

**Enfield Board of Selectmen  
Enfield, New Hampshire**

**SELECTMEN'S RETREAT  
April 27, 2006**

**Board of Selectmen:** Nancy Scovner, Chairman (NS); Curtis Payne (CP); Dominic Albanese (DA)

**Administrative Staff:** Steven Schneider, Town Manager (SS); Ken Daniels, Director of Public Works (KD); Richard Crate, Jr., Chief of Police (RC)

**INTRODUCTION**

What is our vision?

What do we want the Town to look like in 5 – 10 - 20 years?

Where are our commonalities?

Town has a natural split of locals vs. new residents – roughly 50/50.

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**Summary:**

The Board of Selectmen would like to develop and maintain a certain level of self-sufficiency by providing a mix of residential and commercial properties, a range of services both local and regional, and by reducing the Town's dependency on other area municipalities.

A picturesque, rural community is important. The rural character of Enfield can be maintained through open space, farms, trees/tree program, pollution prevention, and limited traffic impact.

The Selectmen would like to maintain managed/balanced growth and a business friendly atmosphere while maintaining a stable tax rate and efficient town services.

The Selectmen support a proactive and progressive government and use of best practices, including the maintenance of infrastructure, and environmentally friendly environment and proactive rather than reactive government.

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**DEVELOPMENT**

**Summary: Residential:**

The Board would like to maintain controlled, paced growth targeted to appropriate areas where the necessary infrastructure is in place or can be developed. The Selectmen support zoning that truly manages growth.

An increase in neighborhoods with a mix of housing for all is encouraged, with open space and animals where appropriate, with respect for the natural quality of the area.

A presentable community by returning to the Town's rural character with the planting of trees, maintenance of stonewalls and dirt roads, attractive streetscapes and large, neat, clean yards are to be encouraged.

Growth in the municipal water & sewer system would be beneficial to prevent pollution.

**Summary: Commercial:**

The Board would like to see focused, slow growth with consistent enforcement of rules & regulations with follow-up as necessary. Controlled growth may be assisted by prohibiting box stores or by restricting the square footage of such stores, by maintaining the current standard of development and the thoughtful review of future development locations.

Commercial enterprises should pay their way through impact fees or other means.

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**FACILITIES**

**Summary:**

**Whitney Hall:**

The Board would like to maintain the historic integrity of Whitney Hall. It is important to maintain cultural/theater space, meeting space and a Main Street location for the Town Offices.

**Police Department:**

The Police Department needs a modern, adaptable space that can be expanded to accommodate the department's changing environment. The inclusion of other emergency services within the same facilities should be considered.

**Public Works:**

The priorities for Public Works facilities is to finish the site at 74 Lockhaven Road and to construct appropriate salt/sand storage, with all divisions housed in the same location.

**Emergency Services:**

The Board would like to consider an emergency services complex that locates all emergency services in one central location.

**Other:**

The Board recognizes the need for additional storage space, and the need to address the use of the Enfield Center Town Hall.

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**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Summary:**

The Board would like to increase the Town’s presence on the web as a cost effective method of disseminating information to the public. The Town’s website can serve as a primary resource for all information.

The need to control the message sent to the public was recognized, with communications being proactive rather than reactive. Utilizing radio talk shows would be beneficial.

A Communications Plan is recommended.

Emergency communications must be addressed.

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**INFRASTRUCTURE**

**Summary:**

It was the consensus of the Board that the Town should strive to retain its rural nature without sacrificing safe bridges and roads. The Town should planning for development, water and sewer upgrades, and should search for a new water source. A viable, dynamic Capital Improvements Plan would assist with financial planning for these improvements.

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**CULTURAL/RECREATION EVENTS**

**Summary:**

The Selectmen would like to see the following cultural/recreation improvements at some time in the future: an annual Town festival, recreation center, lights at the ballpark, theater space and an indoor swimming pool. Indoor activities during the winter months would be desirable. The Town should provide leadership toward this goal to encourage private investment.

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**LEVELS OF SERVICE**

The Selectmen would like to increase and improve the levels of service currently available, some of which can be provided by regional organizations.

Services for the elderly could include a check-in service, and/or assistance by the road crew.

Curbside trash collection would continue and recycling collection should be considered. The method of funding for these services should be reviewed and might include a pay-as-you-throw program.

Increase emergency services, maintaining current levels of service for a growing population, which might include the use of advanced technology.

Review of Town services might include a review of office hours for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector and streamlining of services between departments.

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An additional session to be scheduled to address organizational issues, to develop an action plan, budget and time line.