

Town of Milford, NH
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN
2015 Annual Report

At the Annual Meeting in March, Selectmen Mark Fougere and Gary Daniels were re-elected to their positions. Mark Fougere and Keven Federico were elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board respectively.

This past year, as most, was very challenging for the Board. 2015 was a busy productive year for Milford with many accomplishments including:

Ambulance

- Transitioned invoicing to a service company
- Converted Police Department SUV for use by Paramedics
- Obtained donations of \$37,500 to replace 1 of 2 Cardiac Monitors
- Department and related staff credentialed or re-credentialed for NH EMS PIFT, RSI and Surgical Crichothyrotomy

Assessing

- Bid and contracted for 2016 Revaluation
- Maintained presence on Assessing Standards Board (ASB)
- Monitored outstanding appeals particularly Fairpoint and Ocean State Job Lots.

Community Development

- Implemented Business Retention & Expansion study with SVCC and UNH and expanded to Economic Development Advisory Committee
- Completed Route 13/Emerson Road/Armory Road intersection improvement
- Bid for South Street Improvement Project was unsuccessful and will be rebid in January 2016
- Applied for and received \$150,000 Land Water Conservation Fund grant for Osgood Pond Reclamation Project.
- Completed final draft of the Recreation Chapter for Milford Master Plan

Community Media

- Upgraded cameras in Board of Selectmen's Meeting Room
- Furnished a secondary meeting room downstairs at Town Hall
- Increased department and PSA videos
- Installed Oval Cam

Finance

- Initiated credit card processing for property tax, water utilities and town clerk with implementation planned for 2016
- Improved budget and financial analyses processes
- Assisted Human Resource with Munis training, ACA review and insurance bids

Fire Department

- Accepted delivery of new ladder truck and sold old ladder truck
- Implemented PublicEye software
- Completed retaining wall at fire station

- Ongoing staff training & development

Human Resources

- Bid all insurance benefit policies and changed suppliers for life, disability and dental
- Implemented revisions to HR policies, procedures and filing systems
- Improved review of social services warrant process
- Started transition of HR to Munis platform used by other departments

Information Technology

- Improved server and anti-virus capability across all platforms
- Transitioned DPW to town phone system
- Replaced copier/printer at Town Hall
- Upgraded security DVR's and servers at the Police Department
- Added a new GIS Server for both employee and general public use
- Upgraded departmental applications & servers for Assessing; Recreation; Library; Fire Department; Ambulance; Town Clerks & Welfare.
- Added Fire Department "PublicEye" mobile unit connectivity back to FD Server
- Decommission old T1 data/internet connection for faster & cheaper DSL connection

Police Department

- Continued development of positive community outreach
- Implemented Incident Command System (ICS) throughout department
- Increased leadership and supervisory staffing/training for department
- Improved officer training

Public Works

- Replaced roof at Fire Department
- Replaced roof at Town Hall
- Removed Green Bridge
- Replaced Jennison Road Bridge
- Replaced Savage Road culverts
- Utilized Cartegraph data for paving strategy and road documentation
- Implemented record keeping program to track maintenance and project replacement of town vehicles
- Improved pool, playground, dugout and skate park facilities at Keyes Park
- Purchased and utilized new equipment to reduce cost of pool and park operations
- Installed beaver deceiver and rebuilt access road at BROX
- Installed EPA filtration basin at Transfer Station
- Repaired plow trucks and other equipment to save taxpayers money

Recreation

- Completed 2nd Hockey Rink at Shepard Park
- Completed Pergola at Keyes Park
- Enhanced senior trips
- Organized 50th Birthday Bash at Keyes Memorial Pool & Park
- Reintroduced Star Spangled 5K

Administration and other Town Updates

- Initiated comprehensive, collaborative budget review process with BOS & BAC including an all-day/all-department overview
- Zip Trip with Fox 25 News
- Initiated EPA clean-up of Fletcher Superfund Site
- Initiated EPA clean-up of Grugnale Superfund Site
- Completed DES clean-up and acquisition of 127 Elm Street
- Pipeline Task Force completes study and issues report
- Milford actively participates in NRPC Energy Facilities Advisory Committee (EFAC) and NH Municipal Pipeline Coalition
- Milford hosts FERC Scoping Meeting and other public meetings on pipeline

There were a number of valuable employees who retired this past year including: Bill Parker, Community Development Director 22 years ; Police Captain Chris Nervik - 22 years; and Steve Rougeau - DPW, 23. The Board of Selectmen and the Town want to thank these hard working individuals for the dedicated service and we wish them well with their future endeavors.

While the aforementioned summary reflects gains in many areas, 2015 also presented many financial challenges, a number of which will continue into 2016. Capital improvement needs, along with the need to address road and bridge infrastructure remain high priorities for the Board of Selectmen.

The Board wishes to extend its thanks to the Department Heads for their assistance in working with the Board to develop the 2016 budget, as well as all town employees for their efforts to control expenses, maximize efficiencies, and to do whatever it took to help the town navigate through these challenges.

As it begins 2016, the Board continues to face the numerous challenges of balancing the need for capital items and infrastructure improvements with the ability of taxpayers to cover the expense. The anemic growth of new town revenue continues to drag on decision making. Be assured that the Board will do its best in weighing options and making decisions. Thank you for the opportunity you have given us to serve you and the citizens of Milford, we deeply appreciate the trust you have given to us. Please feel free to reach out to any one of us with any questions or concerns. We will continue to do the best job we can.

Respectfully submitted,

The Milford Board of Selectmen,

Mark Fougere, Chairman
Kevin Federico, Vice Chairman
Gary Daniels
Kathy Bauer
Mike Putnam