



Dana Hadley, Andover's new Town Administrator, will commute from Peterborough for now. Photo: Charlie Darling

Dana Hadley Steps Into Town Administrator Role

Andover's new Town Administrator, Dana Hadley of Peterborough, started his new job on April 1. We asked Dana a few questions about 10 days earlier.

The Andover Beacon: Why did you apply for the job as Andover's Town Administrator?

Dana Hadley: I enjoy and thrive in communities where people know each other's names, where there are projects that the community as a whole works on – places that value education, common sense, history, and planning for the future. That is the type of place that I think Andover is. I also think that I have many skills to be an asset to the community, and the town certainly is a beautiful one.

AB: What kind of background do you bring to the job?

DH: While my degree is in accounting, I have worked in local government since 1992 – over 12 years in my home community of Peterborough, and three years in Canaan – and have gained solid experience in this work. One aspect I like about my profession is that no two days are alike.

AB: Outside of your professional life, what are your interests?

DH: I enjoy all our great seasons and love the outdoors. I like to hike, to bike, cross-country ski, walk on a quiet, pretty country road, and gardening. Currently I am working on hiking the 48 four-thousand-foot mountains in New Hampshire. I have hiked 21 of them so far, and I plan to bag them all by the

time I am 90.

I also like to read, especially historical non-fiction books. I enjoy politics, presidential history, and railroad history, especially as it relates to New Hampshire. I am especially impressed by the depot at Potter Place.

AB: Tell us a bit about your family.

DH: I have been married for 35 years to my wife Maureen. She works for the Conval Food Service and enjoys her job as a lunch lady, where she worked when our children were small, which gave her a flexible schedule. I suspect that she continues because she enjoys working with the children.

We have three children of our own: Nathaniel and Benjamin, both grown, and Catherine. Nat lives in Milford, Ben lives in Seattle, and Kay is a freshman at Keene State College. I would be remiss if I forgot to mention our greyhound, Mandy, and our two cats, Rosie and Jack. Maureen and I both love pets.

AB: Will you be commuting from Peterborough?

DH: For the immediate time being I will be commuting, but I have done a lot of exploring in the Andover area.

AB: Do you bring a particular fiscal or social philosophy to the job?

DH: I like to describe myself as a fiscal conservative and a social liberal. I am very aware of where the funds come from that operate towns and schools, and I feel that it is my job to get the best value that I can for the town while get-

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maintain the tough fiscal stance. However, I believe the time is now to switch from an elected to an appointed Road Agent and to create a highway department. That can be accomplished over time, so the cost of creating a highway department could be spread out.

Providing emergency medical services has been and will continue to be a challenge for our all-volunteer Rescue Squad. The recent surge in membership is a testament to the volunteer spirit in town. However, the long-term sustainability of that system will continue to be a challenge.

There are other challenges – funding education, making improvements to the transfer station, maintaining town buildings, keeping up with our deteriorating roads and bridges (the town's single biggest asset) – but Andover residents have a great track record of working through tough issues, so I'm confident about the future.

AB: What advice can you offer us all in keeping Andover on the right

course?

MS: Focus on all the positive things we accomplish every year as a community. There will always be nay-sayers and critics, but don't be distracted by the negatives. There's so much positive that goes on in Andover.

Keep talking – and not just with people you agree with. Civil discussions of the tough issues we face are the bedrock of a strong, effective community.

Support your town officials. They're in a tough position, caught between the demands of the law and the expectations of residents who often don't understand the law or the town's budget constraints. The more informed and patient residents can be, the better for everyone.

Perhaps most important – get involved and stay involved. Small town government doesn't work without everyone getting into the act. And not just Town Meeting – attend the committee meetings, or watch them on Channel 8, or read the minutes in the *Beacon*. Volunteer on a committee. Everyone needs to pitch in.

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an easier, more convenient life? These corporations are making a huge profit in exchange for our health.

I don't want to be herded down the proverbial cattle shoot and told what I can question and what I can't. That is a loss of my freedoms and everyone else's, too.

Mary Howe

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors and everyone at the Greater Franklin Chamber of Commerce, we would like to thank all involved in making the 11th Annual Sportsmen's Show a successful event. Over 45 exhibitors and over 1,000 attendees came out to the Franklin Middle School to participate in the region's only event dedicated to the outdoorsman.

Special thanks to our media sponsors: Citizen Publishing of Laconia; Northeast Communications, and Rutter Media for all their support.

Thanks to our vendors and all those who graciously donated time and effort to make this event possible.

We also need to recognize the Chamber's Event Committee for their tireless behind the scenes help: Larry Untiet, LC Untiet Outdoor Services; Sandy Marshall, LRGHealthcare; Steve Bottomley, Mojalaki Golf Club; Carly Morris, Northway Bank; Marilyn Pollman, Allstaff Contract Services Inc.; Carol Cantin, New Hampshire Employment Security; Larry Poliquin, Hannaford Supermarkets Inc.; Joe Dudek, John Hancock Financial; Colleen Elliott, Laconia Savings Bank; John Murray, Hannaford Supermarkets Inc.; The Winnepesaukee River Trail, and the Choose Franklin members.

It is events like the Sportsmen's Show that truly make our community shine, and it couldn't have happened without all of your help. We look forward to seeing you all next year.

Theresa Pinto Lamson
Executive Director
Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce




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