

NOTES FROM TOWN HALL
Town Administrator Rosemary Cashman

Special Town Meeting. There will be a Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Elementary School Cafetorium. Please attend.

Budget. The Selectmen and Finance Committee are reviewing departmental budgets for the fiscal year that begins on July 1, 2009. Citizens are welcome to attend the budget meetings.

Ice Storm. Many citizens throughout town experienced power outages due to the ice storm in December. Citizens are to be thanked for their patience. Also, we thank the fire, police, highway, and school employees who worked many hours to keep our citizens safe.

Economic Stimulus Program. At the request of the State, the Town has submitted projects costing approximately \$17 million for possible funding from a federal economic stimulus program. According to the guidelines, the projects are supposed to be shovel-ready within the next several months and completed within 2 years. The proposed projects include the installation of a sewer in the Town Center, recreational fields at the Elementary School, road resurfacing, and school building improvements.

Media Program Director. David Paquette has been selected to fill the vacancy in the position of Media Program Director. This position is funded by revenues from the Town's cable television providers. David has a wide range of technical skills that will assist the Town with the operation of its cable television access channels, web site, and new programming. He is a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and has most recently worked for Dracut Access Television. We welcome him on board.

Trash Tipping Fee. The Town has executed a contract with Covanta Haverhill Associates for the tipping fee for solid waste for five fiscal years from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2015. The tipping fee is the disposal fee per ton of trash. In the first year of the contract, the tipping fee will decrease from \$76 per ton to \$67 per ton. The fee will increase by \$2 per ton each year thereafter. The estimated savings for 5 years are \$100,000. The Town participated in a regional bidding process with several municipalities as a way to get the best price.

Town Bicentennial. The Town will be celebrating its 200th anniversary in June. Volunteers are needed. Please contact any of the following: Recreation Director Alison McNamara, Town Clerk Joanne Shifres, or Sewer Administrator Kerry Colburn-Dion.