

Report of Colebrook Town Manager's for 2016

2016 was a milestone year as the Town of Colebrook started the Main Street water and sewer construction project! While things got off to a slow start, I do not feel that we are behind schedule. Our contractor, J. P. Sicard from Barton, Vermont, has done a great job of laying pipe to date. They work efficiently with one crew to lay the pipe and a second crew following right behind to backfill. It is impressive to watch.

Yes—we did have to shut the water off on short notice a couple of times since construction began. The entire team realizes this is a great inconvenience to the public. We work hard to maintain water and sewer service. When we do have to shut the water off it is usually due to an unexpected break. We work as quickly as possible to get service restored. We have been using the electronic reader board at the elementary school to send out notice of service interruption. You can also check the town's Facebook page.

2017 will see the more complex parts of the construction project begin. Installation of the water and sewer service connections along Main Street will bring a multitude of issues. To date the service lines that have been exposed show that many of them are leaking and they are made of galvanized metal or even lead. It's long past time that these upgrades take place for the health and safety of the community.

Our team of engineers, water and sewer personnel and selectmen will meet weekly in 2017, as we did in 2016, to address construction related issues. Weekly meetings allow us to work with you—quickly—to resolve issues related to construction. If you have an emergency during construction, you can call dispatch and they will contact the contractor's representative to resolve the issue as soon as possible. If the matter is not an emergency, but needs addressing, please consider attending our weekly construction meetings. Please call the office to check the date and time of the meetings.

As of the writing of this letter, we have had a successful bid for the Dumont Street sidewalk project and we are anticipating summer construction! The Town is just waiting on NH DOT to secure and obligate the final funding for the project. Again, many people have worked together for years to bring this project to construction. Let's see it happen in 2017.

It's been a snowy winter and our trucks and equipment occasionally break-down. This winter was no exception. Your patience during this sort of situation is appreciated.

Even with construction related events taking much of my time, I strive to address your questions and concerns as soon as possible. Colebrook is a terrific place to live and work! I hope you agree.

At your service,

Becky Merrow, Esq.

Colebrook Town Manager