

## **2021-22 Highlights & Accomplishments**

### **Environmental:**

- Watershed Grant Process and Application Review Process with aid of Natural Resources Advisory Committee and grants awarded.
- Partnership with Portland Water District in designing a reliable, technologically advanced wastewater treatment system to curb the adverse effects of private septic systems and protect North Windham's water quality.
- Adoption of the Open Space Master Plan.
- Proposed East Windham Conservation Project - design and land acquisition proposal
- Endorsement of the Climate Resilience Project – climate hazards and impacts (collaborative project with the Town of Bridgton)

### **Ordinances New and Revised:**

- Amendments to the Marijuana Licensing Ordinance and Licensing Fees
- Growth Ordinance amendments
- Solid Waste Ordinance amendments
- Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Dealers Licensing Ordinance amendments
- Sewer Ordinance amendments
- New Restriction of Vehicle Weight on Posted Ways Ordinance – allows Police Department to enforce our ordinance
- General Assistance Ordinance replaced with updated version authored by MMA and dictated by Maine statute
- Property Tax Assistance Program amendment – waiver of age requirement if completely disabled
- Surface Water Protection Ordinance amendments – phosphorus and stormwater control standards applicable to Highland Lake Watershed expanded to all shoreland zone
- Shoreland Zoning Ordinance and the Official Land Use Map – to mirror the State's Minimum Shoreland Zoning Act
- Vehicles & Traffic Ordinance – additions to no parking/tow-away zones
- Winter Maintenance of Designated Private Ways, Article II of Streets & Sidewalks Ordinance
- Private Road solution and implementation
- Ordinance Committee establishment
- Conservation Subdivision support
- Open Space plan
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### **Administrative Policies and programs:**

- Approved proposed changes to the personnel policy with regard to the Earned Paid Leave Act and updating references to vacation as earned time as well as eligibility and earning revisions
- Adopted changes to the Town's Post Issuance Compliance Policy Relating to Bonds Issued by the Town

- Approved Maine State Retirement System benefit program for employees not already eligible or governed by a bargaining agreement that offers the program
- Adopted changes to the Town's Policy on Disposition of Tax-Acquired Property
- Rollout of Marijuana License Fee Fund Educational Grant Program and disbursed funds to applicants
- Adopted resolution to direct town staff with regard to electronic access to property tax commitment and assessing data via the internet
- Annual Employee Appreciation Day
- Manpower assessment review
- Prioritizing Public Dirt Road improvements
- Storm Water Compliance update for MDEP
- Implementing the Marijuana Ordinance
- Implementing the Growth Ordinance
- Correcting of tax acquired properties, vacant land, commercial and owner occupied
- Correcting of personal property accounts
- New and updating impact fees
- New and updating all town fees
- TIF changes and amendments

### **Moving Forward – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Downtown Plan**

- North Windham Moves – North Windham Transportation Study (service roads)
- Adaptive Signals/Smart Traffic Lights
- (Wastewater Solution above)
- Application to Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System (PACTS) for funds for proposed improvements to Route 302 from Shaw's Plaza to Amato Drive. (*approved*)
- Sewer Solution for NW (funding, design etc.)
- Rear Access Road for NW
- Working with EPA on Keddy Mills Brown Field Solutions

### **Facility & Infrastructure Improvements:**

- Expansion and renovation of the Public Safety Building – estimated completion June 2022
  - Renovated Police Station
  - New Central Fire Station
- Improvements in Fire station sprinkler and alarm NW
- Roof Repairs at Town Hall
- Sidewalk for safety at Town Hall
- New bathrooms for staff at Town Hall
- New improved air handling for COVID in all building
- Library entrance repair on leaking and water shedding
- Library lighting exterior improvements
- Lowell Parking for fields
- Lowell Playground improvements
- Lowell land lines with neighbor resolution
- Removal of old oil tank at library

- Fixing solar panels inverters at East Windham Fire Station
- East Windham Fire Station Bay heaters
- Solar Park on old Town Dump
- Server replacement at Police Station
- Various road and culvert repair and paving projects
- Restructuring of staff for more efficiency
- Remodeling of Planning, Codes and Assessing
- Sidewalk improvements at S. W.
- Improvement to Dundee Parking and dead tree removal
- Smith Cemetery design
- Lippman Park improvements
- Renovation of Town Hall space
- Improvements to GA building
- Improvements to Community Park
- Exploration of Community Center possibilities
- Completion of Depot Street improvements
- Rte. 35 sidewalk
- Budget changes to limit mil rate increases
- \$2 million grant from Susan Collins
- \$2 million grant from Angus King
- Smith Cemetery expansion considerations

### **Regular Business Items:**

- Board & Committee appointments
- Approval of new and amended committee charges
- Filling a Council vacancy
- Applications for various grants and funding solutions
  - Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for proposed Little Falls – South Windham Village Master Plan, Economic Development and Job Creation Grant for the former South Windham Fire Station and Parking and Roadway improvements in South Windham (***all approved***)
  - U.S. Congress' Community Funding Program – for East Windham Conservation Project land acquisition and for the replace an RSU storage facility so the John A Andrews School site may be utilized for housing that meets HUD initiatives
  - Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF) – funding for Climate Resilience Project (collaboration with the Town of Bridgton)
  - CDBG for the proposed “Vet to Vet Maine” multi-community program (Co-sponsored with the Town of Scarborough)
  - CDBG for a concept planning study for a proposed “Maker/Coworking Space in North Windham” to provide local entrepreneurs space to develop and expand their business (***not approved***)

- U.S. Forest Service Community Forest Program, Land for Maine's Future Program and Land and Water Conservation Fund grants for the purchase and development of the East Windham Conservation Project
- Purchases of equipment and apparatus
  - Ambulance
  - E-One Rescue Pumper
  - Cardiac Monitors (3) and Replacement Stretcher Systems (3)
  - Trackless Sidewalk Tractor
  - International Plow Truck and sanding gear
  - GMS 1-ton pickup and sanding gear
  - Elgin Pelican Street Sweeper
- Property tax assistance to seniors
- Issuance of marijuana business licenses
- Performed a town-wide statistical revaluation with the assistance of contracted services of Vision Government Solutions
- Adoption of the Cumberland County Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Amendment to the Roosevelt Trail Promenade Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District
- Implementation of the South Windham TIF and Development Program
- Implementation of the Boody's Corner TIF and Development Program
- Contracts and/or agreements for
  - Snow Plowing Services
  - 36-month leases for four electronic vehicles at Rowe Ford (at no cost)
  - MOU RSU#14 for improvements to the Manchester School property wooded area with fields and an alternative exit for vehicles
  - Conservation and Trail, Access, and Parking easements to the Presumpscot Regional Land Trust for the Lowell Preserve Property
  - Purchase and Sale agreements for properties to comprise the proposed East Windham Conservation Project
  - MOU between the Town and Presumpscot Regional Land Trust for the proposed East Windham Conservation Project
  - An amendment to the existing contract with Portland Water District for the engineering, design, and cost analysis expenditures for the proposed North Windham Sewer Project
- Personal Property Tax Collection – write of older uncollected taxes and forwarding accounts to third-party collection agency
- Review/Retention/Disposition of Town's tax-acquired properties obtained by automatic foreclosure
- Transportation speed warning light on River Road
- Switching of LED at Police and Fire
- Police body cameras
- Working with WEDC on business recovery loans for COVID
- Purchasing of heavy equipment, FIRE, PUBLIC WORKS
- Sale of old fire station in S. W.

- Improvement to CCSWCD parking lot and agreement on additional public parking
- RFP for Legal, Auditing, Engineering
- Codification of all ordinances
- Working with Superintendent of RSU on collaborative solutions
- Additional fields at Manchester
- CBDG applications
- Congressional Direct Spending
  - \$2 million grant from Susan Collins
  - \$2 million grant from Angus King
- Lawsuits involving land and Marijuana
- Correction of performance bond issues
- Solid waste collection agreement
- CIP development for equipment and facilities using bond and leasing laddering
- Website revamping
- East Windham Conservation Project
- Additional parcels
- Hired an Assistant Town Manager.
- Passed a budget at a municipal zero increase to the mil rate.
- Worked with the State Legislature to pass a private and special law for Windham to continue to provide snow removal services for designated private ways.
- Kept staff working during Covid, healthy and engaged
- Maintained a high level of service to our community.