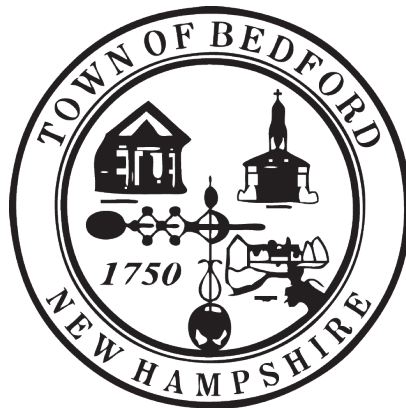


B
E
D
F
O
R
D

2020
ANNUAL
REPORT

ANNUAL REPORT
for the Town of
BEDFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

for the year
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY



TOWN REPORT COMPILED AND EDITED BY SALLY KELLAR, TOWN CLERK
COVER ARTWORK: WINTER FARM - BY LORI SWEENEY
LINOCUT BLOCK PRINT
INSPIRED BY A PHOTO TAKEN BY BEDFORD RESIDENT MARY JO BOURQUE
AT JOPPA HILL FARM



Table of Contents

2020 Budgetary Town Meeting Minutes.....	7
2020 Town Election Results.....	20
2020 Town Population and Tax Rate Information.....	19
2021 Municipal Warrant and Budget Summary.....	153
Appointed Boards and Commissions.....	5
Appointed Boards and Commissions.....	54
Balance Sheet-Governmental Funds as of December 31, 2019.....	34
Bedford Community Television (BCTV) and Radio.....	121
Births.....	131
Building/Health Department.....	113
Cemetery Trustees.....	126
Conservation Commission.....	47
Deaths.....	135
Energy Commission.....	53
Fire Department.....	103
Finance and Tax Collection Departments.....	27
Historic District Commission.....	49
Human Resources and Welfare Departments.....	40
Impact Fee Report.....	37
Independent Auditor's Report.....	31
Information Technology Department.....	64
Library.....	116
Marriages.....	133
NH Executive Councilor (District 4) Report.....	22
Parks and Recreation Commission and Department.....	125
Planning Board.....	44
Planning and Zoning Department.....	42
Police Department.....	67
Police Department 2020 Annual Statistics.....	100
Public Works Department.....	58
Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission.....	50
Statement of Bonded Debt.....	30
Supervisors of the Checklist.....	128
Tax Increment Finance District Report.....	36
Town Clerk.....	129
Town Council Chair Message.....	23
Town Directory.....	3
Town Manager Message.....	24
Town and State Officials.....	4
Trustees of the Trust Funds.....	38
Zoning Board of Adjustment.....	46



TOWN OFFICES

24 North Amherst Road, Bedford, NH 03110

www.bedfordnh.org

Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Tuesday – 7:00 am to 4:30 pm

Assessing	472-8104
Planning and Zoning	472-5243
Auto/Dog/Voter Registration	472-3550
Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates	472-3550
Finance	472-3550
Human Resources and Welfare	792-1315
Parks and Recreation	472-5242
Public Works: Highway and Sewer	472-3070
Tax Collector/Town Clerk	472-3550
Town Manager’s Office	472-5242

SAFETY COMPLEX

55 Constitution Drive, Bedford, NH 03110

www.bedfordnh.org

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Building/Health Code Official/Inspector	472-3838
Fire Department – Business Line	472-3219
Police Department - Business Line	472-5113
FIRE AND POLICE EMERGENCY LINE	911

BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, NH 03110

www.bedfordnhlibrary.org

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.- 8:30 p.m.

Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, 1:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.

Summer Hours: Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Closed Sundays.

Telephone	472-2300
-----------------	----------

OTHER TOWN DEPARTMENTS

Town Pool, 20 County Road (summer only)	472-7331
Transfer Station/Dump, Chubbuck Road	472-4563
Hours: Tuesday – 7:00 am - 5:00 pm Thursday 7:00 am - 7:00 pm	
Wednesday through Saturday 8:30am - 5:00pm	
(Closed Sunday and Monday)	
BCTV – Channels 16, 22 & 23, 10 Meetinghouse Road	472-8288
WBNH-LP 105.1 FM Radio, 10 Meetinghouse Road	472-5242



ELECTED OFFICIALS

TOWN COUNCILORS

David Gilbert, Chair.....2022
 Denise Ricciardi, Vice Chair.....2022
 Bill Duschatko2021
 Melissa Stevens.....2021
 Phil Greazzo.....2021
 Lori Radke2023
 William Carter.....2023

TOWN CLERK

Sally Kellar2023

MODERATOR

Bill Klein.....2022

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Beverly Yuksel, Chair2026
 Hugh Donovan2024
 Barbara Chagnon2022

TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS

Ken Peterson, Chair2021
 Mac McMahan2022
 Joseph Fahey2023

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Walter Gallo, Chair2022
 Pam VanArsdale.....2021
 Robert Brooks2023
 Jerry Hanauer *alternate*.....2021

STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

Governor Chris Sununu
 US Senators..... Maggie Hassan
 Jeanne Shaheen
 US Representatives Ann Kuster
 Chris Pappas
 Executive Councilor..... Ted Gatsas
 State Senator Jeanne Dietsch

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE
 GENERAL COURT

Linda Rae Camarota
 Dave Danielson
 Linda Gould
 John Graham
 Sue Mullen
 Laurie Sanborn

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Town Manager.....Rick Sawyer
 Executive Assistant.....Dawn Boufford
 Assessor.....William Ingalls
 Building Code Official.....Wayne Richardson
 Environmental Coordinator.....Jeremy Spooner
 Finance Director/Tax Collector Tammy Penny
 Police Chief.....John Bryfonski
 Fire Chief.....Scott Hunter
 Human Resources Director.....Pamela Hogan
 Library Director.....Mary Ann Senatrow
 Planning Director.....Rebecca Hebert
 Public Works Director.....Jeff Foote
 BCTV-WBNH-LPFM Station Manager.....Bill Jennings
 Recreation Manager.....Jane O'Brien
 Town Treasurer.....Thomas Sauser



PLANNING BOARD

Jon Levenstein, Chair.....	2021
Kelleigh Murphy, Vice Chair	2022
Mac McMahan	2021
Harold Newberry	2023
Steve Clough.....	2022
Priscilla Malcolm.....	2023
Bill Duschatko, Town Councilor	
Rick Sawyer, Town Manager	
Jeff Foote, Director of Public Works	
John Quintal <i>Alternate</i>	2023
Charles Fairman <i>Alternate</i>	2022
Matthew Sullivan <i>Alternate</i>	2021
Phil Greazzo Town Councilor <i>Alternate</i>	2021
Rebecca Hebert, Planning Director, staff liaison	
Mark Connors, Assistant Planning Director, staff liaison	

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

John Morin, Chair	2023
Kevin Duhaime Vice Chair.....	2021
Leonard Green	2023
Sharon Stirling	2022
Melissa Stevens	2022
Neal Casale, <i>Alternate</i>	2023
Elizabeth Jude, <i>Alternate</i>	2021
David Gilbert, <i>Alternate</i>	2022
Karin Elmer (Planner I, Staff Liaison)	

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Maggie Wachs, Chair.....	2023
Bill Carter, Town Councilor Vice Chair.....	2021
Bob MacPherson.....	2022
James Drake.....	2021
Gregory Schain	2021
Patricia Grogan	2021
Stephanie Jones.....	2021
David Chiappetta, <i>Alternate</i>	2023
Beth Evarts, <i>Alternate</i>	2022
Denise Ricciardi, Town Councilor <i>Alternate</i>	2021
Mac McMahan, (Planning Board Liaison)	2021
Karin Elmer (Planner I, Staff Liaison)	

TRUSTEES OF CEMETERIES

David Bailey, Chair.....	2021
Art Alden, Secretary.....	2022
Steven Wiggin.....	2023

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Theresa Walker, Chair.....	2022
Judy Perry, Vice Chair	2021
Lisa Muskat.....	2023
Chris Allen	2022
Steven MacDougall, <i>Alternate</i>	2022
Joe Vaccarello <i>Alternate</i>	2021
Phil Greazzo, Town Councilor	
Lori Radke, Town Councilor <i>Alternate</i>	
Charles Fairman (Planning Board Liaison)	
Mark Connors (Assistant Planning Director, Staff Liaison)	

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Michelle Casale, Chair.....	2022
Diane Phelps	2021
Christine Donati.....	2021
Spencer Hawkes.....	2023
Jimmy Astarita <i>Alternate</i>	2023
Steve Grocott, <i>Alternate</i>	2022
David Gilbert, Town Councilor	
Bill Carter, Town Councilor <i>Alternate</i>	
Jane O'Brien, Recreation Manager	

BCTV-WBNH

Peter MacDonald	2023
Andrew Hanson	2023
Richard Rawlings.....	2022
Dave Danielson.....	2022
Joel Schwelling	2022
Robert Thomas.....	2021
Julio Nunez	2021
Melissa Stevens, Town Councilor	
Bill Duschatko, Town Councilor <i>Alternate</i>	
Bill Jennings, Station Manager	
Coleen Richardson, Assistant Station Manager	

HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Police Chief John Bryfonski, Chair	
Fire Chief Scott Hunter	
Bill Jean	2021
Madonna Lovett Repeta.....	2023
Ken Peterson, <i>Alternate</i>	2022
Gerard Gagne, <i>Alternate</i>	2021
Lori Radke, Town Councilor	2021
Denise Ricciardi, Town Councilor <i>Alternate</i>	2021
Jeff Foote, Director of Public Works	
Anne Wiggin, School Department	



WATER & SEWER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Michael Sills2023
Scott Bourcier2022
Richard Moore 2021
Phil Greazzo, Town Councilor
Bill Carter, Town Councilor *Alternate*
Jeremy Spooner, Environmental Coordinator
Rebecca Hebert, Planning Director

ENERGY COMMISSION

Timothy Paradis, Chair 2022
John Russell, Vice Chair 2021
Bart Fromuth..... 2023
Thomas Elwood 2023
Andrew Gillis..... 2022
Sarah Braese..... 2022
Bing Lu 2021
Denise Ricciardi, Town Councilor
Lori Radke, Town Councilor Alternate
John Schneller, School Board Liaison



BUDGETARY TOWN MEETING MARCH 11, 2020

The Bedford Budgetary Town Meeting was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at the Bedford High School auditorium. Present on the stage were Town Moderator Bill Klein, Bill Duschatko (TC Chairman), Melissa Stevens (TC Vice Chairwoman), Councilors: Chris Bandazian, David Gilbert, Phil Greazzo, Denise Ricciardi, and Catherine Rombeau, Rick Sawyer – Town Manager, Tammy Penny – Finance Director, and Sally Kellar – Town Clerk.

Moderator Klein opened the meeting at 7:03 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Klein thanked and recognized Joan McMahan as this was her final evening as Supervisor of the Checklist after about 13 years. She received a standing ovation. Moderator Klein thanked her and stated that her service has been outstanding

Moderator Klein introduced on the stage Bill Duschatko – Council Chairman who then introduced Vice Chairwoman Melissa Stevens, Rick Sawyer – Town Manager, and Tammy Penny – Finance Director, and Sally Kellar – Town Clerk. Moderator Klein introduced Councilor Chris Bandazian who then introduced Dave Gilbert – Town Councilor, Catherine Rombeau – Town Councilor, Denise Ricciardi – Town Councilor, and Phil Greazzo – Town Councilor.

Moderator Klein mentioned newly elected positions: Bill Klein –Town Moderator, Sally Kellar –Town Clerk, Bill Carter – Town Councilor, Lori Radke – Town Councilor, Hugh Donovan – Supervisor of the Checklist, Barbara Chagnon – Supervisor of the Checklist, Beverly Yuksel – Supervisor of the Checklist, Robert Brooks – Library Trustee, and Joe Fahey – Trustee of the Trust Funds (write-in).

Moderator Klein stated if anyone had any questions to direct them to him and not the panel. When people come up to speak at the mics, they are to have their voter card with them. They need to also clearly state

their name and address and address their comments through the moderator. After questions and discussion he will ask for a motion to move the article. Articles 5 and 6 are the only items that they will be discussing. If someone wants to make an amendment to an article, they are to put it in writing and give it to one of the assistant moderators. The amendment is the only item they will discuss until they've voted on that amendment. No other motions would be in order until they finish that, then they will go back to the article or other motions to amend. On any amendment or motion they act on, following the taking of a vote on anything, he's going to ask for a motion to restrict reconsideration, so that later on, this evening they can't go back and change something that they've done.

Article 5. – Capital Reserve Fund-Projects and Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$2,377,875** to be deposited into various Capital Reserve Funds. **\$1,343,375** to come from new taxation and **\$800,000** to come from Fund Balance Reserves, \$200,000 from Recreation Impact Fees for field improvements, and \$34,500 to come from the Sewer fund.

Moderator Klein recognized Chairman Duschatko to move **Article 5** as printed.

MOTION by Chairman Duschatko to move Article 5 as written in the Town Meeting Handout. Seconded by Councilor Stevens.

Bill Gere, 17 Patton Road, had a question about the \$1m field improvement reserve. He wanted to know if that gets approved, would that mean that Sportsman Field would get the hardscape cover. Mr. Sawyer explained that the proposed was to put a synthetic surface on Sportsman Field if it gets approved. Mr. Gere wanted to confirm that they can't drive on that surface. Mr. Sawyer confirmed that it was correct. They won't allow normal light duty vehicles that they've had at previous Town events, but they would be able to bring golf carts and the tractor equipment



that they use at all of the fields, so they would have to change the way they do some Town events if they continue to hold them at that location. Mr. Gere wanted to know if there had been any economic justification for doing this versus continually mowing and watering the existing field. Mr. Sawyer answered yes. They are showing a savings for the annual maintenance, because they would not be mowing and fertilizing it. There is additional cost, because the field would have to be replaced in 10 to 13 years, just like the high school field that needed to be replaced and was on the ballot this year. They hope to start a savings for this next year, which would be about \$60k, which would offset the savings they would have on the mowing, fertilizing, and watering of the field. Mr. Gere thought it seemed like almost \$100k a year to keep that hard surface intact, because it's going to have to be replaced. He was wondering if it was really worth it and wanted to hear some discussion from some other people.

Councilor Gilbert stated that they looked at the field as a need versus a want. He explained that one of the things about Sportsman was that it was low-lying, there is a lot of water, and it would take a lot of effort to maintain it. The light standards have failed and they've had to take them down. Also, they would be able to use that field longer in the fall and bring it up earlier in the spring, so all of the sports programs have more time to use it. Also, Town leagues weren't going to get charged for it as far as he knows, but leagues outside of Town that have more participants on their team that are from out of Town, will have to pay to play on that field. If they do it now, they are going to get an economy of scale with the high school, because they are going to use the same construction company that they are going to use to do their field. The School is just resurfacing their field. The cost for Sportsman Field is to put LED lights in and to put the field in place. When they replace it in 10, 12 years, it's not another million dollars. It's just going to be replacing the field itself. It's also a safety issue, because right now that field is not safe to play on. It's also cost avoidance, because they would just be throwing money at it now trying to keep maintaining

it and it always drains poorly. In the spring, you have to wait until the snow melts. Also, it's going to be an enhancement to taxpayers. It would look good and would show that the Town was caring about sports and recreation, and when people come to move to Bedford, they are going to like that. He thought it propped up the property values.

Frank Zito, 24 South Hills Drive, wanted to know what the synthetic material was and if it was the same as AstroTurf. Mr. Sawyer stated that it's the same surface that is at the high school field. Mr. Zito stated that the high school put in \$793k. At their public hearing, he talked about concerns with AstroTurf that hit the national news back in 2015 and 2016. Soccer players kick up some particles, the players breathe those particles, and the incidents of cancer was up to 500% more for kids and young women playing soccer than their siblings who didn't play soccer. He asked at that public hearing if that could be investigated and the superintendent said they would check into it and get back to him and he hasn't heard a thing. He's concerned about that and would like to see that reserve removed and put in next year if they decide there isn't a cancer causing material. His daughter lives in a town outside of Washington, D.C., and their town in Maryland ripped up all of their material and went back to real grass. He was concerned that they were going to spend \$1m to put something in that could be a cancer causing agent. He never heard back from the School District on what the company said and what studies were done on it. He wanted to know if the Council had done any work on carcinogens in the turf. Mr. Sawyer explained that he was at the School public meeting and heard the superintendent say that they would put something in the bid package that would require the company to certify that it was PFAS free. That was the only chemical that he heard the superintendent focus on. That requirement was put into the bid package for both the School and the Town, which was jointly bid and those bid openings were tomorrow at 1:00 PM. Mr. Zito mentioned that the statement was also made that they were going to contact the company and ask for some kind of statement or written document from the company



and he never heard a thing. He stated that it's not just PFAS that is in it according to the studies that were done and that's why the town in Maryland ripped up their fields and went back to grass. He wasn't feeling confident spending \$1m on something that may be carcinogenic for the kids anybody that uses that field. He wanted to know if a motion was in order to delete that item until they have a scientifically valid response to this and put it back in next year. Moderator Klein stated that if the team there couldn't give them an answer then yes, they could do that. It would be making an amendment to reduce it by the dollar amount he wished. Mr. Zito mentioned the field improvements reserve and wanted to know if there were other things built into that was the whole \$1m for the turf. Mr. Sawyer stated that the \$1m was for the Sportsman Field project in its entirety, which includes a lot of drainage work, the grading for the site, and all of the lights. Moderator Klein wanted to know if that could be done without affecting the turf being changed at this time. Mr. Sawyer stated that there would be no reason to do that work and have the grass there. It would be all torn up to put the lights in. If they were doing a grass field, the drainage would have to be different, the slope of the surface would have to be different and it would make no sense to him and he wouldn't recommend that the body move that forward if that's the will of the group to take just the synthetic portion of the project out. They also have no bid package for that. The bid package is currently for a full synthetic field with a lights system. Mr. Zito wanted to know if the research was done and the Town was given an answer then it could be put back in the warrant article for next year once they find out that all of the carcinogens have been removed and they are not endangering anybody playing on that field.

MOTION by Frank Zito that it be removed from the warrant article at this point and research be done, they be given the answers and with an opportunity to put it back in the budget next year.

Frank Zito, 24 South Hills Drive, stated that if they've been using a grass field all these years, another year

wouldn't cause that much harm. His motion is to remove the \$1m.

Moderator Klein stated that the motion was to reduce that line item, the Recreation Improvements Reserve, by \$1m. Mr. Zito stated that was correct.

Motion was seconded by Bill Gere.

Moderator Klein explained that they are going to discuss that amendment only. The reduction of \$1m.

Frank Sledjeski, 2 Carolina Lane, stated that he was heavily involved in the Back River Road turf process 3 or 4 years ago. While it's not scientific, the way that they are doing turf now is significantly different than they were doing it back in 2010. The fields at Back River Road were probably 70-80% sand versus what used to be complete crumb rubber with carcinogens in it. They would have to find out from the vendors, but he wasn't sure that studies back from before that were valid for concerns going forward. That's his opinion dealing with four or five companies multiple years ago. In other parts of the country they can do grass, but in New England, there were very few grass fields left that were at the level that there were looking to have in Bedford for the quality of their sports. Grass in New England was not a great surface. He talked about how the pond there was filled in and no drainage was put it and that's why it has water problems. That field can only be used as a practice field the way that it is now and half of the lights were taken down, so there is half a field of lights.

Joel Provencher, 33 Olde Lantern Road, urged folks to vote against the change. He was at the School Board hearing and afterwards, he went home and did a Google search on the cancer rate connected to the field and the search brought up a report done by Washington State's Department of Health and they found no correlation between soccer players on Astroturf and cancer. He thought you find some sort of cancer element or carcinogen in any surface or item or thing people use in daily life and they balance the concerns of those over the overall benefit of what



they do. Having walked on Sportsman Field, he thought it had holes and gaps and the actual surface isn't one that would be great for a practice or playing surface. He coaches high school football and it's not a surface that he would want his players playing on. He thought there was a certain element that is a safety component and more than anything they should take the savings that are being able to be bundled with the already passed turf resurfacing and bundle that with the changing of Sportsman and get the best bang for their buck right now and to have it come not at any major tax increase or impact on them whatsoever. He thought the Board did a great job of finding a way to balance these two elements together and thought they had a really good product that they could put forward for their athletes. He urged people to vote against the amendment and keep it in the budget.

Becky Soule, 27 New Boston Road, stated that Sportsman was basically a practice field and mentioned someone's comment about resurfacing it with the turf to show other towns that Bedford cares about its fields. It's a practice field so other towns are not going to play on that field. She has a 21-year old and a 24-year old that played sports in Town. When they first started playing sports, Legacy lower field had flooding issues and the Town took it offline from playing, dug up the field, put drainage in it and re-sodded it and that field has held up very well over the years; probably a lot cheaper than the \$1m for a 10-year field. She wanted to see a cost comparison to have natural sod and drainage put it at Sportsman rather than the turf. Councilor Gilbert stated that Sportsman was much lower and wetter than Legacy. By turfing it, they might be able to do events on that that are not just practice. Another thing about Sportsman being turfed, if another any fields have a problem, it can take the overflow. If they have to take another field offline for any other reason, this field can take that.

Frank Zito, 24 South Hills Drive, wanted clarification on the motion he made. He wanted to know if the \$1m commits them to \$100k a year for a plastic field for 10 years and at the end of 10, 11, 12 years, they

need to replace the field. Mr. Sawyer stated that they program just like the high school field for 10, 12, 13 or 14 years where they expect they will have to replace it. The high school field total in cost was about \$700k, but their field was larger and has a track around it and other issues of work that was being done as part of that project. He said that the Town would estimate around \$600k-700k to just replace the synthetic surface in 10-15 years. They would save between \$60k and \$70k potentially in a capital reserve fund starting next year if they were to move forward with it. Mr. Zito wanted to know what the annual cost of maintaining the grass field as it is now. Mr. Sawyer stated that he would have to pull out some documents and get back to him. Mr. Zito stated that it would help to know and wanted to know if he could give them an estimate, because they were going to vote on this now. He wanted to know if it was anywhere near \$100k a year to maintain a grass field. Councilor Gilbert thought it was around \$90k-\$95k. Mr. Zito wanted to clarify that it would cost \$90k-\$95k to maintain a grass field. Councilor Gilbert stated that that was everything, lighting, maintenance, etc. Mr. Zito responded that they aren't talking about lighting; they are talking about just maintaining the current field. Councilor Gilbert stated that have to talk about the whole package. Mr. Zito pointed out that Mr. Sawyer said that if the plastic wasn't approved, then the lighting and all of that wouldn't be put in, so he wanted to know what it would cost to maintain a grass field. Councilor Gilbert stated that he didn't know that off the top of his head. Mr. Zito didn't think they had enough data to spend \$1m that's why he made his motion. Moderator Klein stated that when the Council put that together, they had done a lot of that research and they had all of the figures together at that point. The \$1m that they were voting on right now cancels the entire project, the whole thing and only part of that was for the field; the other was for other issues that still need to be addressed. Mr. Zito stated that they could put the \$1m in again next year and Moderator Klein stated that if the voters want to do that and the Council wants to put it on the agenda, they can.

Terry Wolf, 61 Bracken Circle, pointed out that on



page three of the handout, it states that \$1.3m would come from new taxation, and she wanted to know if this motion were to pass and the \$1m to be removed, if that would reduce that number by \$1m of the new taxation. Mr. Sawyer explained that the \$1m from the Recreation Improvements is removed from Article 5, the way that both articles were written tonight, they would reduce the revenue side by \$800k from the fund balance and \$200k from Recreation Impact Fees. They would still need to raise the rest, the \$1,343,375 from taxes. This motion wouldn't reduce the tax rate at all. Ms. Wolf wanted to know if the \$1m was removed from this particular warrant article, would it reduce that \$1.3m to \$300k. Mr. Sawyer responded no. He explained that if you look at the top, in bold, there is \$2.3m in this total article with \$1.3 being raised by taxes. As proposed by the Council, this \$1m for this field is not to be raised from new taxes; it's to be raised from \$800k of fund balance and \$200k of Recreation Impact Fees. They would be reducing the total article from \$2,377,875 to the total of \$1,343,375 from taxes plus \$34,500 from the sewer fund. Ms. Wolf wanted to know how much money was in the unreserved fund balance. Mr. Sawyer stated that it was approximately \$18m.

Dan Campbell, 1 Laurel Drive, stated that he was a small business owner. He stated that it was mentioned that it cost \$100k a year to mow the grass at one field and he wanted to volunteer his services to do that. That's a great contract whoever has it, but it's kind of ridiculous. He stated that this was their money that they are spending and he thought it was nuts to spend \$1m on a fake field that they would have to replace in 10 years. He thought it was a bad idea. Councilor Gilbert stated that he doesn't know the exact number of how much it costs to mow a grass field, but he remembered something between \$90k and \$95k, but it's not just mowing. It's everything to do with the field; it's fertilizing, mowing, lights, all kinds of different things, fencing. Mr. Campbell wanted to know if they put up a fence every year. Councilor Gilbert stated that he didn't have that detail. Mr. Campbell stated so it's \$100k to mow one field. Councilor Gilbert responded that he didn't say \$100k.

Mr. Campbell stated that he said \$90k-95k. Councilor Gilbert responded that that's different than \$100k. Mr. Campbell stated that it's only a difference of \$10k, but that's still a lot of money and Councilor Gilbert agreed that it was a lot of money, but they need to invest in their Town. Mr. Campbell thought it was nuts. He works hard for his money and thought they should get quotes from 10 different contractors and they could get it done for half the price. He wanted to know if they were giving it to one guy. \$100k to mow the grass at one field and turn the lights on, but they are going to replace all the lights and put fake grass that they have to rip out in 10 years and spend another \$700k to replace and it might cause cancer. This is just nuts.

Mark Murai, 15 Shaw Drive, stated that he loves the fake fields. For those who were concerned about the carcinogens, they haven't shown up here with any kind of substantiated proof in their hands. The chemicals he puts on his lawn were probably as bad if not worse, which is why he has stopped having TruGreen and those companies come out and deal with his lawn because of the chemicals they use. From a safety standpoint, he thought it was a better option for anyone who steps on that field. He was in support of putting the field in and maintaining it as it needs to be maintained.

Frank Sledjeski, 2 Carolina Lane, stated that what's there now is not a field. It's a pile of dirt that only works essentially for those that don't play on the ground. Soccer and field hockey can't use it. There are over 900 kids in Bedford that can't utilize that facility. He thought they should also keep in mind that the lights with the situation they are in now, they've lost a significant amount of lighted field space in Bedford, which is crucial especially when they change the clocks back at the end of the year. The amount of time

they are able to use the field far outweighs what they are able to do on a grass field. The high school games can go all the way into the middle of December and on the field in the beginning of March. This field would be used a good four or five months more every year than the current pile of dirt that they have out there.



Ralph Sidore, 15 Gleneagle Drive, gave a history of when the field was built by the soccer league and when the Town took it over it wasn't kept up as good. It was built to be the number one soccer field and for the first few years it was. The reason there were wooden poles was that the site contractor who was on the soccer board got them donated and installed for free by the phone company. It was a really nice field that as time evolved and more kids were involved and with more sports in Town, it was used more heavily and got beaten down. It is something that needs to be remedied. They have to have fields that work for everybody. The need for lighted fields was obvious 30 years ago and the need for lighting now was even more critical. He thought the motion was incorrect. What was said about possible carcinogens was sketchy at best; they have conflicting studies. He thought the motion was wrong and should be defeated.

Bill Dermody, Birchwood Circle, didn't disagree with the field. He wanted to know if the life expectancy of the field, 10-14 years, was based on the wear and tear of this field. Other fields are only used for certain sports like the high school field, but this field would get more use. He wanted to know if the Council was going to assure 10-14 years out of that field or was the replacement going to be on a more frequent basis. Mr. Sawyer stated that he wasn't aware of any synthetic field that's needed to be replaced in less than 10 years even with the most aggressive use. Mr. Dermody talked about a lot of groups using the field including those having birthday parties or soccer games and kids wearing shoes that were not meant for those fields and it would get more wear. He wanted to make sure that they could convince themselves that they were going to get the kind of wear out of the field that they expect or the longevity out of the field that they are telling them about tonight. He thought it seemed like an awful long time. The synthetic field at the high school doesn't get the kind of wear and tear that they might be experiencing at this field. He wanted to make sure they were looking at the real cost. Mr. Sawyer responded absolutely. They believe all of their science and all of their research and the specifications that went into the field would provide a field that they

would not have to replace in less than 10 years.

Mr. Sawyer answered a previous question and stated that the report that he has from the Public Works Department, by putting in a turf field, it would reduce their mowing costs by 4.88% and the total mowing package for all of the fields us currently shown at around \$52k and it would bring it down to just over \$49k with that reduction. They would also be showing a reduction of fertilizer across all fields of 4.8%, which is about \$1,100. The total fertilizer budget is just under \$20k across all fields. They are also showing a reduction of 2.88% for fuel, because of not needing to fuel the equipment. There is a one-time cost for buying a new surfacing piece of equipment for the field itself, but otherwise their overall equipment cost goes down about 4.8% as well. It looks like Sportsman Field is about 4.8% of their overall maintenance budget for all of their fields or that portion would be saved by doing the turf field. The cost is the replacement cost and his recommendation would be that they would also be building a replacement cost even if it was a grass field. It would need to be replaced at some point in time, because of the condition that's out there and the amount of use that all of their fields get, especially Sportsman Field.

Sue Thomas, 36 Glen Road, wanted to clarify that the tax rate would not change with it in or out of the current proposal. Mr. Sawyer responded as currently proposed in the budget that's correct. Ms. Thomas stated that if they take out the \$1m, they just won't be drawing off of the reserve fund for this year and none of them would be affected this year and wanted to know if that was correct. Mr. Sawyer responded that that was correct. Ms. Thomas stated that she had been involved in all sports, not just in Bedford, and in the northeast especially and the northern states, most schools, colleges and high schools are transitioning in the north to artificially turfed fields for usage reasons. For safety reasons, what the snow and frost does to fields in the winter is the same that it does to roads. It causes issues. Many softball and baseball teams are going to artificial turf fields in the northern states, because overall it's much more economical. The teams



get on the fields a lot quicker and they can be used longer, so the usage is more. Bedford has a lot of kids that play. Sportsman Field is not just a practice field. The high school football team practices on Sportsman Field, because the high school field either has soccer or field hockey or in the spring has lacrosse. It's used all the time. It would be a great investment in Town to have another artificially turfed field to go along with the high school field. She defended Councilor Gilbert. She stated that it's hard to sit up there and there are a million numbers they've been working on all year and then to be asked questions and to be criticized about it. She thought they've done a great job presenting this. There have been hearings on this budget and she likes the way it's been packaged.

Charlie Fairman, 243 Liberty Hill Road, stated that unfortunately he didn't see a lot of the parents there tonight that have children using Sportsman Field and all fields in Town. He has grandchildren playing sports and will try to speak for them and say that they need better and improved fields all over Town. Last year, unfortunately they voted down a bond that would have improved most of their fields. They fields need to be improved and they need more fields. This field is unusable for practice or anything else right now. He was very much against the amendment. Also, he's a lot more concerned about the chemicals in fertilizer and other lawn treatments that are put on the fields and lawns than he is in any of the chemicals in artificial turf. Chemicals put on the lawns pollute the waters, streams and rivers and watershed. He would rather see them go to artificial turf, which is much less of a danger to the children and to the Town at large.

MOTION by Fred Sledjeski to end the debate. The motion was seconded. Vote taken and passed.

Frank Zito, 24 South Hills Drive, stated that for point of information, he mentioned the statement that if the \$1m was taken out to be put in next year, it wouldn't change the \$2,377,875. He didn't understand that. If Article 5 is amended for the Town to raise and appropriate

\$1,377,875, he wanted to know if they are telling him that somehow the \$1m would be taken out of new taxation. Mr. Sawyer explained that the \$1m for Sportsman Field was proposed to be done without using any new taxation. It would be \$800k from fund balance and \$200k from Recreation Impact Fees. The motion would reduce the total Article to \$1,377,875. Mr. Zito stated that that was the intent of his

motion. He wanted to know if there was money in the Capital Reserve Fund without adding \$1m in new taxation. Moderator Klein responded yes. He explained that the numbers below: \$1.43m, \$800k, \$200k, and \$34,500 and that the \$1m would be coming out of that. It's still subtracted from the top, but it is not coming out of the \$1,343,375, which is the new tax. That will not change. There is no tax impact with it in or out. Mr. Zito states that it says \$1.3m would be coming from new taxation. Moderator Klein stated that that wouldn't change. They are not reducing the taxation, because the \$1m would be coming out of existing reserves.

Moderator Klein called for a vote on the amendment. If they vote yes, they are voting to reduce the Field Improvement Reserve to \$0. It's a reduction of \$1m.

Vote taken – Motion to amend fails.

MOTION by Frank Sledjeski to limit reconsideration. Seconded by Charlie Fairman. Vote taken – Motion Passed.

Vote taken on Article 5 as presented – Motion Passed.

MOTION by Frank Sledjeski to limit reconsideration. Seconded by Bill Dermody. Vote taken – Motion Passed.

Article 6. - Town Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate



such sums of money for municipal operations in the ensuing year. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

General Fund \$29,005,563
Recreation Day Camp 83,006
BCTV 457,738
Sewer Fund 1,756,296
Total Appropriation \$31,302,603

**MOTION by Bill Duschatko to approve
 Article 6. Town Operating Budget as written.
 Seconded by Melissa Stevens.**

Charlie Fairman, 243 Liberty Hill Road, thanked the Town Council as they continue their presentation of budgets that barely affect the tax rate. They've done this for many years. As a result of that, Bedford is the only town in NH that has a Aaa bond rating. Their good control of the Town's finances enables that, which saves them money and keeps them in great shape. He thanked Chris Bandazian for his many years on the Town Council and his leadership in the role of controlling the budget. He works with Chris on the Planning Board and know how critical his leadership is to that committee as well as Town Council and many other boards and commissions that Chris works hard on. He will be missed tremendously by Planning Board. He leans on him heavily for his knowledge, his leadership, and his fairness. He thanked Chris for all he has done for the community over the many years.

Ralph Sidore, 15 Gleneagle Drive, mentioned the road portion of the budget and wanted to know if any money had been allocated to picking up trash along the roads. Mr. Sawyer stated that they don't have a specific number for trash pick up, but the crews do try and get as much as they can when they are doing roadside mowing and they have some dedicated times when they go out and just pick up trash, but it's not a major focus of their budget or their work plan. They just don't have the staff to do what truly needs to be done on every road. Mr. Sidore stated that he wasn't questioning that. However, he and his wife spend a lot

of time walking in their area of Town, which is County Road, Patten Road, Matthew Patten Road, John Goffe, all the way over to Sebbins Pond, and down Route 3/ South River Road to the Bedford mall. There is a lot of trash there, a lot of which has been there a long time. He spoke to one of the Town Councilors in the past about this and there was an impression that there was going to be an attempt to make a Town clean-up day. He hasn't heard anything more about it, so he was wondering if it was happening or not. He thought there should be something in the budget that addresses this. It could be \$1.00. The intent of it is to make the picking up periodically, whether done by the citizens on a voluntary basis or the Town on a budgeted basis, of the streets so the Town looks the way it should. Some of the streets are a real disgrace. On John Goffe Drive there is a pile where somebody just threw bags of empty soda cans or beer cans; a heap on the side of John Goffe Drive. It's a lovely street with nice homes. He's talked to Councilor Rombeau about under the power lines on County Road where there was a political sign there that lasted a year and a half. He thinks that somebody finally got it, but there is all kinds of trash under there. It doesn't look good. These are major roads in the Town. He was inclined to ask that they put something in the budget to address this. It could be \$1.00. Make it a priority for the Highway Department along with their other responsibilities. They pick up as much as possible in the areas that are affected by trash. He doesn't know who the people are that throw trash down. It's a disgrace and he's very sorry to see it. He hopes they do something about it.

Frank Sledjeski, 2 Carolina Lane, wanted to know, from a Town perspective, if there was some number that would help in some cause like this that he would be willing to put up as a budget item in addition that would help the Town department to spend more time doing what the people of Bedford are interested in. He wanted to know if he made a motion to add \$50k to the operating budget, would that help clean up the Town. He thought it was a good use of resources in the type of town they have.

Mr. Sawyer stated that they have not studied what it



would take to do a Town-wide clean-up. The Council has talked about having community organized clean-up days. He thought that would be a good idea, whether it's volunteers, a Scout program, or community service programs that high school students need to do. There are some safety concerns they would need to take into account when they have others do it. They do have some funds in the budget to maintain the new medians on Route 101. That was a requirement of the State if they were going to have any landscaped medians. They have some money to do that. They are going to be farming that out, and there are safety concerns. They would potentially have to have a police detail when they are maintaining those islands. As far as local roads, he doesn't have a price. He wouldn't recommend a number tonight. They are welcome to add to the bottom line. It would be up to the Council on how they would distribute that. It would be a big number to hire more staff to just be dedicated to this. Potentially they could hire high school students to be focused on this if they could find any that want that job. He thought it would be a challenge now to find anybody that would want that job at a low cost. His suggestion was to encourage the Council to look into this and come back to this group next year with something in the budget, which is much more researched with an actual number.

Councilor Catherine Rombeau stated that they are working with the Bedford Energy Commission to organize a Town clean-up day. She thought it was important for public awareness and to getting a community involved in keeping their neighborhoods cleaned up, but that doesn't necessarily address the larger problem with some of the routes that are perhaps not as safe to pick up on and are also difficult for neighbors to manage. She appreciated it being raised tonight for discussion for the budget for next year and being creative and how to address this in more of a substantial and less ad hoc manner.

Frank Zito, 24 South Hills Drive, mentioned the Town Manager line item in 2019 was \$288,704 and for 2020 it's \$328,747. He wanted to know what was built into the \$328,747. Mr. Sawyer explained that

it the two employees, himself and the administrative assistant in that department. The majority of that increase is \$15k that's been appropriated for professional services to hire a surveyor to do a survey of the Town property where the Town Office Building is and the Stevens Buswell building is, so they can sell the Stevens Buswell building to the Historical Society or another group that is formed with the Historical Society as a condominium. They need to do that survey, so there is \$15k in the budget to be able to move that building over to the Historical Society as a condominium in hopes that the Historical Society can complete their plan for a community center. There is also a one-time significant increase across all departments, but it shows up significantly when it's a 2-person department, because of a 27th payroll they have this year. All of the departments have increased costs in their payroll lines. Because they typically have 26 payrolls, and because of the way they've done their finances, they have a 27th payroll, an additional two weeks of salary and associated costs. That's the difference between the two and also a 3% increase in salary. Mr. Zito noted that the \$328k covers the salary for the Town Manager and the Town Manager's administrative assistant. Mr. Sawyer stated salary, benefits, longevity, printing costs, postage costs, and professional dues. Mr. Zito wanted to know the salary of those two individuals. Mr. Sawyer stated that because there is a 27th payroll there is additional costs; it's not the typical 2,080 hours. The cost for this budget is for 2,160 hours for the additional payroll. His salary for this year if passed is \$146,793 and the administrative assistant is just under \$65k.

Mike Abbene, 21 Rosewell Road, wanted to know the total amount his taxes are going to increase per thousand with this budget. He wanted to know if it was \$0.22 per thousand or is he missing something. Mr. Sawyer responded that was correct.

Councilor Dave Gilbert made clear that this was just the Town side, not the School. It is a \$0.22 increase per thousand from last year's budget.

Sam Como, 12 Lynn Drive, was a student and not a



registered voter. The audience voted and allowed him to speak. Mr. Como mentioned the Police showed a \$360k increase in patrols. He was sure it was for a very good reason, but want them to explain why there was such a large increase in Police patrols. Mr. Sawyer stated that the major impact in Police Patrol was a 14.25% increase in just regular wages primarily because the 27th payroll. That line item is over a \$2m line item, so when you have a 27th payroll, it is a significant cost. Plus this is the 3rd year of the contract with the Police Union. And there are built-in escalators in that for the Police Department, a step increase for all of the members of the Police Patrol. There is also a significant amount of new training they are proposing in this line. There is additional money, \$9,500 for Town events, primarily for the four elections they have this year versus last year. All the police officers that are needed for traffic control during that time. The 27th payroll impacts every line item that has to do with wages, so line items for overtime, vacancies overtime, training all have that built in additional cost. Uniform allowance was up a little bit, but there is nothing significant other than the training and the payroll.

MOTION by Mr. Ralph Sidore to end the debate. Vote taken – Motion Passed.

Vote taken on Article 6 as printed for the total appropriation of \$31,302,603 that includes the sum of Articles 5 and 6 in the amount of \$33,680,478. Motion Passed.

Moderator Klein thanked everyone who came out tonight. He mentioned the polls being continually cleaned on Tuesday. Everybody has been doing such a great job. The Police Department, the traffic patterns, which aren't going to change. They are open to suggestions if they have any talk to him or the assistants. They've got a great Town Council. He mentioned that there were openings on boards and committees. He stated that the only negative thing they have had was at the Primary was people confused with parties and changing them when you come in. The new Town Clerk, Sally Kellar and Gloria (MacVane)

and the Supervisors will be putting out some additional information on this. June 2nd is the deadline to change your party. They have another Primary this year. The first Tuesday in September they have the State Primary. If you want to pick a ballot you have to be undeclared when you walk in or you are not going to be able to change it. If you have questions, talk to the Town Clerk.

Town Council Chairman Bill Duschatko stated that they were losing two Councilors. Catherine Rombeau decided not to run this year. Catherine was first elected in 2017. She brought a more sensitive approach to the resolution of tenacious problems and has always expressed herself in a thoughtful and involved manner. Catherine was an effective behind the scenes operative dealing with people as with Mr. Sidore with questions about cleaning up the Town. She's done her homework on various topics and has insightful questions and complete commentary. She has provided the balance to help resolve the impasse to resolve the Stevens Buswell situation. She could always be counted on to do more than her share of work that goes unseen by most. Her concerns are for the improvement of the community and I'm sure she will continue to find ways to contribute to Bedford. Thank you for your dedication and service. It's been a pleasure working with you over the past three years. Mr. Duschatko presented Ms. Rombeau with a plaque in appreciation for her dedication and service as a Town Councilor.

Ms. Rombeau thanked everyone who was there and those at home who stay engaged with them. When she ran for office three years ago, she just wanted to be involved and she's very grateful for all of the people that gave her the chance to do it. It's been a privilege to serve. She has learned so much about her Town. They are a really big town, but they run like a small community in many good ways. She hopes that when people came to her with questions even if they didn't like her answer or didn't think she had the right answer; she appreciates giving her the chance to find answers and do more work. It's a little sad for her, but she looks forward to continue to work with people in Town in different ways and hopes to get to



work with many of them again; the people she worked with on boards and commissions and Department Heads. She didn't know if everyone in Town realizes how incredible the departments are, their Heads, the staff and how hard they work, how open they are to questions and working closely with the Council. It was very eye-opening for her and hoped many of them get the opportunity to work closely with them too in the future.

Council Chairman Duschatko stated that they will now address the longest serving Councilor they've dealt with. His career dedicated to Bedford goes back farther than just being a Councilor. For 28 years, Chris Bandazian has served this community either as an appointed official or as an elected one. For 12 of those years, Chris has served as a Town Councilor of which he has either been Chairman or Vice Chairman three times. For his first 12 years of service to Bedford, he served on the Zoning Board of Adjustment where he was Vice Chairman for 8 years and Chairman for two. In 2007, he was appointment to fill an unexpired term of a Councilor and was elected to the Council for the first time in 2008. During his 12 years as Town Councilor, he also devoted his time serving on the Planning Board since 2010, as well as the Energy Commission, which he was active in founding in 2009. This means that he was committed to a minimum of four nights a month of meetings just for the Planning Board and Town Council not including the preparation time required to be a knowledgeable participant with normally only one day between the Planning Board and the Town Council meeting. This augmented in membership at various times on the Parks & Recreation Commission, BCTV, WBNH, a member of the Open Space Task Force for the Master Plan of 2010. He also serves on the current Think Tank for the Master Plan of 2020. As if this was not enough, Chris also serves on a very important NH legislative commission on the environment and public health impacts of Per Flourinated chemicals and representing Bedford on regional groups that are addressing issues dealing with the EPA's wastewater management permit with an effort to have the State of NH take the proper steps to empower Environmental

Services to assume regulatory authority from the EPA. NH is one of the two states in the country that still relies on the EPA to run its environmental regulations. Chris continues to be a leading exponent for the use of solar power when appropriate and has assumed a leadership role in understanding opportunities and limitations of recycling projects and related waste disposal/energy generation alternatives. Throughout his period of service, he has understood the necessity of providing safe and attractive workplaces for all Town employees and investing in technology to improve the overall performance in customer service. This is a very important area and he has helped immensely in designing programs to improvement retention and recruitment of top-level employees. He is as dedicated to the Town employees as he is to the Town residents. His contributions to Bedford do not stop at traditional town services. He was instrumental in establishing the Educational Farm at Joppa Hill and maintaining its important ties to Bedford's agricultural heritage. The self-supporting farm has provided not only a wonderful retention of open space but has created a unique facility, which is rapidly becoming a noteworthy example of the practical application and civic pride combined with concerned stewardship and continues to lead the farm as president and director. He has had the privilege of working with Chris as a Councilor for the past five years. His knowledge of not only municipal law but also the scientific and technical matters, and concern in maintaining the Town's fiscal responsibility while at the same time ensuring that we dealt with issues that resulted in part from a large turnover of senior personnel was and is exemplary. His comments are always thoughtful and well-reasoned and often bring up points that have not been considered by others. He is considerate of others, measured in his rebuttals whether they involve Councilor colleagues, citizens or petitioners. On behalf of all the people who have had the privilege of working with Chris on Bedford affairs, and particularly, those who are past and current Councilors, he would like to express sincere appreciation to Chris, particularly his family who have been kind enough to share his insight and dedication with us. We'll all miss working with and



gaining benefit from Chris's remarkable experience, understanding of environmental factors and calm and cool demur. The award tonight is a very small token of our heartfelt appreciation for all his effort he's put in to make Bedford a wonderful place to live for all of us. Chris Bandazian got a standing ovation. A Town chair was presented to him.

Chris Bandazian stated that he doesn't do it for accolades and recognition, but servicing the people of this Town and working with Town employees and Town Council members, many Town Managers and Acting Town Managers, Keith Hickey, Russ Marcoux, Crystal Dionne, Pat McQueen, Jessie Levine, Steve Daly, Rick Sawyer, the best Town Manager he's had the privilege of working with. It is its own reward to work for the people of Bedford and to work with all of you. He thanked everyone for all of the wonderful years and for this recognition.

Moderator Klein called for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION by Bill Carter to adjourn at 8:28 pm. Seconded by Frank Sledjeski. Vote taken – Motion Passed.

*Submitted by:
Dawn Boufford, Executive Assistant
Sally Kellar, Town Clerk*

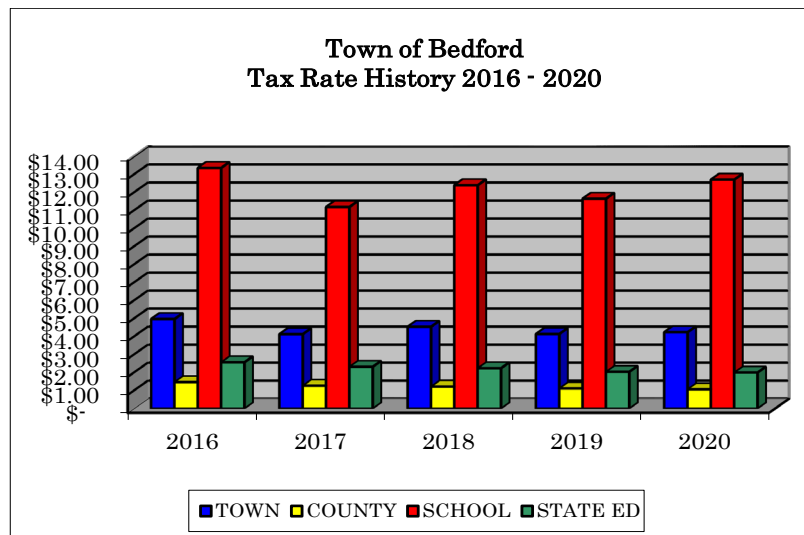
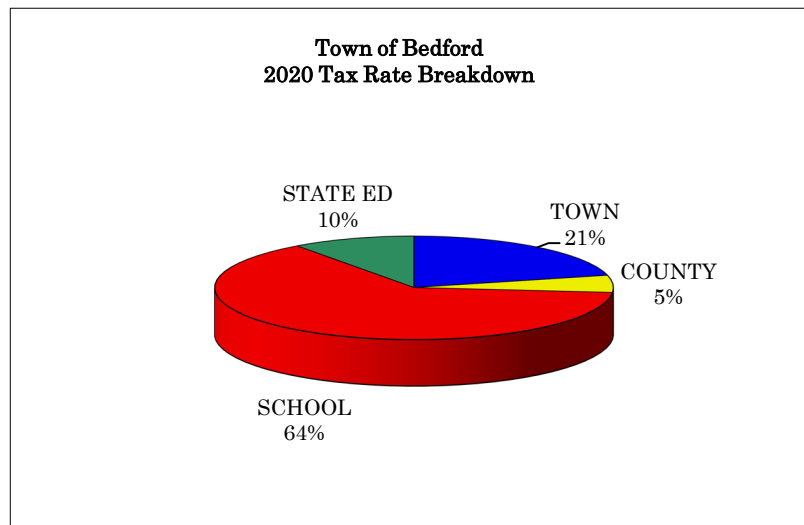


TOWN POPULATION AND TAX RATE INFORMATION


POPULATION – 22,390
 (SNHP Regional Statistics – derived from the U.S Census Bureau 2018
 5 Year American Community Survey)

ASSESSED VALUATION: 2019 \$4,050,770,370 to 2020 \$4,092,109,157

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
TOWN	\$ 4.14	\$ 4.24
COUNTY	\$ 1.12	\$ 1.07
LOCAL SCHOOL TAX	\$11.65	\$12.71
STATE EDUCATION TAX	<u>\$ 2.04</u>	<u>\$ 2.00</u>
COMBINED TOTAL TAX RATE	\$18.95	\$20.02








RESULTS

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
BEDFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 10, 2020**

**3710
Ballots Cast
20.5%**


 TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this:

B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.

C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

ARTICLE 1: ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICES

<p style="text-align: center;">TOWN COUNCIL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not For Three Years more than two (2) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>KELLEIGH MURPHY 1171 <input type="radio"/></p> <p>LORI RADKE 1775 <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>CHRIS BANDAIZAN 1368 <input type="radio"/></p> <p>WILLIAM P. CARTER 1457 <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LIBRARY TRUSTEE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not For Three Years more than one (1) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>ROBERT BROOKS 1916 <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>JERRY HANAUER 1049 <input type="radio"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not For Six Years more than one (1) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>BEVERLY S. YUKSEL 2765 <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUNDS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not For Three Years more than one (1) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>JOSEPH FAHEY 154 <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p>CRAIG STEVENS 68 <input type="radio"/></p> <p>WRITE -IN CANDIDATES</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TOWN CLERK</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not For Three Years more than one (1) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>SALLY KELLAR 2850 <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not For Four Years more than one (1) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>PAUL BELLIVEAU 1159 <input type="radio"/></p> <p>HUGH DONOVAN 1372 <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TOWN MODERATOR</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not For Two Years more than one (1) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>BILL KLEIN 2715 <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote for not For Two Years more than one (1) <input type="radio"/></p> <p>BARBARA L. CHAGNON 2707 <input checked="" type="radio"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in) <input type="radio"/></p>	

ARTICLE 2. ZONING AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE PLANNING BOARD

Amendment No. 1
 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Bedford Zoning Ordinance to amend Article VI, Section 275-43, Design requirements for new commercial ground-mounted facilities, to add a new subsection, by adding the words as follows:

F. Minimum Lot Size. In the Residential and Agricultural District and the General Residential District, the minimum lot size for commercial ground-mounted facilities shall be 5 acres. **2738**

YES

[This amendment creates a minimum lot size of 5 acres for the placement of new commercial ground-mounted wireless telecommunication facilities in the Residential and Agricultural and General Residential Districts to minimize impacts to abutting properties.] **784**

NO

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING



ARTICLE 2 CONTINUED

Amendment No. 2

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Bedford Zoning Ordinance to amend Article VI, Wireless Telecommunication Facilities, Section 275-37, Purpose and intent, by deleting the section in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

Article 275-37. Purpose and intent

It is the intent of this article to regulate the placement of wireless telecommunication facilities within the Town of Bedford in a manner consistent with federal and state policies and law, and with appropriate municipal land use regulations that will ensure compatibility with the public interest in conserving and enhancing property values, protecting the public health, safety and welfare, and minimizing the visual and environmental impact of such facilities on the natural landscape within Bedford. These regulations are necessary in order to achieve the following purposes:

- A. To preserve the authority of the Town to regulate the siting of telecommunication facilities in order to provide effective and efficient wireless telecommunication services to the residents and businesses of the municipality;
- B. To minimize the adverse impacts of wireless telecommunication facilities including but not limited to, impacts on aesthetics, environmentally sensitive areas, the character of existing neighborhoods, historic areas, scenic viewsheds, flight corridors, public health and safety by injurious accidents to persons and property, and adverse impacts to property values;
- C. To minimize adverse impacts of wireless telecommunication facilities by requiring a thorough assessment of all siting and design options for proposed facilities including a review of proposed technology, current and future location options, innovative siting techniques, and the use of stealth techniques to screen antennas and equipment to the maximum extent possible;
- D. To permit the construction of new commercial ground-mounted facilities only where all other reasonable opportunities have been exhausted;
- E. To encourage the placement of new ground-mounted facilities in the commercial districts and along the Town's major thoroughfares;
- F. To require co-location and cooperation to the greatest extent possible between wireless telecommunication competitors in order to reduce the cumulative impact of multiple towers in Town; and
- G. To provide for the safe and prompt removal of abandoned facilities and for the upgrading of facilities that are technologically outdated.

3009

YES

NO

507

[This amendment is intended to update and strengthen the intent and purpose statements of the Wireless Telecommunication Facilities Ordinance.]

ARTICLE 3. CHARTER AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

Shall the voters of Bedford approve the Charter amendment as shown below? Items to be deleted shown in ~~strike through~~ and items to be added shown in **bold**:

Article XI, Section C11-3, Terms of Office

The terms of office of all members of appointed boards shall begin on ~~May 1st the first Monday following the second Tuesday in March~~ and end at ~~11:59 PM on April 30th on the first Monday following the second Tuesday in March~~ in the year that their term expires. If any appointee received an appointment subsequent to ~~May 1st the second Tuesday in March~~ of the year in which the term of office originally commenced, the term to which the person was appointed will end at ~~11:59 PM on April 30th on the first Monday following the second Tuesday in March~~ in the year that it was scheduled to end.

3290

YES

NO

237

PURPOSE: *This Amendment would allow for the full Town Council, including those elected in March, to be able to participate in the interviewing and appointment of citizens to our boards and commissions.*

THE TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS PASSAGE OF THIS ARTICLE

ARTICLE 4. WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER ASSET MANAGEMENT PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of sixty thousand (\$60,000) for the planning, development, and implementation of the Town of Bedford's wastewater and stormwater collection and conveyance systems; to correspondingly authorize the issuance of not more than \$60,000 of bonds and notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33 and the *Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)* loan program; to authorize the Town Council to apply for a *Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)* loan; and to authorize the Town Council to issue and negotiate such *Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)* bonds or notes and to determine the conditions thereon, including the applicable rate of interest and 100% forgiveness of the loan principal. Further, to authorize the Town Council to take all other actions necessary to carry out and complete this project.

(This article requires a two-thirds ballot vote)

2240

YES

NO

1325

Explanation: *The terms of the referenced loan provide that the town can receive 100% forgiveness of the loan principal (\$60,000) if it implements the required asset management program in accordance with New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services guidelines. Passage of this Article will reduce tax rate and impacts to residents in 2020 by \$0.007.*

FAILED 2/3 VOTES CAST NEEDED

THE TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS PASSAGE OF THIS ARTICLE

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING THIS BALLOT



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE Executive Council

THEODORE L. GATSAS
Executive Councilor
District Four



State House Room 207
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301
WWW.NH.GOV/COUNCIL
(603) 271-3632

END OF YEAR REPORT FROM COUNCILOR TED GATSAS 2020

The Executive Council had its beginnings in 1679 when King Charles of England separated the territory of New Hampshire from Massachusetts. A new government was established and the first Executive Council was convened in early 1680. When New Hampshire's state constitution was written, the Executive Council was created as a constitutional body to watch over the actions of our Governor.

Each of the five Councilors, elected every two years by the voters in their district, represents approximately 263,000 New Hampshire citizens. I am honored to be your representative on The Executive Council.

The Council met for 21 scheduled meetings with the Governor this year to carry out their duties of confirming appointments and passing state contracts. We reviewed and passed several billion dollars of state contracts covering everything from highway projects, services for citizens young and old, supplies, memberships in professional organizations, as well as promotions for our Air and Army National Guard members. 2020 was certainly different from previous years. When Covid 19 struck NH, it was decided that the Council would conduct their meetings by teleconference. Our last "in person" meeting was in our Council Chamber at the State House on March 11th and we didn't reconvene "in person" meetings again until September 11th. when our meetings were held at the NH National Guard, Edward Cross Training Complex in Pembroke, NH. Though the meetings were a bit slower, and there was limited personal interaction, everything went well. The public and news media were able to access the proceedings with call in provisions. Unlike in years past, we were unable to take the meetings out to the communities in our districts because of safety concerns.

In addition to the scheduled meetings, the Council held eight Public Hearings. These meetings allow the Council the opportunity to conduct public interviews and review materials prior to voting. Hearings were held on the nomination of four Department Heads (Commissioners and Directors) two appointments to the court system, and two requests for Pardons.

*The Executive Council welcomes public input on nominations
that are brought forward by the Governor for consideration and confirmation.*

If you have interest in serving on any of the 300+ State Boards or Commissions please send a letter of interest along with a resume, to Jonathan Melanson in care of the Governor's office and a copy to the Executive Councilor.

Please feel free to contact me with concerns or support for any of the above individuals or any other issues you might have.

A listing of the Boards and Commissions, along with the qualifications required, can be found at <http://sos.nh.gov/GC2.aspx>

Allenstown, Auburn, Barrington, Bedford, Bow, Candia, Chichester, Deerfield, Epsom, Goffstown, Hooksett, Lee, Londonderry, Loudon, Northwood, Nottingham, Pembroke, Pittsfield, and the City of Manchester

P.O. Box 6655 20 Market Street Manchester, N.H. 03108



Dave Gilbert - Chair

The past year of 2020 was dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Something never seen before and hopefully never again. The performance of all town employees during 2020 was impressive. Performing their duties in this trying time was difficult at best. Everyone did a great job. Thank you all for your efforts!

The Town Council would like to recognize the efforts of the Bedford Cares organization, and specifically Denise Ricciardi, for creating this volunteer group to help those members of our community who need assistance with such things as shopping and picking up prescriptions during this COVID-19 Pandemic.

This past year we had 4 elections: The Presidential Primary in February, the Town & School Elections in March, the New Hampshire State Primary Election in September, and the New Hampshire General in November. The Town Moderator Bill Klein, Town Clerk Sally Kellar, Deputy Town Clerk Gloria MacVane, Asst Town Clerk Joan McMahan and the Supervisors of the Checklist Barbara Chagnon, Hugh Donovan, and Beverly Yuksel all did a great job navigating through COVID-19 Pandemic guidelines for holding these elections and the increased number of registered voters (over 18,000 by November) who voted absentee or in person. Thank you all for your running these elections in a trying time!

The Town Election resulted in the addition of 2 new Town Councilors, Bill Carter and Lori Radke. Two Councilors left office. Chris Bandazian was a Councilor from 2006 to 2020 and Chairman from 2013 to 2014. Chris was also instrumental in getting

the Energy Commission and TIF District established.

Catherine Rombeau was a Councilor from 2017-2020. Thank you both for your service as Town Councilors! At its Organizational Meeting, the Town Council elected David Gilbert as its Chairman and Denise Ricciardi as Vice Chairwoman. New appointments were made to all sub-committees and commissions reflecting an increased interest in our citizens for volunteering to help provide input on services and policies that will benefit Bedford in the future.

The last installment of \$10M for the Road Bond was sold in 2020. The \$30M bond was authorized by the voters in 2014. There are no further bonds anticipated for the Roads Program at this time. The Public Works Department has done a great job in repairing and resurfacing our town roads!

In March, the voters approved the reconstruction plans for Sportsman's Field making it an artificial surface and funded this effort from reserves and impact fees. Future work will be handled in a similar way. It is estimated the field will be available by mid-2021.

The Town Council has invested many hours in determining feasible options to meet the Town's growing needs of our public safety departments. We are exploring different locations, financing and implementation options that will fulfill current and future needs of the town.

The Bedford Emergency Operations Plan was completed and adopted thanks to the following team - Police, Fire, Public Works, School, and BCTV/WBNH

The 2020 Master Plan was developed and is in the process of being finalized.

The Hazard Mitigation Plan is being worked on and will be completed in 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,
David Gilbert, Chair



Rick Sawyer - Town Manager

2020 was a year that no one could have predicted with the COVID-19 pandemic hitting Bedford and the world in early March. I could not be more proud of the work our employees did and continue to do in order to provide the services our residents and businesses need and demand in light of the significant challenges the pandemic caused. Each and every department had to change how they do business, from the personal protective equipment our emergency personnel wear, to alternating shifts due to space limitations, to converting their dining room tables to remote offices, to handling a massive amount of absentee ballots, and holding all public meetings virtually. The commitment to get the job done has never been stronger and truly shows the quality employees we have and I can't thank them enough for all of their efforts.

What may not have been seen by the public is the impact COVID had and continues to have on our employees personal lives. Like the general public we had a high number of employees who contracted the virus or had immediate family members who did. Some employees suffered losses of immediate family members. Many employees' had to balance their childcare and eldercare responsibilities along with remote schooling while still getting the job done. The mental and physical strain has been like no other in our lifetime but our employee's perseverance, professionalism, and support of each other has been truly inspiring. My sympathies go out to all of our employees and everyone in our community that has suffered losses this year. Unfortunately Bedford experienced approximately 1,500 known positive cases and dozens of deaths by year's end.

A level of gratitude beyond which words can express goes out to the Bedford Cares organization that was created by Councilor Denise Ricciardi and supported by a core group of citizen volunteers to support our most vulnerable residents by completing grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions, and other assistance since the very first days of the pandemic.



Bedford Cares

(603) 792-1319

Facebook: [BedfordNHcares](#)

This group has made an impossible situation manageable for so many while lowering their anxiety and again proving what a great community Bedford is.

To mitigate some of the financial impacts of the pandemic we immediately implemented a hiring freeze, curtailed non-essential spending, and did not open the pool or summer camps. In August the Town Council was able to take advantage of a Governor Sununu emergency order that allowed them to reduce the budget. Through a series of COVID relief funds for everything from emergency personnel cost, to facility improvements, to personal protective equipment, to election costs, along with continued strong revenues in other areas we were able to retain our personnel and start to fill our open positions later in the year.

This year also saw unrest at the local and national level on a number of matters including actions and accountability of law enforcement. Our Police



Department, led by Chief Bryfonski, immediately reviewed and enhanced all of their operating procedures and assured the community through written and video messages that they will continue to be the department that we have always been proud of and have come to know through the excellent community policing program that was already in place. I truly appreciate the wonderful support and sentiments that our residents have shown to all of our first responders throughout 2020.

During 2020 the State of NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) continued to investigate the extent of per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination in Bedford and the new much lower maximum contaminant levels challenged in 2019 became law. With the uncertainty resolved, NHDES expanded the well testing program that Saint-Gobain needed to complete but by the end of the year there still was no clear path for a solution for so many impacted residents. Bedford was also faced with drought conditions starting in June and continuing into 2021.

The State of NH Department of Transportation completed construction on the widening of Route 101 from Route 114 to Wallace Road during 2020, which has provided incredible safety and congestion improvements while also providing a new positive identity for the Town that will spur increased investment in the community.

Our commercial landscape continues to see strong investment and growth highlighted by the construction of the 133 unit Goffe Mill Apartments at the former Wayfarer Conference Center site, a large office building on Constitution Drive, the 150 bed Bowman Place Assisted Living facility on Old Bedford Road, a new research and development facility on Harvey Road, as well as the approval of Sebbins Brook Crossing which consists of a 142 multifamily and 96 elderly condominium units off of a new road off of South River Road, a gas station adjacent to River Road Tavern, and a bank across from T-Bones. The Planning Board also reviewed changes to the Market

and Main mixed use development to include 200 market rate apartments and after several meetings voted to deny the request. I very much appreciate all of the time that our citizen volunteer boards and commissions spend reviewing and acting on the applications that come before them.

The 2020 budget focused on our need to rebuild and improve Sportsman Field, the unusual event of a full 27th payroll, and the full year of employees added in certain departments in 2019 needed to keep up with the increase in the calls for service that we continue to see within our Police and Fire Departments and also in our Department of Public Works in response to increased state and federal regulations. As part of these changes, the Council approved 4 additional firefighters that are grant funded for the first three years and a conversion of 4 positions to Shift Captains. Our budget also continues to strongly support the longtime roads program which accounts for a majority of the debt service we have. In January, we sold the last \$10 million dollar bond authorized in 2014 in support of the roads program at a rate of less than 1%. During the bond sale we again received Aaa bond rating as a result of our excellent fiscal management, capital improvements program, fund balance, and continued strong economic growth in the community. Bedford should be very proud of being the only NH community so rated by Moody's.

2020 saw a change in the Council leadership with Bill Duschatko and Melissa Stevens stepping away from their respective roles as Chairman and Vice Chairwoman and Dave Gilbert being named Chairman and Denise Ricciardi becoming Vice Chairwoman. In March, we welcomed Lori Radke and Bill Carter to their first terms on the Council replacing Chris Bandazian and Catherine Rombeau. I thank Chris for his many years of service to the community and his unquestionable leadership in all issues that came before the Council, Planning Board, Zoning Board, and Energy Commission, and for his regular acknowledgement and support of our employees. I truly appreciate Chris's strong support of my transition to Manager several years ago. I thank Catherine for



her years of service to the community and for always looking for ways to make Bedford a better place including organizing our first ever Beautify Bedford campaign. I thank the Council for their continued support of our employees and programs again this year especially given the challenges everyone faced. I must close with a special acknowledgement of our tremendously skilled and dedicated department head management team that worked endlessly this year to ensure that their employees stayed safe while finding ways to deliver services to the public that we could not have envisioned a year ago. I am grateful to be able to work in support of such a great team and am always impressed by their efforts. I encourage you to read all of the department annual reports to fully understand the volume and scope of work they completed in service to the community.

I continue to appreciate the opportunity to serve the Town of Bedford as your Town Manager each and every day and am very much hoping for an end of the pandemic in 2021. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve your town government please feel free to contact me by phone at 792-1300 or e-mail at rsawyer@bedfordnh.org. If you have the desire to serve your community, please feel free to contact our office with your areas of interest.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Sawyer, Town Manager



TAMMY PENNY

FINANCE DIRECTOR / TAX COLLECTOR

The Finance Department is responsible for all the financial operations of the Town, including budgeting, financial reporting, debt issuance, grant oversight, reconciliations, internal controls, accounts payable, billing and cash receipts. The department is also responsible for tax collection and motor vehicle registration. The Finance Department prepared its 16th Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) during 2020 for the 2019 calendar year. This report continues to meet the strict reporting standards of the Government Finance Officers Association. The finance team is a dedicated group of people and a pleasure to work with. They continue to provide great service to the public and I truly appreciate their willingness and flexibility as we navigate through periods of challenge, like pandemics and hiring freezes.

Bond Sale

On January 27th, 2020, Moody's Investor Services assigned a Aaa rating to the Town's \$10M in general obligation bonds that sold at a true interest cost of 0.995891%. This was the final issuance of the \$30 million approved by the voters in 2014. This strong credit position is attributable to Bedford's robust financial position, healthy tax base and available fund balance.

Financial Pandemic Response

When the pandemic hit, the Town Manager initiated a hiring and spending freeze until the impacts of the pandemic were better known. Then coronavirus relief monies became available and this resulted in the Town pursuing approximately \$1M in coronavirus grant relief monies. Through the writing of this report the Town has received \$935k in grant monies

through various programs including: the COVID-19 Municipal Relief Fund (GOFERR), Homeland Security Emergency Management Public Assistance Program, First Responders Stipend Program, Department of Justice Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding and the Cares Elections Assistance grant.

In August of 2020, the Town Council voted to reduce appropriations up to the amount of lost revenues anticipated due to the pandemic. Normally this \$277k reduction would have required a special meeting, but Emergency Order 56 granted authority for these reduced tax impacts.

Tax Rate

The 2020 Town portion of the tax rate was set at \$4.24 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. Please note that the final rate is 12 cents lower than the estimated tax rate approved by the voters in March. Property tax bills are due on the first business day of each July and December. Pursuant to RSA 76:13 interest rates per annum on delinquencies and liens are 8% and 14% respectively. Properties which remain delinquent after two years from the lien execution date are eligible to be deeded to the Town.

Tax payments can be made in person at the windows, mailed in, left in the drop box and paid online. All non-refundable processing fees for online payments are remitted directly to the payment processor and not retained by the Town. Credit card payments for property tax bills are subject to a 2.45% convenience fee with a \$3.95 minimum, debit cards are subject to a 1.5% convenience fee with a \$3.95 minimum and for just a \$0.50 flat fee you can pay your tax bill with an E-Check.

Motor Vehicle Registration

The Tax Collector's office is also responsible for all motor vehicle registrations. For your convenience, motor vehicle registration renewals and dog licensing can be processed online for a fee. Credit card payments for these transactions are subject to a 2.95% convenience fee with a \$1.95 minimum, while



E-check payments will be processed for a \$0.40 flat fee – less than the cost of a stamp.

Hours and Other Information

The Town office is open Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:30 with window clerks working extended hours of 7:00am to 4:30 pm on Tuesday to process motor vehicle transactions and accept payments for dog licenses, tax bills, sewer bills, impact fees, details and other general billing. In addition, there is a locked drop box available for payments available 24 hours a day/seven days a week.

For further information regarding this office and/or motor vehicle registrations, including frequently asked questions, please visit the Finance and Tax Collector pages, listed under Town Offices on our website, www.bedfordnh.org

The following schedules are preliminary based upon the information available at the time of report printing. Final schedules may be obtained in the Town's 2020 CAFR once our financial audit is complete in the spring of 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Penny,
Director of Finance
Tax Collector



TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

For The Year Ending 12/31/2020 (unaudited)

UNCOLLECTED TAXES BEG. OF YEAR	2020	2019
Property Taxes		1,615,149
Resident Taxes		
Land Use Change		73,183
Yield Taxes		137
Excavation Tax @ \$.02/yd		
Utility Charges		389,154
Property Tax Credit Balance**	<	>
Other Tax or Charges Cr Balance	<	>
TAXES COMMITTED THIS YEAR		
Property Taxes	82,061,469	
Resident Taxes		
Land Use Change	370,618	
Yield Taxes	4,430	
Excavation Tax @ \$.02/yd		
Utility Charges	1,315,523	
OVERPAYMENT REFUNDS		
Property Taxes	(88)	
Resident Taxes		
Land Use Change		
Yield Taxes		
Excavation Tax @ \$.02/yd		
Interest - Late Tax	35,371	58,571
Resident Tax Penalty		
TOTAL DEBITS	\$ 83,787,323	\$ 2,136,194

REMITTED TO TREASURER	Levy for Current Year	Levy for Prior
Property Taxes	80,427,266	1,257,153
Resident Taxes		
Land Use Change	370,618	72,490
Yield Taxes	4,430	-
Interest (include lien conversion)	35,371	58,571
Penalties		
Excavation Tax @ \$.02/yd		
Utility Charges	916,613	373,211
Conversion to Lien (principal only)		315,313
DISCOUNTS ALLOWED		
ABATEMENTS MADE		
Property Taxes		42,683
Resident Taxes		
Land Use Change		
Yield Taxes		693
Excavation Tax @ \$.02/yd		3
Utility Charges		
CURRENT LEVY DEEDED		
UNCOLLECTED TAXES - END OF YEAR		
Property Taxes	1,634,115	
Resident Taxes		
Land Use Change	-	-
Yield Taxes	-	134
Excavation Tax @ \$.02/yd		
Utility Charges	398,910	15,943
Property Tax Credit Balance**	-	
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance**	-	-
TOTAL CREDITS	83,787,323	2,136,194

DEBITS

	Last Year's Levy	PRIOR LEVIES (PLEASE SPECIFY YEARS)		
	2019	2018	2017	Prior
Unredeemed Liens Balance - Beg. Of Year		168,861	75,094	25,750
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year	334,772			
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution)	5,032	11,440	5,652	2,798
Liens reinstated after being deeded back to former owner (or sold)				
TOTAL DEBITS	\$ 339,804	\$ 180,301	\$ 80,746	\$ 28,548

CREDITS

REMITTED TO TREASURER	Last Year's Levy	PRIOR LEVIES (PLEASE SPECIFY YEARS)		
	2019	2018	2017	Prior
Redemptions	193,743	119,032	69,846	7,448
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution)	5,032	11,440	5,652	2,798
Abatements of Unredeemed Liens				
Liens Deeded to Municipality/Sold				
Unredeemed Liens Balance - End of Year	141,029	49,829	5,248	18,302
TOTAL CREDITS	\$ 339,804	\$ 180,301	\$ 80,746	\$ 28,548



STATEMENT OF BONDED DEBT 12/31/20

	Principal	Interest	Total		Principal	Interest	Total
2011 Infrastructure Bond (issued October 2011)				2017 Infrastructure Bond (issued April 2017)			
2021	665,000	7,481	672,481	2021	980,000	318,000	1,298,000
Total	665,000	7,481	672,481	2022	980,000	269,000	1,249,000
2011 Infrastructure Bond (issued May 2013)				2017 Infrastructure Bond (issued April 2017)			
2021	720,000	36,000	756,000	2023	980,000	220,000	1,200,000
2022	720,000	21,600	741,600	2024	980,000	171,000	1,151,000
2023	720,000	7,200	727,200	2025	980,000	122,000	1,102,000
Total	\$ 2,160,000	\$ 64,800	\$ 2,224,800	2026	975,000	73,125	1,048,125
2014 South River Road TIF (issued August 2014)				2017 Infrastructure Bond (issued April 2017)			
2021	425,000	35,200	460,200	2027	975,000	24,375	999,375
2022	435,000	26,700	461,700	Total	\$ 6,850,000	\$ 1,197,500	\$ 8,047,500
2023	445,000	18,000	463,000	2020 Infrastructure Bond (issued February 2020)			
2024	455,000	9,100	464,100	2021	850,000	402,250	1,252,250
Total	\$ 1,760,000	\$ 89,000	\$ 1,849,000	2022	850,000	359,750	1,209,750
2015 Infrastructure Bond (issued June 2015)				2020 Infrastructure Bond (issued February 2020)			
2021	915,000	97,000	1,012,000	2023	850,000	317,250	1,167,250
2022	940,000	78,700	1,018,700	2024	850,000	274,750	1,124,750
2023	970,000	59,900	1,029,900	2025	845,000	232,375	1,077,375
2024	1,000,000	40,500	1,040,500	2026	845,000	190,125	1,035,125
2025	1,025,000	20,500	1,045,500	2027	845,000	147,875	992,875
Total	\$ 4,850,000	\$ 296,600	\$ 5,146,600	2028	845,000	105,625	950,625
2015 Infrastructure Bond (issued June 2015)				2020 Infrastructure Bond (issued February 2020)			
2021	915,000	97,000	1,012,000	2029	845,000	63,375	908,375
2022	940,000	78,700	1,018,700	2030	845,000	21,125	866,125
2023	970,000	59,900	1,029,900	Total	\$ 8,470,000	\$ 2,114,500	\$ 10,584,500
2024	1,000,000	40,500	1,040,500	Grand Total Bonded Debt:			
2025	1,025,000	20,500	1,045,500	\$ 24,755,000 \$ 3,769,881 \$ 28,524,881			
Total	\$ 4,850,000	\$ 296,600	\$ 5,146,600				



MELANSON HEATH
ACCOUNTANTS • AUDITORS

102 Perimeter Road
Nashua, NH 03063
(603) 882-1111
melansonheath.com

Additional Offices:
Andover, MA
Greenfield, MA
Manchester, NH
Ellsworth, ME

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Town Council
Town of Bedford, New Hampshire

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Bedford, New Hampshire, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Bedford, New Hampshire's basic financial statements as listed in the Table of Contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Town of Bedford, New Hampshire's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these 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.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. 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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.



Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Bedford, New Hampshire, as of December 31, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, and cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability, the Schedule of Pension Contributions, the Schedule of Proportionate Share and Schedule of Contributions of the Net OPEB Liability, the Schedule of Changes in the Total OPEB Liability, and the Statement of Revenues and Other Sources and Expenditures and Other Uses Budget and Actual, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, 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 evidence sufficient to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Bedford, New Hampshire's basic financial statements. The accompanying supplementary information appearing on pages 74 through 92 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements. The other information, such as the introductory and statistical sections, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 19, 2020 on our consideration of the Town's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and 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's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Melanson Heath

June 19, 2020



TOWN OF BEDFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2019

	<u>Governmental</u> <u>Activities</u>	<u>Business-Type</u> <u>Activities</u>	<u>Total</u>
Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Assets			
Current:			
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 50,667,331	\$ 5,264,538	\$ 55,931,869
Investments	4,520,598	1,007,218	5,527,816
Receivables, net of allowance for uncollectibles:			
Property taxes	1,604,830	-	1,604,830
User fees	-	601,536	601,536
Departmental and other	1,134,952	-	1,134,952
Intergovernmental	332,106	-	332,106
Prepaid items	851,764	1,328	853,092
Inventory	<u>41,068</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>41,068</u>
Total current assets	59,152,649	6,874,620	66,027,269
Noncurrent:			
Property taxes	269,706	-	269,706
Capital assets:			
Capital assets not being depreciated	15,141,991	15,000	15,156,991
Capital assets being depreciated, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>73,201,791</u>	<u>5,090,239</u>	<u>78,292,030</u>
Total noncurrent assets	<u>88,613,488</u>	<u>5,105,239</u>	<u>93,718,727</u>
Total Assets	147,766,137	11,979,859	159,745,996
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Pension related	2,203,579	52,337	2,255,916
OPEB related	<u>72,088</u>	<u>3,114</u>	<u>75,202</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>2,275,667</u>	<u>55,451</u>	<u>2,331,118</u>
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ <u>150,041,804</u>	\$ <u>12,035,310</u>	\$ <u>162,077,114</u>

(continued)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



TOWN OF BEDFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Statement of Net Position

December 31, 2019

(continued)	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position			
Liabilities			
Current:			
Accounts payable	\$ 1,109,438	\$ 101,955	\$ 1,211,393
Retainage payable	3,738	-	3,738
Accrued liabilities	28,078	-	28,078
Due to other governments	25,599,684	-	25,599,684
Unearned revenue	19,323	-	19,323
Other current liabilities	300	-	300
Current portion of long-term liabilities:			
Bonds payable	3,845,803	-	3,845,803
Landfill liability	20,000	-	20,000
Capital leases	69,645	-	69,645
Accrued employee benefits	485,326	14,961	500,287
Total current liabilities	31,181,335	116,916	31,298,251
Noncurrent:			
Bonds payable, net of current portion	17,309,907	-	17,309,907
Landfill liability, net of current portion	160,000	-	160,000
Capital leases, net of current portion	172,782	-	172,782
Accrued employee benefits, net of current portion	901,321	22,443	923,764
Total OPEB liability	6,512,111	195,451	6,707,562
Net pension liability	20,810,723	494,276	21,304,999
Total noncurrent liabilities	45,866,844	712,170	46,579,014
Total Liabilities	77,048,179	829,086	77,877,265
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Pension related	617,483	14,665	632,148
OPEB related	35,202	1,030	36,232
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	652,685	15,695	668,380
Net Position			
Net investment in capital assets	69,808,967	5,105,239	74,914,206
Restricted for:			
Impact and review fees	1,006,290	-	1,006,290
Law enforcement	158,897	-	158,897
Library	148,023	-	148,023
Other purposes	132,670	-	132,670
Permanent funds:			
Nonexpendable	26,748	-	26,748
Expendable	14,811	-	14,811
Unrestricted	1,044,534	6,085,290	7,129,824
Total Net Position	72,340,940	11,190,529	83,531,469
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows, and Net Position	\$ 150,041,804	\$ 12,035,310	\$ 162,077,114

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



During 2020, development activity in the South River Road TIF District included the construction of the Bar Harbor Bank at 7 Kilton Road, Citizens Bank at 91 South River Road, and most notably, the completion of the 133-unit Chandler apartment building at the former Wayfarer redevelopment site. Lastly, Bank of New Hampshire received conditional approval for a new branch office at 32 South River Road.

After a lengthy review process, the Planning Board denied the site plan application for revisions to the Market & Main mixed-use development site (former Macy's building). The proposal included the elimination of the proposed office uses; reduction of retail uses; modification of the proposed hotel; and minor changes to the restaurants, cinema, and parking garage. The plan also included adding 200 upper level apartment units. The first phase of Market & Main is complete but the project did not progress further in 2020.

Town of Bedford, NH --South River Road TIF District

General Information:			
Date of Declaration:	12/15/2010		
Base (OTV) Year:	2010		
Duration:	Until Debt Paid (maximum 30 years or 2/1/2041)		
Date of Initial Indebtedness:	n/a		
First Year of Increment Retained:	2012		
	TIF	Town	% of Town
Acres	183	19,174	0.96%
Parcels	99	8,161	1.21%
Base Taxable Value (OTV)	112,500,800	3,355,937,627	3.352%

Value, Revenue Generation and Distribution:									
	2012	2013	2014**	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
TIF District Taxable Value:	\$ 118,179,300	123,856,200	128,562,500	124,918,200	126,502,100	138,785,600	139,493,900	143,655,900	150,908,900
Total Incremental Valuation Generated:	5,678,500	11,355,400	16,061,700	12,417,400	14,001,300	26,284,800	26,993,100	31,155,100	38,408,100
Tax Rate for Ensuing Year:	\$ 20.32	\$ 22.17	\$ 22.50	\$ 22.76	\$ 22.37	\$ 18.91	\$ 20.40	\$ 18.95	\$ 20.02
Total Incremental Tax Revenue:	\$ 115,387	\$ 251,749	\$ 361,388	\$ 282,620	\$ 313,209	\$ 497,046	\$ 550,659	\$ 590,389	\$ 768,930
Debt Service:									
	Principal	Interest	Total						
GF Infra Bond Reallocated \$900k	900,000	90,900	990,900						
GO Bond Issued 8/27/14 - 1.59%	4,100,000	465,678	4,565,678						
Balance of Available Funds:									
	2012	2013	2014*	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Revenues									
Existing Developer Fair Share Funds	\$ 96,781	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fair Share Collections During CY	-	63,125	-	170,710	14,056	3,467	17,659	-	-
Developer TIF Payments/Grant	-	112,000	(112,000)	-	370,200	-	-	-	-
Incremental Tax Revenue (from above)	115,387	251,749	361,388	282,620	313,209	497,046	550,659	590,389	768,930
Bond Proceeds	-	-	4,100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bond Premium - Net	-	-	88,415	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from Other Funds*	-	-	1,024,840	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest Earnings	-	39	163	356	116	1,219	4,687	5,258	1,373
Subtotal District Revenues	\$ 212,168	\$ 426,913	\$ 5,462,806	\$ 453,686	\$ 697,581	\$ 501,731	\$ 573,005	\$ 595,647	\$ 770,303
Expenses									
Surveying/Inspection/Engineering	20,625	113,656	529,257	177,830	64,554	6,717	125	-	-
Construction**	-	-	674,969	2,376,518	943,087	-	1,900	-	-
Other District Expenses	-	-	80,643	146,623	28,206	-	-	-	23,064
Debt Service Principal	-	-	90,000	455,000	465,000	475,000	485,000	495,000	505,000
Debt Service Interest	-	-	18,000	95,478	88,200	80,500	69,744	59,813	49,800
Subtotal District Expenses	\$ 20,625	\$ 113,656	\$ 1,392,869	\$ 3,251,449	\$ 1,589,047	\$ 562,217	\$ 556,769	\$ 554,813	\$ 577,864
***Balance of Funds as of 12/31:	\$ 191,543	\$ 504,800	\$ 4,574,737	\$ 1,776,975	\$ 885,509	\$ 825,024	\$ 841,260	\$ 882,094	\$ 1,074,533
<i>Bond Proceeds Portion of Balance</i>			\$ 3,803,547	\$ 1,273,286	\$ 607,638	\$ 600,921	\$ 598,896	\$ 598,896	\$ 575,832
<i>Other Proceeds Portion of Balance**</i>	\$ 191,543	\$ 504,800	\$ 771,190	\$ 503,689	\$ 277,871	\$ 224,103	\$ 242,364	\$ 283,198	\$ 498,701

* \$900,000 reallocated from Road bond, \$96,340 from traffic signal capital reserve, \$28,500 from sewer for non-participating items.

** Correction for \$43k 2014 chargeback realized in early 2015 during audit of 2014 year



In accordance with RSA 674:21V(l), the following report is being provided for both the Town’s recreation and school impact fees collected under the provisions of Town ordinance Section 275-20. A full detailed report of individual impact fees assessed and collected is available upon request.

School Impact Fees:

Account Balance as of January 1, 2020.....	\$618,258.81
2020 Net Fees Billed.....	94,054.00
2020 Interest Earned.....	367.37
2020 Transfer Out to Bedford School District	(198,813.00)
 Total Balance as of December 31, 2020.....	 513,867.18
Accounts Uncollected at 12/31/2020.....	(87,132.00)
 <i>Bank Balance at December 31, 2020.....</i>	 <i>\$426,735.18</i>

Recreation Impact Fees:

Account Balance as of January 1, 2020	\$305,570.16
2020 Net Fees Billed	22,364.00
2020 Interest Earned	388.32
 Total Balance as of December 31, 2020	 328,322.48
Accounts Uncollected at 12/31/2020	(20,910.00)
 <i>Bank Balance at December 31, 2020</i>	 <i>\$307,412.48*</i>

*\$241k in recreation impact fees have been obligated for the sportsman field contract and the work is anticipated to be completed in the spring of 2021. The funds will be drawn down as work is completed.



Trustees:

Ken Peterson, Chair

Joseph Fahey, Treasurer

Mac McMahan, Member

We, the Trustees of the Trust Funds, offer these comments for the Town's 2020 annual report:

The Trustees are responsible for two types of funds: (1) Capital Reserve Funds (CRF), which are funded by the taxpayers and have been established by the Town or School District in anticipation of specific Capital Improvement Projects (CIP), and (2) Private Purpose Trust Funds, which have been created to support on-going projects such as scholarships, the library, and cemeteries. As of 31 Dec 2020 the Capital Reserve Funds made up the majority (or 98.3%) of the fund balances at \$6,246,739, leaving \$106,082 (or 1.7%) attributable to the remaining Private Purpose Trust Funds.

The Capital Reserve Funds are placed in investment grade corporate bonds and Federally guaranteed investment vehicles. Citizens Bank and Clarfeld Wealth Management (our investment advisers) use the proposed CIPs of the Town and the School to determine the maturity dates of the investment vehicles to ensure the required funds by the Town and School are available during the year. The investments are held until maturity (from 1 to 5 years) and are not sold at either a gain or a loss but mature at par value. This negates the need for subjective "what if" scenarios being calculated for "what if" we sold the vehicle on any given date before its maturity date. For 2020 the CIP investments Return on Investment (ROI) was approximately \$119,405 (net of investment management fees). This is actual ROI and does not factor in unrealized capital gains or losses.

The Private Trusts Funds are required by law to

be invested more aggressively to maintain their purchasing power over the long term. The Bedford Trust Funds Trustees' policy is to invest Private Trusts in the following manner: 50-70% in equities; 30-50% in fixed income instruments; and the remainder in cash or cash equivalents. Consequently as of 31 Dec 2020 the Private Trust Funds had realized a 14.2% total return of \$13,082. These figures do include unrealized capital gains/losses and therefore the valuations are a snapshot in time.

In 2021 the Trustees plan to keep the maturity level of the CIP funds in the shorter realm (1 to 3 years), due to the current inverted interest yield curve. The Private Trust Funds will remain invested as our policy dictates. We will continue to seek the best returns available consistent with our investment policy.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ken Peterson, Chair



Trust and Capital Reserve Fund Totals
for year ending december 30, 2020
unaudited & estimated at tax cost basis
 (Principal and Accrued Interest)

School Building Maintenance.....	\$8,626.65	All Purpose Tractor.....	3,883.30
Conservation Commission Land Reserve.....	1,113,343.34	Front End Load Replacement.....	124,571.10
Town Office Building.....	101,558.53	Loader/Backhoe.....	22,234.20
Council Land Purchase Reserve	40,125.24	Sweeper Replacement.....	146,487.75
Revaluation/Reassessment.....	56,763.40	Roadside Mower.....	120,467.55
Info Systems Software Licensing.....	10,803.82	Compressor Replacement.....	16,258.18
Document Imaging.....	778.79	Chipper.....	7,444.13
Info Systems Infrastructure Upgrade.....	27,271.32	Grader.....	5,803.72
Police - Radio Console Reserve.....	146,413.50	Sidewalk Reserve.....	84.07
Safety Complex.....	65,155.80	Building Addition.....	73,029.66
Safety Complex Generator.....	41,423.07	Sewer Systems Improvement.....	21,153.70
Police - Mobile Radios (cruisers & portable).....	9 0,970.62	Sewer Enterprise Wasterwater.....	681,434.14
Police - Communications Network Infrastructure.....	80,626.38	Bulldozer.....	119.63
Police - Weapon Replacement.....	22,888.64	Police Command Vehicle.....	58,471.76
Police - Taser Replacement.....	46,841.01	Sewer Catch Basin Cleaner (Sewer & Gen Fund).....	125,782.50
Fire - Ambulance Reserve.....	282,818.57	Skid Steer.....	34,996.12
Fire- Equipment Reserve.....	154,749.66	Fire- Light Vehicle Replacement.....	51,158.66
Fire- Engine Replacement.....	297,002.67	Facilities Design/Build.....	102,143.09
Fire - Ladder Truck Replacement.....	1,076,418.16	PW Hot Box.....	7,685.72
Field Development/Repairs.....	1,249.03	Public Works Radio Communication.....	70,750.08
Facilities- Pool Complex.....	28,357.14	Police Records Mgmnt.....	60,642.93
Parks Equipment - Tractor Heavy Duty.....	39,503.83	PW Sand Storage Bldg.....	45,000.00
Parks Equipment - Tractor with Backhoe.....	58,206.12	Sewer Light Vehicles.....	9,000.00
Library Parking Lot Construction/Repair.....	154,474.13		
Library Septic System.....	61,341.50	Total Capital Reserves	\$6,537,341.18
Library Carpet Replacement.....	77.70		
Library Boiler.....	25.00	Trust Funds	
Town Wide Security Updates.....	268,025.04	Principal.....	\$75,372.18
Community Master Plan.....	26,839.76	Accrued Interest.....	5,801.23
Route 3 Improvements.....	11,438.32		
Pianning Impact Fee Update.....	37,762.82	Total Trust Funds	\$81,173.41
Municipal Facility Improvements Reserve.....	45,935.65		
Solid Waste Backhoe.....	65,309.11	Grand Total	
Transfer Station Improvements.....	156,186.79	Capital Reserve Funds.....	\$6,537,341.18
Transfer Station Equipment.....	14.04	Trust Funds.....	81,173.41
Traffic Signal Improvementt.....	10,541.25	Grand Total.....	\$6,618,514.59
Pick Up Trust Reserve.....	14,879.18		
One Ton Trucks.....	96,929.27		
Six Wheel Dump Truck.....	683.99		
Ten Wheel Dump Truck.....	6,380.35		



Pamela Hogan - Director

The Department is staffed by two full time positions, one Director and a shared duties position of HR and Payroll Coordinator. We serve the full and part time employee base of approximately 200, the approx. 100 election workers and our retirees (on retiree health plans). The Director of HR also serves as the Town's Welfare Director. The first-ever, stand-alone Department of Human Resources (HR) and Welfare was adopted within the 2019 Town Budget and steadily the affected departmental functions were moved from the Finance Department to HR and Welfare.

The Human Resources Department manages, oversees and assists with staffing Town positions, implementing and administering benefit programs, policy development and compliance, leaves of absence, staff recruiting initiatives, personnel records, assists with union contract negotiations, contract interpretation, and employee relations matters. The department staff also maintain compliance with local, state and federal regulations as well as internal policies. As part of the above the department conducts new employee orientations, benefit orientations, benefit open enrollment, exit interviews, Workers Compensation claim management, Unemployment claim management, and FMLA and other leave management as well as provides applicable training resources. The HR and Payroll Coordinator also oversees the bi-weekly payroll process including employee leave accruals and takes part in payroll audits, benefit administration, payroll reporting and coordination with the NH Retirement System for payroll reporting and all required reporting.

2020 provided many challenges for the HR Office

and all Town Departments due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Daily and weekly challenges occurred relative to changing information and protocols for safety and wellness checks, temporary policy development, PPE supplies, grant research and reporting, the need for remote work at times and the associated technology set-ups required, work/life balance offerings through online training modules, changes in Worker's Compensation and Unemployment requirements (as well as a much higher volume of claims for COVID-19 cases and required quarantines), inter-departmental initiatives, legal review and keeping abreast of all State programs and guidelines. The HR Director thanks the Town Manager, all Department Heads, Facilities and many other staff for the wonderful display of collaboration throughout the year and to the Bedford Sewing Battalion for their donation of cloth face masks and Bedford Cares Organization for their help to those in need in the community. Employees came together to assist with safety measures, supplies, general support and the cooperation from staff is to be commended. Grant funded leaves created the need for an extra documentation process that all employees complied with. Although many employees required quarantine periods away from work due to exposure to a COVID-19 positive person or post-travel quarantine, through the employees' diligent efforts, there were only two small clusters of COVID-19 that may have been spread through workplace exposure. In total, at the end of 2020, employee reported COVID-19 positive cases were only 21 including first responders who were in contact with COVID-19 patients.

2020 Facts

Retirees

Wayne Richardson – Building and Health
Code Official (24 years)

Michael Bernard – Lieutenant. Police Department
(21 years)

Edna Garrens – Prosecutor's Secretary
(19 years)



New Employees

Regular FT/PT	23
Election/Voter Registration	21
Pool and Camps	0*

*Due to COVID-19 closure

HR Department

- Assisted with union matters, contract interpretation and employee relations matters including investigations, grievances and coaching
- Managed hiring and turnover processing and ensured fair and consistent employee support.
- Served on the Joint Loss Management Committee for the Town that oversees safety-related matters for staff and conducts safety inspections in Town buildings.
- Managed all new hire orientation, exit interviews and benefit open enrollments
- Organized and held the annual Flu Vaccine Clinic for employees in an outdoor tent for safety purposes
- Managed the Town's United Way Campaign
- Advised Directors of available training applicable to them and/or their staff
- Updated the Police Department's Application for Employment for ease of completion and compliance
- Attended several retirement and promotional celebrations and supported employee appreciation events and initiatives
- Assisted the Town Clerk's Office with staffing processing for elections
- Conducted and responded to wage surveys
- Updated all State and Federal required posters at each department/building site

- Took part in the Town's Emergency Operations Plan work
- Worked toward completing the installation of the new time clock and attendance software that had to be temporarily suspended in March due to the vendor's need to upgrade its software to meet our needs and due to the pandemic that prevented the on-site implementation. Also assisted the Fire Department in their trial implementation of scheduling software through a new vendor

Welfare

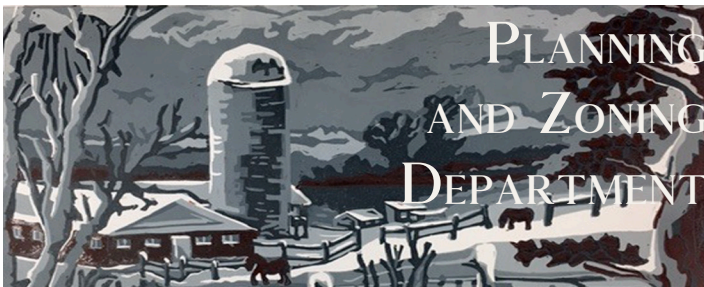
- Further reviewed Welfare process for compliance and managed all inquiries and cases
- Coordinated referrals to COVID-19 related grant programs for housing and fuel assistance as well as to Bedford Cares for food delivery services.

We are very grateful to the new Bedford Cares organization for all of their efforts to ensure our community had willing hands to assist those who needed assistance with food and supply delivery throughout the pandemic.

I look forward to the work ahead to further enhance the services to our employees and the Town.

Respectfully Submitted,

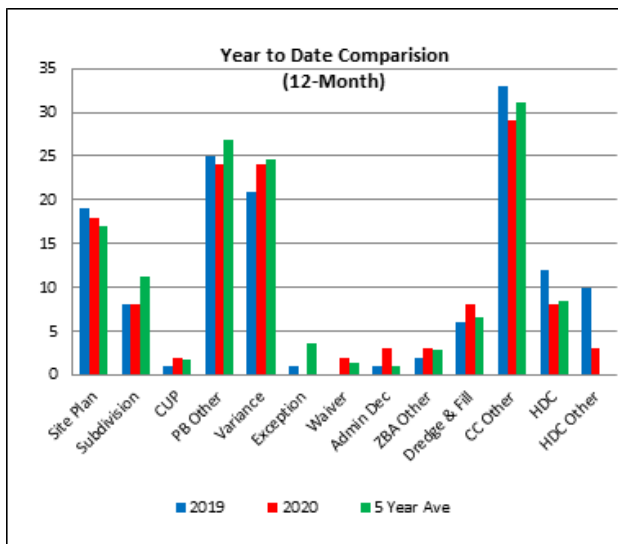
Pamela D. Hogan,
Director Human Resources & Welfare



Rebecca Hebert, AICP -DIRECTOR

The trend of significant commercial investment in Bedford continued throughout 2020. All four land use boards remained busy during the course of the year, reviewing approximately 132 applications and hosting approximately 48 public meetings. The largest concentration of new development activity continued to be in the Performance Zone, with ten commercial projects in various phases of construction throughout the year. The Chandler apartment building was the most visible construction project in 2020. The building is four to five stories tall and located adjacent to the Bedford Mall, on the former Wayfarer site. The project will add 133 new residential units to Bedford’s housing stock. Another notable project is the Senior Living of Bedford assisted living facility, which includes 105 units and is located at 24 Old Bedford Road. Construction of the facility continued throughout the year, with an opening anticipated in early 2021.

As illustrated in the adjoining table, activity of the land use boards was similar to 2019, which is



consistent with the growth Bedford has seen over the past several years. Please see the Planning Board report for a detailed description of the major projects that received final approval or began construction in 2020.

This year was marked by the changes brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic. Staff worked with all of the land use boards and commissions to quickly adapt their meetings to an electronic platform, allowing business and development to move forward during this difficult time.

The significant changes to the previously approved site plan for the Market & Main mixed-use development continued to attract the highest level of community discussion. In February, the Planning Board reviewed a design review application that would add 200 upper level apartment units in the second through fifth floors of two newly designed mixed use buildings. The plan also eliminated the office building, as well as some of the retail and restaurant uses. After a lengthy public review process, the Planning Board denied the site plan application in September.

The Planning Department, together with the Planning Board’s “Think Tank” subcommittee, continued working with the consulting firm, Town Planning and Urban Design Collaborative (TPUDC) on the 2020 Master Plan update. The public outreach efforts continued into 2020 with the production of a BCTV program to reach out to residents during the pandemic. The public draft of the 2020 Master Plan was released in August 2020 and the Planning Board created a subcommittee to review public comments and make recommendations for final edits to the plan.

The Planning Department continued to work closely with a consultant forester to assist the Conservation Commission with trail projects and conservation easement monitoring. The construction of trail improvements at the Pulpit Rock Conservation Area were completed this year. All of the trail improvements were funded by a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant. The Commission also



completed a Forest Management and Stewardship Plan for the Pulpit Rock Conservation Area.

The Department continued to provide assistance with transportation planning with a focus on reviewing priorities for the NHDOT 10-year plan. Construction of the Route 101 widening from Route 114 to Wallace Road was completed in 2020. The Route 101 widening has brought much needed safety improvements and relief to traffic congestion on Route 101.

Staff continued to resolve code enforcement complaints related to a variety of issues including illegal apartments, home-based businesses operating without approvals, work without permits, sign violations, wetlands violations, and issues of non-compliance with site plan approvals. Over one hundred illegal temporary signs were also removed from the public street rights-of-way.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated members of the boards and commissions who volunteer their time to make Bedford a great place to live and work. I would also like to thank the Planning Department staff for their dedication and support during a challenging year. Together the staff worked to adapt their routines and responsibilities to the new demands brought on by the pandemic and continued to provide a high level of service to the community.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rebecca Hebert, AICP
Planning and Zoning Director



Jon Levenstein - Chair

The Planning Board reviewed several major development and redevelopment projects in 2020. The Board met 21 times, conducted two site walks, and reviewed a total of 43 applications. This year was marked by the changes brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic. The Board quickly adapted its meetings to an electronic platform to allow business and development to move forward during this difficult time.

Major changes to the approved site plan for the Market & Main mixed-use development continued to attract community discussion throughout 2020. In February, the Board reviewed a design review application that would add 200 multi-family units and eliminate the office building, as well as some of the retail and restaurant uses. After a lengthy review process, the Planning Board denied the site plan application in September. The first phase of Market & Main is complete and the original approval for the mixed use development is still valid, but the project did not progress further in 2020.

The Sebbins Brook Crossing development is another notable project that was approved in 2020. The development includes 142 apartment units with 36 workforce housing units, located in two four story garden style apartment buildings, and also includes 96 senior housing units (55 and older) located in a four-story garden style apartment building. The senior housing also includes 24 affordable units. The entire development will be set up with a condominium form of ownership for all of the new residential units.

One of the most visible construction projects in

2020 was the Chandler apartment building at the former Wayfarer site, located between the Goffe Mill shopping center and the Bedford Mall. The project includes 133-unit market rate apartment units within a four to five story building. The apartment building was completed in late 2020, and the development will provide more diverse housing options for Bedford residents. Another major project under construction is the Bowman Assisted Living facility, a 150-bed assisted living and memory care facility on Olde Bedford Road adjacent to the Bedford Village Inn.

Three new residential lots were approved in 2020, all through minor subdivision applications. Construction also continued on the Olympus Way seven-lot subdivision off of Ministerial Road, Huntington Ridge nine-lot open space subdivision off of Stowell Road, and at Indian Rock Road and Boiling Kettle Road in the Preserve at West Bedford development.

The Planning Board proposed two amendments to the Zoning Ordinance which were passed by voters in 2020, including:

1. An amendment to create a minimum lot size of 5 acres for the placement of new commercial ground-mounted wireless telecommunication facilities in the Residential and Agricultural and General Residential Districts.
2. An amendment to update and strengthen the intent and purpose statements of the Wireless Telecommunication Facilities Ordinance.

Work continued throughout the year on the 2020 Blueprint Bedford Master Plan, which was released to the community in draft form in August. The Planning Board also worked with the Department of Public Works to update the Land Development Control Regulations to include the Town's Stormwater Management Permit for new construction projects.

Membership on the Board saw a few changes during 2020. The Board welcomed new regular member, Stephen Clough and new alternate member John Quintal. Additionally William Dushatko replaced



Chris Bandazian as the Town Council member. I would like to thank all of the board members for their hard work and dedication to the community exhibited over many long meetings and late nights. Bedford is indeed fortunate that its Planning Board members exercise their responsibilities with such civility and professionalism. I would also like to thank the Planning Department staff who did an outstanding job this year under extremely difficult circumstances and to wish Mark Connors well in his new job as Planning Director of Stratham.

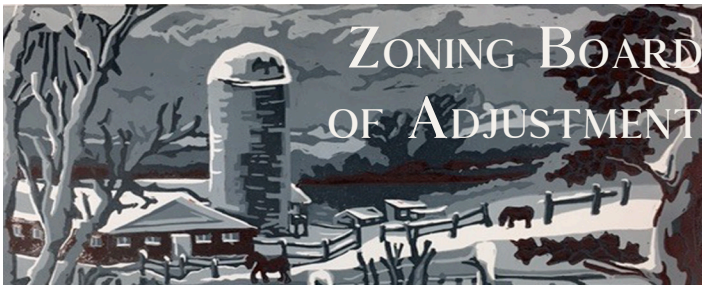
Statistics for 2020: (43 applications):

- 11 Site Plans (27,080 square feet of new commercial space and 238 new residential units)
 - 6 Site Plan Amendments;
 - 7 Subdivisions and Lot Line Adjustments (creating 3 new residential building lots);
 - 2 Conceptual Reviews;
 - 2 Design Review Applications;
 - 2 Conditional Use Permits; and
 - 15 Other applications (home occupations, waivers, time extensions, etc.)
- 20,000 square-foot light industrial and office building on Bellemore Drive for the Eckman Construction Company
 - 2,480 square-foot bank with drive-through service facilities at 32 South River Road for Bank of New Hampshire
 - 3,400 square-foot gasoline service station (Mega X) with 16-pumps, a convenience store and a 1,200 square-foot fast-food restaurant with drive-through service at 189 and 193 South River Road
 - A conceptual proposal for a proposed 10,000 square-foot microbrewery at 250 South River Road.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jon Levenstein, Chair

Major developments reviewed or approved included:

- Sebbins Brook Crossing, a workforce and elderly housing development, including 144 condominiums in two four-story buildings and 96 independent elderly condominiums in one four-story building on South River Road
- Market & Main, a mixed-use development, review included proposed changes to a previously approved plan to eliminate proposed office uses; to reduce retail uses; to modify the hotel use; minor changes to the restaurant uses, cinema, and parking garage; and to add 200 upper level multi-family units in two buildings with associated architectural and site changes



John Morin - Chair

The Zoning Board of Adjustment conducts hearings on applications for relief from land use regulations. The most common applications for relief are:

1. Variances from use or dimensional requirements
2. Special Exceptions
3. Equitable Waivers from dimensional requirements
4. Appeals from decisions of Administrative Officials

Where there are unique or extenuating circumstances, the Board of Adjustment provides an avenue for relief from restrictions and for local resolution of land use issues. The Board of Adjustment can grant an application if the legal requirements for relief are met. The Board of Adjustment cannot grant relief, however, if it would be the equivalent of re-zoning or amending a zoning ordinance. After hearing evidence for and against an application, the Board of Adjustment deliberates and votes on all requests in public session.

In 2020, the Board of Adjustment heard 20 applications for Variances, 2 requests for rehearings, and 1 appeal of an Administrative Decision. The majority of the applications filed in 2020 were for variances seeking relief from building and wetland setbacks, lot size, and frontage requirements. The distribution of applications is reflective of the maturing status of development in Bedford.

Of the applications decided in 2020, 17 were approved in whole, or in part, three were denied or denied in part, one was withdrawn by the applicant, and two

were declined due to jurisdiction. During 2020, five applications were tabled due to the complexity of the applications. Most were concluded at a meeting the next month.

Members of the Board of Adjustment are appointed by the Town Council. The Board of Adjustment is comprised of five regular members and three alternate members. Karin Elmer, Planner I, of the Planning Department, attends all ZBA meetings and provides background and other information to the Board.

Applications to request a Zoning Board of Adjustment hearing and the meeting schedule of the Board (usually the 3rd Tuesday of each month) are available at the Town Offices and also are available online at the Town website, www.bedfordnh.org. Completed applications are due no later than 21 days prior to the desired hearing date. The Zoning Administrator handles all public inquiries regarding zoning questions and assists individuals with application procedures.

I would like to express my thanks to all of the members of the Town Council, my fellow Zoning Board members, and members of the other boards that serve the Town of Bedford, for volunteering their time and talent to improve our community.

Respectfully submitted,
John Morin, Chair
Bedford Zoning Board of Adjustment



Maggie Wachs- Chair

Mission Statement

The mission of the Bedford, NH Conservation Commission is to protect, preserve and conserve the town's natural resources and open space land for the common good. This includes stewardship and management of conservation land, protecting wetlands and vernal pools and the planning and acquisition of land for conservation purposes. The Commission works with landowners to administer State and Town wetlands regulations and advises other Town boards, such as the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment on environmental impacts and alternative considerations regarding development projects. The Conservation Commission promotes conservation activities and communicates with the citizens of Bedford on important environmental issues.

Regular business

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, and after a brief hiatus in the spring, the Conservation Commission resumed reviewing and offering guidance to the Planning & Zoning Boards on wetland setback variance requests and dredge and fill permits for a range of commercial and residential properties in Bedford. In their recommendations, the Commission emphasized the importance of mitigation measures when some setback encroachment is necessary, including the incorporation of additional drainage structures or rain gardens.

Special Projects

Two projects of significant value to the Town of Bedford's conservation efforts reached important

milestones this year.

Several critical improvements to the Pulpit Rock Conservation Area were completed, funded by a Federal LWCF grant. Updates included replacing footbridges and levelling and fortifying trails with ledge pack, and short portions of the Campbell trail were rerouted and extended to improve safety and reduce the need for stream crossings. Work was done by community volunteers and led by Ron Klemarczyk of FORECO, who presented a summary to the Commission in June. Trail maps were updated by Brandon Boisvert of the DPW, and the NH Department of Historical Resources reviewed and gave their final approval of the project.

The Pulpit Rock Forest Stewardship Plan was completed by Ron Klemarczyk who's deeply familiar with Bedford's Pulpit Rock area. Included in the plan is an inventory of notable forest stands. Some good news: he did not find evidence of the woolly adelgid infestation previously seen in the Pulpit Rock tracts. Monitoring will need to continue as they still exist in other parts of the state, as will monitoring of invasive plant species.

Additional projects of note:

- Greenfield Farms boundary marking was completed, to prevent/mitigate encroachment of residential properties on nearby conservation land
- GPS trail mapping to document Bedford's extensive trail system

The Conservation Commission recognizes the continued efforts of Planning Department staff members, support of the Town Council, Planning and Zoning Boards, the Piscataquog Land Conservancy (of which the Bedford Land Trust is now a part), BCTV and members of our community.

Respectfully submitted,
Maggie Wachs, Chair



Pulpit Rock Subcommittee Report

The Pulpit Rock Subcommittee of the Conservation Commission invites you to visit and discover, as many did this past year, your wonderful Pulpit Rock Conservation Area. It is a great choice when you are looking for a hike that is close to home. It has more than 4 miles of moderate to difficult trails. And if you are looking for a longer hike, you can take the Pulpit Rock Conservation Area trails and continue southward, connecting to the Amherst trails that lead back to Bedford's town-owned land at Joppa Hill Farm.

The Pulpit Rock Subcommittee is charged with overseeing and managing Bedford's Pulpit Rock Conservation Area. Subcommittee members include Richard Moore, Clark Gott, Doug Pryce, William Coder, Eric Soederberg, Brian Nolen, Bill Ewing, Richard Holstein and Conservation Commission representative Beth Evarts. Activities of the subcommittee were greatly modified this year, while at the same time the conservation area received heavy use because of COVID-19 and the demand for outdoor activities closer to home. Rather than hosting an annual workday, members worked on separate individual projects. In 2020, the Piscataquog Land Conservancy (PLC) took over the conservation easement and monitoring of the property for infractions of the conservation easement. Thank you PLC!

The Conservation Commission, with funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, continued the effort to improve the trail access from Pulpit Road to Gage's Mill. This effort is now complete and the new trails are fully integrated with the previously existing trail system. Ron Klemarczyk, a consultant forester, hired by the Conservation Commission, completed these improvements to the trail system, and Brandon Boisvert of Bedford's Public Works Department has created a new Pulpit Rock map that includes updates to the trail system. Thank you Ron and Brandon!

An Eagle Scout project was also completed in 2020. The project was led by Troop 5's William Girard. It

involved completely replacing the bridge across Pulpit Brook at the northern end of the Landry Trail. Thank you William!

Plans for the upcoming year may include a workday, normally held in late April or early May, but it may need to be postponed or again cancelled because of COVI-19. Our thanks are extended to those who have helped out at the Pulpit in past years on our annual work days!

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard Moore, Chair



Theresa Walker - Chair

The Historic District Commission's charge is to safeguard the heritage of the Town of Bedford by providing for the protection of structures and landscapes important to Bedford's history and to foster public appreciation and community pride of the beauty of the Historic District. These duties are outlined in Article VII of the Bedford Zoning Ordinance. According to a 2012 report by Plymouth State University, Bedford is one of 56 communities in New Hampshire with a locally-designated historic district. The Historic District includes Bedford Center Road, Church Road, Bell Hill Road, Chandler Road, and portions of North Amherst Road, Ministerial Road, Liberty Hill Road and Meetinghouse Road. Residentially-zoned properties along Route 101 between Bedford Center Road and Wallace Road are also part of the Historic District.

The Historic District incorporates some of the earliest European settlements in Bedford. A *New York Tribune* account of the Town of Bedford in 1850 included in *The History of Bedford* notes "Its main aspects have scarcely altered in thirty years, and the dwellings scattered within sight of the Presbyterian Church in its centre, are about as many as they were then – say forty in all." Many of the structures in the Town Center district remain standing today as they were then, and the Commission's role is to protect the historic and aesthetic character of the district while providing property owners the flexibility to adapt to modern day conditions and enjoy modern conveniences.

The Historic District Commission met seven times in 2020, approving seven applications. Due to Coronavirus crisis, all meetings were held virtually this year. Applications before the Commission in 2020

included window replacements, roof-mounted solar installations, additions and a pool. The Commission was able to provide several applicants input to improve the historical integrity of proposals, and all applications were ultimately approved by the Commission.

Information pertaining to the Historic District, including regulations, applications, maps and links to historic preservation documents can be found on the Town website at www.bedfordnh.org.

While Bedford is privileged to enjoy such a historic and picturesque Town Center, it is doubly fortunate to boast so many citizens committed to its preservation and longevity. Members of the Historic District Commission include Judy Perry, Lisa Muskat, Christopher Allen (Vice-Chair), Joe Vaccarello, Stephen MacDougal, Charles Fairman (Planning Board representative), Phil Greazzo (Town Council representative), Lori Radke (Town Council alternate), and myself Theresa Walker (Chair).

Respectfully Submitted,
Theresa Walker, Chair



2020 Town of Bedford Report by Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

The Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission (SNHPC) has a wide range of services and resources available to help member communities with a variety of land use planning and transportation challenges and concerns. Each year, with the approval of appointed representatives, the Commission’s skilled staff designs and carries out programs of regional significance mandated by New Hampshire and federal laws or regulations, as well as local projects which pertain more exclusively to a specific community.

Often, community Planning Boards, Conservation Commissions, and Governing Boards request assistance from SNHPC for traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle counts, grant assistance, specific studies, mapping, and facilitation services. Technical assistance is provided in a professional and timely manner as SNHPC carries out projects of common interest and benefit to all member communities; keeps officials apprised of changes in planning and land use regulations; and in conjunction with the New Hampshire Municipal Association, offers annual training workshops for Planning Board and Zoning Board members.

In 2020, some of the highlighted projects the Commission assisted the Town of Bedford with included:

- Conducting traffic counts, collecting speed data, and providing pedestrian counts
- Completing a roadway “bike level of stress” analysis and mapping
- Providing commuting and biking analysis for transportation chapter of the Bedford Master Plan
- Providing culvert field assessments and analysis for the regional Vulnerability Assessment
- Completing strategies for congestion management
- Representing the municipality at the NH Lower Merrimack Valley Stormwater Coalition
- Providing outreach and education on Census programs, including New Construction program (2020 response rate: 84.4% compared to 2010: 79.7%)
- Providing Emergency response time analysis and mapping for the Bedford Fire Department
- Coordinating with the Bedford Public Library on hosting a virtual volunteer fair to highlight area organizations in need of volunteers

The following table details services performed for the Town of Bedford during the past year and includes both hours worked specifically for the Town and for projects involving multiple municipalities. In the latter case, the total hours spent by SNHPC staff are divided equally by the number of communities, resulting in time allotment attributed to each of the communities. Examples of regional projects are the development of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan and a regional Congestion Management Plan update.

Hours	Description
89.9	Analyzed transportation needs of each municipality for inclusion in the SNHPC Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Added significant projects beyond the current Ten-Year Plan period with projected available funding to 2045.
78.6	Performed traffic counts at 14 sites in town.
70.5	Began updating the Bedford hazard mitigation plan as required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.



35.2	Conducted 7 culvert field assessments in the Town of Bedford for development of the Regional Vulnerability Assessment; this work identifies climate related risk to culverts and small bridges.
27	Continued updating the regional travel demand model, which is used to forecast traffic volumes on roads in and throughout the region.
24.1	Coordinated with regional municipalities and the NHDOT to develop the 2023-2032 Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan.
22.3	Completed the congestion management process, which included working with municipal and state transportation officials in conducting assessments and identifying strategies for congestion management on federal and state route segments and intersections throughout the region.
15.8	Implemented the Becoming Age-Friendly Pilot Program Phase IV: Continued outreach efforts with community representatives and staff, created outreach materials from phases I-III including PowerPoint presentations and a new webpage.
15	Provided monthly information to the Planning Board regarding upcoming SNHPC meetings, project and grant updates, webinars, and other training opportunities through the SNHPC's quarterly Newsletters, monthly Media Blasts and periodic E-Bulletins.
14.1	Completed a major update to the SNHPC regional Public Participation Plan including expanded regional planning outreach efforts to engage people and increase participation within underserved populations.
12.6	Represented the interests of the town on the Region 8 Regional Coordinating Council, coordinating community transportation, maintaining a directory of regional providers, and soliciting projects for Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) 5310 program.
11.2	Conducted a statewide volunteer driver program (VDP) survey to understand the impacts of COVID-19, created a forum for VDPs to review survey results and discuss needs and resources and continued outreach efforts to share VDP mapping tool with service agencies across the state.
7.8	Completed amendments and minor revisions to the FY 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program.
7.3	Participated in the NHDOT Complete Streets Advisory Committee. Provided feedback especially on mapping resources to be utilized in the NHDOT State Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan.
6.8	Provided assistance to Statewide Coordinating Council for Community Transportation (SCC) working toward improved transportation options for communities across the state.
6.3	Continued work with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Region-wide Assessment Grant for environmental studies and investigations to help move contaminated sites to clean up, redevelopment and reuse.
5.3	Coordinated with community librarians to conduct virtual volunteer fairs for the towns of Auburn, Bedford and Frankestown. Local volunteer driver programs in need of volunteer drivers, Meals on Wheels, and other local agencies were highlighted during virtual fairs. This program was supported by AARP NH.
4.8	Updated and maintained the Commission's GIS transportation database for project evaluation. Updates included FEMA flood zones, NHDES dams, culverts, land use changes, and political boundaries among many others. The database was also successfully migrated to a new server.
3.4	Conducted outreach to towns for the development of Road Safety Audit (RSA) and Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding applications to the NHDOT.
3.2	Assisted the town in preparing for the 2020 Census by partaking in the Participant Statistical Area program, New Construction program, and statewide Complete Count Committee. Assisted in outreach, encouraging residents to participate in the Census to ensure a successful self-response rate.



2.9	Implemented a Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) analysis in which a rating was given to a road segment indicating the traffic stress it imposes on bicyclists. Staff completed LTS analysis on public roads within the SNHPC region through coordination with other regional planning commissions and Plymouth State University.
2.5	Developed regional transportation and safety benchmarks and performance targets in performance measurement categories such as Safety, Bridge and Roadway Condition, and overall System Performance (for transportation) to measure improvement over time.
2.2	Collaborated with Executive Director of the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) to provide a virtual workshop about LCHIP-supported projects and funding in the SNHPC region.
2.0	Represented the Commission on the MS4 Stormwater Coalition and helped with regional coordination of MS4 efforts.

Town of Bedford Representatives to the Commission

David J. Danielson
 William Duschatko
 Barbara Salvatore, Alternate
 Bill Jean, Alternate
 Charlie Fairman
 Bryan Lord, Alternate

Executive Committee Member: William Duschatko





Timothy Paradis - Chair

Ongoing monitoring of legislation:

The Energy Commission continues to remain current on all legislation affecting energy in the NH legislature. The Commission will testify in Concord when necessary to advocate for policies that affect our municipality with regard to energy policy.

In 2020 the Commission continued to monitor any legislation that will affect group new metering, as well as, the new ability for municipal aggregation.

Community Outreach:

The Bedford Energy Commission (BEC) has updated its web page with links to ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle. The Commission is also posting useful links and information on its Facebook and Twitter pages.

The BEC webpage can be found here: <https://www.bedfordnh.org/212/Energy-Commission>

The BEC facebook page can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/EnergizeBedfordNH>

The BEC should continue to use these means as a way to communicate with the town.

School District opportunities:

The Energy Commission continues to work with the school district on ways to effectively manage energy costs and consumption. We are working through the list on proposed projects, starting with lowest capital expenditures, that was created by the Bedford School District Energy Study.

The Energy Commission also worked CPOWER on a

Demand Response program as a way to create revenue and effectively manage energy consumption and demand load.

Solsmart:

The solar foundation recognizes communities that are green. The commission is pursuing a bronze or silver level of recognition. Paperwork has been completed is up for review from Town Council before submitting to Solsmart.

2021 Bedford Energy Commission focus areas include:

- 1) EV charging stations throughout the town.
- 2) Town Pool PV Shade/Shelter
- 3) Public Works Highway Garage PV Vehicle Port/Shelter(s)
- 4) Solar Farm at the Transfer Station
- 5) Pursue municipal aggregation to see if it could benefit Bedford residents

Respectfully Submitted,
Timothy Paradis, Chair



William H. Ingalls - Director

Assessed value totals as of September 1, 2020

Residential.....	\$3,266,177,227
Comm/Ind.....	\$812,390,600
Utilities.....	\$65,993,000
Exempt Property*.....	\$145,626,601
Total.....	\$4,290,187,428
Less TIF Retained Value.....	(-\$38,408,100)
Less Property Tax Exemptions**(-\$14,043,570)
Less Exempt Property.....	(-\$145,626,601)
Total Taxable Town Value.....	\$4,092,109,157

*(town, school, church etc)
 **(elderly, blind etc.)

For the 2020 tax year, market forces both internal and external continue to affect the Bedford real estate market. Even before covid-19 reared its ugly head, available inventory was decreasing and prices were continuing to rise.as they had for several years now since the end of 2013. After the 2019 town-wide revaluation/statistical update, our assessment to sale ratio that began at 90.8% or .908 ended up at 96% or .96. Our official ratio for the 2020 tax year as determined by the NH Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) is 90.6% or .906. Due to the strong market, affected in part by covid-19, another update in Bedford is scheduled for the 2021 tax year. This is to prevent larger increases in assessed values if we allow our ratio to get below 90%, as was the case in 2017.

The assessing function is a reactive, and not a predictive, process. Going forward, one might see

some uncertainty as to whether values will continue to increase or not. Once the mortgage foreclosure and evictions moratoriums are lifted later this year available housing inventory should increase and this may have some effect to price. On the other hand, there may a substantial number of buyers waiting for that expanded inventory and perhaps the effect to price may be softer than many expect. There is also optimism for the future as effective treatment vaccines for covid-19 are distributed and in anticipation (fingers crossed) of the NH economy opening up by late spring/early summer 2021. Businesses and jobs have been lost over the past year, in some areas worse than others. This office is encouraged that new business will emerge creating jobs for those who lost theirs and more, and those who have lost can find opportunity again. Bedford weathered the recession of 2009-2012 better than most New Hampshire towns and cities, and we expect the same to be true going forward now. After 2021, future updates will occur in 2023, 2025, and so on. Bedford updates in all markets up or down, as evidenced by the town-wide reduction of values during the 2013 update. Should that happen again, this office will act accordingly as the markets dictate.

As stated in the 2018 and again in the 2019 annual report, this office is well aware that substantial changes such as what occurred in 2017 can be difficult to process and in some cases, difficult to afford all at once. The term “sticker shock” comes to mind. The 2019 update occurred only two years after the 2017 update that had a four-year gap from the 2013 update because we just do not want to put everyone through large 16%+ increases again if possible. The market, especially the residential market, continued aggressively since the 2017 update through the 2018 tax year through 2019 and now through 2020. There is no question that covid-19 had an effect on further reducing available inventory, as some folks just did not feel comfortable potentially exposing themselves or their loved ones and co-workers during the listing and selling process. However, there were still more qualified (willing buyer willing seller no duress) single-family/in-law residential sales at 344, than the 330 in 2019. Although inventory reduced, the number



of actual sales increased. Our 2020 ratio of 90.6%, compared to the pre-update 2019 ratio of 90.8%, demonstrates the market in Bedford remains strong but is not “out of control” so to speak. Inventory or not, covid-19 or not, we would still be at or very near this level sale prices wise, as Bedford continues to be a great place to live. Whether for schools, location, or overall quality of life demand is high to live in Bedford.

In previous annual reports, we stated over time we hope more frequent updates will not be a surprise or annoyance. Instead, we hope they are viewed as a mechanism to improve stability of taxes barring budgetary spikes whether in an up market or a down market, and in the long run save the Town and its taxpayers some monies providing these services and keeping our overall data in good condition. Should the need for a full measure and list arise in the future, we will budget for and conduct it.

Last year, it was mentioned that in this volatile world “only time will tell how the various ups and downs of new federal tax policy, political climate, and global cooperation (or not) will play out here.” No one at the time knew anything about any virus or something. If not for covid-19, there would have been no slowdown of the 2020 New Hampshire economy predicted to occur as early as end of 2018, due primarily to a lack of qualified and trained work force. In fact, we are getting younger families returning to New Hampshire to establish roots; our biggest obstacle to growth appears to be available housing inventory. Even with all that is going on today, there is optimism for the future. In Bedford, there is ongoing refitting and re-leasing of existing retail, there is industrial manufacturing new construction, and there is investment in existing stock here in town and that is a good sign.

Here in Bedford the “Chandler”, a 133-unit apartment building at Goffe Mill Plaza at 107 South River Road is up and running accepting tenants. Plans are moving forward to re-fit Canoe into a Pressed Café and the former Outback restaurant into a Tuckers.

The banking industry is getting another boost in town from the new Bar Harbor Bank at the Hannaford’s Plaza at the former gas pumps site, and Northway Bank that is moving to the former Citizens Bank at 106 South River Road. Further down South River Road and across from Iron Horse Drive, the 238-unit condominium development “Sebbins Brook” will start soon. In addition there is a new Mega-X gas station/convenience store coming next to the 193 South River Road Tavern.

On the industrial front, there is activity at Harvey Road. Lyophilization Services of New England (LSNE) completed a new office/light manufacturing/warehouse facility at 29 Harvey Road, and there are proposals by Harvey Construction at 10 Harvey Road for a warehouse on the lot next door. TRM Microwave is completing renovations and a substantial addition to their building at the corner of South River Road and Sunset Lane. In addition, at the old Frederickseal property on South River Road there are plans for a large 100,000-125,000 SF manufacturing facility that we hope will go forward. As we can see, interest in and development of our tax base continues in Bedford.

Whether here in town or in many places across the country the real estate market has been strong for several years making it a good time to sell, but a tough time to buy your next home. As was the case in 2019, at any point during 2020 you would be hard-pressed to find a home for sale in Bedford under \$300,000 that did not need a fair amount of work/updating. In addition, 2020 was the fourth consecutive year that you could not find a single family home marketed in town for under \$200,000.

As always, we assert that we really are fortunate to live in New Hampshire, a state that has maintained lower unemployment rates than most of the country throughout this entire situation and the last several years. New Hampshire provides an example for the majority of the United States striking a balance between the effects of covid-19 and the reality and necessity of keeping as much of our small businesses and resultant economy as open for business as



possible. It continues to be true that Bedford is a good place to live and conduct business with many highlights including our school system, our still increasing commercial/industrial development, our access to every corner of the state via the highways, and our “Aaa” bond rating.

Values that contributed toward the total valuation of Bedford include the following; construction finished in 2020 that began in 2019 or before, projects begun in 2020 partially completed as of April 1, 2020, physical changes to properties noted during 2020 data collection efforts, and any other changes to value determined during the year. Projects approved during 2020 but not started until after April 1, 2020 are not included in any value totals, as they will be included in the numbers for 2021. Total updated assessed values reflect the state of completion, taxable status, and physical condition of all property as of April 1, 2020 listed as of September 1, 2020.

Property tax exemptions totaled \$14,043,570. Senior Property Tax Exemption amounts are \$90,000 (65-74,) \$96,000 (75-79,) and \$141,600 (80+.) Bedford also provides a Blind Property Tax Exemption of \$35,000, a Deaf/Hearing Impaired Property Tax Exemption of \$35,000, a Disabled Property Tax Exemption of \$52,000, and exemptions for Wind Powered, Solar Powered, and Wood Heated Whole House Energy Systems. Information about the qualifications for property tax credits and exemptions is located at the Assessing Department area of the town website at www.bedfordnh.org, and on video at Bedford Community Television (BCTV.)

Individual exemption totals are as follows:

96	Elderly	@ \$11,794,300
4	Blind	@ \$140,000
1	Deaf	@ \$35,000
7	Disabled	@ \$364,000
11	Wood Heat	@ \$66,200
117	Solar	@ \$1,272,670
1	Wind Powered	@ \$72,500

1 Certain Disabled Veterans Total Exemptions @ \$298,900
 Property tax credits of all kinds totaled \$499,500. Bedford tax credits include the Standard Veteran’s Tax Credit at \$500, the Surviving Spouse Tax Credit (surviving spouse of anyone killed or died while on active duty in the armed forces) at \$2000, and the Service Connected Total and Permanent Disability Credit at \$2000. Beginning in 2017 and going forward, the Bedford Town Council immediately adopted the Optional All Veteran’s Tax Credit that provides a \$500 credit to all honorably discharged veterans with at least 90 days active duty at any time. In addition, Reservists and National Guardsmen with at least 90 days active duty service that can include Title 10 Training for Active Duty now qualify.

Individual credit totals are as follows:

792	Standard Veterans Tax Credit	@ \$396,000
59	All Veterans Tax Credit	@ \$29,500
2	Surviving Spouse	@ \$4,000
35	Service-Connected Total Disability	@ \$70,000

As of April 1, 2020, the classifications of specific property types in town are as follows:

Single Family Residence/In Law.....	6391
Residential Multi Family.....	38
Residential Vacant Land Parcels.....	385
Residential Mobile Home.....	2
Residential Condominiums.....	634
Commercial/Industrial Improved.....	105
Commercial/Industrial Condominiums.....	454
Commercial/Industrial Vacant Lots.....	41
Utilities.....	24
Exempt.....	265
Total.....	8339

To satisfy the state constitution it is necessary to value anew all property in Bedford at least once every five years; as mentioned earlier based on market activity in town since 2013 it was necessary to conduct a statistical valuation update for 2017, 2019, and now



for 2021. This involves verifying sales data over the past year, and updating commercial/industrial rents and building operation expenses.

A public access computer terminal is available in the assessing lobby downstairs at the Town Offices along with tax maps for property research. The on line Assessing Database updates on a weekly basis. For changes on a daily basis, the public access terminal will be the most up to date. Assessment information is on line at www.vgsi.com, and maps/abutters lists for individual lots are available at www.mapsonline.net. Links to both are at the Assessor's Department section of the Town website at www.bedfordnh.org. Assessing office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 AM through 4:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
William H. Ingalls,
Assessor



Jeffrey W. Foote, P.E. - Director
Jeanne T. Walker, P.E.
Assistant Director/Town Engineer

The Bedford Department of Public Works is comprised of 33 full-time and two part-time employees within its six divisions: Administrative, Highway, Solid Waste, Field Maintenance, Wastewater and Facilities Maintenance. The Department is responsible for constructing and maintaining all town roads and buildings, including the Town Office Building, Library, Town Hall, BCTV, Safety Complex, the Town Pool and 15 recreational fields. Public Works is also responsible for delivering important community services, including solid waste disposal, commercial and residential sewer service and roadway winter maintenance operations. The Department assists with numerous town events including elections and parades and oversees all new subdivision roadway construction inspections.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The Department's engineering personnel continued to review, evaluate and develop cost-effective alternatives for improving the Town's roadway network. The comprehensive roads program continued in 2020. Road construction funding included the remainder of the second (\$3,024,256.96) and third (\$3,745,471.49) installments of the \$30 million dollar road bond that voters overwhelmingly passed in 2014. Administrative staff also oversaw an additional \$487,636.68 in local road maintenance projects. In total, approximately 19 miles of town roads were improved via reconstruction, pavement reclamation and/or pavement overlays (see table below). Major projects completed in 2020 include the Donald Street

neighborhood project, the Beaver/Blanford/Elk area project, the Hitching Post/Kahliko area project and the Pinecrest Drive neighborhood project. The Department completed a substantial portion of the Gage Girls Road project, Appleleaf Drive neighborhood project, and the Olde English Road project. Work also progressed on the South River Road Corridor Utility Improvements, including a sewer extension across South River Road. The Department managed the continuation of improvements to the Transfer Station facility access and drainage improvements at the Joppa Hill Educational Farm. The Department is in the process of seeking national accreditation by the American Public Works Association and continues its efforts on completing the "self-assessment" portion of the review, which includes policy development for all DPW operations.

The former Macy's redevelopment saw its accompanying off-site improvements commence in 2020, and is now scheduled for completion in 2021. Once complete, DPW will conclude with the pavement mill and overlay within the South River Road Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District. Other special projects in 2020 included continued compliance with the EPA Municipal Separate Stormwater System (MS4) permit. The MS4 permit requires significant effort to comply with minimum control measures for public and private stormwater-related discharges into the waters of the United States. The Department reviewed and commented on several site plans, including revisions to the former Macy's site and several commercial sites on Harvey Road and South River Road.

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

PETER BARBUTO,
FACILITIES MANAGER

The Facilities Division completed several infrastructure projects in 2020, including exterior painting at the Library, repairs to the handicap ramp and stairs at the Town Hall, installation of a new fire alarm system at the Safety Complex building and a new roof on the Museum building for the



Historical Society. Division personnel managed additional HVAC upgrades at the BCTV and Safety Complex buildings, with indoor air quality testing at various Town facilities. Due to the pandemic and in compliance with CDC guidelines, all town facilities were professionally disinfected on a bi-daily basis for the safety of staff and the public.

HIGHWAY DIVISION

*EMILE LACERTE,
HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT*

The Department responded to 18 separate snow and ice events in 2020. At the beginning of the year, a mild winter season accounted for several freezing rain and sleet events. An early October weather event produced an inch of snow primarily in the upper western part of the Town. In December, the town received 18 inches of snow over a 16-hour period.

Highway crews continue to perform the Department's long-range road improvement plans by carrying out general road maintenance tasks, including roadside mowing, street sweeping, sign replacement, pavement repairs and closed drainage improvements. The Town Council approved the purchase of a multipurpose sidewalk tractor, primarily for winter maintenance operations on the new sidewalks along NH Route 101. The Department replaced one six-wheeled, dump-body truck; one 10-wheeled, dump-body truck; and front plows and wings for both. The Town also purchased and replaced a one-ton utility truck for the Sign Division and a pick-up truck for DPW's Roads Coordinator.

FIELD MAINTENANCE DIVISION

*BRAD HATFIELD,
FOREMAN - ROADS, PARKS & FIELDS*

The Department provides maintenance for 15 town-owned recreational fields and five parks, including the Bedford Village Common, Benedictine Park, Mueller Park, Earl Legacy Park and Bedford Waterfowl Park. Primary responsibilities include mowing, irrigation, fertilization, aerating, grass seeding and trash removal.

DPW maintains four and one-half miles of trails, including the Bedford Heritage Trail, Bedford Eagle Trail, The Goads Trail and the Van Loan Preserve. Public Works also maintains the town pool and building facility for the Recreation Department. These responsibilities include the spring opening, daily monitoring and fall winterization of the pool. Though the pool didn't open this year, it was necessary to perform annual maintenance duties to ensure pump and filtration systems remained functional. During the spring, the town contracted to have several tiles and plaster repaired in the pool. The Division performed maintenance and inspections at the Ann DeNicola Memorial Playground. Improvements were made to the tire swing, seesaw and small play structures. At the Bedford Village Common, several trees were trimmed or removed, signs were painted/installed, and polymeric sand was added at memorial and gazebo brick walkways, fences were installed along NH Route 101 and on the walk bridge. The DPW also removed the remaining light poles, fencing and trees at Sportsman Field in anticipation of the new artificial field construction project. The County Road tennis courts were crack sealed and resurfaced completely. Irrigation upgrades were made at Chubbuck, Riley, Legacy and Joppa Hill Fields.

WASTEWATER DIVISION

*JEROME SPOONER,
ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR*

The sewer vacuum truck crew's general maintenance duties included cleaning and inspecting 1,400 stormwater catch basins, where 713 cubic yards of material and debris were removed and 866 lineal feet of culverts and sewer lines were jetted and cleaned. In addition, the department continued its general maintenance to the municipal sewer pumping stations, removing over 1,200 gallons of grit and sludge from the bottom of the stations. The Department continued updating its supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system by adding the siphon station to it. The Town's municipal wastewater collection system expanded by another 1,500 lineal feet of gravity sewer along South River Road and up Sunset lane, now



totaling 91,500 lineal feet of gravity and force main municipal sewer piping in its wastewater collection system. The Department added one residential property and four commercial properties to its collection system during the year.

SOLID WASTE/TRANSFER STATION

*STEVE ST. PIERRE,
ASSISTANT FOREMAN*

The Town continues to allow residents, at no cost, to dispose of their household solid waste and single-stream recycling at the Transfer Station. The amount of solid waste disposed at the facility increased nearly six percent or 400 hundred tons versus 2019. The majority of the solid waste increase likely occurred as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic where residents isolated in their homes for most of the year and dined out less frequently. Disposal of single-stream recycling materials remained consistent from 2019 to 2020 comprising 16% of materials disposed of at the transfer station. In June, the Department held another successful Household Hazardous Waste Day collection event, collecting and processing materials from 368 residents. The Department purchased a used yard tractor necessary to move the solid waste trailers at the facility.

Department staff is thankful for the continued support of so many members of the community during the past year and we look forward to a robust 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeffrey W. Foote, P.E.,
Director



2020 ROADS PROGRAM

ROAD NAME	FROM	TO
<u>Reconstruction</u>		
Gage Girls Road	NH Route 101	Beals Road
Kahliko Lane	Hitching Post Road	Route 101
<u>Pavement Reclamation/Overlay</u>		
Strawberry Hill Road	Liberty Hill Road	Random Road
Random Road	Strawberry Hill Road	Strawberry Hill Road
Sandstone Drive	Donald Street	End
Cote Lane	Donald Street	End
Constance Street	Worthley Road	40/41 Constance Street
Rundlett Hill Extension	Donald Street	Old Bedford Road
Hazen Road	Old Bedford Road	Pauline Street
Stephen Drive	Hazen Road	End
Pauline Street	Boynton Street	End
Old Bedford Road	Donald Street	NH Route 114 Overpass
Strawberry Hill Road	Liberty Hill Road	Random Road
Random Road	Strawberry Hill Road	Strawberry Hill Road
Beaver Lane	Route 101	Blanford Place
Blanford Place	Beaver Lane	North Amherst Road
Elk Drive	Beaver Lane	NH Route 101
Freedom Way	NH Route 101	End
Rice Lane	Blanford Place	8 Rice Lane
Windsong Circle	Beaver Lane	Beaver Lane
Hunter Road	Route 101	End
Grey Rock Road	Route 101	End
Dearborn Lane	Grey Rock Road	End
Hitching Post Lane	Hardy Road	NH Route 101
Valley View Drive	Kahliko Lane	End
Pinecrest Drive	NH Route 101	NH Route 101
Pinecrest Circle	Pinecrest Drive	End
Grafton Drive	Wentworth Drive	Beals Road
Wentworth Drive	Gage Girls Road	Grafton Drive
Beals Road	Grafton Drive	Wallace Road
Colleny Drive	Beals Road	Federation Road
Federation Road	Beals Road	Colonel Daniels Drive
Colonel Daniels Drive	Federation Drive	Beals Road
Clifton Road	Stowell Road	End



ROAD NAME	FROM	Roads Program continued TO
Olde English Road	Gage Road	Liberty Hill Road
Appledor Road	Liberty Hill Road	End
Appleleaf Drive	Appledor Road	End
New Merrimack Road	End (south of Appledor)	End (north of Appledor)
Sunset Lane	South River Road	End
Cedarwood Drive	South River Road	End
Commerce Drive	South River Road	End
Technology Drive	South River Road	South River Road
Autumn Lane	South River Road	Harvey Road
Harvey Road	South River Road	Autumn Lane

Pavement Wearing Course

Donald Street	Old Bedford Road	Town line
Darling Street	Savoie Street	End
Merry Street	Donald Street	Darling Street
Woodlawn Avenue	Donald Street	End
Lawes Avenue	Donald Street	Dery Street
Dery Street	Lawes Avenue	Town line
Gendron Street	Dery Street	End
Savoie Street	Donald Street	End
Swan Avenue	Donald Street	Hall Street
Johnson Street	Swan Avenue	End
Hall Street	Swan Avenue	End
Sandstone Drive	Donald Street	End
Cote Lane	Donald Street	End
Constance Street	Worthley Road	41 Constance Street
Rundlett Hill Extension	Donald Street	Old Bedford Road
Hazen Road	Old Bedford Road	Pauline Street
Stephen Drive	Hazen Road	End
Pauline Street	Boynton Street	End
Old Bedford Road	Donald Street	NH Route 114 Overpass
Strawberry Hill Road	Liberty Hill Road	Random Road
Random Road	Strawberry Hill Road	Strawberry Hill Road
Beaver Lane	NH Route 101	Blanford Place
Blanford Place	Beaver Lane	North Amherst Road
Elk Drive	Beaver Lane	NH Route 101
Freedom Way	NH Route 101	End
Scott Road	North Amherst Road	End



ROAD NAME	FROM	Roads Program continued TO
Rice Lane	Blanford Place	8 Rice Lane
Windsong Circle	Beaver Lane	Beaver Lane
Hunter Road	NH Route 101	End
Grey Rock Road	NH Route 101	End
Dearborn Lane	Grey Rock Road	End
Kahliko Lane	Hitching Post Road	NH Route 101
Hitching Post Lane	Hardy Road	NH Route 101
Valley View Drive	Kahliko Lane	End
Twin Brook Lane	NH Route 101	End
Pinecrest Drive	NH Route 101	NH Route 101
Pinecrest Circle	Pinecrest Drive	End
Procter Road	Townline	End
Grafton Drive	Wentworth Drive	Beals Road
Wentworth Drive	Gage Girls Road	Grafton Drive
Beals Road	Grafton Drive	Wallace Road
Colleny Drive	Beals Road	Federation Road
Federation Road	Beals Road	Colonel Daniels Drive
Colonel Daniels Drive	Federation Drive	Beals Road
Sunset Lane	South River Road	End
Cedarwood Drive	South River Road	End
Commerce Drive	South River Road	End
Technology Drive	South River Road	South River Road
Autumn Lane	South River Road	Harvey Road
Harvey Road	South River Road	Autumn Lane

Special Projects

Sportsman Field reconstruction engineering, design & bid.
Joppa Hill Educational Farm closed drainage improvements.



Nate Gagne -IT Manager

Information technology (IT) is now, more than ever, a critical and irreplaceable asset essential for the operation of municipal government and every Town of Bedford department.

Nearly every essential public service is either entirely or extremely dependent upon IT. Moreover, our residents, business partners and visitors expect quality, efficiency and effectiveness as well as customer service from all Town departments that cannot be achieved without exceptionally reliable, easy to use, fast, efficient and up to date hardware and software delivered to all Town employees and the public.

IT encompasses the strategic development, implementation, operation, maintenance, and security of the Town's IT resources including our network, servers, workstations, software applications and business telephone communications system. This effort includes supportive administrative functions including but not limited to licensure, system maintenance contracts, budgeting, contracting and more. IT serves as the critical link with hosted (cloud-based) applications that rely on our network connectivity to deliver these services directly to the end-user employee reliably, efficiently, and effectively while protecting our resources and data from external threats.

Service Delivery

While a significant portion of IT operations are unseen by the end-user, the "help-desk" is the "face" of IT. For almost 10-years, the Town relied upon a managed service provider (MSP) company to supplement our "help-desk" services. This arrangement was initially

beneficial but, when IT service requirements and the number of end-users grew the MSP arrangement became less cost effective and efficient. In order to achieve maximum efficiency and effectiveness as well as the best return on tax dollar investment, it became necessary to add a full-time IT Support Technician (ITST) to improve service delivery. Our ITST position was approved with the support of the Town Council, Town Manager, and the public in 2020; however, the global pandemic interrupted our efforts to fill the vacancy until January 2021.

Our "help-desk" supports 173-users, 150 workstations, 65 mobile devices as well as our network and server infrastructure along with internal and hosted software applications.

During 2020, we resolved **more than 1,100 requests for IT support** representing a **10% increase** over 2019.

Pandemic Response

The global pandemic caused by COVID-19 presented unique challenges for IT requiring us to improvise, adapt and overcome in order to assure the continuity of high-quality IT services and essential government services for our employees and the public. While some employees had been equipped with laptops based on their work profile, other key employees used desktop computers and workstations. We worked with some employees to initially permit them to work-from-home using other computers while we rapidly accessed, provisioned, and deployed laptops previously retired from service. Thus, we enabled employees who needed to work remotely to continue to provide essential Town services without interruption. In July, we obtained 26 additional laptops funded by the CARES Act to ensure all employees that could work from home had the necessary hardware and software to do so seamlessly, efficiently, effectively, and securely.

The increase in remote users predictably stressed our internet circuits and virtual private network (VPN) capacity to their limits. We anticipated this issue and worked with our internet service provider to increase bandwidth and we deployed a new VPN solution



that incorporated improved capacity and security to support the increase in remoter end-users.

Overall, the IT Department logged more than **60 requests** related to remote work issues spawned by COVID, which accounted for **one-third of the 10% increase** in requests for IT support services during 2020.

Other Accomplishments

IT was heavily involved with the Police Department's transition to AT&T Mobility's FirstNet public safety network. This transition was the result of the Police Department's planned deployment of their integrated body-worn/in-cruiser audio/video digital evidence platform and the recognition that FirstNet is the nationwide purpose built public safety network designed and constructed solely for use by public safety agencies. Moreover, anticipating the exponential increase in data usage arising from the transmission of the Police Department's audio/video platform it became more cost effective to utilize AT&T FirstNet, which permits unlimited data use by public safety agencies. IT worked closely with AT&T and a contractor to design, build and deploy the solution that now provides a secure FirstNet connection between every police cruiser and the hosted evidence platform. Additionally, the "always-on" nature of the connection between the mobile data terminals (MDTs) in police cruisers and the network resulted in significant collateral benefits by allowing IT to remotely manage, update, diagnose, and service MDTs as opposed to manual removal/replacement.

During 2020 IT completed the transition of all machines to the WIN-10 operating system with more than 45 computers upgraded or replaced.

We addressed and corrected a deficiency identified at Town Offices as a result of a commercial power disruption that caused the temporary loss of IT service. The new configuration will assure reliable battery back-up for essential IT resources at Town Offices until emergency generation comes on-line.

IT provided support during the Police Department's

transition to a new and more cost-effective land mobile radio/business telephone system audio recording solution.

During 2020, IT tested, evaluated, and deployed a new VPN for our employees providing a more reliable, user friendly application capable of accepting additional remote access and traffic.

We assisted Facilities Management in the development of basic specifications for a new town-wide building access control and video security solution.

IT also processed a number of "right-to-know" requests, which required IT resources to assure compliance.

Strategic Planning

The pandemic redefined the way the Town and all municipalities operate and provide essential public services when offices and facilities become inaccessible or employees are in quarantine. Accordingly, we not only changed the way we apply technology, but also the perspective and emphasis on continuity of essential government operations and how technology can assure the continuation of operations and essential services. Going forward, we anticipate more staff will be provisioned with laptops and mobile devices consistent with our hardware re-refresh schedule to further stabilize and assure the continuity of essential Town services and increase remote work options. Concurrently, we will closely monitor IT network resources and connectivity and make appropriate adjustments and improvements as necessary.

IT will continue to assist the Bedford Police and Fire Department's efforts to replace their aging (17+ years) records management and computer aided dispatch systems with an integrated solution for both departments that will significantly enhance public safety and especially the efficiency and effectiveness of our telecommunicators in the Communications Center.

We anticipate working alongside Facilities to support



the identification, acquisition and deployment of a new town-wide building access control and video security solution and its integration with our IT network.

As always, IT will ensure our employees and residents enjoy the benefits of efficiency and effectiveness derived from the assiduous utilization of superior technology that allow our employees to continue to deliver the very best in total quality service to our residents.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nate Gagne, Information Technology

Systems Manager

John Bryfonski, Police Chief



John Bryfonski - Chief of Police

I am pleased to present the following Annual Report that summarizes the accomplishments and achievements of *your* Bedford Police Department working to keep everyone who lives, work and visits Bedford safe and secure during 2020.

As we are all painfully aware, 2020 presented *significant challenges for public safety and all our residents*. As January 1, 2020 dawned none of us anticipated we would face a global pandemic that added new terms to the American lexicon such as “COVID”, “novel coronavirus”, “social distancing”, “protected exposure”, “unprotected exposure”, “PPE”, “PCR Tests”, “Rapid Test”, “antigen”, “remote learning” and many others. None of us anticipated that in a short few weeks after the new year, we would be in the throes of a state of emergency with all, but essential businesses and services shuttered. We found ourselves under significant challenges to find everything from masks to “handy-wipes” and cleaning materials let alone basic essentials in our grocery stores that we took for granted but had now disappeared from the shelves.

The Bedford Police Department was required, literally overnight, to find a way to continue to provide the same public safety services and level of protection you have come to enjoy under the most trying and difficult circumstances of a global pandemic.

As the disease spread at lightening speed across the northeast US, we saw significant impact in Massachusetts and New York where the disease was most profound in the early months of the pandemic. As our medical professionals sought to learn how

to fight the disease, thousands of people were dying as the call went out for more respirators and hospital beds. Quarantine sites were established, and provisions were made by our Department along with our partners to share resources in the event a department was crippled by the disease.

We quickly learned the legal authority for and how, if necessary, to enforce public health orders, isolation orders and quarantine orders. We needed to become educated on the legal authority for and how to enforce the Governor’s emergency orders if that became necessary. Alternatively, the Bedford Police Department developed and deployed a strategy that relied upon *engagement, education* and *encouragement* rather than enforcement of emergency and executive orders and we found our strategy worked exceedingly well with only a few instances later in the year where enforcement was required after we exhausted every means to engage, educate and encourage compliance with public health, emergency and executive orders issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Governor.

The Department devised and deployed a number of new “Special Orders” designed to adapt our operations to meet the challenges of providing public safety services during a raging global pandemic. We had to consider whether our traditional focus on customer service and community engagement needed to change in order to protect the public we serve as well as the health and safety of our employees.

First came special orders that provided guidance, direction, and protocols to the Department in order to safely, legally, and appropriately address public health orders issued by DHHS as well as the executive and emergency orders issued by the Governor.

Second, we needed to adapt our operations to ensure the health and safety of our residents, all those who our personnel would come in contact and our employees. As a result, we developed new protocols for addressing lower priority calls for



service through telephonic contact rather than face-to-face contact yet preserving the option for officers to respond when necessary or when requested. We altered our procedures in the Communications Center (ComCenter) to ensure lower priority calls for service were properly identified and classified for telephonic response instead of our usual in-person response. This required our telecommunicators to obtain additional information and provide that to our officers. Changes were made to ensure our telecommunicators in the ComCenter obtained critical health information on all calls for service for both Fire/EMS and Police to alert first-responders to the threat posed by the disease on any call where it was determined, likely or possible that the disease was or could be present. We developed new “language” to transmit critical health information to first responders without compromising protected health information of patients while at the same time protecting first-responders.

Next, we altered how officers responded to high priority calls for service where an “in-person” response was required. We first had to re-evaluate which calls for service fit that category (high priority/in-person response) in a pandemic as opposed to which calls could be properly handled through telephonic contact. In high-priority/in-person response calls for service first-responders needed to know when to “suit-up” with masks, gloves, gowns, goggles and in the case of our officers, full body “tyvex” protection gear, which was in critical short supply early on. Then, we developed the specific procedures to be followed for lower priority telephonic response calls for service to ensure cases were handled properly. For example, we developed protocols and guidance for ensuring proper identification of individuals when handling a call by telephone and how to obtain and document statements taken over the phone.

The Public Safety Complex was “closed to the public” yet we had to remain “open and accessible” for those who needed a safe refuge when contacting police 24/7/365 and yes, we still needed to conduct in-person interviews in the station for important cases while keeping our employees and staff healthy. While the

inner lobby was closed the outer lobby remained open to the public with increased signage and more options to contact staff via the lobby telephone.

Internally, we had to develop new procedures to conduct pre-shift roll call meetings while “social distancing”; we altered maximum room occupancy loads where possible while recognizing the Police Department is operating in less than one-half the space required for the number of employees we have on board. In pre-pandemic conditions we have been operating with multiple employees sharing one small office space but, under pandemic conditions, we needed to maintain some distance to ensure employee health, which is a difficult challenge. We had to develop pre-shift health screening procedures for all employees that required pre-shift temperature checks and answering health related questions to identify employees presenting possible COVID related symptoms. For example, infra-red thermometers were in critical short supply but, we were able to “borrow” units from another police department until we were able to secure our own (some months later).

We instituted rigid disinfecting and cleaning procedures for all shared equipment including pre and post shift disinfecting of all cruiser cockpits, controls, and equipment as well as all shared computer equipment and furniture. We “locked down” the ComCenter to limit our employee’s exposure in an effort to preserve their health as they are absolutely critical for the delivery of public safety service for every Fire/EMS and Police call for service starts in the ComCenter. Of note, all the health screening and disinfecting/cleaning procedures put in place in 2020 continue.

As schools, non-essential businesses, bars, and restaurants shuttered and remote work from home increased exponentially traffic, which is normally a steep challenge for us as a “commuter town”, diminished significantly. Yet, while motor vehicle traffic volume declined (about 26% nationally) bicycle and pedestrian traffic increased. Unfortunately, we also observed a sharp increase in speed on our



highways, roads, and streets largely a result of diminished volume. While the pandemic continued to rage, we still needed to ensure motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians were safe; therefore, we increased our already sharp focus toward those violations that would cause personal injury; specifically, speed. So, while traffic volume declined you will see later on in the report that our summonses actually increased reflecting our commitment to highway safety even in a global pandemic. The number of motor vehicle warnings decreased as our officers limited public contact for health reasons while still issuing tickets for egregious violations.

As the year progressed, predictably with better weather and more opportunities to be outdoors, the number of COVID cases and hospitalizations declined, giving us all a false sense of security. We gradually returned to “somewhat normal” operations rolling back some of our more rigid operational procedures to allow for more in-person responses by our officers and a return to the high level of proactive anti-crime and motor vehicle patrol activity. However, we continued many “COVID” related procedures in the ComCenter as well as operational health screening, disinfection, and operational protections.

After several months of “dodging the COVID bullet” the Department was struck with a COVID “cluster” outbreak in August with four (4) employees that tested “positive” for COVID and several more in quarantine pending test results. The outbreak was contained and later attributed to an employee who was exposed as a result of military duty exacerbated by failure to follow the health procedures in place mandating social distancing and masks during shift change. As a result, additional changes were made to ensure our health screening procedures were rigidly enforced. Thankfully, none of our employees or their families suffered severe or life-threatening symptoms from exposure. With the assistance of our colleagues at the Fire Department, all employees from all departments working at the public safety complex were tested over a period of two (2) weeks to ensure we had the cluster outbreak contained; a stark “wake up.”

As the Bedford Police Department adapted to the pandemic so too did those who continue to flaunt the law. The opioid crisis, taking a backseat to COVID, still continues albeit with slight declines in overdose deaths but still presenting as a public safety and law enforcement priority. With non-essential businesses closed, those who normally supported themselves through property crime such as shoplifting shifted to thefts from motor vehicles and other property related larceny crimes causing the Department to shift operational focus. The numbers of cases that involved persons in crisis such as substance abuse, domestic violence and mental health related crisis calls increased.

Then tragedy struck again, this time in Minneapolis with the death of Mr. George Floyd that ignited the nation with protests and unrest related to the use of force by police. While the protests in Bedford were small and peaceful the public’s concern regarding how law enforcement executes its mission did not go unnoticed by our Department. While we were already well into the process of attaining national accreditation, we went back to re-examine many of our policies and procedures to ensure they emphasized the sanctity of life and prohibited the use of methods such as choke-holds and others when officers respond to resistance. We re-evaluated our robust training program to ensure we emphasized de-escalation techniques and included bias training for all sworn personnel and scheduled additional training that began in 2020 and will continue into 2021.

The Bedford Police Department has earned a reputation for being a community oriented/ community policing focused department with many programs designed to interact with all segments of our population. The pandemic literally stripped the gears in our community policing machine making our programs impossible to safely deliver during the health crisis. We were forced to postpone and then cancel our highly acclaimed citizen police academy and many other programs throughout the year. However, we leveraged our social media platforms to fill the gap where possible with an increase in



the number of public service videos and even live Facebook. We continue to reach out to our residents via social media to educate and keep our residents, business/retail partners and others informed of the latest issues and trends as best as we can under the circumstances.

In the face of national unrest and protests regarding law enforcement, the Department released a short but, powerful video showcasing the diversity of our Department and giving you an insight into why these men and women have devoted themselves to public service. The video is pinned to our Facebook page and I encourage everyone to view it because it transmits the unrehearsed motivation of our employees and that simply is to serve you; the people; to help people on their worst and best days; to be there for you when you need us; watch at <https://www.facebook.com/321426571238389/videos/280702999678674> .

The most important “take-away” from this annual report may not be the exceptional success of the Department in reducing and solving crime or increasing highway safety but perhaps the ability of our Department to improvise, adapt and overcome even during a global pandemic to continue to provide the best possible public safety services and ensure the safety and security of everyone in Bedford 24/7/365.

As you review the data contained in our 2020 Annual Report keep in mind the pandemic and its impact influenced virtually every facet of our work including crime, highway safety, harm reduction and community engagement. Some of the impact will be positive in terms of harm reduction from fewer accidents and certain types of crimes while others increased.

You will note dramatic *reductions* in personal injury related accidents, which is our focus metric yet a decrease in the number of arrests for operating a vehicle while intoxicated or impaired; likely due to the time when bars and restaurants that dispense alcoholic beverages were closed.

Low crime as well as increased safety and security on

our highways, roads and streets combine to provide the highest level of safety and security for everyone in Bedford and evince the successful harm reduction strategy of the Department even during a pandemic.

Achievements in crime and harm reduction typically do not occur in the short term or without a clear vision for the efficient and effective delivery of public safety services along with focused strategies, goals and objectives complemented by rigorous accountability and responsibility practices and procedures integrated with performance metrics.

Our vision, mission statement, goals and objectives, processes, and procedures, continually reviewed, refined, and adapted to new challenges form the core of the Department, which produced continuous improvement in performance and the results contained in this report.

Notwithstanding the challenges imposed by the pandemic, the Department achieved outstanding results in harm reduction through proactive directed patrols, intensive traffic enforcement, and aggressive criminal investigations that made Bedford one of the safest communities in the State of New Hampshire in 2020.

Crimes Against Property

Burglary: The end of year summary for burglaries revealed **no residential burglaries** during 2020 while we suffered a total of five (5) commercial burglaries, which is **one (1) less** commercial burglary than 2019 (6).

Of note, **all five (5) commercial burglaries have been solved by arrest** for a **100% solvability/clearance rate**. Intensive investigation by the Patrol Operations Division resulted in the identification and **arrests** of all five (5) subjects responsible for these burglaries (River Glen Clubhouse Mail Room (2-subjects arrested); Bethany Covenant Church outbuildings (2-burglaries by the same subject), Grenon’s (vacant) and Walmart (vacant) committed by the same two (2) subjects).



The Patrol Operations Division identified the same two (2) subjects wanted for the burglary of the vacant Grenon's building, 276 Route 101 that occurred on September 25, 2020, as the subjects responsible for the burglary of the vacant Walmart structure. As previously reported, the same two (2) subjects identified and wanted for the Grenon's burglary were connected to an attempted burglary at Iron Horse Drive in September. The subjects responsible for these crimes were seeking to strip copper from vacant structures.

Patrol Operations Division Officer Whitney S. Mansfield was the case officer for the investigation into the Grenon's and Walmart burglaries and was responsible for developing the information that identified the two (2) subjects responsible for the Grenon's and Walmart burglaries. Additional investigation by Officer Mansfield led to sufficient evidence to support arrest warrants charging both subjects with burglary and other crimes.

In addition to the River Glen Clubhouse Mailroom, Grenon's and Walmart burglaries there were two (2) previously reported "commercial" burglaries of two (2) out-buildings at the Bethany Covenant Church perpetrated by the same subject who was subsequently identified and arrested by the Patrol Operations Division. The five (5) total burglaries in 2020 (all commercial) compares with six (6) completed burglaries (two (2) residential and four (4) commercial) through October of 2019 for a net decrease of one (1) burglary.

It is important to note the subjects responsible for all five (5) commercial burglaries have been identified and arrested, which is a remarkable clearance rate. However, all the subjects arrested have since been released with three (3) subjects having re-offended while on release from a previous crime in Bedford. One of the defendants who was arrested in connection with several property crimes in Bedford and Manchester as well as the two (2) commercial burglaries at Bethany Covenant Church, was recently arrested again for breach of bail. Additionally,

Detective James G. McMillen assisted the Milford Police Department in locating the same subject, which led to the recovery of items allegedly stolen by the same subject while free on bail.

The extraordinary efforts by our officers and detectives, which led to the identification and arrest of subjects responsible for crime in Bedford is diminished and diluted by a criminal justice system that fails to take into account and consider the victimization caused by so-called bail reform. These cases and others involve subjects who are arrested for stealing property, oftentimes the tools and necessities used by tradespersons to earn a living, that disrupts their ability to work. Yet, the persons responsible for these crimes are continually allowed to re-offend with impunity. While these are not violent crimes, they do constitute crimes with real victims who are in many cases severely impacted yet the persons responsible are not held accountable by the judiciary. Additional reforms by way of legislation that further narrows and defines what constitutes patterns of criminal behavior that precludes immediate release by a bail commissioner is overdue. Your police department is doing a remarkable job in preventing and deterring crime and an even more remarkable job in holding those responsible for crime accountable. It is a travesty to allow those efforts to be diminished by allowing certain defendants to be released leading to more crime and victimization and a diminished quality of life for the Granite State.

While even one (1) burglary is too many, the five (5) commercial burglaries in 2020 favorably compares to the nine (9) burglaries in 2019 and the 13 burglaries recorded in 2017, the 12 burglaries in 2016; 15 in 2015 and the 27 burglaries recorded in 2014.

The feeling of safety and security in one's home or business is paramount for our residents and to have that sanctity violated undermines the quality of life for any resident. The Department will continue to focus our proactive policing efforts to thwart both residential and commercial burglary and achieve the level of safety and security for our residents and business



owners they deserve and desire.

Thefts from Motor Vehicles: The Department investigated a total of 39 thefts from motor vehicles during 2020; a **sharp 70% increase** in this category of property crime during 2020 compared to 2019 (23 v. 39/+16).

All but one (1) of the thefts from motor vehicles last year occurred when the vehicle was left unlocked and unattended. Despite social media campaigns and other efforts, *many residents* and visitors still choose to *leave their vehicles unlocked and unattended with valuables in plain view* making this crime of opportunity lucrative and relatively easy for thieves who operate on foot during the early morning hours of darkness; sometimes operating in groups of two (2) or more from motor vehicles that canvas our neighborhoods.

This crime of opportunity has increased not only in Bedford but in surrounding communities as well. As noted above, evidence suggests most of those responsible for thefts from motor vehicles are persons suffering from a substance use disorder who shifted their attention away from shoplifting as a means to support their addictive lifestyle to thefts from motor vehicles (see 46% reduction in willful concealment). The impact of the pandemic also influenced this shift due to the closure of retail businesses and the reduction in foot traffic in the stores after reopening. The other factor that may have influenced this shift is the dramatic increase in the number of residents working from home, which reduced the opportunity for daytime burglaries and theft of other property.

The Patrol Operations Division, principally the midnight shift, focuses their attention during their early morning hour patrols to combat thefts from motor vehicles; however, persons on foot have an advantage during darkness and are easily concealed from our patrols as they approach in a vehicle. Despite the difficult nature of detecting this type of property crime, the Patrol Operations Division was successful in the identification of several subjects

involved in thefts from motor vehicle and have warrants for their arrest. We will continue our social media campaign “Lock It or Lose It” as well as our efforts to thwart thefts from motor vehicles through focused patrol activity.

Willful Concealment/Shoplifting: The Department realized an overall pandemic influenced **46% reduction** in shoplifting cases this year (76 v. 41/-35) as well as exceptional success in the identification and arrests of many subjects responsible for stealing property of significant value from our retail partners.

Other Larceny Crime: Despite the surge in larceny/theft cases in December, we still finished the year with an overall **21% reduction** in other types of property/larceny crime compared to 2019 (124 v. 98/-26).

Included in the 12 “other larceny/theft” investigations opened in December are two (2) stolen motor vehicles, which is highly unusual for Bedford; two (2) thefts of automotive catalytic converters; and copper wire stolen from Eversource company vehicles parked at their station on Bellemore Drive.

Notably, both stolen motor vehicles **were left unlocked, unattended with the key fob inside the vehicle.** A recent New York Times article indicated that while stolen motor vehicles plummeted by more than 50% since 1991, largely due to key fob technology; thefts have increased as people began leaving their fobs sitting in their cup holders. Forgotten fobs and keyless technology have contributed to soaring stolen car cases, which has struck home here in Bedford.

Again, excellent work by the Patrol Operations Division linked the stolen motor vehicles from Bedford to a gang operating out of Methuen/Lawrence, MA responsible for numerous stolen vehicles in southern NH and MA. Both stolen vehicles from Bedford were recovered; one in New York City.

The theft of catalytic converters from automobiles (part of the exhaust system that converts harmful emissions to less harmful gases) once a common property crime



fell by the wayside until a recent surge in thefts throughout NH. The converters contain precious metals, which are sold at salvage yards for about \$30 each, are quickly removed by thieves using cordless saws that enables completion of the crime in just a few minutes. Typical catalytic converter thieves are also substance abusers who use the cash obtained to support their drug addiction. Both catalytic converters were removed from vehicles in the employee parking lot at Whole Foods. The Patrol Operations Division conducted discrete surveillance of the parking lot and was able to identify and arrest the subject responsible for the catalytic converter thefts.

Robbery: The Department recorded **no robberies in 2020**; down from three (3) robberies in 2019.

In summary, despite the increase in thefts from motor vehicles, by comparison to previous years, the Department was able to hold the line on property crime in 2020, which remains much lower when compared to prior years. The key to success in thwarting property crime is the ability of the Department to project pro-active crime suppression patrols; projecting an omnipresent visible deterrent throughout Bedford; diligent and focused anti-crime initiatives and the cooperation of our residents in reporting suspicious activity and taking common sense steps to prevent crime such as locking their homes and vehicles as well as participating in our vacant property check program.

Crimes Against Persons

During 2020 we observed and achieved reductions in all categories of crimes against persons.

Domestic/Family Assaults/Calls for Service: The Department responded to and investigated 100 domestic related assaults/calls for service in 2020 for an overall scant **3.8% reduction in domestic/family disputes** compared to 2019 (104). Despite the increase in work-from-home and residential learning and the pandemic influenced family stressors, the rate of domestic assault/family crisis calls for service remained relatively stable. As you may know,

domestic/family violence calls for service are resource intensive due to citizen and officer life safety concerns and the documentation requirements associated with these cases and resultant investigations. For example, virtually all active domestic calls for service require a two (2) officer response, which represents 50% of our patrol shift when fully staffed, as well as our patrol supervisor. Many of these investigations are lengthy and involve arrests as well as mandatory threat assessments. Additionally, many domestic/family in crisis calls for service also result in follow-up visits from our Department crisis intervention team (CIT) to ensure we're doing everything we can to provide the necessary resources and referrals to victims and families in need.

Sexual Assaults and Sex Related Crime: Assaults classified as "sexual assaults" which also include all cases that involve the illegal possession/dissemination of illicit images of juveniles reflected a sharp **50% reduction** in 2020 compared to 2019 (18 v. 9/-9). All of the sexual assault cases opened in 2020 involved subjects known or acquainted with each other. The Detective Division investigated several serious sexual assault investigations during 2020 that resulted in the arrests or pending indictments of the subjects allegedly responsible; thus, a reflection of the excellent work by our detectives in connection with these important cases.

Simple (low level) Assaults: The next classification of crimes against persons, "simple assaults", which are minor assaults that do not result in serious injury reflected a **sharp 67% decrease** compared to 2020 (65 v. 21/-44) and the 55 assaults recorded in 2018. These "simple" assaults usually arise out of personal disagreements between known parties or altercations at establishments that serve alcohol that result in some minor contact or injury and is not a category of crime that is easily influenced or subject to preventative measures by law enforcement. We attribute the reduction in simple assaults during 2020 to the closure of bars and restaurants that dispense alcoholic beverages as well as the reduction in occupancy load after re-opening.



Serious Assaults: In other more serious assault cases (1st and 2nd Degree Assaults) the Department recorded a total of four (4) such serious assaults in 2020, which compares to five (5) in 2019 and six (6) serious assaults in 2018.

In summary, we observed a satisfactory reduction in crimes against persons as with property crime during 2020. While crimes against persons is difficult to “defend against” using proactive patrol; the primary tool that is available to us, the Department’s Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) comprised of officers who, along with their routine patrol duties, follow up on cases that involve families/persons in crisis work to address the underlying factors that contribute to many crimes against persons.

Crisis Intervention Team: The Department crisis intervention team (CIT) addressed a total of 76 referral cases during 2020 compared to 46 cases for 2019 (46 v. 76 /+30) representing a sharp **65% increase**. A majority of the cases our CIT handled last year involved mental health/suicide followed by families/persons in crisis and the remainder related to domestic violence and substance abuse. During 2021 all sworn members of the Department will receive additional training to improve our overall performance when addressing persons/families in crisis.

Miscellaneous Crime

This category of crime includes the sub-classifications of criminal mischief, disorderly conduct, fraud, and harassment.

Criminal Mischief: The Department achieved a **17% reduction** in criminal mischief crime during 2020 when compared to 2019 (70 v. 58/-12). The Department anticipated the possibility of an increase in criminal mischief inasmuch as school was either out of session or in hybrid learning thus, providing additional free time by young people who are disproportionately represented in these crimes.

Disorderly Conduct: Calls for service to address incidents of disorderly conduct remained flat in a

year-to-year comparison from 2019 to 2020 (150 v. 156/+6).

Harassment: Investigations related to harassment also remained relatively stable year-to-year with a slight reduction of two (2) calls (21 v. 19/-2).

Fraud: Fraud investigations declined by 35% when compared to 2019 (79 v. 51/-28); many of these investigations involve significant resources from our Detective Division due to their complexity and connection with various financial institutions and bureaus.

Drug Investigations

The Department opened 88 drug investigations/cases during 2020: 26 fewer cases than 2019 for an overall **23% reduction in drug cases/arrests** (114 v. 88/-26).

A breakdown of the types of drugs encountered in Bedford during 2020:

- Marijuana 60%
- Methamphetamine/Amphetamine: 16%
- Heroin/Fentanyl: 12%
- Prescription Drugs: 7%
- Unknown Substance: 3%
- Cocaine/cocaine—base: 2%

Predictably, the majority of cases (60%) involved marijuana/cannabis; however, despite the popular belief that cannabis is not harmful, when looking at scientific data we find a proven connection between chronic cannabis use and opioid abuse (heroin); a significant increase in traffic fatalities in states where cannabis is commercialized and direct connections between cannabis use and a host of medical and behavioral disorders including psychosis and most recently the American Heart Association linked cannabis use to increases in sudden death, strokes and heart attacks. Cannabis use by pregnant women (who are targeted by commercialized cannabis companies) results in neo-natal disorders including lower birth weight and neo-natal neurological disturbances. In every state where cannabis use has been commercialized, the chronic use of cannabis leading



to addiction disorder, principally among young adults, has increased. Most alarming is the fact that cannabis is the most prevalent drug found in completed teen suicides in Colorado where cannabis is found more frequently in teen suicides than alcohol.

Unpredictably, rather than having heroin/fentanyl as the second-most encountered drug we find methamphetamine taking up “second place.” The Department is closely monitoring drug trends locally, regionally, and nationally, which all predict a substantial increase in Mexican-sourced high-quality methamphetamine in NH. For example, the US Postal Inspection Service seized more than 35 pounds of methamphetamine sent to NH via the US mail alone last year. We know from experience that where there is a substantial demand for methamphetamine, we see corresponding increases in domestic violence related cases, child abuse and violent crime. The subject involved in the near-fatal shooting of a NH State Trooper in 2020 was allegedly involved in methamphetamine use/trafficking. Therefore, it will be incredibly important for NH law enforcement to work more closely and deploy new strategies and operations to address the influx of methamphetamine in our state before it becomes widely available and used, which will surely manifest in significant collateral damage by way of domestic violence, child abuse and violent crimes. Toward this end, the Chief of Police was asked by the Commissioner, Department of Safety to participate in a high-level conference with Federal, state, county, and local law enforcement leaders to assist in the development of a statewide methamphetamine strategy. If successful, this new strategy should also bear fruit in our efforts to stem the tide of heroin/fentanyl flowing into NH each day.

Tragically, we reported the first fatal drug overdose of the year occurred during December 2020 for a year-end total of seven (7) drug overdoses in 2020 of which six (6) were non-fatal. The seven (7) overdose cases this year (1-fatal) compares to seven (7) overdoses during 2019 of which, three (3) resulted

in fatalities. In a year-to-year-to-year summary, we reported one (1) fatal overdose in 2017, three (3) fatal overdoses in 2018 and 2019 with one (1) fatal overdose in 2020.

Looking at the national and statewide status of drug overdoses, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) reports more than **81,000** drug overdose deaths in the United States during 2020 up from 70,980 overdose deaths in 2019.

Putting the drug overdose death situation in perspective we compare 81,000 drug related deaths in the US in 2020, to the 58,220 US military fatalities during the *entire* Vietnam war; the death toll for Ebola on the continent of Africa at 11,310; to the number of US military fatalities in both Iraq and Afghanistan over 10 years at 7,013 and the 6,603 US service members lost on D-Day. So, to put the enormity of the drug and substance abuse problem in the US into clear focus, more lives were lost to drug overdoses in the United States during 2020 than all the combined losses of US service members during the Vietnam war, Iraq, Afghanistan and D-Day **combined**.

Closer to home, here in NH we find some improvement when compared to the dismal data for the entire US for we find a predicted drug overdose death toll in NH for 2020 at 390, which is compared to the 415 overdose deaths in NH during 2019 for a projected scant 6% reduction from 2019 to 2020. The 6% reduction in drug overdose deaths during 2020 combined with the 12% reduction from 2018 to 2019 gives us a combined 18% combined two (2) year reduction in NH drug overdose fatalities. Yet, at a projected rate of 390 fatalities for 2020, the death toll in NH due to drug overdoses remains **139% higher than 2012** when 163 drug deaths were recorded signaling the start of the drug epidemic in the Granite State.

Despite the reduction in overdose deaths in NH, here in Bedford our officers and detectives became involved in more significant, higher level sale, distribution, and trafficking of controlled drug cases



during 2020 than before.

Crime Summary: Our mission is to assure the safety and security of Bedford and to make it the best place in New Hampshire to live, work, conduct business and enjoy life. While the Bedford Police Department achieved outstanding success during 2020 in maintaining low levels of crime and harm, we also strive to ensure residents and visitors *feel safe and secure*.

As our community sits astride the largest city in the state and at the crossroads of major interstate and connector routes, we are continually challenged in many ways to achieve this mission. From increased local and regional commercial and residential expansion that exacerbates traffic congestion and commuter travel to spill-over crime, we are cognizant these issues impact the quality of life and so we are aggressively addressing these concerns in a multi-layered, all-hazards approach that relies on statistics, data, performance metrics, accountability, responsibility and a community-based approach as well as our optimally trained and dedicated force to achieve our mission to protect and serve 24/7/365 - with **Bravery –Professionalism-Dedication.**

Patrol Operations Division

The Bedford Police Department's Patrol Operations Division, the largest component of the agency and the primary operational element for the delivery of police services to the public, is responsible for not only answering calls for service from you, the public, but it is also charged with our principal mission of preventing and deterring crime and harm. Additionally, we call upon Patrol Operations Division officers to investigate crime and collisions as well as perform community policing related missions and other collateral duties such as the Crisis Intervention Team as well as a number of others including but not limited to training, traffic accident reconstruction investigations, etc. To accomplish these goals, the Patrol Operations Division relies upon the best-trained, dedicated, and professional cadre of police officers anywhere.

Highway Safety and Patrol: Preventative and deterrent proactive patrol remains the cornerstone of the Division's mission to address both crime and highway safety in Bedford. The utilization of data-driven analytics combined with community-based policing, aggressive investigation, and our performance measurement program (COMP/Stat) afforded the surgical application of resources to address both crime and highway safety related issues. By using data analytics and directed highway patrols augmented by overtime patrols funded through the Department's participation in the Department of Public Safety's Highway Safety Grant Program, the Patrol Operations Division significantly improved highway safety in 2020. [Note: The Department issued a new directive in August 2019 that eliminated the requirement for lengthy accident reports when little or no damage and no personal injury was involved. This may have affected the total number of accidents reflected in the data. The Department also improved our data collection to identify the numbers of operators/passengers who sustained personal injuries to improve data accuracy since this is our primary traffic safety metric.]

It is important to note the pandemic significantly impacted highway data inasmuch as the shuttering of businesses, schools and the dramatic increase in remote work-from-home led to a significant reduction in traffic volume during the incipient months of the pandemic.

The Department investigated a total of 297 qualifying collisions during 2020, which is compared to the 553 accidents reported during 2019 representing a **46% reduction in collisions** (553 v. 297/-256). The Department attributes a portion of the reduction in collisions to the pandemic-influenced 26% reduction in traffic/miles driven in 2020 as reported by the National Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) *and* the change in Department policy that obviates the need for an investigation report when no or only minor damage is reported.

We find our five (5) year average of persons injured in



motor vehicle collisions (2016-2020) at 52. In 2020 we confirmed a total of 26 personal injuries related to motor vehicle accidents that occurred during 2020, which is a **substantial reduction** from the 57 injuries reported during 2019 for an overall significant **54% reduction in personal injuries sustained in 2020 accidents compared to 2019 (57 v. 26/-31)**.

The number of crashes that involved personal injury were reduced by 37% (54 v. 34/-20). As previously reported, the key metric we focus on to evaluate the performance of our highway safety enforcement efforts is the number of personal injuries and the number of accidents that involved personal injury.

Patrol Operations Division officer(s) issued **3,601 summons** during 2020 representing a **9.4% increase despite the pandemic induced reduction in traffic volume** (3,290 v. 3,601/+311) while **warnings declined** year to year by **16%** (6,733 v. 5,625/-1,108). The reduction in warnings and overall stops is largely attributed to the reduction in traffic volume and changes in patrol operations caused by the pandemic.

Looking with a focus on the number-1 *cause* of all motor vehicle accidents in Bedford, **distracted driving (Hands-Free Violations)** we find a year-to year **33% increase in arrests for distracted driving** compared to 2019 (528 v. 704/+176) with another 154 warnings issued for distracted driving in 2020 for a total of 858 citations/warnings issued for this offense last year compared to the 741 total number of citations/warnings issued during 2019.

The pandemic induced closure of bars and restaurants that dispense alcoholic beverages resulted in a **43% reduction** in DWI arrests this year (129 v. 74/-55). Motor vehicle complaints received by the Department also declined 2019-2020 from 684 down to 523 (-161) representing a **24% reduction in hazardous operation complaints** investigated during 2020.

Despite a dramatic reduction in traffic volume during the early stages of the pandemic, our Patrol Operations Division officers focused on those traffic violations we

know are the primary causal factors for personal injury collisions (speed, signal violations, distracted driving). During 2020, Patrol Operations Division officers conducted 9,352 motor vehicle stops that resulted in 3,601 citations with a summons to warning ratio of 37%.

The Department also competed for and obtained more than \$24,000 in grant funding to support our intensive traffic enforcement program during 2020. These extra patrols allowed officers to focus their efforts strictly on specific traffic safety enforcement during their grant-funded assignments. Many of these grant-funded patrols were date/time as well as problem-specific allowing us to address those violations known to impact highway safety. Our sustained success in this grant program is based upon our data-driven enforcement and performance measurement systems. All of our highway and traffic enforcement programs are designed to surgically apply our limited resources to achieve the greatest impact making the highways, roads, and streets in Bedford safe for all.

The Department's Technical Accident Reconstruction Team conducted three (3) extensive collision investigations including a fatal bicycle/pedestrian accident. Additionally, the investigations conducted by the Technical Accident Reconstruction Team into the two (2) fatal collisions that occurred in 2019 resulted in the arrest/indictment of both operators. The operators involved in the two (2) fatal collisions in 2019 were allegedly impaired by cannabis. As you may know, NH has no empirical or scientific standard for impairment by cannabis/marijuana, yet, many continue to support its commercialization, which will surely contribute to additional carnage on our highways and roads as it has in locations where it already has been legalized. Our Technical Accident Reconstruction Unit, led by Sergeant (SGT) Robert G. Lavoie, are experts in the many complex disciplines necessary to fully investigate, reconstruct and investigate all serious bodily injury and fatal collisions.

The continued overall reduction in crime and harm



coupled with the sustained increase in motor vehicle enforcement and proactive officer-initiated activity exemplifies the dedication and professionalism of the Patrol Operations Division's officers and supervisors. To achieve these results necessitates greater effort and increased efficiency when confronted with additional calls for service.

Officer Initiated Activity: During 2020, ***officer-initiated activity increased by 24% for an additional 8,526 officer-initiated actions.*** This key metric measures proactive public safety action taken by our Patrol Operations Division officers and detectives. Motor vehicle stops related to operation that we know contributes to collisions as well as stops related to suspicious activity and potential crime combine to achieve the overall *impact* of public safety operations. The focus on proactive, officer initiated, patrols as well as intense focus on performance metrics contributed to the success achieved by the Patrol Operations Division in keeping criminal activity at the lowest levels seen in history while simultaneously increasing traffic enforcement in 2020.

Other Patrol Operations Division Achievements: Other notable achievements by the Patrol Operations Division during 2020 included the arrest of all the subjects alleged to have committed the five (5) commercial burglaries for a 100% clearance by arrest rate.

An armed felon who absconded from a home invasion in Manchester was observed in Bedford resulting in a multi-agency manhunt coordinated by the Patrol Operations Division whose officers eventually located and took the subject into custody without incident.

Patrol Operations Division officers were also successful in arresting several other subjects involved in active thefts of property, significant drug trafficking crimes some of which involved armed drug traffickers, and a barricaded subject involved in a domestic 2nd degree assault with an edged weapon.

During 2020 Patrol Operations Division officers,

supported in some cases by detectives, conducted 16 death and four (4) suicide investigations; some of these cases required extensive investigation.

Looking at other important areas where public safety service is provided by Patrol Operations Division officers, we saw an 11% reduction in suspicious person/vehicle calls last year (1,049 v. 934/-115); an 8% increase in civil stand-by calls (89 v. 96/+7); a **57% increase in assist fire calls** for service (82 v. 129/+47); a **28% increase in assist citizen calls** (449 v. 575/+126) and a **6% increase in assist other police department** calls for service (191 v. 202/+11). However, in another pandemic influenced metric we saw a dramatic **18% reduction in alarm calls** for service last year compared to 2019 (1,355 v. 1,108/-247).

During 2020 the Patrol Operations Division deployed the Department's integrated body-worn camera/in-cruiser evidence solution. This platform, manufactured by the industry leader, Axon, integrates a body-worn camera (BWC) with cameras installed in every line cruiser along with audio/video in the "sally" port, booking/detention facility, and interview rooms in the station. This integrated cloud-based digital evidence solution provides audio/video evidence of all law enforcement functions except non-law enforcement "care-taking" activities and those other exceptions provided by NH state law. All officers are equipped with a BWC and are required to deploy and activate the system in all situations that involve official law enforcement activity. Our standard operating procedure (SOP) that governs the deployment and use of the integrated BWC/in-cruiser evidence solution strictly follows NH law. An audio/video record of all Bedford Police law enforcement activity and contacts are made and automatically stored in a digitally encrypted cloud-based secure evidence application. We now have audio/video evidence from the moment an officer arrives on scene all the way through to arrest, transportation to the police station, booking, detention and release. In some cases, when a cruiser's emergency equipment is activated, the BWC and in-cruiser cameras are automatically activated while the



officer is travelling to a call.

In an era where accountability and transparency in law enforcement is critical, our integrated BWC/in-cruiser camera provides critical information and evidence that will be used to support criminal investigations, review officer interactions with the public, improve training and resolve citizen complaints. The first phase of the project was completed in March 2020 with the deployment of BWCs to officers followed by the installation of equipment in cruisers and finally the installation of equipment in the sallyport, booking/detention and interview areas. The evidence obtained from this platform has already proven itself in several critical investigations and helped resolve citizen complaints.

Patrol Operations Division Officers Michael B. Heikkila and Joseph A. Palmariello successfully completed a very difficult and rigorous course of instruction and became certified “motor” officers who are qualified to deploy the Department’s Harley-Davidson Police Motorcycle. The motor unit is exceedingly productive and essential to our intensive traffic enforcement program with its nimble agility to safely navigate traffic, roads, street(s), and intersections during traffic enforcement where traditional cruisers are hampered. The motor unit is an effective community policing tool often generating many positive public contacts when deployed.

These are but a few examples of the remarkable work and achievements accomplished by the Patrol Operations Division each day and night in Bedford during 2020 in providing the very best public safety services, security as well as harm reduction and proactive data-driven visible patrols to achieve the results outlined above. This requires a highly motivated and trained workforce that is ready to face any challenge to the safety and security of our residents and visitors, which is combined with the best tools, practices, policies, procedures and industry-leading strategies that minimizes liability exposure for the best return on every tax dollar invested in the Bedford Police Department.

Detective Division

The Detective Division is a key element in our strategy to ensure the safety and security of our residents and visitors. From the aggressive investigations of 49 criminal violations of felony and misdemeanor crime in 2020 as well as the prosecution by our Police Prosecutor, William G. Thornton, a member of the NH Bar Association, who is responsible for representing the Department and you, our residents, in presenting those cases before the District Court in Merrimack as well as presenting felony cases for indictment in Superior Court to the work of our two (2) School Resource Officers (SROs), who accounted for a combined total of 39 investigations initiated at a Bedford school campus.

During 2020, the Detective Division conducted two (2) death investigations; one involved an arson/suicide and the second case was ultimately ruled a suicide after investigation by detectives and the Office of the Medical Examiner.

The Detective Division conducted 10 sexual assault investigations during 2020 comprising more than 900 hours of investigative effort. One significant investigation culminated in criminal charges filed against the subject in both Federal District Court and NH Superior Court, that required more than 400-hours of investigative resources not including supervisory and management review hours. The Detective Division also continued work on sexual assault investigations and prosecutions initiated in 2019 that required additional effort in 2020.

During 2020, the Detective Division expended more than 500 hours of investigative resources on the most serious “Part-I” crimes; more than 1,300 hours on “Part-II” felony and misdemeanor crimes and more than 1,200 hours on general investigations (background investigations, search and arrest warrants, sex offender registration, death investigations, assist other agency, etc.).

The Detective Division also supported Department training efforts during 2020 with more than 980



hours invested in conducting scenario-based training, including de-escalation and bias training as well as investigative training for Department members. More than 600 hours were invested in administrative efforts in support of Department investigations including the Department's evidence/property programs and resources related to laboratory analysis.

In summary, during 2020 Part-I and Part-II crimes comprised 57% of the division's cases while 43% of the division's cases were in the general investigation category. Approximately 88% of the division's investigative hours were allocated to Part-I and Part-II crime cases with 22% of our investigative hours were allocated toward general investigation cases.

The Bedford Police Department provides a drug "drop-box" in our police station lobby and we also participate in the US Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA's) drug take-back program. During 2020, the Department recovered and disposed of 436 pounds of unused and unwanted prescription medications before they could be diverted to improper use.

The Detective Division is also responsible for conducting full-field background investigations of all candidates for employment by the Bedford Police Department. During 2020, detectives expended more than 980 hours of investigative resources conducting pre-employment background investigations.

Detective Lieutenant (LT) Michael K. Griswold, Detective Division Commander, announced his planned retirement after more than 29 years of service with the Department. LT Griswold has led the Detective Division for more than 11-years with uncompromising dedication, professionalism and focus on investigative quality and seeking truth and justice for victims of crime. Detective Sergeant (D/SGT) Michael J. Monahan was promoted to Detective Lieutenant filling the vacancy created by LT Griswold's retirement. In addition to LT Griswold's announced retirement, the Detective Division's Legal Assistant of many years, Ms. Edna Gerrans, also

retired on December 31, 2020. During 2020 Field Training Officer (FTO) James G. McMillen was promoted to Detective to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Detective Matthew Fleming in 2019.

We also acknowledge Detective Kevin K. Sutter's outstanding work on the DEA Task Force to reduce the supply of illicit drugs in our community. During 2020 Detective Sutter's efforts resulted in the indictment of a subject responsible for the distribution of controlled drugs that led to the death of another person. He assisted the Department in a number of important drug trafficking investigations including a fatal drug overdose death investigation and the investigation of a subject distributing controlled drugs from the Country Inn & Suites while in possession of a firearm. Detective Sutter was also involved in investigations that resulted in the arrests of subjects allegedly responsible for the distribution of heroin, fentanyl, and methamphetamine in our area as well as a trafficking organization responsible for the distribution of cocaine in NH.

Detective Sergeant Michael J. Monahan supervised the Division's criminal investigations and took the lead in many cases and investigations as well as providing scenario-based training, de-escalation, and tactical training for the Department during 2020. Detective Sergeant Monahan, who will be taking over as Detective Division Commander on February 1, 2021, is a qualified forensic polygraph examiner who conducts all Department investigative and pre-employment polygraph examinations. He is an expert child forensic interviewer and crime scene analyst amongst many other investigative qualifications and disciplines; he is also a qualified FAA public safety drone operator.

The Detective Division is also responsible for the administration of our highly successful School Resource Officer program at the Bedford High School/Middle School (SRO Krause) and McKelvie Intermediate School/Elementary Schools (SRO Nightingale). The impressive results obtained from our SROs is difficult to quantify inasmuch as they



play a key part as role models for students in K-12 as well as obtain and act on information that results in crisis intervention(s) or solves juvenile related crime, sometimes before its ever reported. As noted above, our *SROs initiated 39 criminal investigations in 2020*. It takes a special kind of police officer to be an effective SRO and we are pleased to report our SROs fit the bill and provide the very best public safety services to our students, parents and staff while providing a visible uniformed law enforcement presence on school campus in an age where school violence is so prevalent in the US.

In December 2020, SRO Nightingale was promoted to Sergeant, Patrol Operations Division creating an SRO vacancy, which the Department expects to fill in early 2021.

Probably the most well-known and most popular of all the Department's community policing programs (and there are many) is the Citizen Academy coordinated and presented each March-May by the Detective Division with assistance and support from the Patrol Operations and Operations Support Divisions. This 10-week "hands-on" interactive exposure to law enforcement provides key insights to not only law enforcement per se but especially the work and challenges faced by Bedford Police officers each day and night. The number of "students" is limited by the interactive nature of the program that puts you in the driver's seat of a Bedford Police cruiser and in "tactical shoot-don't shoot" scenarios using the same gear our officers use during their training exercises. Also included in the program is the Bedford Police "CSI" course that gives each student hands-on experience with real "CSI" methods used by our detectives as well as interview and interrogation training and a moot court session at the Merrimack District Court and familiarization with all our weapons platforms on the range.

While we were all prepared to launch our 2020 Citizen's Academy, we were forced to first postpone and then cancel the academy in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic. We are hopeful that with

vaccinations on the way in early 2021 that we will be able to conduct the 2021 citizen's police academy by the fall of 2021.

Operations Support Division

The Operations Support Division, under the command of Lieutenant (LT) Michael R. Bernard, includes the Communications Section under the leadership of Lead-Communications Specialist Nina M. Malley and the Records Section led by Records Clerk Rene L. Bartlett. In addition to Communications and Records, the Operations Support Division also has the overall responsibility for Community Policing Programs, Recruitment, Training, Fleet Operations/Management, Police Details, Special Events, Statistical Analysis, Information Technology and Animal Control (ACO). Needless to say, the Operations Support Division is critical to the success of the Department's mission across all divisions, programs, duties, and responsibilities.

Communications: The largest component of the Operations Support Division, the Communications Section is absolutely vital for the efficient, effective and safe delivery of timely public safety services, including Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS); all of which begins in our state of the industry Communications Center (ComCenter). Each vital call for service for Police, Fire or EMS starts in our ComCenter where an authorized staffing level of nine (9) Communications Specialists (CSs) work to obtain all the vital information necessary to dispatch required public safety services as efficiently as possible. The ComCenter provides the critical life-safety link between citizens, first responder(s) and Headquarters. The ComCenter forges the link between technology and field operations and is packed with technology, including our land mobile radio (LMR) network that serves both Police and Fire Departments from main and remote transmit/receive sites in and around Bedford.

The ComCenter is also responsible for issuing public safety "alerts", "advisory" and "community" messages via our "Nixle" platform. We now have more than



8,000 Nixle subscribers who receive up to the minute information direct to their mobile devices and/or email regarding traffic accidents, delays, special events, weather conditions, road conditions as well as Police and Fire related incidents that may affect safety or just travel. We also use Nixle to advise residents of upcoming community policing and other Town events, meetings, and programs as well as important public safety advice, information, and tips. Nixle provides notifications via text, email, and reverse-dial telephone calls directly to your mobile and or home device(s) and ***its FREE***. We ***strongly encourage*** residents to sign up to receive Nixles and to ***anonymously*** “text-to-tip” information to the Department 24/7/365. To sign up text “03110” to “888777” and follow the instructions. You can also go to the Department’s website and click “Media Resources” and look for the Nixle link to register. Remember to register your telephone number, cellular and or residential, to receive an emergency “reverse dial” message directly from the Bedford Police Department.

Sign Up Today at www.nixle.com for ***free*** public safety information and alerts.



Remember – Keep an Eye on Bedford - “See Something –Say Something”.

Along with public alerts, the ComCenter also administers the Department’s “Are You OK?” Program (RU OK) for individuals who would like to have a daily call from the Department to ensure they are “OK.” Often used by seniors or others with disabilities this program is offered ***free of charge*** with the only requirement being a communications device to be called at a pre-established time each day. This program also gives “piece of mind” to families and loved ones to ensure the safety of those they care about. To find out more about RU OK as well as our Vacant Property Check Program visit the Police Department Monday-Friday between 8A-4P. The workload in the ComCenter can escalate in a mere matter of seconds to the point where even two (2)

trained and experienced Communications Specialists are taxed to be able to handle call volume. Thus, it is vital that we maintain two (2) Communications Specialists on duty at all times remembering our ComCenter handles more than just police related calls for service and communications but, also all calls and public safety communications for Bedford Fire/EMS. The addition of a new CS position in 2019 brought total authorized staffing up to nine (9) CSs, which increased the number of shifts where two (2) CSs are on board but still ***insufficient*** to ensure two (2) CSs are on duty 24/7/365, which is the national standard for communications center staffing for a community our size.

We finally reached full staffing in the ComCenter (9) during 2019 for a short period of time until the retirement of veteran telecommunicator Virginia L. Martin in December after 34 years of loyal service to the Department. The resignation of another employee in early 2020 once again created critical staffing shortages in our ComCenter. To bridge the gap, Ms. Martin agreed to come back on-line as a part-time/on-call telecommunicator while we worked to fill two (2) vacancies in the section. The vacancies alone adds additional stress in the ComCenter plus the requirement of our communications training officers (CTOs) to train new telecommunicators. During 2020 we added Communications Specialist Edward Higgins to the CTO “line-up” along with Lead CS Malley and CTO Raymond H. Menier.

Total calls handled by our ComCenter increased by 15% during 2020 with an additional 7,121 calls compared to 2019 for a total of 54,161 calls handled in 2020 compare to 47,040 during 2019. That’s an average of 148 calls per day and that doesn’t include business line telephone calls. As well all know, these calls are not evenly spaced out over the course of an 8-hour shift; oftentimes calls for service for Police and Fire/EMS come in “clusters” that requires telecommunicators to prioritize calls for service, communications traffic and manage back-up as well as mutual aid response switching back and forth between Fire/EMS and police calls plus officer-initiated



calls. The work in the ComCenter is demanding and precise; the lives of citizens and first-responders from both police and fire depend on the work of our telecommunicators to obtain and provide the essential and critical information needed to ensure public safety.

The COVID crisis required our ComCenter to adapt to the pandemic by ensuring we capture critical health information for every call to protect the public and our first responders. The change in protocol for obtaining health information and the change in protocol for lower priority calls for service that allowed for telephonic instead of an in-person response by an officer placed additional burdens on our telecommunicators.

Despite short staffing and a global pandemic affecting Police and Fire/EMS calls for service and the increased volume of calls the Communications Section of the Operations Support Division continued to provide the very best in support of our Police/Fire public safety services.

Records Section: Our singular full-time Records Clerk Renee L. Bartlett is responsible for maintaining our active and archived files, which is no small task. Although the Bedford Police Department is largely “paperless” meaning we rely on our digital records management system to record, document and store our investigative reports and forms, the State of NH, courts, civilians, insurance companies and others still require “hard-copy” documents. In addition to records management Records Clerk Bartlett processed all incoming requests for information from the Department including all Right-to-Know requests, all requests for information, reports, and files from other law enforcement agencies as well as state and Federal agencies. She also processed and reviewed all requests for pistol/revolver licenses and many other licensure related matters including live entertainment licenses and requests to dispense alcoholic beverages in Bedford to name just a few.

Recruitment: The Department has been in a continual recruitment cycle to address vacancies created by

retirements, promotions, or new positions to ensure we have the capacity to assure the safety and security of our residents, visitors, and commuters.

The Operations Support Division is responsible for processing, testing, and evaluating all candidates for police officer. This work requires the examination of hundreds of applications, initial telephonic interviews of candidates followed up by in-person oral examinations, physical agility testing and more before a candidate reaches the final command staff interview and conditional offer stage of the recruitment process.

During 2020, the Division processed and reviewed applications that filled four (4) police officer vacancies and four (4) communications specialist vacancies in the Department. Each one of these vacancies required more than 40-hours of processing, administration, testing, and evaluation excluding Department-specific on-boarding. In order to fill each of these vacancies, numerous applications were reviewed before a best qualified candidate list (BQL) was developed. The Operations Support Division was successful in filling all police officer vacancies with highly qualified candidates; two (2) of whom were certified law enforcement officers with other departments and brought extensive training and experience with them to our Department. The Operations Support Division also filled four (4) communications specialist vacancies during 2020.

The Department continues to offer incentive awards for candidates that are certified law enforcement officers (\$10,000) and for highly qualified non-certified candidates (\$5,000) as well as an incentive for employees who successfully recruit a new officer.

The average time from the extension of a conditional offer to completion of field training of a new police officer with no experience is approximately 40-weeks. If we include the time to process an applicant with no prior law enforcement experience through recruitment and background investigation it takes approximately one (1) year to place a new hire on the Patrol Operations Division shift schedule. Additionally, we



estimate the total cost of bringing a new officer with no experience on-board from recruitment through background investigation including payroll during the 16-week NH Police Academy and 20-week Department Field Training Program (FTP) to be \$36,000. Conversely, the estimated time to process a certified officer from the date of conditional offer to placement on the Patrol Operations Division shift schedule is cut in half to about 25-weeks with a comparative cost reduction (\$20,000). Thus, it is significantly more cost effective to attract and hire certified officers by saving more than \$15,000 and shaving off approximately 20-weeks of training and processing time. There was ***no additional cost to the taxpayer*** arising from the implementation of the hiring award and incentive program, which was paid from unexpended wages accrued from vacant positions.

Training: Training serves many purposes from providing essential skill sets necessary for employees in all disciplines to be able to execute the mission of the Department in an efficient and effective manner to preparation for new duties and responsibilities. The primary goal of all training is to ensure citizen and first responder life-safety, and the establishment and maintenance of state mandated individual and Department mandated training requirements. Training must also focus on and bring forth the development of new skill sets necessary to address emergent challenges such as skills that are more effective in resolving incidents that involve citizens in crisis as opposed to the use of force.

The overarching goal of our training program is to ensure the officers and civilian staff that serve you in all disciplines do so within the law consistent with the best and most widely accepted industry leading practices. The intended byproduct of such vigorous training is the reduction of liability exposure for the municipality, it's taxpayers as well as the Department and employees in a highly litigious society.

To achieve these goals and objectives the Bedford Police Department fields an industry leading Field Training Program (FTP) for new hires as well as an

extensive in-service training curriculum that exceeds state required minimum mandates. Our scenario-based training (SBT) program places officers in high stress simulations of real events using special ammunition that challenges and trains them to successfully resolve critical incidents. Our SBT program is predicated upon the assumption that responding patrol officers will immediately address any active attack situation to prevent loss of life.

Under pre-pandemic conditions, the Department tactical instructors provide security assessments and workplace violence training seminars to Bedford businesses, which was curtailed due to the health crisis in 2020. We hope to provide these services to the public and our business/retail segment at some point in 2021 when it is safe and healthy to do so.

The Department continued a multi-year active shooter/active attack training program in conjunction with the Bedford Fire Department (FD), which included a multi-agency active attack incident management table-top exercise in 2020. However, other exercises planned for this program in 2020 were curtailed due to the pandemic. We expect to finish this important training evolution with the Bedford FD in 2021. This comprehensive multi-year grant-funded active shooter/active attack training program will culminate in a multi-agency full-field training exercise that will test both Departments ability to respond, mitigate and resolve a multi-event active attack.

Despite the health crises caused by the COVID pandemic in 2020, the Department forged ahead with critically important training conducted under conditions that ensured the health and safety of the participants. Along with required training and recertification on all lethal and less-lethal platforms the Department also conducted scenario-based training and discipline-specific training. The following is only a brief summary of the important training your police officers attended during 2020.

All sworn members were recertified on the firing range with their issued .40 cal. Smith & Wesson



Military & Police pistol; additionally sworn members were trained on and qualified with the Department's new Sig-Sauer 5.56mm patrol rifle platform, which replaced our aging Colt AR-15 rifles that had been in service for 20-years. Firearms qualifications included tactical response firing exercises as well as dim-light/low light shooting.

Sworn members also recertified in the use of their Department issued Axon-taser(s) and they were trained on the Department's new collapsible metal baton, which replaced batons issued to officers 20-years ago. The new Department issued baton incorporates important functions and safety features not available on the Department's older batons, which was the primary factor in their replacement. Lieutenant (LT) Corey R. Egan and Field Training Officer (FTO) Joshua R. Gray and Master Patrol Officer Zachary J. Mazzarella were re-certified/certified as Axon Taser instructors during 2020. SGT Patrick J. Gilligan was recertified as our Department's Red Cross First-Aid CPR/AED instructor and other members were recertified in other disciplines during 2020 despite the health crisis.

During 2020, the Department launched and completed the three-phase deployment of our new integrated body-worn/in-cruiser camera and stationhouse audio/video evidence solution. This new platform required new standard operating procedures and extensive training for all members on the proper utilization of the evidence platform.

The Department initiated a new program in 2020 that equipped all Patrol Operations Division officers with their own tactical ballistic equipment that is an enhancement to the ballistic garment worn by officers each day. This new tactical garment provides an additional layer of protection for officers confronted by high velocity rifle ammunition that would ordinarily defeat body armor worn on an everyday basis. Each officer will be equipped with this new tactical body armor garment for use under the most critical situations. The Department also afforded officers new options for wearing body armor that

is more comfortable utilizing an outer vest carrier while maintaining a professional community service and public safety service appearance. Further modifications to enhance officer comfort and safety are pending release in early 2021.

In addition to required recertification training on lethal defense platforms and less-lethal defense platforms the Department continued our defensive tactics training program to provide officers the ability to effectively respond to resistance by utilizing the least amount of force possible and successfully defend themselves from a physical attack.

During 2020 the Department initiated two (2) important enhancements to our training program; the first included de-escalation training and certification. Our tactical instructors continued to emphasize strategies and tactics designed to de-escalate situations to avoid the use of force in resolving persons in crisis calls for service. Additionally, the Department hosted regional training conducted by a US Department of Justice approved contractor that provided "train-the-trainer" de-escalation certification. Going forward, the certified officers from the Department who successfully passed this training will begin training all sworn members in de-escalation that complements our on-going scenario-based de-escalation training.

Additionally, the Chief of Police attended Fair and Impartial Policing training for law enforcement executives, which resulted in the addition of bias training and bias-related practical exercises in our scenario-based training program, which was supported by the President of the Manchester Chapter of the NAACP. The Department will continue to emphasize implicit bias training and how it impacts law enforcement and more importantly how we in the Bedford Police Department must be cognizant and aware of bias, implicit bias and bias by proxy that is present in law enforcement and even more importantly how we must eliminate bias and properly mitigate bias-by-proxy in how we deliver public safety services in Bedford that is devoid of bias in any form.



In addition to bias and de-escalation training the Department initiated training in non-compliant response to resistance training. Utilizing actual video from incidents in the US and Canada, officers are required to analyze the video and through guided-discussion identify what officers did correctly or incorrectly and what could have been done differently to achieve a better outcome if, in fact, that was even possible. Using new technology on loan to the Department, officers also participated in “virtual-reality” de-escalation training.

During 2020, our cadre of tactical instructors conducted critical incident management training as part of our scenario-based training program. This vital training is designed to stabilize and improve the Department’s response to critical incidents of any nature; many of which our officers confront every year. With so many new members it is important to ensure all officers and supervisors are trained to the same standards.

The Department is one of the very few departments that conducts “live” impaired driving training. Conducted under rigidly controlled circumstances by our primary drug recognition expert, SGT Patrick J. Gilligan, officers are exposed to persons in a range of impairment from no impairment to various levels of intoxication to test, enhance and improve officer skills in detecting and testing for impairment by alcohol.

Many if not most external training programs, seminars, classes, and certification programs were cancelled by the NH Police Standards and Training Council or private contractors/vendors during 2020. However, despite the challenge, a number of members were able to attend vital training to enhance and improve the Department’s capabilities and capacity. SGT Robert G. Lavoie attended FBI leadership training while all Patrol Operations Division sergeants attended on-line leadership training; all SGTs and FTOs attended Department conducted active attack incident management table-top training conducted by LT Michael R. Bernard and Detective SGT Michael J. Monahan; Detective SGT Monahan and Field Training

Officer Matthew A. Proulx attained certification as close quarter tactical instructors; Detective Amy M. Champagne attended a week-long seminar on crimes against children and Detective James. G. McMillen attended interview and interrogation training, Patrol Officers Michael B. Heikkila and Joseph A. Palmariello were certified as Motor-Patrol Officers by Harley-Davidson; SGT Norris, FTO Proulx and Patrol Officer Fiorentino who are assigned to the Southern NH Special Operations Unit participated in monthly training while all Patrol Operations Division officers and supervisors attended motor vehicle accident and collision avoidance training (on-line) along with vehicle immobilization/spike-strip deployment training and health/safety training related to the pandemic.

Our goal is to ensure our employees have the best training and skills necessary to ensure citizen and first responder safety as well as reduce liability exposure and to prepare those employees seeking to move into new positions by providing supervisory and job-specific training in their current positions with a view toward improving employee retention as well as overall Department performance.

Community Policing:

The global pandemic and health crisis severely hampered our normally robust community policing program in 2020. Yet, keeping with the Department’s nimbleness and ability to improvise, adapt and overcome we leveraged social media and other digital platforms to reach the public and provide important information.

During the initial phases of the pandemic, the Department released a number of public service announcements and videos along with the Bedford FD to educate and inform our residents about the crisis; what to do and how both Departments were adapting to the presence of COVID. We took “Meet the Chief” online with a live Facebook edition followed by a video version with the assistance of BCTV.

The Department helped support “Bedford Cares” a



new volunteer program initiated by NH Senator and Bedford Town Councilor Denise Ricciardi as a way of helping our residents through the health crisis. We continued the Department's support of the Bedford Food Pantry and held special Police-Week and 9/11 Memorial Events at the Public Safety Complex. Working with our media contractor, the Department produced a short video that showcased our diversity and our employee's commitment to the public they serve:

<https://www.facebook.com/321426571238389/videos/280702999678674> .

Here is a short summary of the other innovative ways to conduct community policing during a global pandemic:

- Officer Tony Ssonko provided a “police escort” to the championship Bedford High School Women’s Volleyball Team.
- Field Training Officer Michael D. Cherwin assisted a family in need of a child safety seat by providing them with a generous donation to ensure their children were safe while being transported.
- Officer Whitney Mansfield participated in a parade sponsored by Make-A-Wish for a child facing a serious medical condition.
- More than 14 members of the Department were present for the Town Council’s recognition of retired New York State Trooper and “Honorary” Bedford Police Officer Bernie Ruchin on the occasion of his 96th birthday. Bernie has been an inspiration to many on the Department; having spent many mornings with officers and detectives sharing his insight and advice. In addition, he’s addressed the Department’s “all-hands” meetings with remarks focusing on professionalism, dedication, and teamwork. He has been a true inspiration to us all at the Department and a true American icon.
- Department members supported the Bedford High School graduation “honk-out” and other celebrations.

- Patrol Operations Division officers participated in several “drive-by” celebrations for residents and their families.
- We introduced numerous articles on everything from online scams and fraudulent schemes to safe driving, protecting yourself from property crime and a host of other items via social media and our website.
- The Department continued its support of BeBOLD by hosting an informative session with NH legislators and candidates regarding important substance abuse issues and legislation.

During 2020 the leadership baton for our Civilian Emergency Response Team (CERT) was passed from long-time director and Bedford community volunteer Paul Brock to his capable Assistant Director, Mr. Raymond Lessard. On behalf of all our residents and the Bedford Police and Fire Departments we recognize Mr. Brock for his years of community service and as Director of Bedford CERT. We look forward to CERT’s continued support of the Bedford community and the Police and Fire Departments under the capable leadership of Director Lessard.

During 2020, despite the pandemic, Bedford CERT continued to be active in support of the Police Department serving a vital role in assisting us with the challenge posed by the national election at our singular voting site.

From assisting with traffic at operational as well as community service events to providing information on preparedness and community outreach services, the Bedford CERT continues to bridge a critical gap in public safety services.

This important program will continue in 2021 with the help of *volunteers like you* who see CERT as an opportunity to *give something back to their community*. So, if you are looking for an opportunity to serve your fellow residents, neighbors, and friends



in Bedford, please consider *volunteering to be a member of the Bedford CERT*; contact the Bedford Police Department's Operations Support Division or CERT at <https://www.bedfordnhcert.org/>.

The Bedford Police Department recognizes that success in completing our mission hinges on the philosophy that *"it takes a community"*, which is why our Community Policing Program is the cornerstone to the effective delivery of public safety services to our residents. From our *"Keep an Eye on Bedford – See Something – Say Something"* campaign to supporting "Bedford Cares" and the Bedford Food Pantry, our dedicated employees "stepped-up" to connect and provide our community support, education, information and services to ensure their safety and well-being. It is part of the Bedford Police Department's culture of community and customer support that lead our officers and civilian employees to extend themselves to support our residents when the opportunity arises; from shoveling a senior's driveway or bringing in a heavy parcel for a senior to our "Are You Ok" program that checks in with our seniors each day, we strive to connect as well as protect and serve. We look forward to seeing you when we are able to resume our full community policing program schedule by mid-2021.

Wrapping up for the Operations Support Division's news for 2020 we acknowledge the retirement of Operations Support Division Commander Lieutenant (LT) Michael R. Bernard, which became effective December 2020. In addition to his exemplary work and more than 22-years of dedicated service to the Town of Bedford and Bedford Police; he was responsible for standing up and organizing the Operations Support Division when the Department re-organized all support programs and sections under the division. He was instrumental in reorganizing and improving the Department's recruitment, field and in-service training programs, promotional and testing programs including the development of an industry standard assessment testing program for promotion; improving the Departments public safety land mobile radio communications network including a

requirement for new construction to meet Department requirements to ensure first-responder safety and his dedicated work in community policing. During his tenure there were no community policing events that LT Bernard didn't plan, organize, or was actively involved; in many ways he was the "face" of the Department. Prior to leading the Operations Support Division, LT Bernard previously led the Patrol Division and was responsible for many important improvements and changes under his leadership including the initiation of performance metrics (COMP/Stat), the study that led to the reorganization of patrol sectors and resource deployment along with a new traffic safety management plan and other innovations.

The Operations Support Division is now placed in the capable hands and leadership of Lieutenant Kevin T. Bowen, who brings with him a wealth of knowledge, skills, and abilities to lead the Operations Support Division to new levels of achievement in 2021.

Administration

The overarching goal of the Department's Administration Division is to ensure our vision, mission and divisional goals and objectives are met or exceeded and, to assure the safety and security as well as the quality of life for all in Bedford. The exceptional success achieved in 2020 despite the global pandemic reflects the administration of the Department exceeded its primary goals and objectives in providing the highest quality public safety services for each tax dollar under the most trying conditions.

The Department, like any successful business, must continue to constantly evaluate the climate and environment in which it exists and evolve to assure continued success.

National Accreditation: Arguably, it is more difficult to manage success than failure. To this end, the Department continued on our multi-year journey to attain *national accreditation* in concert with our ongoing and long-term initiative to revise and improve all our Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to bring



the Department up to national accreditation standards.

The Department continued our effort toward accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA); a credentialing authority, based in the United States, whose primary mission is to accredit public safety agencies, namely law enforcement agencies, training academies, communications centers, and campus public safety agencies.

This multi-year effort, which on average takes most law enforcement agencies three (3) or more years to complete, requires significant resources from all divisions but particularly from the Operations Support Division. As part of our efforts to achieve accreditation, our Accreditation Manager, Ms. Monique Pliakos, works with our accreditation consultant to review, revise, and improve all Department standard operating procedures (SOPs) that addresses virtually every facet of the mission of the Department in exacting detail.

During 2020 Accreditation Manager Pliakos revised and deployed more than 20-Department SOPs; some of which were new and others that incorporated significant changes and enhancements. One of the most extensive revisions included our new response to resistance SOP that incorporated new forms, guides, and checklists as well as prohibitions against chokeholds and a requirement that officers intercede to prevent any unreasonable response to resistance.

Some of the advantages in becoming a nationally accredited law enforcement agency are as follows: Accredited agencies are better able to defend themselves against civil lawsuits and many agencies report a decline in legal actions against them once they become accredited; Accreditation provides objective evidence of an agency's commitment to excellence in leadership, resource management, and service-delivery increasing public confidence in the agency's ability to operate efficiently and meet community needs; Many agencies report a reduction in their liability insurance costs and/or reimbursement of accreditation

fees; CALEA standards gives the Department's administrative team a proven management system of written directives, sound training, clearly defined lines of authority, and routine reports that support decision-making and resource allocation.

Auditing: The Department continued our efforts to ensure effective property management that included up to date inventories of all equipment assigned to personnel as well as all capitalized Department equipment assigned to each division in the Department that is available in both "hard copy" and digital. The Department continued efforts to remain in compliance with all state and federal criminal justice information systems (CJIS) requirements.

Integrity and Transparency: After a multi-year research effort that included extensive research into the cost/benefits, necessity, requirements, needs, community and operational impact associated with the proposed utilization of body worn cameras (BWCs), the Department deployed a industry-leading digital cloud-based audio/video integrated BWC/in-cruiser and police station evidence solution from Axon in early 2020.

The potential benefits derived from the deployment of BWCs and other image and audio recording solutions are diverse including increased transparency and accountability, which may lead to improved public perceptions of police. In addition to increased public trust, confidence and legitimacy, BWCs further improves the documentation of police/public encounters, which leads to better evidence to objectively determine what actually happened.

Use of BWCs lead to fewer complaints against the police as well as help police and prosecutors investigate complaints and allegations against police more efficiently and effectively. Quicker resolution of citizen complaints and lawsuits that allege excessive use of force and other forms of officer misconduct are potential benefits from the use of BWCs. Video and audio evidence from a police/civilian encounter helps investigators resolve discrepancies with clarity



producing a finding that is objectively conclusive.

Video and audio evidence obtained from BWCs and other police recording solutions bolsters prosecutions and result in early case resolution. BWCs obtain evidence that an investigating officer might have initially missed but is later discovered upon review. Additionally, review of video/audio by officers will assist in the preparation of more detailed and accurate reports of investigation and corroborate evidence presented by prosecutors, and lead to higher numbers of guilty pleas in court proceedings.

Finally, in terms of benefits the use of BWC offers potential opportunities to advance an officer's knowledge, skills, and abilities by reviewing and self-critiquing their work. Additionally, BWC video/audio can advance generalized training of all employees and lead to the change or implementation of policies and procedures.

The deployment of the Department's new integrated BWC/in-cruiser and police station digital audio/video evidence solution provides for complete coverage from initial encounter through potential arrest, transport, and booking/detention as well as interviewing at the station; all documented by audio/video. The solution has already paid *extensive* dividends for the Department in a number of investigations including a most serious investigation in which the BWC evidence was absolutely essential in assuring a successful criminal prosecution. There have been citizen complaints against officers that were readily dismissed as unfounded after review of the BWC evidence while others substantiated the civilian's complaint, which resulted in appropriate corrective action.

2020 was more than a tumultuous year for law enforcement and the nation, when events in Minneapolis and other cities brought intense focus on policing. The following is a statement submitted to the Town Council and Town Manger during 2020 by the Chief of Police addressing the crisis in law enforcement.

SPECIAL STATEMENT REGARDING POLICE MISCONDUCT AND REFORM

"I wish to take this opportunity to address the Town Council, Town Manager, and our residents regarding the recent events in Minneapolis, MN, which spawned demonstrations and rebuke across the United States.

The New Hampshire Association of Chiefs of Police and I and every member of the Bedford Police Department condemn the actions of former Minneapolis, MN Officer Derek Chauvin and further condemn the inaction of the other former officers on the scene that failed to intervene and prevent the death of Mr. George Floyd. His death, while in the custody of Minneapolis police officers, is unconscionable, deeply disturbing and both morally and professionally offensive.

The actions and inaction of now former police officers 1,421 miles distant do not represent the culture, training, dedication, professionalism, empathy, community, and public service as well as the devotion to the sanctity of life for all exemplified by all Bedford Police Department officers and employees.

The despicable acts committed in Minneapolis are not representative of NH policing and are wholly and totally inconsistent with our laws, training, values, policies, and procedures. The methods and approach used by those former officers including a "chokehold" and other physical restraints are not taught to or approved for use by Bedford Police Department officers.

Moreover, our officers, like all NH police officers, are taught and must be re-certified annually in state-mandated four (4) hour use of force training, to use the least amount of force necessary in every situation. Our officers are required to use a force continuum that begins with verbal commands and progresses through various approaches that include less-than-lethal tools such as "pepper" spray, asp-baton and taser before deadly physical force is authorized. However, as you all may know, there are situations in which, an officer immediately confronted by deadly physical



force must respond accordingly to save h/her life and that of others without progressing through the force continuum. Yet, there have been multiple occasions when our officers were assaulted, most recently only a few weeks ago, trying to apprehend a subject using the least amount of resistance and force necessary; usually to the officer's own detriment and safety.

We acknowledge, train, and instill the appropriate values and culture of policing here in Bedford that is community and public/customer service oriented and focused. We strive each day to ensure you and all our residents are safe and feel safe to enjoy life here as it should be. We acknowledge and train our officers and all our staff to be "color-blind" with a specific standard operating procedure (SOP) entitled, "Fair and Impartial Policing" that bolsters and backs-up our training and culture with specific requirements to ensure policing in Bedford truly is "fair and impartial" for all. It is who we are and what we do, each shift, every day, 24/7/365 and I will accept nothing less than absolute conformity without exception and my officers are explicitly aware of that.

The direction and values and culture I have worked to instill and demand from my officers as well as our standard operating procedures are the industry standard and best practices as evinced by our effort to become nationally accredited and our continuing efforts to improve our policies and procedures. It is also exemplified by our recent deployment of body worn cameras and the upcoming deployment of in-cruiser audio/video recording as well as audio/video recording in our booking/detention facility and interview rooms. The deployment and use of our body worn cameras follow NH law, which dictates when recordings must be made. These recordings are available for use in all internal investigations of complaints or misconduct.

Our officers are required to report each and every use of force situation, which is independently reviewed and then annually reviewed to ensure best practices; consistency with NH law as well as our policies and procedures and to identify any gaps where improved

training is required.

I support the six (6) pillars identified in the Report on 21st Century Policing produced during the former administration and have expanded upon those to include my own foundational requirements.

First and foremost is organizational CULTURE; each organization has its own "culture", whether it's in the private or public sectors; thus, each police agency has its own "culture"; that is the basic foundation and perspective that directs and guides how the organization approaches its mission and then each member's duties and responsibilities. The culture of an organization is established over time by leadership and is "passed down" through generations of employees. It is the culture of how police officers approach their duties and responsibilities that is most critical for if the organizational culture is accepting of violations of the law, police brutality, violence and racial and ethnic disparity, even rules and policies are sometimes ineffective in ensuring compliance. Thus, it is critical for leadership to establish the proper and correct culture of professionalism, courtesy, empathy, sincerity, customer service, with an emphasis on public service and always ensuring the SANCTITY OF LIFE for all and equality for all including those who resist us or are in our custody. It is the culture of public and customer service and using the least amount of force necessary in any situation that we instill in our Department here in Bedford.

Second, is Professional Responsibility; police agencies must have procedures, programs and structures that identify and address problem behavior inconsistent with the agency's policies, procedures, and culture. Each department must have incredibly strong internal controls and programs that ensure each and every complaint is documented, investigated and reviewed; that a system is in place that detects officers with disciplinary issues, anger management, bias, etc. these systems are called "Early Warning Systems" that enable the detection of problem employees, issues and even problem policies/procedures EARLY ON to avoid tragedies. Here in Bedford we have a



robust disciplinary system in which every complaint is documented and filed with a warning system to identify, trends, traits, and patterns.

Third, COMMUNITY; Building relationships with the community is EVERY COP'S job and they need to be held accountable for that and it needs to be engrained in the Department's culture. As you may know, we have a robust community policing program here in Bedford that seeks to engage all facets of our community, seniors, business/retail, youth/young adults, and neighborhoods.

Fourth, ACCOUNTABILITY and RESPONSIBILITY; For the agency it begins and ends AT THE TOP; to ensure all these elements are in place and are followed by all members in the agency. All acts in which our staff falls short of our expectations are consistently addressed including progressive disciplinary action up to and including removal from the service.

Fifth; Psychological/Sociological/Diversity/Bias: Training and assessments of officers in these areas are necessary ALL THROUGHOUT an officer's career not just in the academy. An eminent police chief once said that we bring idealistic men and women from diverse cultures and backgrounds into police service dedicated to the highest ideals then place them in very troubled and difficult locations and leave them there for years and expect that what they see and deal with each day won't affect them. It does and we need to continually communicate, assess, train, and MONITOR so these idealistic officers don't become so sour and jaundiced that they can no longer be effective or worse become dangerous. We need to improve initial and reoccurring bias and diversity training throughout law enforcement including Bedford.

Finally, Moral Fortitude: The top brass of any law enforcement agency needs an incredible amount of fortitude in character and conviction to institute the changes necessary to ensure all these elements become part of the culture and fabric of the agency. The record for the Bedford Police Department is clear; there is absolutely no exception to absolute

compliance with our values, culture, rules of conduct, policies and procedures; anyone who takes the time to review my record here and as the Deputy Chief Inspector for the Office of Professional Responsibility at DEA Headquarters knows there is no quarter given to misconduct of any nature; I won't have it.

Yet, despite all the above, there is still room for improvement here at the Bedford Police Department.

Policies and Procedures: Going forward I will be making some changes to the Department's use of force SOP to ensure the sanctity of life for all, including those who resist us or are in our custody is paramount. I will ensure the requirement to intervene when the excessive use of force is observed is transparently clear and subject to disciplinary action including removal if not followed to the letter. I will also ensure that physical restraint techniques, even though not taught or approved by the Department are expressly prohibited for use by our officers.

Training: I investigated and attempted to bring a professor from Georgia to Bedford four (4) years ago to conduct implicit bias training; however, I didn't have the funding available at the time. There is no time remaining; we must have initial and re-occurring implicit and explicit bias training for all employees of the Department. Having a robust SOP is not enough to ensure our employees are aware of their bias so it can be addressed, mitigated, and corrected to ensure bias of any nature is not reflected in our work. While we expose every member to extensive psychological pre-employment testing, we must find the funding to conduct re-occurring assessments of employees to ensure the work they do; the sometimes horrible situations and cases they are intimately involved in, which they absorb and internalize do not jaundice their idealistic and basic values and outlook. We have annual defensive tactics training but need to increase the frequency of such training to ensure officers can defend themselves using the least amount of force necessary. Along with implicit and explicit bias training we need to conduct annual diversity and cultural training for all employees of the Department.



Accreditation: We must continue on our path to achieve national accreditation to ensure our policies and procedures reflect best practices and that the Department is continually inspected by an independent auditor (CALEA) to ensure we are consistently following our own policies and procedures.

The Bedford Police Department stands and supports social and procedural justice for all even including the possibility that an officer may sacrifice their own life in the process. We are totally committed to this precept and will willingly lay down our lives if needed to protect others no matter who they are and what they may have done. It is our job, our duty and professional mission to protect those who can't protect themselves. Every human being deserves justice and to be treated fairly with compassion, respect, dignity, and equality for that is part of our core values and culture of the Bedford Police Department.

I am utterly confident of the character, integrity, training and responsibility of each and every Bedford Police Officer, as demonstrated innumerable times, having shown great restraint in the execution of their duties and responsibilities to the extent they risked serious injury to themselves in order to use the least amount of legitimate force necessary.

I cannot countenance the rhetoric and violence against police who each day protect and serve everyone including those of color; oftentimes giving their own lives up in the process.

Yes, there are officers in the US with bias and unchecked anger and perhaps more; they do NOT REPRESENT the Bedford Police Department, as they besmirch the GOOD WORK our officers do each shift, every day and night on patrol in Bedford and across the country.

There will be a rush to “correct” and “reform” law enforcement; some of which has already begun in Washington, DC, and Concord. Yet, I caution all to approach these provisions with the understanding and realization that NH law enforcement is NOT

broken and in need of reform. We acknowledge we can IMPROVE in many areas especially in policies and procedures as well as training and accreditation. Yet wholesale “reform” such that it might be required in Minneapolis or Baltimore is not required in Manchester or Bedford. One area of suggested reform that has received a lot of attention is the removal of qualified immunity protection from law enforcement officers. What this essentially means is that a Bedford officer who follows the law, their training, policies, and procedures; that is, they did everything RIGHT, would be personally liable for civil damages. If enacted, this will have an extremely chilling effect on all law enforcement and cause officers to reconsider how they may react in life or death situations endangering civilian and officer safety. I also anticipate the elimination of qualified immunity will severely impact our already strained recruitment and retention efforts.

The action and inaction in Minneapolis and elsewhere are despicable and criminal; but they do not represent the profession and they certainly do not represent the Bedford Police Department and I surely trust you and our residents are confident that your Department has taken and will be taking every step and action to ensure we deliver the finest public safety service using the least amount of intrusion and force possible to complete our mission with bravery, professionalism and dedication to the ideals, ethics, value and culture you expect.”

Human Resources: The national focus on law enforcement in 2020 especially use of force along with other factors conspired to present an extremely tight job-market for law enforcement all across the US with departments competing against each other for qualified applicants and to retain certified employees.

Notwithstanding the above, the Department filled all vacant police officer positions in 2020 and brought our on-board strength up to our authorized ceiling of 40-sworn members for the first time in the history of the Department. This was a steep challenge; however, effective recruiting strategies and incentives brought



us new employees and some with extensive and valuable experience gained elsewhere as certified officers.

SGT Kevin T. Bowen was promoted to LT/Watch Commander in 2020 filling the gap between the Patrol Operations Division Captain and the five (5) Patrol Operations Division sergeants by providing critical management support and oversight when the Captain is not on duty. As you know, he was later promoted to the LT in command of the Operations Support Division. SGT Corey R. Egan was promoted in December to fill the Watch Commander vacancy created by the promotion of LT Bowen.

Promotions and reassignments in 2020 as well as the Department’s effort to support career development of personnel from officer, to Master Patrol Officer, to Field Training Officer, to SGT and LT requires extensive effort to ensure only the best qualified are promoted. During 2020 the Department conducted promotional testing for SGT, which also serves as qualification testing for advancement to Master Patrol Officer (MPO) and Field Training Officer (FTO). This extensive project includes the utilization of a commercial first-line supervisor examination coupled with a Department-specific written examination. Members who successfully passed the combined written tests moved on to the Department-designed assessment center examination, which involves candidates participating in three (3) carefully crafted role-play scenarios to test their ability to supervise under real-world conditions. The assessment center utilized a Department designed set of scenarios and performance specifications for grading as well as detailed guidance for both candidates and assessors, who were sourced from other area departments. The Department’s assessment center program received accolades from Primex, as well as several area departments who requested permission to utilize our program. This process resulted in the qualification of 10-officers for promotion to Master Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer and SGT as follows:

**PATROL OPERATIONS DIVISION
PROMOTION(S) – FIELD TRAINING OFFICER**

NAME	FROM	TO
Frink, Norman J	Patrol Officer	Field Training Officer
Proulx, Matthew A.	Patrol Officer	Field Training Officer
Slack, Nathan M.	Patrol Officer	Field Training Officer

**QUALIFICATION FOR PROMOTION –
SERGEANT**

The following personnel are currently qualified for promotion to SGT:

NAME	RANK
Champagne, Amy M.	Detective
Cherwin, Michael D.	Field Training Officer
Dupuis, Adrien U.	Master Patrol Officer
Fiorentino, Nicholas J.	Master Patrol Officer
Frink, Norman J.	Field Training Officer
Gardner, Shannon	Master Patrol Officer
Gray, Joshua R.	Field Training Officer
Iannacci, Gregory V.	Master Patrol Officer
Kennedy, Stephen W.	Master Patrol Officer
Kitchen, Benjamin J.	Field Training Officer
Mansfield, Whitney S.	Master Patrol Officer
Mazzarella, Zachary J.	Master Patrol Officer
McMillen, James G.	Detective
Proulx, Matthew A.	Field Training Officer
Slack, Nathan M.	Field Training Officer
Ssonko, Tony	Master Patrol Officer
Sutter, Kevin K.	Detective
Wilhelmy, Joseph C.	Master Patrol Officer

**QUALIFICATION – MASTER PATROL
OFFICER**

Pursuant to the 2020 testing process for promotion to SGT and approved prior testing the following personnel are qualified as Master Patrol Officer:

NAME	RANK
Dupuis, Adrien U.	Master Patrol Officer
Fiorentino, Nicholas J.	Master Patrol Officer
Gardner, Shannon	Master Patrol Officer
Iannacci, Gregory V.	Master Patrol Officer
Kennedy, Stephen W.	Master Patrol Officer
Mansfield, Whitney S.	Master Patrol Officer



Mazzarella, Zachary J. Master Patrol Officer
 Ssonko, Tony Master Patrol Officer
 Wilhelmy, Joseph C. Master Patrol Officer

We continued with our career development program (CDP) for all sworn members of the Department that was launched in 2018. This program requires each sworn member, in concert with management, to identify their own career goals and objectives. The officer-specific CDP will then be used by the Operations Support Division and Administration to tailor training with a goal to help each employee achieve their own career goals and objectives.

One of the most vital functions of HR is to measure employee performance and integrate personnel performance with the Department's vision, mission and annual goals and objectives. The Department's performance measurement program, "COMP/Stat" integrates agency performance with individual performance to ensure the success of the Department in meeting its mission specific as well as annual goals and objectives. .

While assessing performance is critical it is also vitally important to recognize the *extraordinary achievements of our employees during 2020* as follows:

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Michael D. Cherwin - Field Training Officer

On August 3, 2020 Field Training Officer (FTO) Cherwin along with other Bedford Police Officers responded to the area of 206 South River Road regarding an armed felon wanted by the Manchester Police Department. The wanted suspect fled on foot into the wooded area nearby. FTO Cherwin took up a tactical position in the area and maintained that post for more than an hour during which he was able to detect the presence of the suspect and eventually take him into custody without further incident. His accurate assessment of the situation, tactical prowess, and diligence as well as situational awareness resulted in the arrest of a wanted felon who was believed to

be armed presenting a clear and present danger to the community.

Adrien U. Dupuis - Patrol Officer

During the midnight shift on October 15, 2020 Officer Dupuis stopped a vehicle leaving the County Inn & Suites after he noted how long the vehicle had been in the hotel parking lot, which based on his training and experience, led him to believe the vehicle was involved in illegal activity. A roadside interview of the occupants of the vehicle revealed the name of a subject allegedly distributing controlled drugs at the hotel. Officer Dupuis subsequently identified the subject allegedly selling controlled drugs and learned the subject was a wanted felon. A second motor vehicle stop confirmed the wanted suspect selling controlled drugs at the Country Inn & Suites was in possession of controlled drugs, a firearm and was located in a specific room. Officer Dupuis along with other members of the Department took immediate action to seize control of the suspect's hotel room and acquire a search and seizure warrant. The suspect in the hotel room attempted to abscond through the room's 4th floor window and was taken into custody. The lawful search of the room resulted in the seizure of a significant quantity of controlled drugs, proceeds from the sale of controlled drugs and a firearm used to facilitate a drug crime.

DISTINGUISHED UNIT ACTION AWARD

Stefan J. Swiadas - Sergeant

Scott E. Norris - Sergeant

Jeffery A. Drew - Patrol Officer

Joshua R. Gray - Field Training Officer

Stephen W. Kennedy, Jr. - Patrol Officer

Benjamin J. Kitchen- Field Training Officer

Eli J. Krause- Patrol Officer

Timothy S. Hayden - Patrol Officer

On March 23, 2020 Officer Stephen W. Kennedy, Jr. investigated a domestic violence related 2nd degree assault with a weapon. The victim advised her boyfriend assaulted her and slashed her with a razor blade in the presence of her 2-year-old son. Field



Training Officer Joshua R. Gray and Patrol Officer Jeffrey A. Drew responded noting the suspect's vehicle was parked on scene and thereafter secured the perimeter of the suspect's apartment. Sergeant (SGT) Stefan J. Swiadas, Office-in Charge, established incident command and assembled a tactical response team led by Sergeant Scott E. Norris along with Officers Kennedy and Eli J. Krause, Benjamin J. Kitchen and Timothy S. Hayden who approached the suspect's apartment and attempted to contact him and direct him to safely exit the apartment. The suspect refused the lawful order to exit the apartment, which required the tactical team to make forced entry after which the suspect was taken into custody without further incident or injury.

LIFESAVING AWARD

Matthew A. Proulx- Patrol Officer

On Monday June 8, 2020 at approximately 1553 hours Patrol Officer Matthew A. Proulx responded to 7 Kilton Road, Hannaford Supermarket, reference a 50-year old male subject who collapsed. The male subject was reportedly not conscious and not breathing and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) efforts by store employees on scene had commenced. Officer Proulx promptly arrived on scene, utilized an AED on the male subject and assisted with CPR. During the course of administering CPR multiple shocks were delivered by the AED. After Bedford Fire and Rescue arrived on scene and took over life saving measures Officer Proulx shifted attention to assisting Bedford Fire and Rescue by locating identification for the subject and contacting family members to inform them of the emergency. Officer Proulx also determined the subject had been experiencing cardiac related symptoms over the past couple of days, which was relayed to rescue personnel who transported the subject to the hospital. Bedford Fire Department Lieutenant Aaron Lambert and Firefighter David Sherwood subsequently reported the subject survived and officially commended Officer Proulx' actions, which resulted in the restoration of the victim's effective heart rhythm, which was a key element in saving his life.

LETTER OF RECOGNITION

Monique Pliakos – Accreditation Manager

The Bedford Police Department is committed to ensuring we become nationally accredited and recognized as a leading police agency in the State of NH. During calendar year 2020, Accreditation Manager Pliakos was charged with maintaining and overseeing the Bedford Police Department's efforts to achieve national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). This effort received the highest priority from the Chief of Police and required superior organization and attention to detail. By working hand in hand with other members of the Department and the Bedford Police Department's CALEA consultant, Accreditation Manager Pliakos made significant progress toward the Department's goal of achieving national accreditation in 2022. Accreditation Manager Pliakos' efforts to promote and achieve the Department's goal of national accreditation, which required many hours of policy and procedure development, editing and publication evinced the highest qualities of professionalism, dedication to duty, public service and commitment to the Town of Bedford and the Bedford Police Department.

Financial Management: The overarching administrative goal is to provide the highest quality public safety service and protection for each appropriated tax dollar while successfully completing our mission each day; 24/7/365. To achieve this goal requires linkage between strategic operational planning and fiscal controls/planning/budgeting. In a highly volatile environment of unpredictability, which is the arena where law enforcement exists, the Department met its fiscal requirements within its allotted appropriations. During 2020, the Department achieved its mission, goals and objectives within the framework of its approved 2020 appropriation with intense focus on ensuring every tax dollar expended was used to satisfy *necessities* required to achieve the mission of the Department and in service to the public. The Department installed a new recording solution for Police/Fire communications saving several thousands



of dollars. As a result of our financial management efforts the Department ***returned more than \$100,000 of 2020 appropriated funds back to the Town.***

Facilities Management: The heart and soul of a community is embodied in and reflected by the services provided to its residents and visitors as well as the facilities from which, those services are provided. The facility itself communicates to the residents as much as the employees who protect and serve in them.

A police station is the outward manifestation of the community's commitment to public safety as well as the outward projection of the police department's philosophy and vision. The building transcends the simple "brick and mortar" elements that encapsulates offices and rooms; it communicates the spirit of the community and the department's orientation toward its mission. Moreover, it communicates to the employees who "live" in the station inasmuch as it communicates the community's commitment to the employees, their mission and safety.

To those in law enforcement the police station, often referred to as "the house" is where many of us spend most of our working careers. It is the central "hub" that provides not only the necessities to fulfill the department's mission, it becomes the focal point for professional relationships as well as the location for bonding with colleagues; finding a moment's respite from a difficult call or case or an inviting and comfortable place to engage with our residents or offer them moments of respite in the midst of personal tragedy or crisis. Unlike other municipal services with the notable exception of the Fire Department, the Police Station is a 24/7/365 operation all day, all night, every day and night all year long; rain or shine, it's the beacon of safety for the community.

A police station that fulfills the community's needs as well as the needs of the employees who work there is much more than brick, mortar, stone and steel; it must project the professionalism, openness, comforting, caring and devotion to public safety and public service

of the agency. The facility must meet the community's needs as much as the department's and employee's needs.

The keystone element that underpins the philosophy, mission and vision of the Bedford Police Department is community policing and community engagement. As we know, our current facility does not project the spirit of the community or the Department and fails to meet community needs beyond the "brick and mortar" meeting space it provides. It is neither inviting nor does it offer the comfort and inviting nature of the community and agency. It is not equipped to provide the comfort and amenities required for our citizens and especially our victims and their families and loved ones. It fails to provide the basic necessities to function efficiently and effectively and we are unable to comply with several Federal, state, and national accreditation standards. We are unable to offer private and comfortable meeting space to address citizen's in need and crisis nor can it offer the amenities necessary for our employees to be as efficient and effective as they could or enjoy a pleasurable work environment and experience.

The Department's 2020 facilities management study and review (on file at the Police Department) provides both data as well as a visual depiction of the current station, but as the reader absorbs the data and images, keep in mind the need for our station to "communicate" with the residents, our victims and their loved ones and our employees. This Department's study only provides an overview of the background, findings and deficiencies that underscore the critical need to move the Bedford Police Department into a facility that meets community and agency needs while correcting both operational and functional deficiencies that compromise the delivery of efficient and effective police and public safety services in the Town of Bedford.

Current Facility Background: The current police station at 55 Constitution Drive was originally designed as general office space for an insurance company until it was purchased by the Town in 1994



and retrofitted to accommodate public safety services. In 1994, the Department staffing was approximately **one-half** of our current authorized sworn member staff of 40 and total staffing of 55 employees. In 1994, the population of Bedford was approximately 12,500 or about **one-half** of our current population. The space occupied by the Department in 1994 at 55 Constitution Drive was barely adequate in 1994 at approximately 8,000 square feet (sq. ft.). In other words, *the Department moved into its current space in 1994 at or very near capacity with no provision for expansion.* Through successive “re-fits” and changes necessitated by the growth of the Department, which expanded to meet the increased public safety needs of a growing suburban community, the current facility, never designed or built as a police station, quickly became inadequate. Over the intervening decades inadequacy led to critical operational and functional deficiencies that fail to meet both community and Department needs.

It is important to recognize and memorialize the fact that 55 Constitution Drive barely met the Department’s needs in 1994 when the building was modified to operate and accommodate law enforcement functions. The building at 55 Constitution was never designed to serve law enforcement functions and the resultant modifications to accommodate law enforcement and the Department were undertaken without aforethought for growth or consistent with law enforcement facility planning best practices.

Over the intervening 26-years since initial occupancy, the Department more than doubled in size and despite several modifications, many completed by Department staff themselves, ultimately failed to correct or even mitigate several major structural design flaws that would, if undertaken, necessitate extensive modification and be cost ineffective. During that same timeframe, several inspections, and studies, some completed by architectural firms, all determined the Police Department was operating in approximately one-half the space necessary. The most recent study found the Department occupies 8,942 sq. ft. of interior space; however, a MINIMUM, 16,592 sq. ft.

of interior space is required to accommodate a law enforcement agency our size. This equates to a deficit of 7,650 sq. ft. The architectural firm that developed the interior space requirement of 16,592 sq. ft. based their finding on industry accepted average space utilization standards for law enforcement agencies.

The record is clear based upon recognized industry standards that our Department is shoe-horned into space **one-half the size required** to operate at current strength. The strategic errors made during the initial conversion of general office space into a law enforcement facility cannot be corrected without massive and expensive redesign and rebuilding, which is predicated upon the elimination of all other Town departments from the site. Remaining at our present location continues to expose the Department to the hazards and risk associated with co-location along Route 101 despite its central location. The functional layout of the current facility has led to massive inefficiencies caused by workflow disruptions that compromise the effectiveness of the Department. The integrity and security of confidential administrative files is compromised. There are minimal public amenities and virtually no employee amenities by modern standards and there is no properly equipped and protected emergency operations center. Our ComCenter security and integrity is compromised and we don’t even have enough bathrooms and locker space for all our employees. Whatever competitive edge we have in terms of personnel and equipment is vastly diminished if not entirely offset by the facility we occupy. We suffer increased cost, liability, risk and most importantly diminished public and employee safety and satisfaction.

2020 Annual Report Summary:

During 2020, the Department handled 7,339 calls for service (CFS), a reduction of 1,014 calls, which equates to an average reduction of approximately 3 calls per day. [Note: CFS are defined as requests for police service(s) from the public resulting in the deployment of police resources.]

Officer initiated activity reflected a 24% increase



(35,003 v. 43,529/+8,526) while **total incident report(s)** (all activity whether a police response was required or not) **increased 17%** (43,356 v. 50,868/+7,512) when compared to 2019. Our efforts in harm reduction and to improve the quality of life through aggressive anti-crime and traffic safety enforcement patrols that projects a visible and active law enforcement presence in the community was evident in the increase in officer-initiated activity despite staffing and training during 2020.

Total calls handled by the Police Department's **Communications Center (Police/Fire/EMS)** reflected a **15% increase** (47,040 v. 54,161/+7,121), and our staff averaged a **remarkable 97%** in their ability to **dispatch priority-one (P1) calls for service in three (3) minutes or less** during 2020.

The extraordinary results in crime reduction and increased highway and traffic safety as well as harm reduction achieved during 2020 despite the calamity of a worldwide pandemic reflects the professionalism, dedication and service of our employees as well as the superlative management and leadership of the Department who are committed to making Bedford and keeping Bedford one of the safest communities in NH.

We are *proud* to serve our *residents* in keeping with our BPD tradition of:

Bravery Professionalism Dedication

Respectfully Submitted,
John Bryfonski,
Police Chief





BEDFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL STATISTICS

	BEDFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT						
	2019	2020	Difference	2019	2020	Difference	Pct +/-
Category:	Dec.	Dec.		YTD	YTD		
Calls for Service	657	607	-50	8353	7339	-1014	-12.1394
Self-Initiated Calls	2765	3451	686	35003	43529	8526	24.35791
Total Incident Reports	3422	4058	636	43356	50868	7512	17.32632
Total Calls handled by CC	3722	4366	644	47040	54161	7121	15.13818
Crime Stats:							
Arrests:							
Adult	54	50	-4	725	633	-92	-12.6897
Juvenile	3	3	0	41	27	-14	-34.1463
Assaults:							
Simple	1	3	2	65	21	-44	-67.6923
Domestic Calls	5	8	3	104	100	-4	-3.84615
Sexual Assaults	3	0	-3	18	9	-9	-50
Other Assault	0	0	0	5	4	-1	-20
Burglaries:							
Residential	0	0	0	3	0	-3	-100
Commercial	1	0	-1	6	5	-1	-16.6667
Attempted	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Thefts:							
Willful concealment	3	2	-1	76	41	-35	-46.0526
Theft from a motor vehicle	0	7	7	23	39	16	69.56522
Theft all other	9	12	3	124	98	-26	-20.9677
Misc. Crimes:							
Criminal Mischief	0	3	3	70	58	-12	-17.1429
Disorderly Conduct	7	6	-1	150	156	6	4
Drug Violations	10	8	-2	114	89	-25	-21.9298
Fraud/Counterfeit	4	10	6	79	51	-28	-35.443
Harassment	4	4	0	21	19	-2	-9.52381
Internet Crime	0	0	0	14	7	-7	-50
Sex Offender Registration	4	3	-1	33	35	2	6.060606
Robberies	0	0	0	3	0	-3	-100
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Highway Safety:							
Accidents	46	26	-20	553	297	-256	-46.2929
Fatal	0	0	0	2	0	-2	-100
Injury	2	1	-1	54	39	-15	-27.7778
Pedestrian	0	0	0	4	1	-3	-75
Motor Vehicle Activity:							

MV Summons Issued	214	265	51	3290	3601	311	9.452888
MV Warnings Issued	384	528	144	6733	5625	-1108	-16.4563
Parking Tickets Issued	7	1	-6	45	20	-25	-55.5556
MV Complaints	37	40	3	684	523	-161	-23.538
DWI's	13	5	-8	129	74	-55	-42.6357
Community Policing:							
Business	9	1	-8	50	43	-7	-14
Senior Citizens	1	0	-1	8	10	2	25
Juvenile	2	2	0	45	64	19	42.22222
Neighborhood	1	0	-1	12	7	-5	-41.6667
Other	1	0	-1	5	10	5	100
Safe School	15	1	-14	147	41	-106	-72.1088
Misc. Calls for Service:							
Civil/Civil Stand-by	6	2	-4	89	96	7	7.865169
Death Investigation	1	2	1	22	20	-2	-9.09091
Found Property	0	3	3	68	75	7	10.29412
Highway Conditions	60	52	-8	461	392	-69	-14.9675
Juvenile Complaints	0	0	0	17	20	3	17.64706
Littering Complaints	0	2	2	23	17	-6	-26.087
Lost Property	2	0	-2	16	17	1	6.25
Suspicious Person/Vehicle	83	53	-30	1049	934	-115	-10.9628
Assists:							
Assist Rescue	34	28	-6	448	298	-150	-33.4821
Assist Fire	6	7	1	82	129	47	57.31707
Assist Citizen	36	51	15	449	575	126	28.06236
Assist Other PD	15	14	-1	191	202	11	5.759162
Assist Utilities	3	24	21	48	69	21	43.75
Alarms:	122	96	-26	1355	1108	-247	-18.2288
Animal Control:							
Animal Complaints	7	4	-3	139	161	22	15.82734
Dog Complaints	18	13	-5	204	236	32	15.68627
Dog Summonses	1	0	-1	77	75	-2	-2.5974
Dog Warnings	0	2	2	34	27	-7	-20.5882



2020

COMMUNITY

POLICE IN ACTION

POLICING





**BEDFORD POLICE
DIVERSITY**



**POLICE MEMORIAL
WEEK CEREMONY**



**NH ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE
EXECUTIVE BOARD**



**BEDFORD POLICE
HONOR GUARD**



Scott Hunter - Fire Chief

Introduction

The Bedford Fire Department is pleased to present the following Annual Report, which encapsulates the activities, successes and accomplishments of the department in the year 2020. We have encountered many unforeseeable obstacles in 2020. We are proud of the planning and response by the men and women of the Bedford Fire Department, as well as the members of our community.

Administration

The Bedford Fire Department exists to strengthen the safety of our community through planning, preparation, emergency response and risk reduction. This mission was put to the ultimate test in 2020, with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. New, unforeseen and ever-changing challenges arose at a rapid pace, and our members were at the forefront of the efforts to ensure the citizens of Bedford continued to receive the highest level of care, despite so many unknowns. As an administration, we are proud to report the dedicated individuals of the Bedford Fire Department, accepted these challenges without pause, exceeded expectations, and demonstrated what it means to be a true First Responder.

Not only did our providers respond to the pandemic, they also helped to prevent the spread through testing initiatives. Our providers are now pivoting once again to assist with COVID vaccinations.

We were fortunate due to resources available from our vendors and the State of New Hampshire to provide our first responders with personal protective equipment, which meets the suggested standards for

patient care and emergency response set forth by the State of New Hampshire. We are truly grateful to our community who supported the Department by donating items such as homemade masks, disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer. In addition, a sincere thanks to those who donated meals, prepackaged snacks, and bottled drinks to our firefighters. Your contributions are truly appreciated.

Fire administration created policies and procedures, acquired personal protective equipment, entered COVID19 tests into the State Laboratory's online system, assembled test kits, and drove to the State Laboratory in Concord to obtain test kits and drop off completed samples. Administrative personnel also socially distanced from emergency personnel to reduce the risk of infection and remain available for response if needed.

The pandemic has shown that the men and women of the Bedford Fire Department will do whatever they can to protect the residents and visitors to the Town of Bedford. We cannot thank our staff enough. Their professionalism and perseverance is remarkable in the Town's time of need.

In 2020, the Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) was updated through Emergency Management. The recommended update interval for this document is five years. The opportunity arose from an Emergency Management Performance Grant, offered by the Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management. The grant was available on a 50% matching basis, with the intended focus being on disaster preparedness. The work was accomplished by staff and volunteers across all departments and elected boards.

Captain Plante, Inspector Lavoie, Firefighter Thomas, and Executive Assistant Elizabeth Duclos comprised a team that completed and submitted an application to the FEMA SAFER grant program to provide funding for four additional firefighters over the next three years. The grant was approved and the Town was awarded \$1,071,724.32 in federal funding which will



cover 100% of the four positions' salaries and benefits for the years 2021, 2022, and 2023. This is the first step in pursuit of adequate emergency staffing to meet the expectations of the citizens.

Overall, our call volume decreased in 2020 from the previous year; however, the effort involved in calls for service to the community significantly increased. For the majority of emergency medical calls, the typical response requires a two-member crew staffing our ambulance. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the crew has increased to three members, ensuring the driver of the apparatus would maintain distance, minimizing exposure. A two-member crew would remain in place to care for the patient. This ensured our level of care would not be compromised. The engine company also donned personal protective gear when responding to calls for service, with no designated level of risk for COVID exposure. Upon return to the station, our providers and apparatus undergo a rigorous decontamination process. This process is both laborious and time consuming, drastically hindering our ability to complete in service in a rapid manner, as we are normally accustomed to doing.

We have been continuously working as an organization to reduce risk in the community. Efforts to reduce false fire alarms are one example of this. Another is our proactive coordination with our customers that call on our services often. We assist them and their families to identify appropriate resources. A little education can go a long way.

We have been working on the implementation of Mobile Integrated Health, or Community Paramedicine. A newer model of healthcare, this will allow EMS providers to expand their roles and offer support with public health & preventative services, resulting in easier access to some areas of healthcare. We continue to be the primary resource for health and medical response as well as providing up to date information to our community.

Human Resources

The Fire Department began the 2020 year at full staffing. Through promotions, resignations and retirements, the Bedford Fire Department welcomed four new members in 2020.

FF EMT-A, Benjamin Vaughn – Shift #1
 FF Paramedic, Tara O'Neil – Shift #2
 FF EMT-A, Jacob Horrell – Shift #4
 FF EMT-A, Ashley Clement – Shift #1

We had seven personnel leave the operations division of the fire department, four full time members and three on-call firefighters. Lt. Steve Robinson of the call division retired with over 45 years of service to the Town of Bedford. Steve joined the fire department as an on call firefighter in 1975, became an EMT and certified firefighter eventually being promoted to Lieutenant. Steve was a very active member of the department and helped on various truck committees as well as off duty functions.

In addition to hiring four new personnel, promotional exams were conducted for Lieutenant. This requires extensive time for both the individuals testing as well as the operations division in preparing for the testing process.

Operations

As with the rest of the world, 2020 has been very challenging for the Bedford Fire Department. We were tasked with answering the call to prepare for and respond to emergencies amid the pandemic. We immediately responded by using what personal protective equipment (PPE) we had in stock to protect our first responders. Our department was ill equipped as were all Fire Departments and the state cache was limited. We were fortunate we had left over equipment from the Ebola emergency in 2014. We received several commercial as well as private donations of PPE that we used until we could get what we needed from our vendors, and the State distribution system.

Protecting ourselves when treating patients adds time to our response as we have to use several layers of protection and decontaminate the apparatus after



almost every call. We do this with an atomizing sprayer, special UV lamp, and hand cleaning every surface.

There is extensive training that we require of our new firefighters, from getting to know the apparatus and tools we carry to being familiar with the Town of Bedford streets, target hazards, and water supplies. This is very time consuming for both the new firefighter and the other firefighters on shift, with the training division coordinating it all.

We had three structure fires in 2020; all were extinguished with minor to moderate damage to the buildings. The most concerning was in one of our apartment buildings. There was not a lot of fire; however, there was a large amount of smoke that required evacuation of the entire floor at 2:30 AM. These types of fire is what tests our abilities due to the extreme amount of life hazard and number of possible victims at this time of day. The the occupant of the apartment where the fire occurred was the only one that required medical assistance.

We responded to over 50 brush and grass fires, including bark mulch fires. The high amount was in part due to the extreme drought conditions. Please remember to be extra cautious with disposal of smoking materials and make sure permitted burns are extinguished completely when done.

Water rescues still account for many of our technical rescue calls. We participated in several searches on the Merrimack River as well as rescuing people from overturned canoes and kayaks.

In 2020, The Bedford Fire Department totaled 2976 calls for service.

The vast majority, 76% of the calls for service were received between the hours of 7:00am and 7:00pm, with the peak occurring at 1:00pm, and lowest volume at 3:00am.

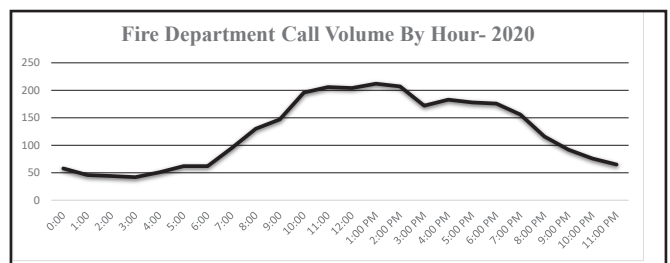
There was an overlap, or back-to-back calls 844 times throughout the year. Off duty and call personnel were requested to respond for manpower a total of 420 times. These statistics highlight the staffing needs to serve the expectations of the public.

The Bedford Fire Department responded to 775 Fire related calls for service in 2020. Of these calls, 11% were working incidents.

Risk Reduction

2020 introduced unique and unanticipated challenges to every aspect of life, the fire service and risk reduction were not exempt from these challenges. Many annual events that we participate in were significantly modified or cancelled such as the Camping Show, Boat Show, Road Races, High School Graduation, Fire Prevention Month/Week, and the Fire Department Open House. Public education has always been a strength of the Risk Reduction Division, the presentations this year had to be delivered remotely or in small groups outside when weather permitted. Technology was utilized and relied upon to deliver messages to the community. The fire prevention trailer was not used this year, which provided an opportunity to repair many of the worn out parts.

Inspections and public education saw a 21% decrease in 2020 due to COVID19, this reduction in demand on services allowed significant progress to be made on long-term projects and goals. The Risk Reduction Division had been making strides over the last two





years to digitize the record keeping and permitting processes. COVID19 presented both an opportunity and a necessity to accelerate the conversion timeline. Fire Department permits and forms can now be accessed, completed, submitted, reviewed, and stored completely digitally (paper applications are still accepted). All historic risk reduction documents have been scanned and stored digitally, and no new paper records are being created. The shift inspection process has been updated to provide better customer service to our businesses but also allows emergency personnel to compensate for our ever-increasing demand for service. The Risk Reduction Division assisted the Building Department in sorting and moving all of their archived files from the Assessing Department to the Safety Complex so that they can begin digitizing their records.

Building Code Official Wayne Richardson retired in October, Risk Reduction assisted in recruiting and selecting Matthew Lavoie as the new Code Official. Risk Reduction also assisted with conducting building inspections during the transition period. The Goffstown Fire Department experienced a line-of-duty death at the beginning of September. Risk Reduction along with other members of the Command Staff provided station coverage and conducted building and fire inspections at the direction of the NH State Fire Marshal while Goffstown personnel were planning and conducting funeral arrangements.

The Risk Reduction personnel continuously make efforts to hone all aspects of their craft through formal and informal training and education. In addition to regular Fire and EMS trainings, Inspector Lavoie became certified as a Fire Investigation Technician through the International Association of Arson Investigators. He also completed Natural Gas Safety Training for First Responders through Liberty Utilities, High Impact Inspections through Fire Engineering, Firefighter Misconduct Prevention through Curt Varone, Preventing Workplace Harassment through Primex, Public Information Officer Awareness, and Evaluating Water Supplies for Fire Protection Systems, Hydraulic Calculations for

Fire Protection Plan Review, and Incident Command Systems Level 700 and 800. Captain Plante completed the Art of Listening through Primex, the International Building Code Basics through the International Code Council (ICC), the International Residential Code Essentials through the ICC, Firefighter Misconduct Prevention through Curt Varone, and Workplace Harassment through Primex.

2020 Commissioned Commercial Occupancies:

- 5 Kilton Road - Hotworx
- 1 Executive Park Drive – Coca Cola Fitup
- 3 Colby Court – Verizon Wireless
- 35B Constitution Drive
- 5 Colby Court - Friendly Pets
- 451 South River Road - Uhaul
- 6 Bedford Farms Drive – Gale Associates
- 2 Cooper Lane - Optics expansion
- 116 South River Road - Bradyslaw/Crown/Sommers
- 3 Executive Park Drive - Toshiba
- 288 Route 101 – Martin’s School of Dance
- 107 South River Road – Chandler Apartments
- 2 Bedford Farms Drive – Wright Choice Financial
- 280 South River – TRM Expansion
- 18 Constitution Drive – Boston IVF
- 334 Route 101 – Cohen Title
- 29 Harvey Road – LSNE
- 3 Kilton Road – Bar Harbor Bank

Training

Fire Department personnel are given very little information when requested to the scene of an

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Burn Permits Issued	777	890
Inspections Conducted	720	568
Private Details	20	7
<u>Permit Fees</u>		
Fire Alarm Systems	\$10,793.10	\$4,751.67
Sprinkler Systems	\$9,807.15	\$4,375.15



emergency. The ability to constantly change operational strategy and tactics require in depth training, practice, and experience. Training also has to be able to change strategy and tactics. 2020 required us to shift training to new modalities. We were forced to train in smaller groups and lean on on-line interactive learning.

Firefighter/Paramedic Tara O'Neil, Firefighter/Advanced EMT Benjamin Vaughn, Firefighter/Advanced EMT Jacob Horrell, and Firefighter/Advanced EMT Ashley Clement were hired to fill vacancies through the year and completed their two week orientation training and EMS mentoring. They will continue to work hard through 2021 training on firefighter skills and apparatus operation.

Department members completed numerous shift trainings from hose line advancement and SCBA training to photovoltaic solar panel operations. Department off-duty training in 2020 included classes such as Pediatric Advanced Life Support, Ventilator management, swiftwater rescue review, and CDL practical exams. Personnel participated in live fire propane practice and learn about compressed natural gas transportation hazards at the New Hampshire Fire Academy in Concord. The department was able to host a national speaker, Curt Varone who provided a class on firefighter misconduct the fire officer's role and responsibility through a web-based platform. Not many in person classes were offered in 2020 due to the pandemic but we would like to congratulate the following personnel on completing the following classes:

- Stephen Shirk - Ice Rescue Technician and CDL-8
- Tim Lavoie - Inspecting Fireworks Displays Inspecting Tents & Commercial Kitchens, and multiple classes online through the California Conference on Arson.
- Michael Jolin - Preparation for Initial

Company Operations

- Erik Thomas - Difficult Airway Course Instructor
- Eric Dubowik - Advanced Disciplinary Issues: Toxic Employees
- Steve Bateman - Advanced Disciplinary Issues: Toxic Employees
- Adam Parent - Decision Making for the initial company operations

We are also very proud of Albert Kozacka who continues to receive praise from his instructors and preceptors during his intensive 18-month paramedic education. Keith Culligan has also taken up the challenge of paramedic school. We wish him the best of luck. We look forward to seeing these two in action providing paramedic care to the people of Bedford! Firefighter/ Paramedic Adam Parent graduated from Franklin Pierce University with a Bachelor's degree in Fire Science Management. This accomplishment is the effort in preparation that is necessary to be successful in today's fire service.

Emergency Medical Services

The EMS report for this year is all about our EMS providers. Our providers continue to endure an unrelenting pandemic. They are working long hours and extended shifts, to cover shortages and fulfill the needs and expectations of the citizenry of Bedford. They deal with the COVID19 realities in both their personal and professional lives, with little escape. Bedford has an exceptionally disproportionate number of at-risk patients due to the high volume of 55+ communities, and long-term care facilities within the community. We are proud to have positive working relationships with our healthcare partners at these facilities. Providers leaned on each other to help care for critically ill patients. Routine care became extremely difficult as the unknown required providers to do their job under difficult circumstances. After the call, they had to remain in the hot protective equipment to complete a decontamination process of the apparatus, equipment, and themselves. Information



about the virus constantly changed, and this resulted in ongoing training procedures and clinical practices on nearly every shift.

The department obtained a grant to obtain two respiratory ventilators and placed them in service on our ambulances. Since medical calls continued, this required providers to pivot from a severe respiratory case one minute to a trauma activation the next. The Bedford Fire Department also took the lead to become the first licensed provider in the state to conduct COVID-19 testing sample collection. The ability to conduct COVID-19 sample collection assisted our long term care facilities in preventing spread and saving lives. The Bedford Fire Department, with assistance from the Bedford Health Department, was proactive in providing guidance and answers to our citizens on resources available as the pandemic evolved.

In December of this year, we celebrated the arrival of the 2020, F450, PL Customs ambulance. The bid was awarded to Sugarloaf Ambulance of Wilton, Maine. The new ambulance replaced Ambulance 3, which had been in service since 2005. The new ambulance provides many updates and improvements, which are designed to fit the department's needs, and provide more efficient patient care. The most significant improvement is the addition of power lift system. The benefits are stability of patient transfer to ambulance and reduction in provider lifting injury.

In 2020, the Bedford Fire Department responded to 2201 Emergency Medical Service related calls. This comprised close to 74% of our total call volume. Of these calls, 308 (14%), involved a patient with a confirmed, positive case of COVID19.

In Conclusion

Our goal is to provide service levels that match community expectation. We consider our whole community when planning and preparing for routine emergency calls, as our community is both distinct and diverse, with varied risks, which require different resources. Our objectives focus on adequate facility

locations, apparatus deployment and staffing levels so we may continue to provide exceptional service to the whole community.

The men and women that comprise our organization are talented and trusted. They bring their knowledge, skills and abilities into our community in daily in response and risk reduction. Our training aids us to remain vigilant to be always ready, whatever the call. Our call firefighters back us when call volumes exceed our daily staffing minimum. Our partners in work force- Bedford Professional Firefighters Local-3639 proudly serve our community each day.

Our common purpose is to make our community better each day. We strive to become a community leader that provides the level of safety, expected by those we serve. Our team provides these services through our values of trust, leadership and professionalism. We are grateful to the citizens of Bedford for their support and look forward to continuing our mission in 2021, strengthening the safety of our community through planning, preparation, and emergency.

Respectfully Submitted,
*The Executive Team
of the Bedford Fire Department*



BEDFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING





COVID 19 RESPONSE



**BEDFORD FIRE
WELCOMES
FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC
TARA O'NEIL**



COMMUNITY SUPPORT





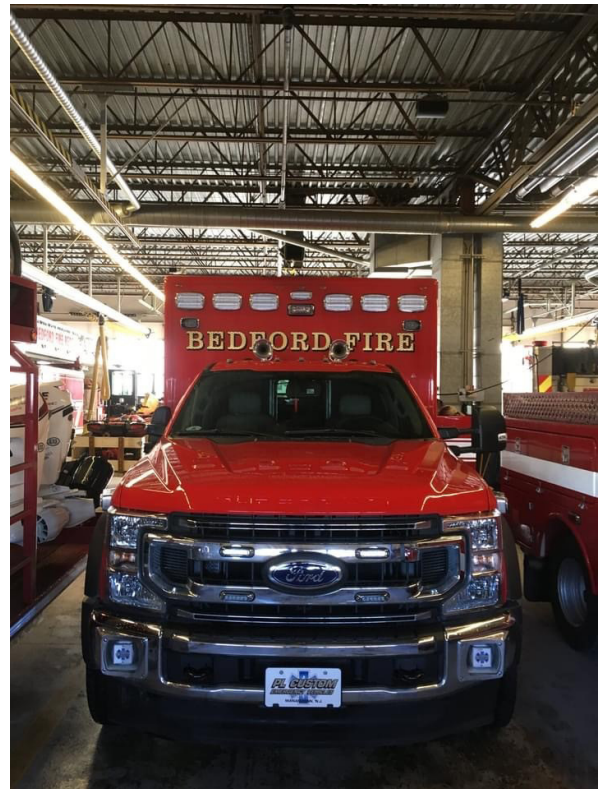
ANNUAL 9/11/2001 FLAG RAISING CEREMONY



**BATTERY OPERATED COMBI TOOL
AWARDED TO THE BEDFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT
THROUGH A GRANT FROM FIREHOUSE SUBS**



NEW AMBULANCE #3





Matthew Lavoie - Code Official

Introduction

We will always remember 2020. As the town faced new challenges, we also had many changes within the Building & Health Departments. Code Official Wayne Richardson retired in October of this year after 24 years of dedicated service, and Health Inspector Gary Pariseau left the town after 17 years of service. These two absences left the town with big shoes to fill. In December, the department welcomed Matthew Lavoie as the new Code Official, who came to us from Hooksett, N. H. where he served as the Code Enforcement Officer for the past seven years. We look forward to welcoming a new Health Inspector in 2021.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Bedford Health Department continued to perform routine food service, public pool & spa inspections, and issue both food service and public bathing facility licenses.

There was a new requirement set forth by the state for food establishments to have a certified food protection manager on staff. This new legislation was put on hold due to lack of training caused by the Covid-19 outbreak. Currently, there is no reliable way to have establishments obtain this certification.

The town food licensing & public pool programs continue to operate utilizing best management practices.

Arboreal viruses, Zika virus and the presence of Lyme disease is of a continuing concern for residents and visitors to New Hampshire. The most troubling facet of these illnesses is the continuing emergence

of new viral strains, which have not been seen in NH in past years. In all cases, the Health Department continues to advise all residents your best defense against contracting these diseases is by self-protection. There are information links on the State of New Hampshire Health Department website on how to protect yourself, your family, and your pets.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

With the Covid-19 situation bounding homeowners, there was an uptick in household improvements and projects. The Building Department saw a significant increase in permits issued for sheds, decks and pools. This trait was true throughout New England and the country. Compounding the demand for building materials to support the unexpected demand, most sawmills were shut down for a large part of the year due to COVID-19. This stretched reserves thin and limited production of lumber, appliances, windows and doors. With demand high and production low, it was inevitable that lumber prices would significantly increase. Lumber prices have since stabilized, however appliances and windows seem to still have a long lead-time.

In addition to the Certificate of Occupancies issued for single-family dwellings, and final inspections for numerous residential and commercial projects, the Building Department issued Certificate of Occupancies for the Bar Harbor Bank on Kilton Road and LSNE on 29 Harvey Road and 101 South River Road, The Chandler Apartments.

Permits were issued for the new apartment buildings on Bow Lane, a pump house to support Senior Living at Bedford, and contractor bays at 6 Bellmore Drive. New permits were issued for the renovations happening at 209 Route 101, which include the Wicked Good Butchah, Flight Coffee, and Ace Hardware.

In 2020, the total construction value of permits issued was \$47,917,168. There were over 2216 building permits issued in 2020, and the building department



completed over 3,000 inspections.

The Building Department continues to encourage residents, contractors, and developers to visit our web site for the information. We continually make improvements, and add new items of interest for everyone. The single most important page on our web site is the web link to view the current building codes online, located on the resources page. If you have not been to our new website, please take the time to visit and let us know your thoughts. There are direct links to all Building Department staff, so you may contact us directly.

In 2020, we introduced our online permitting system, Citizen Self Service. You are now able to search properties; view previously issued Building permits and apply for trade permits. The system also allows you to pay for your permit, utilizing credit card or echeck.

If you have questions about permits or food service licensing, please visit the department website, email or call the Building & Health Department at 603-472-3838 or safety@bedfordnh.org.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew Lavoie
 Code Official



LEFT:
CODE OFFICIAL WAYNE
RICHARDSON AND
BUILDING INSPECTOR
TERRY CARTER

BELOW:
WAYNE RICHARDSON
AND RETIRED FIRE
CHIEF SCOTT WIGGIN



BEDFORD WELCOMES
CODE OFFICIAL MATTHEW LAVOIE



CODE OFFICIAL, WAYNE RICHARDSON
RETIRES AFTER 24 YEARS OF SERVICE



VALUE OF WORK BEING DONE BY YEAR*

	<u>2016</u>		<u>2017</u>		<u>2018</u>		<u>2019</u>		<u>2020</u>	
COMMERCIAL ADDITION	\$0	0	\$2,130,000	3	\$15,177,865	11	\$1,644,181	1	\$3,419,000	4
COMMERCIAL REMODEL	\$7,754,361	58	\$20,339,248	71	\$5,663,805	47	\$7,003,754	52	\$4,642,071.00	27
NEW COMMERCIAL	\$23,567,147	10	\$2,196,945	4	\$8,685,750	6	\$48,667,000	8	\$20,109,017	11
NEW DWELLING	\$11,205,000	20	\$13,785,000	27	\$8,370,000	14	\$13,485,000	22	\$6,028,642	15
NEW RESIDENTIAL	\$1,099,000	16	\$870,000	15	\$1,957,300	25	\$573,100	11	\$1,114,940	18
RESIDENTIAL ADDITION	\$5,006,800	112	\$4,126,219	115	\$3,586,548	86	\$3,172,026	105	\$2,372,000.00	18
RESIDENTIAL REMODEL	\$2,799,353	86	\$1,793,191	61	\$4,673,067	77	\$3,465,761	87	\$2,222,929.00	58
SEPTIC	\$764,500	40	\$399,500	42	\$403,800	34	\$587,600	52	\$248,000.00	25
SIGNS	\$186,907	45	\$345,260	42	\$151,732	21	\$177,137	34	\$154,331.00	23
SHEDS	\$244,784	44	\$224,519	31	\$299,023	45	\$206,755	41	\$372,907	65
SWIMMING POOLS	\$968,175	32	\$715,279	23	\$638,300	20	\$1,354,822	29	\$2,272,085	72
SOLAR PV PANELS	\$638,921	36	\$248,025	11	\$722,311	16	\$1,220,605	22	\$538,294.00	23
	\$54,236,964	499	\$47,173,186	445	\$50,331,519	402	\$81,559,760	464	\$43,494,216.00	359

Additions = where finished square footage was added to existing structure
 Remodel = where no new space was added only reconfiguring and updating
 New = entirely new structures (in residential this excludes dwellings)
 Figures in italics are the number of projects permitted to generate the values in the table.
 * = VALUES ARE BASED UPON FIGURES GIVEN ON PERMIT APPLICATIONS

TOWN OF BEDFORD - BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED

New Dwelling Units

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Single	25	40	23	27	20	27	14	20	11
ADU							5	2	15
Duplex	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Condos	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Apartmts	0	0	144	182	41	0	0	238	93
Total	25	40	167	209	61	27	19	260	119

Certificates of Occupancy

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Single	20	29	24	22	18	27	19	15	7
ADU								4	0
Duplex	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multi-family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Apartmts	167	0	0	108	36	157	0	0	0
Total	187	29	24	130	54	184	19	19	7

Permits for Pools, Sheds and Decks*

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Pools	32	22	26	25	36	19	21	23	72
Sheds	33	18	33	35	50	33	44	29	65
Decks	22	34	28	31	28	23	30	27	47
Total	87	74	87	91	114	75	95	79	184

*Does not include those associated with new dwellings



Mary Ann Senatro - Director

Trustees:

Walter Gallo, Chair

Pam VanArsdale, Treasurer

Jerry Hanauer, Alternate

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic was felt in March when the library closed to the public and all services began to shift to online virtual services. Check outs of digital materials such as eBooks and eAudiobooks began to skyrocket in demand as more and more of the community was staying at home. The library staff quickly became proficient in using the Zoom platform to deliver story time programs and training sessions virtually. We encouraged residents to sign up for library cards online to take advantage of our numerous digital resources.

In May, we were able to offer contact free pick up of library materials. Patrons could place holds on items, text us when they arrived at the library parking lot and the staff would bring the materials out to them in a safe manner, wearing a mask and social distancing. BCTV produced an informative video that showed how the process worked and WMUR featured the Bedford Library on the evening news. In August, after our plexiglass barriers were installed, we were able to open to the public with a limited capacity for browsing, holds pick up and computer use by appointment. Reference services were available by phone or email to assist patrons. No seating or meeting rooms were available. All materials were stored in the McAllaster Room for the recommended 72 hour quarantine period before being checked in.

Through all of these changes we found that we were well positioned to serve the community virtually. We

added additional eBooks and eAudiobooks to meet the demand, produced videos for our new YouTube Channel as guides to our services, and found that reader's advisory was more important than ever to recommend books to patrons. The children's department started a "Book Bundle" program. Patrons submit a form through our website indicating reading preferences and the library staff choose up to five books for them to pick up. The reference department followed suit for adults and teens by starting to offer a new service, "Book Match" and "Movie Match".

One very important addition to our archive collection in 2020 was the digitization of the Bedford-Merrimack Bulletin newspapers from microfilm spanning the years from 1977 through 2008. We also have the Bedford Bulletin available on our website through Newsbank from 2009 to the present. To search for an article go to our website: <https://bedfordnhlibrary.org>, Reading & Research tab, Databases. Digitization makes them searchable and full text views of the articles are now available. Once a citation is found we also have many of the print issues available as bound copies.

The library staff stepped up to continue to offer the community library services during this challenging time within the safety guidelines. We received so much positive feedback from patrons who expressed their gratitude to the staff. So many were appreciative of the fact that we were able to open and offer services in a safe manner even if limited.

Staffing

Leanne Klocke resigned in November as Library Clerk to start a new position out of state. We wish her well in her career path.

Facilities

Major projects included painting the exterior of the building, replacing the exterior door handles and locking mechanisms, reconstruction of the small flat roof structure covering rear emergency exit stairwell and installation of the plexiglass barriers around the public service desks. Many thanks to Peter Barbuto, Facilities Manager, and Kirk Fountaine from DPW for



handling building maintenance issues throughout the year.

Programs

The library offers many opportunities for patrons of all ages to take advantage of learning by exploring reading, music, art and culture. In 2020, we offered 51 adult programs with a total of 721 people attending. The first programs of the year were in person and after March we shifted to mainly virtual programming. A sampling of programs offered include:

- Daytime and evening monthly book discussion groups for adults.
- Tech Thursday classes and Walk-In Wednesday computer help.
- One-on-one assistance by reference staff on e-devices.
- Thursday Theater, movie screenings. The showing of *Downton Abbey* had 64 people in attendance!
- New Hampshire Humanities Council program, “A History of the NH Presidential Primary” with presenter, John Gfoerer.
- Online Summer Reading Program for adults. In 2020, 135 adult participants read for a total of 4,827 hours and 48 teen participants who logged in reading for 1,447 hours.
- “Coffee and Crafting” programs in conjunction with our online database Creativebug facilitated by library staff.
- Virtual Cooking classes with Chef Liz Barbour, “Artisan Bread in 5 Minutes a Day”, “Feasting with Your Instant Pot” and “Feasting from Your Local Farm”.
- Virtual program with Steve Hale, “Backyard Birds” with 62 people in attendance.
- Telescopes to check out
- Bedford Virtual Volunteer Fair

The Children’s Summer Reading Program theme was, “Imagine Your Story”. The children participated virtually by logging in their reading time through the “Beanstack” software program and could win badges and prizes. Each child received a necklace to track their reading progress. For every hour of reading time they earned a bead for their necklace and a “special” bead when they reached 5 hours as well as beads for completing various activities. Take and Make crafts were offered each week for pick up, also.

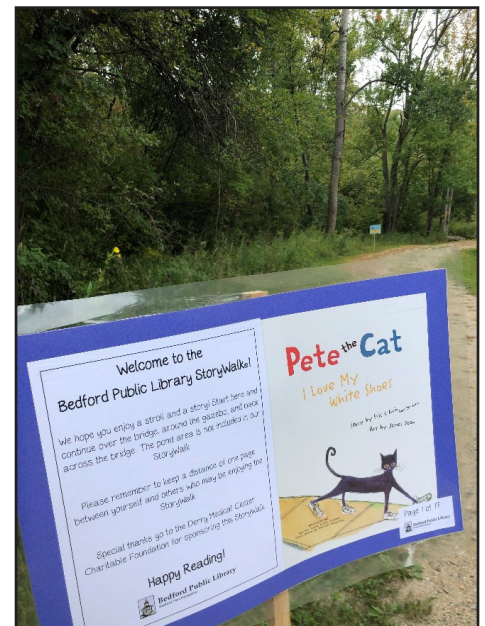
Story time sessions were offered virtually with an excellent response from the community. Some of the programs the children’s department offered in 2020 included:

- Mother Goose Story time (ages 0-24 mos.)
- Toddler 2’s (ages 24-36 mos.)



- Little Listeners (ages 2-4)
- Story time Lunch Bunch (ages 3-4)
- Bubbly Babies (ages 0-18 mos.)
- Kindergarten Club (ages 5-6)
- Book Buzz (ages 8-12)
- Graphic Novel Club (ages 8-12)

- STEM and STEAM programs
- Kamishibai Read Aloud Japanese style story theater
- Teen Summer Reading Program and Take home craft kits



- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Emily Sennott, Head of Children's Services, set up a StoryWalk® on the Bedford Village Common. A StoryWalk® is a way to promote reading and exercise. Pages of a book are placed on posts at intervals along a popular walking route and families can walk along the path and stop to read the pages of the book. The first story was, *Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes* by Eric Litman and James Dean. The story began

just after the archway and follows the path around the gazebo.

Reaching Out

Emily Weiss, Head of Reference and Patricia Kline-Millard, Reference Librarian, offered outreach services early in the year to local senior living communities in Bedford. After COVID curtailed in person visits, they launched the Library-by-Mail program to send library materials for those unable to visit the library due to health or transportation issues. To keep the whole community informed about how to stay connected with the library we started regularly scheduling



social media posts on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and producing content for our YouTube channel. In addition, Emily sent out the online newsletter, “What’s New at the Library” weekly to over 1,000 patrons and started a bi-weekly print newsletter to pick up in the library. Brief PSA announcements about library events were recorded for WBNH-LPFM radio, 105.1.

Community Support

We are grateful to our volunteers who were unable to come into the building since our spring closure. We hope to have them back in the building when it is safe to do so. Volunteers include: Stephen Ahnen, Laurie Heinz, Jean McGiffin, Sue Nixon-Bradford, Barbara Potter and Susan Zawodniak. Many thanks to the Friends of the Library for volunteering to serve and sponsoring the “Groundhog Day: Winter Sleepers” program.

We are very grateful for all the support we receive from the Friends of the Bedford Library and the Bedford Library Foundation. Their support continues to enhance the library with items above and beyond the town budget. The Friends purchased a new 3-D Flash Forge printer. The Foundation purchased an additional drive up book return and interior cart which was a huge help especially during the closure. Also, they purchased high quality mobile shelving units for the Young Adult section, additional eBooks and Playaway audiobooks. As museums starting opening up again they renewed the museum passes to allow patrons to visit at a reduced rate.

The Rotary Club of Bedford helped fund the adult, teen and children’s Summer Reading programs. They also donate funds to purchase books to add to the library collection in honor of their guest speakers. Derry Medical Center Charitable Foundation gave a generous donation to fund materials for story time sessions, additional books and the StoryWalk®.

The Bedford Garden Club supplied the pass to the Fells Estate and gardening magazine subscriptions for patrons to check out. Each year they enhance the entrances to the library with flowers and wreaths and maintain the gardens on the lower level entryway.

The Library received the final generous bequest from the estate of Wayne Donald Skelly. Wayne and Jane Skelly lived in Bedford in the 1990’s and Jane Skelly was a library volunteer during that time. Jane passed away in 2015 and Wayne in 2018.

Most Checked out Books and Movies of 2020

- **Fiction**: The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes
- **Mystery**: The Night Fire by Michael Connelly
- **Science Fiction**: The Silmarillion by J. R. R. Tolkien
- **Nonfiction**: Educated: A Memoir by Tara Westover
- **Large Print**: A Minute to Midnight by David Baldacci
- **Graphic Novel**: The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse by Charlie Mackesy
- **Young Adult**: The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
- **Audiobook**: The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes
- **Movie**: Little Women (2019)

Thank you to everyone in the Bedford community for valuing the library and allowing us to serve you during this challenging year. We have tried to offer as many of the services that you have come to expect from your library. We pride ourselves on offering high quality story times to start off the youngest children with literacy skills to lifelong learning opportunities for residents of all ages. Most of all we hope to be a warm and friendly place which offers high quality service. We wish you all good health!

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Ann Penabro,
Library Director

**Library Statistics**

Books on accession (12/31/2019)	64,696
Books purchased:	5,008
Books donated:	317
Sub-total:	70,021
Books withdrawn:	3,705
Books on accession (12/31/2020)	66,316
Number of registered borrowers	12,720

Library holdings (12/31/2020)

Books	66,316
Magazines	2,137
Audio books	3,484
Videos/DVDs	6,386
Compact discs	2,712
Total	81,035
Subscriptions	
Magazines (titles)	96
Newspapers (titles)	11
Microfilm (1 title)	39 rolls

2020 Circulation Statistics

Books	164,446
Ebooks	24,234
Magazines	7,028
Compact Discs	2,869
Videos/DVDs	29,369
Audio Books	24,484
Museum Passes	289
Total	252,719
Database Usage	66,653
Website Visits	319,372

**Bedford Public Library
Special Account**

Cash on hand 1/1/20	19,270.69
Income:	
Book Sale	3,039.35
Copies/Fax/Printing	1,036.03
Gifts	1,817.00
Fines	1,834.34
Non-Resident Fees	700.00
Replacements	1,199.11
Grant	200.00
Technology Fund	8.40
Interest	1,534.24
RECs from Geothermal	299.25
Total Income:	11,667.72
Disbursements:	
Books and Media	5,898.11
Copiers/Printers	1,926.64
Library Enhancements	9,729.22
Miscellaneous	123.08
Programs	798.89
Dues/Training	587.32
Technology Fund	-
Total disbursements:	19,063.26
Cash on hand 12/31/20	11,875.15
Bequest Balance	141,750.94

2/23/2021 13:15



Bill Jennings, Station Manager
Coleen Richardson, Assistant Station Manager
George Cox, Broadcast Production Coordinator
Harry Kozlowski, Radio Program Director
BCTV Channels 16, 22, 23 & HD 1072
WBNH 105.1 FM Radio



2020 was a challenging year for everyone due to the Covid19 Pandemic. Life changed as we knew it and new ways of communicating and getting information changed as well. Never had BCTV been more needed to provide local information and coverage to our residents. Zoom broadcasting and creative ways of broadcasting remotely became a way of life and allowed BCTV to bring local government and school board meetings safety into the viewer's homes as

well as informational, entertainment and sporting events.

BCTV worked closely with town staff and elected officials to insure that committee meetings were not interrupted and that all meetings could be broadcast live and safely for committee members. Many of our officials and residents who serve on their respective committees became quite versed in Zoom and BCTV handled the live broadcast process.

BCTV worked closely with safety officials with Covid safety programming produced in conjunction with Bedford police and fire. Public service announcements were produced and updated regularly using WBNH as well as BCTV to broadcast those safety messages.

In a general election year, the primary, as well as the general elections, had many candidates running for office. Candidates had the option for a one on one 30 minute interview on the BCTV show; *Candidates Corner*. This year it was by way of the Zoom platform. 16 candidates were interviewed for the primary and 26 later for the general election which included the incumbent Governor, US Senators and congressional candidates as well as our local state and senate candidates.

Working closely with the school department, BCTV was able to bring as much normalcy to our students who were restricted to remote learning by recording staff informational evenings, awards recognition and student events such as scholarship awards, underclassmen awards, book awards and an event that will be remembered by all, a 300 car rolling caravan for the Bedford High School senior clap out ceremony. Traditional events took on a whole new approach and challenged BCTV to use new technologies to help bring these kinds of uplifting events to the community and help us all to keep in good spirits.

One particular event that stands out and makes us all proud here at BCTV was the 2020 high school



graduation. The graduation took place over a three day period with 29 separate student advisory groups; a total of 371 students and their parents experiencing a graduation like none other. It was a live broadcast watched by hundreds remotely on BCTV and streaming on the BCTV website. Attendance was restricted with only immediate household family members allowed to attend.

The fall brought some joy to our high school student-athletes as they were allowed to play a limited sports schedule. Fan attendance was restricted with only player families allowed. No visitors were allowed into the stadium. BCTV-WBNH provided the live coverage to families and friends for both teams. Every varsity game was broadcast live and working closely with the BHS Athletic Director, JV coverage became part of our broadcast coverage too.

BCTV-WBNH was recognized with a number of awards in 2020, for our local programming. The Alliance for Community Media in the Northeast as was as the New Hampshire Association of Broadcasters recognized BCTV-WBNH with a number of first and second place awards as well as special Merit awards for outstanding programming; much of which was produced by our many volunteers with staff assistance.

BCTV has four TV channels all available through Comcast. One HD Channel; 1072, and three SD Channels; 16, 22 and 23. The channels are also streamed through the BCV website www.bedfordtv.com for online viewing; all in HD. The station also has a YouTube channel that can be accessed as *Bedford Community TV* or clicking on the YouTube Icon on the BCTV website. The station also has a Facebook page that provides game, meeting and public service information; Click on the FB logo on the BCTV website or search <https://www.facebook.com/BedfordTV/>

Channel 1072 High Definition will broadcast both general, government and school programming live as

well as prerecorded programming from channels 16, 22, and 23 in high definition.

Channel 16, the Public Channel is for general programs that entertain, inform and cover topics of interest that are produced by staff, residents and non-profit organizations in the community. Programs produced by other communities in the state as well as throughout the country are also incorporated into the schedule. These programs will be rebroadcast in high definition on 1072.

Channel 22 the Government Channel is for town government meetings are broadcast live on Channel 22. All government meetings are rebroadcast on an average of twice a day. The live meetings are streamed simultaneously on the station website and are also available for later viewing through the station's video on demand feature. One special video on demand feature for government and school board meetings is the online chapter indexing capability which quickly allows access to the video portion of that meeting agenda. These programs will be rebroadcast in high definition on channel 1072 as well.

Channel 23, the Education Channel, broadcasts all Bedford school district related programming. School Board meetings are broadcast live on the channel and then scheduled for rebroadcast on Channel 23. School sports, concerts, non- copyright plays, talent shows, classroom activities, graduations as well as educational lectures are broadcast on the channel. Live broadcasting capability exists at the high school field press box, theater, and gym. These programs will be rebroadcast in high definition on channel 1072.

All live and video on demand programming for all four channels can be viewed in high definition through the BCTV website at www.bedfordtv.com simply click on the channel icon for live or on demand programming.

As mentioned, BCTV also has a YouTube channel for video on demand high definition (HD) programming. The channel is currently reserved for entertaining



and educational on demand programming only. The station is now using popular on line content distribution venues such as YouTube and the BCTV Facebook page as additional sources to promote and distribute local content. The station also shares local programming with other stations throughout the country through our state, region and national on line affiliations.

BCTV also runs a community bulletin board for public service announcements. Any non-profit organization can have their notices posted. BCTV is a non-commercial station. Simply go to the BCTV website and click on *Public Service Announcement* and follow the directions and fill out the online form.

The Town of Bedford is one of the very few cities and towns in New Hampshire and New England that has both a television station and a low power FM radio station; WBNH-LP 105.1FM

To learn more about the use of WBNH-LP radio please refer to the radio station's website wbnh.bedfordnh.org. As a reminder, WBNH 105.1FM can also be heard on line through the radio station website.

WBNH 105.1 is available for all non-profit organizations who wish to record public service announcements. Radio PSA's are normally 30 seconds in length.

WBNH also welcomes volunteers who would like to produce a weekly hour long music show. There are specific requirements; one of which is producing a show once a week. If you are interested contact the radio station director.

BCTV offers a wide variety of programming and encourages residents to volunteer to help cover events in town or simply to be a host or to learn how use the television equipment to produce your own show. Training is free and the staff is always here to help you get started quickly.

How is BCTV and WBNH radio funded? Cable franchise fees collected from cable subscribers by Comcast, fund the operation of the station. Equipment purchases and all operational costs are paid for with franchise fees. Franchise fees are also used to cover all costs for the town meeting room where all government meetings are held. This includes computers, video and audio equipment; lighting and room maintenance.

Fees are also used to cover all building costs to include general repair maintenance both inside and outside of the building; heating and electrical costs, and all property repairs. Any major repairs or additions to the building are covered by these fees as well. No tax dollars are used to support the station facility.

The cable franchise agreement between Comcast and the Town of Bedford was renewed on December 2, 2018. It is a ten year non-exclusive agreement which will run through December 2, 2028. This agreement does not preclude other cable providers from offering their services to the town and competing for the business. In fact it is encouraged. However, to date no other cable provider has shown interest.

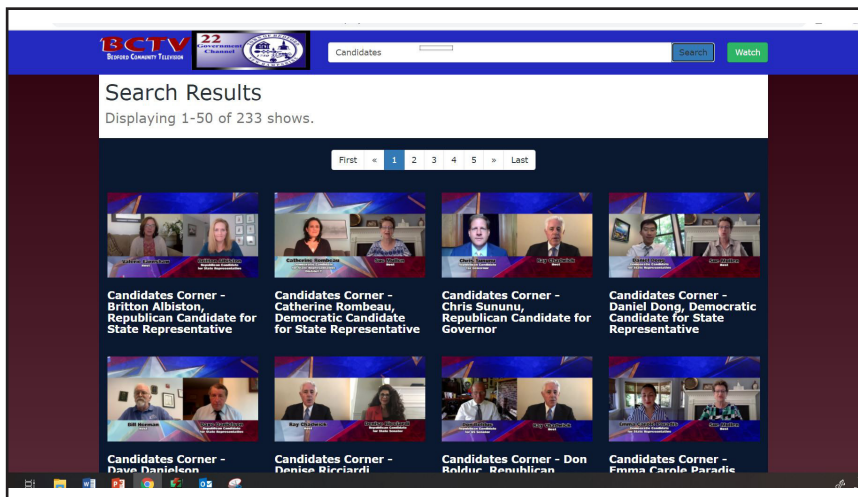
The BCTV-WBNH board is made of nine voting members; seven residents along with one town councilor and one school board member as board liaisons. The board is a policy board only and has no operations oversight

To learn more about BCTV and how you can get involved, contact either Bill Jennings or Coleen Richardson 472-8288 or emailing us at bctv@bedfordtv.com. For radio contact Harry Kozlowski at 472-5242 ext. 293

*Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Jennings,
Station Manager*



BCTV
KEEPING THE BEDFORD COMMUNITY
TOGETHER WHILE STILL BEING APART





Jane O'Brien - Parks and Recreation Manager
Michelle Casale - Chair

It's been a year like no other. The Recreation Department began the year on such a promising note. The variety of new programs and activities for the New Year and participation in our preschool classes and our senior fitness programs were increasing the beginning of January. Then with our town department taking precautionary measures for instructors and residents, like many of our town facilities the Recreation Department closed beginning March 17. Although parks and trails remained open for residents to use throughout the crisis.

COVID-19 has had a profound impact on how we provided recreational services to our residents. As you all know the office was closed to the public, as this pandemic affected people's everyday lives. We had to re-think our lines of communication with the residents as our goal is to provide a safe environment for everyone within the CDC guidelines that were ever changing and we did this via our website, Facebook and on-site signs detailing how residents could use the parks and trails more safely.

Spring brought on many other challenges as we entered the unknown future of large gatherings for our special events. Due to the statewide stay-at-home order we were unable to host our Memorial Day Parade and our annual "National Night Out" softball game with the Fire Department vs. Police Department.

Many summer recreation programs were cancelled due to the pandemic such as Camp Witzel our summer day camp that we offer and our specialty camps who use Town Hall as their base camp. Many of the specialty

camps did end up providing virtual programming like "Let Go Your Mind", but our summer programs definitely looked different this year than in past years. The Town pool after many discussions on how to open safely within the CDC and NH Task Force guidelines was unable to open this summer which was a big disappointment to the community.

We were able to host our "Concerts in the Park" series at Bedford Village Common Park at the gazebo from June 24th to August 12th on Wednesday evenings at 6 PM. The biggest concern was weather as in the past we used Town Hall as our rain location and we were unable to go inside due to the pandemic.

Another big part of the Recreation Department is our Parks Division which falls under the supervision of the Public Works Director. The Parks Division provides routine maintenance for all the Town's Recreational Facilities including the parks, trails, playground, athletic fields and pool.

A special *thank you* goes out to our Parks Division employees which include our new Parks Foreman Brad Hatfield, Craig Blais, Tyler Johns and Kevin Hodgdon for an excellent job maintaining the Town's recreational facilities this past year.

Our hope for the Bedford community as we welcome in year 2021 is that you discover a new activity, a new trail or just increase your awareness of the numerous Bedford recreational offerings we have available to residents.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jane O'Brien,
Parks and Recreation Manager



Trustees:

David C. Bailey, Chair

Steve Wiggin, Trustee

Art Alden, Secretary

The Cemetery Trustees are pleased to submit our 2020 Annual Report.

Internments

2020 produced a total of twenty internments, ten full burials and ten cremation internments. That number matched the internments of 2019. For the last three years we have averaged approximately 75% cremation internments and 25% full burials.

Plot Size	Price	Number Sold	Revenue	Plots Remaining
One - Person	\$750	5	\$3,750	33
Two - Person	\$1,500	14	\$21,000	53
Four - Person	\$3,000	8	\$24,000	199
Totals		27	\$48,570	285

We responded to a resident who moved to another town and requested that their next-of-kin be disinterred in Bedford and re-interned in their new residency in order to be closer to their loved one.

Lot Sales

The revenue generated from Cemetery plot sales accounts for approximately 93% of our 2020 budget which is an indication that we may become self-sustaining. That is the good news. The bad news is that in the next three to four years we may run out of the most popular plot size, the two - person plot. To mitigate that problem, we plan to look at two possible actions: 1) convert selected 4-person plots into two 2-person plots and 2) conduct a study to determine if it is feasible to prepare an area in the eastern section of the Hill-Top cemetery as an extension of the existing Hill-Top section.

In addition, there is the potential that we may be able to add some new plots in the center cemetery. If those actions do not workout, we may need to look for a new location for additional plots.

Projects

We were able to conduct routine maintenance in all cemeteries: Bedford Center, Beals Road, Joppa Hill Road, & Back River Road. Planned projects for 2020 included:

1. Finish cutting all the remaining brush along the borders of the Center Cemetery, including the brush along the stone wall that separates the Hill Top from Center Cemetery
2. Updating the record keeping system
3. Repairing all Gravestones in the Back River Road Cemetery

The Back River Road Cemetery is the oldest Cemetery in Bedford. It was established in 1737 with the first Burial in 1745. Many of Bedford’s founders are buried in this cemetery and we would like to ensure that its historical significance is preserved.

The pandemic caused budgets to be frozen for several months preventing us from completing our planned projects. Once the budgets were unfrozen, we were able to send out requests for bids for our projects. The bid for the Cemetery work was awarded to Gravestone Services of New England Inc., a Bedford company.

Status of 2020 Projects

1. The brush cutting and gravestone repairs will restart in 2021 as soon as weather permits.
2. The up-date of the record keeping system will begin in mid-February 2021

Acknowledgments

First, we would like to thank the Department of Public Works, the Town Managers Office, the Town Council, the Town Clerk and the Finance Department for their help and Support throughout the year. We would also like to thank the Boy Scouts for the Memorial Day Veteran Flag placements



Section 5: Friends of Bedford Cemeteries

2020 was the year that Friends of the Bedford Cemeteries decided to dissolve. We will miss their support. Their charter was to support the preservation and maintenance of the four historic cemeteries in the Town of Bedford by promoting public awareness, performing volunteer work that preserved the historical aspects of the cemeteries, and fund-raising activities. They believed that Historical cemeteries were open air museums that reflect on a community and its heritage. One outcome of this action is that “the Friends” donated approximately \$12,000 to the Town of Bedford. The donation was placed into a trust managed by the Trustees of the Trust Funds. The money can only be used consistent with the “Friends” Charter.

In addition, a specific amount will be set aside to preserve the grave site of John Goffe, a colonial soldier who built a grist mill on Bowman Brook. The mill still stands today behind Whole Foods. Both John and the Mill are memorialized in the book “John Goff’s Mill” written by Dr. George Woodbury in 1939. Dr. Woodbury is a John Goffe Descendant and a member of another prominent Bedford Family, the Woodbury’s. We would like to thank the “Friends” for their years of support helping to maintain our cemeteries and for their generous donation.

Respectfully Submitted,
David C. Bailey, Chair
Steve Wiggan, Trustee
Art Alden, Secretary



Hugh Donovan - Chair

Changes in Registered Voters during 2020:

17, 606	End of 2019
+3,102	New Registrations
-1,265	Removed

19,443	End of 2020

Party Affiliation:

4,962	Democrat
7,686	Republican
6,795	Undeclared

Supervisors of the Checklist hold evening and Saturday sessions for voter registration applications and corrections to the checklist prior to each election, and at other times as needed during the year. These sessions are posted in the Town Office, the Library and on the Town website (www.bedfordnh.org – click on Community followed by Elections and Voter registration). Residents are welcome to apply for voter registration and make name, address and party changes at the Town Offices during regular business hours. Bedford residents may register and vote at the Polls on Election Day. We also work with local assisted living facilities to register residents.

For details about the requirements for registration or any other questions related to registration, please contact the Supervisors through e-mail at checklist@bedfordnh.org or call 603-792-1329.

In the March Town Election, Barbara Chagnon (2 years), Hugh Donovan (4 years) and Beverly Yüksel (6 years) were elected to the position of Supervisor of the Checklist. At the same time Joan McMahon retired

after 13 years dedicated service. Beverly Yüksel, who initially took on the role in July 2019, departed in November. We would like to thank both Joan and Beverly for their significant contributions. Becki Kuhns was appointed to the role in November.

The Supervisors would like to thank Sally Kellar (Town Clerk), Gloria MacVane (Deputy Town Clerk), Joan McMahon (Assistant Town Clerk), Cindy Stillman (Finance Clerk) and Kayla Chase (Finance Clerk), for their assistance in the registration process throughout the year. We would also like to recognize the assistance of Carol Fahey, Sue Fahey and Sally Thomas.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hugh Donovan, Chair



Sally Kellar - Town Clerk

Gloria MacVane - Deputy Town Clerk

2020 was a very busy year in the Town Clerk department. When COVID-19 caused many towns to close their offices to the public, we remained accessible to our residents and surrounding town neighbors. Even with limited hours or “by appointment only” access, couples looked to us for marriage licenses and other individuals came to us to obtain vital records.

BEDFORD TOP DOG 2020 was a 4-year old cockapoo named Lucy. She is darling and brings joy wherever she goes. Until the pandemic caused the Bedford Public Library to limit in-person hours, she was a regular visitor. As a registered therapy dog, she encourages children to read aloud. Lucy enjoys performing tricks, especially her famous pirouette.

In 2020 we issued 3,905 dog licenses and conducted 4 elections. The office administered 618 vital records and 134 marriage licenses.

TOWN CLERK ACCOUNTS

Debits:

UCC Filings.....	\$4,590.00
Certified Copies.....	\$3,984.00
Marriage Licenses.....	\$938.00
Miscellaneous	\$847.00
Total Debits.....	\$10,359.00

DOG LICENSE ACCOUNT

Debits:

Licenses.....	\$19,658.50
License Penalties/Violations.....	\$10,650.00
Total Debits.....	\$30,308.50
Grand Total Remitted to Treasurer.....	\$40,667.50

Elections

This year, we held 4 elections - the Presidential Primary in February, our annual Town and School Elections in March, the NH State Primary in September and State General Election in November.

For the September and November elections, voters were allowed to select concerns for COVID-19 as a reason to obtain an absentee ballot. As a result, we experienced record numbers and thousands of people requesting absentee ballots. In order to accommodate the influx of requests, we set up a tent in our parking lot. This allowed for safer social distancing measures and less voter traffic in the building. Voters appreciated this option and easy manner to cast a ballot without going to the polls.

Absentee Ballot Requests

Election	2016	2020
September State Primary	480	3005
November General Election	2852	8302

The record number of requests brought along additional manpower needed to process the absentee ballots. As a result, Joan McMahan was appointed Assistant Town Clerk. I am grateful for her hard work and election experience that she brought to our office. Thank you Joan.

Another round of gratitude goes out to the many election volunteers who spent countless hours assisting the Town Clerk’s office preparing absentee ballot materials, stuffing mailing envelopes, working in the tent, filing returned ballots and finally processing the absentee ballots cast on Election Days. It was a pleasure working alongside all of you!

Finally, thank you Gloria MacVane for being an outstanding Deputy Town Clerk and by my side throughout this past year as I managed my first four elections as Town Clerk. You are greatly appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sally Kellar , Town Clerk



ELECTION RESULTS

Presidential Primary – February 11, 2020

Registered Voters.....	18,294
Total Ballots Cast.....	8,228
Absentee Voters.....	846
Same Day Registrants.....	492
Percentage of Voter Turnout.....	45%

Annual Town Meeting – March 10, 2020

Registered Voters.....	18,121
Total Ballots Cast.....	3,730
Absentee Voters.....	178
Same Day Registrants.....	48
Percentage of Voter Turnout.....	21%

State Primary – September 8, 2020

Registered Voters.....	18,454
Total Ballots Cast.....	5,903
Absentee Voters.....	2,425
Same Day Registrants.....	108
Percentage of Voter Turnout.....	32%

State General Election – November 3, 2020

Registered Voters.....	19,761
Total Ballots Cast.....	14,926
Absentee Voters.....	7,727
Same Day Registrants.....	740
Percentage of Voter Turnout.....	76%



**REQUEST AND RETURN
YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT
HERE**



**LUCY
TOP DOG
2021**



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
 RESIDENT BIRTH REPORT
 01/01/2020-12/31/2020

--BEDFORD--



Child's Name	Birth Date	Birth Place	Father's/Partner's Name	Mother's Name
LUNDEN, SULLIVAN NATHAN PAUL	01/19/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	LUNDEN, ALEXANDER	LUNDEN, ERICA
KINNANE, ABIGAIL FRANCISE	01/28/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	KINNANE, CHRISTOPHER	KINNANE, KATHLEEN
JANSKY, ARABELLA MARGARET	02/09/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	JANSKY, ALEXANDER	RUTENBECK, MEGAN
AKYEA, EYRAM MAKAFUI	02/20/2020	NASHUA, NH	AKYEA, KAFUI	ETTUH, JANET
TASKIN, SIBEL BAANA	03/02/2020	NASHUA, NH	TASKIN, ORHAN	ALTURKISTANI, TAHANI
MONTALBANO, ALFONSO ROBERT	03/10/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	MONTALBANO, VINCENT	MONTALBANO, KATHARINE
LAMBERT, LOGAN JAMES	03/24/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	LAMBERT, ANTHONY	LAMBERT, LAUREN
RAINVILLE, EASTON WILLIAM	03/25/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	RAINVILLE, NICHOLAS	DUCLOS, SAMANTHA
DAVIDSON, QUINN ELIZABETH	04/03/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	DAVIDSON, JOSEPH	DAVIDSON, KENDAL
HUNT, CIAN LAWRENCE	04/06/2020	MILFORD, NH	HUNT, ANDREW	HUNT, BRIANA
JORDAN, EMILIA MAE	04/07/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	JORDAN, CHRISTOPHER	JORDAN, CORRINA
RAMOS, CHARLOTTE MARIE	04/09/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	RAMOS, JAMES	RAMOS, LAUREN
EASTMAN, LUCAS GREGORY	04/16/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	EASTMAN, JUSTIN	EASTMAN, ALYSSA
HONG, CLARA	04/20/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	HONG, HYUNOUK	HONG, CAESFIANNE
CAPELLAN, KAITLYN JOY	04/29/2020	MILFORD, NH	CAPELLAN, JORGE	CAPELLAN, LISA
FLAHERTY, COLTON JAMES	04/29/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	FLAHERTY, LANCE	FLAHERTY, VICTORIA
SINICOLA, REMI ROSE	05/07/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	SINICOLA, JR, JOSEPH	SINICOLA, AMANDA
GERRY, ADDISON IAN	05/14/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	GERRY JR, DAVID	GERRY, JACLYN
CARGILL, JEFFREY PETER	06/02/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	CARGILL, PHILIP	CARGILL, NICOLE
POWERS, ALICE JEAN	06/15/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	POWERS, MICHAEL	POWERS, EMILY
BRAESE, ISABELLE QUINN	06/19/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	BRAESE, AUSTIN	BRAESE, SARAH
BRONSON, ELLIE MAE	06/20/2020	MILFORD, NH	BRONSON, WILLIAM	BRONSON, KERRY
HOGAN, FINN EDWARD	06/24/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	HOGAN, MATTHEW	HOGAN, SHANNON
KAMERMAN, EZRA ISAAC	06/27/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	KAMERMAN, SOLOMON	OPPENHEIMER, RACHEL
LALIBERTE, LAYLA DEE	07/04/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	LALIBERTE, JOSEPH	PROTHERO, HALEY
NEZANOV, NIKOLAI SERGEYEVICH	07/04/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	NEZANOV, SERGEI	SCHNEIDER, JESSICA
O'SULLIVAN, RORIE GRACE	07/17/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	O'SULLIVAN, BRENDAN	O'SULLIVAN, LAUREN
HAYNES, ELEANOR ROSE	07/24/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	HAYNES, PETER	HELBERG, CHRISTINA
BISTA, SAMPURNA	07/27/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	BISTA, ROSHAN	KARKI, SARASWATI
BATES, OLIVIA SUSAN	07/31/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	BATES, ROBERT	BATES, MORAYMA
GAETA, JACKSON JAMES	08/10/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	GAETA, RICHARD	DEAL, LAUREN-ASHLEY
CONRAD, HAYDEN JAMES	08/15/2020	CONCORD, NH	CONRAD, WILLIAM	STARKWEATHER, MEGAN
LANGFORD, ROCCO EMERY	08/20/2020	NASHUA, NH	LANGFORD, NATHAN	BARRERA, NICOLE
CHIU, ELEANOR PRESLEY	08/22/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	CHIU, ELLIOT	TONG, DENISE
SAVOIE, DYLAN ABEL	08/30/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	SAVOIE, BRYAN	SAVOIE, SAMANTHA



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

RESIDENT BIRTH REPORT

01/01/2020-12/31/2020

--BEDFORD--



Child's Name	Birth Date	Birth Place	Father's/Partner's Name	Mother's Name
MCQUAID, KINGSLEY TERESA	09/01/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	MCQUAID, ADAM	MCQUAID, ELIZABETH
WHEARTY, ARTHUR ALAN	09/05/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	WHEARTY, MATTHEW	TERRELL, LISA
PLAUM, ELLIOT LONDON	09/12/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	PLAUM, JUSTIN	HENCHINSKI, KIMBERLY
CREAMER, SAWYER OLIVE	09/22/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	CREAMER, CASEY	CREAMER, JESSICA
KOLBE, BECKHAM MICHAEL	09/24/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	KOLBE, KYLE	KOLBE, LAUREN
BROUILLETT, BENJAMIN BRYAN	10/07/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	BROUILLETT, CHRISTOPHER	MONTELIUS, KAYLEE
CORREIA, ELIZABETH ANN	10/13/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	CORREIA, JOSHUA	CORREIA, COLLEEN
SULJEVIC, AYNIA	10/14/2020	NASHUA, NH	SULJEVIC, ADNAN	SULJEVIC, ALMIRA
DEYESO IV, JOHN ANTHONY	10/19/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	DEYESO III, JOHN	DEYESO, BRIANA
SCHAIN, NAOMI SENATARSKAYA	10/20/2020	BEDFORD, NH	SCHAIN, GREGORY	SCHAIN, EMILIYA
CHIAPPETTA, REESE ELIZABETH	11/13/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	CHIAPPETTA JR, DAVID	CHIAPPETTA, KELLY
NEVEUX, ETHAN CHRISTOPHER	12/04/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	NEVEUX, BRIAN	ONIGMAN, TOVAH
MOORE, COLTON BARRY	12/21/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	MOORE, IAN	DAUPHINAIS, KELLY
DUFFY, KATHERINE LOUISE	12/22/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	DUFFY JR, CHRISTOPHER	DUFFY, ANNA
PETROSILLO, ELEANOR ANN	12/24/2020	MANCHESTER, NH	PETROSILLO, ROBERT	PETROSILLO, MEAGHAN

Total number of records 50



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
 RESIDENT MARRIAGE REPORT
 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020
 -- BEDFORD --



Person A's Name and Residence	Person B's Name and Residence	Town of Issuance	Place of Marriage	Date of Marriage
IRWIN, STEPHEN C BEDFORD, NH	FROTON, ASHLEY M BEDFORD, NH	BEDFORD	ATKINSON	02/01/2020
DEMMONS, KATHERINE E BEDFORD, NH	MUDD, JULIE A BEDFORD, NH	BEDFORD	BEDFORD	02/15/2020
LEWIS, PATRICK P MANCHESTER, NH	MCINTIRE, STACY E BEDFORD, NH	WINDHAM	MANCHESTER	05/14/2020
PELTIER, DANIEL N ALSTEAD, NH	MALILA, ASHLEY L BEDFORD, NH	PETERBOROUGH	HENNIKER	06/06/2020
MANDERS, CARL E BEDFORD, NH	HURLEY, MEREDITH A BEDFORD, NH	BEDFORD	MEREDITH	06/13/2020
PICCOLA, ZACHARY L BEDFORD, NH	EVANS, JENNIFER A BEDFORD, NH	BEDFORD	BEDFORD	06/13/2020
DALRYMPLE III, JAMES M BEDFORD, NH	MONTANA, ANGIE LORENA A BEDFORD, NH	BEDFORD	CANDIA	06/27/2020
MOONEY, PHILIP D BEDFORD, NH	MOUNTIFIELD, COURTNEY BEDFORD, NH	BEDFORD	BEDFORD	08/21/2020
BOISVERT, NORMAN E BEDFORD, NH	LAMY, LYNN M BEDFORD, NH	MERRIMACK	MANCHESTER	10/02/2020
HALL, RICHARD M BEDFORD, NH	DELPRETE, JODIA BEDFORD, NH	BEDFORD	BEDFORD	10/02/2020
WHEARTY, MATTHEW R BEDFORD, NH	TERRELL, LISA M BEDFORD, NH	BEDFORD	BEDFORD	10/06/2020



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
 RESIDENT MARRIAGE REPORT
 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020
 -- BEDFORD --



Person A's Name and Residence	Person B's Name and Residence	Town of Issuance	Place of Marriage	Date of Marriage
CONANT, CHESTER J BEDFORD, NH	SAN MARTIN, ANDREA LA PAZ, BOLIVIA	SEABROOK	AMHERST	10/22/2020
WOODROW, KENNETH E BEDFORD, NH	CALDEN, KIM E BEDFORD, NH	BEDFORD	BEDFORD	11/20/2020

Total number of records 13



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

--BEDFORD, NH --



Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
GORE, BARBARA C	01/01/2020	BEDFORD	CASWELL, CHARLES	REARDON, MARY
KENNEDY, RITA VERINICA	01/02/2020	MANCHESTER	KENNEDY, ANDREW	WHITE, JULIA
WHEATON JR, HAROLD G	01/05/2020	BEDFORD	WHEATON SR, HAROLD	JOYCE, MARGARET
ABBOTT, BRENDA LEE	01/09/2020	MANCHESTER	SCOTT, MARK	AVERY, PRISCILLA
DEADY, VIRGINIA M	01/09/2020	MANCHESTER	MURPHY, GEORGE	KINNY, ETHEL
TILTON, JOY	01/16/2020	BEDFORD	KNAUF, WILBUR	MATHIS, FLORENCE
SHEEHAN, WILLIAM FRANCIS	01/16/2020	BEDFORD	SHEEHAN, WILLIAM	GRAF, MARY
GLOUTIER, RITA J	01/26/2020	BEDFORD	LEVESQUE, STANISLAUS	LAVOIE, CLAUDIA
DESHARNAIS, YVONNE M	01/28/2020	MANCHESTER	LAVALLEE, LOUIS	DUFOND, JEANNE
DUFOE, BETTY ELLEN	02/01/2020	BEDFORD	DANIELS, FRANK	GOSSLER, ROSA
LEBLANC, LIONEL L	02/02/2020	BEDFORD	LEBLANC, RAPHAEL	THERAGE, CELINE
TURNER, ANN M	02/02/2020	MERRIMACK	REARDON, ROBERT	SWEENEY, LOUISE
STAUBER, DANIEL J	02/03/2020	MANCHESTER	STAUBER, JAMES	GAUDINO, TERESA
HIGH, JESSE CLEM	02/03/2020	BEDFORD	HIGH, ROY	MANSFIELD, NANCY
MARTIN, FLORENCE ELEANOR	02/04/2020	BEDFORD	UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN, ESTHER
FOGLESON, MABEL SUE	02/07/2020	BEDFORD	SILER, SAMUEL	FRANCIS, LOLA
ROONEY, JOHN	02/08/2020	MANCHESTER	ROONEY, JOSEPH	MCCARTHY, GENEVIEVE
NOON, JOSEPHINE	02/09/2020	BEDFORD	FIOREK, JOHN	UNKNOWN, ANELIA



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020
--BEDFORD, NH --



Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
BELLEMARE, ISABELLE	02/09/2020	BEDFORD	STATED, NOT	UNKNOWN, NOT
CARUSO, ROGER P	02/11/2020	BEDFORD	CARUSO, GILDO	SPERRA, MARGARET
DONELSON, JOHN M	02/13/2020	MANCHESTER	DONELSON, HARRY	HOLMES, EVELYN
PERREAULT, RICHARD A	02/15/2020	BEDFORD	PERREAULT, ARTHUR	SPOFFORD, BEATRICE
HOAGUE, ROBERTA JANE	02/15/2020	BEDFORD	BERGENHAS, JOSEPH	SWIRIDOWSKY, MARYANNE
RAIZES, DEMETRIOS PETER	02/16/2020	BEDFORD	RAIZES, PETER	DEMOPOULOS, ANTHIPI
KENWORTHY, IRENE M	02/17/2020	BEDFORD	SULLIVAN, DANIEL	HERBSTRIIT, HELEN
DESMARIS, LORRAINE	02/18/2020	BEDFORD	THIBAUT, OMER	LAVALLEE, FLORIDA
LEHANE JR, DENNIS JOSEPH	02/26/2020	BEDFORD	LEHANE, DENNIS	GRUSHEY, LILLIAN
FERRELL, JIMMY DALE	02/28/2020	BEDFORD	FERRELL JR, J	MULLINS, IMA
RICHARDS, GERALDINE	02/29/2020	MANCHESTER	MOYER, LEON	RHINE, HELEN
MULLEN, JUNE M	03/02/2020	MANCHESTER	MCKENNA, JAMES	JOBIN, YVONNE
LESIEUR, LIONEL MAURICE	03/06/2020	BEDFORD	LESIEUR, MAURICE	BILODEAU, THERESE
ANTLE, BRENDA K	03/06/2020	BEDFORD	STEWART, WILLIAM	BELESCA, UNKNOWN
CHABOT, ERNEST R	03/07/2020	BEDFORD	CHABOT, WILFRID	TURCOTTE, IRENE
KASSORLA NUSSBAUM, ELIYAHU NATAN	03/11/2020	BEDFORD	KASSORLA, HAYYIM	KANER, JODI
BOUCHER, PAULINE M	03/13/2020	BEDFORD	BOUCHER, MAURICE	DESSUREAU, ANNA
LAPIERRE, DIANE M	03/16/2020	MANCHESTER	LAPIERRE, DONALD	MICHAUD, THERESE



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION



RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

--BEDFORD, NH --

Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
JAMISON, DIANE LUCILLE	03/17/2020	BEDFORD	AUGER, ARTHUR	D'AGOSTINO, JENNY
YOUNG, DUNCAN RITCHIE	03/18/2020	MANCHESTER	YOUNG, ALEXANDER	DIXON, GRACE
GARCEAU, EUGENE JON	03/19/2020	MANCHESTER	GARCEAU, ALFRED	LAVENTURE, LORRAINE
CORRAO, JOSEPHINE ANN	03/22/2020	BEDFORD	PASQUALETTO, ALFRED	COLARUSSO, ANNETTE
GOUPIL, IRENE A	03/23/2020	BEDFORD	VALLEE, ROMEO	FILTEAU, EVA
SCHAEFER, GRACE MARIE	03/26/2020	BEDFORD	FAUCI, JAMES	BERTUCCIO, SANTA
MATTHEWS, THOMAS HENRY	03/30/2020	BEDFORD	MATTHEWS, WILLIAM	LENWAY, LORETTA
REEVES, PAUL	03/30/2020	BEDFORD	REEVES, PAUL	JOHNSON, MARY
PAQUETTE, DENISE M	04/04/2020	BEDFORD	RENEE, EUGENE	CARTIER, ROSE
RILEY, CAROL A	04/05/2020	BEDFORD	MCLAUGHLIN, WILLIAM	WILLS, JENNIE
ALBERT, GEORGE ROBERT	04/05/2020	BEDFORD	ALBERT, HAROLD	MACKENZIE, JEAN
KUZMITCH, STEVEN	04/06/2020	BEDFORD	KUZMITCH, BRUCE	BELANGER, LOUISE
CHOU, HAL	04/09/2020	MANCHESTER	CHOU, UNKNOWN	SUN, PEI FEN
PEDRO, LIDIA MARIA	04/12/2020	BEDFORD	PEDRO SR, ANTONIO	RUIVO, MARIA
MORRISSETTE, ROBERT R	04/13/2020	BEDFORD	MORRISSETTE, RONALD	DESAULNIERS, ALPHONSIE
MURPHY, CATHERINE V	04/14/2020	BEDFORD	LANG, WILFRED	KELLY, KATHERINE
CAVERLY, MARILYN HELEN	04/16/2020	DEERFIELD	FLYNN, RICHARD	HUMPHREY, DORIS
CLOUTIER, BARBARA LOUISE	04/16/2020	BEDFORD	GILES, JESSE	DOERR, MARGARET



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION



RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

--BEDFORD, NH --

Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
RILEY, LAURETTE AURORE	04/19/2020	MANCHESTER	RODIER, HENRI	DESCHAMPS, ROSE
FLEMING, ELLA MAY	04/24/2020	BEDFORD	BARTLETT, PIERCE	DEACON, PEARL
BULLOCK, BARBARA HILL	04/24/2020	BEDFORD	HILL, GEORGE	OESTREICHER, LOUISE
BEAUPRE, EUGENE MODANO	04/27/2020	MANCHESTER	BEAUPRE, WALTER	YOUNG, DAPHNE
CAHOW, THEODORE W	04/28/2020	BEDFORD	CAHOW, PAUL	DOIG, WINNIFRED
PROULX, RITA L	05/01/2020	BEDFORD	NORMAND, ARTHUR	BERNIER, MARIE
HOULE, RICHARD L	05/02/2020	BEDFORD	HOULE, RICHARD	TREMBLAY, GERTRUDE
CALIFANO, GLADYS MARY	05/03/2020	BEDFORD	VARGAS, THOMAS	MARRERO, ALICIA
SHERIDAN, MARY PATRICIA	05/03/2020	BEDFORD	DOHERTY, WILLIAM	BARRISANO, SUSAN
MELIA, MARY	05/04/2020	BEDFORD	ENRIGHT, DANIEL	PICKLES, KATHERINE
HOULE, MARY ELLEN	05/05/2020	BEDFORD	WALSH, JOHN	ROZAN, ANELLA
GAGNE, ARMAND J	05/05/2020	BEDFORD	GAGNE, ALDERIC	DESHAINÉ, THERESA
HALSEY, BONNIE JENSEN	05/08/2020	MANCHESTER	JENSEN, JOHN	GRIGSBY, GRACE
SAWYER, IRENE K	05/10/2020	BEDFORD	KRAMER, ARTHUR	KRAUS, ANNA
SMALL, HATTIE MAE	05/11/2020	BEDFORD	RACKLIFF, JOSEPH	DAVIS, ROXIE
HEBERT SR, CARL J	05/12/2020	BEDFORD	HEBERT, ALFRED	GRAVES, RUTH
GUILD SR, JAMES E	05/13/2020	BEDFORD	GUILD, HERBERT	CASEY, JOSEPHINE
COLLORD, KATHARINE EDMUNDS	05/13/2020	BEDFORD	CARDELLA, NICHOLAS	UNKNOWN, MILDRED



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION



RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

--BEDFORD, NH --

Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
WITTIG, KATHRYN ELIZABETH	05/13/2020	CONCORD	BAILEY, SAMUEL	FINK, ALTA
ALBIN, CHARLOTTE B	05/13/2020	BEDFORD	SIENKO, KASIMIR	HUS, KAROLINE
LUTZ, LUZVIMINDA R	05/14/2020	BEDFORD	REYES, LAURO	MADULID, TIMOTEA
SCHAEFER, CARL WILLIAM	05/16/2020	NASHUA	SCHAEFER, MARCUS	FORST, MARGARET
GONSALVES, RICHARD	05/16/2020	MANCHESTER	GONSALVES, JOHN	MCMAHON, JEAN
GROUX, RACHEL R	05/16/2020	BEDFORD	BOURQUE, ADRIEN	LABRIE, MARIE
DURRELL, SANDRA L	05/16/2020	BEDFORD	DURRELL, ELTON	MANN, HARRIETT
MORMAN, KENNETH F	05/17/2020	BEDFORD	MORMAN, FRANK	MAUCH, MARIE
MOONEY, JANE E	05/17/2020	BEDFORD	MOONEY, UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN, BARBARA
NOEL, RITA E	05/17/2020	BEDFORD	BECHARD, JOSEPH	GILBERT, LAURA
MACK, DIXIE PILLSBURY	05/17/2020	BEDFORD	MACK JR, WALLACE	PILLSBURY, GRACE
CLARK, EDITH B	05/19/2020	BEDFORD	BARTHOLF, JOHN	TOMLINSON, MADELIN
AMOS, EMMA VEORIA	05/20/2020	BEDFORD	AMOS, MILES	AMOS, INDIA
TREADWELL, ERNEST RAY	05/20/2020	BEDFORD	TREADWELL, ALFRED	WEBBER, DOROTHY
BALZARINI, CARMELA	05/22/2020	GOFFSTOWN	URSINI, GREGORIO	DELUCA, LUCIA
BEAULAC SR, RICHARD EDWARD	05/22/2020	BEDFORD	BEAULAC, LAURENT	MORIN, MARIE
WARNER, ADDIE HAYMAN	05/23/2020	BEDFORD	HAYMAN, RICHARD	BARTLEY, EULA
SANTOS, DENISE	05/24/2020	BEDFORD	LAVERDURE, CONRAD	SAUVAGEAU, BLANCHE



**DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION**

RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

--BEDFORD, NH --

Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
PRIME, MARIE ANN	05/25/2020	MANCHESTER	DIDONATO, ENRICO	SPINELLI, ANGELINA
REICHENBACH, KARL GRAHAM	05/26/2020	BEDFORD	REICHENBACH, GRAHAM	GRILLO, JEANNE
O'DONNELL, ADOREE T	05/27/2020	BEDFORD	COTE, ALFRED	MARCOUX, BLANCHE
LEVENSTEIN, MYRON	05/29/2020	BEDFORD	LEVENSTEIN, SOLOMON	LIEBMAN, FANNIE
STREITBURGER, HERMAN CARL	05/29/2020	MANCHESTER	STREITBURGER, HERMAN	BIRLE, BALBINA
ANTONIOU, SOPHIA	05/30/2020	BEDFORD	ANTONIOU, ANTONIOS	KOUTSIS, MARY
BREON, SUSAN H	05/30/2020	MANCHESTER	HERBINGER, JOSEPH	UNKNOWN, MARY
PAUL, RUTH LILLIAN	06/01/2020	BEDFORD	NESMITH, MARK	OSGOOD, EMILY
HEROUX, DARRALD F	06/02/2020	MANCHESTER	HEROUX, DONATE	THEROUX, MABEL
PALYS, THERESA A	06/03/2020	MANCHESTER	PALYS, IGNATIUS	SABIK, ANIELA
GOODMAN, WAYNE ELLIOT	06/04/2020	MANCHESTER	GOODMAN, DAVID	RUTHERFORD, PAULA
CARDILLO, ANTONIO	06/04/2020	MANCHESTER	CARDILLO, GUISEPPE	DEMEO, ANTONETTA
RAYMOND, SALLY ANN	06/04/2020	BEDFORD	FAIRBANKS, DONALD	GOULD, MARJORIE
STODDARD, RONALD J	06/05/2020	BEDFORD	STODDARD, SIDNEY	WHITEHOUSE, BARBARA
MOORE, GERALD DALTON	06/07/2020	BEDFORD	MOORE, HARRY	PARFITT, KATHERINE
DION, WILFRED NAPOLEON	06/07/2020	MANCHESTER	DION, WILFRED	TANGUAY, DORILLA
STEINER, MILDRED H	06/08/2020	BEDFORD	HURTIG, ALBERT	DERZOFY, OTILDA
GREGOIRE, VIOLETTE L	06/10/2020	BEDFORD	HOULE, ALBERT	LAVOIE, NORA



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION



RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

--BEDFORD, NH --

Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
THEODOULOU, GLAFKOS	06/10/2020	MANCHESTER	THEODOULOU, HERCOULES	ZELONI, CATHERINE
BROCK, WILLIAM	06/10/2020	BEDFORD	BROCK, BYRON	CHAPMAN, DORIS
LILLEY, ALFRED J	06/12/2020	MANCHESTER	LILLEY, CHARLES	TOSNEY, HELEN
IKSTRUMS, TEIKA V	06/12/2020	MANCHESTER	LASMANIS, ANSIS	BUMERTS, TERESA
SMITH, JOHN	06/14/2020	MANCHESTER	WILLIAMS, EDWARD	DUYCKINCK, PHOEBE
FLETCHER, SAMUEL HILL	06/15/2020	MANCHESTER	FLETCHER, RALPH	LABONTE, SIBYL
JAREK, BARBARA J	06/16/2020	BEDFORD	BALAS, STANLEY	HOWARD, FLORENCE
FILION, MAE CORNELIA	06/18/2020	MANCHESTER	MORRIS, JAMES	UNKNOWN, MARY ANN
ZAWOROTNY, ELEANOR M	06/19/2020	BEDFORD	WERNER, HUGO	RATTIGAN, HAZEL
FEJZIC, HASIBA	06/19/2020	BEDFORD	HUSEJNOVIC, IBRAHIM	NAZA, SPIODIC
TREMBLAY, YVONNE MARIE	06/22/2020	BEDFORD	HANLEY, DONALD	RYAN, MARY
VOLCKMANN, CHRISTOPHER	06/22/2020	BEDFORD	VOLCKMANN, ALBERT	LANGSTON, DORIS
TSAOUSIDIS, MARY J	06/23/2020	MANCHESTER	YOTIDES, JOHN	TSELIOS, EUGENIA
BOURGEAIS, FRANCIS	06/24/2020	CONCORD	BOURGEAIS, EDOUARD	BERNIER, LEONA
HANSON, CARMEN MILLAGE	06/28/2020	BEDFORD	HANSON, LOUIS	STEELE, MARGUERITE
QUINN, ELAINE CAROLINE	06/29/2020	BEDFORD	GREEN, JACOB	KEPNES, ANNA
BROCHU, JEAN C	07/01/2020	BEDFORD	HAMEL, CHARLES	DAVIS, KATHRINE
BRICKLEY JR, WILLIAM JOSEPH	07/01/2020	BEDFORD	BRICKLEY SR, WILLIAM	MULLIGAN, CATHERINE



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION



RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

--BEDFORD, NH --

Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
SCOFIELD, STEPHEN F	07/02/2020	MERRIMACK	SCOFIELD, FRANK	GRAFF, EDNA
WATTS, RONNIE	07/07/2020	BEDFORD	UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN
HAY, BRUCE FRASIER	07/08/2020	BEDFORD	HAY, NELSON	HUTCHANSON, E JANET
FURBISH, KATINA	07/08/2020	BEDFORD	ROWLANDS, IVOR	DEW, EMILY
WILSON, JOHN E	07/08/2020	MANCHESTER	WILSON, JOHN	SOULES, BERNICE
MARTIN, ARTHUR W	07/14/2020	BEDFORD	MARTIN, LOUIS	PATTEN, MARION
PHILLIPS, DOROTHY A	07/15/2020	BEDFORD	PHILLIPS, BERT	HOLDEN, EVELYN
LOWDER, LEOLA FAYE	07/18/2020	NASHUA	WALTER, AMOS	BUTLER, DORA
ADAMS, ILEENE	07/18/2020	BEDFORD	ADAMS, ERNEST	COPELAND, GRACE
DONGAS, KYRIAKOS G	07/19/2020	BEDFORD	DONGAS, GEORGE	LAMBROU, PETROU
AMARANTES JR, JOHN ALBERT	07/22/2020	MANCHESTER	AMARANTES SR, JOHN	CAMRA, GLORIA
DUGAN, DOROTHY	07/27/2020	BEDFORD	MCCORMICK, JOHN	LINDSEY, VERONICA
TOSCANO, PATRICIA MARIE	07/28/2020	BEDFORD	BRADBURY, JAMES	REGAN, ELEANOR
HOWARD, MARILYN A	07/31/2020	BEDFORD	PARSONS, RALPH	DOREY, PAULINE
MARTIN, EDWARD ALFRED	07/31/2020	BEDFORD	MARTIN, ALFRED	VALEER, MARGRET
FARNUM, ECHO E	08/03/2020	BEDFORD	ENOCHSON, ARTHUR	GORDON, HELEN
LAVERTU, PETER J	08/03/2020	MANCHESTER	HASENSCHWA, UNKNOWN	KONRAD, ELFRIEDE
DEMERS, VINCENT ARTHUR	08/06/2020	BEDFORD	DEMERS, GERALD	WIXTEAD, MADELINE



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION



RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

--BEDFORD, NH --

Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
HIGH, EILEEN CAROLYNE	08/07/2020	BEDFORD	GATES, WALLACE	GEANOTTE, LEAH
BERRY JR, WARREN GEORGE	08/07/2020	BEDFORD	BERRY SR, WARREN	COTE, VIRGINIA
MCGRATH, JAMES ROBERT DRAKE	08/08/2020	BEDFORD	MCGRATH, JAMES	NORMANDEAU, MARLENE
ALLARD, CLAIRE RITA	08/09/2020	BEDFORD	AREL, URBAIN	VACHON, LAURA
COBLE, MARION ANN	08/16/2020	HUDSON	SAAD, NASIF	BARAKET, WADEHA
SAWYER, JOSEPH	08/17/2020	BEDFORD	UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN
BARRETO, FREDERICK	08/19/2020	BEDFORD	BARRETO, MANUEL	BADILLO, JULIA
ODERWALD, ROBERT C	08/23/2020	BEDFORD	ODERWALD, JOSEPH	ROSSIE, MARGARET
SAUNDERS JR, LEONARD E	08/24/2020	MANCHESTER	SAUNDERS SR, LEONARD	BURNS, RITA
YU, YINGLIN	08/25/2020	BEDFORD	YU, SAINGKIM	UNKNOWN, GIM
ATHERTON JR, THOMAS W	08/26/2020	MANCHESTER	ATHERTON SR, THOMAS	ANGERS, ELAINE
BARIL, LUCILLE A	08/29/2020	BEDFORD	THERRIEN, ARTHUR	GRADY, ALBERTINE
AUBERT, LUCILLE FLORIDA	09/05/2020	MERRIMACK	DUGRE, PHILLIPPE	NAULT, IRENE
CANEPA, PATRICIA R	09/06/2020	MANCHESTER	RUSO, FRANCIS	NOONAN, KATHLEEN
CHABOT, CECILE YVRANA	09/07/2020	BEDFORD	PAUL, CLEMENT	HOULE, YVONNE
MAHER, JAMES R	09/09/2020	BEDFORD	MAHER, FREDRICK	KING, RITA
HODGERNEY, FABIAN MACK	09/09/2020	BEDFORD	HODGERNEY, FABIAN	HAMLIN, ELIANE
DOOLEY, BARBARA W	09/13/2020	BEDFORD	DOOLEY, PATRICK	WELCH, BARBARA



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

--BEDFORD, NH --



Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
ZLOTEK, HESSY	09/14/2020	BEDFORD	JANOSZ, NICHOLAS	CHARNOS, SALLY
DUVAL, MARILYN H	09/17/2020	BEDFORD	VELDE, JOHN	WIETSMA, MARY
TALBOT, GLENDA F	09/17/2020	MANCHESTER	UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN	MARSHALL, LAVERNE
PHILIBERT, MARIA L	09/20/2020	BEDFORD	NUNES, MANUEL	FERLAND, RUTH
SALLET, ARLENE HARRIET	09/20/2020	BEDFORD	BADER, BENJAMIN	CLARK, VIRL
SAMBURSKY SR, ROBERT WILLIAM	09/28/2020	MANCHESTER	SAMBURSKY, UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN
PRUETT, EDMOND ARTHUR	09/29/2020	BEDFORD	PRUETT, ARTHUR	SAWYER, PAULINE
ISENBERG, DONALD W	10/04/2020	BEDFORD	ISENBERG, UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN
CLONEY, RITA IRENE	10/05/2020	BEDFORD	AUDET, ALPHONSE	LABRIE, HERMELINE
GHIORZI, JOHN JOSEPH	10/05/2020	BEDFORD	GHIORZI, JOSEPH	SORACCHI, MARGARET
BERRYMAN, WILLIAM MARTIN	10/06/2020	MANCHESTER	BERRYMAN, HARRY	LANIGAN, ELEANOR
BRIGGS, JAMES F	10/06/2020	BEDFORD	BRIGGS, FREDERICK	COTE, MILDRED
HARTFORD, NANCY LOUISE	10/07/2020	BEDFORD	HARTFORD, HAROLD	HUGHES, EVA
DIXON, GARY N	10/08/2020	HUDSON	DIXON, HORACE	ISAACSON, MARY
BROWN, ANN CLEMONS	10/08/2020	BEDFORD	CLEMONS, MAYNARD	BUTTERS, MARY
MONTOUR, SHIRLEY E	10/10/2020	BEDFORD	COOLIDGE, HERVEY	WIGGIN, LENA
DOWNES, PHYLLIS MARY	10/15/2020	MANCHESTER	PAIGE, CHARLES	CLARKE, NETTIE
PIERCE-MINCH, MARY	10/16/2020	BEDFORD	CHOUINARD, JEROME	MASSEY, DIANA



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION



RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

--BEDFORD, NH --

Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
SOTERION, JEFFREY JOHN	10/17/2020	MANCHESTER	SOTERION, CHARLES	ROY, COLETTE
HOWARD, MICHAEL WILLIAM	10/21/2020	BEDFORD	HOWARD, CORNELIUS	GILMORE, BERNICE
LANDINI, URBAN TITUS	10/22/2020	BEDFORD	LANDINI, GABRIEL	SALVO, ANNETTE
LAVOIE, VIVIAN C	10/26/2020	MANCHESTER	UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN
MCKENNA JR, GEORGE W	10/27/2020	BEDFORD	MCKENNA SR, GEORGE	COOPER, MARIE
KIRK, PATRICIA ANNE	10/27/2020	MERRIMACK	DELORGE, ROLAND	LORANGER, JEANNE
CHAINEDY, NANCY E	10/28/2020	BEDFORD	COLLAR, ROGER	UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN
ELLIOT, MARCELLA WEBBE	10/29/2020	BEDFORD	WEBBE, ROBERT	CASSARD, GEORGETTA
MCCORMACK, SUZANNE	10/30/2020	MANCHESTER	MCCORMACK, JOHN	BURTT, EUNA
SEIFERT JR, ALFRED ERNEST	11/03/2020	CHESTER	SEIFERT, ALFRED	SCHUBERT, ELLA
BARLOTTA, AYN CHARY	11/04/2020	BEDFORD	CHIARY, FRAN	MCGOVERN, JEAN
CARLSON, BEATRICE ELINOR	11/08/2020	MANCHESTER	SMITH, THOMAS	RODENHEISER, GERTRUDE
BRASSARD, LEON P	11/09/2020	BEDFORD	BRASSARD, GEORGE	LAMBERT, IRENE
LOONEY, CAROL ANN	11/12/2020	MERRIMACK	DVARECKAS, JOSEPH	BARLOW, BLANCHE
MIDGLEY, ALBERT RICHARD	11/16/2020	BEDFORD	MIDGLEY, HERBERT	ARNOLD, MARGUERITE
SULLIVAN, PAULINE	11/17/2020	BEDFORD	GEOFFRION, EDGAR	OUELLETTE, ESTELLE
ABELLEIRA, SILVIA	11/17/2020	BEDFORD	VALDES, EMILIO	FERNANDEZ, JOSEFINA
SLEATH, TODD ALAN	11/18/2020	BEDFORD	SLEATH, JOHN	PARMELEE, JUDITH



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION



RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

--BEDFORD, NH --

Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
HERDLEIN, ANNA REGINA	11/18/2020	BEDFORD	HERDLEIN, ROBERT	TERRIEN, SHARON
SELFLEDGE, SUSAN MARTHA	11/19/2020	BEDFORD	GARVIN, WILLIAM	MAGEE, CYNTHIA
NELSON, BROOKS M	12/03/2020	BEDFORD	NELSON, KURT	PRENTISS, AMY
NORMAND, MARIE JEANNE	12/05/2020	BEDFORD	BOLDUC, EUGENE	BUREAU, MARIE-ANGE
TRIFF, BEVERLY GRAMKOW	12/09/2020	BEDFORD	GRAMKOW, IRVING	NAY, MARGARET
O'SULLIVAN, JOAN V	12/09/2020	BEDFORD	MILLER, WILLIAM	MORRISON, ANNABELLE
GIGUERE, WILLIAM PAUL	12/09/2020	BEDFORD	GIGUERE, ADELARD	BROUGH, RUTH
RIZZO, PARKER ROBERT	12/14/2020	LEBANON	RIZZO, AVERY	SULLIVAN, LINDSEY
CRUSADE, ALICE N	12/15/2020	BEDFORD	NICTAKIS, WILLIAM	XANTHOS, THERESA
MILLER, PAULINE CORA	12/17/2020	BEDFORD	GOSSELIN, ONESIME	ST PIERRE, AURORE
DIONNE, MARY C	12/17/2020	BEDFORD	BATISTA, ANTONIO	BARROS, ADELIA
LABRECQUE, GABRIEL	12/19/2020	BEDFORD	LABRECQUE, CLEMENT	FERNIERE, MARIE-JEANNE
DALRYMPLE, LILLIAN RUTH	12/20/2020	MERRIMACK	STANCHFIELD, JOHN	FERGUSON, MABEL
SAIDEL, MARC	12/21/2020	BEDFORD	SAIDEL, RAYMOND	MCCARTHY, MARY
SULLIVAN, PATRICIA	12/21/2020	BEDFORD	TAYLOR, CHARLES	COSTANTINO, LUCIA
GRAF, NORMA V	12/22/2020	BEDFORD	FRITZ, WALTER	HALL, RUTH
HANNAN, ANN THERESA	12/22/2020	BEDFORD	SULLIVAN, PETER	COFFEE, MARY
NOGA, IRENE N	12/23/2020	BEDFORD	NYE, HERBERT	CULVERHOUSE, CHARLOTTE



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION



RESIDENT DEATH REPORT

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

--BEDFORD, NH --

Decedent's Name	Death Date	Death Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name Prior to First Marriage/Civil Union
BRADY JR, JOHN J	12/23/2020	BEDFORD	BRADY SR, JOHN	NICHOLSON, JANET
SKINNER, DAVID	12/24/2020	PETERBOROUGH	SKINNER, WILLIAM	DAVIDSON, VERA
FLYNN, CLARE KENYON	12/25/2020	BEDFORD	KENYON, ALFRED	PITTS, DOROTHY
CHAMBERLAND, CARMELA M	12/26/2020	BEDFORD	PAPPALARDO, ROSARIO	LINZETTO, CONCETTA
BURNS, LOUISE ARLENE	12/26/2020	HUDSON	GOULDING, GEORGE	MARSH, MARY
CAUBLE, KATHRYN C	12/27/2020	BEDFORD	COOMBS, RAY	MOORE, ISOBEL
RUDMAN MYERSON, ALFREDE M	12/27/2020	BEDFORD	LIMMER, JULIUS	UNKNOWN, EMMY
WHITE, AMELIA M	12/28/2020	BEDFORD	CAPODANNO, GAETANO	COLARUOTOLO, MARIA
HUTCHINSON, SHEILA JOAN	12/29/2020	BEDFORD	CUSACK, JOHN	CORRELL, JULIA
HELMKE, KAREN FRANZ	12/29/2020	BEDFORD	FRANZ, WILLIAM	HOGAN, LORRAINE
VIGUE, PHILIP JAMES	12/29/2020	BEDFORD	VIGUE, PHILIP	SMITH, MAXINE
JONES, FERN	12/29/2020	MANCHESTER	PARSONS, JACK	SNOW, STELLA
SZEWCYK, ELEANOR JANE	12/30/2020	BEDFORD	SZEWCYK, CHARLES	PASCIAK, MARY
HAWKINS, LORETTA ELAINE	12/31/2020	MANCHESTER	BROWN, EUGENE	FREEMAN, ROSETTA

Total number of records 230



TOWN OF BEDFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 2021 MUNICIPAL WARRANT

To the inhabitants of the Town of Bedford in the County of Hillsborough in the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote on Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Bedford Middle/High School on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7 o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following Articles 1-4. Polls are to close no later than 7:00 pm. Action on Articles 5 and 6 will be held at the Budgetary Town Meeting on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Bedford Middle/High School (47 Nashua Road).

Article 1, Election of Town Officers

To elect (3) Town Councilors for three-year terms, (1) Library Trustee for a three-year term, (1) Library Trustee for a two-year term, (1) Trustee of the Trust Funds for a three-year term, (1) Supervisor of the Checklist for a five-year term

Article 2, Zoning Amendments Proposed by the Planning Board

Amendment No. 1

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Bedford Zoning Ordinance to amend Article VIII, Section 275-62 A(1) and Table 3, Table of Dimensional Standards, as follows:

Deleting "80" in the Maximum Building Height column for properties located on U.S. Route 3 with municipal water and sewer and replacing it with "60" and by deleting "80" in the Maximum Building Height column for properties located on local roads or U.S. Route 3 when private shared access drives are used and replacing it with "60."

[This amendment reduces the maximum height for buildings located in the Performance Zone, on properties with access to water and sewer utilities, from 80 feet to 60 feet.]

Amendment No. 2

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Bedford Zoning Ordinance to amend Article XV, River Corridor Smart Growth District, by deleting the Article XV in its entirety and to amend Article II, Section 275-7, Establishment of Districts and Section 275-8, Location of Districts, to remove the River Corridor Smart Growth District.

[This amendment is intended to repeal Article XV, River Corridor Smart Growth District (RCSGD) from Bedford's Zoning Ordinance because it was never fully enacted by the Planning Board. The RCSGD is an overlay district that was intended to be an optional zoning tool to permit mixed-use development subject to certain design standards. The overlay district includes the entire Performance Zone in Bedford. At this point, the Planning Board would recommend repealing the zoning and reviewing other regulatory tools to guide development in the Performance Zone.]

Zoning Amendments Proposed by Citizen Petition:

Amendment No. 3

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by Citizens' Petition, to amend, Town of Bedford Zoning Ordinance, Article II, Section 275-7 Establishment of Districts, District Names, by deleting the



words shown in the strikethrough and adding the words in bold as follows:

Performance Zone PZ - To provide areas for a variety of uses including mixed use, retail, workforce housing, office, medical office, research and development and industrial uses serving both regional and local needs. The PZ provides for flexibility in land use development in exchange for meeting certain site, layout, landscaping, parking and environmental design standards **specified in Article VIII, Performance District Zoning**. Residential uses are not permitted except ~~by approval of a waiver by the Planning Board as noted in Article III, Section 275-21, Table 2, Table of Uses and Article VIII, Section 275-61, Permitted Uses.~~ **This is an innovation land use control ordinance where the Planning Board serves as the land development review board for all zoning and planning matters with the exception of encroachments into the wetland set back.**

To amend Article VIII, Performance Zoning District, Section 275-56, Statutory Authority, by adding the words in bold as follows:

§ 275-56. Statutory authority

This Article VIII is enacted by the Town of Bedford pursuant to RSA 674:21, II. This innovative land use control ordinance shall provide for all approvals associated with **Article VIII, “Performance District Zoning”**, including the granting of conditional or special use permits, by the Planning Board, **except for Section 275-61 “Use Regulations”**. Any decision made by the Planning Board under this innovative land use control ordinance may be appealed directly to Superior Court in the same manner provided by statute for appeals from the Planning Board, as set forth in RSA 676:5, III, and RSA 677:15. A waiver process from particular requirements set forth in Article VIII may be employed by the Planning Board where the applicant demonstrates substantial compliance with the standards set forth in Article VIII, Chapter 275-58, Purpose, Subsections A through E. **The Zoning Board of Adjustment shall have the power to authorize upon appeal, a variance from the terms associated with Article III, Section 275-21, “Use Regulations” and Article VIII, Section 275-61 “Permitted Uses” in accordance with RSA 674:33. Any decision made by the Zoning Board of Adjustment under this innovative land use control ordinance may seek a rehearing and appeal the decision to Superior Court as set forth in RSA 677.**

[This amendment is intended to remove the power to grant waivers of the permitted land uses in the Performance Zone (PZ) from the Planning Board and provide this authority to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.]

THE PLANNING BOARD DOES NOT SUPPORT PASSAGE OF THIS AMENDMENT

Article 3. Charter Amendment Proposed by the Town Council

Amendment No. 1

Shall the voters of Bedford approve the charter amendment as shown below? Items to be deleted shown in ~~strikethrough~~ and items to be added shown in **bold**:

Article XI, Section C11-1, Administrative Committees

A. Planning Board.

- (1) Membership. There shall be a Planning Board consisting of ~~nine~~ **seven (7) members** as provided by state statute. Six of these members shall be appointed by the Council for terms of three years, such terms to be staggered.
- (2) Ex officio members. ~~The Town Manager and the Town of Bedford Public Works Director shall serve as ex officio members, and~~ **Two (2) Town Council members shall be appointed annually at the Council’s first**



meeting to serve, respectively, as primary and alternate. These representatives shall have all the rights of membership including the right to hold office.

PURPOSE: *This Amendment would remove the Town Manager and Public Works Director as voting members of the Planning Board making it solely comprised of citizen members. The Town Manager and Public Works Director would attend Planning Board meetings to advise them as needed.*

THE TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS PASSAGE OF THIS ARTICLE

Amendment No. 2

Shall the voters of Bedford approve the charter amendment as shown below? Items to be deleted shown in ~~strike through~~ and items to be added shown in **bold**:

Article III, Town Council, Section C3-3, Selection of Chairman and Vice Chairman

The Council shall, by the affirmative vote of at least four of its members, at its first regular meeting in March following each election, choose one of its members Chairman for a term of one year. The Council shall choose one of its members Vice Chairman for a term of one year, who shall act in the absence or disability of the Chairman. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall serve out the unexpired term. The Chairman shall be the official head of the Town for all ceremonial purposes; ~~he~~ **and** shall preside at all meetings of the Council and may speak and vote at such meetings.

PURPOSE: *This Amendment would remove the assumption that the Chairman of the Town Council is male*

THE TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS PASSAGE OF THIS ARTICLE

Amendment No. 3

Shall the voters of Bedford approve the charter amendment as shown below? Items to be deleted shown in ~~strike through~~ and items to be added shown in **bold**:

Article III, Town Council, Section C3-4, Qualifications of Councilors

Only voters who at all times during the term of office are and remain residents of the Town shall be eligible to hold the office of Councilor. To be eligible for election to the office of Councilor a candidate must be of voting age and must have been a resident of the Town for at least ~~30~~ **90** days immediately before the election. The Council is the sole judge of qualification for office. The Council shall declare a vacancy in the event that a member is convicted of committing a federal or state crime punishable by imprisonment for more than one year.

PURPOSE: *This Amendment would increase the residency requirement for someone to serve on the Town Council from 30 to 90 days.*

THE TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS PASSAGE OF THIS ARTICLE

Amendment No. 4

Shall the voters of Bedford approve a charter amendment to add a new section as shown below?

Article XI, Administrative and Judicial Boards, Section C11-5, Eligibility

To be eligible for a non-ex officio board or commission appointment the applicant must be a resident of the Town.

PURPOSE: *This Amendment would require that you must be a resident of Bedford to be appointed to an administrative or judicial board.*



THE TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS PASSAGE OF THIS ARTICLE

Article 5. – Capital Reserve Fund-Projects and Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,049,050 to be deposited into various Capital Reserve Funds. \$947,050 to come from new taxation, \$2,000,000 to come from Fund Balance Reserves and \$102,000 to come from the Sewer fund.

Assessment/Revaluation Reserve	\$15,000
Fire Equipment Reserve.....	45,000
Ambulance Reserve	85,000
Fire Engine Reserve.....	10,000
Fire Light Vehicle Reserve.....	37,000
Rec Tractor with Backhoe Reserve.....	4,500
Rec Tractor Heavy Duty Reserve	18,200
Rec Skid Steer Reserve.....	8,500
PW Solid Waste Backhoe Reserve.....	18,250
PW Ten Wheel Dump Truck Reserve	33,000
PW All Purpose Tractor Reserve	27,600
PW Front End Loader Reserve	32,000
PW Loader Backhoe Reserve	20,625
PW Sweeper Reserve.....	25,000
PW Roadside Mower Reserve	40,000
PW Chipper Reserve.....	4,000
PW Grader Reserve.....	3,000
PW Pickup/Utility Truck Reserve.....	25,000
PW One Ton Truck Reserve.....	80,000
PW Sewer Catch Basin Cleaner Reserve.....	12,600
PW Hot Box Reserve	3,600
PW Radio Communications Reserve.....	35,000
Facilities Safety Complex Reserve	5,000
Facilities Pool Complex Reserve	10,000
Facilities Safety Complex Generator Reserve	10,000
Municipal Facility Improvements Reserve.....	15,000
Facilities Transfer Station Improvements Reserve	10,000
Facilities Hwy Building Addition Reserve	10,000
Facilities Sand Storage Building Reserve	45,000
Facilities Design/Build	2,000,000
PW Traffic Signal Reserve.....	4,500
IT Infrastructure Reserve	14,000
PD Radio Console Reserve.....	63,625
PD Mobile Radios Reserve.....	15,000
PD Communications Network Reserve	47,000
PD Weapon Replacement Reserve.....	4,500
PD Taser Equipment Reserve	4,500
PD Command Vehicle Reserve.....	13,350



PD Records Management Reserve.....	30,000
Voting Machines (NEW 2021).....	34,200
IT Phone Replacement (NEW 2021)	15,000
PD Digital Evidence Platform (NEW 2021).....	13,500
SEWER Catch Basin Cleaner Reserve	25,500
SEWER System Improvement Reserve.....	67,500
SEWER Light Vehicles Reserve.....	9,000
Total Appropriations for Capital Reserve Deposit.....	\$3,049,050

THE TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS PASSAGE OF THIS ARTICLE.

NOTE: *The specific equipment and projects are identified in the report on the following page and detailed in the Town’s written Capital Improvement Plan. Funding for the Capital Improvement Plan has been appropriated annually and has been included in the recommended budget as a result of estimates made during the budget preparation process. The Town voted in 2004 to establish the Town Council as authorized agents for the purpose of expending the funds. The agents have authorized the Town Manager to expend Funds for approved projects.*

PURPOSE OF TOWN MEETING VOTE: *In accordance with NH RSA 35:3; 35:5, town meeting action is needed to appropriate a specific dollar amount into the Capital Reserve Fund by Town vote.*

Article 6: Town Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money for municipal operations in the ensuing year. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

General Fund.....	\$30,671,056
Recreation Day Camp.....	83,025
BCTV.....	456,073
Sewer Fund.....	2,262,769
Total Appropriation	\$33,472,923*

RSA 35:5 dictate that capital reserve deposits must be raised and appropriated under a special warrant article. The sum of articles 5 and 6 is \$36,521,973, the total 2021 proposed appropriations.

THE TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS PASSAGE OF THIS ARTICLE.

Give under our hands and seal this 22nd day of February 2021

David Gilbert, Chairman

Denise Ricciardi, Vice Chairwoman



Town of Bedford



2021 Town Meeting Warrant Articles and Municipal Budget Summary

There is an estimated tax increase of **\$0.44** in the Municipal portion of the property tax rate for this budget. The ***estimated tax rate*** for the Municipal portion is **\$4.68** per \$1,000 assessed valuation.



Town of Bedford, New Hampshire
2021 Municipal Budget

Important Dates

Public Hearings Held on the Town Budget

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Virtual - Contact Town Manager's Office for call in information

Election Day

Tuesday, March 9, 2021, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Bedford Middle/High School – 47 Nashua Road

Budgetary Town Meeting

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Bedford Middle/High School – 47 Nashua Road

2021 MUNICIPAL WARRANT

To the inhabitants of the Town of Bedford in the County of Hillsborough in the State of New Hampshire qualified to vote on Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Bedford High School on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7 o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following Articles 1-3. Polls are to close no later than 7:00 p.m. Action on remaining Articles will be held at the Budgetary Town Meeting on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bedford High School (47 Nashua Road).

Article 1. **Election of Town Officers**

Article 2. **Zoning Amendments**

Article 3. **Charter Amendments**

**TOWN ARTICLES 4-6 WILL BE VOTED ON AT THE BUDGETARY TOWN MEETING ON
MARCH 10, 2021 AT THE BEDFORD MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL (47 Nashua Road).**



2021 Town Meeting Warrant – ARTICLE 4

Article 4. – **Conservation Fund Warrant Article**

“To see if the town will vote to authorize 100% of the Land Use Change Tax collected pursuant to RSA 79-A:25 to be deposited into the existing Conservation Fund in accordance with RSA 36-A:5, III, as authorized by RSA 79-A:25, II. If adopted, this article shall take effect April 1, 2021, and shall remain in effect until altered or rescinded by a future vote of the town meeting.” (Majority vote required)

THE TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS PASSAGE OF THIS ARTICLE.

NOTE: *The Current Use Land Change Tax has been allocated to the Conservation Fund at a 70% rate with the remaining 30% going to the General Fund since 2000 when there was a similar article passed by the voters. With ever decreasing amounts of land held in current use and the cost of acquiring conservation land continuing to increase this change would help with any future conservation land acquisition or improvement projects.*

2021 Town Meeting Warrant – ARTICLE 5

Article 5. – **Capital Reserve Fund-Projects and Equipment**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$3,049,050** to be deposited into various Capital Reserve Funds. \$947,050 to come from new taxation, \$2,000,000 to come from Fund Balance Reserves and \$102,000 to come from the Sewer fund.

Assessment/Revaluation Reserve.....	\$15,000
Fire Equipment Reserve	45,000
Ambulance Reserve.....	85,000
Fire Engine Reserve	10,000
Fire Light Vehicle Reserve	37,000
Rec Tractor with Backhoe Reserve.....	4,500
Rec Tractor Heavy Duty Reserve	18,200
Rec Skid Steer Reserve.....	8,500
PW Solid Waste Backhoe Reserve	18,250
PW Ten Wheel Dump Truck Reserve	33,000
PW All Purpose Tractor Reserve	27,600
PW Front End Loader Reserve.....	32,000
PW Loader Backhoe Reserve	20,625
PW Sweeper Reserve	25,000
PW Roadside Mower Reserve.....	40,000
PW Chipper Reserve.....	4,000
PW Grader Reserve.....	3,000

Article 4 & 5 Information Sheet



Article 5 Information Sheet

PW Pickup/Utility Truck Reserve	25,000
PW One Ton Truck Reserve.....	80,000
PW Sewer Catch Basin Cleaner Reserve	12,600
PW Hot Box Reserve	3,600
PW Radio Communications Reserve.....	35,000
Facilities Safety Complex Reserve.....	5,000
Facilities Pool Complex Reserve	10,000
Facilities Safety Complex Generator Reserve	10,000
Municipal Facility Improvements Reserve	15,000
Facilities Transfer Station Improvements Reserve.....	10,000
Facilities Hwy Building Addition Reserve	10,000
Facilities Sand Storage Building Reserve	45,000
Facilities Design/Build	2,000,000
PW Traffic Signal Reserve.....	4,500
IT Infrastructure Reserve.....	14,000
PD Radio Console Reserve	63,625
PD Mobile Radios Reserve.....	15,000
PD Communications Network Reserve.....	47,000
PD Weapon Replacement Reserve	4,500
PD Taser Equipment Reserve.....	4,500
PD Command Vehicle Reserve.....	13,350
PD Records Management Reserve	30,000
Voting Machines (NEW 2021)	34,200
IT Phone Replacement (NEW 2021).....	15,000
PD Digital Evidence Platform (NEW 2021).....	13,500
SEWER Catch Basin Cleaner Reserve	25,500
SEWER System Improvement Reserve	67,500
SEWER Light Vehicles Reserve	9,000

Total Appropriations for Capital Reserve Deposit\$3,049,050

THE TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS PASSAGE OF THIS ARTICLE.

NOTE: *The specific equipment and projects are identified in the report on the following page and detailed in the Town’s written Capital Improvement Plan. Funding for the Capital Improvement Plan has been appropriated annually and has been included in the recommended budget as a result of estimates made during the budget preparation process. The Town voted in 2004 to establish the Town Council as authorized agents for the purpose of expending the funds. The agents have authorized the Town Manager to expend Funds for approved projects.*

PURPOSE OF TOWN MEETING VOTE:

In accordance with NH RSA 35:3; 35:5, town meeting action is needed to appropriate a specific dollar amount into the Capital Reserve Fund by Town vote.



2021 Town Meeting Warrant – ARTICLE 6

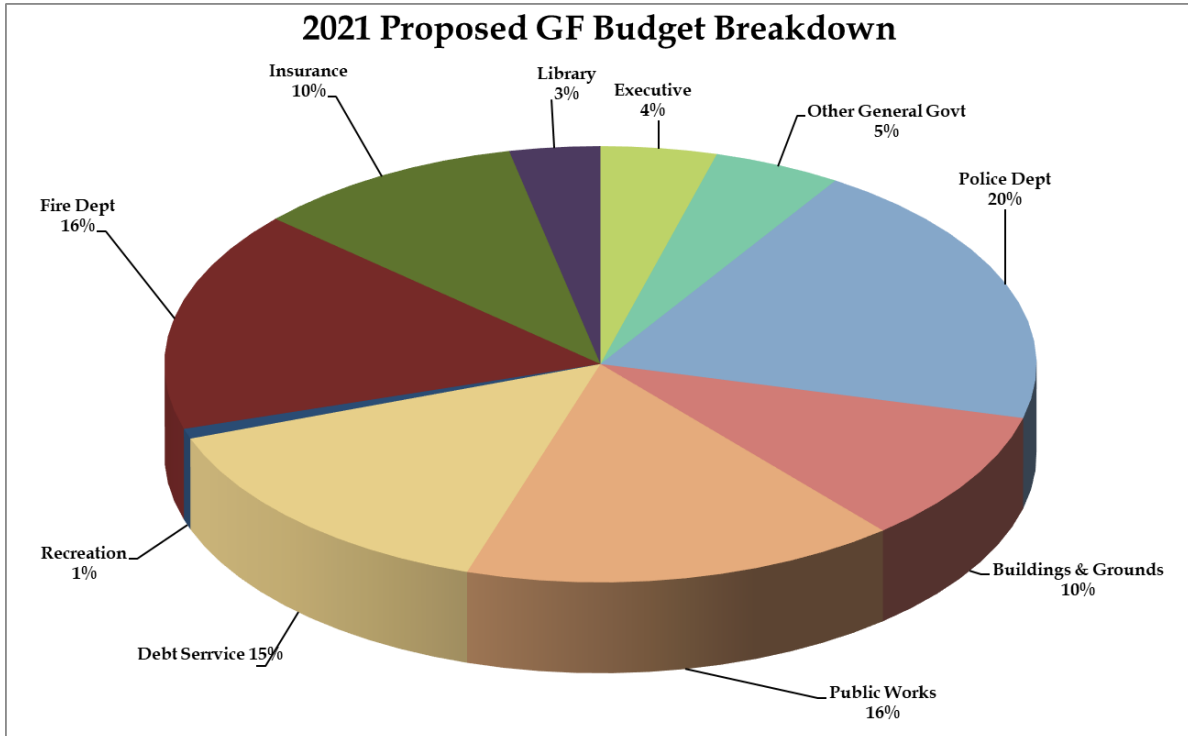
Article 6. - Town Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money for municipal operations in the ensuing year. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

General Fund	\$30,671,056
Recreation Day Camp	83,025
BCTV	456,073
Sewer Fund	2,262,769
Total Appropriation	\$33,472,923*

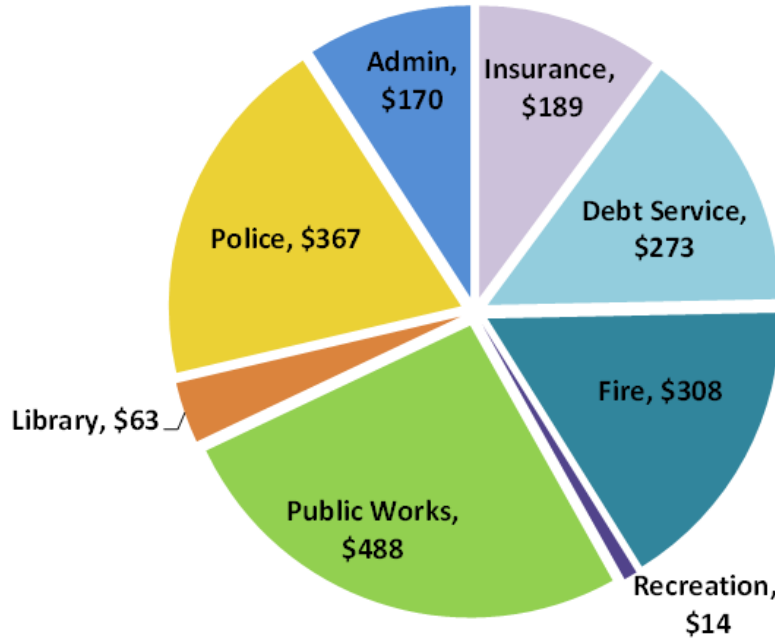
*RSA 35:5 dictate that capital reserve deposits must be raised and appropriated under a special warrant article. **The sum of articles 5 and 6 is \$36,521,973, the total 2021 proposed appropriations.***

THE TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS PASSAGE OF THIS ARTICLE.





Tax Dollars By Municipal Services
\$1,872 on \$400K valuation
based on Council Recommended 2021 Municipal Budget



Tax Effect of Budget Increases/(Decreases):

\$ Change to Budget	\$ Tax Impact	Additional \$ Cost to Taxpayer with:		
		\$300k	\$400k	\$500k
25,000	0.006	1.82	2.43	3.04
50,000	0.012	3.65	4.86	6.08
75,000	0.018	5.47	7.30	9.12
100,000	0.024	7.30	9.73	12.16
250,000	0.061	18.24	24.32	30.40
500,000	0.122	36.48	48.64	60.80
750,000	0.182	54.72	72.96	91.19
1,000,000	0.243	72.96	97.27	121.59



2021 Town Council - Proposed Budget Summary

The estimated Town portion of the tax rate is **\$4.68 per \$1,000**. It reflects a **\$0.44** increase from 2020 to 2021. The projected increased tax burden on a home valued at \$400k is \$14.62 per month.

Highlighted below are the more significant projects and/or equipment included within the budget:

- ▶ **Roads Program** – Continuation of the Roads Program at \$6.5M through payment of debt service (\$~5.45M) for the six bonds, and \$1.1M additional local road appropriations. The \$10M bond sold in 2020 is the last installment of the \$30M bond authorization approved by the voters in 2014 and has a debt service cost of \$1.25M and an impact of \$0.22 on the proposed tax rate. There are no further bonds anticipated for the Roads Program at this time and 2021 represents the most expensive year as previous bonds will start to be paid off in 2021 and in years to come.
- ▶ **Capital Improvements** – Investment in long term items (\$~3M)
 - \$2M for facilities design/build (no tax impact due to fund balance offset) to allow for the potential purchase of property and the preliminary design of needed facilities.
 - Ambulance replacements in 2022, 2024, 2027 and 2029.
 - Communications network infrastructure, highway equipment, voting machines
- ▶ **Continued Field Improvements** – In 2020 a major investment to upgrade Sportsman field was supported and the 2021 budget includes \$100k in deferred maintenance and repairs across all fields. Funding for the implementation of the Recreation Master Plan that would provide quality venues for our sports and recreation community has not been included.
- ▶ **Health & Retirement:**
 - \$371k for increased NH Retirement System costs. On July 1, 2021 the rates increase for Police 19.12% (28.43% to 33.88%), 9.64% for Fire (30.09% to 32.99%) and 25.87% for Municipal employees (11.17% to 14.06%).
 - Health insurance includes a \$348k increase as we anticipate full staffing most of the year and apply current employee selections to the costs of existing plans. Approximately \$80k of this increase is funded by the SAFER grant and has no tax impacts.
 - The 2021 insurance budget anticipates a mid-year 7.5% increase in health insurance rates and a 6.5% increase in property and liability insurance. There are no rate changes anticipated for dental and disability.
 - \$21.6k for Workers Compensation increase of 9.7%.
- ▶ **Fire Department Vehicles** - The budget recommends a shift in how we respond to medical calls with the purchase of a Squad or rapid response vehicle to reduce costs and impacts on our full size fire engines. One of our tanker trucks is proposed to be sold.
- ▶ **Personnel:**
 - Year 4 of collective bargaining agreements for Police, Fire, and Public Works. This includes the 1% COLA for Police and Fire when the cumulative CPI-W exceeds 3%.
 - Four firefighters under a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant awarded in late 2020. SAFER grants typically have a match the first three years. However, this grant will cover 100% of eligible costs over the first three years and in the fourth year the Town assumes responsibility for the positions.

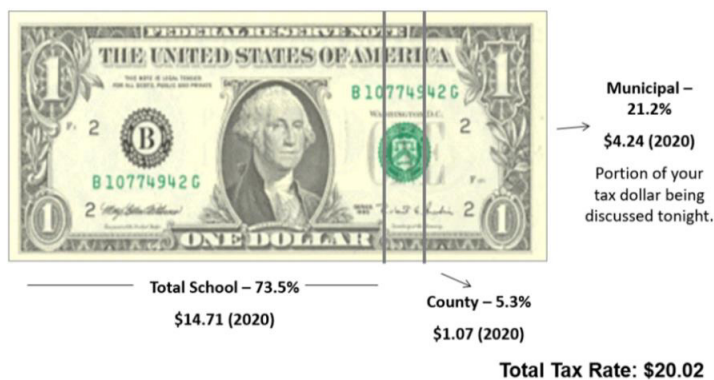


- Full year IT Support Professional approved in 2020.
 - Full year of the reclassification of 4 firefighters to Captain positions as part of a plan to increase the number of firefighters on each shift starting in 2021.
 - Conversion of the Building Permit Technician & Associate Planner positions to full time.
 - Conversion of a Police Sergeant to Lieutenant Watch Commander.
 - Merit increase for non-union employees.
- ▶ **Decreased State Revenues (\$407,752)** – Room & Meals -\$175,382, Highway Block -\$40,586 Grant, State Municipal Grant -\$191,784.
 - ▶ **Use of Fund Balance** - \$3.75M to reduce the amount needed to be raised by taxes.
 - ▶ **Statistical Valuation Update** – To be completed in 2021 and every two years going forward.
 - ▶ **Voter Checklist Purge** – Completed once a decade ~\$20k.
 - ▶ **Town Clerk** - A 3% salary increase has been included in the proposed 2021 budget. The Town Clerk also receives the following benefits:
 - Employer Contributions to the NH Retirement System (if qualified).
 - The choice of health, dental, life, short and long term disability coverage. The benefit and town provided portion will be the same as offered to non-union Town employees.

Not Included in the 2021 Proposal:

- ▶ **2020 Year End Transfers** – \$742,892 was used to reduce the 2021 capital budget for the purchase of the ladder truck, two dump trucks, and three patrol vehicles. Expediting the purchase of the ladder truck with 2020 funds will allow this critical piece of equipment to be placed in service as soon as possible but not likely until early 2022 as they take approximately a year to be delivered. Spending and hiring freezes initiated in the early stages of the pandemic, vacancies, and a mild winter resulted in the available 2020 funds.
- ▶ **Transfer Station** –\$400k capital reserve deposit for future three phase power, a solar installation, and a shift to trash compactors.
- ▶ **Fire Station** – Epoxy Floor \$50k.
- ▶ **Police Department** - Part-time Investigative Assistant \$14k and SCBA \$37k.
- ▶ **Recreation Master Plan Improvements** - \$125,000 was scheduled to be deposited annually for improvements to be made every two years.
- ▶ **Field Usage Fees** – Policy not in place for 2021.

Town of Bedford – 2020 Tax Dollar Breakdown





TOWN OF BEDFORD

2021 PROPOSED APPROPRIATIONS

DEPARTMENTS :		2020 ADOPTED BUDGET	2021 TOWN MANAGER RECOMMENDED	2021 TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDED
	ORG #			
GENERAL FUND (Excludes Capital Reserve Deposits)				
TOWN COUNCIL	10010202	\$ 21,192	\$ 21,194	\$ 16,694
TOWN MANAGER	10010204	328,747	325,066	325,066
ENERGY COMMISSION	10010205	2,250	2,789	2,789
VOTER REGISTRATION	10010206	28,121	22,729	22,729
ELECTIONS	10010208	23,002	5,803	5,803
TOWN CLERK	10010210	94,719	87,613	87,613
INFORMATION SYSTEMS	10010216	574,104	617,315	601,815
CEMETERIES	10010234	52,200	37,250	37,250
LEGAL	10010238	160,000	160,000	160,000
NHMA	10010240	26,000	26,000	26,000
UNALLOCATED RESERVE	10010252	25,000	25,000	25,000
TAX COLLECTOR	10010312	-	-	-
FINANCE & TAX	10010314	602,448	614,707	614,707
HUMAN RESOURCES	10010316	237,189	234,879	234,879
ASSESSING	10010318	310,156	311,575	311,575
INSURANCE	10010336	3,079,146	3,387,367	3,399,915
PLANNING BOARD	10010420	-	-	-
ZONING BOARD	10010422	-	-	-
HISTORIC DISTRICT	10010424	-	-	-
PLANNING DEPARTMENT	10010426	361,555	364,669	380,841
SOUTHERN NH PLANNING	10010442	15,835	15,555	15,555
PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX	10010532	-	-	-
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE	10010730	820,298	811,964	811,964
TOWN HALL	10010828	-	-	-
SPECIAL DETAIL	10020200	140,895	141,645	141,645
POLICE				
ADMINISTRATION	10030554	884,496	972,392	979,142
COMMUNICATIONS	10030556	914,075	910,031	910,031
PATROL	10030558	3,552,152	3,544,820	3,401,928
DETECTIVES	10030560	1,026,687	1,037,450	1,037,450
ANIMAL CONTROL	10030562	59,065	59,210	59,210
SUBTOTAL POLICE		6,436,475	6,523,903	6,387,761
FIRE				
ADMINISTRATION	10030654	364,624	389,730	389,730
OPERATIONS	10030664	3,871,526	4,251,145	4,251,145
INSPECTION	10030666	234,580	240,511	240,511
HEALTH INSPECTOR	10030668	31,537	31,404	31,404
FIRE HYDRANT RENTALS	10030670	398,000	446,550	446,550
SUBTOTAL FIRE		4,900,267	5,359,340	5,359,340
PUBLIC WORKS				
ADMINISTRATION	10050754	622,001	628,752	628,752
LOCAL ROAD MNTC	10050772	1,100,000	1,099,998	1,099,998
HIGHWAY	10050774	1,675,425	1,652,302	1,652,302
WINTER MNTC	10050776	537,788	512,523	512,523
TRAFFIC CONTROL	10050778	79,802	79,800	79,800
TRANSFER STATION	10070780	1,122,069	1,109,910	1,109,910
RECREATION FIELD MNTC	10110790	242,000	327,700	327,700
SUBTOTAL PUBLIC WORKS		5,379,085	5,410,985	5,410,985
GENERAL ASSISTANCE	10090382	7,500	7,500	7,500
RECREATION				
ADMINISTRATION	10110854	110,638	113,932	113,932
PROGRAMS	10110886	37,000	37,000	37,000
POOL	10110888	96,418	96,484	96,484
SUBTOTAL RECREATION		244,056	247,416	247,416
TOWN EVENTS	10110894	4,500	4,500	4,500
BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY	10110992	1,130,563	1,135,483	1,135,483
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	10130496	-	-	-
GENERAL FUND BEFORE LONG TERM DEBT & CAPITAL RESERVE DEPOSITS		\$ 25,005,303	\$ 25,902,247	\$ 25,774,825

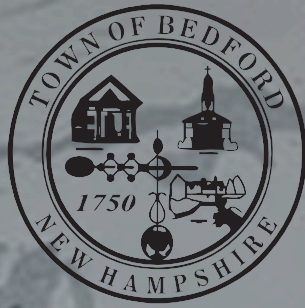


Appropriations Continued:

TOWN OF BEDFORD

2021 PROPOSED APPROPRIATIONS

DEPARTMENTS :			2020 ADOPTED BUDGET	2021 TOWN MANAGER RECOMMENDED	2021 TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDED
	ORG #				
LONG TERM DEBT	10152100		-	-	-
2011 INFRASTRUCTURE BOND			687,028	672,481	672,481
2013 INFRASTRUCTURE BOND			770,400	756,000	756,000
2015 ROAD BOND			1,008,550	1,012,000	1,012,000
2017 ROAD BOND			1,347,000	1,298,000	1,298,000
2019 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND (FAILED)			-	-	-
2020 ROAD BOND			218,582	1,252,250	1,252,250
ALLOCATED TO SRR TIF			(96,300)	(94,500)	(94,500)
BOND ISSUANCE COSTS			65,000	-	-
SUBTOTAL LONG TERM DEBT			\$ 4,000,260	\$ 4,896,231	\$ 4,896,231
TOTAL GENERAL FUND (EXCLUDES CAPITAL RESERVE DEPOSITS)			\$ 29,005,563	\$ 30,798,478	\$ 30,671,056
ENTERPRISE AND SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS (Excludes Capital Reserve Deposits):					
DAY CAMP 22	22530800		\$ 83,006	\$ 83,025	\$ 83,025
SPECIAL REVENUE FROM BOARDS			-	-	-
BEDFORD COMMUNITY TV & RADIO 27	27554100		457,738	456,073	456,073
SEWER 81					
SEWER 81 BEFORE CAPITAL RESERVE DEPOSIT	81570700		1,756,296	2,262,769	2,262,769
TOTAL ALL FUNDS (Excludes Capital Reserve Deposits)			\$ 31,302,603	\$ 33,600,345	\$ 33,472,923
CAPITAL RESERVE DEPOSITS					
GENERAL FUND CAPITAL RESERVE DEPOSITS					
ELECTIONS	10010208		\$ -	\$ 34,200	\$ 34,200
INFORMATION SYSTEMS	10010216		14,000	29,000	29,000
ASSESSING	10010318		14,225	15,000	15,000
PLANNING DEPARTMENT	10010426		6,000	18,000	-
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE	10010730		329,000	105,000	2,105,000
COMMUNICATIONS	10030556		132,500	140,625	140,625
PATROL	10030558		36,350	50,850	50,850
FIRE OPERATIONS	10030664		487,500	177,000	177,000
HIGHWAY	10050774		274,200	671,425	341,425
TRAFFIC CONTROL	10050778		4,500	4,500	4,500
TRANSFER STATION	10070780		18,000	18,250	18,250
RECREATION FIELD MNTC	10110790		1,027,100	31,200	31,200
GENERAL FUND CAPITAL RESERVE DEPOSITS			\$ 2,343,375	\$ 1,295,050	\$ 2,947,050
SEWER FUND CAPITAL RESERVE DEPOSITS			34,500	102,000	102,000
TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVE DEPOSITS (ALL FUNDS)			\$ 2,377,875	\$ 1,397,050	\$ 3,049,050
GRAND TOTAL 2021 PROPOSED APPROPRIATIONS (ALL FUNDS)			\$ 33,680,478	\$ 34,997,395	\$ 36,521,973



2020 ANNUAL REPORT BEDFORD NEW HAMPSHIRE

**TOWN OF BEDFORD
24 NORTH AMHERST ROAD
BEDFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
603-472-5242
603-472-4573 (FAX)
WWW.BEDFORDNH.ORG**