

SELECTBOARD REPORT FOR 2012

For many years the people in the Town of Lyndon could rest assured their tax dollars were being well taken care of under the watchful eye of our Town Clerk & Treasurer, Lisa Barrett. In April 2012, Lisa submitted her letter of resignation to accept a position that would allow her to work from her home. With great reluctance we accepted her resignation. We wish to thank Lisa for all her hard work, and her dedication to the Town of Lyndon, not only in the capacity of her duties, but also as the volunteer leader organizing Green Up Day, and other events. Thank you Lisa

Following Lisa's resignation the Select Board interviewed several prospective candidates, opting to appoint Dawn Dwyer as the Lyndon Town Clerk & Treasurer to complete the time remaining until Town Meeting Day. By statute the voters in the Town must then elect a Town Clerk.

2012 also saw the completion of several projects, most notably the upgrade of the waste water treatment facility. The completion of this project enables the facility to operate more efficiently, effectively, and ensure capacity for future growth. New processing techniques have eliminated the need to lease off-site areas for sludge disposal, and provide a material fit for residential use.

Our roads continue to be maintained as high quality byways. A new "bridge" was installed on the Sheldon Brook Road, while other bridges have been inspected for possible repairs in the future. Currently all bridges are in good condition with no significant maintenance being required. For 2013 we have budgeted for work to begin on the South Wheelock Road that was rated as the road most in need of repair.

With additional time budgeted this year, and with the appropriate software now in place, the Listers are confident they can implement an on-going reappraisal process. With their efforts this should eliminate the necessity to hire an outside reappraisal firm in future years, thus saving the Town several thousand dollars.

Our Planning and Development Review Boards continue to work diligently to ensure Lyndon remains a viable place to live, work, and encourage growth opportunities. With the elimination of the "personal property tax" last year we feel we have another tool in the kit to encourage businesses not only to remain here, but for others to move here.

Due to the age and condition of the Town Highway garage, the size of the lot it sits on, and the proximity to the river, we began looking into the need for replacement of this facility. Also being aware the Village Garage is facing the same needs, the Trustees and Select Board established a committee to look at possible areas for a combined facility. We also retained Black River Design to provide a feasibility study, and a design for a combined facility on two different sites. Our committee is now working toward a recommendation for a future facility.

Our Town Administrator, Clerk/Treasurer, and all department heads continue to work diligently to maintain quality, safe, and efficient services with an ever watchful eye on budgets. Thus 2012, as has been the case in the past several years, ended with a balanced budget.

It is important for our taxpayers to realize that for 2013, as has been the case for the past several years, the Select Board is proposing no tax increase for the General, Highway, and waste water budgets for 2013. It should be noted however, special appropriation requests have been submitted for an unprecedented total of over \$70,000, Caledonia North Supervisory Union is seeking an increase of approximately \$.045, and the Lyndon School Board is seeking an increase of 4%.

We appreciate the opportunity, and honor to serve the people of the Town of Lyndon.

Kermit Fisher
David Dill
Marty Feltus