

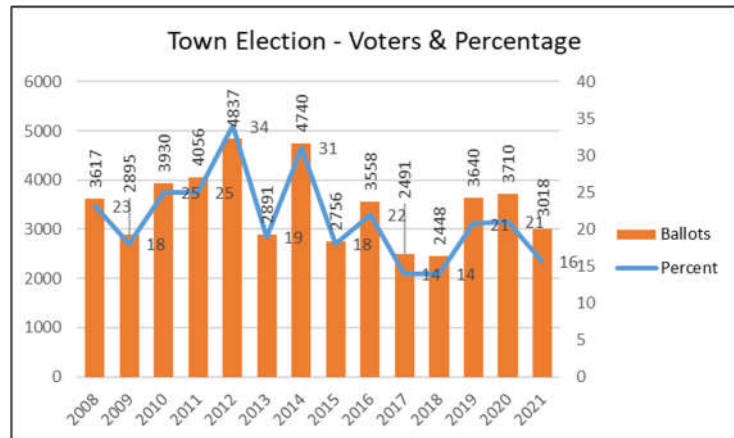
MEMORANDUM

To: Bedford Town Council
From: Rick Sawyer, Town Manager
Date: March 11, 2021
Re: **Manager's Report**

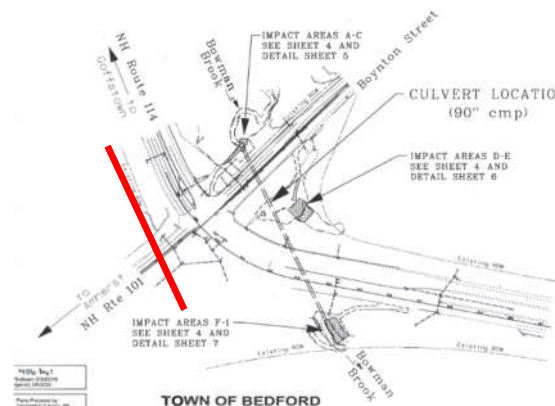


News & Noteworthy:

- 1) The most recent election we had 3,018 voters or a 15.6% turnout down from the 2020 election where we had 3,710 voters or 20.5%. I want to thank our Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, Moderator, Supervisors of the Checklist, Poll Workers, and DPW employees for all of their efforts in making the election successful.



- 2) State of NH Bowman Brook Culvert Replacement Project – The State will be starting a culvert replacement project at the intersection of Route 101, Route 114, and Boynton Street starting in mid-March and running through the summer. While no work is taking place on the roadway surface you should expect occasional lane closures and delays.

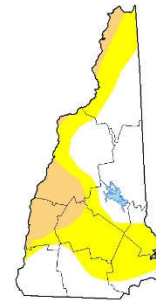


- 3) COVID-19 Pandemic – Bedford thankfully has seen a drop in our number of cases with **29 current COVID-19 positive patients**. I strongly encourage all residents to follow the CDC and State of NH recommendations for protecting yourself including wearing a face covering, washing hands as often as possible, and to get vaccinated when permitted. Our Fire Department will be administering vaccinations to the Bedford teachers on two dates in March and April.
- 4) Bedford Cares – Continues to provide an incredible service to members of our community who are in need of assistance with such things as shopping and picking up of prescriptions.

If you need their support or want to help please reach out to them at 792-1319 or on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/bedfordnhcares/>

- 5) PFAS – NHDES and Saint Gobain are testing private wells in southeastern Bedford now that the PFAS standards have been adopted into law. It is unknown how long it will take before we know what solutions will be proposed. If you have received a request for well testing it is critical that you sign the agreement and return the paperwork as soon as possible.
- 6) Drought – Bedford and a much of southeastern NH remains in the condition defined as “Abnormally Dry”. and northwestern NH remains in moderate drought conditions.
- 7) The Bedford Winter Parking Ban began on November 1st, which requires no parking on public roads between midnight and 8 AM.
- 8) The Tax Collector has issued 245 lien notices.
- 9) Registration for Camp Witzel summer camp and other summer camp programs are now open and information is available through the Recreation page of the Town Website <http://www.bedfordreonline.com/info/activities/default.aspx>

**U.S. Drought Monitor
New Hampshire**



March 9, 2021
(Released Thursday, Mar. 11, 2021)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on large-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/about.aspx>

Author:

Ernie Pruechse
National Drought Mitigation Center



Project Updates:

- 1) 2021 Revaluation – The revaluation team will begin their work in Bedford next week and the project will continue through the summer.
- 2) 2020 Master Plan – The Planning Staff and review committee are working toward a final draft to be released soon.
- 3) Personnel – The Library Assistant Director and Deputy Tax Collector positions have been filled with announcements to be made soon. Our Associate Planner Karin Elmer has announced her retirement with April 23rd being her last day. There are currently 3 openings in the Highway Department. A conditional offer has been made for an open paramedic position in the Fire Department.

Events:

- March 16th – Bedford Library annual Leen Lecture with renowned NH author Ty Gagne on “The Last Traverse”, 7 PM. The event is virtual, signup through the Library website.
- April 17th – Clean up Bedford Spring Event, 9 AM - 3 PM.
- June 19th – Household Hazardous Waste Day, 8:30 AM – 3 PM, Highway Garage, 19 Chubuck Road.

Upcoming Meetings:

- **March 15th – 7:00 PM, Town Council**
- March 16th – 7:00 PM, Zoning Board
- March 18th – 11:30 AM, Telecommunications Committee

- March 22nd – 7:00 PM, Planning Board
- March 23rd – 7:15 AM, Highway Safety Committee
- March 23rd – 7:00 PM, Conservation Commission
- March 25th – 7:00 PM, Energy Commission
- March 30th – 7:00 PM, Parks & Recreation Commission
- April 1st – 7:00 PM, BCTV-WBNH Board of Overseers
- April 6th – 7:00 PM, Historic District Commission
- April 8th – 7:45 AM Water & Sewer Committee
- April 12th – 7:00 PM, Planning Board
- April 13th – 7:00 PM, Conservation Commission
- **April 14th – 7:00 PM, Town Council**
- April 15th – 11:30 AM, Telecommunications Committee
- April 20th – 7:00 PM, Zoning Board
- April 22nd – 7:00 PM, Energy Commission
- April 26th – 7:00 PM, Planning Board
- April 27th – 7:15 AM, Highway Safety Committee
- **April 28th – 7:00 PM, Town Council**

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