

TOWN OF HOLDEN

2008

TOWN REPORT

**ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF
MUNICIPAL OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF HOLDEN**

**TOWN ELECTION
HOLDEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2009
VOTING BEGINS AT 7:00 A.M.
POLLS CLOSE AT 8:00 P.M.**

**TOWN MEETING
HOLDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2009
7:00 P.M.**

**PLEASE KEEP THIS REPORT
THE SUPPLY IS LIMITED**

**BRING IT TO THE
TOWN MEETING WITH YOU**

**TOWN DEDICATION
2008
JOEL “JODY” DEARBORN**



Joel “Jody” Dearborn was born August 26, 1948 the youngest son of Ella “Sis” and Dr. Grant Dearborn. With the exception of the few years when he resided in Boston while attending law school, he has lived in Holden his entire life.

Jody attended Holden schools, and graduated in 1966 from Brewer High School. He received his undergraduate degree from The University of Maine and then his Law Degree from New England School of Law. While he attended Law School, Jody spent his summers as an intern with the Brewer Law Firm of Libhart & Ferris. Wayne Libhart’s friend, Pat Foster, of Ellsworth, often visited the office and Pat had a young daughter who caught Jody’s eye. Jody invited her to lunch, and as Jackie remembers it, “her father always told her ‘never pass up a free lunch’, so she accepted his invitation”!

On August 1, 1976 Jody married Jacquelyn Foster at her family home in Ellsworth. They lived on the third floor of “Nanny and Pappy” Dearborn’s house for about two months while their own new home was being built “on the back forty of the original family farm”. Over the years Jackie and Jody added four additions to their home and Jody spent hours building countless stonewalls on the property. For a few years, Jody raised White Faced Hereford “beef critters”, but that endeavor ended after Jackie began naming the animals, and said she could never eat them! Currently, Jody enjoys the farmland while walking.

They are the proud parents of two sons, Jay and his new wife, Nisha, who live in New York City, and Jonathan who lives in Boston. Jay is a strategic planner for McKinsey Group Corporation, Nisha works in marketing for Johnson and Johnson, and Jonathan is awaiting the results of the bar exam he took in February 2009.

After passing his bar exam, Jody returned to Brewer and joined the Law Firm of Libhart and Ferris at 120 N. Main Street in Brewer. The firm name evolved to Ferris, Dearborn and Willey and retained that name until 2001 at which time it changed to Joel A. Dearborn Sr., Esquire. He sits on the Board of Katahdin Area Boy Scouts, is a member of the Brewer Kiwanis, and attends Holden Congregational Church.

Jody’s name first appeared in the 1976 Town Report as a member of the Budget Committee; by 1977 his name was followed by the title “Chairman”. In 1989 Jody was elected to the Board of Selectmen and became its Chairman in

1994. During his tenure on the Board of Selectmen Jody was known and appreciated for his well-organized and short meetings. Recognizing the need for Economic Development Jody worked hard to bring businesses to Holden. Because of his vision, Debeck Park was designed and built, the water line on Rte 1A was extended from Brewer, and several roads including Mann Hill Road and Levenseller Road were improved. Jody has generously worked “pro bono” for the benefit of our town, and has always been an advocate for the preservation of the Old Town Hall. His foresight and planning created the Economic Development Reserve Account, and the recent opportunity to move the Old Town Hall to its’ new location.

Thank you, Jody, for your vision and commitment. The Town of Holden, with grateful appreciation, is pleased to dedicate the 2008 Town Report to you.

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

ELECTED:

COUNCIL (3-Year Terms)

John Bryant, Chairman.....Term expires June, 2010
Robert Harvey, Vice-Chairman.....Term expires June, 2011
Joel Swanton.....Term expires June, 2009
Ralph McLeod.....Term expires June, 2011
Paul Amoroso.....Term expires June, 2010

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT 63 DIRECTORS (3-Year Terms)

Donald Varnum, Chairman.....Term expires June, 2011
Robert Kiah.....Term expires June, 2009
Mario Teisl.....Term expires June, 2009
Sylvia Ellis.....Term expires June, 2010

APPOINTED:

Animal Control Officer.....Gene Worcester
Assessor.....Carl Lowe
Civil Emergency Preparedness Officer.....James Ellis
Code Enforcement Officer.....Stephen Condon
Community Development Director.....Stephen Condon
Fire Chief.....James Ellis
General Assistance Administrator.....Deborah Given
 Deputy.....Wanda Libbey
 Deputy.....Candace Healy
Health Officer.....Stephen Condon
Notaries Public.....Deborah Given
 Wanda Libbey
 Sherry Murray
 Candace Healy
 Ann Brewer
Plumbing Inspector.....Stephen Condon
Police Chief.....Gene Worcester
Public Safety Director.....James Ellis
Registrar of Voters.....Wanda Libbey
Road Commissioner.....John W. Butts
Sealer of Weights And Measures.....Arthur A. Sawyer
Superintendent of Schools.....Ray Hart
Tax Collector.....Deborah Given
 Deputy.....Sherry Murray
Town Clerk.....John W. Butts
Deputy.....Wanda Libbey
Assistant.....Sherry Murray
Assistant.....Deborah Given
Assistant.....Candace Healy
Assistant.....Ann Brewer
Town Manager.....John W. Butts
Treasurer.....John W. Butts
 Deputy.....Deborah Given

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

PLANNING BOARD

(5-Year Terms)

Jeffrey McBurnie, Chairman.....	Term expires June, 2009
Alan C. Bromley, Vice Chairman.....	Term expires June, 2010
Carol Cuddy.....	Term expires June, 2011
Allan Poole.....	Term expires June, 2009
Galen Knowles.....	Term expires June, 2009
Susan McKay.....	Term expires June, 2013
Malcolm W. Coulter Jr.....	Term expires June, 2013

BOARD OF APPEALS

(5-Year Terms)

John Bunker, Chairman.....	Term expires June, 2011
Steve Crotty.....	Term expires June, 2010
Cynthia G. Triplett.....	Term expires June, 2009
Brent West.....	Term expires June, 2010
Sally Fischel.....	Term expires June, 2009
Thomas Copeland (alternate).....	Term expires June, 2011
Mariano Teisl (alternate).....	Term expires June, 2011

CEMETERY BOARD

(3 -Year Terms)

Bonnie Clark, Chairperson.....	Term expires June, 2011
Joyce Pinkham.....	Term expires June, 2009
Jane Black.....	Term expires June, 2009
Mary Jane Pierce.....	Term expires June, 2010
Peter Zelz.....	Term expires June, 2010

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

(3 - Year Terms)

Sue Dawes, Chairperson.....	Term expires June, 2009
Alison Settele.....	Term expires June, 2009
Eugene Del Vecchio.....	Term expires June, 2011
Joy Knowles.....	Term expires June, 2011
Ryan Warner.....	Term expires June, 2010
Vacant.....	Term expires June, 2010
Vacant.....	Term expires June, 2010

RECREATION BOARD

(3-Year Terms)

John Roach.....	Term expires June, 2010
Vacant	Term expires June, 2009
Laurie Turner.....	Term expires June, 2011

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW

(3 – Year Terms)

Benjamin Birch.....	Mariano Teisl.....	David Dorr
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HOLDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Robert Harvey.....Kerry Zimmerman
Jane Black.....Francine Grant
Sherry Briggs.....Malcolm Coulter Jr.
Barbara Stephens.....Joel Dearborn
Patti Brissette.....Mary Jane Pierce
Joanne Brooks.....Laura Teisl
Carol Cuddy.....Kim Day
Cindy Delfin.....Emily Anderson
Gary Ouellette

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Sue DawesJoel Swanton
Eugene DelVecchioStephen Condon
Jay GouldAllan Poole
Barbara Tennant

**BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE
FY 2008-2009**

John Bunker.....Thomas Copeland
Malcolm Coulter Jr.....Carol Cuddy
Jim Muth.....Galen Knowles
Mary McDonald.....James Nixon
Susan PayneMary Jane Pierce
Cynthia Triplett.....Peter Zelz

DEPARTMENTS

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Bruce E. Dowling, Highway Foreman.....Darrin Gray
Nathan Hastings.....Thomas Cormier

**PUBLIC SAFETY
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

James Ellis, Director.Gene Worcester, Police Chief
Sgt. Gene Fizell.....Officer Anthony Cobb
Officer Nicholas Fletcher.....Officer Christopher Greeley
Officer Stefin Brown.....Officer Kevin Harvey
Officer Kenneth DowlingOfficer William Miller
Shane HewesJesse Gee

**FIRE DEPARTMENT/ RESCUE
2008 MEMBERS**

Chief James Ellis.....Asst. Chief Andrew Emery
Asst. Chief Peter Perry.....Capt. Michael Friel
Capt. Ryan Davis.....Lt. Nathan Hastings
Lt. Tim TrueRyan Aucoin
Brent BasleyChris Beaumont
Scott BemisJared Bowden

Teresa Campbell Tim Campbell
Butch Charette..... Kevin Crowe
Oriana Davis..... James Doyle
Samantha Ellis..... Nick Fletcher
Tessa Hastings..... Doug Hein
Charles Mock..... David Morrill
Greg Morrill Darren Nadeau
Ryan Oldham..... Jay Perry
Michael Rounds Paul Smith
Paul Sukeforth Ryan Warner

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Once again it is with great pleasure that I submit the Town of Holden's Annual Report for the year 2008 to the Elected Officials and Citizens of the Town of Holden. This report contains financial status from the annual audit, vital statistics information, budget information, letters from our State Legislators and Senators along with letters from our Congressional Representatives and U.S. Senators. Also included are Town Departmental and Committee reports.

Due to illness last year I had to take a temporary leave of absence. Larry Varisco, your previous Town Manager, graciously agreed to fill in for me during my absence. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Larry, the Town Council, Staff and all the citizens that wished me well for their support and encouragement. When the decision was made last year to dedicate the Town Report to Larry no one knew or dreamed that he would be back at the helm when the Town Report was published and released. It was a great relief to me when Larry accepted the call to come out of retirement and my return was as if I had never left. Larry and our wonderful staff took care of everything.

This past year saw many changes in our economy that affected every citizen, business, municipality and State. It definitely affected our community as fuel prices drove building heating and snow removal cost up, numerous snowfalls and freezing rain events during the winter of 2007/2008 forced the Town to purchase additional salt and sand, and this past summer asphalt prices jumped approximately \$20.00 per ton reducing the number of road miles we could resurface. Everything we use or need has increased in price yet we have been able to maintain our operations and services with very little impact to the Towns financial status (see enclosed audit). Unfortunately, current economic forecasts do not seem to reflect any relief. The department heads and I are closely monitoring expenses and looking for cost saving measures where possible.

I would also like to thank the citizen volunteers who serve on our various committees and boards to help us improve our community. They donate numerous hours of their personal time working on projects, reviewing plans, assisting with the budgets and numerous other issues. Thanks to each of you. Looking forward to serving each of you in the forthcoming year, hopefully it will be a good one for all of us. As always my door is open if you have concerns we can help you with.

Respectfully submitted,
John W. Butts, Town Manager

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

VITAL STATISTICS:

Population (According to 2000 Census)	2,827
January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008:	
Births.....	24
Deaths.....	16
Marriages.....	18
Registered Voters	2786

Certified copies of Birth, Death and Marriage Certificates are \$10.00; each additional copy purchased at the same time is \$5.00. If you are planning to marry, it is required that both the intended bride and groom come in and sign the application and marriage certificate in the City or Town Clerk's office in which one of you reside. Residents of another State coming into Maine to marry may go to any City or Town in the State of Maine to file intentions and marry anywhere within the State. If you have been married before, a certified copy of your divorce decree must be shown to the clerk at the time of application. If the previous marriage ended due to the death of a spouse, a certified copy of the death certificate must be shown to the clerk at the time of application.

MAINE DOES NOT REQUIRE A THREE-DAY WAITING PERIOD AFTER FILING THE MARRIAGE INTENTIONS. THE LICENSE CAN BE ISSUED THE SAME DAY THE INTENTIONS ARE FILED. A marriage license is valid for 90 days from the day the Town Clerk issues the license. The fee is \$30.00 for the License. Maine does not require a blood test.

INLAND FISHERIES:

January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008:	
Hunting and Fishing Licenses issued.....	548
Boat Registrations issued.....	382
ATV Registrations issued.....	175
Snowmobile Registrations issued.....	185

The Town of Holden collects the sales tax on boats, ATV's and snowmobiles to make it easier for residents. To make the process easier, when registering these for the first time make sure you have a bill of sale, the serial numbers, year, make and original ME# on boats and snowmobiles only. If purchased from a dealership, they should give you the green sales tax form that is required to be sent to the State at time of registration. Sales tax is now 5%. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is pleased to offer an online registration renewal application for ATVs, snowmobiles and boats at the following website <https://www10.informe.org/ifw/atv-snow/>. The online process is easy and payment by credit card is quick and secure. Once you complete this application, IF&W will need to process the registration. Please allow at least one week for processing. You will receive your official registration in the mail. ATV and snowmobile registrations expire in June.

Boat registration fees are determined by the horsepower of the motor or motors in use on the boat. If you plan to use more than one motor with a different horsepower, then you should register your boat for the highest horsepower of the motor you will use. The registration fee is \$10.00 for a boat with 10 hsp. motor

and under, \$15.00 for an 11 to 50 hsp. motor and \$21.00 for a 51 to 115 hsp. motor and \$29.00 for over 115 hsp. The registration fee for a personal watercraft is \$29.00. (A personal watercraft is defined as any motorized watercraft that is 14 feet or less in hull length as manufactured, has as its primary source of propulsion an inboard motor powering a jet pump and is capable of carrying one or more persons in a sitting, standing or kneeling position. Personal watercraft includes, but is not limited to, a Jet Ski, wet bike, surf jet and miniature speedboat. Personal watercraft also includes motorized watercraft whose operation is controlled by a water skier.) All motorized watercraft on inland waters must display a lake and river protection sticker. The expiration for boat registrations is December 31st.

Resident hunting and fishing licenses may be purchased through the Town Office. The following is a list of the fees (agent fee of \$2.00 included in fees):

Fishing and Hunting Combination.....	\$40.00
Fishing and Archery Combination (new).....	\$40.00
Fishing, Hunting and Archery (separate).....	\$23.00
Military Combination.....	\$ 5.00
Military Depend Hunt/Fish.....	\$22.00
Military Depend Hunt.....	\$12.00
Military Depend Fish.....	\$12.00
Small Game License.....	\$16.00
Junior Hunting.....	\$ 9.00
Resident Bear Hunting Permit (required hunting bear when it is not hunting season for deer).....	\$29.00
Pheasant Stamps.....	\$18.00
Duck Stamps.....	\$ 7.50
Muzzleloading Stamps.....	\$14.00
Fall Turkey.....	\$22.00
Spring Turkey.....	\$22.00
Coyote Night Hunt.....	\$ 6.00

If you are 70 years or older, you are entitled to an over 70 lifetime hunting and fishing license for a one time fee of \$8.00; please come by the Town Office to receive yours. If you are going to be 70 years old anytime during the season, you may get your license anytime during that year. If you are under the age of 16, you are not required to have a fishing license and you do not need an adult with you; however, you are required to have a junior hunting license and be accompanied by an adult in order to hunt. A hunter safety course is required before you can purchase your adult hunting license. The first time you obtain your adult hunting license make sure you bring your proof of your hunter safety course. An archery course is also now required, if you do not have a previous archery license. It is wise to take the course as early as you can to familiarize yourself with the laws. MOSES is the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's online hunting & fishing licensing system. You can now purchase licenses online any time of the day or night and print your license out in your home office in just minutes by going to the following website address <https://www.informe.org/moses>.

MOTOR VEHICLES:

Please bring in your **old registration, proof of insurance and the mileage** when re-registering your vehicles. The Town of Holden utilizes *Rapid Renewal*, the Bureau of Motor Vehicle’s online registration service. Also, if you are registering a motor vehicle for the first time, please have the title if 1994 or newer, and the bill of sale. **Maine has a 15-year title law.** If you purchased the vehicle from a dealer you will need the sales tax form and the copy of the title application if applicable. On all new vehicles, **the window sticker is required by law** to be brought to the Town Office along with the title application, sales tax form, and your proof of insurance that must contain the date of expiration and vehicle identification number.

January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008:
Total Motor Vehicle Registrations (366 thru Rapid Renewal).....4054

ANIMAL WELFARE:

January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008:
Dog Licenses Issued.....532
Kennel Licenses Issued.....3

Respectfully submitted,
Wanda Libbey, Deputy Town Clerk

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS REPORT

I would like to thank all my ballot clerks for their willingness to serve in 2008. Also thanks to Donald Varnum and Malcolm Coulter Jr. who served as Wardens for the various elections...you did a great job and because of your expertise all the elections ran smoothly. I would also like to thank my Deputy Registrar Sherry Murray for all of her help.

69% of Holden’s registered voters cast their ballots on Tuesday, November 4, 2008.

Don’t forget to come in and change your registration whenever you have a name or address change, or wish to change your party. I would greatly appreciate the help of any registered Holden voter who is interested in working at the polls during elections. If interested please call me at 843-5151.

Respectfully submitted,
Wanda Libbey, Registrar of Voters

ANIMAL CONTROL

During the year 2008 the Animal Control Officer received 107 calls for animal related problems.

The Town of Holden uses Carson's Animal Shelter located at 79 Hoxie Hill Road in Orrington. The phone number is 471-0198. If you find your animal is missing you may want to call this number to see if your animal has been dropped off there. We do not have a contract with Bangor Humane Society so they will not take our animals. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 843-5442.

Respectfully submitted,
Gene Worcester, Animal Control Officer

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Police Department had a total of 2002 calls for service. These are actual calls where a police officer had to take some sort of action. These do not include speeding tickets or other civil matters that the police deal with on a regular basis.

The following is a sample of complaints our officers handled during 2008:

- Accidents w/Property Damage	115
- Accidents w/Injuries	21
- Alarms	109
- Assaults	5
- Attempts to Locate	24
- Agency Assist	217
- Animal Problems	97
- ATV/Motorcycle Problems	21
- Burglaries	19
- Erratic Vehicle Operators	210
- Family Fight/Domestics	15
- Emergency Hang-ups/Misdials	113
- Harassment	16
- Suicide Threat	7
- Theft	49
- Threatening	8
- Welfare Check	29

Respectfully submitted,
Gene Worcester, Police Chief

FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT REPORT

During 2008 the Fire/Rescue Department responded to 428 calls for assistance. 255 calls (60%) were requests for medical assistance, while 173 calls (40%) were fire related. Approximately \$1,542,550 of taxable property in Holden was directly threatened by fire in 2008, while only \$70,600 of property was actually destroyed. 70% of our calls occurred between 7am and 7pm. when we staff the fire station. Our average response time, which is defined as the time of alarm until the first unit is on scene, was about 5 minutes. Fortunately again this year there were no fire deaths in our community.

High traffic volume on Rt.1A continued to make it a dangerous stretch of road. Fire/Rescue personnel responded to 44 motor vehicle crashes during 2008, 17 (39%) of which were on Rt.1A. Despite several very serious crashes on Rt.1A there were no fatalities. Unfortunately however there was a fatal motorcycle crash on the Levenseller Rd. on July 11th.

In addition to responding to emergencies within our community members of the Fire/Rescue Department spent many more hours each month training, maintaining apparatus and equipment, pre-incident planning, working in the community presenting fire and injury prevention programs, assisting property owners, developers and contractors with fire safety and fire code information, issuing 740 open burning permits, keeping the fire station clean and simply maintaining a high level of readiness to be able to respond to emergency incidents 24-hours a day, 7 days a week.

Probably the most significant event in 2008 involving the Fire/Rescue Department was the Town of Eddington hiring the Holden Fire Chief to serve as their Fire Chief as well. The Holden and Eddington Fire Departments have worked very closely since the Eddington Fire Department was formed in 1975. Having one chief lead both departments has caused the two agencies to work even more closely together through more combined training exercises, monthly combined officer meetings and a shared student live-in program. As we head into 2009 this situation presents many possibilities and opportunities for the communities of Holden, Eddington and Clifton, which is served by the Eddington Fire Department, to improve fire protection and the delivery of emergency medical services. It is my hope in 2009 to develop and begin implementation of a plan focused on creating a cooperative fire protection and EMS effort between the three communities which will improve service, lower our fire protection insurance rating, retain local control and ultimately offer financial savings to all the involved communities.

As always I would like to thank the citizens of our community, the Town Council and Town staff for their continued support of the Fire/Rescue Department.

Finally, I would also like to extend a special thank-you to the members of the Fire/Rescue Department for their support, dedication and professionalism during the past year. The quality of fire protection and delivery of emergency medical services in Holden is directly related to community support and the commitment of our members.

During 2008 the Fire/Rescue Department responded to the following calls for assistance:

Emergency Medical Services

Motor Vehicle Accidents	44
Trauma – Falls/Wounds etc.	42
Cardiac Emergency	41

General Weakness/Illness	22
Respiratory Emergency	26
Lift Assist	8
Lifeline/Welfare Check	8
Behavioral Emergency	7
Diabetic Emergency	5
Abdominal Pain	5
Seizure	4
Anaphylaxis	4
CVA (Stroke)	4
Cardiac Arrest	2
Overdose	2
Assault	2
Heat Exhaustion	2
Intoxication	2
Obstetrics	1
Blood Pressure Clinics	24
TOTAL EMS	255

Fire

Tree Down in Roadway	25
Service Call	14
Smoke/Odor Investigation	13
Tree Down Into Utility Line	13
Prescribed Burn	11
Fire/Smoke Detector Activation	9
Assist Police	7
Utility Line Down	7
Brush/Woods/Grass Fire	5
Chimney Fire/ Plugged Chimney	5
Unpermitted Open Burning	4
Fuel Spill	4
Arching Electrical Equipment	3
Flooded Basement	3
Carbon Monoxide Alarm	3
Structure Fire	2
Pellet Stove Malfunction	1
LP Gas Fire	1
Hazardous Materials Incident	1
Mutual Aid to Eddington	18 (Received 11)
Mutual Aid to Dedham	13 (Received 1)
Mutual Aid to Orrington	5 (Received 2)
Mutual Aid to Brewer	4 (Received 4)
Mutual Aid to Bangor	1
Mutual Aid to Veazie	1
TOTAL FIRE	173

TOTAL FIRE & EMS 428

Respectfully submitted,
James L. Ellis, Fire Chief

HIGHWAY REPORT

Well another year is just about passed; they seem to fly by now.

The past year was a very busy one, but with mostly routine projects, not much in the way of large projects. The cost of goods and services in the public works sector has seen a very sharp increase, as I'm sure all of you are well aware. The cost of fuel skyrocketed as well as metal and building materials. As of this writing it seems to have leveled off and in some cases even come down a little. It seems the biggest hit for us was in fuel, as it not only affects the vehicles but cold mix and asphalt are made with fuel also. Both asphalt and cold mix took a very large jump this past year. We implemented a few procedures to try and help cut some cost; like trying to combine trips and allowing less idle time for the vehicles if we can, and it seems to have worked to some degree.

We were able to pave all of upper Wiswell Road and Copeland Hill Road from the four corners to Carriage Lane and the Ryder Bluff Road. I am in hopes that the cost of pavement will be down as fuel has come down a little. We concentrated on ditching and culvert work this past summer and we were able to replace or reset numerous culverts that were in need. We were also able to hire a contractor for a day or two to remove several dangerous trees that were a safety hazard to the public. This upcoming summer looks like the same kind of work schedule. I don't see any large projects on the horizon for the Public Works Department.

The winter started out a lot like last winter but as of mid January it seems to have leveled off somewhat. As I finish this report it is now the second week of February and we have received a few more significant storms, we now have well over half of our snowfall for the winter on the ground. This spring we will concentrate on brush cutting and shoulder work in select areas in Town, along with our other duties like burials, culvert work, etc.

We are in hopes of purchasing a new plow truck this year 2009/2010; this will be the last truck to upgrade the fleet from single axle to wheelers. Upgrading to wheelers has enabled us to stay out on the roads longer, not making as many trips back to the garage to refill with sand; which in some cases can be several miles one way. Hopefully with this last upgrade all our roads will be cleaner earlier with less travel back and forth which will result in a cost savings. It also enables us to participate in the hauling of sand from the pit which allows for a reduced rate on the per yard cost of the sand. In closing I would like to thank John Faulkner for his continued cost saving efforts in dealing with the winter sand it is very much appreciated and also to the Council members and the Town staff they are a critical part of this team. Thanks to the highway crew for their continued professionalism in performing their job, it is trying at times, but we all feel it is an important job to try and keep our roads as safe as possible with what we have.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Dowling, Highway Foreman

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

The Maine Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration continues to look at five routes that are receiving a full environmental assessment for the proposed connector for I-395 to Route 9. The study is expected to be completed in late summer 2009, at which time the F.H.A. will be reviewing the data and announcing which route will be the chosen connector. While M.D.O.T. continues to favor the I-3EIK-2 route, they are required to study the “no build” option, upgrades to existing routes, and the four other routes. For additional information please see <http://www.i395-rt9-study.com/home.html>

Top Hat Dance Studio is now open for business at the DeBeck Business Park on lots 9 & 10. David and Sandra Sanzaro have done an excellent job on the construction and it is a welcomed addition to the other office buildings in the park.

Leadbetter Stop and Shop has purchased the former Log Cabin General Store, and while initially the project was for only minor renovations, through an agreement with the Town Council, they have agreed to rebuild with a new larger facility and close off two entrances adjacent to the South Road – Route 1A intersection. Combined with the relocation of the Town Hall, this will be a significant safety improvement for this area of Town as well as increase the assessed value of the property substantially.

Town Hall On June 15, 1872 the building committee for the “Town House” Town Hall was formed with the dedication taking place on Jan 9, 1873. Over the last 20 plus years several uses have been suggested for reuse of the Town Hall, former home of the Holden Grange. Two concerns prevented moving forward. The building is located 10 feet from the Route 1A right of way that may need to be widened in the future to accommodate traffic safely. Second, the building is in need of repair. At one point, voters were asked to dispose of the building. A facilities study completed by WBRC Architects and Engineers in 1998 indicated that the roof appeared in fair condition, the exterior wood clapboard was generally in good repair, minor repairs were needed to the single glazed windows, and overall the building was functionally sound.

The major concern was the foundation which has sunk over the years possibly due to not being fully frost protected. While the exterior granite foundation remains in fair condition, the interior support piers are failing and may no longer completely support the interior beams. Additionally, the wood sills in contact with the foundation will need to be replaced.

The correct sequence of actions needed for the restoration would be to raise the building, repair the sill plates with pressure treated lumber and install on a new foundation. The building will then be level and able to have a new roof installed with repairs to the skylights and interior cosmetic work on the plaster and lath walls.

I am pleased to announce that through a generous donation of land, water and septic system utilities by the Leadbetter Family, the Town Hall will be relocated 200 feet further away from Route 1A onto a new foundation.

Chairman Jeff McBurnie and the Planning Board continued to have multiple meetings this past year reviewing plans, revising ordinances and planning for future development. Please note the warrant article this year for amendments to the Town Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map. These amendments are required to satisfy changes to the Department of Environmental Protection Rules. All towns must have these rules in place by July 1, 2009.

I would like to thank the Town Council for their support, the Planning Board for their analysis and planning efforts and my Coworkers and Town Manager for the daily environment that allows me to serve the residents of Holden. I would also like to thank the many citizens that serve on committees that I staff; Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee, Sidewalk Committee and the short term subcommittees that arise to handle issues on an as need basis. Their service is invaluable and saves residents thousands of dollars per year. Volunteers make Holden the Town it is.

Respectfully submitted
Stephen Condon,
Town Planner, Code Enforcement Officer, Economic Development Director

BUILDING INSPECTOR REPORT

In 2008, 13 new homes were built and 3 mobile homes installed, for a total of 16 new dwellings. Six commercial projects contributed to an estimated construction amount of \$3,309,253 for the year. Total building permit fees collected were \$35,513 for the year.

The issuance of a permit indicates that the new structure, addition, renovation, foundation, plumbing and heating system, fireplace, prefabricated structure, temporary building or mobile home, has been approved for construction, demolition or placement and that the project will be inspected for compliance with the Building Code and Zoning Ordinance.

Special permits from the Planning Board may be required whenever the project is within the Shoreland, Commercial, Community Service, and Institutional Zones. Please do not hesitate to contact the Town Office for additional information.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Condon, Building Inspector

PLUMBING INSPECTOR REPORT

Permits issued from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008:

Internal Permits issued.....	25
Internal Fees collected	\$1,434
External Permits issued.....	21
External Fees collected.....	\$1,985
Total Permits issued.....	46
Total Fees collected.....	\$3,419

Permits are required for the following:

The installation or replacement of all water distribution and drainage pipes, hot water storage tanks, and hot water heaters.

The installation of all new faucets, valves and plumbing fixtures.

The installation or construction of treatment tanks, holding tanks, alternative toilets; including primitive disposal systems, disposal area and separate laundry disposal systems.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Condon, Plumbing Inspector

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

Despite the economic uncertainty of 2008, the planning board was quite active. In 2008, the Planning Board followed through on efforts undertaken in 2007 and presented to the Town Council and Town Voters updated Subdivision and Zoning Ordinances. The most significant modification to the Subdivision Ordinance was a transition to Conservation (also referred to as Cluster or Open Space) Subdivisions. The Board also engaged in discussions regarding the development of an Ordinance to govern the construction and operation of wind energy generation equipment in the Town.

I would like to thank this year's Board (Alan Bromley, Malcolm Coulter, Jr., Carol Cuddy, Galen Knowles, Susan McKay, and Allan Poole) for their tireless efforts in providing comprehensive and fair analyses of the development projects being proposed for our community. We continue to work for positive development opportunities in Holden, while protecting the core values and features that have made Holden the unique and attractive Town that has drawn us into its borders.

The Board is again grateful for the exemplary support of all our municipal officials and staff. Given the limited resources at our disposal, the quantity and quality of work that were provided to support our efforts are nothing short of amazing. Steve Condon continues to deftly guide the Planning Board through the intricacies of the various planning projects that are presented. Town Manager John Butts and Public Safety Director Jim Ellis provide important insight as to how development projects impact our Town's resources, including roads and fire and police protection.

As always we encourage the citizens of Holden to participate in our development efforts. With your input, we can continue to make Holden the town that you envision it to be.

In 2008, the Board approved (or approved with conditions) the following:

- A Site Plan for Antique Sales and Storage at 247 Main Rd.
- A Site Plan for Granville Stone
- An Amendment to the Holden Plaza Site Plan (Additional Use – Auto Dealership)
- An Amendment to the Hummingbird Hollow Site Plan (Additional Greenhouse Space; Traffic)
- An Amendment to the Holden Elementary School Site Plan (Veterans Memorial)
- An Amendment to the Holden Family Campground Site Plan (Additional Sites & Structures; Revised Stormwater Management Plan)
- An Amendment to the Tower Drive Telecommunications facility Site Plan (Additional Antenna)
- An Amendment to the Copeland Hill Telecommunications facility Site Plan (Additional Antenna)
- An Amendment to the Leadbetter's Convenience Store and Fuel Service Center Site Plan (Store Relocation and Entrance Closures)
- Five Shoreland Zoning Permits for building upgrades and rebuilds

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff McBurnie, Chair

BOARD OF CEMETERY TRUSTEES REPORT

Another year has come and gone. The cemeteries, as always look great.

Thanks again to Best Lawn & Landscaping for another excellent job of keeping the cemetery lawns looking great.

Lots at Clewleyville Cemetery are going fast, so don't delay if you wish to purchase one. You may put one full burial and four cremations in one lot. At present Rowe and Clewleyville are the only cemeteries with available lots.

Please remember that the cemeteries are off limits from dusk to dawn to people and automobiles. The police department does check them regularly.

Anyone wishing to obtain a lot may contact the town office. Remember it is never too early to prepare for the future. Any lots purchased now must be paid in full at time of purchase and a deed will be issued.

Because of another year of budget problems, there will be no new projects planned for the cemeteries.

The Board is still searching for additional land for a new Cemetery. Anyone with an interest in selling or donating to the BCT please call the town office. In most instances, donations will be tax deductible.

Respectfully submitted

Bonita S. Clark

HOLBROOK RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Holbrook Regional Recreation Committee is here to serve the residents of Clifton, Dedham, Eddington and Holden. The committee is comprised of three individuals from each town. Our mission is to provide recreational activities for the Towns of Clifton, Dedham, Eddington, and Holden. With total tax revenue raised of \$30,000 from the four towns, we provide a variety of activities. They are T-Ball, Farm League, Little League, Basketball, Men's Night, High School Night, Co-Ed Volleyball, and Snowmobiling. With your generosity, the Holbrook Regional Recreation program is able to provide a lifetime of fun.

A lot of our activities are outdoors on the playing fields at the schools. We are in great need of additional playing time. This past summer, Holbrook Regional Recreation and the Town of Eddington combined efforts to make substantial renovations to the Eddington field. The playing field will be enjoyed by many residents and players. A special thank you to the Town of Eddington and the volunteers that made this happen.

The Holbrook Regional Recreation Committee wants to thank everyone who spent time and contributed money helping our programs grow, prosper, and enrich the lives of those who participate. We especially want to thank the parents. You are an integral part of our program. Numerous hours are donated coaching teams, instructing the youth, maintaining facilities and volunteering with the concessions. Your participation allows us to carry out an excellent recreation program for the children. Thank you for caring.

Presently we do have some vacancies on the committee. Please contact your town office if interested. If you have any ideas or would like to volunteer or contribute to the program, please talk with any of our committee members. We gladly appreciate your support and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Jarvis, Jr.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT

“Conservation is a state of harmony between men and land.” – Aldo Leopold

The mission of the Holden Conservation Commission is to promote wise stewardship and conservation of the town’s natural resources and rural character through collaboration, education, and policy recommendations.

Our belief is conservation and development can work hand in hand with each other. Natural areas and outdoor recreational opportunities are beneficial for residents, businesses, and visitors by keeping Holden’s rural character and natural attractions intact to be enjoyed both by us and by future generations.

The Commission has been instrumental in beginning the process of creating an Open Space Plan for Holden. This plan will outline the vision, priorities, and strategies for conservation and outdoor recreation in the community for the next 20 years. This plan will be put together over the next year and will be an invaluable planning tool.

The Commission is participating in the Central Penobscot Regional Greenprint with a member on the Greenprint Stakeholder’s Committee. The Greenprint encompasses twelve communities and will result in a comprehensive region-wide Open Space Plan.

A photo/essay/artwork contest was held. Entrants had to answer the question “What do you think captures the rural character of Holden?” Winning entries are displayed on the Conservation Commission website.

The annual town-wide litter pick-up weekend was held in the spring. Thanks to everyone who participated. Your efforts are invaluable in keeping Holden beautiful.

We are continuing to support the Holden Community Learning Nature Trails located behind the Holden School. These trails are a wonderful asset to our community.

The Commission is moving forward with its outreach and education efforts through a strong presence in the Town newsletter as well as with its new website at holdenconservationcommission.blogspot.com.

I would like to thank commission members Gene DelVecchio, Joy Knowles, Alison Settele, and Ryan Warner for their commitment to our mission as well as Noelle Merrill and Jack Healy, former members whose contributions will be missed. I would also like to thank the Council, the Planning Board, John Butts, and Steve Condon for their hard work and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Dawes, Chair

HOLDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESERVING HOLDEN'S HISTORY

Bob Harvey, President
Kerry Zimmerman, Vice-president
Jane Black, Secretary/Treasurer
Barbara Stephens, Curator

Francine Grant, Director
Sherry Briggs, Director
Malcolm Coulter Jr., Director
Joel Dearborn, Registered Agent

In Jan. 2006 a small group of people who were interested in preserving the History of Holden met to discuss the formation of a historical society. Since that time the group has met monthly to establish the Holden Historical Society.

The Holden Historical Society is a non-profit organization that strives to collect, preserve, promote, and celebrate the history of our community.

Accomplishments include:

- Set goals, Adopt bylaws, Establish guidelines for collections
- Be granted non profit corporation status with the State of Maine
- Document and Preserve manuscripts, ledgers and maps
- Restore table, chairs, and other historic memorabilia
- Make recommendation to the Holden Town Council on disposition of Town owned items of historical value
- With the help of some eighth grade students, began recording the oral history of Holden as told by some long time residents
- Compile a list of some of the older structures in Holden
- Making application to the IRS for nonprofit 501(c)(3) status

A glimpse of history: The original building plans were recently discovered for the town house (commonly known as the old Town Hall or Grange Hall) which was built in 1872 and dedicated on January 9, 1873. This building was born out of controversy, the first being the location of the building, with one group wanting it located in another part of town. Then there was a dispute over whether it should be two stories or one and a half story high. And then a dispute ensued over the financing and payment for the construction of the building. In recent years as use of the building has declined, controversy has again erupted as to what the Town should do with the building. As I write this article in mid March, this great old building is in the process of being moved back from the highway, where it will have a new foundation, access to water and sewer and ample parking to accommodate renewed usage. Thanks to Jeff Leadbetter, for without his cooperation and generosity this would not have been accomplished. And with the future of this building looking brighter than it has in many years, we look forward to rededicating this perfect example of the history of Holden.

The Holden Historical Society meets the first Tuesday of the month, 6:30 PM at the town office.

Please join us in preserving the History of Holden.

2008 MUNICIPAL VALUATION

Assessed Real Estate Valuation:

Land	\$ 91,300,700.00
Buildings	169,615,450.00
Total:	\$260,916,150.00

Personal Property Valuations:

Production Machinery & Equip.	\$ 2,605,450.00
Furniture & Fixtures	48,400.00
Total of other personal property	1,600.00
Total:	\$ 2,655,450.00

Total Taxable Valuation: \$263,571,600.00

Computation of Tax Commitment:

Municipal Appropriations	\$ 2,276,615.00
Education Appropriations	2,240,684.00
County Tax	267,409.50
Overlay	19,214.47
Total:	\$ 4,803,922.97

Deductions:

State Municipal Revenue Sharing	\$ 200,000.00
Other Revenue	1,288,100.00
Homestead Reimbursement	<u>68,620.86</u>
Total Deductions	1,556,720.86
Net Commitment	3,247,202.11

Tax Rate Per \$1,000 Valuation 12.32

Respectfully submitted,
Carl A. Lowe, Tax Assessor

**State Senator: Richard W. Rosen (R)
District 31**

PO Box 877
Bucksport, ME 04416
Tel. (207) 469-3779
Fax: rosen113@aol.com

3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003
(207) 287-1540
1-800-423-6900

**Representative to the Legislature: Benjamin Marriner Pratt (D)
District 20**

95 Hatcase Pond Road
Eddington, ME 04428
Tel. (207) 745-7372

Maine House of Representatives
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
207-287-1400 (Voice)

E-Mail: RepBen.Pratt@legislature.maine.gov

Year-Round Toll Free House of Representatives Message Center: 1-800-423-2900. Maine Legislative Internet Web Site – <http://janus.state.me.us/legis>

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance or Rescue.....**911**
Fire Department (to report a fire).....**911**
Police Services.....**911**
State Police (Orono Barracks).....866-2121
Non-emergency police.....945-4636

OTHER IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Holden School.....843-7828
Holbrook School.....843-7769
Superintendent of Schools.....843-7851
Town Office.....843-5151
Holden Website.....www.holdenmaine.com
Email address.....holdento@holdenmaine.com
Town Fax.....843-5153
Town Garage.....843-7231
County Commissioners.....942-4486
Animal Control.....843-5442
or call the Regional Dispatch945-4636
Holden Post Office.....843-6474
Holden Police Dept.....843-5442
Penobscot Registry of Deeds.....942-8797
Pine Tree Waste Inc Trash & Recycling.....1-800-639-6205
Game Warden.....941-4440

2009 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

JULY 1st thru DECEMBER 31st

These are legal holidays and the Town Office is closed.

Independence Day.....	Friday, July 3
Labor Day.....	Monday, September 7
Columbus Day.....	Monday, October 12
Veteran's Day.....	Thursday, November 11
Thanksgiving Day.....	Thursday, November 26
Thanksgiving Friday.....	Friday, November 27
Christmas Eve Day at Noon.....	Thursday, December 24
Christmas Day	Friday, December 25

COUNCIL MEETINGS:

The Council meets the **2nd Monday of the month** at 6:00 P.M. in the conference room at the Municipal Building.

PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS:

The Planning Board meets the **2nd Wednesday of the month** at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room at the Municipal Building.

Roadside Trash Collection Effective July 1, 2008:

Every **Thursday**, please have your trash out by 7:00 A.M. All trash bags must have a **STICKER** placed around the neck of each bag not exceeding 30 gallons or 40 pounds.

Roadside Recycling Pickup Effective July 1, 2008:

Our recycling pickup is contracted with Pine Tree Waste Inc., concerns or questions may be directed to them at 1-800-639-6205. **Roadside Recycling pickup is the 4th Thursday of each month.** There is a recycling drop-off site located at the Highway Garage where residents can bring their recyclables.

Bulky waste collection will take place the 4th Saturday of each month from 7 A.M. to Noon at the Highway Garage.

Municipal Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.....8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M
Wednesdays we are open from..... 7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M

**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
2008 OUTSTANDING REAL ESTATE TAXES AS OF 5/1/2009**

3-D Holding Co	3498.57	Libby, Robert & Joyce	73.30
Adams, Charles R	5702.92	Libby, Steven & Rhonda	3277.39
Ashton, Ed & Breanna Wellman	89.94	Liquidation Properties, Inc	1571.42
Aucoin, Ted H & Priscilla(Trustee)	1971.20	Malinowski, Jill M	1160.23
Beauchamp, Edith Ann	858.70	Mishou, Jerome	237.16
Beaulieu, Todd C	4016.88	Mitchell, David & Clement, Marcia	1925.00
Bemis, Gregory & Margo	876.57	Mitchell, David A	4054.51
Bennett, Gerard L & Alice G	768.15	Murphy, Angelina & James	2004.46
Blanchard, Steven	1385.38	Noyes, Lisa L & Boyd R	1852.31
Bosse, Joseph & Lucille	1347.66	Pacific & Southern Co., Inc.	57.85
Boudreau, Lynette & Michael Kennedy	535.92	Pell-Mull, LLC	3048.89
Brown, Terri	506.35	Perry, Cindy	547.71
Burch, Mark & Gabrielle	196.50	Petley, Stephen & Katherine	696.08
Burris, Andrea & Steven	922.09	Raymond, Bonnie	571.03
Carr, Russell	97.33	Richardson, Robert S	2087.01
Chambers, Edmund	175.25	Rogers, Scott A & Lisa	1217.21
Chambers, Jeffrey	167.86	Rogers, Vaughn III & Christine M	614.79
Cook, Ronald O	1028.23	Roy, George & Gisele	1240.62
Cooper, Jacqueline & William Jr	2746.12	Sanders, Robert	999.77
Cormier, Scott & Diane	3422.50	Sanzaro, David A & Sandra Jo	3469.31
Cote, Bruce	54.21	Severence, Jackie	85.01
Denney, Larry	33.88	Shellhamer, Alice M	626.47
Donovan, Karen	182.34	Sherman, Jackie (Heirs of)	1544.31
Dwyer, Douglas D	1211.67	Sklarz, Marie	677.89
Eastbrook Timber Co., Inc.	4426.57	Smith, Vinal & Quimby, Gary	662.51
Foster, Barbara	88.70	Smith, Thomas A & Brenda J	1727.88
Gaspar, Frederick Jr. & Susan	439.39	Soucie, Rhonda L Et Als	446.59
Gerrish, R & Brian Gilbert	154.00	Spox, Linda & Stephen K Bryer	388.08
Golder, Robert Jr & Patricia A	18.42	St Louis, Jeremy B	295.68
Gray, Ann Marie	291.98	St Louis, Tina & Jerome	1313.31
Harrington, Barbara	77.00	Stevens, Lisa	738.58
Harris, Charles T & Allison	223.61	Stone, Katherine & Tomilson, Scott	1402.02
Haselton, Eric P	388.08	Strang, Mark	28.95
Hatch, Bonnie	524.21	Stuart, Gordon & Bobbie	102.26
Hatch, Donna M	666.51	Taylor, Wayne	56.67
Haynes, Herbert & Helen	480.03	Thibault, Travis	291.37
Hinckley, Germaine	257.95	Veilleux, Joseph	1557.25
Johnson, Joseph E & Diane E	18.39	Walton, Maynard	145.99
Jolander Well Drilling, Inc	9.05	Watters, Daniel & Sharon	870.24
Karl, Sharon & Frank	1048.43	White, Cheri L & Heather Elkins	1973.66
Kelley, Bradford & Jeanne	352.97	White, Rickie T & Dolline D	444.75
Kennedy, Peter	197.73	Whitney, Dennis & Aprel	1488.26
Kingsbury, Edward & Stephanie	1116.81	Wilson, Russell S	390.49
Larco, LLC	1096.16	Winters, Kenneth T	1665.05
Legasse, Derek M	2246.55	Wireless Asset Management	308.00
Libby, Joanne	1475.32	Witherspoon, Keith	155.95
		TOTAL	<u>97487.35</u>

2007 OUTSTANDING REAL ESTATE LIENS AS OF 5/1/2009

Blanchard, Steven	449.91	Parsons, Wauneta	126.79
Burch, Mark & Gabrielle	89.48	Petley, Stephen & Katherine	633.93
Carr, Russell	88.64	Raymond, Bonnie	441.13
Donovan, Karen	166.06	Richardson, Robert S	89.75
Eastbrook Timber Co, Inc	3928.64	Sanders, Robert A	467.92
Harrington, Barbara	215.99	Severence, Jackie	77.42
Hatch, Bonnie L	477.41	St Louis, Tina & Jerome	1196.05
Karl, Sharon & Frank	954.82	Stevens, Lisa M	159.32
Kingsbury, Edward F & Stephanie A	528.17	Stone, Katherine & Tomilson,Scott	982.31
Maine Line Homes	690.03	Taylor, Wayne	51.61
Mishou, Jerome	215.99	Veilleux, Joseph	765.20
Mitchell, David A	3692.50	White, Cheri L & Heather Elkins	1797.44
Mitchell, David & Clement, Marcia	1753.13	White, Rickie T & Dolline D	405.04
Murphy, Angelina & James	1825.49	Whitney, Dennis & Aprel	938.14
		TOTAL	<u>23208.31</u>

**TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
2006, 2007 & 2008 UNPAID PP TAXES AS OF 5/1/2009**

3D Holding Co. (2008)	226.99	Nextel Comm of the Mid-Atlantic(2008)	317.86
Adams, Charles (2007 & 2008)	235.40	Pacific & Southern Co., Inc. (2008)	30.27
J Mac Video (2006, 2007 & 2008)	766.81	Rent-Way, Inc (2007 & 2008)	37.66
Marlin Leasing (2007 & 2008)	329.56	Winters, Kenneth T (2008)	24.64
Mobile Medir/Arch Paging	140.25	TOTAL	<u>2109.44</u>