

# Hampden *Highlights*

Newsletter, Town of Hampden • Fall 2018

## ***Importance of Hampden's Infrastructure for Economic Growth & Development***

**H**ampden, like communities all over Maine, is challenged to find cost efficient ways to care for aging infrastructure, valued public facilities and critically important utilities. Maintaining roads and bridges; water and sewer lines; schools and municipal buildings all require thoughtful and prudent fiscal planning. Major investment in these community assets requires long-term financial strategies that reflect our community's priorities.

Investment in these valuable assets is important to maintaining a safe and functioning transportation system, and the basic utilities serving our homes and businesses. It's also critical to the success of future economic development initiatives.

The promotion and growth of existing and new businesses will help diversify the tax base and generate additional commercial revenues that will, in-turn, reduce the burden on residential tax payers. Studies conducted both nationally and here in Maine show the return on investment in caring for roads and public infrastructure improves a community's overall quality of life, property values and appeal as a destination of choice. They contribute to community pride and a reputation as a desirable place to live and work, one that Hampden enjoys here in central Maine.

### **Return on Investing in Hampden Businesses**

Hampden residents and its corporate citizens benefit as we work to make our Business and Commerce Park more attractive to new businesses, with tax incentives and partnerships with the private sector. The Town's partnership with Sargent Corporation to assist in the completion of roads and utilities has generated renewed interest in businesses moving to Hampden. To ensure this trend continues, the Town identified the need to provide increased fire protection capacity to lands north and west of Route 202.

These areas are currently served by Bangor Water and capacities are not adequate to support the modern fire suppression systems required

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**Every Maine Town is competing for new businesses and the jobs they generate. Infrastructure improvements support private sector investment and bring jobs that our young workers and their families need, to remain and grow here in Maine.**

## **Hampden Local Ballot Question Summary**

*On Election Day, November 6, 2018, Hampden voters will be asked to consider two proposed bond ordinances.*

### **Question 1 Road & Bridge Repairs**

Question 1 authorizes borrowing authority and potential appropriation of up to \$1,400,000 to fund four different transportation projects. The first is an additional \$600,000 to increase the Town's required match for the Route 1A reconstruction project to \$1.2 million. This is necessary due to an increased cost estimate now totaling nearly \$6 million for the Maine DOT-managed project to completely rebuild the 1.73 miles of Route 1A from Western Avenue to Mountain View Drive. This bond will also fund \$350,000 for the complete reconstruction of traffic and pedestrian signals on Route 1A at Western Ave. The remaining \$450,000 will pay for repairs to stream crossings under Manning Mill and Sawyer Road. Both of these bridge/culvert crossings have been evaluated by Maine DOT engineers as deficient, requiring significant foundation repairs and replacement of the bridge decking and road surfaces.

### **Question 2 Fire Suppression Water Line**

Question 2 authorizes borrowing authority and potential appropriation of up to \$500,000 to install a new fire suppression water line to the Town's Business and Commerce Park; and, through existing connections extend this added capacity

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## Hampden Local Ballot

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to the Ammo Industrial Park and other nearby land suitable for commercial or industrial development in northeast Hampden. The Town has previously invested funds for roads and utilities to encourage the recruitment of new business and commercial development in this part of town. The current water supply lines don't provide adequate flow for the modern fire suppression systems required in light industry and warehouse buildings ideal for properties with easy access to Interstate 95. By using eligible TIF (tax increment financing) revenues from new businesses locating in this area, this investment will be covered by TIF district revenues and won't require general fund tax dollars for repayment. ■

## Dog Licensing

***New tags for dog licensing available October 15.***

The new tags for dog licensing are available on October 15th, 2018. As always, please make sure to bring the current rabies vaccination record and any spay/neuter information with you. The license fee for dogs capable of producing young is \$11.00, the license fee for dogs that have been altered is \$6.00. Licenses are due by December 31st, however, the entire month of January is a grace period before late fees kick in on February 1st. The late fee is set by statute and we are not authorized to waive it, so please make sure to take care of rabies shots prior to February 1st.

New this year is a license category for nuisance dogs and one for dangerous dogs. Both categories are as a result of court action involving either bodily injury to an individual or animal (nuisance) or serious bodily injury or death to an individual or animal (dangerous). If a dog owner has been cited under either of these definitions through the courts, he will receive paperwork which must be produced at the time of licensure. The license fee for a nuisance dog is \$30.00 and the license fee for a dangerous dog is \$100.00. Late fees are \$70.00 and \$140.00, respectively. For a list of frequently asked questions about these new categories, please visit [www.hampdenmaine.gov](http://www.hampdenmaine.gov) and click on the tab for town clerk. ■



## Town Center

The Town Center planning project is currently underway, and so far there have been two well attended public workshops. Participants at the first meeting generally agreed that the most important issues were to create a town gathering place, provide better pedestrian connections including access to the river, and do some beautification projects such as planting hanging flower baskets and installing ornamental lighting to improve the pedestrian experience and improve the aesthetics of the Town Center.

The second meeting was held on September 25, and focused on thinking about options to implement the high priority topic areas identified from the first meeting and the online survey. Attendees heard a presentation on how the size of the market area for an activity center like the Town Center dictates the kinds of stores, services and restaurants that will choose to locate there. Attendees then had a chance to walk around a series of stations related to the priority topics in an open house format to ask questions and provide input. A summary of meeting results from that meeting will be available soon on the Town's web site ([www.hampdenmaine.gov](http://www.hampdenmaine.gov)), under Town Departments, Planning, Town Center Project.

The final step in this project is to prepare a report summarizing the findings from these meetings and to set forth recommendations for infrastructure improvements to create a stronger "sense of place" and zoning amendments to increase the opportunities for redevelopment within the Town Center zoning district. Before the report is finalized, a third public meeting will be held to allow participants to prioritize implementation strategies so the Town has a plan of action to work from. The project is set to be completed in December. ■



## FROM THE DESK OF THE MANAGER

**M**y name is Jim Chandler and I am pleased to be your new Town Manager. I took the reins here in June, following after Angus Jennings and Sue Lessard who collectively served in this position for the past 18+ years.

I'm happy to be here in Hampden after serving in municipal government in towns and cities in Maine, Wyoming and Virginia. I grew up summering with family in the Maine communities of Five Islands and Dexter, and I enjoy spending time with family all over Maine – from up in the County down to the mid-coast area. My personal interests include the outdoor recreational activities of hiking, hunting, fishing, kayaking and

skiing. I've also enjoyed coaching high school soccer, basketball and baseball in Northern Virginia and Caribou, Maine.

I began my career in public service at 15, serving as an Emergency Medical Technician on the Sterling Volunteer Rescue Squad, and my professional experience in local government and non-profit organizations began at 18 with the Falls Church Police Department where I served as Patrol & Student Resource Officer. Most of my prior career positions have included public safety, youth sports programming, and transportation and public utility infrastructure design and construction. I've also served in non-profit and consulting positions with the Adam Walsh Child Resource Center and Department of Homeland Security — Federal Emergency Management Agency.

My undergraduate degree in Government from The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia serves me well in this position, along with advanced educational and professional credentials that include a Master's in Public Administration in State and Local Government and a Graduate Certificate in Emergency Management/Homeland Security – both from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia.

I am thankful for the welcoming reception I've received since joining this wonderful community and I'm looking forward to meeting residents and corporate citizens as I settle into my position here. My door is always open to any resident, business or community member with ideas, concerns, problems — or who may just like to drop in and visit to tell me how we may better serve you.

Jim Chandler  
207.862.3034  
townmanager@hampdenmaine.gov

### Websites:

- [www.hampdenmaine.gov](http://www.hampdenmaine.gov)
- [www.hampdenrecreation.com](http://www.hampdenrecreation.com)
- [www.edl.lib.me.us](http://www.edl.lib.me.us)

### Video of Hampden Public Meetings

**Live:** [live.hampdenmaine.gov](http://live.hampdenmaine.gov)

**Archive:** [youtube.com/hampdenmaine](http://youtube.com/hampdenmaine)

### Facebook:

- [www.facebook.com/townofhampden](http://www.facebook.com/townofhampden)
- [www.facebook.com/Hampden.Recreation](http://www.facebook.com/Hampden.Recreation)
- [www.facebook.com/EdytheDyerLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/EdytheDyerLibrary)
- [www.facebook.com/hampdenpublicsafety](http://www.facebook.com/hampdenpublicsafety)
- [www.facebook.com/LuraHoitPool](http://www.facebook.com/LuraHoitPool)

**Hampden Highlights** is published by the Town of Hampden, and its success depends upon a community-wide effort. We ask you to please forward news, notes and tips about friends, neighbors, colleagues — or yourselves — by emailing [townmanager@hampdenmaine.gov](mailto:townmanager@hampdenmaine.gov), drop off at the Town Office, or mailing to Hampden Highlights, Town Office, 106 Western Avenue, Hampden, ME, 04444. You can find Hampden Highlights on the Web at [www.hampdenmaine.gov](http://www.hampdenmaine.gov). We welcome your feedback. Edited by Jim Chandler and Paula Scott • Layout and design by Val Ireland



# Making a Splash

The Lura E. Hoit Memorial Pool held its 5th Annual Water Carnival and Pool Rodeo on Sunday, September 23rd. Kids of all ages showed up to make a splash with games, popcorn & cotton candy, and the now famous and highly popular pool bull.

The Pool is an amenity that adds recreational opportunity to the Town of Hampden and its value to the town is widely held. According to Darcey Peakall, Pool Director, the value is two-fold. “Having a pool like this not only gives kids (and adults) the opportunity in Maine

to swim year-round, but also the opportunity for kids to take swim lessons and learn water skills which is huge”.

In addition to swim lessons, the pool offers an array of water activity ranging from aqua exercise, to Senior swim, to open pool, water walking and more. The public can also rent spaces to hold birthday parties along with pool rental. If you would like to find out more about this wonderful asset to our town, please go to [www.hampdenmaine.gov](http://www.hampdenmaine.gov) and follow the link to the pool, or follow us on Facebook. ■

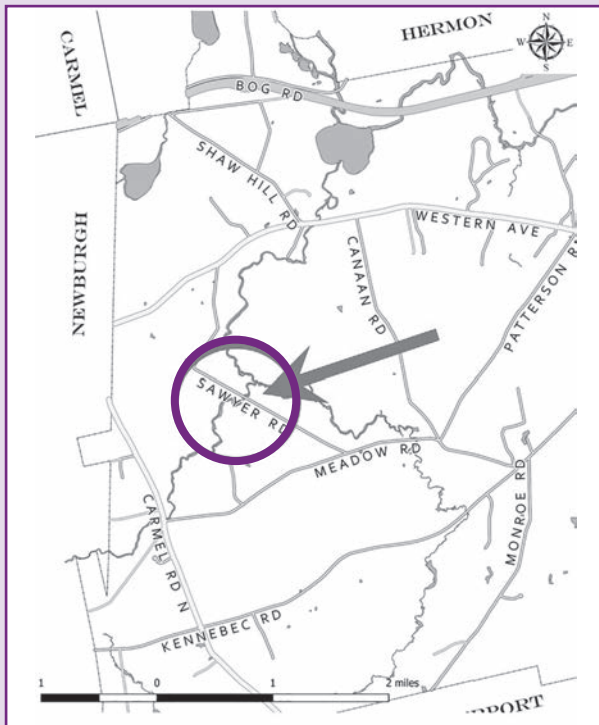




## BRIDGE POSTINGS

### Manning Mill Road Bridge

The timber deck/steel rolled girder bridge on Manning Mill Road in Hampden is being posted with a maximum weight limit of 22 tons. All vehicles heavier than the posted limit that need to get from one side to the other will need to contact the Town for a detail of the limitations. There is currently no alternate route to reach the end of Manning Mill Road. The Town is working to revitalize the bridge in 2019.



### Sawyer Road Box Culvert

The single span, corrugated aluminum box culvert on Sawyer Road is being posted with a maximum weight limit of 27 tons. All vehicles heavier than the posted limit that need to get from one side to the other will need to access Sawyer Road from the North end on Western Avenue or the South end on Meadow Road. The culvert is located approximately 1.5 miles south of Western Avenue and 1 mile north of Meadow Road.

The Town of Hampden regrets any inconvenience this may cause while we are working on a solution to repair our infrastructure. Please drive safely and thank you in advance for your cooperation! ■



## Election Season Around the Corner

Once again, election season is upon us and we are in the throes of absentee ballot requests and a multitude of preparatory minutiae. It feels as though we just wrapped up the June Primary and now we are looking at the November 6th State of Maine General Election and Hampden Municipal Election and Referendum just around the corner!

The Hampden Municipal Election is for the election of three Councilors-at-Large and four RSU 22 Directors. The Water District has two vacancies as well, but nomination papers were not taken out for them, nor did anyone declare intent to be a write in candidate. At this point it is too late to do so and the Water District will appoint to fill the slots at their annual meeting. Ballot content also includes referenda regarding infrastructure needs for which we are responsible, issues of safety, and economic development. Please see full article on the referendum questions in this newsletter.

As a reminder, Ranked Choice Voting is now the law of the land and your Federal candidates will be elected thusly if there are more than two candidates for a seat. The June Primary was the first election whereby RCV was implemented and it was not without its challenges. One bit of information I feel is important to share is that we were not alone in the trouble we were having in June with tabulators not reading ballots on the first try, and for the diverters malfunctioning. This happened statewide and

was largely the result of the complexity of programming for RCV. The scanning of the ballot and the movement of the diverters work in concert; the high-level programming caused the technologically older diverters to malfunction at times. This, coupled with the fact that we are now required to use three tabulators for State ballots and two tabulators for local ballots, (rather than programing all machines to read all ballots) caused longer than usual lines. The Secretary of State's office has been working with our vendor and technicians came to all municipalities this August to remove the diverters. The programming process has been modified to alleviate the need to divert ballots into either a fully counted bin or a hand count bin. Rather the scanner will take screen shots of ballots in question and the image will print along with the tabulator tapes at the end of the night. This seems to be a smart and proactive approach to alleviate long lines in November and I look forward to seeing how it transpires.

I also look forward to seeing all of you at the polls. Aside from the inherently organic nature of American elections, the best part of the process is, after all, the people that are a part of it. Voting has often been referred to collectively as a right, a privilege and a duty. As a clerk and an election administrator, it is clear by voter participation that the people of Hampden hold high these three ideals and demonstrate such by your vote. ■



# Candidate profiles, Hampden Town Council



## **Eric J. Jarvi - Candidate for Town Council**

After proudly serving my country in the United States Air Force for six years, I earned my doctorate degree and spent 32 years in pharmacy education, moving to Hampden in 2008 to help establish the School of Pharmacy at Husson University as Associate Dean until retiring in December of 2016. I have held committee and leadership positions in the Maine Pharmacy Association, the American Pharmacists Association, Maine's Cancer Impact Network, Idaho Youth Soccer and United States Youth Soccer. Having recently been elected to my fourth two-year term as treasurer of the Maine Pharmacy

Association, I established a new budget process which resulted in a 286% increase in association cash reserves and a 166% increase in investment income over the past seven years.

The diversity of positions in my career and my experience in numerous professional organizations allows me to bring a unique prospective/perspective to the opportunities facing our community. The strengths I would bring to our town council include: leadership and management experience, commitment to fiscal accountability, conflict resolution, managing change, communication skills, positivity/trustworthiness, and knowledge of Robert's Rules.

If elected, my goals as a member of your town council include:

- engage in regular, open dialog with Hampden residents, businesses, service organizations and RSU 22
- make informed fiscal decisions,
- a commitment to long-term planning,
- encouraging autonomy of our appointed town committees and sustaining support for town employees and departments that provide quality of life for Hampden residents.

It would be a privilege to represent our community as an at-large-member of our Hampden town council.



## **Shelby Wright - Candidate for Town Council**

My name is Shelby Wright. I have had the honor of serving you as an at large Councilor since June. I seek to continue my work on council to represent you on the many important issues facing our Community.

While it's encouraging to once again see new homes being built and businesses and industry choosing to expand within our town limits, we must remember that this is just the beginning of a new growth cycle. Hampden needs a council that will continue to work with new industry to develop improved infrastructure and business friendly ordinances that will welcome even more economic

development - attracting new residents and increasing our tax base in the process.

Property taxes remain too high but, the potential to attract new industry and small businesses, is just beginning to be explored. Our hidden riverfront is just one local gem primed for environmentally friendly recreation projects and attractions that could open up even more opportunities for Hampden's future growth.

Hampden boasts a quality school district, an active community, growing business opportunities, and a high quality of life.

I will work tirelessly in an honest and balanced manner to ensure that Hampden remains the best community in central Maine to live, work, and raise a family. I would appreciate your continued support and vote on Nov 6th.



## **Ivan McPike - Candidate for Town Council**

A Hampden resident since 1951, I graduated from Hampden Academy in 1966. After Navy service during the Vietnam War, I graduated from the University of Maine, majoring in Accounting. I have owned two businesses and retired from Maine Salt Co seven years ago after selling the company to my son Ryan, also a Hampden resident.

After serving four years as a councilor, I have the time/experience to give back to my community.

Financial problems - national, state and local - will continue to be problems in the future and proper attention and planning will become extremely important. With your support, I hope to fill that role for the benefit of Hampden residents.

# Importance of Hampden's Infrastructure

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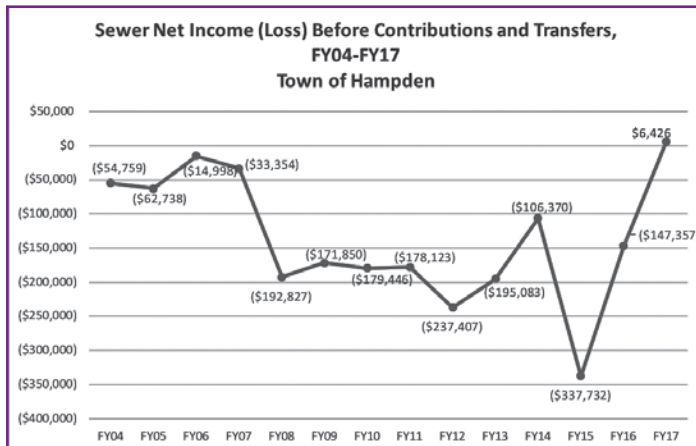
for businesses with warehouses and light industrial buildings. For this reason, the Town is partnering with the Hampden Water District to provide the engineering and design for an asset they will ultimately maintain. Also contributing to the effort are private landowners willing to allow the location of the new water supply lines on their property (at no cost to their neighbors) thus ensuring the needed connection to the Hampden Water Storage Tank on Ballfield Road will be built in the most economical manner possible.

This reduces the overall cost and leverages desired economic development in areas most desirable for commercial growth. Providing incentives for job growth in areas adjacent to the interstate system, away from residential neighborhoods, preserves the rural character of Hampden's western and southern districts and avoids encroaching on the character of the downtown center.

Timing couldn't be better. Marketability of these properties has increased as the economic recovery continues to gain momentum, and since major infrastructure investment depends upon long-term bonding of the debt, the time to borrow is now – before climbing interest rates cost the Town more in debt service.

## Improving Hampden's Sewer Collection System

Hampden has been working to improve the efficiency and longevity of its aging and somewhat neglected sanitary sewer collection system. The Spring 2018 Hampden Highlights article focused attention on the need to be more diligently and proactively monitoring and caring for utilities that we depend upon daily – but when out-of-sight, are also often out-of-mind! Water and sewer utilities are regularly taken for granted, at the risk of catastrophic failure.



Thanks to voters that supported the June referendum. Improvements to the main connector trunk lines from downtown and east Hampden to the Wastewater Treatment facility in Bangor (where the Town pays to have its waste water treated, at a fraction of the cost of operating and maintaining an independent facility) ensure these critically important projects will move forward in advance of, or in conjunction with, the

reconstruction of the Route 1A corridor.

Revenues from user fees charged to sewer customers will cover the costs for work done to two of the projects; however, the Town had been 'coasting' on flat sewer rates for a number of years. The previous manager identified the need to address the imbalance between sewer fees (user-based revenues) and the costs for regular and major maintenance needs.

The work referenced by former manager Angus Jennings, published in his Hampden Highlights piece last Spring, revealed positive news from the FY2017 Audit of the Sewer Fund, that a positive net cash flow was achieved for the first time in more than a decade. This cash flow history is illustrated below. It shows the wide disparities between costs for operating the sewer collections system as reflected in negative balances that were previously paid out of the general fund tax revenues.

## Being Cost Conscious & Leveraging Federal Funds

As the Town faces future needs for making similar investments in repairing and replacing its aging infrastructure, the Council and staff are committed to using all financing methods available to the Town that will minimize the impact to taxes. This is most often done through balancing user fees against general tax revenues, but also include leveraging Federal and State funds when available, securing grants when available for special purposes, creating special tax incentive districts, and negotiating public-private partnerships whenever possible.

The use of TIF funds for financing increased water capacity for fire suppression to make northeast Hampden more appealing to commercial development, and the balancing of user fees to defray sewer projects are just a couple of examples.

Another example that will be very visible to the Hampden community next year is the major reconstruction of almost two miles of the Route 1A corridor. This will result in a safer, wider road with paved shoulders suitable for bicycles, complete the missing link of the adjoining sidewalk for contiguous pedestrian safety from Western Avenue to Bangor, improved stormwater drainage facilities, and a new Grist Mill Bridge complete with new water and sewer utility line connections.

Additionally, the Town is seeking authority to fund a complete upgrade to the intersection of Route 1A and Western Avenue that will provide new traffic and pedestrian crossing signals; and funds to repair two stream crossings on Manning Mill and Sawyer Roads. The total costs will be advertised later this year after the final engineering is completed and project components are put out to bid.

The Town of Hampden is proud of its efforts to proactively address critical infrastructure needs. Like communities across Maine and the United States that are facing similar challenges, the Town strives to be fiscally responsible stewards of the resources under our care. The Town of Hampden is fortunate to have a residential and corporate citizenship that supports the Town's efforts to maintain a safe and physically secure community, and we thank you for your continued support of our efforts to provide you programs, services and facilities that hopefully meet or exceed your expectations. ■



# Safety First

Hampden residents expressed concerns about pedestrian safety on Main Road North and requested a signalized pedestrian crosswalk be installed at Cottage Street. During several Infrastructure Committee meetings held in late 2017, Council and staff listened to citizens and engaged in thoughtful discussions that led to action. The committee voted to proceed in early spring of 2018, putting the project out to bid. After working with the Maine Department of Transportation and securing funding, the Public Works Department is pleased to report that the crosswalk at Cottage Street is now in place and functional. As part of the same project, the Town added a second crosswalk, adjacent to the Irving Station, to aid in safer access to the Kiwanis building. We thank the residents for their involvement and their continued support to make our community safe. ■

Sincerely,  
Sean Carrier, *Director of Public Works*



## Regular Meeting Schedules

- Town Council meetings are generally held on the first and third Monday of each month at 7 p.m.
- Finance & Administration Committee meetings are generally held at 6 p.m. on the same night as regular Council meetings.
- Planning & Development Committee meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.
- Services Committee meetings are generally held on the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m.
- Infrastructure Committee meetings are generally held on the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m.
- The Planning Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.
- The RSU-22 Board of Directors meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Town Council meetings, Committee meetings and Planning Board meetings are held at the Town Office. RSU 22 Board of Directors meetings are held at Hampden Academy.

In the event of a Monday holiday, meetings are held on Tuesday. ■

# Hampden Public Safety



**Police - Fire - EMS**  
106 Western Avenue  
Hampden, Maine 04444  
Phone 207-862-4000 • Fax: 207-862-4588



## Hampden Public Safety Tips

**A**s fall approaches, parents and children begin to focus on school and school related activities. Students are walking to school, parents are transporting their children to school, and school buses are on the move throughout town. This increased activity on our roads has with it certain dangers that everyone should be aware of. The Hampden Police Department would like to remind citizens of a few laws that if followed, could help ensure the safety of our children.

### School Bus Lights:

- The driver of a motor vehicle must stop before reaching the school bus when the red lights are flashing. The driver may not proceed until the bus resumes motion or is signaled by the driver. This applies on a public way or in the school parking lot. If a violation is observed by the bus driver, the Hampden Police Department is notified and commence an investigation. The driver or registered owner of the vehicle can be summonsed. The driver in violation commits a Class E crime.

### Seat Belts:

- All drivers and passengers are required to wear a seat belt when driving on a public way unless one of the few exceptions exists.
- The driver is responsible for passengers under 18 years of age.
- A child under 40 pounds must be in a child safety seat.
- A child who weighs at least 40 pounds but less than 80 pounds and who is less than 8 years old must be in a federally approved child restraint system.
- A child who is less than 12 years of age and who weighs less than 100 pounds must be in the rear seat of the vehicle.
- The fines are \$85.00, \$135.00 and \$325.00. (1st-2nd-3rd offense)

### Cross walks:

- A driver must yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian who is crossing within a marked crosswalk or to a pedestrian who has shown visible intent to enter the marked crosswalk.
- The fine is \$180.00.

### Speeding in a School Zone:

- A school zone is a portion of the public way abutting school property and is commonly identified with a sign and/or flashing lights. It is 15 miles per hour in the area during recess, ½ hour before and ½ hour after the beginning of school and ½ hour before and ½ hour after the end of the school day.
- The fine amounts nearly double. Ex. 15-20 mph over the speed limit is \$315.00.

Please call the Hampden Police Department if you have questions. Stay safe! And have a great school year! ■

***Want to know more about what's happening in our community?***

***Would you like to have your voice heard?***

## **JOIN OUR CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD**

**W**e meet a few times throughout the year to discuss public safety programming, current trends, long and short-term goals, and other assorted topics of interest to citizens. You'll also have the opportunity to meet some of our public safety service providers.



***If you would like more information, have questions,  
or would like to be part of our board,  
please contact Sgt. Chris Bailey at 862.4000  
or email [cbailey@hampdenmaine.gov](mailto:cbailey@hampdenmaine.gov).***

TOWN OF HAMPDEN  
106 WESTERN AVENUE  
HAMPDEN, ME 04444

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## Edythe Dyer Library news



**T**he Friends of Edythe Dyer Library won a 2018 Spirit of America Foundation Tribute for commendable community service! They were honored, along with 24 other Penobscot County people and organizations, at a ceremony on Tuesday October 9 in the Penobscot County Office Building. We love our Friends and are so pleased that they were recognized more broadly.

The Friends Bookshop is open in the Library basement every Tuesday morning and they have two Saturday booksales annually with all proceeds going to support of the Library. They have funded an Automated External Defibrillator and its ongoing costs, book shelves, landscaping, furniture, painting, children's activities, and specialty programming.

If you find yourself in the Friends Bookshop on a Tuesday morning please congratulate them! ■

## The Town of Hampden is now accepting credit cards.

**T**here is a \$1.00 convenience fee for items costing \$40.00 or less and a 2.5% convenience fee for amounts over \$40.00. This fee applies to both credit and debit cards.

