



Hermon
Town of Hermon
PO Box 6300
Hermon, ME 04402

July 12, 2010

RE: MMA Vice President

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to request your support for my candidacy for Vice President of the Maine Municipal Association (MMA). Throughout my career as a public servant I have come to understand the many challenges that municipalities face in our State. I began my career in the Town of Bradford where I served as Town Manager for three years and have served as Town Manger of Hermon for the past eight years. For five years I served on the MMA Executive Committee and also served on the MMA Strategic and Finance Committee, during that time helping me to develop a deeper appreciation and understanding of the many struggles Maine towns must confront. Most recently I have been serving as Co-Chair of the Policy Working Group to review MDOT Road Classifications. Although the process is not yet finished, I am working diligently in collaboration with the Committee to review the transportation needs of all Maine communities, small and large. Maine has 491 units of local government- each unique in their own way and having their own identity and challenges to overcome. My experience as Town Manger and service at MMA demonstrate my dedication to assist Maine's municipal governments in confronting those challenges and making sure all municipalities' voices are heard.

Serving in local government is an opportunity. It is an opportunity to provide a vision and make decisions that positively affect the daily lives of the people in our communities. But with such privileged opportunity comes great responsibility. As one of our Founding Fathers once stated, "A common passion or interest will, in almost every case, be felt by a majority of the whole; a communication and concert result from the form of government itself." In other words, as government officials we have great responsibility to respond when citizens in our communities express needs. As MMA Vice President I will do what I can to give local governments the resources they need to provide the communication and action needed make certain they can effectively respond to their communities.

My record as a public servant serves as a glimpse into the passion I have to be an effective leader, not just for my community, but for the State as a whole. As MMA Vice President, my goal is twofold. First, I will represent all of Maine- from Maine's smallest communities, to suburbs, to the largest of service centers. Second, as an advocate for all Maine municipalities I will foster a positive working relationship with the governor elect's administration that will give municipal governments the influence they deserve in the decision making process.

As Town Manager of Hermon during these challenging economic times I fully understand the impacts the poor economy is having on suburbs or as I like to say, "Too big to be rural and too small to be a service center." State funding cuts and a poor economic climate necessitates that we innovate to reduce expenses and cooperate more to regionalize within our communities, region, and State, so as to maintain a balanced budget. Unfortunately, no community is exempt from the recent economic impacts and we must learn to work together to get through it. As MMA Vice President I will provide the leadership necessary to foster a relationship between the State and our communities to make certain the needs of the citizens and businesses in your community are being heard and addressed. Let's work together to bring our communities to where we want them to be.

The challenges are many as we move forward, but let's use this as an opportunity to usher in an era of healthier cooperation between our communities and the State. I am inviting your town to vote for me as the next MMA Vice President so we can make this a reality. I would sincerely appreciate your passing this letter and the enclosed ballot on to your elected officials for review and consideration. The yellow ballot that was recently mailed to your Town by MMA included a printing error and needed to be reprinted. The enclosed updated ballot has been enclosed for your convenience. If you would like to speak with me further about my candidacy or issues of concern that you would like to see addressed, please don't hesitate to contact me at (207) 848-1015 or (207) 478-5069. You can also express your opinions or concerns to me through email at cdeschene@hermon.net. Together, we can move MMA and Maine forward.

Sincerely,



Clint Deschene

Enclosure