

2015 TOWN ADMINISTRATOR ANNUAL REPORT

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town of Ashburnham, I submit my fourth annual report as Town Administrator.

In 2015 our goal stayed steady. "to operate within budget, remain committed to a high level of customer service, with high ethical conduct."

This year marks the fourth year in a row that Ashburnham was awarded second place in the MMA Town Report contest, for communities with a population of 5,000 to 12,499. Sylvia Turcotte, Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator, continues to produce and enhance a town report that serves as an historical document to be used in the years ahead. Sylvia is again producing the report with a goal to officially become number 1. Great job!!



Four 2nd Place Awards

Technology continues at the forefront and as we complete the transition of our networking system from Town Hall to the Public Safety facility we have added new upgrades to the Library. They are now networked into the system and other enhancements are being addressed

Road repair was on the top of the priority list. Along with Williams Road, Holden Street, Westminster Street, Turnpike Road, and South Maple Avenue that we paid for out of the Water Replacement Project. River Styx, Crosby, and Russell Hill Roads were reclaimed and paved. These major projects were made possible using Chapter 90 and Town voted funds. Now that most of the major arteries have been repaired, 2016 will see the road repair plan extend to smaller well deserving roadways.

The Town managed employee changes as there were retirements of several long term valued employees: Jim Whitney (Water & Sewer), Dave Whitney (DPW), Paul Pollastri (Treasurer), Linda Ramsdell (Town Clerk), and Barbara Brown (Assistant Treasurer). All will be greatly missed and owed a debt of gratitude for their service.

The Energy Committee kicked into high gear on the Green Community Designation Grant with monies being expended. The Energy Committee will be looking to foam insulate the Library, purchase and install a new boiler in the Library, new lighting in the Library, Town Hall and Public Safety Buildings. They will also apply for a competitive Grant through the same Green Energy initiative, once this grant is exhausted.

Our goal continues to be to look each and every day for opportunities to improve the quality of life in Ashburnham. We are here each and every day to work for you. My office is always open to each one of you. I want to thank the employees of the Town of Ashburnham, their dedication and commitment to the people of Ashburnham inspires me and working with them makes coming to work a pleasure every day.

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Briggs
Town Administrator