

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN 2012

Selectman David DePuy joined the Board in March. His calm demeanor and ability to reason through the complex issues that come before the Board serve the town well.

The Boston Post Cane was awarded to Edna Brown.

The interior of the town office building was painted and interior lights were converted to more energy efficient models. The resulting savings from this change will be seen for many years to come in the operating budgets.

In these trying economic times, the Board of Selectmen is pleased with the efforts of the Department Heads and the employees to continue to cost-effectively manage their departments. This has ensured delivery of the needed and requested services while keeping in mind the responsibility to keep the tax rate as low as possible. A 3% cost of living adjustment was granted to the employees as of July 1, 2012 to attempt to bring the pay rates more in line with current standards. The employees are vital to the operation of the town and the Board wished to show their appreciation for their efforts and dedication. When it came time to draft the proposed budget for 2013, the Board asked the Department Heads to find the funds for an additional 1.7% cost of living increase effective January 1, 2013 within the proposed budget. This resulted in no additional increase to the proposed budget. This was only possible due to continued fiscally responsible spending by the Departments. The Board voted to use some of the unreserved fund balance to offset the tax rate. This kept the tax rate under \$20.00 per thousand for the fourth year in a row.

The Swap Shop operations have been included under the direction of Chuck Whitcher at the Recycling Center. The volunteers that staff the swap shop continue to put in the time to make sure it is available for anyone that wishes to use it.

During 2012, the Food Pantry organizational duties were returned to the Candia Community Woman's Club. This has worked out extremely well. They have been staffing the pantry and ensuring the efficient restocking of supplies. Many thanks to Linda McHugh for spearheading that enormous task.

And finally, thanks to the many people who work to make the town operate smoothly. Candia would not be the wonderful place it is today without the efforts of its elected officials, hired employees, volunteers and generous citizens!

Respectfully submitted,
Joe Duarte, Chairman