

## **SELECTMEN'S REPORT 2017**

2017 has been another busy year in the Selectman's Office, with a number of notable projects in the works.

The Selectmen requested qualified engineering firms interested to submit proposals for the Valley Cross Road Bridge replacement. We expect the NH Department of Transportation to authorize the town to execute a contract with the selected engineering firm, GPI. GPI will then prepare preliminary concept plans and hold a meeting to publicly present those plans and seek input. We anticipate construction to take place in 2019.

Selectmen have been working with the Forest Service for the last two years to identify parking improvements in the Mount Doublehead area of town so that residents and visitors using those trail systems can park on Forest Service land rather than privately owned land, eliminating road safety and obstruction issues. The Forest Service had intended to have a new parking lot in place by last fall, however weather events of last July and late October overwhelmed their engineering staff, putting the project behind schedule. With their engineering plan complete, they are in the process of reviewing the design, and have identified the Doublehead parking lot as a high priority for completion in 2018.

The Board continues to receive high praise for the highway department and the work they do to keep our roads system well maintained and in good repair. This spring/summer the sidewalk along Route 16 will be raised with the curbing reset, as the state has listed that section as one it intends to repave in the coming paving season. A mini-excavator is a piece of equipment we have rented for years to help with roadside ditch work along some of the steeper and more narrow roads in town, such as upper Green Hill Road. With the need to rent it for even longer periods to help with the Rt. 16 sidewalk project in the coming year, and a similar project planned for 2019 along the north end of the Jackson Village loop, the Selectmen are proposing to purchase rather than continue to rent a mini-excavator, saving on the rental cost and ensuring the equipment will be available for our highway department when it is needed.

The Board also receives high praise for the police, fire, and ambulance departments for their exemplary efforts at protecting and serving the public. The people who serve in these departments are out at all hours working to provide us with a safe and well protected community, and we want to recognize their efforts.

Phase 3 of the Transfer Station renovation project, overseen by a joint committee made up of the Jackson and Bartlett Selectmen and managed by Town Engineer Burr Phillips, is scheduled to be completed in 2018. There will be a small addition to the back of the existing building with paper and cardboard recycling points inside the building reconfigured for more efficient operation. Area will be increased for outside storage of bails. Upon completion of the three phase project we will have a true and efficiently run recycling facility able to produce dry bales of all the materials we collect that

can be recycled and reused. We look for your support as we continue to work jointly with the Bartlett Selectmen on this project.

The Bartlett-Jackson Ambulance Committee, made up of the Selectmen from both towns, is asking for the remainder of funding necessary to purchase an ambulance. Our current ambulance has more miles on it than any other ambulance operating in the Mount Washington Valley, and having been purchased in 2009 also makes it one of the oldest. Jackson voters approved the first half of our town's share of the funding at our 2016 annual meeting, and we are supporting a warrant article this year that will provide our town's final share of necessary funds for the ambulance purchase.

In closing, the Board would like to thank the office staff, Julie Atwell and Julie Hoyt, and all the people who devote or donate their time in order to make things work in town. We would also like to recognize Jackson businesses and the Chamber of Commerce for their efforts at promoting our town. Please get involved, volunteer, become a committee member, and support your town. Your input is valued and the board is always looking for new ideas. It has been an honor for us to serve the town as Selectmen over the past year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Board of Selectmen  
Bob Thompson, Chair  
John Allen  
Dick Bennett



Bob Thompson

John Allen

Dick Bennett