

MAYOR'S REPORT

MAY 1, 2014

Greetings!! It is that time of year again where the Berlin City Council is busy developing the FY 2015 operating budget. Although most of the process has been widely reported in the press, one item has seen little attention. We are shooting for a mid to late July completion of the upper Hutchins Street rebuild and rehabilitation project. At a price of a bit over \$350,000, the street will have new pavement and granite curbing. PSNH has already relocated its utility poles and it will really look and drive great. We are working hard to also completely redo lower Hutchins Street from the old Brown Co. Service Garage to connect with the new upper Hutchins Street. Some years ago Senator Shaheen secured roughly \$900,000 to realign Hutchins Street to where the old Floc Plant was. Because of new contamination found by the EPA in test borings, City Attorney Chris Boldt strongly advised us NOT to take control of that piece of land until the problems have been remediated. Hence, the new project. On the topic of road projects, City Manager Jim Wheeler over the summer will oversee the development of a complete repair of Main Street from Good Shepard Church all the way to the southerly entrance of the White Mountains Community College. We will have to investigate the conditions of storm water drainage, sewer infrastructure and other associated costs before we know the details of what can be done. Of course, the Route 110 realignment project is moving along very well. Completion is expected next year.

Congratulations goes to Bob Chapman and Steve Bouchard for their successful bid to purchase the old EMCA/Car Freshener building on Rt. 110. Both highly successful business people in their own right, there is no doubt that their ownership of that building will be a huge asset for Berlin.

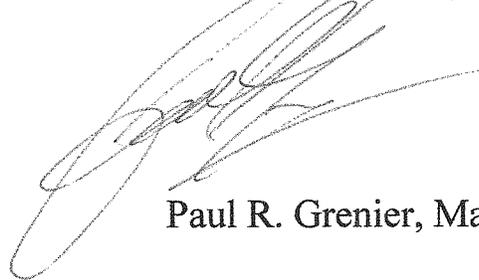
The proposed Jericho Wind Power project is also picking up steam. The developers are finalizing their financing and they hope to begin construction soon. Originally a three tower project, it will now be a five tower project with a proposed production capacity of a bit over 14 MW at

peak production.

On Friday, April 25th, I had the honor of representing the City of Berlin at the 95th annual Androscoggin Valley Fish & Game Association Banquet. There were over 300 people in attendance, and as usual, Lloyd and crew from the White Mountains Chalet outdid themselves catering the meal. This huge fund raising event has evolved into quite a family celebration of the great outdoors! My hat's off to all the directors and members of AVF&G for all you do to teach young people to enjoy and respect our beautiful resources.

Finally, a project from the heart. The Notre Dame Arena will soon have ground breaking for the new \$300,000 facelift project. We have many people who have donated money to help, and from the bottom of my heart, want to thank the community as a whole for your part in making this badly needed project come to fruition. Also, kids on bicycles are now out in force. PLEASE PLEASE be extra careful when driving through our neighborhoods. Kids don't always see motorists nor do they always obey the rules of the road. Let's avoid a tragedy from happening by driving defensively.

Until Next Month,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul R. Grenier', written over a horizontal line.

Paul R. Grenier, Mayor