

## **Planning & Community Development Department**

This past year marked the completion of the Route 110 realignment project – a project that was decades in the planning. There is still work to be completed as the historic mitigation needs to be finished, this will include interpretive signage, historic street sign, landscaping and other small features to satisfy the Department of Historic Resources. The City has been awarded grant funding for a Riverwalk project to be built alongside the almost completed Route 16 rehabilitation project. Our main arteries into the City are looking good!

The Berlin Industrial Development and Park Authority (BIDPA) is in the process of working with North Country Growers on selling their newly acquired property north of the current Industrial Park for the development and construction of industrial scale greenhouses to grow lettuce and tomatoes year round. The board is following other projects and ideas and continues to keep busy with community and economic development efforts throughout the City.

The Planning Board has several new members and things have been busy this past year. A new chairperson was elected to replace outgoing chairman Ernie Allain who was an invaluable asset to the Planning Board. The board is actively working on overhauling its signage ordinance and there are still hopes to completely revise the City's Zoning Ordinance in the future as it has not been revised in its entirety since 1999. The board will also seek input from the City Council and the public as their review progresses.

Several projects around the City are in active development and there continues to

be increased interest in the area around Jericho Mountain State Park. Work is being done on both the Northern Lights Housing property and Brookside Park property. Both housing developments are getting energy efficient upgrades. The windmills for Jericho Mountain have been erected and turning for over a year now and the location has become a destination spot among OHRV riders.

Any citizen wishing to participate can come forward to volunteer for one of the many boards in the community. The Planning Department is home to the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and the Berlin Industrial Development and Park Authority. All three boards encourage citizen involvement and welcome the community to participate or observe during their meetings. Visit the City's website and Facebook page regularly for information about our meetings; view the Moving Downtown Forward Strategy for Design and Economic Development, the City's Master Plan, Zoning Ordinance or other Planning & Zoning documents.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Pamela E Laflamme*

Community Development Director

<http://www.berlinnh.gov/planning-department>

<http://www.facebook.com/BerlinNewHampshire>

Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer: Michel Salek

Planning Board Chair: Thomas McCue

Zoning Board of Adjustment Chair: Dana Hoyt

Berlin Industrial Development and Park Authority Chair: Michael Caron