded the project again but this time contingent upon the outcome of a referendum vote at the annual Town election on Tuesday, March 8, 2022. The question (Question 2) put before the voters of Durham was: "Shall the Town reverse the action of the Town Council taken on November 1, 2021 to remove the Mill Pond Dam?" The final referendum vote was: Yes – 596 (26%); No– 1706 (74%). The total number of votes cast on March 8, 2022 was 2365. The average turnout for a Town annual election over the last 10 years has been 1081. Subsequent to the vote, Town staff began pursuing external grant funding opportunities to support the cost of dam removal, working with the US Army Corps of Engineers and the NH Division of Historic Resources, as part of a Section 106 historic mitigation review, and planning engineering for the project. The historic mitigation, design, wetland permitting, and contract development have all been in process in 2023 with permit applications anticipated to be submitted in early 2024 and dam removal commencing in 2024 or possibly 2025, depending upon timing of the various detailed steps involved.

Years of planning paid off this fall when Durham representatives went to the State House to receive a Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) award from Gov. Chris Sununu. The \$286,000 grant will help pay for rehabilitation of the historic Bickford-Chesley House at Wagon Hill Farm. Local resident historians Nancy Sandberg, Janet Mackie, Charlotte Hitchcock, and Carolyn Singer worked with Public Works Director Rich Reine to prepare the LCHIP grant application for funding to support much needed improvements to the building. Exterior and interior restoration, and renovation are needed to return the building to a fully usable condition including ADA accessibility. The improvements will accommodate the building's adaptive reuse, which will ultimately create a

caretaker's apartment on the second floor and public uses including an exhibit gallery and meeting rooms on the first floor. The Bickford-Chesley House Gallery will house temporary exhibits on Durham's history as well as the work of local artists. Wagon Hill Farm is on land originally occupied by the Indigenous Abenaki, and it became one of the first farms in the area to be settled by English colonists. It remained in continuous agricultural use for nearly 300 years. In addition to the LCHIP grant of \$286,600, the Town received a Moose Plate Grant in the amount of \$20,000 for a total of \$306,600 capital funding. Work on the Bickford-Chesley House is expected to begin in late Spring 2024.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced a November 2023 round of funding for National Coastal Resilience Fund projects. \$1.9 million in funding has been earmarked to create a living shoreline to stabilize an additional 1,835 linear feet of tidal shoreline and restore both 4,060 square feet of salt marsh habitat and 2,810 square feet of tidal buffer at Wagon Hill Farm. The project will stabilize severe erosion while protecting and increasing the adaptive capacity of critical conservation and community spaces. This is a continuation of our living shoreline project dating back to 2019.

Durham continues to work closely with the City of Portsmouth to ensure Portsmouth's access across Wagon Hill Farm to their water line crossing Little Bay is undertaken with as little disruption as possible to the property and the quiet enjoyment thereof by our residents.

We have painstakingly worked over many years to create a municipal water system that is inherently resilient in order to reliably provide approximately 1.2 million gals/day of water to both Town and the UNH campus. Together, Durham/UNH operate four water sources, one of which utilizes an artificial recharge system pumping raw water from the Lamprey River to our Spruce Hole Aquifer in Lee during times of plentiful flow, increasing our reserves for drought conditions. This, combined with a new state of the art \$20 million Water Treatment Plant on the UNH campus (funded 100% by UNH), places the combined Durham/UNH community in a very sustainable position in the face of anticipated climate change.

Durham and UNH, through the joint administrative Water, Wastewater, Stormwater, and Roads

Committee, continue to cooperatively address a multitude of Town/Gown items to include efficient operation of our combined water system as described above, focusing attention on water quality deficiencies within the Great Bay Estuary as identified by the NHDES and the EPA, meeting EPA wastewater and stormwater MS-4 mandates under our EPA Total Nitrogen General Permit, maintaining a required NHDES backflow prevention program, general water/sewer infrastructure, our Lee water line to address MBTE contamination at the Lee Traffic Circle, and more. I hope residents understand that on the front lines of our utility infrastructure both on and off campus, the Town and the University are joined at the hip and work seamlessly together.

I'd like to once again acknowledge our modest but mighty Team of Town employees within public works, police, fire, planning, zoning, town clerk/tax collector's office, informational technology, DCAT, and more — all outstanding people, working hard with finite resources to meet the needs of a demanding citizenry with high expectations for exceptional service delivery. Our Town Council is comprised of thoughtful, hard-working, and dedicated individuals with varied backgrounds and perspectives. The Council, along with the benefit of ongoing public feedback and active involvement by dedicated citizens on local boards, committees, and commissions, all contribute to ensuring Durham remains a strong, vibrant, and welcoming community. Thank you, one and all. ■

BUSINESS OFFICE

BUSINESS MANAGER: Gail E. Jablonski

The Business Office provides the accounting, purchasing, payroll, accounts payable, assessing, accounts receivable billing and collection and cash management services for the town, as well as support services to all town departments. In addition, the Business Office provides Human Resources

services and handles employee relations, payroll and benefits. The Business Manager serves as the Welfare Director for the Town. Our goal is to provide timely and reliable information by which department managers, the Town Administrator and ultimately the Town Council can make informed decisions in the best interest of the Town.

The Business Office. (l-r): Accounting Clerk, Dina Gosselin, Administrative Assistant, Lisa Beaudoin, Staff Accountant, Deborah Alstrom, Business Manager, Gail Jablonski



Support was provided to the Town Administrator and Town Council in preparation and review of the annual operating budget and the ten-year capital improvement plan. On December 4, 2023 the 2024 Operating Budgets and Capital Improvement Plan were approved by the Durham Town Council. The 2024 budget, as approved, is projected to maintain the current municipal tax rate of \$5.75.

Per Town Charter we are required to select a new

auditing firm at least every ten years. Starting with the closing and audit of the 2022 financials, we have selected the firm of Plodzik & Sanderson to perform our auditing services. The 2022 Independent Auditors' Report for the year ended December 31, 2022 shows the Town's General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance is currently \$6,253,954 or 13.76% of the total appropriations and tax commitments including the Town, School and County Appropriations. ■

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

MANAGER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

Luke Vincent

In 2023 Durham's IT department drove progress in various ways for the Town. We kept this effort moving forward by expanding resources and enhancing services for Town departments and citizens. Our small team consistently fights to stay ahead of impending threats and implement new technologies as they become widely available. 2024 will bring a series of complex and novel issues for the Town. Durham IT will rise to meet the challenge.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Michael Rohr joined the Durham IT team as the Assistant Manager of Information Technology as part of a strategic initiative to bolster IT resources. The Town recognized the need for growth and anticipates potential challenges associated with limited staff by taking proactive steps to ensure continuity in operations. By expanding our team, we not only enhance our capacity to manage the day-to-day barrage of service requests, but also help mitigate the risk of losing critical institutional knowledge.

Information Technology Office. (l-r): GIS Program Administrator, Steve Lutterman, Assistant Manager of IT, Michael Rohr, Manager of Information Technology, Luke Vincent, IT Volunteer, Jay Gooze, DCAT Coordinator, Craig Stevens



Among the many hardware updates this year the team focused regularly on updating the fleet of Meraki routers throughout Town. Partly driven by impending loss of support coverage and partly due to lack of features, the old routers could not be in frontline, active use. Through consistent capital funding and tough negotiations, we were able to secure a new set of hardware and software that will keep Town services humming along for the foreseeable future.

Also in early 2024, the IT team will begin to implement the Jump Cloud platform. Consisting of system management, mobile device management, remote monitoring, directory services, single sign on, and multifactor authentication, the platform will replace many discretely managed products in use today as we attempt to “unify our stack”. The Town is adopting more mobile, work anywhere, platforms and the Jump Cloud platform lets our users access these services in a more streamlined and secure way.

GOALS FOR 2024

In 2023 we were granted a bit of a reprieve on the website migration and refresh project as the content management system (CMS) on which we run the site was given an entire year of additional support service. Our current vendor, however, doesn't seem to be interested in or able to provide a seamless transition onto a new platform while continuing with all the modules we've adopted over the years. As such, the team will be working feverously in the early part of 2024 to release an RFP for the site's replacement. We hope to preserve as much of the current site's character through its configurations and modules as reasonably possible while giving the site some mild styling changes.

Speaking of those services, to both assist our incident response partners and provide more comprehensive security for our productivity tools, as well as some side benefits, we will be moving up our Microsoft service licensing level from Office 365 G3 GCC to Microsoft 365 G5 GCC. This change will happen as part of an Enterprise Agreement that will come into place in late January. While we had considered adding individual license add-ons to achieve these goals. The pricing model worked in our favor, to the tune of 50%, to go for the more comprehensive license level.

In 2024 we are committed to continuing to expand on the exceptional service Durham IT has been able to deliver. ■

ORDINANCES 2023

2023-01	A Town Council initiated ordinance amending Section 175-7 “Definitions” adding a new section for Solar Energy Systems and adding a definition for Carport, amending the uses in the Table of Uses in Section 175-53 adding Solar Energy Systems, and amending Article XX “Standards for Specific Uses” Section 175-109 adding a section for Solar Energy Systems and re-lettering N “Temporary Sawmill”	Passed	2/6/23
2023-02	An Ordinance Amending Chapter 132 “Tax Exemptions and Credits”, Section 132-5 Veterans’ Tax Credit” of the Durham Town Code Re-Adopting the Optional Veterans’ Tax Credit in the Amount of \$500.00	Passed	2/20/23
2023-03	An Ordinance Amending Chapter 175 “Zoning”, Article XIII, “Wetland Conservation Overlay District” and Article XIV, “Shoreland Conservation Overlay District” of the Durham Town Code	Passed	6/5/23
2023-04	An Ordinance Amending Chapter 102 “Scenic Roads”, Section 102.1 “Scenic Roads Established” of the Durham Town Code to Designate Dame Road as a Scenic Road	Passed	6/5/23

2023-05	Amending Chapter 153 “Vehicles and Traffic,” Section 153-38 of the Durham Town Code by prohibiting turns at the intersections of: Bagdad Road at Dennison Road and Dennison Road at Garrison Ave Extension	Passed	6/26/23
2023-06	Amending Chapter 153 “Vehicles and Traffic,” Section 153-43 of the Durham Town Code by creating a stop intersection at Dennison Road/ Bagdad Road and Garrison Ave Extension/Dennison Road	Passed	6/26/23
2023-07	Amending Section 132-1 Blind Exemption, Section 132-2 “Disabled Exemption” and Section 132-3 “Elderly Exemption”, Chapter 132 “Tax Exemptions and Credits” of the Durham Town Code Relating to Exemption Amounts, Income Thresholds, and asset Limits	Passed	9/11/23
2023-08	Miscellaneous Amendments to the following chapters of the Town Code as listed below: Chapter 1, Article 1, Adoption of Code and Section 1-16, Violations & penalties Chapter 23, Alcoholic Beverages, Section 23-3, Violations and penalties Chapter 33, Bicycles, History Chapter 38, Building Construction, Section 38-7, Permit Requirements Chapter 54, Electrical Code, Table of Contents and Section 54-24, Fees for electrical permit Chapter 91, Packers Falls Bridge Site, Section 91-1 Description of Land Chapter 97, Plumbing Code and Regulations, Section 97-24, Fees for plumbing permit Chapter 153, Vehicles & Traffic, Section 153-32, Penalties for offenses and Section 153-43, Schedule XI: Stop Intersections Chapter 160, Water and Sewer Rates	Postponed until 2024	

RESOLUTIONS 2023

2023-01	Approving the Submission of an Application to the New Hampshire Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program in the Amount of \$1,175,000 for the Madbury Road Complete Streets Sewer Main Replacement Project and Authorizing the Town Administrator to Sign Said Loan Documents	Passed	1/9/23
2023-02	Amending Resolution #2017-26 to increase membership on the Human Rights Commission from five (5) to seven (7) with the composition to be as follows - the Administrator, the Town Council Chair, the Business Manager, and four (4) citizens who are residents of Durham - and to create term of service of three (3) years for the Citizen Members with the terms to expire on a staggered basis	Passed	2/6/23
2023-03	Recognizing outgoing Elected Officials for their dedicated services to the Town of Durham	Passed	3/6/23
2023-04	Authorizing the Acceptance and Expenditure of Unanticipated Grant Funds Totaling \$25,000 To Be Used to hire a Consultant to perform a Housing Needs Analysis document and hold a Community Forum.	Passed	3/20/23

2023-05	Recognizing Durham Citizen Craig Seymour for his Many Years of Dedicated Community Service to the Town of Durham	Passed	4/3/23
2023-06	Establishing Regular Town Council Meeting Dates for April 2023 through March 2024	Passed	4/3/23
2023-07	Authorizing the Acceptance and Expenditure of a FY22 Legislative Pre-Disaster Mitigation (LPDM) grant from the New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, for the Durham Emergency Generator Project, In the Amount of \$427,612.49 with a Required 25% Match of \$142,537.51 – for a total Project Cost of \$570,150.00 - and Authorize the Administrator to Sign and Submit Grant Paperwork and all Documents related to the Grant on Behalf of the Town of Durham	Passed	4/17/23
2023-08	Recognizing Outgoing Boards/Committees/ Commissions Volunteers for their dedicated services to the Town of Durham	Passed	4/17/23
2023-09	Recognizing Administrative Assistant Jennie Berry for her Dedicated Service Upon her Retirement After Serving 33 Years with the Town of Durham	Passed	4/17/23
2023-10	Adoption of Resolution #2023-10 Establishing the Durham Memorial Park Trust	Passed	4/17/23
2023-11	Revising Resolution #2005-10, A Resolution Establishing A Fire Department Injury Prevention Trust Fund, in order to expend all of the principal and interest in the trust	Passed	4/17/23
2023-12	Authorizing the Acceptance and Expenditure of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds from the NH Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (NH HSEM) under the Public Assistance Grant Program CFDA #97.036 in an amount up to \$71,472.01 to cover COVID-related expenses incurred during the period from January 29, 2020 through May 24, 2022 and Authorizing the Administrator to Sign and Submit All Necessary Paperwork	Passed	5/1/23
2023-13	Adoption of Resolution #2023-13 Establishing a policy for the addition of Veterans' names on the Memorial at Memorial Park	Passed	4/17/23
2023-14	Authorizing the Acceptance and Expenditure of Various Private Donations, Unanticipated Revenues, and Grant Funds Totaling, in Aggregate, \$44,672.35 Received by the Town of Durham Between January 1 and December 31, 2022	Passed	6/5/23
2023-15	Authorizing the Acceptance and Expenditure of a 2023 Watershed Assistance Grant in the Amount of \$150,000 From the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services for the Mill Pond Dam Removal Project and Authorizing the Administrator to Sign and Submit Grant Paperwork on Behalf of the Town of Durham	Passed	6/26/23

2023-16	Authorizing the Acceptance and Expenditure of an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant in an Amount up to \$30,000 From the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services for the Stormwater Asset Management Project and Authorizes the Administrator to Sign and Submit all Necessary Paperwork	Passed	6/5/23
2023-17	Recognizing June 19th as Juneteenth Independence Day and Reaffirming Durham's Opposition to Any Form of Oppression	Passed	6/5/23
2023-18	Rescinding Resolution 2003-04 Adopting the Current General Assistance (Welfare) Regulations and Adopting New Guidelines for General Assistance Effective July 1, 2023	Passed	6/26/23
2023-19	Recognizing Traditional Indigenous Foraging Rights on Town of Durham Public Lands	Passed	7/17/23
2023-20	Authorize the Raising, Appropriating, and Expenditure of an Additional Four Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand, Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$424,250) Within the Approved FY 2023 Capital Fund Budget (With \$424,250 to Come From a Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan , of Which \$42,425 of Loan Principal Forgiveness to be Forgiven) for the Completion of the Littlehale Creek at Edgewood Road Culvert Project; Authorize the Borrowing, Issuance, and Incurrence of Debt of Not More Than \$424,250 in Long-term Bonds or Notes in Accordance With the Provision of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33) for Completion of the Littlehale Creek at Edgewood Road Culvert Project; Authorize the Administrator to Submit a Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan Amendment Application to the NHDES and Execute all Necessary Documents in Accordance With New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules Chapter Env-Wq for the Completion of the Littlehale Creek at Edgewood Road Culvert Project	Passed	8/14/23
2023-21	Authorizing the creation of the Churchill Rink Donor Trust, with private donations for said fund to be used on the Durham-owned ice rink, Churchill Rink at Jackson's Landing, to make improvements and enhancements to ensure longevity of use by future generations	Passed	8/14/23
2023-22	Authorizing the Issuance of Long-term Bonds or Notes not to Exceed One Million, Five Hundred and One Thousand, and Eight Hundred Dollars (\$1,501,800) for the Purpose of Bonding 2019-2023 Capital Projects and Equipment Purchases	Passed	10/16/23
2023-23	Authorizing the Acceptance and Expenditure of Funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Community-Based Restoration Program, for the Design of a Fish Passage at the Oyster Reservoir Dam (located at the UNH/Durham Water Treatment Plant), In the Amount of \$290,000, and Authorize the Administrator to Sign and Submit Grant Paperwork on Behalf of the Town of Durham	Passed	10/16/23

2023-24	Authorizing the Acceptance and Expenditure of a US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Fish Passage Program Funding In the Amount of \$100,000 and Authorize the Administrator to Sign and Submit Grant Paperwork on Behalf of the Town of Durham	Passed	10/16/23
2023-25	Recognizing October 2–October 8, 2023 as NH Week Without Driving and inviting residents and staff in learning about and advocating for accessible and environmentally responsible transportation	Passed	10/2/23
2023-26	Requesting Administrator Selig Submit a Letter in Support of Net Metering and Proposed 2024-2026 NHSaves Program to the Public Utilities Commission	Passed	11/6/23
2023-27	Proclaiming Saturday, November 25, 2023, as “Small Business Saturday” in Durham, NH	Passed	11/13/23
2023-28	Authorizing the Memorializing the November 6, 2023 Acceptance and Expenditure of a State of New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources/Division of Historical Resources grant (Moose-Plate grant) in an amount of \$20,000 for re-habilitation of the Bickford-Chesley House at Wagon Hill Farm and Authorizing Administrator Selig to Sign and Submit All Necessary Paperwork	Passed	11/13/23
2023-29	Authorization of Bonds and Approval of Loan Agreement with the New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank	Passed	12/4/23
2023-30	Town Council Approval of the FY 2024 General Operating Budgets, the Capital Fund Budget and the 2024-2033 Capital Improvement Plan	Passed	12/4/23
2023-31	Recognizing Durham Citizen Richard Belshaw for his 16 Years of Dedicated Community Service to the Town of Durham as a DCAT Control Room Technician	Passed	12/4/23

TOWN COUNCIL

CHAIR: Sally Needell

GOALS AND QUARTERLY REPORTING

In the spring after new councilors had been elected, the Town Council established goals to direct the administration of the town and guide the Town’s boards, commissions, and committees. Administrator Selig prepared quarterly reports to apprise the councilors of the Town’s progress toward meeting the goals. The Business Manger also reported quarterly on the status of the Town’s expenses and revenue. With each councilor able to bring differing strengths and interests to our discussions and debates, the Town

Council has worked together well and respectfully throughout the year. We are grateful to the many community members who brought concerns to our attention and broadened our scope of ideas and perspectives through attending our meetings and sending us email.

RESOLUTIONS

Through 2023, the Town Council has reviewed and approved spending, applications for and acceptance of grant funding for town projects. These have included funding for:

Clean water

Housing needs analysis
 Pre-disaster mitigation generator project
 Public assistance (COVID)
 Dam removal and fish passage projects
 Stormwater Asset Management
 Approving Capital Project expenses and Equipment purchases

In addition, the Town Council passed resolutions:

Allowing for private funds and anticipated revenue acceptance

For June 19th as Juneteenth Independence Day and Reaffirming Durham's Opposition to any form of oppression

To support Traditional Indigenous Foraging Rights on Durham's public lands

Recognizing October 2 - October 8, 2023 as NH Week Without Driving and inviting residents and staff to participate.

Supporting Small Business Saturday, November 25, 2023

ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN CODE

Ordinances amended in 2023 included:

A new section for Solar Energy Systems adding a definition for carport and amending the Table of Uses

Re-adopting the Optional Veterans Tax Credit

Amending the Wetlands Conservation and Shoreline Protection

Designating Dame Road as a Scenic Road

Traffic adjustments for the Bagdad/Dennison/Madbury road intersections

Tax exemptions, income thresholds, and asset limits for the blind, elderly, and disabled.



Sally Needell
Council Chair Term: 3/23 – 3/26

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

The Boards, Commissions, and Committees (BCCs) are composed of resident volunteers and are an incredible asset to Durham, as they are responsible for much of the organizing, planning, and active participation in support of town activities. The functioning of the Town depends on the generosity of the BCC volunteers! Each Town Councilor is a representative for the council and an active participant in at least one of the BCCs of the Town. They are the liaisons with these entities, reporting on council activities and, in turn, informing the councilors of what is happening throughout the BCCs. BCC chairs provide the Council with annual report presentations during the year.

TOWN BUDGET FOR 2024 AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS APPROVAL

The Administrator and Business Manager are required to provide the Town Council with the budget for the Town for by November 1st each year. The council reviewed and debated the budget plans, and the final budget established the tax rate for the Town portion of resident taxes for 2024. ■

**TOWN
COUNCIL
MEMBERS**



Wayne Burton
Term: 3/23 - 3/26



Joe Friedman
Term: 3/22 - 3/25



Emily Friedrichs
Term: 3/23 - 3/26



Charles (Chuck) Hotchkiss
Term: 3/21 - 3/24



**James (Jim) Lawson,
Chair Pro Tem**
Term: 3/21 - 3/24



Eleanor (Ellie) Lonske
Term: 3/22 - 3/25



Eric Lund
Term: 3/22 - 3/25



Carden Welsh
Term: 3/21 - 3/24

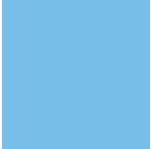


Culture and Recreation



CHURCHILL RINK

MANAGER: Bill Page



In early 2023, Rink Manager Bill Page, gathered a group of interested citizens to develop a plan for the future of the rink. The group was branded as the “Jump-Start Jackson’s Group.” The purpose of the group is to provide input and guidance to the Rink Manager throughout the process of planning, designing, fundraising, and eventually undertaking significant renovations to the rink. It is well known throughout the region that although the rink is loved by many, it does have a reputation as less than desirable by others including most youth hockey organizations from other New Hampshire towns who frequently ask when scheduling games with Oyster River, “don’t you have any ice at The Whittemore Center?”

The JSJG recognizes that all funding for a renovation project will need to come from sources such as a capital campaign, rink fund balance, rink operating revenue, and grants. There is no plan to ask for tax dollars to fund this endeavor.

The Jump-Start Jackson’s Group has already or is in the process of taking these steps toward their goal.

Had multiple meetings to discuss strategy and desired outcomes.

Created a one-dimensional model of the current rink with added improvements.

Retained a local firm specializing in strategic planning and fundraising for not-for-profit organizations to undertake a financial feasibility study for a project.

Established the Churchill Rink Donor Trust by Town Council resolution in anticipation of accepting future donor gifts.

Retained a New Hampshire based architectural firm with experience in ice rink renovation and design to transfer the group’s wishes to preliminary designs and renderings.

Will utilize a construction management firm to develop accurate cost estimates for establishing fundraising needs based on anticipated final design.

Over the off-season of 2023 major upgrades were made which have been well received by our guests.

New LED light fixtures over the playing surface.

Acquired a surplus sound system from another local facility and installed it.

Made significant upgrades to our Fun Skate disco lights system.

Cleaned entire ceiling structure with rental lift in place for light installation.

Rebuilt the Zamboni's ice conditioner.

Purchased and built storage for 15 more pairs of rental skates to better meet demand.

Purchased used but in like new condition Genie manlift for accessing newly installed light and sound system components as needed for maintenance.

So far this season, public sessions have been very well attended and records are again being set. Season passes for public sessions are at this juncture just \$479 behind last year's full-season total and more will be purchased. A total of 118 have been sold to date with 52 to Durham residents who received a 10% discount on passes. Other area community members buying season passes include 15 Lee, 10 Madbury, 12 Newmarket, and 29 to people from other communities. 59 Family Passes and 59 Individual passes have been sold for revenue of just under \$20,000. A season pass is for admittance to Public Skating, Fun Skate, Stick & Puck, and Pond Hockey sessions.

Churchill Rink, like many community rinks, is almost entirely funded by revenue generated at the

Inside the Churchill Rink. Craig Stevens photo



facility not tax dollars. A significant percentage of our revenue comes from contracted ice time rentals to various youth, high school & adult groups who practice and play games regularly. Without these groups, the rink would not be viable, but they make it possible to keep the rink open which allows us to offer many public skating sessions to the community also. Interest in public skating has been increasing, which is great to see as in the past, they were not always well attended. We attribute the increase in attendance to the addition of nice rentals skates, a consistently neat and welcoming facility, introduction of our Fun Skate sessions which are extremely popular with community youth and families, and changes to our schedule offering more popular session types.

We offer a minimum of four Public Skating sessions between Friday evening and Sunday afternoon as well as extra sessions which are put in when there is available ice including during vacation weeks and Teacher Workshop days.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Created and launched the Jump-Start Jackson's Group.

Established the Churchill Rink Donor Trust.

Retained a professional fundraising firm to perform a financial feasibility study.

Retained architectural firm to take JSJG visions to designs and renderings.

Continued making off-season improvements with a goal toward keeping cost low and improving facility appearance and efficiency.

2024 GOALS

Continue with planning and preparation for making major improvements to the facility.

If feasible in current facility, begin hosting off-season activities to include roller skating and pickle ball.

Begin major fundraising campaign with assistance of professional firm.

Continue to make noticeable, pleasing improvements to further enhance participant experience. ■

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CHAIR: Jake Kritzer,

MEMBERS: Erin Hardie Hale, *Vice Chair*; Richard Kelley, *Planning Board Representative*; Jacob Kritzer, *Chair*; Nicholas Lanzer, *Alternate*; John Nachilly; Roanne Robbins; Neil Slepian; Dwight Trueblood, *Alternate*; Carden Welsh, *Council Representative*

The Conservation Commission is beginning an annual work planning process aligned with the release of the Town goals. Although our 2023 activities were not planned and executed within this framework, we structured our 2023 presentation to the Town Council and this report under the current goals to foster that linkage.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Pursue long-term environmental sustainability and resiliency - This goal encapsulates much of what the Commission does. Contributions in 2023 included regular formal review of development applications and advice to the Planning Board; input as requested to NHDES and other Town bodies; management of Town conservation properties and support for the Land Stewardship Subcommittee and Coordinator; public education efforts through public events, the Friday Updates, and other channels; and more.

Leverage town committees and subcommittees to develop tactical plans - The Commission is implementing a new annual work planning cycle timed to the spring release of Town goals so that our work can more directly contribute to the goals. As part of that process, we held multiple discussions over the course of 2023 about aligning our work with the Town goals, as well as the Master Plan.

Facilitate continued optimal funding of Town government - The Commission continued to support the Wetland-Shoreland Subcommittee in 2023, which brings together members from the Town Council, Planning Board, and Conservation Commission, to recommend improvements to WPOD/SPOD ordinance. We also adopted new by-laws to clarify and codify meeting rules and procedures.

Continue cooperative and collaborative efforts with UNH - There were no significant activities in direct support of this goal in the past year, but past discussions have been held about coordinated

land management, connecting trail systems, and other issues, as well as guidance from Cooperative Extension on herbicide and pesticide use. The Commission plans to continue these discussions as needed, and also to have a member participate in the UNH Master Plan Committee.

Protect public health and provide ongoing service continuity - The Commission provided input on and endorsed the final version of the Pike property management plan, which aims to protect an important public drinking water supply in addition to providing additional public green space.

Pursue long-term economic strength and resiliency - Commission member Nick Lanzer, who is a Professional Forester, led a discussion about impacts facing different tree species, entire forests, and the ecosystem services they provide. These issues have economic implications when ecosystem services such as timber sales, air quality improvement, and recreational activities are lost. The Commission will continue this discussion and consider its lessons in future decisions.

Pursue long-term social resilience and quality of life - The Commission approved an Indigenous Foraging Rights Policy that was recommended by Indigenous leaders and inspired by the Land Acknowledgement Statement developed by the Humans Rights Commission. The Policy was endorsed by the Human Rights Commission and formally approved by the Town Council. Dover and other communities are now considering similar policies modeled on Durham's.

2024 GOALS

Complete first full cycle of new annual work planning process tied to Town goals and the Master Plan.

Expand public education activities through public events, seminars, the Friday Updates, and more, linked with priority issues identified by the Commission, other Town bodies, and public input.

Continue to improve the WCOD/SPOD ordinance in collaboration with other Town bodies, especially consideration of revised buffer sizes to improve social, economic, and environmental outcomes. ■

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

LAND STEWARDSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR: Ann Welsh

MEMBERS: Larry Brickner-Wood, *Heritage Commission/ Historic District Commission Rep*; Gale Carey, *at large member*; John Carroll, *Agricultural Commission Rep*; Mike Drooker, *Recreation Committee Rep*; Marty Gorham, *at large member*; Ted Howard, *Trustees of the Trust Fund Rep*; Jim Lawson, *Town Council Rep*; John Nachilly, *Conservation Commission Rep*; Ann Welsh, *Chair*

The Land Stewardship Subcommittee was established in 2010 to help guide and coordinate the stewardship of the town's conservation areas, parks and other lands. It includes representatives from the Conservation Commission, Agricultural Commission, Heritage Commission, Parks and Recreation, Trustees of the Trust Fund, Town Council, at large town residents, as well as the Town Administrator, the DPW Director, Stewardship Coordinator and Recreation Director.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Reviewed the Pike Property Management Plan.
- Approved changes to the bronto work at Thompson Forest.
- Made recommendations on trail closings during the Portsmouth Water Line project.
- Added signage at Wagon Hill to explain the need to cut down prominent ash trees.
- Reviewed, provided information to a UNH course on Environmental Conflict centered around seemingly conflicting uses of Wagon Hill.

Continued oversight of a project at Sprucewood Bog led by Professor Alix Contosta, as part of the UNH course Ecology and Society in a Changing Arctic.

Discussed potential sites around town for an Eagle Scout's pollinator garden project.

Provided guidance to the Stewarding Our Lands Working Group on questionnaire findings and recommendations.

Provided guidance and support to the Land Stewardship Coordinator.

Our Stewarding Our Lands Working Group is close to finishing the project the Committee set out for it - to describe the current and future purpose of each of Durham's lands and develop a plan for managing each land consistent with its purpose. There has been completed a Steward Our Lands Inventory, defined purposes for all the properties, and collated results of online questionnaires. There are still several questionnaire results and recommendations to present to the whole committee for its approval.

2024 GOALS

- Continue to support the Land Stewardship Coordinator.
- Support the Management of Town Properties with natural characteristics and attributes.
- Collaborate and work with key stakeholders.
- Education on environmentally responsible use of Town lands. ■

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

LAND STEWARDSHIP COORDINATOR

LAND STEWARDSHIP COORDINATOR:

Sara Callaghan

This was my first year fulfilling the role as the Land Stewardship Coordinator, and I enjoyed getting acquainted with the people and the conservation areas in town. The Land Stewardship

Coordinator works with the Land Stewardship Subcommittee to promote ecologically sound land stewardship activities on the town-owned lands, fulfill conservation easement obligations and provide opportunities for community engagement. The contracted part-time position is funded through the General Fund with additional support for specific

stewardship projects provided by the Conservation Fund, Durham Land Use Trust and Patron's Trust. Accomplishment of stewardship activities was made possible by the involvement and help from community volunteers, the Department of Public Works, the GIS administrator, Durham Parks and Recreation, Land Stewardship Subcommittee, Conservation Commission, Stewarding Our Lands Working Group and Trustees of Trust Funds. Thank you to everyone who worked with me to achieve our stewardship goals for Durham's conserved lands.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Successfully coordinated volunteer workdays with local organizations and community members at the Milne Nature Sanctuary, Jackson Landing, Doe Farm, Stolworthy Wildlife Sanctuary and Longmarsh Preserve.

Accomplished various stewardship projects across the Town's conservation lands with UNH Nature Groupie Interns at the beginning of the summer.

Expanded and strengthened the trail steward volunteer program and prepared information, materials, and a training workshop to support the new trail volunteers.

Updated trail maps, markers and signs at the Oyster River Forest/Spruce Bog conservation area.

Completed the routine annual monitoring of the Town's six conservation easements and coordinated the completion of the seventh.

Effectively managed the Town's involvement in the acquisition of the Pike Conservation Property on the Lamprey River.

Completed invasive species management with volunteers at Doe Farm, Milne Nature Sanctuary, Oyster River Forest/Spruce Hole Bog and Stolworthy Wildlife Sanctuary.

Worked with GIS administrator to incorporate land stewardship objectives using the Town's GIS system, including completing conservation asset inventories, creating online volunteer trail steward report forms and invasive species mapping on conservation lands.

Coordinated review and approval of proposed research projects on Town of Durham conservation areas.

Worked with landowners and public partners on maintaining public trails that cross through privately-owned and public lands.

2024 GOALS

Create and implement a plan to repair or replace deteriorating trail infrastructure at Longmarsh Preserve.

Develop a trail sign update on the Jackson Landing Nature Trails with Durham Parks and Recreation.

Continue to coordinate the wildlife and invasive species management of the Town's conservation areas.

Work cooperatively with DPW and hired contractors to manage invasive species along the Mill Pond Dam and provide community opportunities to learn about invasive species identification and management.

Continue to complete routine stewardship responsibilities on the Town's conservation lands. ■

A middle-school student and Land Stewardship Coordinator Sara Callaghan replace a trail sign on Jackson Landing Interpretive Nature Trail. Kristin Forselius Photo



HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION AND HERITAGE COMMISSION

CHAIR: Larry Brickner-Wood

MEMBERS: Jennifer Becker, *Alternate*; Larry Brickner-Wood, *Chair*; Charlotte Hitchcock, *Vice-Chair*; Michael Hoffman; Thomas Janosz, *Alternate*; Eric Lund, *Town Council Representative*; Bill McGowan, *Planning Board Representative*; Carolyn Singer; Aaron Wolfson-Slepian

First we want to thank the members of the Town staff for their outstanding support and guidance. Thank you to the HDC/HC members. We are all volunteers, care deeply about our community and spend hours on HDC/HC business and projects. They are a pleasure to serve with and make a great team. A special thank you to the Durham Historical Association who are invaluable resources and advocates for historic and cultural preservation in our community. Lastly, a heartfelt appreciation to the citizens of our community, for whom we serve

The Historic District Commission/Heritage Commission, the same body with two roles, has broad responsibility to preserve and promote the historic, architectural, and cultural resources in the designated Durham Historic District and in the larger community. The Historic District, under the purview of the Historic District Commission (HDC), starts at the intersection of Main Street and Madbury Road and proceeds southeasterly along Main Street to Newmarket Road as far as Laurel Lane. The commission reviews applications covering residential, commercial, and Town properties.

The Heritage Commission advocates for preservation outside the district, but it does not have authority to review and approve projects. The commission advises and educates property owners, town departments, boards and commissions, and others about our important historic and cultural resources.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Tideline. We are pleased with the way that the Tideline Project has developed and the successful opening and first few weeks of the project. The owners are excellent to work with and have done a great job of adaptive reuse of the property.

LCHIP Grant. We submitted an LCHIP grant application for renovation, restoration and physical improvements to the Bickford Chesley House.

Carolyn Singer has coordinated and done the primary writing of the grant application, assisted by HDC/HC vice chair Charlotte Hitchcock, Rich Reine and Project Manager Stephen Bedard. The Durham Historical Association has also been closely involved.

Lafayette Marker Pocket Park. We have worked with Rich Reine and Michael Behrendt to design and implement a small park and seating area at the Lafayette Marker, installed in 2022. Charlotte Hitchcock has been instrumental in her direction and design work.

Oyster River Raid/Massacre Marker. We are facilitating the development of revised language on this historical marker, in conjunction with the State of NH Department of Transportation and Division of Natural Resources, and the expertise, input and guidance of the Durham Historical Association, the NH Commission on Native American Issues, the Durham Human Rights Commission and others. Our Public History committee (Carolyn Singer, Charlotte Hitchcock, Jennifer Becker) is guiding this facilitation effort and we intend to move thoughtfully through this important work.

Public Education and Awareness. We had an excellent forum in November 2022, sponsoring a speaker from the NE Preservation Alliance on preservation concepts and practices. We hope to do more of these and have them be an ongoing program of the HDC/HC.

Inclusive Narratives. We continue to do research, have conversations and be thoughtful to include historic and cultural narratives in the Town's public markers, signs, kiosks, written materials and philosophical perspectives. The work to remove the Mill Pond Dam provides an excellent opportunity to use this approach in the educational, historical materials and narratives that will eventually be written materials available at the site.

Promoting Historic Preservation Outside the HDC. Sometimes we are presented with the opportunity to comment on a project or renovation outside the HDC. We are keenly aware of the historic and cultural attributes of Durham and are discussing ways to be more proactive in preserving and enhancing properties in and out of the HDC. The concept of preservation easements, incentives and working partnerships are just beginning to be discussed. ■

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Cathy Leach

MEMBERS: Genevieve Brown; Michael Drooker; Joe Friedman, *Town Council Representative*; Erin Guyotte, *Alternate*; Al Howland; Myrta Janosz, *Alternate*; Brian Keegan; Cathy Leach, *Chair*; Tracy Schroeder; Matthew Swiesz, *Alternate*

The purpose of the Parks & Recreation Committee is to support the Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) in areas such as advising/reviewing policy and assisting with programming and facility/outdoor space planning with the goal of strengthening our community through a variety of recreational opportunities. Municipal Parks and Recreation plays an essential role in fostering a cohesive and vibrant community.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The committee spent several meetings reviewing a proposal from the UNH Applied Recreation Research Collaborative (ARRC) and ultimately recommended a specific plan to the director. The ARRC project will focus on a visitor management study for Jackson's Landing and Woodridge Park and will include an extensive and multi-pronged recreational community needs assessment. The data provided will be important for the committee, director, and the Town to make data-supported future parks and recreational decisions based on community input.

Members volunteered at DPR community events such as the Annual Egg Hunt, Memorial Day Remembrance, Durham Day and Durham Day Dash, Downtown Trick or Treat, Trot in the Trees, and Frost Fest. Some of these events bring residents to the downtown area to benefit business owners, town departments and boards, and other organizations. All events provide important recreational or educational opportunities for a wide range of community members.

Approved request from DPR Director to use committee funds for the purchase of an inflatable Gaga Pit for use in summer camp, additional youth programs and community events.

Recruited members to complete a full committee of 7 members and 3 alternate members.

Developed 2023 goals with particular attention to how they aligned with Town Council goals.

The committee hears updates from the DPR director monthly, and from the Churchill Rink director twice per year.

2024 GOALS

Continue to support the director throughout the ARRC project.

Support and remain updated on the work of the Churchill Rink working group. This group is planning a fundraising effort for potential rink renovation planning.

Connect with groups such as the Durham Business Association, the Lee Recreation Commission, and the Town's Land Stewardship Coordinator.

REACH Friday Field Trip campers test their skills on a climbing wall at Chuckster's in Chichester, NH. Parks & Rec Photo



Assist director in gathering data and analyzing user fees.

Finalize data presentation for both rink and DPR annual usage and participation data.

Provide advisory support to the DPR director in budget & CIP planning.

The committee wishes to recognize and thank our Parks & Recreation Director Rachel Gasowski and staff, including Assistant Director Kellie DeSimone and Churchill Rink Manager Bill Page – and all staff and volunteers who assist with the multitude of programs and community events the department offers. ■

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR: Rachel Gasowski

Durham Parks & Recreation (DPR) continues to focus on offering a broad range of outdoor and indoor recreational activities that are available to town residents of all ages, abilities, and interests. Residents can count on programs and events that bring the community together in our parks, facilities and throughout our vibrant downtown that are welcoming and safe.

2023 was another busy year for DPR with an array of 140+ program opportunities offered for youth-adult community members. The department also hosted 12 special events, including a new 5K road race in June. Our summer camps were moved from Mast Way Elementary School to the new Middle School, which allowed us to increase enrollment to help

meet the demand from the community. We safely and successfully hosted ten unique weeks of summer camp, including three weeks of STEM based camps, four weeks of REACH Summer camp (in partnership with ORCSD), and three weeks of outdoor adventure-based camps. Four camp field trips also took place as part of the REACH Summer Camp offerings.

The department and the Parks & Recreation Committee worked together to select UNH Applied Recreation Research Collaborative (ARRC) to provide a parks and playgrounds needs assessment and visitor management study for Jackson's Landing & Woodridge Park. The primary focus of the proposed study is to provide recreation research, trends, and recommendations for the town's future development of a Parks and Playground Master Plan for Jackson's Landing and Woodridge Park. Upon completion of the study, the Parks & Recreation Department will have community input and research supported data to best determine future improvements and renovations at Jackson's Landing and Woodridge Park. The study will allow the department to develop a longer-term and sustainable maintenance program for the two parks as part of the improvements and renovation planning. Drawing on existing research, the proposed study will also assess trends in parks, playgrounds, programming, and facilities.

At the end of the 22/23 school year, DPR was asked to take over the longstanding after-school program "Our Time" for the 23/24 school year. Together with our after-school program partner, Seven Rivers, we revamped our after-school program set-up to blend the traditional after-school program with our outdoor nature-based programs we have been offering. We were successful in creating a robust program that offers families the ability to customize their child's after-school schedule with a combination of outdoor

L-R: Kellie DeSimone, Assistant Director & Rachel Gasowski, Director



enrichment opportunities, projects, activities and games that teach skills and build community. We look forward to growing this program together for years to come for K-8th grade students.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Successfully hosted a variety of 12 community events, including a new event- The Durham Day Dash 5K.

Expanded our adult program offerings.

Offered 140+ program opportunities for youth-adults, which included several new programs to our line-up: youth and adult pottery classes with Plourde Arts, adult destination trips with Collette Travel, Lunch & Learns with the Durham Public Library, and a middle school age specific empowerment program with the Local B.

Worked closely with our Parks & Recreation Committee Members to select UNH Applied Recreation Research Collaborative (ARRC) to do a visitor management study for Jackson's Landing and Woodridge Park.

Redeveloped our after-school program to blend the longstanding after-school program previously offered by Growing Places out of the Moharimet Elementary school with our after-school outdoor enrichment style programs in partnership with Seven Rivers.

Successfully moved our summer camp operation from Mast Way Elementary School to the new Oyster River Middle School. The move to the ORMS allowed us to expand our REACH Summer Camp enrollment to meet the demands of the community.

Safely hosted twenty-two summer camp opportunities for grades K-8 over ten weeks.

Successfully hosted a variety of outdoor nature and adventure based after-school programs (in partnership with Seven Rivers Enrichment) including Mtn. Bike Club, Medieval Wilderness, Off the Beaten Path, Outdoors to Explore, Art in Nature, Cooking & Carving and more!

Expanded the Downtown Durham Day event by adding the Durham Day Dash 5K in partnership with Growing Places.

2024 GOALS

Continue to work with ARRC and the P&R Committee on the parks & playground needs assessment and visitor management Study.

Work collaboratively with Lee & Madbury Recreation Committees/Commissions to develop a recreation specific quarterly calendar of events and happenings to best inform the Oyster River community of the many events and programs taking place throughout the year.

Enhance our summer camp options by adding more opportunities for 5th-9th graders.

Continue to offer specialty camps over February and April school vacation weeks.

Offer more program opportunities for the preschoolers and teens.

Parks & Rec Outdoor Adventure campers hike Mt. Major in Alton, NH. Parks & Rec Photo



Continue to foster positive partnerships that have been established with UNH, various community organizations and businesses, Town departments, ORCSD, the Town of Lee and the Town of Madbury.

Support Churchill Rink with upcoming renovation plans and off-season program opportunities.

Continue to support local businesses through community events that take place downtown and at other recreation spaces such as Wagon Hill Farm, Jackson's Landing and Woodridge Park.

Foster new partnerships that will help develop new programs and event opportunities.

We are extremely grateful for the positive working relationships that we have with other town

departments. Their continued support of our programs, events and operations has allowed us to offer all that we do, while adding great value to programs and events for the community. It would be impossible to accomplish all that we do without the help, support, and hard work from our dedicated Staff. We are lucky to have many returning faces each summer and a core group that jumps in and helps with after-school programs and community events as needed. Lastly, we appreciate the support and trust that the community has exhibited towards our department. We will continue to work hard and be creative to roll out new recreation opportunities for our amazing community that brings us together. The benefits of recreation are endless! ■

PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CHAIR: Robin Glasser

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Robin Glasser, *Chair*; Martha Gooze, *Alternate*; Callie Langton, *Alternate*; Randall O'Brien; Charlotte Ramsay; Andrew Sharp, *Vice-Chair*; Kimberly Sweetman, Erik Waddell, *Treasurer*; Susan Wagner, *Secretary*.

Mission: The mission of the Durham Public Library is to enhance the quality of life in Durham through

Child playing at train table at the Durham Public Library. Durham Public Library Photo



open access to ideas and information, to encourage exploration and learning in people of all ages, and to support cultural enrichment by establishing the library as a center of our community.

Trustee's email: BoardofTrusteesDPL@gmail.com

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Reorganized staff by creating the position Assistant Library Director, whose duties encompass overseeing all aspects of technology within the library. This provides greater stability in this area and has eliminated the need for the library to seek a full-time technology position. The Board of Trustees also endorsed the creation of a part-time position for programming and outreach.

Implemented Year Two of the Strategic Plan which sets the course for the Library over the next several years. Implementation of the Plan began immediately upon adoption in 2022 with a variety of activities to meet the Priorities. Identified through community input, the four priorities are: Community Connections; Access for All; Literacy and Lifelong Learning; and Focus on the Future.

The Trustees were delighted to approve James Oshima's Eagle Scout project to create three pollinator gardens in the front of the library. The

work was completed late this fall, and we look forward to the spring growing season. Our thanks and appreciation to James, his project advisor and the members of Troop 154 along with the DPW for bringing this project to fruition.

With the leadership of Library Director Sheryl Bass and Head of Youth Services, Lisa Kleinmann, the family literacy area was created. This area features comfortable seating and a tablet kiosk where children and their caregivers can enjoy learning activities together.

The Board of Trustees continued its work reviewing policies and job descriptions.

2024 GOALS

Continue to expand the Bill Schoonmaker Library of Things.

Continue to strengthen outreach within the community, schools, and other organizations.

Implement year three of the Strategic Plan.

The Trustees of the Durham Public Library greatly value the support of the Friends of Library. They enhance Library services by funding museum passes, a children's literacy program, and summer concerts on the library lawn. The trustees are grateful for the steadfast support from the Town of Durham and for the generosity of individual citizens who give so faithfully to the Annual Appeal. ■

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR: Sheryl Bass

Empowering Minds, Building Community.

Your public library is a vital center for learning, discovery, and connection. We offer a vast array of physical materials, digital resources, and programs for patrons of all ages. In 2023, we continued to see strong circulation and increased program attendance, demonstrating the library's central role in enriching lives and fostering a vibrant community. In implementing year two of our Library Strategic Plan, we continued to achieve the objectives tied to the (4) priorities laid out: community connections; access for all; literacy and lifelong learning; and a focus on the future.

PRIORITY 1- Community Connections: In 2023 the library continued its tradition of creating a neutral and accessible gathering space for people of all ages and backgrounds. Whether for quiet study, lively book clubs, or engaging workshops and events, the library provided opportunities for people to come together and interact in a meaningful way. Our educational and entertainment programs for all ages and the space that we provided community members to pursue civil discourse allowed people to share ideas and experience collective effervescence- the feeling of energy and harmony that occurs when people share a common purpose. Some examples of

this were the collaboration with Durham's Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee which brought jointly planned programming to the Library to educate and inform community members to create a more "Sustainable Durham. Another example of our burgeoning partnerships was our very successful Library Summer Reading Program. Our summer reading partnership with the Lee and Madbury Libraries allowed us to leverage our joint finances to acquire higher quality programs and performances for youth and families throughout all three communities. One program, the Summer Reading Foam Party, had over four hundred attendees from all three libraries!

PRIORITY 2- Access for All: Public libraries are champions of equity and inclusion, fiercely dedicated to providing access for all— our library is no exception! As always, 2023 found our doors open to everyone regardless of age, socioeconomic status, political ideology, ability, or background. Through the resources that we offered like our printed materials, public-use computers, open Wi-Fi, outreach activities and our Library of Things items, the library empowered community members to access information, acquire knowledge, and participate in the digital world. Our programming extended this reach further, with diverse offerings such as device help for patrons of all ages, concerts held on the library lawn,

2023 DURHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY STATISTICS

CIRCULATION

Adult Physical Items Circulated	29,996
Juvenile/ YA Physical Items Circulated	44,451
Total Physical Circulated	74,447
Total Library Visits	86,350
Total Library Cardholders	5,651

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

Interloan Materials Lent to NH Librarians	1,535
Interloan Materials Received for DPL Patrons	2,628
Total Interloan Transactions	3,779
Total Outreach Materials Delivered	2,100

art-themed virtual programming, to name a few. Our selection of high-quality programs and resources were carefully selected particularly for our community members and appealed to all ages and interests, thus creating a bastion of accessibility, ensuring everyone learned and grew within our welcoming walls!

PRIORITY 3 - Literacy and Lifelong Learning:

We like to think of our library as a “lighthouse of literacy and lifelong learning”, illuminating the path for individuals of all ages. In 2023, we endeavored to provide children with a nurturing environment to discover the joy of reading, allow adults to delve into new subjects, and provide opportunities for seniors to stay intellectually engaged: We did just that! Whether through early literacy programs and storytimes, book clubs for all ages like our classic adult book discussion group or our Racoon Readers Book Club for 3rd-5th graders, arts and crafts clubs for all ages, and other educational and entertainment programming, we cultivated a love of learning that transcends age and circumstance. By opening doors to knowledge and providing spaces for the ever-changing needs of our patrons and by paying close attention to the evolving ways they interacted with us, our library empowered community members to navigate the ever-evolving world shaping their lives. To that end, we continued our professional collection development practices and effective execution of policy, advocating for

Library Staff. l-r: Sheryl Bass, Director; Kelly Montagano, Lisa Kleinmann, Susan King, Audra Lewis, Mel Graykin, Margo LaPerle, Kevin Maier, Debbi Jarvis.



the freedom to read and building an appealing and dependable collection of resources and programming for patrons of all ages.

Notably, 2023 saw the addition of nature programming for kids! With extensive opportunities for outdoor play and education, nature programming allowed us to provide children with opportunities to develop critical thinking skills and learn more about the natural world. We also engaged with local artists, writers, and poets like Durham residents Andrew Morton and Trudy Brown as presenters at the library to capitalize on the wealth of available talents right in our backyard!

PRIORITY 4: Focused on the Future: The Library remains committed to maintaining and expanding the range of library services that address the needs of our patrons. 2023 found us continuing to increase technology-related items in the Bill Schoonmaker Library of Things. We also successfully completed a family literacy area with a new seating area and tablets that allow our youngest patrons to explore digital literacy applications with the guidance of their parents. Through the graciousness of our Friends group, we were also able to add some STEAM and sensory items such as a new sensory light and science exploration tables in the Youth Services Department. We continue to monitor the effects of

evolving technologies, including Artificial Intelligence and big data on the library world and how it can be responsibly used to improve our patron experience and our own practices.

2023 was a great year at the Library, but none of our accomplishments would have been possible without the solid leadership of our Board of Trustees, dedicated hardworking group of Library Friends, support from the Town Council, and our consummately professional and devoted staff. We continue to be committed to service to our community, new partnerships, and new connections. Come check us out!

2024 GOALS

Execution of a community programming needs assessment.

Further expansion of our outreach activities to attract new users and serve the underserved.

Successful implementation of year three of the Library Strategic Plan and Library Technology Plan.

Continued expansion of the Bill Schoonmaker Library of Things.

Evaluation of library spaces to ensure that they are adequately serving our community. ■

"Lunch and Learn" Program at the Durham Public Library. Durham Public Library Photo






General Government



ASSESSOR

ASSESSOR: Jim Rice, CNHA



The assessor's office is responsible for ensuring equitable assessments, which distribute the Town's tax burden in accordance with NH State Statutes. Assessments are based on fair market value of property and are applied in a fair, equitable and consistent manner. The assessing office strives to provide the best possible customer service. Information regarding assessments, tax exemptions, tax credits, tax deferrals, current use assessments, conservation restriction assessments, discretionary easements, abatement requests, and timber tax are available through this office. Information regarding your assessment as well as deed and property ownership information can be found in this office, or on the Town's website at www.ci.durham.nh.us/assessing. Assessment information can be viewed on-line at <https://gis.vgsi.com/durhamnh/>.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Full Revaluation. Article 6 of the New Hampshire Constitution states "...there shall be a valuation of the estates within the State taken anew once in every five years, at least, and as much oftener as the general court shall order." Assessments were last updated in 2018. The Town of Durham engaged the services of two companies to perform the full revaluation of all property assessments throughout Durham. MRI

Appraisal Services, LLC updated the residential and commercial properties and George Sansoucy, PE, LLC updated the assessments of the utility properties. Each company was chosen for their areas of expertise and their familiarity with the Vision CAMA system (assessing software). Both companies worked in conjunction with the Assessor's Office. The revised assessments reflect market value as of April 1, 2023, and were used in the second (2nd) and final tax bill for 2023. The Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) reports completed by these companies will outline the methodology used during the update that will be audited by the Department of Revenue Administration for compliance purposes.

Current Use Property. Land that was disqualified from the Current Use program (per RSA 79-A), primarily due to new construction generating revenue in land use change taxes, all of which were deposited into Durham's Conservation Fund. However, in 2023 there were no land use change taxes in Durham. During 2023, the assessing office has been reviewing the files of those properties classified under the Current Use program for accuracy, compliance and record keeping purposes. Of those files that have not been updated within the past five years, have missing or inaccurate information, notifications were

mailed requesting updated information. I would like to thank all of those property owners who responded to these mailings. Your cooperation regarding this endeavor has been extremely helpful.

2024 GOALS

Review and inspect those properties where building permits were issued after 4/1/23.

Review and inspect properties that have had on-going construction and/or demolition.

Review qualified exemptions and credits and process new applicants.

Review all abatement requests and make recommendations to the Town Council.

Review Board of Tax and Land Appeals and Superior Court appeals.

Continue updating Current Use files.

Measure and inspect all properties that have transferred between October 1, 2023, thru September 31, 2024. The purpose for this process is to ensure that the information on the assessment record cards was correct at the time of transfer, and for the equalization ratio study which is used to determine Durham’s 2024 equalization ratio.

Below is a breakdown of the 2023 assessments and exemptions used to calculate the net taxable valuation used to compute the municipal, county and local tax rates.

Residents are welcome to contact the assessor’s office at 868-8064 with any questions regarding assessments and/or concerns. Appointments may also be scheduled with the assessor. Assessing office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm. ■

SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION:

Residential (land & buildings):	\$1,244,250,621
Commercial/Industrial (land & buildings):	\$514,383,700
Current Use Land (per RSA 79-A):	\$1,028,824
Utilities:	\$102,761,200
Valuation before exemptions:	\$1,872,976,904
Net Taxable Valuation <i>(used to compute municipal, county and local tax rates)</i>	\$1,865,231,001

EXEMPTIONS	EXEMPTION AMOUNT	TOTAL EXEMPTIONS GRANTED	ASSESSED VALUATION
Blind:	\$37,000	3	\$111,000
Elderly:			
65-74	\$175,000	5	\$875,000
75-79	\$225,000	2	\$450,000
80+	\$275,000	11	\$2,887,500
Disabled:	\$175,000	1	\$175,000
Improvements to assist Disabled		1	\$8,000
Solar:	Varies	129	\$3,239,403
Total Exemptions:			\$7,737,903

VETERAN'S TAX CREDIT	TAX CREDIT LIMITS	NO. VETERANS APPROVED	TOTAL TAX CREDITS
Standard Veteran’s Credit:	\$500	184	\$92,000
Surviving Spouse:	\$2,000	0	0
Service Connected Disability:	\$2,500	16	\$40,000
Total Veteran’s Tax Credit:			\$132,000

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Tom Bebbington

MEMBERS: Tom Bebbington, *Chair*; Michael Everngam; Theodore Howard; James Lawson, *Council Representative*; Eric Lund, *Council Representative*; Ellie Lonske, *Council Representative*

Year-to-date we have had eighteen (18) burials in the cemetery, four full-body (22%) and fourteen cremains (78%). Four were veterans. Eight plots with a total of 15 graves were sold, with one repurchase. Total revenue from grave sales, less the repurchase, was \$7,000, split between the Cemetery Trust and the Cemetery Improvement Fund.

The Cemetery Care Trust – into which 50% of grave sale proceeds are deposited – had a fund balance of \$246,666.72 as of December 31, 2022.

The Cemetery Improvement Trust – into which the other 50% of grave sale proceeds are deposited for non-routine improvements to roads, grounds, plantings, structures etc. – had a balance of \$33,384.91.

The Cemetery Special Project Trust – created to accept donations by private individuals, groups or organizations for maintenance and improvements in the Town Cemetery – had a balance of \$213.87.

This spring, seven headstones were found to have tipped over. We attempted to contact the owners, who are responsible for their care and maintenance, and were successful in reaching two of them. The remaining monuments, including one 19th century stone in the historic Forrest Emery section, which had been relocated many years ago, were repaired at a cost of \$3,475, which was charged to the Cemetery Improvement Trust.

An updated Cemetery Regulations and Procedures document was adopted at the June 23, 2023 meeting of the Cemetery Committee, with increased plot prices. The new Regulations went into effect on September 1, 2023.

The Department of Public Works again did a great job maintaining the grounds this year, and I received several positive comments about the overall appearance of the cemetery. A special word of thanks

to the 80+ Oyster River Middle School students who spent an October morning assisting DPW with raking, brush removal, and general maintenance; as well as to the Scouts who placed flags on veterans' graves in time for Memorial Day this spring and then put them all away again after Veterans Day.

Looking forward, in addition to the day-to-day work of coordinating plot sales, burials, and the maintenance of cemetery records, I plan to explore partnering with the New Hampshire Old Graveyards Association to conduct a workshop on historic grave marker maintenance and restoration, and to work with DPW to create a Master Plan for the planting and maintenance of donated trees.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve the Town of Durham as Cemetery Committee Chair these past several months. I close with a thank you to Craig Seymour, not only for his 21 years of service to the Town, but also for his work to ensure a smooth transition as I took over his role. ■

A frozen shirt during a cold snap in February. Todd Selig Photo



DOWNTOWN TAX INCREMENT FINANCE (TIF) DISTRICT

TIF ADMINISTRATOR: Todd I. Selig

On September 24, 2012, the Town Council adopted a Development Program and Financing Plan for the establishment of the Downtown Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District pursuant to Revised Statutes Annotated (RSA) 162-K:5 to Fund Improvements that Enhance the Economic Vitality of the Downtown Area, effective April 1, 2013. That document was then amended on March 2, 2015, with a new effective date of April 1, 2015.

The objectives of this Downtown Durham Development Program and TIF Plan are to:

Create new or improved infrastructure including, but not limited to, roads, traffic patterns, utilities, power distribution, water distribution, sewer, stormwater management, lighting, sidewalks and parking;

Resurface existing roadways that service properties within the district;

Improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety;

Create traffic calming and improve traffic management and safety;

Stimulate development or redevelopment of commercial property that will provide new commercial and office space, cultural and performance venues, professional services, conference and hotel services, restaurants, or other businesses consistent with a vibrant downtown;

Expand the property tax base;

Expand and enhance employment and earning opportunities for Durham and area residents;

Create green space, community meeting areas and an improved sense of community to help attract Durham residents and consumers from outside the community that will patronize existing and new businesses in the downtown as well as in other areas of the community; and

Stimulate other businesses to locate or expand within the community.

The Development Program and TIF Plan included

five projects focused on the downtown that were consistent with Durham's Master Plan and the recommendations of the 2009 Durham Commercial Core Strategic Plan:

Traffic calming and streetscape improvements to the Pettee Brook Lane Corridor - \$75,000;

Deploying parking Kiosks or other technologies to manage parking resources - \$118,080;

Planning, engineering and implementation of two-way traffic patterns along Main Street, lower Madbury Road and Pettee Brook Lane, and related intersection improvements - \$651,875;

Planning, design, and construction of structured parking to support the TIF district - \$3,500,000; and

Resurfacing of Pettee Brook Lane and Main Street (East) - 1" Overlay on Pettee Brook Lane (1,100 feet) - \$26,121; 1" Overlay on Main Street (East) (4,230 feet) - \$116,041.

Subsequent projects are to be developed in cooperation with current and future property owners, developers, and other stakeholders and may include:

Parking facilities including structured parking;

Road construction or improvements;

Sidewalk construction or improvements;

Bicycle lanes;

Street lighting and landscaping;

Improvements to utilities and power distribution;

Improvements to water and sewer capacity; and

Traffic calming and vehicular safety.

The proposed TIF district contains approximately thirty-four and a half (34.5) acres, which represents approximately 0.24% of the 14,336-acre land area in the Town of Durham. The maximum area percentage allowed under the statute is 5%. As of the date the initial Downtown TIF District was approved by the Town Council on September 24, 2012, the assessed value of all property in the district excluding tax exempt was \$58,627,900 or 6.39% of the total assessed

value of taxable property in the town (\$917,477,049). The maximum allowable value allowed under the statute is 8%. Thus, the district complies with the size and value standards of RSA 162-K: 5.2. Values for 2012 were used for illustrative purposes at the time the District was originally approved by the Town Council on September 24, 2012 because 2013 values were not yet available. The District went into effect on April 1, 2013.

The assessed value of the Downtown TIF District as of April 1, 2013 was \$61,432,700, or 6.44% of the total assessed value of taxable property in the town at that time (\$906,003,460).

The total estimated capital cost to implement the five proposed projects was approximately \$4,487,117. This number excluded annual maintenance and operations costs. The Town Council must ultimately determine priority of funding with input from the District Administrator and Advisory Board. Future projects as recommended by the District Administrator and Advisory Board and approved by the Town Council will be funded with grants, private investment, accumulated captured increment, public borrowing or a combination thereof as determined appropriate by vote of the Town Council. A TIF Downtown District Advisory Board was established in late-fall 2015, and the first meeting took place in January 2016. Additional meetings have taken place infrequently but on an as-needed basis due to relative inaction within the TIF.

The Town of Durham generally intends to use multiple funding sources to complete the proposed development program as indicated above. A combination of private investment, state, federal & foundation grants, municipal appropriations and betterment/special assessments may be utilized along with any other funding sources that may be identified and successfully pursued during the life of this District.

USES OF CAPTURED INCREMENTAL TAX REVENUES

Pursuant to RSA 162-K, II (a), the full captured assessed value (100%) for tax year 2014 was designated for development within the Downtown TIF District. However, effective April 1, 2015 and all subsequent years, the Town of Durham shall designate seven percent (7%) of the captured assessed value for the retirement of bonds, notes and the operation and

further development of the tax increment financing district. The remaining 93% of captured assessed value shall be deemed excess captured assessed value and shall be returned to the tax lists (general fund) per RSA 162-K:10, II (b).

The Downtown TIF District will exist until any debt issued and borrowing initiated to fund the development program is retired and all improvements anticipated within the Plan for the District as originally adopted or subsequently amended by action of the Town Council have been completed.

The captured assessed value as of 4/1/2022 was estimated to be \$88,866,000 by the Assessor. The retained captured assessed value is estimated to be \$6,226,437.

Actual tax dollars received (7% of Captured Assessed Value) within the Downtown TIF since its inception have totaled as follows:

2014	\$95,491
2015	\$47,294
2016	\$105,613
2017	\$109,165
2018	\$142,894
2019	\$147,176
2020	\$169,108
2021	\$171,403
2022	\$180,647
2023	\$127,518

Total: \$1,168,791

Projects undertaken within the Downtown TIF in 2015 (and from the district's inception) through 2022 were as follows: Resurfacing of Pettee Brook Lane and Main Street (East) with a budget of \$142,162. Of this, \$45,422 was expended on shimming the designated roadways in 2015, and the balance was spent in 2016 to apply a finish coat of pavement.

On May 3, 2021, the District Administrator, after consulting with the TIF Advisory Committee, recommended to the Town Council that the Town of Durham purchase the vacant lot located at 66 Main Street for the assessed price of \$2,045,000. The recommendation for this purchase stemmed from months of research, discussion and analysis as seen in the document, "Recommendation that the Town of Durham Acquire 66 Main Street" that was provided as part of the April 19, 2021 Town Council packet.

The property, owned by the University of New Hampshire, had languished for years with no expressed plans for development. The property provided an excellent opportunity for public parking and commercial development, which will generate new tax revenue. The town had been in discussions with a developer (Elliott Sidewalk Communities) and the University about a plan that would bring desirable commercial development to the site, yet those discussions were ultimately unsuccessful in 2021 and came to a close.

The 1.18-acre lot at 66 Main Street is the last remaining undeveloped parcel in the downtown.

Currently, future redevelopment in the downtown is limited by the lack of available parking. Public parking on this site will enable future redevelopment of underutilized buildings elsewhere in the downtown adding to the local Durham tax base.

The purchase of 66 Main Street by the Town of Durham on June 1, 2021 was funded using parking impact fees (\$714,194), TIF funds (\$674,578), and a 20-year TIF bond (\$740,000). The financing therefore did not impact the budget or future town tax rate. Additionally, the parking impact fees that were utilized to help purchase the site were to begin to expire starting in August 2021 and would have had to be returned to the developers if they had not been used. The Council ultimately authorized moving forward with the acquisition of 66 Main Street and the construction of municipal surface parking in that location.

In August of 2022 the first interest payment on the bond was paid in the amount of \$12,803. In 2023 the total principal and interest payment will be approximately \$56,153.

As of December 31, 2022, the unaudited net balance remaining in the TIF is \$339,247. ■

GENERAL ASSISTANCE OFFICER

BUSINESS MANAGER: Gail Jablonski

It is required by NH RSA 165 that each City and Town in the State of NH provide for any persons who are poor and unable to provide for themselves and that the Governing Body of each City and Town establish written guidelines relative to general assistance. Section 4-10 A-7 of the Administrative Code of the Town of Durham identifies the Business Management Department, headed by the Business Manager, as being responsible for overseeing Welfare services.

The Town of Durham is dedicated to providing for those in need without regard to age, race, sex or national origin. The Business Office is compassionate towards all those seeking assistance. We work with everyone who applies, whether the applications are approved or denied, to assist them towards self-sufficiency in the future.

In 2023 the Business Office received and processed fifteen new applications and continues to assist three individuals with qualifying expenses such as rent, electricity, and heating oil. Over the past year we also had numerous people contact our office for information concerning assistance but never submit a formal application. As we move into 2024, we currently have three active cases of public assistance open.

The Business Office works closely with several non-profit service providers in the area, the Strafford County Community Action Program in Dover, NH, and the NH Local Welfare Administrator's Association for advice and guidance on the more difficult cases.

Our welfare regulations and the application for public assistance can be located on the Town's website at: <http://www.ci.durham.nh.us/businessoffice/welfare-assistance>. ■

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

TOWN PLANNER: Michael Behrendt

Michael Behrendt has served as the Durham Town Planner since 2012. He oversees development and long-term planning but his larger role is helping to make Durham a stronger, healthier, and more beautiful community. Michael serves as staff to the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Historic District Commission, and Housing Task Force and provides assistance to the Town Council and other boards as needed.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Tideline Public House. The Planning Board approved a site plan for Tideline Public House to renovate the old Town Hall for a restaurant, tavern, conference space, and short-term rental and to create a food truck court on the lot. Seven food trucks have been established for many months now and Durham’s latest dining destination has been a tremendous success drawing local residents, UNH students, people passing by on Route 108, and foodies from all over the Seacoast.

121 Technology Drive. Real estate company R. J. Kelly purchased the enormous building tucked

into the woods on the west side of town several years ago. The Planning Board approved their site plan incorporating changes to the site, installing a handsome new exterior façade, and adding new businesses. We have waited many years for a dynamo like R. J. Kelly to come along and turn what had long been a largely vacant behemoth into a vibrant center once again for high technology, light industry, and grade A office use.

West Edge. The Town is working closely with UNH on plans to convert the underutilized West Edge of the university – located in the triangle bound by Main Street, Mast Road, and The Lodges into a high-technology village. West Edge, a planned partnership between UNH and private industry, is a long-term project promising to be an exciting hub of activity on the Seacoast. Much of the site will be subject to local zoning and taxation so the Town is coordinating closely with UNH in developing a Planned Unit Development ordinance which will set the parameters for the project.

Climate Action Master Plan. The Planning Board adopted the Climate Action Master Plan as a new chapter for the Town’s master plan. The draft was prepared by Strafford Regional Planning

Planning Office. l-r: Town Planner, Michael Behrendt; Code Enforcement Officer, Andrea Seledce; Administrative Assistant Tracey Cutler; Town Assessor, Jim Rice; Zoning, Code Enforcer & Health Officer, Audrey Cline.



Commission in coordination with the Planning Board, other Town boards, and Town staff.

32 Madbury Road. A new multifamily building, at the corner of Madbury Road and Garrison Avenue, opened in September welcoming UNH residents. The structure is noteworthy for its attractive architecture, designed in accordance with Durham's demanding Architectural Regulations.

Historic District Commission. The HDC is planning for renovations to the Wagon Hill Farmhouse and pursuing various funding sources to assist with the effort. The HDC oversaw the installation of a new plaque and small park recognizing Lafayette's return to the country 50 years after the Revolution, including his stop in Durham. The commission reviewed numerous applications in the Historic District for changes to sites and buildings and for new signs. Several members are serving on a committee to develop strategies to mitigate the impacts of the removal of the Mill Pond Dam.

Conservation Commission. The commission reviewed numerous applications for activity and structures to be located within the Wetland and Shoreland Overlay Districts and applications to New Hampshire Division of Environmental Resources for activity within wetlands. The commission

developed amendments to the two overlay districts to enhance the quality of development within the two overlay districts.

Housing Task Force. The task force is energetically engaged in finding strategies to increase housing opportunities in the community. The task force has been conducting outreach to people who work in town and to employers. It is starting work on a housing survey to be distributed to residents. We are awaiting a full housing assessment being prepared by a consultant.

2024 GOALS

Zoning Rewrite. Making substantial progress with a significant rewrite of the Durham Zoning Ordinance pursuant to recommendations of the Master Plan.

Subdivision Regulations. Preparation of a new draft of the subdivision regulations.

Master Plan Implementation. Continuing work on implementing the many recommended actions included in the 12 chapters of the master plan that were adopted in 2015 and subsequent years.

Housing. Make substantial progress in identifying potential sites for projects that can accommodate a mix of housing types and incomes. ■

PLANNING BOARD

CHAIR: Paul Rasmussen

MEMBERS: Tom DeCapo, *Alternate*; Emily Friedrichs, *Council Representative*; Heather Grant, *Vice Chair*; Erika Naumann Gaillat, *Alternate*; Chuck Hotchkiss, *Alternate Council Representative*; Richard Kelley; Chris McClain, *Alternate*; William McGowan; Peyton McManus, *Secretary*; Paul Rasmussen, *Chair*; Sally Tobias

Planning Board application work has been less time-consuming than in recent years. This has less to do with the number of applications and is more related to the quickness with which the applications have moved through the process.

The extra time has allowed the Planning Board to work on the Zoning Ordinance review. The goals of the review are:

to clarify our code by simplifying the wording and removing contradictions, over-specifications, and archaic nomenclature;

to perform updates representative of the societal changes that have occurred over the last 50 years, whether that is how we work, play, shop, or live.

The Board started with the backlogged, minor changes that members have noted over the last few years. The delay was needed until there were not any active applications that would be affected by the changes. The Board is currently in the process of finalizing a new set of definitions.

The Board has had great help from the Energy Committee and Conservation Commission. The

Energy Committee provided an updated draft for the solar ordinance this past year and the Conservation Commission is working on a re-write of the Wetlands Conservation Overlay District and Shoreland Protection Overlay District sections - both to simplify the process of applications and to increase the levels of environmental protection.

The most important project to Durham this past year has been the revitalization of 121 Technology Drive. With minimal impacts, you will see a mostly mothballed facility become a thriving technological and manufacturing facility.

Looking towards next year, University of New Hampshire's The Edge proposal will have a major impact on Durham in many ways. First with the

COMPARISON OF NUMBER OF APPLICATION APPROVALS 2021 - 2023

APPLICATION TYPE	2023	2022	2021
Subdivision	0	4	1
Site Review/Conditional Use	12	7	6
Boundary Line Adjustment/ Subdivision Modification/Voluntary Lot Merger	3	3	1
Other*	4	7	6
Total	19	21	14

**Includes conceptual consultations, design reviews, modifications and amendments to previous approvals, government projects public hearings, and scenic road public hearings.*

relocation of the existing infrastructure, and then with the research partnerships that are expected to fill it. ■

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

CHAIR: Ann Shump

SUPERVISORS: Deborah Hirsch Mayer; Christian Kuhn; Ann Shump, *Chair*

The year 2023 was a relatively quiet year for the Supervisors of the Checklist. Except for the School Deliberative Session in February, the only election this year was the Town/School Election in March. There was still plenty to do in order to keep the Checklist updated, but we were able to do that fairly leisurely. As of this writing, there are 10,500 registered voters in Durham.

2024 will be another busy year. The Presidential Primary is January 23, the first day of classes after UNH's winter break. We aren't sure how that will affect our election. The School Deliberative Session will follow only a couple of weeks after that, so we will need to work fast to add all of our new voters from the Primary. The Town/School election is scheduled for March 8 at Oyster River High School. Then the State Primary and General/Presidential Elections will be held in the fall.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Kept the Checklist updated.

Prepared for the School Deliberative Session in February and the Town/School election in March.



Ann Shump, Chair, Supervisors of the Checklist. Ann has served as a supervisor for 21 years and has been Chair since 2004.

Started to think about the Presidential Primary, which will be January 23, 2023.

2024 GOALS

Prepare for and successfully carry out the Presidential Primary on January 23.

Follow up from that quickly enough to have a complete Voter Checklist ready in time for the School Deliberative Session on February 6.

The Town/School Election on March 12.

During the summer we will prepare for the State Primary in September and the Presidential/General Election on November 5.

During this time, the Secretary of State's office

is hoping to revamp the system for creating the Checklist, which we will therefore need to learn.

There will probably be some other training events for us.

We will also plan to hold several registration drives, both in early January and again next fall.

We will need to keep the Voter Checklist updated as we proceed through the year. ■

TOWN CLERK – TAX COLLECTOR

CERTIFIED TOWN CLERK-TAX COLLECTOR:

Rachel Deane

The Town Clerk-Tax Collector's Office is responsible for registering and managing all events and records within the Town of Durham. In 2023, the Town Clerk-Tax Collector processed collections for property taxes, utility bills, motor vehicle registrations, vital records requests, and dog license fees. Although many residents utilized the Town of Durham's online payment system, the clerk's office remained busy processing payments, vital records requests, voter registrations, absentee ballots applications, and answering questions about property tax bills.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector office. (l-r): Town Clerk-Tax Collector, Rachel Deane; Deputy Town Clerk-Tax Collector, Audrey MacKenzie; Administrative Assistant, Cheryl Hildreth



2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Elections

An inclement weather event on March 14, 2023, forced election officials to move the annual town election date to March 28, 2023. Voter turnout for the town election was less than average, with a total number of 514 votes cast. The average turnout for the annual Town Election is approximately 1,153 voters.

Oyster River Middle School's fifth graders visited the Durham Town Hall on November 9, 2023, to cast their votes for the 2024 New Hampshire's Kid Governor. This was the second year the clerk's office coordinated with Oyster River Middle School

to host this event. The election was held in the Durham Town Council Chambers. Durham was once again honored as being the only municipality in New Hampshire to create and host an election for students.

Conferences/Training

Town Clerk-Tax Collector Rachel Deane completed a 4-year certification training program with the NH City and Town Clerk's Association. Rachel was nominated to serve as the Strafford County Regional Coordinator for the New

Hampshire Tax Collector's Association and will serve another year on the Legislative Committee for the New Hampshire City and Town Clerk's Association.

Newly hired Deputy Town Clerk-Tax Collector, Audrey MacKenzie, attended new clerk training sessions through the NH-DMV, the NH-Secretary of State's Office, and the NH Tax Collector's Association in May 2023.

Retirements/New Hires

After 30 years of service, Town Clerk-Tax Collector Lorrie Pitt retired from her position on March 31, 2023. The Town of Durham hosted a retirement celebration which included friends, family, current and past councilors, and current and past employees in the Durham Town Council Chambers on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, to honor Lorrie Pitt and the retiring Town Administrator Assistant, Jennie Berry.

Deputy Town Clerk-Tax Collector, Rachel Deane, ran for the Town Clerk-Tax Collector position at the 2023 Town Election and was elected on March 28, 2023, as Durham's new Town Clerk-Tax Collector. The Town of Durham hired Audrey MacKenzie on April 1, 2023, as the new Deputy Town Clerk-Tax Collector.

Durham's 2023 Top Dog winner was Amanda Anderson and her five-month-old, American English Coonhound named Gracie. The Top Dog gift basket raffle will continue in 2024. By October 2023, the clerk's office successfully licensed and renewed licenses for all dogs on record in Durham.

On August 29, 2023, an audit was performed by the NH Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) at the Durham Municipal Agent (Town Clerk's) Office. The DMV auditor requested the Town of Durham to produce documents and inventory to ensure that they complied with State of New Hampshire laws, administrative rules, and policies and procedures for the DMV. The DMV reported that the Durham clerks were highly organized, and the office appeared to run efficiently. During the reconciliation of inventory and the two-month sampling of ACH transfer records, no discrepancies were found resulting in a perfect audit.

2024 GOALS

Planning and management of elections will demand the most attention from the Town Clerk-Tax Collector's Office next year, with the 2024 NH Presidential Primary and Presidential General Election expected to draw the most voters. The Town of Durham will host four elections in the year 2024. The dates for the elections will be:

Federal Primary Date: January 23, 2024

Town Election Date: March 12, 2024

State Primary Election Date: September 10, 2024

State General/Presidential Election Date: November 5, 2024

Continued excellence in customer service and ease of access and efficiency with transactions will be a top focus for the clerk's office in 2024. The clerk's office will remain open for in-person transactions and phone calls five days per week, with additional late hours one day per month. Residents will be able to conduct business through the town's website 24 hours a day, seven days per week. ■

ONLINE TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN 1-1-2023 AND 11-29-23

TITLE	TRANSACTION COUNT	AMOUNT
Motor Vehicle Renewals	1,719	\$380,074.66
Dog License Renewals	363	\$3,275.50
Vital Record Request	41	\$928.00
Property Tax and Utility Billing	1,308	\$1,393,996.13
Duplicate Registration	7	\$126
Replacement Decals	2	\$8.00
New Dog Licenses	42	\$322.50
Total	3,482	\$1,778,730.79

General Office

The Town's online payment system, EB2.gov, continued to be the most popular way for residents to renew vehicle registrations and dog licenses and it has become increasingly popular for property tax and utility bill payment. The Town collected over \$1.7 million in online payments between January 1, 2023, and November 29, 2023.

JANUARY 1 THRU DECEMBER 31, 2023

	2023	2022	2021
Uncollected Taxes As Of 01/01/23			
Property Taxes		\$1,106,663.81	\$411.85
Utilities			
Yield Taxes			
Elderly Deferral Tax Credits			
Taxes Committed To Collector			
Property Taxes	\$37,921,123.00		
Yield Taxes			
Land Use Change Tax			
Elderly Deferral Credits			
Miscellaneous			
Overpayments Made During Year			
Property Taxes	\$87,218.82	\$3,548.60	
Interest	\$6,373.35	\$26,058.49	\$11.11
Other Charges		\$1,013.00	\$60.00
Yield Taxes			
Total Debits	\$38,014,715.17	\$1,137,283.90	\$482.96
Remitted To Treasurer			
Prepayments	\$27,221.00	\$1,102,279.82	\$125.02
Property Taxes	\$37,281,015.08		
Yield Taxes			
Land Use Change			
Interest Collected	\$6,373.35	\$26,058.49	\$11.11
Other Charges		\$1,013.00	\$60.00
Elderly Deferrals			
Abatements Made During Year			
Yield Taxes			
Property Tax	\$32,984.03	\$6,104.60	
Carry-Over		\$1,788.50	
Uncollected Taxes 12-31-21	\$667,121.71	\$39.49	\$286.83
Property Taxes			
Yield Taxes			
Elderly Deferral			
Total Credits	\$38,014,715.17	\$1,137,283.90	\$482.96

TAX LIEN REPORT (JANUARY 1 THRU DECEMBER 31, 2023)

	2022	2021	2020	2019
Unredeemed Liens		\$112,873.65	\$76,326.97	\$19,821.95
Liens Executed During Year	\$122,464.38			
Interest & Costs After Lien	\$1,074.36	\$12,391.59	\$18,154.00	\$7,269.71
Total Debits	\$123,538.74	\$125,265.24	\$94,480.97	\$27,091.66
Remitted to Treasurer				
Tax Lien Redemptions	\$76,551.45	\$106,429.69	\$70,736.36	\$15,398.87
Interest and Costs after Liens	\$1,074.36	\$12,391.59	\$18,154.00	\$7,269.71
Abatements Made During Year				
Liens Deeded to Municipality During Year				
Unredeemed Liens as of 12/31/22	\$45,912.93	\$6,443.96	\$5,590.61	\$4,423.08
Total Credits	\$123,538.74	\$125,265.24	\$94,480.97	\$27,091.66

WATER & SEWER

(JANUARY 1 THRU DECEMBER 31, 2023)

Uncollected

Water	\$55,962.92
Sewer	\$57,389.03

Committed To Tax Collector

1st Quarter Warrant	\$621,268.94
2nd Quarter Warrant	\$723,961.72
3rd Quarter Warrant	\$706,599.92
4th Quarter Warrant	\$697,423.78

Refunds

Water	\$102.85
Sewer	
Interest/Penalties	
Misc.	

Total Debits **\$2,862,709.16**

Remitted To Treasurer

Water	\$1,457,333.78
Sewer	\$1,292,264.68
Interest/Costs	

Abatements

Water	\$3,164.05
Sewer	\$517.26

Uncollected Water & Sewer

Water	\$61,383.04
Sewer	\$48,046.35

Total Credits **\$2,862,709.16**

REVENUE COLLECTED

(JANUARY 1 THRU DECEMBER 31, 2023)

Auto Registrations	\$1,225,490.90
Boat Registrations	\$4,364.00
Title Applications	\$2,418.00
Municipal Agent Fees	\$21,888.00
Trans Improvement	\$27,300.00
Marriage Licenses	\$875.00
Vital Statistics Copies	\$2,585.00
U.C.C. Recordings/Discharges	\$1,290.00
Dog Licenses	\$9,947.00
Miscellaneous	\$477.00
eB2Gov Fee	\$1,384.00
Total	\$1,298,018.90

Cars Registered	\$7,104.00
Dogs Registered	\$1,085.00

TREE WARDEN

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, ISA CERTIFIED ARBORIST NE-7337A: Richard Reine, M.S.C.E. CA

The town of Durham once again achieved status as a Tree City USA for the 45th consecutive year. Durham is proud to be recognized as the longest standing Tree City USA municipality in New Hampshire by the Arbor Day Foundation. This award recognizes communities who have developed and continue to invest in a healthy community forestry program with adherence to the four core standards developed by the Arbor Day Foundation and National Association of State Foresters.

The Town celebrated Arbor Day with members of the Town Council, Land Stewardship Committee and the public on April 28th, with the planting of a Serviceberry tree (*Amelanchier Canadensis*) at a very prominent location at the intersection of Main Street and Madbury Road in downtown Durham. This planting is part of the Town's Public Shade Tree

Planting Program which also included the planting of four additional public shade trees throughout Durham and the installation of three porous pavement tree wells on Main Street, by Durham Public Works staff trained and certified in porous pavement installation practices, to enhance the health of existing public shade trees.

The Town and its utility partners, including Eversource Electric, have invested over \$113,449 in standard and enhanced maintenance trimming, planting and removal, inclusive of the scheduled removal of dead, diseased and dying hazard trees. Durham Public Works worked closely with Eversource to remove 44 dead or severely declining American ash trees (*Fraxinus americana*) from Emerson Road, which unfortunately succumbed to the Emerald Ash borer (EAB). In addition, Durham Public Works, working with tree removal contractor, Orion Tree of Lee, NH, removed 20 hazardous trees on Town property and within the Town's Right-of-Way. ■

TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUND

CHAIR: Michael Everngam

MEMBERS: Tom Bebbington; Michael Everngam, *Chair*; Theodore Howard; Albert Manalo, *Alternate*

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Operation of Investment Account:

Portfolio Income from reserve and trust investments for 2022 was \$108,475.25, a yield to the end-of-year market value of 2.39%. Part of this income was spent for the purposes of the various reserves and trusts, and the remainder was accumulated to the balances of the reserves and trusts. The income for 2023 is estimated to be greater than last year's by \$40,000.

Market value of securities held at year-end 2022 decreased by \$96,272.91 to \$4,529,652.91, a decrease of 2.08% over the 2021 year-end, which is market change offset by a net increase in deposits to reserves and trusts. The market value of the portfolio on 30 November 2023 was \$4,987,166.86, an increase from year-end 2022 of \$457,513.95 or 10%. If we have a negative news environment

in December, we are at some risk for a decrease in market value. During the year 2023 the equity exposure of the portfolio was decreased in response to concern for the impact of rising interest rates and market turbulence, and to increase exposure to higher paying fixed income investments.

A more detailed report on Durham's Reserves and Trusts is in the Budget and Finance section of this report. The Trustees have adopted a conservative investment policy (posted on the Trustee's web page) with the primary goal of preserving the ability to carry out the purposes of the town's reserves and trusts.

Improvements at Doe Farm: We continue to be part of the Land Stewardship Sub-Committee, which is managing the Town's conservation interests, including Doe Farm. Annual improvements are planned and carried out by the Land Stewardship Coordinator. The work on invasive species removal continues. (Continuing)

Transparency Efforts: The Trustees have maintained a good record of timeliness in posting agendas and

minutes. We have generally been able to respond promptly to communications from residents. We meet on the 4th Friday of each month at 8:30 AM. (Continuing)

Improved Record Keeping: We continue reviewing records to winnow unnecessary documents, and to maintain those that explain how, when, and why the various funds in our custody were established and investment performance reports. (Continuing)

Investment Policy: The Trustees adopted the present policy during our 25 March 2022 meeting. As required by law, the Trustees forwarded the present policy to the New Hampshire Attorney General's office. (See Trustee's web page for the policy).

Internal Controls Policy: This policy was reviewed and re-adopted at our September 2023 meeting. Changes in the NH DOJ policy will necessitate further revision to this policy soon. (See Trustee's web page for the policy).

Investment Holdings: Monthly statements listing all holdings are on file in the Town Business office and are also available to view from any Trustee.

Alternate Trustee Appointment: Mr. Alberto Manalo was appointed as an Alternate Trustee. There is one vacant Alternate Trustee position vacant as of year-end 2023.

2024 GOALS

We will seek to continue our efforts to be prudent custodians of the funds entrusted to us, while seeking the best possible returns on the investment of these funds.

We will seek ways to maintain and improve our inter-relationships with Town departments and related Committees, Commissions, and Boards.

We will continue to work on those projects/issues which are marked as "continuing" above.

We will seek potential future alternate Trustees to assure continuity in Trustee membership. As the year begins, one alternate position is vacant. Ensuring succession is critical to the future administration of the Town's Reserves and Trusts.

We will continue work to create a trust fund to help finance the Town's celebration of its 300th Anniversary.

We will review the existing trust funds to determine if some funds can be consolidated to simplify management.

We will continue to participate in the management of Doe Farm as a member of the LSSC. ■

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR, BUILDING INSPECTOR/ CODE ENFORCEMENT, HEALTH OFFICER

ADMINISTRATOR: Audrey Cline, CBO

The Building Department continues to experience moderate applications for building permits in 2023 with a few large projects. The 32 Madbury Road six-unit apartment building is complete and is an attractive addition to Madbury Road. We recently have issued permits for multiple tenants at 121 Technology Drive. The owners have begun a major renovation of the exterior wall panels as well as renovating the entry area to include a small cafeteria, employee gym, and expanded shared areas. The ATO Fraternity is just starting their new building, which had been delayed during COVID, at the site of the former Elizabeth DeMeritt House at 18 Garrison Ave.

Although most of the building permits issued were for residential additions and renovations, there were a few notable whole house projects. Several large residences have replaced outdated and structural questionable older dwellings along Great Bay. A new residence has been built by the Durham Evangelical Church on the "memorial" site on Mill Road, in support of the church's residential needs.

As the Zoning Administrator, the CEO works with applicants preparing documents for appeals, variances, and special exceptions from the Zoning Ordinance. Sometimes the process can be complicated, with several types of relief necessary. I endeavor to assist applicants toward the

understanding of the documents and protocols when approaching the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Durham’s inspectors - Mr. Richard Kearney, mechanical/plumbing inspector and Mr. Tom Richardson, electrical inspector - bring expertise to their respective fields. This year we welcomed Tracey Cutler as the Land Use Department’s new Administrative Assistant, and also Andrea Seledde, as a new Code Enforcement Officer.

I am proud of the dedication these staff members bring to their positions and to serving the citizens of Durham. Thank you! ■

TRASH VIOLATION BREAKDOWN FOR 2023

Informational Letter	9
Trash Courtesy Citation	50
Trash Citation \$150	28
Trash Citation \$300	1
Courtesy Notice of Violation	14
Notice of Violation	19

CONSTRUCTION PERMITS PROCESSED

	2023	2022	2021
Building Permits	232	231	227
Building Permits Denied	1	5	10
Building Permits Withdrawn	7	0	2
Demolition Permits	4	6	7
Building Permits On Hold	1	0	0
Septic Permits/Test Pits	9	13	14
Electric Permits	205	211	210
Plumbing/Mechanical Permits	213	241	226
Total Permits	672	707	696
Value of Building Permits Given	\$32,787,544.00	\$19,995,033.00	\$12,740,552.00
Fees Collected for all Permits	\$230,520.99	\$143,428.43	\$94,968.00

BREAKDOWN OF BUILDING PERMITS

	2023	2022	2021
New Single Family House	3	3	5
New Multi-Family Units	3	9	1
Additions, Renovations	169	189	183
Commercial (New & Renovations)	19	20	26
Demolition			
Single Family Home	1	0	1
Commercial Building	0	0	1
Other	3	6	5
Hold/Renewals	4	2	1
Swimming Pools	1	5	2
OTHER PERMITS			
Signs	6	5	12
Sidewalk Cafes	3	6	8
Totals all Permits	203	245	245

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

CHAIR: Micah Warnock

MEMBERS: James Bubar; Kevin Lemieux; Mark Morong, *Secretary*; Neil Niman, *Vice Chair*; Leslie Schwartz, *Alternate*; Micah Warnock; *Chair*, Joseph Warzin, *Alternate*

The Zoning Board of Adjustment met 8 times in 2023, having received 12 applications for relief from, among other things, residential setbacks, accessory building requirements and signage. Special exceptions were sought for several different issues

including building height and one short-term rental. Outcomes are detailed in the table below.

We are thankful for the long-time service of departing member Chris Sterndale. Member Leslie Schwartz moved into an alternate position, and new member, James Bubar, filled a regular member position. At year end there is one vacant alternate position, and residents with an interest are encouraged to apply to the Administrator's Office or inquire with any member of the board. ■

2023 ZBA APPLICATIONS

	REQUESTED	GRANTED	DENIED	WITHDRAWN	POSTPONED
Variance	8	6	1	1	0
Special Exception	4	4	0	0	0
Administrative Appeal	0	0	0	0	0
Equitable Waiver	0	0	0	0	0
Rehearing Request	0	0	0	0	0
Request for Extension on Approved Variance or Special Exception	0	0	0	0	0

Senator Maggie Hassen with Town Administrator Todd Selig visiting Wagon Hill Farm. Craig Stevens Photo






Public Safety



FIRE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF: David Emanuel



The Durham Fire Department is a group of dedicated professionals who strive to improve the quality of life for the Durham community, along with students, faculty, and staff of the University of New Hampshire. The department is jointly funded (50%-50%) by the town and university and focuses its efforts on fire prevention, emergency medical services (EMS), rescue, and fire suppression. Fire prevention and risk reduction efforts are achieved through life safety inspections and educational programs offered to residents, local businesses, and schools.

Throughout 2023, the fire department experienced significant expenditures of overtime because of extended shift vacancies in part, due to injuries and in part, due to difficulties retaining and recruiting personnel to fill staff vacancies. Staffing shift vacancies create a heavy workload on remaining department members but is necessary to ensure that the department remains fully staffed and prepared for EMS and fire suppression response.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Durham Land Mobile Radio (LMR) communications infrastructure project with Strafford County, funded by a US Department of Justice Community Oriented

Policing Services (COPS) \$900K grant, is complete and fully operational.

Department members invested time and resources in training and professional development in the fields of EMS, human resources, and leadership, as well as several certification-level courses. Firefighter Peter Leavitt completed the National Fire Academy's Managing Fire Officer program; Firefighter David Blatchford completed Fire Officer 1; and Fire Marshal O'Sullivan was credentialed as a Fire Marshal by the Center for Public Safety Excellence. Several members completed certificate programs with Cornell University in the fields of conflict resolution and diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The department reorganized and modernized job descriptions for the positions of Assistant Chief of Risk Reduction and Deputy Chief of Operations and Training. Robert Atwater was hired to fill the position of Deputy Chief of Operations and Training effective December 18, 2023.

Kyle Kustra was hired to fill one of the two vacancies created by the retirement of Scott Campbell and the resignation of Evan Crafts. Despite conducting numerous hiring processes, the second position remains unfilled due to labor market challenges.

Progress was made on ongoing fire station renovations to improve functionality and incorporate health and safety features into the existing UNH facility on College Road. At the time of this report, the renovated administrative spaces are substantially complete, decontamination room and fitness area spaces are 90% complete, and installation of the self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) air compressor is awaiting additional construction to accommodate the new equipment in the station.

Also, in accordance with the 2023 CIP, the fire department developed specifications and solicited bids to purchase a custom heavy rescue unit to replace the 2001 International 4400 series truck. Marion Body Works was selected to build the rescue apparatus with an anticipated delivery date in 2025.

driven decision making. After months of initial set up, implementation of the new RMS platform is scheduled for January 1, 2024, with a phased-in approach and will be completely operational by December 31, 2024.

Conduct fire department training and succession planning by providing education and training opportunities for members at all levels to support the department’s mission by enhancing their knowledge, skills, and abilities to lead and deliver an all-hazards emergency response safely, efficiently, and effectively.

Members of the Durham Fire Department would like to express their appreciation to the Town and University community for their ongoing and unwavering support of the Fire Department. ■

2024 GOALS

Support fire department members’ health, safety, and wellbeing by providing training and education designed to manage stress and occupational hazards; encouraging members to provide support for their colleagues dealing with difficult challenges; and ensuring members have access to resources to assist with mental and emotional health and safety.

Implement a new record management system (RMS) platform to efficiently and accurately identify, classify, and store records in accordance with local and federal laws as well as the National Fire Incident Reporting System with the goal of supporting data-

2023 FIRE DEPARTMENT INSPECTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

INSPECTIONS TYPE	INSPECTION PERFORMED
Complaints and referrals	33
Fire Drills	68
Burn Permit Site Inspection	1
Plan review and consults (site, fire alarm & bldg)	195
Heating appliances	15
Life safety	102
Assembly (town wide, issued by Durham Fire)	26
Housing standards inspections	52
Total Inspections	492

Fire Department personnel with Senator Jeanne Shaheen on September 11, 2023. Durham Fire Department Photo



2023 FIRE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT REPORTING

INCIDENT #	INCIDENT TYPE	RESPONSES	%	MUTUAL AID GIVEN	MUTUAL AID RECEIVED
100	Fire	51	2	22	7
	Building fire	27		19	4
	Cooking fire, confined to container	7		0	0
	Forest, woods, natural vegetation, wildland fire, brush	7		3	1
	Other	10		0	2
200	Overpressure Rupture	2	>1	0	0
300	Rescue/EMS Incident	1490	58	16	6
	EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	1342		6	5
	Motor vehicle accident with injuries	27		7	31
	Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	31		1	0
	Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator	43		0	0
	Other	47		2	0
400	Hazardous Condition	72	3	1	2
	Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	2		0	0
	Carbon monoxide incident	6		0	0
	Tree on wires (arcing), communication line down	39		0	0
	Other	25		1	2
500	Service Call, Other	238	9	5	5
	Check detector	37		0	0
	Odor investigation	50		3	2
	Lock-out	18		0	0
	Other	133		2	3
600	Good Intent Call, Other	91	4	17	1
	Dispatched & cancelled en-route	64		17	0
	Smoke scare, odor of smoke	7		0	1
	Other	20		0	0
700	False Alarm or False Call	638	25	4	6
	Trouble signal due to malfunction	280		0	0
	Smoke detector/alarm system activation	152		1	5
	Other	206		3	1
800	Severe Weather or Natural Disaster	8	0	0	0
900	Special Incident Type, Other	1	>1	0	0
Total Incidents		2591	100	65	27

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

FIRE CHIEF: David Emanuel

The Durham Fire Department participates in the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands online electronic permitting process to best serve Durham residents. Under State law (RSA 227-L:17), a fire permit is required for all outside burning, unless the ground is completely covered with snow. Fire permits may be obtained by visiting <https://nh.burnsafeamerica.com/> or by scanning the QR code.



From January to November 2023, there were over 200 burn permits issued to Durham residents and

l-r: Durham Fire Department Lifetime Member, Richard Many, Smokey Bear and Fire Chief Emanuel. Durham Fire Department Photo



of those, approximately 65% were seasonal permits and 35% were daily burn permits. Failure to obtain a permit or to control your fire may result in being held liable for: 1. Payment of damage to property of another; 2. Payment of suppression costs to the town; 3. Prosecution for failure to comply with regulations. <https://www.nh.gov/nhdf/ documents/fire-law-brochure.pdf>

Many homes in Durham are located within the wildland urban interface, which is the area where homes and flammable wildland fuels intermix. Homeowners should take measures to prevent wildfires 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. The burning of household waste is prohibited by the Air Resources Division of the Department of Environmental Services (DES). Additional information about wildfire and homeowner recommendations are available at www.firewise.org and <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/wui/>.

Safe open burning requires your diligence and responsibility. We ask everyone to remember Smokey's message about personal responsibility and follow his ABC's: Always Be Careful with fire. If you start a fire, put it out when you are done. "Remember, Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!" For more information, please contact the Division of Forests & Lands at (603) 271-2214, online at www.nhdf.org. For up-to-date information, follow DFL on Twitter: @NHForestRangers. Thank you for helping us to protect Durham's forest resources. ■

MCGREGOR MEMORIAL EMS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Chris Lemelin

McGregor EMS is honored to have been the 9-1-1 ambulance service for the communities of Durham, UNH, Lee, and Madbury for 55 years. Our organization was founded at a Durham town meeting and remains a community effort in every sense of the phrase. Our volunteers give selflessly of their time, providing the majority of ambulance coverage over 35,000 hours in 2023. This allowed us to cover 99.1% of all calls in 2023.

At the same time, we have continued our commitment to providing high-quality service with all high-acuity runs reviewed by our Continuous Quality Improvement Committee. In 2023 we were also one of fifty services nationwide to be selected to partner with the National EMS Quality Alliance as part of the first-ever national quality improvement project in EMS.

While we remain strong, there are also significant challenges for ambulance services - and indeed all healthcare providers - in our post-pandemic world. We are working hard to meet these challenges so as to maintain the high level of services expected and deserved by our patients.

McGregor's volunteers include people of many ages and professions and we encourage everyone to get involved in some way. Anyone can save a life, and we encourage all who read this to become involved in one of the following ways:

Take a First Aid, CPR, or Stop the Bleed Course. Class information is available at www.CPRSafe.org. Please get in touch with us if finances are a barrier to attendance.

Volunteer as an EMT. Take an EMT course locally. Non-medical volunteer opportunities also remain available. To learn more, visit www.McGregorEMS.org/volunteer.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Responded to 2,462 calls in 2023 (compared with 2,284 in 2022 and 2,331 in 2021). Recruited and trained 23 new volunteers & 3 new paramedics. Additionally, 2 former paramedics returned to the organization.

Continued our Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) program partnership with Wentworth Douglass Hospital to keep high-risk patients out of the hospital. This program is fully funded by the hospital. Secured CDC grant through the NH Asthma Control Board totaling \$169,000 designed to expand the MIH program to patients with asthma.

Provided advanced airway management training, including the use of video laryngoscopy, in partnership with anesthesiologists who are former volunteers

7 volunteers completed Advanced EMT training enhancing the level of care they are able to provide to patients

Presented on the benefits of reducing the use of Lights & Sirens at the NH Fire Academy, Vermont Emergency Preparedness Conference, and Atlantic Partners EMS conference

Became founding members of the New England Mobile Integrated Healthcare Learning Collaborative

2024 GOALS

Maintain high levels of volunteer engagement and dedication.

Work with the University, towns, and other stakeholders to address McGregor's future station needs.

Continue monitoring paramedic pay rates and benefits against regional averages to recruit and hire high-quality paramedic staff.

Continue to develop plans in cooperation with our partner agencies to respond to Active Shooter/ Hostile Event incidents.

Continue to expand our Mobile Integrated Health through new partnerships with AmeriHealth, independent physician offices, and other partners to enhance the services we can provide to the local communities.

Continue offering high quality EMT and Advanced EMT courses locally. ■

Police Department personnel with Administrator Todd Selig



Police Department Administration. (l-r): Volunteer Jay Gooze, Deputy Chief David Holmstock, Administrative Assistant Jen Johnson, Chief Rene Kelley, Administrative Assistant Sarah Douglas, Captain Jack Dalton, Parking Enforcement Officer/Evidence Technician Sandra Hebert



POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF: Rene Kelley

I am pleased to present my fourth annual report as your police chief. Day in and day out, the Durham Police Department continues to focus on providing professional services in a cost-efficient manner with a guardian philosophy of policing. Most of 2023 saw the department working short-staffed. Two officers were off for extended periods of time for paternity leave while one officer was on orders from the U.S. Army National Guard. Sergeant Greg Ruby resigned from the department to take a police officer position in Wyoming. I want to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of those officers who worked tirelessly to cover vacant shifts while officers were away.

The department once again spent countless hours actively recruiting police officer candidates who meet the very demanding hiring standards established by Durham PD policy and the Commission for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Improve upon community outreach programs and increase positive citizen/police contacts.

I am pleased to report that officers participated in numerous community service projects throughout 2023. Here are but a few of those highlights:

Partnered with several Fraternities and Sororities to “fill a cruiser” with toys and clothing for children.

Shop with a Cop program where officers partnered with children in need to shop for Christmas gifts for their family members.

Hosted several station tours and safety lessons with the local Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops.

Participated in Frost Fest and Trick or Treat festivities.

Participated in and awarded medals to athletes during the Special Olympics.

Provided active shooter training to Oyster River Middle and High School staff.

Partnered with the Oyster River Community Read program.

Participated in the University of New Hampshire Unity Day celebration.

School Resource Officer Michael Nicolosi participated in numerous activities with Oyster River Middle and High Schools

Presentations on how to avoid becoming a victim of scams to the Riverwoods community.

Participated in safety training at several local banks.

Conducted active shooter training for all the Town Hall Staff.

Successfully maintain Law Enforcement Accreditation.

In April the department was inspected by a police executive employed by the Commission on Law Enforcement Accreditation (CALEA). The inspection included a thorough review of all policies and procedures and documented proof of adherence of policy. The Durham Police are one of only eleven departments, our size, in the country to receive this distinction.

Once again, I want to thank the members of the Durham Police Department for their commitment to this community and the countless contributions they have made over this past year. We look forward to working together and providing the level of service that the Durham community has come to expect from its police department. ■

Public Works

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

DIRECTOR: Richard Reine, M.S.C.E, CA

On behalf of the Durham Public Works Team, it is with great pleasure that I present the 2023 Durham Public Works Annual Report. This report encapsulates the Department's commitment to enhancing the quality of life for all residents, businesses, institutions, and visitors to Durham. This is achieved through sustainable and fiscally responsible public works infrastructure and program management, environmental stewardship, and community engagement.

Over the 2023 calendar year, Durham Public Works undertook several key projects aimed at maintaining, preserving and improving our community's infrastructure. The Department successfully executed the 2023 Road Program improvements, developed plans and funding strategies for the upcoming 2024 solid waste program improvements, upgraded the water and sewer distribution, collection, and treatment systems, implemented multiple stormwater management projects, initiated improvements on several historic properties and completed numerous facility and grounds infrastructure upgrades. These

Office of the Director of Public Works. (l-r): Assistant to the Director of Public Works, Shannon Shaw, Administrative Assistant, Karen Reynolds, GIS Program Administrator, Steve Lutterman, Public Works Director, Richard Reine, Assistant Public Works Director, Sam Hewitt, Town Engineer April Talon



efforts align with our mission to provide reliable and resilient services to address the growing needs of our community.

Part of our efforts during 2023 included our continuation of seeking input from the community to ensure projects and programs align with the needs and desires of residents. Durham Public Works hosted public meetings and workshops, gathered valuable feedback through surveys, and forged collaborative partnerships with local organizations. We are committed to adapting to meet the evolving needs of our dynamic community.

Incorporating technological improvements and innovation is crucial for staying at the forefront of public works management and maintaining regulatory compliance. Over the 2023 reporting period, the Department continued to integrate smart infrastructure solutions such as utilization of Organic Based Performance Enhanced Liquids (OBPE) for anti-icing and closed loop ground speed control spreaders for optimization of treated salt applications during winter storm events. We utilized GIS mapping

for efficient asset and work order management and implemented automation initiatives to enhance service delivery and operational efficiency.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the projects slated for 2024. Anticipated initiatives include further infrastructure enhancements including the construction of the first phases of the Madbury Road Complete Streets project, design and construction of several critical stormwater and shoreline improvement projects, Phase 1 rehabilitation and historic preservation of the Bickford Chesley House at Wagon Hill Farm, implementation of the 2024 Road Program and the major component rehabilitation and replacement at the Town's wastewater treatment plant.

A heartfelt thank you to the dedicated team at Durham Public Works whose hard work and commitment make our achievements possible. Additionally, we extend our appreciation to the residents, businesses, and community partners whose collaboration and support drive our success. Thank you for entrusting us with this responsibility. We look forward to another year of progress and collaboration. ■

ENGINEERING DIVISION

TOWN ENGINEER: April Talon P.E.

The Engineering Division of Durham Public Works is responsible for managing the Town's infrastructure including water, sewer, stormwater, bridges, roads, and dams. The following are highlights of projects completed or ongoing in 2023 and those coming for 2024:

Integrated Watershed Planning/Grants/Stormwater

EPA Stormwater MS4 Permit Compliance Year 5 and Year 6 - Annual Program Ongoing

Community Oyster Garden at Old Landing Park - Ongoing

Seacoast Stormwater Coalition – Ongoing

Great Bay Pollution Tracking and Accounting Pilot Project - Ongoing

Water Projects

Emerson Road Water Main Replacement – Construction Completed 2023

Madbury Road Water Main Replacement - Phase 1 Construction Scheduled 2024

Mill Pond Dam Removal and Oyster River Restoration – Design Ongoing/Construction 2024

Technology Drive PRV/Booster Station – Construction 2023/2024

Lee Well Improvements – Construction 2023/2024

Beech Hill and Foss Farm Tank Improvements – Construction 2024

Monthly Water Meter Reading and Quarterly Billing – Annual Program Ongoing

Cross Connection Control Program/Backflow Prevention – Annual Program Ongoing

Wastewater Projects

Madbury Road Sewer Main Replacement – Phase 1 Construction Scheduled 2024

West End Sewer Planning Study – Ongoing 2023/2024

WWTP 2020 Facilities Plan Update – Ongoing 2023/2024

WWTP Odor Control Upgrade – Complete November 2023

WWTP Major Components Upgrade – Design Complete 2023, Construction 2024, 2025

EPA Great Bay General Nitrogen Permit Compliance – Annual Program Ongoing

Road/Bridge/Culvert Projects

Madbury Road Reconstruction Project – Design 2023, Phase 2 Construction Scheduled 2024

Culvert Rehabilitation, Ross Road – Design 2023/ Construction 2024

Culvert Rehabilitation, Edgewood Road @ Littlehale Brook – Construction Spring 2024

Culvert Rehabilitation, Edgewood Road @ Pettee Brook – Construction Spring 2024

Culvert Rehabilitation, Madbury Road @ Littlehale Brook – Construction Spring 2024

Culvert Rehabilitation, Madbury Road @ Pettee Brook – Construction Spring 2024

2023 Road Program – Complete

2024 Road Program – Coming for 2024

Mill Road Culvert Over Oyster River – Design 2024

As always it has been a very busy year for permitting with 34 driveway permits and 28 excavation permits. It's been a pleasure serving the Town of Durham this year and I'm looking forward to what 2024 holds! ■

GIS DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATOR: Steve Lutterman,

In general, the mission of Durham's Geographic Information System (GIS) program is to provide maps, applications, geographic data, and spatial analysis for the Town's departments, boards, committees and the greater community. By using geographic tools to interpret information and reveal insights, such as patterns and relationships, decision makers are better equipped to address town issues. The town's GIS department has been working on various projects to support the town's operations, planning, and decision-making. Some of the major projects include the following:

Stormwater Asset Management Plan: The GIS program is working in conjunction with the Durham Public Works Engineering Division in developing a stormwater asset management plan for the Town, as required by the EPA's MS4 permit. The plan involves collecting and updating the data on the Town's stormwater infrastructure, such as catch basins, pipes, outfalls, and detention ponds. The data is used to create a GIS-based model to assess the condition,

performance, and risk of the assets, and to identify the maintenance and improvement needs. This was made possible through an asset management Grant awarded by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES).

Land Stewardship Asset Collection Program: The GIS department partnered with the Conservation Commission to implement a land stewardship asset collection program, which aimed to inventory and map the Town-owned conservation and recreation lands and their amenities, such as footbridges, picnic tables, kiosks, and similar assets. This ongoing effort uses a mobile GIS application to collect and update data in the field, that is then uploaded into to the Town's GIS portal. The program will help the Town to manage and maintain its natural and cultural resources, and to promote public access and enjoyment of the lands.

Solid Waste Collection Audit: The GIS department supported the Durham Public Works Solid Waste Division in conducting a curbside collection audit for the Town which aimed to evaluate the efficiency and

effectiveness of the town's curbside trash and recycling collection service. The audit will help the Solid Waste Division to optimize the collection service and reduce the environmental impact and operational costs. The information derived from this data was valuable in providing insight into helping the Town select optimal sized disposal containers in its current effort to modernize the refuse and recycling collection fleet with automated collection vehicles.

In the coming year the GIS Program will be working with Durham Public Works and Underwood Engineering on the Town's Copper and Lead Water

Service Inventory. This project is to conduct a comprehensive inventory of the water service lines in the Town, with a focus on identifying the locations and materials of the pipes that may contain copper or lead. The inventory will help the Town comply with the federal Lead and Copper Rule and prioritize pipes in need of replacement.

The GIS department is proud of its achievements and contributions to the Town in the past year. We look forward to continuing our work and providing high-quality GIS services and products to the Town and its departments, boards, committees, and residents. ■

LINDA H. HOLLISTER SWAP SHOP

VOLUNTEER: Sally Needell

The Linda H. Hollister Swap Shop at the Durham Transfer Station is a volunteer-powered community resource.

The mission of the Swap Shop is to:

Keep items out of the landfill, thereby reducing environmental impact and tipping costs to the town.

Reduce the amount of new products residents will need to purchase when used products will suffice.

Strengthen the community by providing a place where residents exchange goods and stop by for friendly conversation.

The 2023 season for the Swap Shop started with its opening on April 1st and it will close on December 16th unless it is closed due to inclement winter weather.

Linda H. Hollister Swap Shop 2023. Sally Needell Photo



The Swap Shop is open from 9:00am to 2:30pm on Tuesdays and Saturdays, the two days that the Transfer Station is open to residents.

To make it easier for residents to learn about the Swap Shop and to volunteer their time, the Swap Shop started its own website, swapshopdurham.wordpress.com, in 2023. The site includes how to use the Swap Shop, what can and cannot be donated, the mission, policies, some DYK's from Friday Updates, information about the book and textile recycling options at the Transfer

Station, and a link to volunteer sign-ups.

The Swap Shop often feels like the social center of Durham, and many people visit hoping to see friends while dropping off items, browsing, and/or picking up items to take home. Countless items have been dropped off all season! If an item is clean, works, and has all of its parts, it can be found at the Swap Shop.

Tentative opening date for the 2024 season is April 2, 2024. ■

OPERATIONS DIVISION

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS:

Samuel Hewitt

OPERATIONS MANAGER: Shane Bickford

The Durham Public Works Operations Division participated in several high value projects in 2023 in addition to its routine maintenance responsibilities. The timely completion of the Division's annual programs was delayed due to staff vacancies within the Solid Waste Division requiring backfilling assistance from Operations. Supply chain issues and the

rising costs of materials and consumables continued to require new strategies to ensure programs and services remained largely unaffected. The team responded to two high impact weather events where extensive road closures were the result of anomalously strong winds and heavy wet snow. La Niña conditions persisted for a third consecutive winter, resulting in 20 emergency responses for frozen precipitation events. Furthermore, the Spring Bulky Waste Collection Program netted 130 tons of material over the four-week curbside collection period.

The Operations Division. (l-r); Dwight Richard, Kevin Linchey, Thomas Macaione, Chris Starkweather, BJ Austin, Nick Bennion, Shane Bickford, Public Works Director, Richard Reine, Assistant Public Works Director, Sam Hewitt, John Baker, Mike McCrillis, Dana Smith, Matthew Collins, Chad Pierce, Adam Jenness, Spencer Deland



2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Installed an epoxy flooring system in the basement of the Durham Police Department.

Picked-up 66 tons of brush and leaves during the curbside Fall Brush/Leaf Collection Program.

Completed the annual Roadway Crack Sealing Program. This pavement preservation technique was applied to the University Market Parking Lot, Metered Parking Lot, Edgewood Road, sections of Mill Pond Road, Faculty Road, Sections of Bagdad Road, Canney Road, Longmarsh Road, and Sandy Brook Drive.

Painted 30 miles of center and edge pavement markings across Town. Symbols including crosswalks, sharrows, bike lanes, and stop bars were also completed within the Downtown corridor.

Coordinated with a historic restoration contractor to complete mortar repairs to the exterior of the Old Town Hall / Courthouse.

Continued to provide scheduled, preventative, and unscheduled repairs to the majority of town-owned vehicles, including 26 NH State Inspections.

Provided year-round maintenance of all town-owned parks, property, and buildings.

Coordinated traffic control packages with the Parks and Recreation Department for several special events.

Responded to 20 winter weather events, providing snow and ice control for 120 lane miles of roadway and 15 miles of sidewalk.

Coordinated with the Oyster River Cooperative School District and Town Clerk's office with setting up and tearing down one election event.

Planted four public shade trees in the Downtown Corridor and one at Wagon Hill Farm.

Consistent with the Town's EPA issued NPDES MS4 Stormwater Permit requirements, Durham Public Works cleaned 153 catch basins and swept the gutter lines of all Town roadways.

Removed and replaced over 150 feet of culvert drainage pipe, including emergency replacements on Colony Cove Road and the Madbury Road / Cowell Drive intersection.

Completed renovations to the used oil shed at the Raymond A. LaRoche, Sr. Transfer Station and Recycling Center.

Completed a Spring and Fall Preventative Maintenance Program on Town facility HVAC equipment.

Assisted in the completion of the Emerson Road Watermain Project which involved the replacement of ~2,550 feet of buried cast iron pipe and its associated appurtenances.

Replaced 40 Town street name signs with ones which include the Town seal and meet MUTCD compliance.

Completed roadside mowing activities along dozens of arterial, collector, and local roads.

Replaced the roofing system at the Wagon Hill Farm's Bickford-Cheley House.

Constructed three bioretention areas for stormwater treatment at the Durham Public Works facility.

Completed interior and exterior cleaning of the windows at the Durham Town Hall.

Installed a dual-port electric charging station at the Durham Public Library.

Completed emergency repairs to a section of the bridge deck that carries the Lamprey River underneath Packers Falls Road.

Excavated and temporarily reinforced the large culvert that carries Ellison Brook under Ross Road.

Coordinated with Eversource Energy on the removal of 46 dead or decaying ash trees along Emerson Road.

Constructed Lafayette Park at Durham Town Hall. ■

SOLID WASTE DIVISION

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS:

Samuel Hewitt

OPERATIONS MANAGER: Shane Bickford

SOLID WASTE PROGRAM SUPERVISOR:

Thomas Brannan

Day-to-day functions within the Solid Waste Division were impacted in 2023 by staffing vacancies due to medical leave and employee retirement. In addition to managing the routine operations, the Durham Public Works team and the Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee (IWMAC) began strategizing around several initiatives aimed at transforming the operations of the Division starting in 2024 and 2025. The team studied the potential advantages that would result from a transition to a fully automated curbside collection program, complete with standardized collection carts for both solid waste and single stream recycling. This study included conducting a comprehensive audit of the curbside collection program and exploration of alternative fuel equipment. Simultaneously, the Department and IWMAC analyzed the potential benefits of incorporating solid waste and single stream recycling compactors, located on the sawtooth

wall, into the operation of the Raymond A. LaRoche Sr. Transfer Station and Recycling Center aimed at boosting stored material volumes and reducing the frequency of trips to final disposal sites.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Continued to provide weekly curbside collection of solid waste and recycling for approximately 1,900 residential customers and 32 commercial recycling customers.

Completed a comprehensive audit to gather information on metrics such as program participation, quality of disposed materials and recycling participation, and contamination levels for the approximately 1,900 collection points.

Continued to provide options for the recycling of individual revenue-generating commodities through the Transfer Station, including corrugated cardboard, aluminum cans, batteries, and scrap metal.

Continued to evaluate options/methods for disposal and recycling programs to increase efficiencies, reduce cost, improve employee safety, and promote environmental sustainability.

Solid Waste Division. (l-r): Sanitation Supervisor, Tom Brannan, John Page, Scott Leduc, Assistant Public Works Director, Sam Hewitt, Shane Bickford, Spencer Deland, John Baker, Public Works Director, Richard Reine



Developed a plan to convert the Curbside Collection Program from semi-automated to fully-automated with standardized collection carts.

Applied for and was awarded \$723,680.90 in Diesel Emissions Reduction Act funding for the procurement of two fully electric automated collection vehicles and charging infrastructure in 2024.

Maintained employee NHDES Solid Waste Certifications through required training programs.

Successfully recruited and hired Collection Equipment Operator, Scott Leduc.

Worked with the Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee to promote recycling and the diversion of municipal solid waste from landfills. ■

SOLID WASTE DIVISION STATISTICS 2023

TONS OF MATERIAL MARKETED		OTHER MATERIAL RECYCLED: (UNIT)	
Recyclable Material (tons):		Car Tires (tons)	1.89
Mixed Paper - Route	168.76	Waste Oil - (gallons)	400
Mixed Paper - Transfer Station	85.94	Antifreeze - (gallons)	0
Cardboard	79.78	Leaves (tons)	70
Scrap Metal	92.45	Fluorescent Bulbs (#)	405
Car Batteries	1.87	Electronics (tons)	8.01
Ballasts	0.085	Propane Tanks - (individual)	208
Single Stream - Commercial Route	105.25	Fire Extinguishers (each)	41
Commingled Containers - Transfer Station	73.86	Air Conditioners (each)	198
Comingled Containers - Route	135.66	Refrigerators (each)	125
Aluminum Cans	3.25	Compost (tons) - Transfer Station	28
Total	746.905	MATERIALS DISPOSED: (TONS)	
Recycling Revenue	\$17,449.38	MSW - Curbside	1115.74
		MSW - Transfer Station	497.31
		Bulky Waste	261.02
		Construction and Demolition	77.12
		Electronic Stickers Sold (each)	682

WASTEWATER DIVISION

WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT:

Daniel Peterson

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND 2024 GOALS

Two new carbon odor scrubbers were installed for the solids processing building and the solids storage tanks. These new units have made notable difference in reducing nuisance odors generated in these areas along with greatly improving the work environment for Wastewater Division operators. The project was designed by Wright Pierce Engineering and constructed by Apex Construction.

As part of the 2023 Capital Improvements Program, a new sewer cleaning/vacuum truck was delivered. This truck is used primarily during the summer months to clean the majority of the sewage collection lines throughout the Town. This routine

maintenance is an important step in eliminating any sewage backups that may occur. The new Vactor truck replaces the fifteen-year-old truck that had served the Town well over the years, cleaning several hundred miles of sewer lines over its service life. The new sewer cleaning truck has several features making for safer and more efficient operations.

In September the wastewater facility held an open house hosting the New Hampshire Water Pollution Control Association. Approximately one hundred wastewater operators, engineers, and product representatives attended from around New England. The day began with tours of the facility, followed up by a luncheon at the Three Chimneys Inn. A presentation was given by Paige Durant of Wright-Pierce Engineers and Superintendent Daniel Peterson on current and past upgrades, nitrogen removal successes, daily operations, and future plans.

The Edgewood Road sewer rehabilitation was completed. This upgrade consisted of slip-lining approx. 2100 feet of a 1940's eight-inch clay pipe and associated manhole structures. The slip-lining was completed by Green Mountain Pipeline Services. The process involves a resin "sock" being blown into the existing pipe and then cured with pressure and steam. Once hardened, the new lining rehabilitated the existing pipe to a "new" condition providing decades of future service life.

Mechanical upgrades to two Primary Clarifiers, four Aeration Tanks, two Secondary Clarifiers, and other facility structures have been designed by the engineering firm Environmental Partners. A construction contract is planned to be advertised and awarded in early 2024. The construction improvements are critical to reliable treatment plant operations, with work planned to take place during the 2024 and 2025 summer months, when UNH students will be on summer break resulting in decreased flows and tankage requirements.

With the departure of Chief Operator Ian Anderson in early 2023, the Town has brought on Mathew Collins as the new Chief Operator. Being fully qualified as a NH licensed Grade IV wastewater operator, Matt brings a wealth of knowledge to the field and has been an excellent asset for the Public Works Department and the Town.

As always, the staff continues to look forward to serving the Town in the coming year and making the best quality treated discharge into the Oyster River and Great Bay. ■

WASTEWATER DIVISION STATISTICS

PERMIT PARAMETERS	2021 AVG.	2022 AVG.	2023 AVG.
Effluent Flow (MGD)	0.78	0.77	0.94
Influent Flow (MGD)	0.82	0.80	0.94
Effluent TSS (MG/L)	1.0	1.6	1.4
% TSS Removal min.85%	99.6	99.1	99.2
Effluent BOD (MG/L)	4.6	5.1	4.2
% BOD Removal min. 85%	97.6	97.4	97.7
Total Effluent Flow (MG)	284	279	308
Total Influent Flow (MG)	300	291	308
Total Septage Received (Gal.)	334,400	337,385	261,050

MGD.....Million Gallons per Day
TSS.....Total Suspended Solids
BOD.....Biochemical Oxygen Demand

MG/L.....Milligrams per Liter
MG.....Million Gallons
Gal.....Gallons

Wastewater Division. (l-r): Chief Wastewater Operator, Matthew Collins, Wastewater Superintendent, Dan Peterson, Adam Jenness, Chad Pierce, Meredith Hoyt



WATER TREATMENT AND DISTRIBUTION DIVISION

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS:

Samuel Hewitt

CHIEF OPERATOR: Dwight Richard

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Following a brief yet severe drought in 2022, the UNH/Durham Water System was challenged by a series of unusually high precipitation events in 2023. These events caused changes in the quality of the system's surface water sources, adding to the challenges already faced by the Town of Epping's malfunctioning Wastewater Treatment Facility and its effect on the Lamprey River. Adjustments in water sources and treatment operation were made to continue the Division's mission of providing safe and clean drinking water to its 1350 customers. Preparations also began for the EPA's upcoming revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule in 2024 which include conducting a comprehensive audit of the UNH/Durham Water System's distribution system piping.

Completed further upgrades to the Lee Well Water Production and Treatment Facility, including the replacement of the Programmable Logic Controller and chemical feed analyzer equipment.

Conducted routine in-person inspections and remote SCADA system checks of all Town owned water facilities to ensure quality and compliance were continuously achieved.

Managed production at the Lee Well Water Production

and Treatment Facility and coordinated the finish water introduction into the distribution system.

Ensured regulatory compliance sampling for coliform, lead, copper, VOC's, SOC's, PFAS, and disinfection by-products as required by the EPA and NHDES.

Coordinated water production needs with the UNH Facilities Department and Water Treatment Plant personnel to meet system demands for the UNH/Durham water system.

Completed monthly water meter readings and coordinated with the quarterly water billing for 1350 customers.

Coordinated water system maintenance requirements with UNH Water/Facilities Department, including the annual uni-directional flushing program of water main lines, and gate valve exercising.

Replaced two hydrants and responded to and repaired three water main breaks.

Repaired or replaced 60 water meters.

Maintained employee NHDES Drinking Water Treatment and Distribution Licenses through required training programs.

Located and marked water utilities at 320 excavation sites through the Dig Safe Program.

Coordinated the development and distribution of the 2023 Consumer Confidence Report.

Assisted in the completion of the Emerson Road Watermain Project which involved the replacement of ~2,550 feet of buried cast iron pipe and its associated appurtenances.

Completed water sampling requirements for the EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5.

Removed 45 yd³ of organic material from the surface of the recharge basins at the Spruce Hole Water Production Facility.

Assisted in the construction of the new Technology Drive Booster Station Facility. ■

(l-r): Public Works Director, Richard Reine, Chief Water Operator, Dwight Richard, Assistant Public Works Director, Sam Hewitt






Town Supported Organizations



BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

GRANTS MANAGER: Madison Holdbrooks

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire (BBBSNH) is the premier youth mentoring organization, established over 56 years ago to provide guidance and friendship to youth who face adversities in their lives. BBBSNH has matched tens of thousands of children with caring supportive mentors. We believe every child deserves someone in their corner and our mission is to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth.

Providing children with a one-to-one mentoring relationship is all we do, it is our sole mission. All of our efforts, service delivery systems, child safety procedures, volunteer training, parent coaching and match activities are focused solely on achieving positive outcomes for children through mentoring. We partner with parents/guardians, volunteers and others in the community and hold ourselves accountable for each child in our program achieving higher aspirations, greater confidence, better relationships, avoidance of risky behaviors, and educational success.

Our programs include mentoring children in foster homes, children from homes with substance abuse, children who identify as LGBTQ+ and children who are at risk of dropping out of high school.

In 2023 Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire supported two mentoring matches from the town of Durham. In addition, six volunteers from the town selflessly dedicated their time to mentoring youth in Durham and surrounding communities.

Each mentoring match meets a minimum of 2-4 times per month, spending quality time together participating in activities of their choosing to gain new experiences and skills.

We had a successful year of Mentor 2.0, which stands as a technology-enhanced, one-to-one mentoring initiative designed to provide transformative support for economically disadvantaged, first-generation high school students. This program plays a pivotal role in not only assisting participants during its active phase but also in extending their opportunities beyond its duration. In the academic year 2022-2023, Mentor 2.0 commenced with 9 students (we enrolled 12 youth, but due to circumstances in the home environment they were not able to continue within the first few weeks) and concluded with 4 due to adjustment in the student's schedules and other pertinent factors (we also enrolled several additional students and mentors, in addition to the matches made but they did not continue or complete the entire process).

Some of the local organizations with which we collaborate include Bolduc Park, Laconia Rotary Club, Waypoint, BNI group, New Beginnings, and Lakes Region Community Resources. Some of the other agencies we partner with include the Hampton Police Department and Dover Police Department and, in the past, Gilford Police Department. NH Department of Justice and the Adverse Childhood Experiences Response (ACERT) Teams in several locations including the Lakes Region.

This past year we also launched a recruitment campaign as the number of youths have been outpacing volunteer mentors. We were excited when Grappone Toyota became the sponsor of this campaign by not only helping with recruitment but also giving financial support to build up our grassroots recruitment and tools.

BBBSNH has also partnered with the Laconia Daily Sun, which began in June 2023. Through this partnership, the Daily Sun is featuring BBBSNH match stories three times a month in their paper. Additionally, about once a month they showcase our story with a full-page ad. This partnership will continue until June 2024, and has led to other collaborations with The Weirs Times and Lakes Media.

As of 12/12/23 BBBSNH has supported over 425 matches this year.

The Following are some statistics about the Durham Youth BBBSNH Served this past year:

Youth ranged in age of: 11-13

Household situation: one lives with other relatives, while the other lives with two parents

Demographics: One is a male, and the other identifies as female, both are caucasian

Program type: both are community matches

2024 GOALS

Create more volunteer support and alumni relationships.

Continue to provide training for staff, mentors and families, in such areas as diversity and inclusion, trauma-informed practices and opioid/substance misuse.

Expand our Recruitment Task Force Campaign. As we are still recovering from the effects of the pandemic.

Strengthen and create new relationships with individual and corporate donors as well as local businesses to promote program substantiality and sense of community around the need for mentoring

Improve and strengthen strategies to better tell our story and raise awareness of Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire and its mission. ■

COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP OF STRAFFORD COUNTY

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER: Caitlyn Kunz

Community Action Partnership of Strafford County (CAPSC) was founded in 1965 and offers a full suite of services and programs designed to have an impact on people in Strafford County. Without the services provided by our agency, many local residents would be without a means to provide for their basic needs, including food, education, childcare, utilities like heat and electricity, transportation, housing, emergency shelter, and access to other services. CAPSC has a unique blend of community-based leadership and staffing with offices located in Dover, Farmington, Rochester, and Somersworth.

CAPSC is a 501(c)(3) private, non-profit organization that works closely with community, state, and federal partners to help assist community members. Our mission is “to reduce barriers to help clients improve their economic stability and well-being through education, advocacy, and partnerships.” We strive to serve as many families as we can. We have a vision to “eliminate poverty”.

Last year, CAPSC worked to help 15,552 Strafford County residents become more independent and self-sufficient through our programs. We are thankful to be part of the Diaper Distribution Grant along with seven other non-profits to create a pilot program. This grant allows us to serve more families by being able to distribute diapers at a variety of locations in Strafford County.

2023 FISCAL YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

7 households in Durham received \$10,853 in Fuel Assistance.

25 households in Durham received \$6,376 in Electric Assistance.

68 individuals or families in Durham received comprehensive support through CAPSC's emergency rental assistance and homeless prevention programs at a value of \$267,046.

496 rides were given to Durham seniors on the CAPSC Senior Transportation Bus.

Durham food pantries received 10,286 pounds of food from The Emergency Food Assistance Program, coordinated and distributed by CAPSC.

2024 GOALS

Reduce the number of children in poverty in Strafford County

Fill gaps for community members struggling with increased costs for food, heating fuel, transportation, and other essentials

Continue to provide high-quality early care and education to children and families

Uplift families and help them set and achieve individual and family goals

Address the need for affordable housing and help to keep people housed

For more information on how to access CAPSC's programs and services, please visit our website: <https://www.traffordcap.org/> ■

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA) OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT: Tarah Bergeron

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of New Hampshire strives to protect the rights of our state's most vulnerable children to live, learn and grow in the embrace of a loving family. Our trained volunteer advocates (CASAs) speak for abused and neglected children's best interests in New Hampshire's family court system- including Dover Family Court, the court that serves children from the Town of Durham.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023) by the Numbers (Statewide)

612 carefully screened, trained and supervised volunteer advocates

89 new volunteers trained

1,549 children had advocates by their side

952 families (1% increase from FY 22)

Over 12,000 children had advocates since 1989

Over 85,000 hours of volunteer time in FY 23



Over 600,000 miles traveled in FY 23

In FY 2023, CASA of New Hampshire served 65 children at the Dover District Court, the court that serves the children of Durham. Currently, 4 Durham residents are working hard to make a lasting difference in a child's life by volunteering as CASA advocates. Each volunteer advocate typically works with 2.5 children over 3.5 years, so residents in your community are impacting the lives of more than 9 children. Children with a CASA advocate spend fewer months in foster care, experience fewer out of home placements and perform better in school than children without a CASA.

2024 GOALS

We continue to strive to reach our goal of having

trained advocates available to serve 100% of child abuse and neglect cases that we are presented with.

We are focused on volunteer recruitment and retention as we spread our reach farther throughout New Hampshire. With 700 volunteer advocates we believe CASA could effectively provide a voice for 100 percent of the state's children.

We cannot get there alone. Your support, together with many other municipalities across the state, makes it possible for CASA to provide advocates for victimized children in your community. We will continue to find multiple avenues of support including from individuals, businesses, foundations, and federal, state and local government--NH towns, cities, and municipalities. ■

GREATER SEACOAST COMMUNITY HEALTH

GRANT WRITER: Helen Long

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

From January through November 10, Greater Seacoast Community Health served 28 residents of Durham with 110 visits. More than half the visits were for primary care services, with about 20 percent of visits each for prenatal and behavioral health services. Many residents received more than one service. Fourteen percent of patients were uninsured with Medicaid covering 50 percent.

We partnered with Somersworth School District to offer in-school primary and behavioral health

care services at Somersworth High School weekly beginning December 2023. The dental team continues offering in-school oral health education and preventive services to Head Start, kindergarten, and elementary schools in Strafford and Rockingham Counties

Greater Seacoast Community Health's Family Resource Center of Quality partnered with schools, community organizations, and nonprofits to expand programming for parents, grandparents, and other caregivers to better understand their children's developmental needs and connect with supportive resources.

The dental program partnered with Harvard University, Bi-State Primary Care Association, and other NH dental providers to launch a new residency program – Advanced Education in General Dentistry – this summer.

The Strafford County Public Health Network, a program of Greater Seacoast, planned and hosted an annual Addiction Summit with ten workshops and 120 registrants.

The mobile health program that serves people experiencing homelessness conducted six clinics in four communities weekly and has expanded to offer a seventh clinic in Milton.

2024 GOALS

Provide the best possible patient and family experience

Ensure workforce engagement and well-being

Improve health outcomes of the population

Strengthen financial stability. ■

Greater Seacoast Community Health school-based dental hygienist, Trisha Mayotte with pal Daisy the Dog. Greater Seacoast Community Health Photo



HAVEN

OFFICE MANAGER: Tina A. Holmes

For over 40 years, HAVEN has provided services to Durham residents. HAVEN exists to prevent sexual assault and domestic violence, and to empower women, men, youth and families to heal from abuse and rebuild their lives.

One of the ways HAVEN accomplishes this mission is through its K-12 Safe Kids Strong Teens program that aims to prevent child sexual abuse, sexual harassment, bullying and teen dating violence. The goal of this program aims to influence attitudes and behavior and thereby reduce the likelihood of youth becoming victims or perpetrators of sexual or teen dating violence, and to create a positive atmosphere for people to build self-esteem and improve their lives.

This prevention program is further supported by a comprehensive client services program that includes:

Emergency Shelter and Supportive Housing Program

24-hour confidential crisis and support hotline
1-800-854-3552

24-hour accompaniment to police stations and hospital emergency rooms

Accompaniment to courts and assistance obtaining restraining orders

Safety planning

Support and accompaniment for families at the Stafford County Child Advocacy Center

Support groups for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and parents.

With support from the Town of Durham, HAVEN was able to assist 14 Durham residents with 197 units of service in our client services program and hundreds of children and teens through the Safe Kids Strong Teens program. HAVEN reached 589 students and 42 adults (children, parents and teachers) at Durham area schools with critical information about safety and awareness.

Preventing domestic violence and sexual abuse and providing support for those impacted can lead to healthier and more secure children and adults. HAVEN has a strong history of producing positive results with programs and services.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Expanded capacity to communicate with survivors who are unable to safely speak on the phone.

The staff of HAVEN celebrating the winning of the 2023 Business NH Magazine Non-Profit of the Year award. HAVEN Photo



Expanded capacity of shelter by working with local hospitality partners.

Expanded housing program with federal grant providing support services for one year after long-term housing is secured; collaboratively working with state and local housing programs.

Collaborated with housing authorities to provide housing opportunities for survivors.

Increased collaboration with local therapist to offer clinical support groups to survivors.

Created a senior management position to build

Child and Family services.

HAVEN partnered with Camp Hope America, the first evidence based camping and mentoring program to focus on youth impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault and trauma. It is offering Pathways, which is a year-long mentorship program and Camp Hope which is a week-long camp in the summer for these youths.

HAVEN is currently doubling our impact on hospital visits, shelter requests, child advocacy accompaniments for non-offending caregivers during forensic interviews, and much more. ■

READY RIDES

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Tahja Fulwider

Ready Rides Transportation Assistance organization provides free curb-to-curb rides to all medical related appointments for residents living in Durham that are 55 years old or older, and to all who are disabled. Our vetted volunteer drivers use their own vehicles to provide transportation services. Mileage reimbursement is available to drivers. Ready Rides also provides rides to residents living in Barrington, Madbury, Northwood, Newfields, Nottingham, Newmarket and Strafford. Rides are not bound by travel distance. Accessible rides are available. Ready Rides was established in 2012 and is a 501 C 3 independent nonprofit organization.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Number of Durham drivers: 6

Total confirmed trips since 2012: 6,178

Registered Durham residents using our service: 213

Total confirmed trips for year 2023 up thru December: 425

2024 GOALS

We have now reached our ten-year mark and can proudly say we have provided free rides to those in need in NH communities for 10 continuous years! Our volunteer base was deeply affected by Covid 19 and has not fully recovered, although ridership is increasing again towards pre-covid numbers. We have been working hard to rebuild our volunteer base and will continue to see support in the community. We proudly never stopped providing transportation to those most in need. As the town's population ages and the town grows, we expect the need to increase, and we plan to be spending the first part of 2024 getting the word out to those in the community to remind them that we are here and remain available and happy to take every ride we can. ■

STRAFFORD NUTRITION & MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Jaymie Chagnon

Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Strafford Nutrition & Meals on Wheels is a private, nonprofit (501 3C) agency who provides services to the residents of Strafford County, NH. Our mission is to promote the well-being of the elderly and disabled adults of Strafford County by providing services to foster independence in their own home and prevent or delay the need for institutional care. Through the delivery of hot nutrition meals in home or community settings, daily safety checks, nutrition education, and nutritional assessments, SNMOW promotes physical and emotional health, protects quality of life, and aides in the social & economic needs of the elderly and disabled.

SNMOW is grateful to Durham for its support this past year. All the Durham residents served participated in the Meals on Wheels program. This program delivers meals directly to the homes of elderly and handicapped residents of Durham. There is age, disability, and/or income criteria for this service. Drivers go to each person's home, deliver the meals, perform small tasks for the person, if needed, and report any noticeable change or problem to the site manager. The meals are geared to the nutritional standard set by the Older Americans Act, which is approved by a Registered Dietitian. For Meals on Wheels clients whose situations warrant it, there are also weekend meals, night meals, holiday meals, and "Blizzard Bags" to be used during the winter when the driver is unable to deliver meals due to inclement weather.

In addition to the meals, the following are some of the support services provided this past year:

Safety Checks: with the delivery of each meal, there is verification that the client is doing well. If the driver notes any changes in the client's behavior,

habits, mannerisms, etc.; they will report it so a follow-up with their emergency contact will happen. In a serious situation that requires immediate action, 911 would be called and the driver would stay with the client until the EMT arrived.

Information: refers to the information that is given to the clients via a SNMOW employee, and includes health tips, agency newsletters, notice regarding local information, etc.

Referrals: made to the VNA, BEAS, Community Action, and other service organizations to help mobilize resources to aid in the independent living of the client.

Home Visits: refers to the visits that the Outreach Coordinator or Field Supervisor makes to a client's home. All homebound clients receive home visits. Reasons for the visits include intake application on a new client; redetermination assessment on a client already receiving meals; to check on a sick client having problems, etc.

Services provided specifically to Durham residents this past year include:

23 Durham residents (on average we are feeding 16 Durham residents per day)

4,149 Meals served to Durham residents

1,555 Safety Checks and Support Services

Participant statistical information

67.0% are over the age of 70

80.4% say that MOW meals are vital in their ability to remain in their homes

76.5% live alone

72.1% have an income below \$1,500 per month. ■

STRAFFORD REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Jen Czysz

DURHAM COMMISSIONERS: Leslie Schwartz and Wayne Burton

Strafford Regional Planning Commission works with municipalities, statewide organizations and other partners to provide technical assistance with planning documents, outreach, and regulations. SRPC creates a space for stakeholders to connect, share information, and engage with important planning initiatives.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Finalized and presented the Climate Adaptation Master Plan chapter to the Planning Board for adoption.

Supported the Town's National Fish and Wildlife Foundation National (NFWF) Coastal Resilience Fund proposal to secure roughly \$2M in funding for continuing living shoreline work at Wagon Hill.

Continued to explore ways to improve the Town's original application for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance to replace the culverts at the Longmarsh Road crossing.

Provided septic system data to the Town's consultant to help with the development of a System Vulnerability Factor assessment for their MS4 permit.

Provided assistance to the Town's consultant working on a housing needs assessment.

Assisted with filling out the adaptation and resilience sections of a questionnaire for compliance with the Town's commitment to the Global Covenant of Mayors.

Planned and presented at the Rising Tides Site Visit at Durham Town Landing to observe and photograph the high tide.

Updated Oyster River Forest trail maps.

Ordered New Hampshire Planning and Land Use Regulation books for local land use boards.

Updated the Durham Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Engineering, scope, preliminary design, and budget for 2 potential transportation projects: NH155/Main St/ Mast Rd Roundabout, and Durham Point Rd Paving and Improvements.

Assisted in development of three projects for grant funding: Electric vehicle charging stations, all-electric buses, and a new roundabout.

Conducted 13 NHDOT traffic counts and 3 supplemental counts to support local and statewide planning.

2023 REGIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Transportation Planning

Completed the Transportation System Performance Report that includes highway safety, bridge and pavement condition, system reliability and congestion, and transit asset conditions. <https://strafford.org/reference/map-gallery/>.

Created a Municipal Guide to EV Charging Stations designed to remove the barriers for municipalities to increase deployment of EV Charging Stations in the Strafford Region and beyond. <https://strafford.org/reference/map-gallery/>.

Updated the Coordinated Public Transit & Human Services Transportation Plan.

Hired an engineering consultant to review priority transportation improvement projects on behalf of all and at no cost to SRPC communities.

Finalized the Regional Traffic Counts Dashboard for 2023 Data Collection Season.

Co-managed the CommuteSmart Seacoast program, a collaboration of SRPC to engage the local workforce to compete in "challenges" to reduce overall miles driven.

Purchased a Leetron video traffic counter to be used to count high-volume roads, winter roads, and pedestrians along a corridor.

Environmental Planning

Hosted two Resiliency Roundtables including "Protecting Our Local Food Systems" and "Improving Your Energy Efficiency with NHSaves."

Established a relationship with Clean Energy NH's Seacoast Region Circuit Rider to provide additional technical assistance to municipalities on community power benefits and local solar ordinances.

Updated the Groundwater-Aquifer Zoning Ordinance Gap Analysis Tool to incorporate the revised NHDES Groundwater Model Ordinance and reviewed each communities' groundwater protection regulations for basic compliance.

Mentored a group of UNH Capstone students in conducting research to update the Climate Change Appendix to the 2015 Local Solutions Regional Master Plan.

Economic Development

Published the 2023 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Update. <https://strafford.org/plans/ceds/>.

Organized bi-weekly meetings of economic development professionals to provide support, resources and guidance post-COVID.

Created an Age-Friendly Resource Guide that

highlights services where people of all ages can find transportation, healthy food, events, and other necessary resources to thrive. www.strafford.org/reference/resources/healthy-aging-resources/.

SRPC and Community Action Partnership of Strafford County (CAPSC) closed-out the CDBG grant which supported a shelter and day center/warming center for the region's homeless population during the COVID-19 pandemic. This project was critical to slow the spread of the pandemic within a vulnerable population.

Data and GIS

Adopted the Regional Housing Needs Assessment, which takes an in-depth look at local and regional housing needs, across all income levels, and provides a foundation for change by including tools and strategies for local decision-makers. (www.strafford.org/projects/rhna/)

Expanded and updated the Regional Data Snapshot, Interactive Map, and Community Profiles that contain 144 demographics, economic vitality, livability and quality of life, mobility and

UNH Special Projects Director, Steve Pesci, (far left), the UNH Wildcat Mascot, Administrator Todd Selig (far right), and a mixture of passengers, NNEPRA officials, and Durham train supporters (including John and Diana Carroll) celebrate the one-millionth passenger aboard the Downeaster on March 23, 2023. Jeremy Gasowski Photo



accessibility, and resiliency metrics. (www.strafford.org/measure/data-snapshot/)

2024 GOALS

Local

Through the NFWF opportunity, SRPC will conduct several public engagement activities, including online mapping, the creation of trailhead maps and kiosks, and other informational signage at Wagon Hill.

Submit a formal recommendation to the Public Works Department on improvements to the Town's prior FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance application to replace the culverts at the Longmarsh Road crossing.

Explore funding sources to implement actions in the

Town's Climate Adaptation Master Plan chapter.

Regional

Review and update the Municipal Guide to EV Charging Stations as needed.

Support state efforts for broadband and digital equity initiatives.

Kick-off the 2023-2027 SRPC Brownfield's Program and identify locations to conduct environmental assessments and reuse plans.

Provide detailed engineering support through a consultant for municipalities developing transportation projects.

Continue to advance new transportation initiatives including regional climate impacts and equity analysis and planning for increased micro-mobility adoption. ■



Town Working Committees



AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION



CHAIR: Theresa Walker

MEMBERS: Lee Alexander; Anton Bekkerman; John Carroll; Bryan Cassidy, *Alternate*; Tom DeCapo, *Planning Board Representative*; Ellen Karelitz, *Alternate*; David Langley, *Alternate*; Raymond LaRoche, Jr., *Vice Chair*; Eleanor Lonske, *Council Representative*; Alberto Manalo; Holly Philbrick, *Alternate*; Theresa Walker, *Chair*; Daniel Winans, *Alternate*

The Durham Agricultural Commission was established by the Town Council in July 2011 to “promote the production, availability, and sale of locally grown food, fiber, and forest products” (Town Council Resolution #2011-11). Since that time, the thirteen members of the Agricultural Commission have been meeting at least once per month to work together and with Town staff and other Town boards and committees to further the mission of the Agricultural Commission, which is to encourage local food production and expand Durham’s working landscape of actively managed gardens, farms, and forests through the Town, including University land.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Continued working on policies to enable more food production in Durham at the backyard and neighborhood scale, with an emphasis on sharing resources and knowledge.

Continued to promote Durham’s designation as “Bee City USA” community.

Actively participated in the work of the Land Stewardship Committee.

Participated in meetings concerning the role of Agricultural Commissions in New Hampshire.

Shared information about food production in the region via the Town’s newsletter and social media,

Promoted the Seacoast Growers Association summer Durham Farmers’ Market and winter markets hosted by UNH and Seacoast Eat Local.

Responded to Town official and resident concerns and questions regarding agricultural activity in town.

Organized and hosted the 10th Annual Farm Day on August 19th.

Partnered with the Lee Agricultural Commission, and farms in Durham, Lee, and Madbury to strengthen the Oyster River foodshed.

2024 GOALS

Work with farmers and food producers in Durham, Lee, and Madbury to promote growing and purchasing locally produced food.

Work with the Town Planner, Planning Board, and Town Council to adopt changes to the Town's zoning ordinance to enable more agricultural activity.

Implement Master Plan recommendations regarding sustaining and expanding Durham's working landscape of farms, forests, gardens, and aquaculture.

Develop programs to support local agriculture, community gardening, home gardening, neighborhood and cooperative gardening, and backyard composting.

Host the 11th Annual Farm Day on August 17, 2024.

The Agricultural Commission believes our work is critically important to the Town Council's goal to, "Pursue long-term economic and environmental sustainability and resiliency, anticipating the community's and the region's future needs by considering multiple elements including society, ecology, economics, transportation, agriculture, food and drinking water, and energy resources, specifically taking into account existing and predicted impacts of climate change." And in support of that goal the



Lambs at Liberty Hill Farm on Bennett Road in March 2023. Theresa Walker Photo

Agricultural Commission looks forward to working with residents and Town Government in the coming year. ■

ENERGY COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Matthias Dean Carpentier

MEMBERS: Nat Balch; Wayne Burton, *Council Representative*; Ti Crossman; Matt Davis, *UNH Representative*; Emily Friedrichs, *Planning Board Representative*; Steve Holmgren; John Lannamann, Michael Lehrman.

Throughout 2023, the Energy Committee supported the town's membership in the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) by providing personnel to attend CPCNH meetings and communicate issues and responses between the organizations. While Durham had signed on as a founding member of CPCNH, we chose not to participate in the power contract phase during 2023, but instead monitor the progress of CPCNH throughout their startup year. As part of this activity, the members:

Brought to the Town Council several updates to the original CPCNH documents that needed approval.

Provided updates to the DEC on the progress of CPCNH during their first-year rollout.

Participated with a small working group of Council members to understand more about the business foundation for CPCNH, possible risks to CPCNH and the Town, and comparison to a "broker model" for power contracts that has been used in the past by Durham.

Communicated our preference to prioritize savings to our residents versus increasing the percentage going to establish financial reserves.

After monitoring the first two waves of CPCNH communities to transition to power customers, and resolving the major concerns about business risks, the Town Council approved on November 6 proceeding with power contracting through CPCNH, beginning in March 2024.

The Energy Committee continued to provide support for residents' expanding use of electrical vehicles. The efforts included activities in two areas: monitoring electric vehicle charging at Durham's two municipal charging stations and exploring opportunities to provide increased charging infrastructure through state and federal grants. These activities are consistent with the ongoing project of reducing Durham's greenhouse gas emissions. Indeed, the town's charging stations at Pettee Brook Road and at the Durham library helped residents reduce greenhouse gas emissions by an estimated 37,161 pounds. In addition,

There has been a 30% increase in the number of charging sessions compared to last year.

The number of unique drivers using the chargers is up 38%.

The total revenue generated from charging was \$6,432, an increase of 8% over last year.

The Energy Committee was active in the planning and staffing of Earth Day activities for 2023. The Committee coordinated with the Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee (IWMAC) for their display and space needs. Topics on display included local residents' solar array installations,

weatherization ideas and funding resources, tables of information and pricing on available EVs, heat pump conversion strategies, and information about CPCNH.

The Energy Committee submitted an application for the US Department of Energy's Buildings Up Prize. Our proposal was to contract an Electrification Coach for Durham residents and property owners to help them navigate the process of electrifying their buildings to de-carbonize and save money on their energy bills. The navigation assistance would include help applying for state and federal rebates. The program would give priority to low and mid-income residents but would otherwise be first-come first-serve. The program would be free but would ask beneficiaries if they would be willing to donate some of their savings on energy bills to "pay it forward" and enable other neighbors to receive the same benefits. These funds would be directed to the Strafford CAP weatherization program which verifies income eligibility and provides assistance to lower-income residents but which is stalled on the majority of their energy assistance projects for lack of funds. While we did not get funded, the project has been nominated for another potential \$75,000 funding source, the Walking Softly Young Leadership Award under Em Friedrichs, and the committee will likely continue to search out funding opportunities. ■

HOUSING TASK FORCE

CHAIR: Sally Tobias

MEMBERS: Michael Behrendt, *Town Planner*; Charlotte Hitchcock; Chuck Hotchkiss, *Council Representative*; Al Howland; Mimi Kell, *Advisor*; Eileen Murphy; Paul Rasmussen, *Planning Board Representative*; Michael Saputo; Judith Spang; Nick Taylor, *Advisor*; Sally Tobias, *Chair*

The Housing Task Force began 2023 by reassessing our approach to Durham's housing needs. With a definite call from the community for more information and outreach, we went forward with activities that would fulfill this goal. We applied and received a grant of \$25,000 to conduct a Housing Needs Assessment. We executed a contract with RKG Associates to identify the housing available in Durham and to determine the types of housing that may be suitable to add to our housing stock. Once their report

has been completed, we will be able to identify the appropriate housing opportunities for Durham.

We welcomed various individuals to our meetings to inform and discuss topics of interest that will guide and educate the committee and the community.

Robin Leblanc, a consultant for RHL Strategies, focused on community outreach and the best practices going forward to create informative engagement. It is the intention of the Housing Task Force to begin community outreach in the coming year.

Marty Chapman the Executive Director of the Housing Partnership, a non-profit provider of workforce housing serving the Seacoast, presented an informative conversation about the logistics necessary for a successful workforce housing project.

Ken Weston, UNH Campus Architect, briefed the committee on the University's plans for their future development of their West Edge project. The project is expansive and may include housing options.

The Housing Task Force began its first round of

community outreach with a focus on businesses and employees of those businesses. Each member of the committee volunteered to reach out to various businesses in Durham and we provided a simple questionnaire for them to fill out. The results of this are still ongoing. ■

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

CHAIR: Sally Needell

MEMBERS: Rev. Richard Belshaw; Kathy Collins; Deborah Hirsch Mayer; Gail Jablonski, *Business Manager*; Sally Needell, *Chair*; Dr. Janet Perkins-Howland; Todd Selig, *Administrator*

The Human Rights Commission (HRC) started the year with a request to the Town Council to add two more resident members to the Commission to increase its citizen participation and focus. The expansion from 5 to 7 members has brought more perspectives to the commission as well as interest in expanding its role in the community. The HRC meets approximately 6 times a year.

PRESENTATIONS IN 2023:

Durham Police Department: Addressing Anti-bias training, de-escalation, ethics for Durham officers, and tracking mental health calls.

A ferocious lion mysteriously showed up on the town hall sign in June. Todd Selig Photo

Rachel Blansett, DEIJ Coordinator for Oyster River School District, on her work at the schools.

Anne Weidman, CPSM, of Access Navigators on disability and accessibility.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Discussion of Town Council goals and the role of the HRC.

Support for adoption by the Town Council of the Statement Recognizing Traditional Indigenous Foraging Rights on Town of Durham Public Land written by the Conservation Commission.

Adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a guide for the HRC.

Adoption of June 19th as Juneteenth Independence Day and Reaffirming Durham's Opposition to any form of oppression.



Follow-up discussion and completion of the anti-bias training offered to town staff and Board, Commission, and Committee (BCC) members in 2022.

Discussion regarding Historical Markers in Durham, particularly plans to replace the Oyster River Massacre marker. Two members of the HRC will take part in discussions to advise the NH Division of Historical Resources.

Updating the HRC By-Laws to improve wording of the purpose and mission.

Discussion of disability and accessibility concerns in town buildings and local businesses.

The Human Rights Commission welcomes public comments at its meetings and by email. Check the Town Website for agendas and meeting minutes. ■

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Nell Neal

MEMBERS: Heather Grant, *Planning Board Representative*; Julie Kelley; Naomi Kornhauser; Nell Neal, *Chair*; Sally Needell; Mike Pazdon; Susan Richman, *Alternate*; Carden Welsh, *Council Representative*

The IWMAC continues to make progress in community outreach and education on efficient ways to handle household waste that further the goals of sustainability and lower cost. Our efforts this year were focused on educational materials that could be distributed and displayed. These materials were paid for in part by a grant the committee received from Community Action Works.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We published two brochures that explain and encourage effective recycling and composting, as well as a bookmark highlighting the principles of Reduce-Reuse-Recycle.

We commissioned the design of a logo which has been incorporated into digital and print communications for Town-wide sustainability efforts as well as into a popular sticker.

We created four signs and a banner displaying the themes “Recycle Right,” “Got Compost?,” “Reduce Reuse Repair,” and “Say No to Single Use Plastic,” to be displayed at different times at strategic locations around Town.

We had information tables at Durham Day, the Community Dinner at ORHS, and Emery Farm. We are working with the Town Clerk to include a brochure to be given with car registration materials, both by mail and at the Town Clerk’s office.



We have been assisted with our outreach messages this year by the Library and are hoping this will help to win over some more of the hold-outs to recycling and reuse. The Library highlighted September as “Sustainable September” and have followed up through the fall with movies, presentations and activities to deliver the message of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Member Julie Kelly has been writing ongoing weekly education and reinforcement in the “Did You Know?” column of Friday updates.

We continue to work closely with the Department of Public Works. The department has provided us with collection metrics which help give guidance to our initiatives. They have also welcomed our feedback in discussions about their waste management initiatives. We value this relationship. ■

LAMPREY RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LRAC)

CHAIR: Grace Levergood

DURHAM REPRESENTATIVES: David Steinberg, Richard Lord

As required by RSA 483 and the NH Rivers Management & Protection Program, representatives from eight towns in the Lamprey River watershed continued implementing the 2013 Lamprey Rivers Management Plan with help from multiple partners*. The final plan, approved on Sept. 26, 2013, is available at town offices and on www.LampreyRiver.org.

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Land Protection: The LRAC donated \$25,000 for the permanent protection of the 76.3-acre Robert Rix Family Forest Donation in Deerfield. As of September 2023, the LRAC has helped to provide permanent protection for 3,839 acres and 19.1 miles of river frontage.

Project Review: By statute, local river advisory committees are asked to review proposed projects that fall within 1500 feet of a designated river and send their comments to NHDES. The committee cannot approve or deny permits, but NHDES must consider their comments. This year, the LRAC reviewed and commented on 17 projects in 6 towns.

Public Engagement: Highlights of the year included Herring Aid, salt marsh classes for seniors, and

investigating a boat-based river action network to monitor river issues.

Recreation: Using a grant from the LRAC, the Newmarket Conservation Commission created three new kiosk panels, removed hazard trees, installed a new canoe / kayak rack, and investigated making a universally accessible trail at Sliding Rock / Piscassic Park. Planned upgrades at the Lee Public Canoe Launch were postponed due to the summer's record-breaking rainfall.

Water Quality: The LRAC continued to fund bacterial tracking research at six recreational sites along the river. Extra sites on Newmarket's Moonlight Brook were added to help isolate the source(s) of human fecal bacteria that have been contaminating the outfall at Schanda Park. Heavy rain this summer led to elevated fecal bacteria levels. Installation of flow gages on all five state-designated tributaries was completed and all now offer near-real time conditions to the public. Visit <https://www.des.nh.gov/water/rivers-and-lakes/instream-flow> and scroll down to the Lamprey River

Wildlife and Ecology: Research on riverbank erosion associated with Japanese knotweed was completed. The report is available at www.LampreyRiver.org.

*Funds to support LRAC's work were provided by the National Park Service under CFDA 15.962 – National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. ■

Vital Statistics & Resources

BIRTHS 2023

CHILD'S NAME	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE	FATHER'S/PARENT'S NAME	MOTHER'S/PARENT'S NAME
Murphy, Sloan Katherine	01/05/2023	Dover	Murphy, Sean Patrick	Murphy, Anne Elizabeth
Flynn, Phoebe Frances	01/26/2023	Durham	Flynn, Shaun Matthew	Flynn, Simone Veillette
Orzechowski, Mae McBride	03/05/2023	Portsmouth	Orzechowski, Russell Erwin	Durfee, Elizabeth Fitzgerald
Welch, Olivia Claire	03/07/2023	Exeter	Welch, Andrew Douglass	Welch, Irena Jani
Korman, Lachlan Bradley	03/28/2023	Dover	Korman, Andrew Kane	Korman, Erica Nicole
Stoudt, Peyton Grace	03/29/2023	Portsmouth	Stoudt, Gregg Robert	Ray, Kristin Marie
Brown, Theodore Oso	04/10/2023	Dover	Brown, Jacob Farrell	Brown, Kayley Bolstad
Sweetman, Kieran Bennett	05/08/2023	Dover	Bennett, Robert Curran	Sweetman, Sonya Helene Barbara
Dorn, Arlow Michael	05/11/2023	Dover	Dorn, Cameron John	Dorn, Beatrix Varshaver
Miles, Winnie Angela	05/29/2023	Dover	Miles, James Barrett	Miles, Marina Suzanne
Howard, Mayzee Brianna Rayne	06/07/2023	Dover	Howard, Shiloh Joesph	Zagwyn, Savannah Lee
Talbot, Calvin Michael	07/14/2023	Dover	Talbot, Steven James	Talbot, Kathryn Linn
Anderson, Beatrice Claire	07/27/2023	Dover	Anderson, Todd Lewis	Meserve, Devan Rose
Congin, Henry Joseph	09/08/2023	Exeter	Congin, Gary Anthony	Congin, Megan Lynn
Newcombe, Jackson Thomas	09/14/2023	Dover	Newcombe, Ian Thomas	Newcombe, Mariya Andriyivna
Gillham, Jackson Allen	10/27/2023	Dover	Gillham, Justin Allen	Castle, Alison Marjorie
Ruiz, Riley Grace	10/30/2023	Exeter	Ruiz, Alfonso Antonio	Olsen, Marissa Grace
Kim, Ashton Evan	10/31/2023	Dover	Kim, Jooson Joo Jay Joe	Kim, Sharon Elizabeth

DEATHS 2023

DECEDENT'S NAME	DATE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S NAME
Fitzgerald, Alice N	01/07/2023	Durham	Neville, Francis	Maher, Margaret
Kann, Melvin	01/10/2023	Durham	Kann, Irwin	Chanock, Annette
Perkins, Vivian E	01/12/2023	Exeter	Defilippo, Louis	Girard, Cecille
Capernaros, Peter S	01/13/2023	Durham	Capernaros, Stanley	Thomas, Viola
Walstad, John Orville	01/26/2023	Durham	Walstad, Orville	Joslyn, Iszola
Kow, Weng S	02/02/2023	Durham	Kow, Kim	Unknown, Sok
Ferris, Neal Ward	02/04/2023	Dover	Ferris, Paul	Gillette, Elizabeth
Letourneau, Cynthia A	02/06/2023	Dover	Perri, Robert	Cashman, Margaret

DECEDENT'S NAME	DATE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S NAME
Tanguay, Candy B	02/14/2023	Durham	Beckman, Charles	Mitchell, Rose
April, Martha A	02/15/2023	Durham	Desjardins, Joseph	Pelletier, Aurelie
Dupont Jr, Edward C	02/16/2023	Dover	Dupont Sr, Edward	Colell, Madeline
Pond, Jeremiah Lawrence	02/16/2023	Durham	Pond, Sebastian	Harkins, Marguerite
Nohmer, Frederick John	02/17/2023	Portsmouth	Nohmer, Frederick	Maier, Marta
Chinburg, Dale Leo	02/20/2023	Dover	Chinburg, Thomas	Botts, Opal
Howe, Gerald Wright	02/24/2023	Dover	Howe Jr, Walter	Wright, Madelyn
Clark, Alice A	03/08/2023	Dover	Rogerson, John	Shaw, Anna
Bader, Marie Loretta	03/09/2023	Durham	Underwood Jr, George	Saunders, Marie
Krakowsky, Annette	03/17/2023	Durham	Steinman, Jonah	Weisglass, Gussie
Passeneau, Rita Marie	03/17/2023	Dover	Lafortune, Joseph	Desmarais, Yvonne
Givens, William R	03/21/2023	Durham	Givens, Raymond	Bollweg, Anneliese
Hankard, Albert J	03/21/2023	Concord	Hankard, Albert	Forest, Rose
Buchanan, Joan Regina	03/30/2023	Durham	Reardon, Dennis	Lawless, Brianna
Taylor, Alex Joseph	04/01/2023	Dover	Taylor, Lionel	Ranco, Gladys
Johnson, Dennis Gerard	04/10/2023	Durham	Johnson, Franklin	Kippenhan, Helen
Schmidt, Edward John	04/18/2023	Durham	Schmidt, John	Schipplock, Ada
Harris, Robert V	04/19/2023	Durham	Harris, Harry	Revutskaya, Alexandra
Simpson, Joseph John	05/06/2023	Dover	Simpson, Myron	Stokes, Mabel
Moynahan, Elaine Clark	05/08/2023	Durham	Clark, James	Sullivan, Ruth
Mather-Lees, Stephen Hamilton	05/08/2023	Portsmouth	Mather-Lees, Guy	Naylor, Mary
Tompkins, Amelia A	05/14/2023	Durham	Robinson, Frederick	Downie, Elizabeth
Ford, Sarah Paine	05/16/2023	Durham	Paine, Philbrick	Coe, Serena
Ternes, Dorit Ilse	05/23/2023	Durham	Lieberg, Bernhard	Urban, Ilse
Cardarople, Paul Francis	05/28/2023	Dover	Cardarople, Philip	Decoste, Florence
Forster, John Charles	06/03/2023	Dover	Forster, George	Pope, Evelyn
Winter, Klaus J	06/03/2023	Durham	Winter, Klaus	Koschinsky, Gertraute
Poteet, William Robert	06/04/2023	Portsmouth	Poteet, Charles	Elrod, Mattie
Savage, Joan Alice	06/05/2023	Durham	Doyon, Lionel	Demers, Marie
Klepeis, Frank F	06/09/2023	Durham	Klepeis, Franz	Unger, Frances
Nohmer, Joyce B	06/16/2023	Durham	Boardman, Edwin	Booth, Jane
Dale, Jean Newgard	06/18/2023	Durham	Newgard, Carl	Lund, Gladys
O'hara, Andrew	06/18/2023	Dover	O'hara, Austin	Ward, Dorothy
Bluestone, Michael Morris	06/24/2023	Durham	Bluestone, Jacob	Kaplan, Ida
Langley, Helen M	06/28/2023	Dover	Moore, Fred	Heywood, Maude
Warden, Jean Marie	07/05/2023	Durham	Dempsey, Sanford	Daigle, Isabelle
Seligman, Janice Norma	07/13/2023	Durham	Hohorst, John	Gouse, Vera
Zaiatz, Ronald	07/17/2023	Portsmouth	Zaiatz, John	Lally, Dorothy
Freibert, Barbara Laura	07/20/2023	Dover	Sivertsen, George	Seleski, Helen
Welch, Michael J	07/28/2023	Dover	Welch, Greald	Macdougall, Marie
Marshall, Grover Edwin	07/30/2023	Dover	Marshall, Carroll	Hoffman, Marguerite
Imbrescia Millett, Maria L	08/04/2023	Dover	Imbrescia, Phillip	Santosuosso, Katherine
Wells, Sandra	08/08/2023	Dover	O'connell, Louis	Flint, Bertha
Reczek Jr, Stanley Louis	08/08/2023	Durham	Reczek Sr, Stanley	Comeau, Pauline
Silvey, Mary	08/12/2023	Dover	Catalanotto, Leonardo	Gallo, Vincenza
Gajewski, Vernita Marie	08/15/2023	Durham	Goulette, Philippe	Goulette, Victoria
Nordgren, Eric Albert	08/16/2023	Durham	Nordgren, Tore	Olson, Astrid
Talcott, Alexander David	08/26/2023	Durham	Talcott, David	Kelly, Jeanne
Frost, Diana Bancroft	09/07/2023	Dover	Mansfield, Edward	Bancroft, Eleanor
Mcleod, Donald Osmond	09/09/2023	Durham	Mcleod, G Donald	Hutt, Velma
Burton, Elizabeth M	09/13/2023	Durham	Morgan, Fredrick	Miller, Elizabeth

DECEDENT'S NAME	DATE OF DEATH	PLACE OF DEATH	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S NAME
Mullaney, Stanley Joseph	09/18/2023	Durham	Mullaney Sr, Charles	Ciardi, Irene
Giordani, Joseph James	09/28/2023	Dover	Giordani, Joseph	Martel, Mary
Mcilwraith, Ann Josephine	10/05/2023	Durham	De Laszlo, Paul	Mcconnell, Josephine
Abbott, Arthur Michael	10/16/2023	Durham	Abbott, Jacob	Gildae, Anne
Morrison, Mariquita	10/20/2023	Durham	Morrison, Hunter	Dygart, Nancy
Locke, Donald Angus	10/24/2023	Dover	Locke, Shelton	Graves, Barbara
Pinney, Richard B	11/04/2023	Durham	Pinney, Perry	Littlefield, Eva
Grant, Gael	11/04/2023	Durham	Grant, Glen	Cowdrey, Jane
Merkley, Mary A	11/06/2023	Durham	Waite, Martin	Appling, Lillian
Taylor, Lorraine Amanda	11/09/2023	Durham	Patterson, George	Wozniak, Cecilia
Smith, Irene	11/19/2023	Durham	Ward, Fred	Livesey, Anne
Wells, Otho Sylvester	11/21/2023	Dover	Wells, Pender	Blanton, Cora Lee
Baldwin, Barbara Shirley	11/21/2023	Durham	Lothrop, Elmer	Folsom, Hazel
Failla, Anna	11/22/2023	Durham	Corsaro, Luciano	Altieri, Michela
Booger, Judith Marian	11/24/2023	Durham	Hines, Edward	Unknown, Edith
Evans, Jane Marie	12/01/2023	Durham	Green, Hubert	Sullivan, Margaret
Savarino, Constance T	12/01/2023	Exeter	Glennon, Thomas	Dedham, Hazel
Hurlbert, June Lorraine	12/07/2023	Durham	Homer, Robert	Thistle, Olive
Rief, George A	12/13/2023	Durham	Rief, Anton	Kiefer, Margaret
Daigle, Patricia Ann	12/22/2023	Durham	Fogarty, Thomas	Thomas, Susan
Deame, Marguerite A	12/30/2023	Durham	Moore, Richard	Hearn, Mary

MARRIAGES 2023

NAME	RESIDENCE	NAME	RESIDENCE	PLACE OF MARRIAGE	DATE OF MARRIAGE
Fitzhenry, Connor John	Durham, NH	Broshes, Victoria Katherine	Durham, NH	Durham	02/09/2023
Good, Nathaniel Alen	Katy, TX	Rachid, Jihad	Durham, NH	Dover	03/09/2023
Chagnon, Nicholas Andre	Durham, NH	Belknap, Kaitlyn Christina	Biddeford, ME	Warren	06/10/2023
Trottier, Eric Raymond	Durham, NH	Rohrbach Allee, Elena Marie	Durham, NH	Durham	06/17/2023
Estes, Olivia Marie	Durham, NH	Morrill, Rye Larry	Durham, NH	Newmarket	09/09/2023
Bratt, Benjamin Bernard	Durham, NH	Ogarkova, Olga	Durham, NH	Bretton Woods	12/03/2023

MISCELLANEOUS

Public Hearings & Public Forums: Notices for public hearings and public forums are published in the Foster’s Daily Democrat, on the bulletin boards inside and outside the Town Hall, the Durham Public Library and the town’s website.

Solid Waste Transfer Station & Recycling Center: Located at 100 Durham Point Road. Hours of operation are Tuesday and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (except holidays).

Bulky Waste Coupons and Electronic/Appliance Stickers: Bulky waste coupons and electronic/appliance stickers may be obtained at the Public Works Department at 100 Stone Quarry Drive Monday thru Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon and 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Resident/Taxpayer Permit Sticker: A Resident/Taxpayer permit sticker may be obtained at the Public Works Department or the Town Clerk’s Office Monday thru Friday during regular business hours. The permit sticker must be renewed every calendar year, and it allows residents/taxpayers entrance to the Transfer Station with regular trash and recycling at no extra charge. It also allows two-hour parking in existing downtown one-hour, non-metered spaces.

Tax Exemptions: For information regarding elderly, veteran’s, blind, solar energy, totally disabled and physically handicapped exemptions, or information on current use taxation, contact the Town Assessor at 868-8064.

RESOURCE INFORMATION

LAND AREA

(2.48 sq. miles of which is water surface)	24.77 sq miles
Population (per 2020 census)	15,490
Incorporated	1732
Durham’s Congressional District Numbers	10 & 20

MEETING DATES FOR TOWN BOARDS COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

(Notices are posted on the Bulletin Boards inside and outside the Town Hall, the Durham Public Library, and on the town’s website – www.ci.durham.nh.us)

Agricultural Commission	Second Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Cemetery Committee	As needed
Conservation Commission	Fourth Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Energy Committee	First Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Historic District Commission and Heritage Commission	First Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Housing Task Force	Second Monday of each month, 10:00 a.m., Town Hall
Human Rights Commission	As needed
Integrated Waste Mgmt. Advisory Comm.	First & third Wednesdays of each month, 8:00 a.m., Town Hall
Land Stewardship Subcommittee	Second Wednesday of each month, 8:30 a.m., Town Hall
Parks & Recreation Committee	Fourth Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall

Planning Board
Town Council
Trustees of the Trust Fund

Second & fourth Wednesdays of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
First and third Mondays of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Fourth Friday of the month, 8:30 a.m., Town Hall

TOWN OFFICE FUNCTIONS

Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office Hours Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
First Monday of the month, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Town Office Hours Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Boat Registration Additional \$5.00 charge to register a boat at Town Hall

Car Registration Registration in month of birth. Renewal stickers and license plates
can be purchased at the Town Clerk's Office for an additional
\$3.00 each.

Car Inspection Car must be inspected within ten(10) days of first registration in
New Hampshire. Then, inspection is done in the registrant's birth
month. Residents may renew on-line at the Town's website,
www.ci.durham.nh.us or at www.eb2gov.com

STATE AND U.S. SENATORS & REPRESENTATIVES

Governor

The Honorable Chris Sununu
Office of the Governor
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301
Office: 603-271-2121
<https://www.nh.gov/index.htm>

Office: 202-224-2841
<https://www.shaheen.senate.gov/>

Durham, NH 03824
Office: 603-271-3184
Home: 508-677-5141
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U.S. Representative

Congressman Christopher Pappas
660 Central Avenue
Dover, NH 03820
Office: 1-603-343-1326
Washington Address:
323 Cannon House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515
Office: 202-225-5456

Rep. Timothy Horrigan
7-A Faculty Road
Durham, NH 03824
Office: 603-271-3184
Home: 603-868-3342
Timothy.Horrigan@leg.state.nh.us

U.S. Senators

Senator Maggie Hassan (D)
1200 Elm Street, Suite 2
Manchester, NH 03101
Office: 603-622-2204
<https://www.hassan.senate.gov/>
Washington Address:
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20501
Office: 202-224-3324

Executive Councilor

Joseph D. Kenney
P.O. Box 201
Union, NH 03887
Executive Council Office:
(603) 271-3632
Cell: (603) 581-8780
joseph.d.kenney@nh.gov

Rep. Marjorie Smith
100 Piscataqua Road
Durham, NH 03824
Home: 603-868-7500
msmithpen@aol.com

Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D)
1589 Elm Street, Suite 3
Manchester, NH 03101
Office: 603-647-7500
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520 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Durham's Representative in the NH House - District 10

Rep. Cam E. Kenney
36 Young Drive

Rep. Loren Selig
3 Nobel K Peterson Drive
Durham, NH 03824
Office: 603-271-3125
Home: 603-953-3641
loren.selig@leg.state.nh.us

**Durham's Representative in the NH House
- District 20**

Rep. Allan Howland
32 Frost Drive
Durham, NH 03824
Office: 603-271-3184
al.howland.13@gmail.com

Durham's NH Senator

Senator Rebecca Perkins Kwoka
Legislative Office Building
Room 103
Concord, NH 03301
Home: 603-271-2104
Rebecca.PerkinsKwoka@leg.state.nh.us

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

Fire/Police/Rescue Emergency – 911
Fire/Police/Rescue Emergency from UNH campus only - *911

DEPARTMENT	TEL. #	FAX #	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Administration , 8 Newmarket Rd. Todd Selig, Administrator Karen Edwards, Admin. Assistant	868-5571	868-1858	tselig@ci.durham.nh.us kedwards@ci.durham.nh.us
Assessing , 8 Newmarket Rd. Jim Rice, Assessor	868-8064	868-1858	jrice@ci.durham.nh.us
Business/Finance , 8 Newmarket Rd. Gail Jablonski, Business Manager Deborah Ahlstrom, Financial Analyst Lisa Beaudoin, Admin. Assistant Dina Gosselin, Accounting Clerk	868-8043	868-1858	gjablonski@ci.durham.nh.us dahlstrom@ci.durham.nh.us lbeaudoin@ci.durham.nh.us dgosselin@ci.durham.nh.us
Durham Cable Access Television , 8 Newmarket Rd. Craig Stevens, DCAT Coordinator	590-1383	868-1858	cstevens@ci.durham.nh.us
Fire Department , 51 College Rd. David Emanuel, Chief Randall Trull, Assistant Chief Brendan O'Sullivan, Fire Marshall Kelley Fowler, Admin. Assistant Aimee Routhier, Secretary	868-5531	862-1513	david.emanuel@unh.edu randall.trull@unh.edu brendan.osullivan.dfd@unh.edu kelley.fowler@unh.edu aimee.routhier@unh.edu
Information Technology , 8 Newmarket Rd. Luke Vincent, IT Manager Michael Rohr, Assist. IT Manager Jay Gooze, IT Assistant	868-1878	868-1858	lvincent@ci.durham.nh.us mrohr@ci.durham.nh.us jgooze@ci.durham.nh.us
Parks & Recreation , 2 Dover Rd. Rachel Gasowski, Director Kellie DeSimone, Assistant Director	817-4074		rgasowski@ci.durham.nh.us kdesimone@ci.durham.nh.us
Planning & Comm. Development , 8 Newmarket Rd. Michael Behrendt, Planner Tracey Cutler, Admin. Assistant	868-8064	868-1858	mbehrendt@ci.durham.nh.us tcutler@ci.durham.nh.us

DEPARTMENT	TEL. #	FAX #	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Police Department , 86 Dover Road Rene Kelley, Chief David Holmstock, Deputy Chief Jack Dalton, Captain Jen Johnson, Admin. Assistant Sarah Douglas, Admin. Assistant	868-2324	868-8037	rkelley@ci.durham.nh.us dholmstock@ci.durham.nh.us jdalton@ci.durham.nh.us jjohnson@ci.durham.nh.us sdouglas@ci.durham.nh.us
Public Library , 49 Madbury Road Sheryl Bass, Director	868-6699		sbass@ci.durham.nh.us
Public Works Department , 100 Stone Quarry Drive Richard Reine, Director Sam Hewitt, Director of Operations April Talon, Engineer Steve Lutterman, GIS Director Shannon Shaw, Asst. to the Director Karen Reynolds, Admin. Assistant	868-5578	868-8063	rreine@ci.durham.nh.us shewitt@ci.durham.nh.us atalon@ci.durham.nh.us slutterman@ci.durham.nh.us sshaw@ci.durham.nh.us kreynolds@ci.durham.nh.us
Solid Waste Division , 100 Durham Pt. Rd. Sam Hewitt, Director of Operations	868-1001	868-8063	shewitt@ci.durham.nh.us
Town Clerk/Tax Collector , 8 Newmarket Rd. Rachel Deane, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Audrey MacKenzie, Deputy TC/TC Cheryl Hildreth, Asst. to the TC/TC	868-5577	868-1858	rdeane@ci.durham.nh.us amackenzie@ci.durham.nh.us childreth@ci.durham.nh.us
Wastewater , 50 Piscataqua Road Dan Peterson, Superintendent Matthew Collins, Chief Operator	868-2274	868-8063	publicworks@ci.durham.nh.us mcollins@ci.durham.nh.us
Water Division , 100 Durham Pt. Rd. Sam Hewitt, Director of Operations	868-5578	868-8063	shewitt@ci.durham.nh.us
Zoning Code Enforcement, Health Officer , 8 Newmarket Road Audrey Cline, CEO/Zoning Admin Andrea Seledede, Code Enforcement Officer	868-8064	868-1858	acline@ci.durham.nh.us aseledee@ci.durham.nh.us

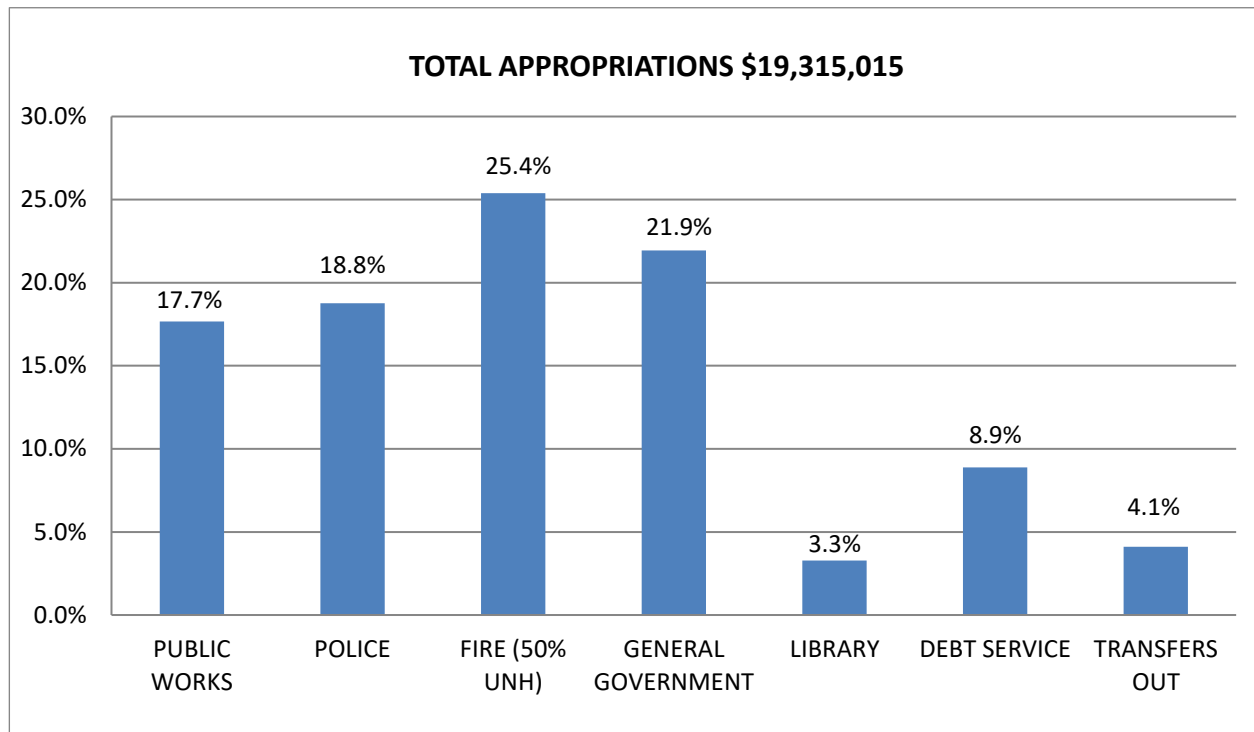
OTHER COMMONLY USED NUMBERS

Churchill Rink at Jackson's Landing	868-3907
Oyster River Youth Association	868-5150
Durham Post Office	868-2151
Durham Historic Assoc. Museum	868-5436
NH Fish & Game	868-1095

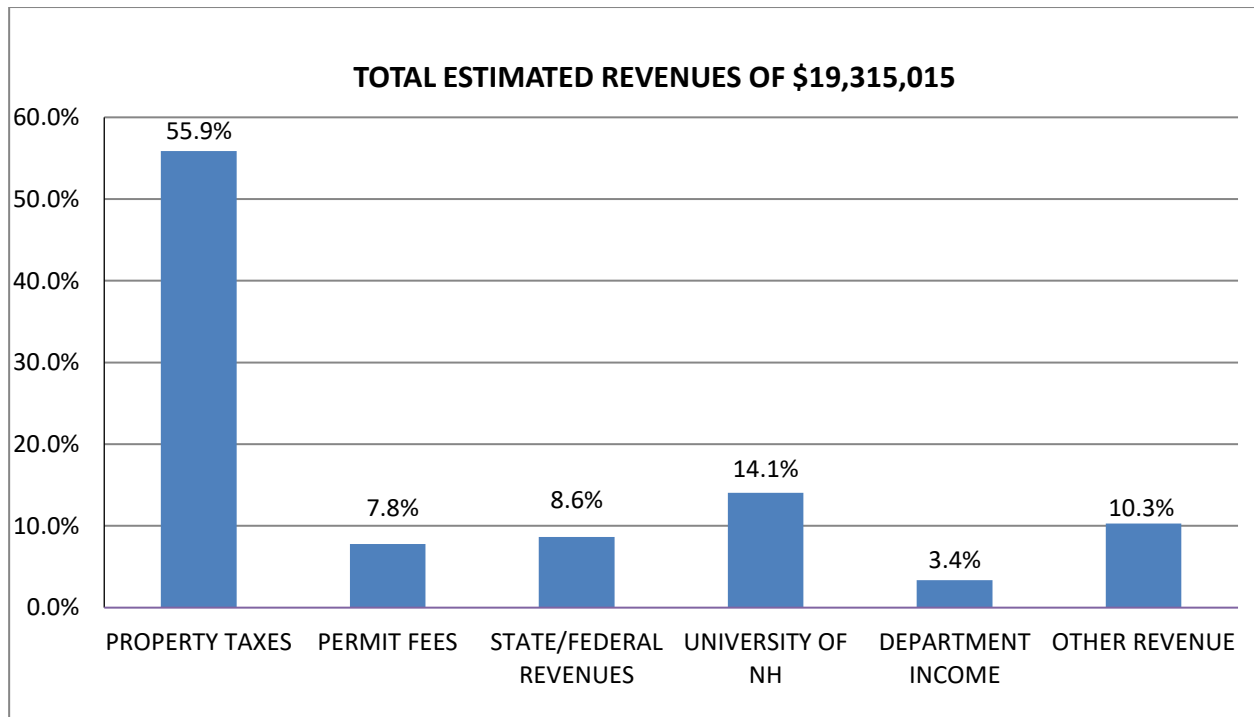
OYSTER RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent of Schools	868-5100
Moharimet Elementary School	742-2900
Mast Way Elementary School	659-3001
OR Middle School	868-2820
OR High School	868-2375

2024 APPROVED GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS



2024 ESTIMATED GENERAL FUND REVENUES



APPROVED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM 2024-33 (PAGE 1)

<i>Business Department</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Budget Module Software Replacement	40,000									
Municipal Software Package				1,000,000						
<i>Fire Department</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Replace Apparatus Bay Overhead Doors	150,000									
Replace 2007 Ford F-350 (Forestry Truck)		325,000								
Refurbish 2012 Marion Tanker (Tanker 4)		100,000								
Fire Station Kitchen Renovations		150,000								
Thermal Imaging Camera		12,000		12,000		12,000		12,000		12,000
Replace 2013 Chevrolet 2500 (Utility Truck)		65,000								
Refurbish 2015 Marion Pumper		160,000								
Replace 2016 Chevrolet Tahoe (Chief's Car)		95,000								
Replace and Update Microwave Link			90,000							
SCBA Replacements			750,000							
Airbags for Vehicle Extrication			20,000							
Portable Radio Replacements			250,000							
Replace 2017 Ford Explorer (Fire Prevention)			50,000							
Replace 2013 Can-Am UTV				50,000						
Replace 2021 Ford F-350 (Medic Truck)					175,000					
New Fire Station						20,000,000				
Defibrillator/Monitor Replacement						75,000				
Replace 2015 Ferrara Aerial Truck						1,240,000				
Refurbish 2018 Marion Pumper						175,000				
Automated CPR Device						16,000				
Extrication Tools Replacement							30,000			
<i>Fire Department</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)							20,000			
Replace 2021 GMC Yukon XL (Car 1)									95,000	
<i>GIS</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
GIS Program	-	-	30,000	40,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000		
<i>Information Technology</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
IT Equipment Replacement	17,000	29,500	17,500	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
<i>Police Department</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Vehicle Replacement	75,000	150,000	150,000	80,000	160,000	160,000	85,000	170,000	170,000	90,000

APPROVED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM 2024-33 (PAGE 2)

<i>Public Works- Buildings & Grounds Division</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Seasonal Decorative Lighting	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Dump Truck Replacement (One Ton)	30,000		86,000							
Courthouse/Old Town Hall Design and Enhancements		367,000								
Purchase of Solar Panels (Gravel Pit)		950,000								
Pickup Truck Replacement (1/2 Ton)			57,000							
Commercial Lawn Mower Replacement									30,000	
<i>Public Works - Operations Division</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Road Resurfacing Program	500,000	482,800	620,400	620,400	474,800	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000
Road Resurfacing Program - UNH	123,200									
Crack Seal Program	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Sidewalk Improvement Program	91,000	30,700	41,000	65,800	79,200	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Drainage System Rehabilitation Program	864,250	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000
Stormwater Management Program - Permit Compliance	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Facility Infrastructure Asset Management Plan	15,000									
Dump Truck Replacement (3-5 Ton)	259,000	230,000	241,250	253,300		266,000			279,300	
Madbury Road Complete Streets Project - Roadway, Sidewalk, Drainage Construction	2,286,000	2,298,000	2,257,000							
Decorative Light Pole Painting	50,000									
Pedestrian Safety Improvements	72,000									
Deicing Material Reduction Program - Salt Brine Maker and Tank	45,000									
Pickup Truck Replacement (3/4 Ton)	71,000									
Wagon Hill Farm Living Shoreline - Phase 2	1,994,550									
Motor Vehicle Fluid Distribution System Replacement		15,000								
Vibratory Roller		25,000								
<i>Public Works - Operations Division</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Mobile Air Compressor Replacement		35,000								
Front End Loader Replacement			295,000							
Longmarsh Road Bridge Replacement			1,300,000							
Engineering Jeep Replacement			37,000							
Sidewalk Plow Tractor Replacement				240,000						
Pickup Truck Replacement (Dodge Ram)				67,000						
Rubber Tired Excavator Replacement (Cost share with Water Fund 25%)							232,500			
<i>Public Works - Sanitation Division</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Refuse/Recycling Collection Vehicle Replacement - Automated Collection Program	1,937,600									
Transfer Station Facility Improvements	350,000									

APPROVED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM 2024-33 (PAGE 3)

<i>WATER FUND</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Town Water System Improvements	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Town/UNH Shared Water System Improvements	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000
Madbury Road Complete Streets Project - Water Line Replacement	1,980,000	222,000								
Commercial Meter Replacement	30,000									
Rubber Tired Excavator Replacement (Cost Share with General Fund 75%/25%)							77,500			
Utility Truck Replacement (One Ton)										90,000
<i>WASTEWATER FUND</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Wastewater Facilities Plan	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000
Collection System Repair/Upgrade (Town/UNH)	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Collection System Repair/Upgrade (Town Only)	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000
WWTP Major Components Contingency	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Telehandler Replacement	95,000									
Commercial Lawnmower Replacement		25,000								
Pickup Truck Replacement (One Ton)						76,000	76,000			
<i>PARKING FUND</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Replace VenTex Parking Kiosks	120,000									
Parking Vehicle Replacement		30,000								
<i>CHURCHILL RINK FUND</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Battery Powered Zamboni Ice Resurfacer Purchase		150,000								
<i>TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT</i>	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Purchase of Parking Lot (Sammy's Lot)							1,500,000			
TOTAL CIP PROPOSALS	11,973,100	6,809,500	7,154,650	3,311,000	1,801,500	23,422,500	3,423,500	1,584,500	1,946,800	1,564,500

2023 BUDGET/ESTIMATED GENERAL FUND – UNAUDITED (PAGE 1)

PROPERTY TAXES/ABATEMENTS/CREDITS	Estimated Revenue 2023	Revenues Ending 12/31/23	Revenues Under (Over) 2023	Percent Collected 12/31/23
Property Taxes	\$10,677,404	\$10,362,643	\$314,761	97.1%
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	\$1,045,500	\$989,919	\$55,581	0.0%
Abatements	(\$75,000)	(\$33,425)	(\$41,575)	44.6%
Veteran Service Credits	(\$129,500)	(\$129,500)	\$0	0.0%
REVENUES				
	Estimated Revenue 2023	Revenues Ending 12/31/23	Revenues Under (Over) 2023	Percent Collected 12/31/23
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	\$50,000	\$71,014	(\$21,014)	142.0%
Permit Fees	\$1,457,720	\$1,617,562	(\$159,842)	111.0%
State/Federal Revenues	\$1,382,500	\$1,824,629	(\$442,129)	132.0%
Intergovernmental Revenues (ORCSD-SRO)	\$90,250	\$90,250	\$0	100.0%
UNH - Shared Services, School, Fire & Debt Service	\$2,586,375	\$2,546,800	\$39,575	98.5%
Departmental Income	\$253,000	\$373,708	(\$120,708)	147.7%
Fire and Police Special Details	\$123,500	\$217,421	(\$93,921)	176.0%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$794,500	\$962,222	(\$167,722)	121.1%
Fund Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Total General Fund Revenues	\$6,737,845	\$7,703,606	(\$965,761)	114.3%
EXPENDITURES				
	Council Budget 2023	Expended Through 12/31/23	Expenditures Under (Over) 2023	Percent Expended 12/31/23
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
Town Council	\$234,250	\$45,228	\$189,022	19.3%
Town Treasurer	\$6,030	\$5,813	\$217	96.4%
Town Administrator	\$411,978	\$412,171	(\$193)	100.0%
Elections	\$8,700	\$6,311	\$2,389	72.5%
Tax Collector/Town Clerk	\$311,346	\$300,228	\$11,118	96.4%
Accounting	\$413,001	\$412,594	\$407	99.9%
Assessing	\$216,841	\$213,805	\$3,036	98.6%
Legal - Attorney Fees	\$85,000	\$54,806	\$30,194	64.5%
Planning	\$201,678	\$200,548	\$1,130	99.4%
Boards/Commissions/Committees	\$61,450	\$33,769	\$27,681	55.0%
DCAT	\$134,328	\$133,258	\$1,070	99.2%
GIS	\$116,943	\$110,525	\$6,418	94.5%
MIS	\$457,170	\$452,170	\$5,000	98.9%
Building Inspection	\$250,778	\$215,256	\$35,522	85.8%
Emergency Management	\$1,000	\$400	\$600	40.0%
Use of Donations	\$0	\$66,625	(\$66,625)	0.0%
Other General Government	\$329,909	\$262,608	\$67,301	79.6%
General Government Total	\$3,240,402	\$2,926,115	\$314,287	90.3%

2023 BUDGET/ESTIMATED GENERAL FUND – UNAUDITED (PAGE 2)

EXPENDITURES	Council Budget 2023	Expended Through 12/31/23	Expenditures Under (Over) 2023	Percent Expended 12/31/23
PUBLIC SAFETY				
Police Department	\$3,384,034	\$3,217,555	\$166,479	95.1%
Police Department Special Details	\$60,500	\$98,048	(\$37,548)	162.1%
Fire Department	\$4,636,050	\$4,459,872	\$176,178	96.2%
Fire Department Special Details	\$38,800	\$57,205	(\$18,405)	147.4%
Communication Center	\$18,700	\$22,767	(\$4,067)	121.7%
Ambulance Services	\$46,950	\$35,206	\$11,744	75.0%
Public Safety Total	\$8,185,034	\$7,890,653	\$294,381	96.4%
PUBLIC WORKS				
Administration	\$399,228	\$368,776	\$30,452	92.4%
Engineer	\$149,700	\$113,598	\$36,102	75.9%
Stormwater Permitting	\$3,500	\$2,668	\$832	76.2%
Town Buildings	\$358,150	\$315,182	\$42,968	88.0%
Town Cemeteries & Trusted Graveyards	\$15,650	\$11,984	\$3,666	76.6%
Wagon Hill & Parks & Grounds Maintenance	\$180,381	\$198,519	(\$18,138)	110.1%
Equipment Maintenance	\$280,750	\$242,590	\$38,160	86.4%
Roadway Maintenance	\$195,191	\$169,875	\$25,316	87.0%
Drainage & Vegetation	\$136,893	\$140,378	(\$3,485)	102.5%
Snow Removal	\$351,296	\$250,452	\$100,844	71.3%
Traffic Control	\$146,197	\$142,567	\$3,630	97.5%
Bridges & Dams	\$239,628	\$229,875	\$9,753	95.9%
Public Works Total	\$2,456,564	\$2,186,464	\$270,100	89.0%
SANITATION				
Solid Waste Administration	\$202,643	\$158,519	\$44,124	78.2%
Rolloff Vehicle Operation	\$69,996	\$49,727	\$20,269	71.0%
Curbside Collection	\$229,693	\$229,299	\$394	99.8%
Litter Removal	\$33,300	\$28,322	\$4,978	85.1%
Recycling	\$169,393	\$155,031	\$14,362	91.5%
Solid Waste Management Facility (SWMF)	\$128,297	\$129,512	(\$1,215)	100.9%
Sanitation Total	\$833,322	\$750,410	\$82,912	90.1%
HEALTH & WELFARE				
Health Inspector	\$300	\$90	\$210	30.0%
Social Service Agencies	\$12,300	\$12,300	\$0	100.0%
Direct Assistance (Welfare)	\$30,000	\$82,202	(\$52,202)	274.0%
Health & Welfare Total	\$42,600	\$94,592	(\$51,992)	222.0%
CULTURE & RECREATION				
Parks & Recreation Department	\$384,153	\$395,258	(\$11,105)	102.9%
UNH Outdoor Pool and ORYA	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Parks & Recreation Committee	\$1,500	\$1,420	\$80	94.7%
Memorial Day	\$500	\$655	(\$155)	131.0%
Conservation	\$44,000	\$32,754	\$11,246	74.4%
Culture & Recreation Total	\$430,153	\$430,087	\$66	100.0%

2023 BUDGET/ESTIMATED GENERAL FUND – UNAUDITED (PAGE 3)

EXPENDITURES	Council Budget 2023	Expended Through 12/31/23	Expenditures Under (Over) 2023	Percent Expended 12/31/23
DEBT SERVICE				
Principal	\$1,203,400	\$1,272,834	(\$69,434)	105.8%
Interest	\$367,750	\$359,680	\$8,070	97.8%
Debt Service Charges	\$6,000	\$4,350	\$1,650	72.5%
Debt Service Total	\$1,577,150	\$1,636,864	-\$59,714	103.8%
TRANSFERS				
Transfer to Library	\$577,400	\$577,400	\$0	100.0%
Transfer to Capital Project Fund	\$843,624	\$843,324	\$300	100.0%
Transfer to Capital Reserve Fund	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$0	100.0%
Debt Service Total	\$1,491,024	\$1,490,724	\$300	100.0%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	\$18,256,249	\$17,405,909	\$850,340	95.3%

2023 BUDGET/ESTIMATED OTHER FUNDS SUMMARY – UNAUDITED

Water Fund	Estimated 2023	Ending 12/31/23	Under (Over) 2023	Percent as of 12/31/23
Revenues	\$1,525,220	\$1,505,960	\$19,260	98.7%
Expenses	\$1,525,220	\$1,446,743	\$78,477	94.9%
Sewer Fund	Estimated 2023	Ending 12/31/23	Under (Over) 2023	Percent as of 12/31/23
Revenues	\$3,152,000	\$3,119,176	\$32,824	99.0%
Expenses	\$3,152,000	\$3,074,506	\$77,494	97.5%
Parking Fund	Estimated 2023	Ending 12/31/23	Under (Over) 2023	Percent as of 12/31/23
Revenues	\$420,000	\$421,906	(\$1,906)	100.5%
Expenses	\$420,000	\$292,276	\$127,724	69.6%
Depot Road Fund	Estimated 2023	Ending 12/31/23	Under (Over) 2023	Percent as of 12/31/23
Revenues	\$119,000	\$155,715	(\$36,715)	130.9%
Expenses	\$119,000	\$9,054	\$109,946	7.6%
Churchill Rink Fund	Estimated 2023	Ending 12/31/23	Under (Over) 2023	Percent as of 12/31/23
Revenues	\$318,000	\$285,250	\$32,750	89.7%
Expenses	\$318,000	\$278,661	\$39,339	87.6%
Library Fund	Estimated 2023	Ending 12/31/23	Under (Over) 2023	Percent as of 12/31/23
Revenues	\$602,400	\$589,078	\$13,322	97.8%
Expenses	\$602,400	\$582,547	\$19,853	96.7%



PLODZIK & SANDERSON

Professional Association/Certified Public Accountants

193 North Main Street • Concord • New Hampshire • 03301-5063 • 603-225-6996 • FAX 603-224-1380

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the Town Council and Town Administrator
Town of Durham
Durham, New Hampshire

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Durham as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Durham, as of December 31, 2022, the respective changes in financial position, and the respective budgetary comparison for the general and sewer funds for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Town of Durham and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

The Town of Durham's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of Durham's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (PAGE 2)

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Durham's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of Durham's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control–related matters that we identified during the audit.

Change in Accounting Principle

As discussed in Note 2-D to the financial statements, in fiscal year 2022 the Town adopted new accounting guidance, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 87, *Leases*. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Required Supplementary Information – Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the following be presented to supplement the basic financial statements:

- Management's Discussion and Analysis,
- Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability,
- Schedule of Town Contributions – Pensions,
- Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of the Net Other Postemployment Benefits Liability,
- Schedule of Town Contributions – Other Postemployment Benefits,
- Schedule of Changes in the Town's Total Other Postemployment Benefits Liability and Related Ratios, and
- Notes to the Required Supplementary Information

Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information – Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Durham's basic financial statements. The accompanying combining and individual fund schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining and individual fund schedules and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual fund schedules and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (PAGE 3)

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 17, 2023 on our consideration of the Town of Durham's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town of Durham's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

October 17, 2023
Concord, New Hampshire



PLODZIK & SANDERSON
Professional Association

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of the Town of Durham, New Hampshire (the Town), we offer readers this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the basic financial statements. The basic financial statements are comprised of three components (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to financial statements. This report also contains required and other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of our finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The Statement of Net Position presents information on all assets, liabilities, and deferred outflows and inflows of resources with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the Town's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

The government-wide financial statements distinguish functions that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges. The governmental activities include general government, public safety, highways and streets, sanitation, water distribution and treatment, health and human services, welfare, culture and recreation, and conservation.

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Fund accounting is used to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The Town's funds can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary funds.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (PAGE 5)

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating the Town's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the Town's near-term financing decisions. Reconciliations are provided to facilitate the comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the Town. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Town's programs.

Notes to Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Required and Other Supplementary Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information which is required to be disclosed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and other supplementary information.

Financial Highlights

- As of the close of the current fiscal year, net position in governmental activities was \$21,455,690, a change of \$2,284,745.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$12,644,497, a change of \$1,469,621 in comparison to the prior year.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$6,253,954, a change of \$1,158,776 in comparison to the prior year.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

The following is a summary of condensed government-wide financial data for the current and prior fiscal year.

NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities	
	2022	2021 (as restated)
Current and other assets	\$ 27,537,257	\$ 23,676,942
Capital assets	46,120,833	45,175,217
Total assets	<u>73,658,090</u>	<u>68,852,159</u>
Deferred outflows of resources	2,871,046	2,808,676
Other liabilities	12,059,819	11,899,343
Long-term liabilities	40,033,301	36,064,449
Total liabilities	<u>52,093,120</u>	<u>47,963,792</u>
Deferred inflows of resources	2,980,326	4,526,098
Net position:		
Net investment in capital assets	32,040,585	27,478,081
Restricted	4,807,901	4,099,133
Unrestricted	(15,392,796)	(12,406,269)
Total net position	<u>\$ 21,455,690</u>	<u>\$ 19,170,945</u>

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the Town's financial position. At the close of the most recent fiscal year, total net position was \$21,455,690, a change of \$2,284,745 in comparison to the prior year.

The largest portion of net position \$32,040,585 reflects our investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery, equipment, and infrastructure), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. These capital assets are used to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (PAGE 7)

An additional portion of net position \$4,807,901 represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of unrestricted net position reflects a deficit of \$(15,392,796), primarily resulting from unfunded pension and OPEB liabilities.

CHANGES IN NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities	
	2022	2021 (as restated)
Revenues:		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 3,461,628	\$ 4,234,365
Operating grants and contributions	4,394,817	-
Capital grants and contributions	1,309,347	230,532
General revenues:		
Taxes	10,698,423	10,884,860
Licenses and permits	1,641,928	1,602,102
Unrestricted grants and contributions	1,792,718	5,103,690
Miscellaneous	921,899	985,827
Total revenues	<u>24,220,760</u>	<u>23,041,376</u>
Expenses:		
General government	3,548,647	2,996,262
Public safety	8,307,897	8,252,700
Highways and streets	3,983,550	2,484,319
Sanitation	2,740,615	2,798,600
Water distribution & treatment	777,598	808,499
Health	12,200	11,950
Welfare	68,836	42,740
Culture and recreation	1,812,070	1,286,422
Conservation	36,300	85,306
Interest on long-term debt	648,302	715,494
Total expenses	<u>21,936,015</u>	<u>19,482,292</u>
Change in net position	2,284,745	3,559,084
Beginning net position, as restated	19,170,945	15,611,861
Ending net position	<u>\$ 21,455,690</u>	<u>\$ 19,170,945</u>

Governmental Activities

Governmental activities for the year resulted in a change in net position of \$2,284,745. Key elements of this change are as follows:

General Fund operations	\$ 613,113
Capital project operations	635,764
Depreciation expense exceed capital outlay	712,323
Other	323,545
Total	<u>\$ 2,284,745</u>

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (PAGE8)

Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds

As noted earlier, fund accounting is used to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds

The focus of governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of the Town's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

General Fund

The General Fund is the chief operating fund. At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance of the General Fund was \$6,253,954, while total fund balance was \$8,510,284. Unassigned fund balance increased by \$1,158,776 primarily from favorable budgetary result of \$1,525,220, less \$919,485 used to reduce taxes and fund appropriations. As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unassigned fund balance and total fund balance to General Fund expenditures. Refer to the table below.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>December 31, 2022</u>	<u>December 31, 2021</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Total General Fund Expenditures</u>
Unassigned fund balance	\$ 6,253,954	\$ 5,095,178	\$ 1,158,776	37%
Total fund balance	\$ 8,510,284	\$ 7,897,171	\$ 613,113	50%

The total fund balance of the General Fund changed by \$613,113 during the current fiscal year. Key factors in this change are as follows:

Use of fund balance as a funding source	\$ (880,815)
Use of fund balance to reduce taxes	(38,670)
Revenues in excess of budget	1,037,759
Expenditures less than budget	487,461
Other	7,378
Total	\$ 613,113

Included in the total fund balance of the General Fund are the Town's capital reserve account with the following balance:

	<u>December 31, 2022</u>	<u>December 31, 2021</u>	<u>Change</u>
Capital reserves	\$ 1,493,609	\$ 1,484,050	\$ 9,559

Nonmajor Governmental Funds

The fund balance of nonmajor governmental funds changed by \$221,189, primarily from excess of water and TIF fund revenues over expenditures.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (PAGE 9)

Major Governmental Funds

The fund balance of the Capital Project Fund changed by \$635,764 primarily from bond issuances and transfers in.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

Differences between the original and final budget of the general fund are shown on Exhibit D-1.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

Total investment in capital assets for governmental activities at year-end amounted to \$46,120,833 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, machinery, equipment, furnishings, and infrastructure. Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year included the following:

- \$2,657,155 – Various infrastructure projects and construction in progress

Additional information on capital assets can be found in the Notes to Financial Statements.

Long-Term Debt

At the end of the current fiscal year, total bonded debt outstanding was \$20,339,148, all of which was backed by the full faith and credit of the government.

Additional information on long-term debt can be found in the Notes to Financial Statements.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town of Durham, New Hampshire's finances for all those with an interest in the Town's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

Office of the Business Manager
Town of Durham, New Hampshire
8 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH 03824

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (PAGE 10)

TOWN OF DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Governmental Funds
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2022

	General	Sewer	Capital Projects	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 17,678,340	\$ 1,855,793	\$ -	\$ 1,265,009	\$ 20,799,142
Investments	1,607,527	746,820	-	804,663	3,159,010
Taxes receivable	1,315,985	-	-	-	1,315,985
Accounts receivable	81,056	64,027	-	121,133	266,216
Intergovernmental receivable	66,683	34,202	832,200	27,400	960,485
Interfund receivable	783,681	7,435	-	21,857	812,973
Prepaid items	134,877	13,225	-	7,055	155,157
Total assets	<u>\$ 21,668,149</u>	<u>\$ 2,721,502</u>	<u>\$ 832,200</u>	<u>\$ 2,247,117</u>	<u>\$ 27,468,968</u>
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable	\$ 450,955	\$ 89,425	\$ 532,908	\$ 91,787	\$ 1,165,075
Accrued salaries and benefits	374,437	39,586	-	13,669	427,692
Retainage payable	-	-	48,650	-	48,650
Intergovernmental payable	9,708,460	64,296	-	-	9,772,756
Interfund payable	29,292	-	783,681	-	812,973
Escrow and performance deposits	369,625	-	-	-	369,625
Other	4,423	-	-	1,081	5,504
Total liabilities	<u>10,937,192</u>	<u>193,307</u>	<u>1,365,239</u>	<u>106,537</u>	<u>12,602,275</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES					
Unavailable revenue - property taxes	56,536	-	-	-	56,536
Unavailable revenue - other	2,164,137	-	-	1,523	2,165,660
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>2,220,673</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,523</u>	<u>2,222,196</u>
FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT)					
Nonspendable	134,877	13,225	-	387,449	535,551
Restricted	479,896	2,514,970	-	1,412,361	4,407,227
Committed	1,493,609	-	-	339,247	1,832,856
Assigned	147,948	-	-	-	147,948
Unassigned (deficit)	6,253,954	-	(533,039)	-	5,720,915
Total fund balances (deficit)	<u>8,510,284</u>	<u>2,528,195</u>	<u>(533,039)</u>	<u>2,139,057</u>	<u>12,644,497</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	<u>\$ 21,668,149</u>	<u>\$ 2,721,502</u>	<u>\$ 832,200</u>	<u>\$ 2,247,117</u>	<u>\$ 27,468,968</u>

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (PAGE 11)

TOWN OF DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Governmental Funds
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2022

	General	Sewer	Capital Projects	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES					
Taxes	\$ 10,536,310	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 184,485	\$ 10,720,795
Licenses and permits	1,553,803	-	-	88,125	1,641,928
Intergovernmental	4,339,953	1,667,910	1,023,135	17,024	7,048,022
Charges for services	660,114	1,241,101	-	1,560,413	3,461,628
Miscellaneous	807,842	42,445	-	71,612	921,899
Total revenues	<u>17,898,022</u>	<u>2,951,456</u>	<u>1,023,135</u>	<u>1,921,659</u>	<u>23,794,272</u>
EXPENDITURES					
Current:					
General government	3,340,244	-	-	62,841	3,403,085
Public safety	8,017,155	-	-	-	8,017,155
Highways and streets	1,892,269	-	-	23,610	1,915,879
Water distribution and treatment	-	-	-	711,966	711,966
Sanitation	779,902	1,439,985	-	-	2,219,887
Health	12,200	-	-	-	12,200
Welfare	68,836	-	-	-	68,836
Culture and recreation	1,163,145	-	-	320,725	1,483,870
Conservation	31,901	-	-	4,399	36,300
Debt service:					
Principal	1,327,724	1,001,217	-	258,788	2,587,729
Interest	349,363	270,978	-	95,262	715,603
Other	-	2,500	-	1,000	3,500
Capital outlay	-	-	4,293,641	-	4,293,641
Total expenditures	<u>16,982,739</u>	<u>2,714,680</u>	<u>4,293,641</u>	<u>1,478,591</u>	<u>25,469,651</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>915,283</u>	<u>236,776</u>	<u>(3,270,506)</u>	<u>443,068</u>	<u>(1,675,379)</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers in	405,820	2,679	789,690	-	1,198,189
Transfers out	(707,990)	(239,900)	(28,420)	(221,879)	(1,198,189)
Bond proceeds	-	-	3,145,000	-	3,145,000
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(302,170)</u>	<u>(237,221)</u>	<u>3,906,270</u>	<u>(221,879)</u>	<u>3,145,000</u>
Net change in fund balances	613,113	(445)	635,764	221,189	1,469,621
Fund balances (deficit), beginning, as restated (see Note 20)	<u>7,897,171</u>	<u>2,528,640</u>	<u>(1,168,803)</u>	<u>1,917,868</u>	<u>11,174,876</u>
Fund balances (deficit), ending	<u>\$ 8,510,284</u>	<u>\$ 2,528,195</u>	<u>\$ (533,039)</u>	<u>\$ 2,139,057</u>	<u>\$ 12,644,497</u>

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (PAGE 12)

TOWN OF DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Combining Balance Sheet
December 31, 2022

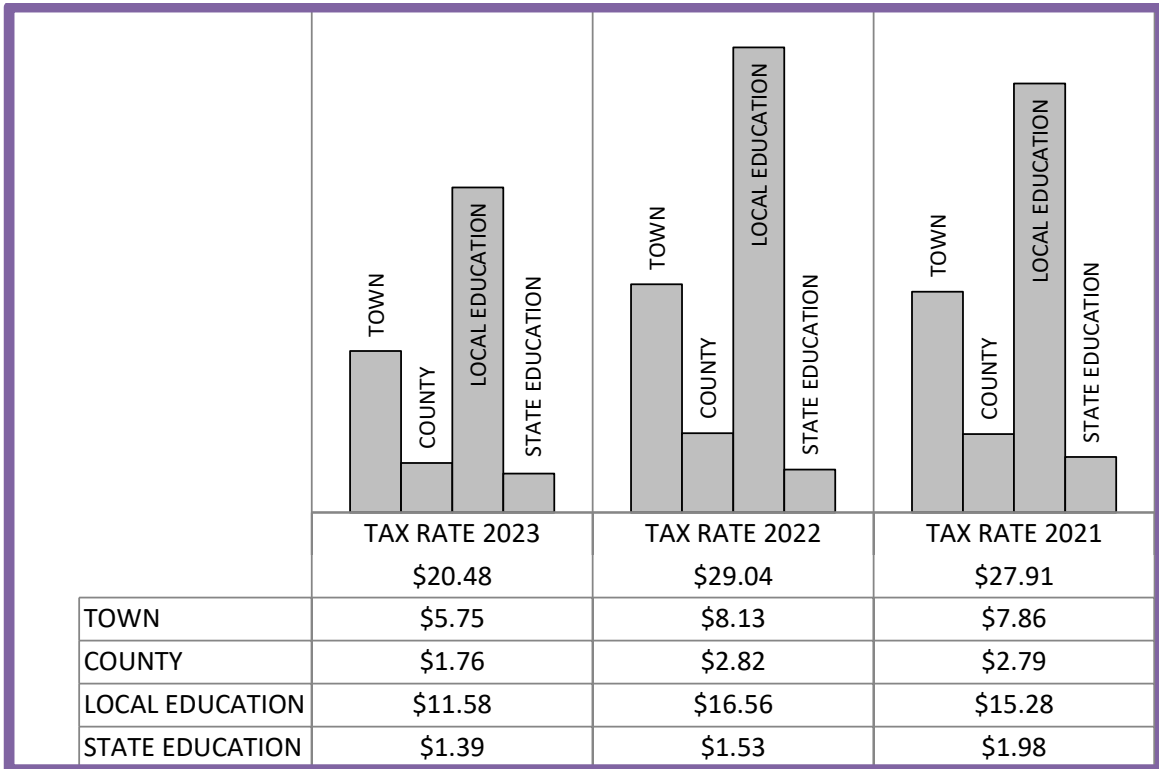
	Special Revenue Funds						Total
	Water	Depot Road Parking Lot	Church Hill Rink	Conservation Commission	Downtown TIF District	Permanent Fund	
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 323,481	\$ 276,462	\$ 304,515	\$ 2,791	\$ 339,247	\$ 18,513	\$ 1,265,009
Investments	243,027	-	-	115,302	-	446,334	804,663
Accounts receivable	55,963	-	65,170	-	-	-	121,133
Due from other governments	27,400	-	-	-	-	-	27,400
Interfund receivable	21,857	-	-	-	-	-	21,857
Prepaid items	5,500	-	1,555	-	-	-	7,055
Total assets	<u>\$ 677,228</u>	<u>\$ 276,462</u>	<u>\$ 371,240</u>	<u>\$ 118,093</u>	<u>\$ 339,247</u>	<u>\$ 464,847</u>	<u>\$ 2,247,117</u>
LIABILITIES							
Accounts payable	\$ 37,861	\$ 75	\$ 50,998	\$ 2,853	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 91,787
Accrued salaries and benefits	7,744	-	5,925	-	-	-	13,669
Other	-	-	-	1,081	-	-	1,081
Total liabilities	<u>45,605</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>56,923</u>	<u>3,934</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,537</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES							
Unavailable revenue - grants	-	-	1,523	-	-	-	1,523
FUND BALANCES							
Nonspendable	5,500	-	1,555	-	-	380,394	387,449
Restricted	626,123	276,387	311,239	114,159	-	84,453	1,412,361
Committed	-	-	-	-	339,247	-	339,247
Total fund balances	<u>631,623</u>	<u>276,387</u>	<u>312,794</u>	<u>114,159</u>	<u>339,247</u>	<u>464,847</u>	<u>2,139,057</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	<u>\$ 677,228</u>	<u>\$ 276,462</u>	<u>\$ 371,240</u>	<u>\$ 118,093</u>	<u>\$ 339,247</u>	<u>\$ 464,847</u>	<u>\$ 2,247,117</u>

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (PAGE 13)

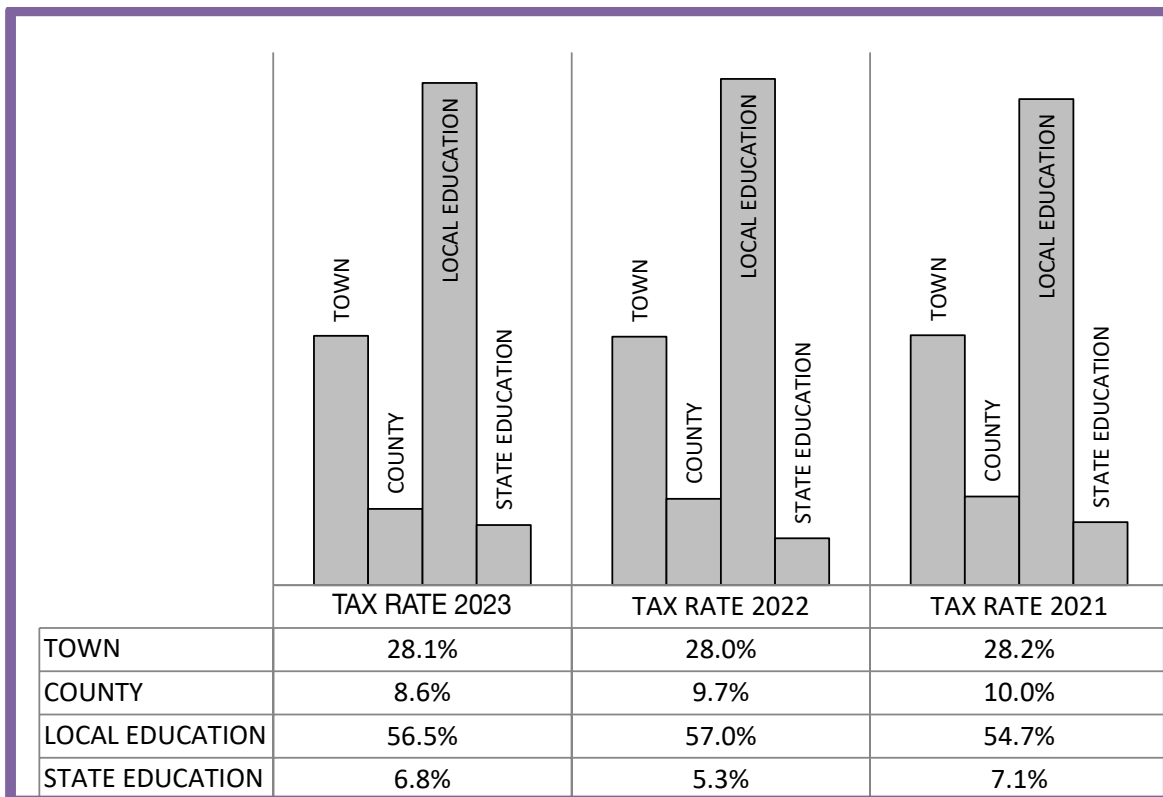
TOWN OF DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2022

	Special Revenue Funds						Total
	Water	Depot Road Parking Lot	Church Hill Rink	Conservation Commission	Downton TIF District	Permanent Fund	
REVENUES							
Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,838	\$ 180,647	\$ -	\$ 184,485
Licenses and permits	-	88,125	-	-	-	-	88,125
Intergovernmental	17,024	-	-	-	-	-	17,024
Charges for services	1,195,857	43,461	321,095	-	-	-	1,560,413
Miscellaneous	50,898	-	5,042	2,371	-	13,301	71,612
Total revenues	<u>1,263,779</u>	<u>131,586</u>	<u>326,137</u>	<u>6,209</u>	<u>180,647</u>	<u>13,301</u>	<u>1,921,659</u>
EXPENDITURES							
Current:							
General government	-	-	-	-	-	62,841	62,841
Highways and streets	-	23,610	-	-	-	-	23,610
Water distribution and treatment	711,966	-	-	-	-	-	711,966
Culture and recreation	-	-	320,725	-	-	-	320,725
Conservation	-	-	-	4,399	-	-	4,399
Debt service:							
Principal	258,788	-	-	-	-	-	258,788
Interest	82,459	-	-	-	12,803	-	95,262
Other	1,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
Total expenditures	<u>1,054,213</u>	<u>23,610</u>	<u>320,725</u>	<u>4,399</u>	<u>12,803</u>	<u>62,841</u>	<u>1,478,591</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>209,566</u>	<u>107,976</u>	<u>5,412</u>	<u>1,810</u>	<u>167,844</u>	<u>(49,540)</u>	<u>443,068</u>
OTHER FINANCING USES							
Transfers out	(124,700)	(97,179)	-	-	-	-	(221,879)
Net change in fund balances	84,866	10,797	5,412	1,810	167,844	(49,540)	221,189
Fund balances, as restated (see Note 20)	546,757	265,590	307,382	112,349	171,403	514,387	1,917,868
Fund balances, ending	<u>\$ 631,623</u>	<u>\$ 276,387</u>	<u>\$ 312,794</u>	<u>\$ 114,159</u>	<u>\$ 339,247</u>	<u>\$ 464,847</u>	<u>\$ 2,139,057</u>

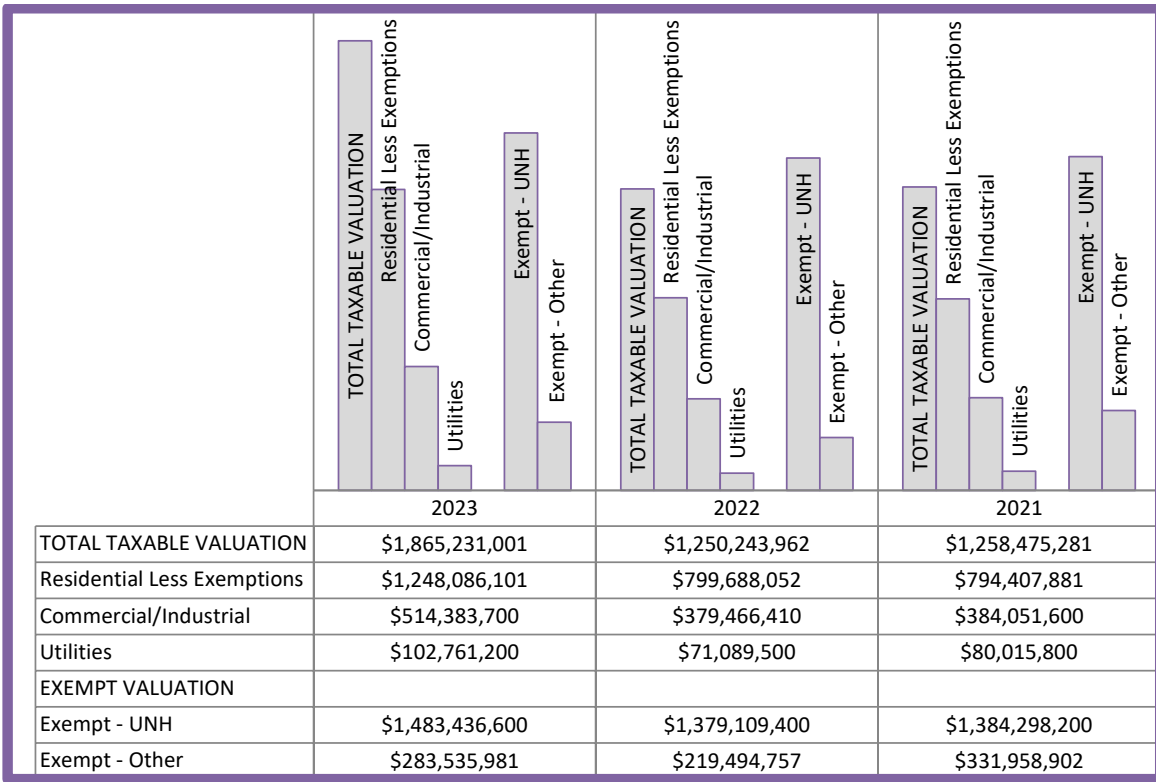
PROPERTY TAX RATE COMPARISONS 2021 – 2023



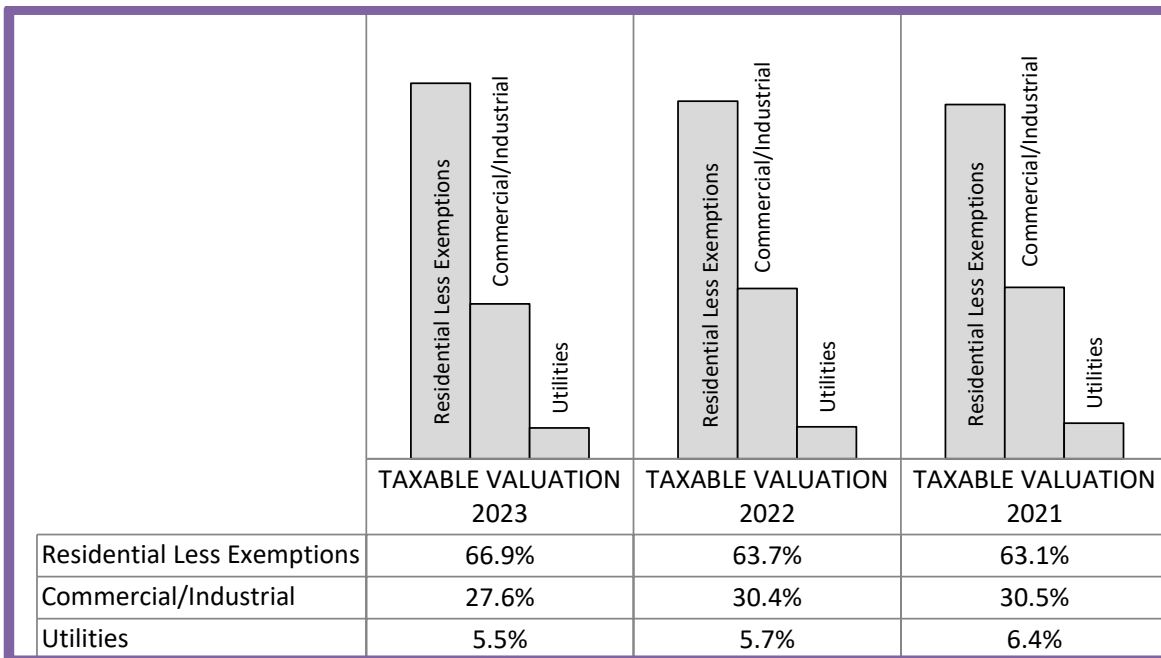
PROPERTY TAX RATE PERCENTAGE COMPARISONS 2021 – 2023



PROPERTY VALUATION COMPARISONS 2021 - 2023



TAXABLE PROPERTY VALUATION PERCENTAGES 2021 - 2023



REPORT OF TRUST AND CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS (PAGE 1)

Town of Durham , New Hampshire													
MS-9 Report of Trust and Capital Reserve Funds 2022 (Audited & accepted by DOJ)													
Name	Purpose					Creation Date							
	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	With-drawals	EOY Balance	Income:	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market:	EOY BAL. Cost Basis	Unrealized	MARKET EOY Value
Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35) Funds													
04 FIRE EQUIPMENT AND SERVICE CRF					Police/Fire				8/18/2014				
	687,304.69	124,597.87	(7,727.15)	2,780.74	801,394.67		16,394.47	14,753.68	31,148.15		832,542.82	(40,207.22)	792,335.60
04 MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT CRF					Discretionary/Benefit of the Town				1/14/2008				
	61,928.85	27,300.00	(771.22)	265.41	88,192.22		4,218.95	1,490.24	5,709.19		93,901.41	(3,916.81)	89,984.60
04 ORCSD FACIL DEV RES					Capital Reserve (Other)				3/9/1973				
	238,443.43	0.00	(2,479.12)	924.76	235,039.55		9,069.44	4,685.77	13,755.21		248,794.76	(13,158.28)	235,636.48
04 PARKING CRF					Capital Reserve (Other)				3/10/1989				
	79,638.84	10,000.00	(874.66)	318.10	88,446.08		5,819.96	1,665.13	7,485.09		95,931.17	(4,577.71)	91,353.46
04 SEWER FUND					Maintenance and Repair				4/5/2017				
	725,620.47	0.00	(7,544.34)	2,814.18	715,261.95		103,086.01	14,259.64	117,345.65		832,607.60	(40,042.68)	792,564.92
04 UDAG CRF					Discretionary/Benefit of the Town				12/16/1991				
	7,900.38	0.00	(82.13)	30.63	7,787.62		541.80	155.24	697.04		8,484.66	(435.97)	8,048.69
04 WATER FUND					Maintenance and Repair				1/9/1917				
	215,716.73	40,000.00	(2,429.41)	873.59	252,413.73		13,495.16	4,639.45	18,134.61		270,548.34	(12,635.76)	257,912.58
Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35) Funds Total End of Year Balance: \$ 2,382,810.76													
Expendable Trust (RSA 31:19-a) Funds													
02 FIRE STATION EXPENDABLE TRUST					Fire Department Donation				12/27/1995				
	227,119.15	0.00	1,971.16	1,353.61	227,736.70		41,916.15	4,009.96	45,926.11		273,662.81	(14,742.25)	258,920.56
04 DURHAM EMPLOYEE EARNED LEAVE BUYOUT TRUST					Discretionary/Benefit of the Town				6/20/2020				
	38,461.03	20,000.00	(493.16)	167.65	57,800.22		667.17	956.01	1,623.18		59,423.40	(2,488.24)	56,935.16
05 FACILITIES MAINTENANCE, AND REPLACEMENT TRUST					Maintenance and Repair				3/11/2017				
	134,575.30	125,000.00	(492.87)	810.88	258,271.55		3,435.40	2,829.85	6,265.25		264,536.80	(9,122.37)	255,414.43
05 ORCSD BENEFITS STABILIZATION FUND					Educational Purposes				3/11/2015				
	405,732.92	0.00	(1,717.02)	2,304.98	401,710.92		50,475.00	7,979.75	58,454.75		460,165.67	(21,854.29)	438,311.38
05 ORCSD SPECIAL EDUCATION STABILIZATION FUND					Educational Purposes				3/11/2015				
	415,136.96	0.00	(1,756.82)	2,358.39	411,021.75		99,234.98	8,164.75	107,399.73		518,421.48	(22,360.79)	496,060.69
Expendable Trust (RSA 31:19-a) Funds Total End of Year Balance: \$ 1,576,210.16													
Trust Funds													
02 CEMETERY IMPROVEMENT TRUST					Maintenance and Repair				6/20/2016				
	32,680.08	4,000.00	284.04	1,528.56	35,435.56		1,505.49	(1,382.52)	122.97		35,558.53	(2,173.62)	33,384.91
02 CEMETERY SPECIAL PROJECTS TRUST					Maintenance and Repair				3/11/2016				
	200.00	0.00	1.74	1.18	200.56		22.79	3.50	26.29		226.85	(12.98)	213.87
02 CONSERVATION LAND USE TRUST					Environmental Purposes				6/9/2017				
	9,042.51	0.00	78.48	53.89	9,067.10		782.97	159.66	942.63		10,009.73	(586.95)	9,422.78
02 DURHAM HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCE					Maintenance and Repair				7/6/2020				
	556.46	650.00	0.84	479.60	727.70		10.81	(8.99)	1.82		729.52	(27.86)	701.66
02 DURHAM TOWN LAND STEWARDSHIP PATRON'S TRUST					Environmental Purposes				2/19/2018				
	11,913.45	5,100.00	149.62	87.93	17,075.14		2,103.56	285.24	2,388.80		19,463.94	(946.18)	18,517.76
02 JULY FOURTH CELEBRATION TRUST					Celebration/Old Home Day				3/5/2018				
	117.92	0.00	1.03	0.69	118.26		10.62	2.08	12.70		130.96	(7.65)	123.31

REPORT OF TRUST AND CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS (PAGE 2)

Town of Durham, New Hampshire												
MS-9 Report of Trust and Capital Reserve Funds 2022 (Audited & accepted by DOJ)												
Principal	Purpose					Creation Date			Market	EOY BAL.		MARKET EOY Value
	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/ Losses	With- drawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change		EOY Balance	Cost Basis	
02 LOIS E. BROWN WAGON HILL FARM TRUST	17,746.73	0.00	154.03	105.76	17,795.00	Maintenance and Repair	1997	313.34	3,066.03	20,861.03	(1,151.94)	19,709.09
02 MILNE, MARGERY & LORUS MEMORIAL SILHOUETTE	1,200.01	0.00	10.40	7.16	1,203.25	Public Monument	3/11/2012	21.21	119.43	1,322.68	(77.89)	1,244.79
02 MILNE, MARGERY TRUST	15,370.50	0.00	133.29	269.16	15,234.63	Environmental Purposes	12/3/2012	(1.39)	108.90	15,343.53	(994.57)	14,348.96
02 SMITH HAMILTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL TRUST	5,796.38	462.50	51.86	35.44	6,275.30	Maintenance and Repair	3/11/2009	(99.10)	26.49	6,301.79	(398.46)	5,903.33
02 TECHNOLOGY DRIVE TRUST	28,348.53	0.00	246.03	168.95	28,425.61	Environmental Purposes	1/28/2013	120.49	2,973.28	31,398.89	(1,840.08)	29,558.81
02 WAGON HILL TRUST	1,669.24	0.00	14.49	9.95	1,673.78	Maintenance and Repair	3/11/1997	29.47	102.02	1,775.80	(108.34)	1,667.46
03 FROST GEORGE FUND	4,980.03	0.00	43.22	29.68	4,993.57	Educational Purposes	3/11/1976	87.92	8,378.78	13,372.35	(323.26)	13,049.09
03 FIRE INJURY PREVENTION TRUST	5,479.25	0.00	47.55	32.65	5,494.15	Educational Purposes	5/2/2005	96.75	1,529.11	7,023.26	(355.65)	6,667.61
03 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE FUND	45.09	0.00	0.40	0.30	45.19	Celebration/Old Home Day	3/11/2000	0.81	496.76	541.95	(2.94)	539.01
03 OLINTHUS DOE FUND	34,393.87	0.00	298.52	204.97	34,487.42	Maintenance and Repair	3/11/1988	736.51	9,984.64	44,472.06	(2,232.49)	42,239.57
03 SMITH CHAPEL TRUST	9,485.46	87.50	83.05	56.97	9,599.04	Maintenance and Repair	3/11/1983	168.93	1,906.41	11,505.45	(624.82)	10,880.63
03 SMITH TOWN IMPROVEMENT TRUST	20,607.80	0.00	178.85	122.79	20,663.86	Beautification	3/11/1985	363.88	2,473.34	23,137.20	(1,337.65)	21,799.55
03 WILCOX DOROTHY FUND	68,341.82	0.00	593.14	407.29	68,527.67	Maintenance and Repair	12/21/2009	1,093.69	13,822.62	82,350.29	(4,436.04)	77,914.25
05 DUNN, C. LIBRARY FUND	510.81	0.00	(2.17)	2.90	505.74	Educational Purposes	3/11/1991	10.04	96.56	602.30	(27.52)	574.78
05 HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP	126,385.80	8,433.00	(573.54)	4,559.55	129,685.71	Scholarship	8/16/2004	(8,299.33)	4,404.28	134,089.99	(6,874.41)	127,215.58
05 SMITH, BRUCE LIBRARY FUND	26,772.19	0.00	(113.30)	152.08	26,506.81	Educational Purposes	3/11/2008	526.54	7,916.46	34,423.27	(1,442.02)	32,981.25
										Trust Funds Total End of Year Balance:	\$ 494,641.37	\$ 468,658.05
Cemetery Funds												
01 TOTAL OF THE 45 SEPARATE CEMETERY TRUSTS	37,406.39	500.00	(2,715.06)	481.07	34,710.26	Cemetery Perpetual Care	1881-2019	975.96	11,756.22	46,466.48	(1,820.47)	44,646.01
03 CEMETERY CARE TRUST	222,484.97	4,000.00	1,932.25	1,334.80	227,082.42	Cemetery Trust (Other)	6/20/2016	8,019.30	34,101.40	261,183.82	(14,517.10)	246,666.72
										Cemetery Funds Total End of Year Balance:	\$ 307,650.30	\$ 291,312.73
										GRAND TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	\$ 4,761,312.59	\$ 4,533,449.33

STATEMENT OF LONG-TERM INDEBTEDNESS AND PAYMENTS 1/1/23 – 12/31/23 (PAGE 1)

GENERAL FUND	LOAN DATE	ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL	RATE	MATURITY DATE	PRINCIPAL PAID 2023	INTEREST PAID 2023	PRINCIPAL BALANCE AS OF 12/31/23
2004 SRLF - Landfill Closure	02/01/2004	\$802,756	3.6880%	02/01/2024	\$40,138	\$2,961	\$40,138
2006 General Obligation Bond (includes Land Conservation)	11/15/2006	\$2,929,216	3.9555%	11/15/2026	\$94,076	\$15,052	\$282,228
2010 General Obligation Bond	7/22/2010	\$674,100	3.5512%	08/15/2030	\$25,000	\$3,250	\$40,000
2012 General Obligation Bond (includes Library)	8/30/2012	\$4,560,000	1.8990%	08/30/2032	\$185,000	\$35,983	\$1,390,000
2013 General Obligation Bond	9/6/2013	\$1,028,000	3.4430%	09/06/2033	\$45,000	\$14,781	\$350,000
2014 General Obligation Bond	7/17/2014	\$2,168,000	3.0428%	08/15/2034	\$120,000	\$32,210	\$640,000
2016 General Obligation Bond	1/12/2017	\$1,189,000	2.2000%	01/15/2027	\$100,120	\$8,225	\$321,280
2018 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2018	\$3,669,010	2.8635%	08/15/2038	\$295,000	\$99,668	\$2,120,000
2019 General Obligation Bond	1/19/2019	\$697,050	2.1300%	02/15/2029	\$100,000	\$24,110	\$262,500
2020 General Obligation Bond	7/14/2020	\$774,775	1.6700%	08/15/2040	\$89,950	\$26,877	\$490,000
2022 General Obligation Bond	1/6/2022	\$1,366,100	1.6400%	02/15/1932	\$178,550	\$64,169	\$1,187,550
2023 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2023	\$1,328,760	3.3600%	02/15/1943	\$0	\$32,394	\$1,328,760
		\$21,186,767			\$1,272,834	\$359,680	\$8,452,456

WATER FUND	LOAN DATE	ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL	RATE	MATURITY DATE	PRINCIPAL PAID 2023	INTEREST PAID 2023	PRINCIPAL BALANCE AS OF 12/31/23
2013 SRLF - Spruce Hole	10/29/2013	\$222,500	1.7000%	10/29/2023	\$25,110	\$427	\$0
2013 SRLF - Water Meter Upgrades	10/29/2013	\$320,608	1.7000%	10/29/2023	\$35,936	\$611	\$0
2006 General Obligation Bond	11/15/2006	\$545,469	3.9555%	11/15/2026	\$25,262	\$4,042	\$75,783
2008 General Obligation Bond	11/15/2008	\$724,900	4.8526%	11/15/2028	\$36,400	\$9,646	\$182,000
2014 General Obligation Bond	7/17/2014	\$784,000	3.0428%	08/15/2034	\$40,000	\$19,065	\$425,000
2015 General Obligation Bond	8/25/2015	\$459,038	2.0000%	09/01/2025	\$66,367	\$4,071	\$137,158
2020 General Obligation Bond	7/14/2020	\$672,650	1.6700%	08/15/2040	\$40,000	\$21,735	\$545,000
2022 General Obligation Bond	1/6/2022	\$448,150	1.6400%	02/15/1932	\$47,475	\$21,223	\$400,675
2023 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2023	\$1,328,760	2.8500%	02/15/2028	\$0	\$2,081	\$81,140
		\$5,506,075			\$316,550	\$82,901	\$1,846,756

STATEMENT OF LONG-TERM INDEBTEDNESS AND PAYMENTS 1/1/23 - 12/31/23 (PAGE 2)

WASTEWATER FUND	LOAN DATE	ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL	RATE	MATURITY DATE	PRINCIPAL PAID 2023	INTEREST PAID 2023	PRINCIPAL BALANCE AS OF 12/31/23
2004 SRLF - WWTP Improvements	06/01/2004	\$3,290,757	3.6880%	06/01/2024	\$219,043	\$16,455	\$227,121
2013 SRF - Dover Road Pump Station/Aeration Blowers	10/29/2013	\$1,313,272	2.7200%	10/29/2032	\$65,664	\$17,861	\$590,972
2014 SRF - Old Concord Road Pump Station	2/1/2015	\$207,824	3.1400%	02/01/2034	\$10,391	\$3,870	\$114,302
2021 SRLF - Dover Road Force Main	2/1/2020	\$1,815,342	2.0000%	02/01/2040	\$90,767	\$32,676	\$1,543,040
2021 SRLF - Grit Project	4/1/2020	\$816,764	2.0000%	04/01/2040	\$40,838	\$14,702	\$694,250
2006 General Obligation Bond	11/15/2006	\$325,469	3.9555%	11/15/2026	\$15,662	\$2,506	\$46,988
2008 General Obligation Bond	11/15/2008	\$1,663,860	4.8525%	11/15/2028	\$73,600	\$19,504	\$368,000
2010 General Obligation Bond	7/22/2010	\$709,900	3.5512%	08/15/2030	\$35,000	\$7,415	\$195,000
2013 General Obligation Bond	09/06/2013	\$2,500,000	3.4430%	09/06/2023	\$115,000	\$59,963	\$1,460,000
2014 General Obligation Bond	7/17/2014	\$783,000	3.0428%	08/15/2034	\$40,000	\$19,065	\$425,000
2015 General Obligation Bond	8/25/2015	\$1,615,962	2.0000%	09/01/2025	\$233,633	\$14,330	\$482,841
2016 General Obligation Bond	1/12/2017	\$345,000	2.2000%	01/15/2027	\$34,500	\$3,360	\$138,000
2018 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2018	\$207,455	2.8635%	08/15/2038	\$20,000	\$4,845	\$85,000
2019 General Obligation Bond	1/19/2019	\$573,850	2.1300%	02/15/2029	\$85,000	\$4,845	\$220,000
2020 General Obligation Bond	7/14/2020	\$13,750	57.0000%	08/15/2023	\$5,000	\$255	\$0
2022 General Obligation Bond	1/6/2022	\$279,250	1.6400%	02/15/1932	\$30,575	\$13,209	\$248,675
2023 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2023	\$1,227,900	3.3600%	02/15/2043	\$0	\$28,614	\$1,227,300
		\$17,688,755			\$1,114,673	\$263,475	\$8,066,489

PARKING FUND	LOAN DATE	ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL	RATE	MATURITY DATE	PRINCIPAL PAID 2023	INTEREST PAID 2023	PRINCIPAL BALANCE AS OF 12/31/23
2023 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2023	\$36,370	2.8500%	02/15/2028	\$0	\$1,182	\$46,100

TIF DISTRICT	LOAN DATE	ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL	RATE	MATURITY DATE	PRINCIPAL PAID 2023	INTEREST PAID 2023	PRINCIPAL BALANCE AS OF 12/31/23
2022 General Obligation Bond	1/6/2022	\$620,700	1.6400%	02/15/1942	\$31,100	\$24,120	\$589,600
2023 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2023	\$36,370	2.6900%	02/15/2031	\$0	\$1,182	\$36,370
		\$657,070			\$31,100	\$25,302	\$625,970

VALUATION, TAX HISTORY AND INVENTORY

VALUATION FIGURES 2019-2023

YEAR	PERCENT OF VALUATION	TAXABLE VALUATION
2023	93.6%*	\$1,865,231,001
2022	61.5%	\$1,250,243,962
2021	72.5%	\$1,258,475,281
2020	86.4%	\$1,236,967,035
2019	93.8%	\$1,201,648,858

*Estimate only

MS-1 SUMMARY 2023

Total Taxable Land	\$633,470,404
Total Taxable Buildings	\$1,136,745,300
Total Taxable Public Utilities	\$102,761,200
Valuation Before Exemptions	\$1,872,976,904
Total Dollar Amount of Exemptions	\$ 7,737,903
Net Valuation on which local tax rate is computed	\$1,865,231,001
Tax Credits: Total Veterans' Credits	\$132,000

TAX RATE IN DURHAM 2019-2023

YEAR	TOWN	LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	STATE SCHOOL	COUNTY	TOTAL
2023	\$5.75	\$11.58	\$1.39	\$1.76	\$20.48
2022	\$8.13	\$16.56	\$1.53	\$2.82	\$29.04
2021	\$7.86	\$15.28	\$1.98	\$2.79	\$27.91
2020	\$7.79	\$15.37	\$2.00	\$2.57	\$27.73
2019	\$7.60	\$15.32	\$2.01	\$2.50	\$27.43

TOWN PROPERTY INVENTORY

STREET NAME	DESCRIPTION	TAX MAP & LOT	ASSESSED VALUATION
Bagdad Road	Stolworthy Wildlife Sanctuary	107-14 & 15	\$607,000
Beech Hill Road	Water Tank Site	201-3	\$899,800
Bennett Road	Lord Property	224-21	\$485,400
Bennett Road	Doe Farm	224-1	\$582,700
Canney Road	Conservation Easement	209-16	Easement only
Coe Drive	Beard's Creek Scenic Easement	107-32	Easement only
Dame Road	Willey Property	231-6	\$259,100
Dame Road	Westerly Side	231-21	\$173,400
Davis Avenue	Conservation easements	105-40 & 45	Easement only
Depot Road	Former Commercial Property	105-1 & 106-2	\$1,166,700
Dover Road	District Court and Museum	108-68	\$745,500
Dover Road	Police Facility	209-29	\$2,167,700
Dover Road	Sewer Pumping Station	209-94	\$253,400
Durham Point Road	Solid Waste Mgmt. Facility	214-27	\$1,168,100
Durham Point Road (off)	Conservation Land	214-19	\$371,100
Durham Point Road (off)	Conservation Land	219-13	\$190,400
Durham Point Road (and Sunnyside Dr.)	Scenic Easements	114-29	Easements only
Durham Point Road	Town Pound	114-23	\$35,900
Foss Farm Road	Water Tower	112-1-LNK-D	\$3,144,800
Ffrost Drive	Vacant Land	116-35 & 119-2	\$315,600
Littlehale Road/US4	Vacant Land	103-14	\$14,900
Longmarsh Road	Colby Marsh/Beaver Brook Conservation	219-17	\$218,200
Longmarsh Road	Langmaid Farm/adjacent to Beaver Brook	219-14 & 16	\$535,100
Madbury Road	Library	106-29	\$4,134,100

STREET NAME	DESCRIPTION	TAX MAP & LOT	ASSESSED VALUATION
Magrath Road	Tot Lot	113-29	\$146,800
Main Street	Cemetery	203-6	\$370,800
Mast Road	Executor Interest in Conservation Easement	211-1	Easement only
Meserve Road	Father Lawless Park	111-14	\$331,900
Mill Pond Road	Mill Pond Road Park	108-90	\$498,100
Mill Pond Road	Smith Chapel	218-65	\$629,700
Mill Pond Road	Milne Property	108-91	\$497,400
Mill Road	Vacant Land	112-55	\$179,400
Mill Road	Vacant Land	113-70	\$74,800
Mill Road	Oyster River Forest	222-72	\$6,243 CU*
Mill Road/Main Street	Bicentennial Park	109-3	Easement only
Near Madbury Line	Executor Interest in Conservation Easement	205-1	Easement only
Near Oyster River	Conservation Easement	203-9	Easement only
Newmarket Road	Easterly Side	117-18	\$9,900
Newmarket Road	Mill Pond Dam	108-87	\$290,500
Newmarket Road	Town Hall	108-1	\$1,762,200
Newmarket Road	Sullivan Monument	108-76	\$2,362,700
Newmarket Road	Vacant Land	114-44	\$240,900
Old Landing Road	Town Landing	108-54	\$372,300
Old Landing Road	Town Landing Footbridge	108-53	\$416,600
Old Piscataqua Road	Jackson's Landing	209-89 & 90	\$1,789,900
Old Piscataqua Road	Near Jackson's Landing	209-85	\$180,500
Orchard Drive	Scenic Easements	113-83 & 86	Easements only
Orchard Drive	Protected Open Space	113-87	\$812,900
Orchard Drive	Protected Open Space	220-6	\$144,400
Oyster River	Access Easement	Access Easement	Easement only
Oyster River Road	Vacant Land	113-42	\$440,400
Packers Falls Road	Conservation Easement	222-1	Easement only
Packers Falls Road	Conservation Easement	222-2	Easement only
Packers Falls Road	Spruce Hole Conservation Area	212-6	\$216,900
Packers Falls Road	Abutting Spruce Hole	222-71	\$968 CU*
Packers Falls Road	Pike Property	223-40-1	\$4,058 CU*
Pettee Brook Lane	Town Parking Lot (multiple parcels)	106-56 & 57	\$1,716,100
Piscataqua Road	Thatch Bed	215-27	\$15,500
Piscataqua Road	Wagon Hill Farm	215-18 & 19	\$1,221,980 CU*
Piscataqua Road	Sewer Treatment Plant & Quarry Log	209-78	\$7,394,600
Schoolhouse Lane	Cemetery (owned by heirs, town maintained)	108-74	\$40,200
Simons Lane	Two Small Lots	232-85 & 237-15	\$42,100
Simons Lane	Vacant Land	237-12	\$144,300
Stone Quarry Drive	Public Works Site	209-36	\$1,398,500
Wednesday Hill Road	Vacant Land	222-39	\$455,200
Williams Way	Boat Landing Lot	215-4	\$162,800
Wiswall Road	Wiswall Dam Site	223-4	\$379,500
Wiswall Road	Vacant Land	224-39	\$2,511 CU*
90 Turtle Pond Road, Lee	Vacant Land	Lee 6-7-700	\$110,100
411 Packers Falls Road, Lee	Gravel Pit	Lee 15-1-900	\$3,340,100
411 Packers Falls Road, Lee	Vacant Land	Lee 15-01-901	\$142,300
Snell Road, Lee	Water Pump Station	Lee 5-6-100	\$981,300
Snell Road, Lee	Vacant Land	Lee 5-6-101	\$128,300

*Current Use