

November 2018

Dear NHMA Member—

NHMA is strong because of the solid support of all of our members. We thank you for your continued membership and for your trust in us to both represent your interests before the legislature and provide you with valuable educational programs and legal advice.

Enclosed with this letter is your municipality's 2019 NHMA dues invoice. The NHMA Board of Directors approved a budget with a two percent dues increase for 2019. Because the dues formula is based on population and equalized value, the percentage increase for your municipality may vary. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about your dues.

We urge you to go to the NHMA website (<u>www.nhmunicipal.org</u>) to learn more about the services NHMA provides. We are very excited about our plans to update the NHMA website in 2019 while still including the information you need on the Right-to-Know Law, upcoming NHMA training programs, important dates calendars for cities and towns, court updates with both state and federal court opinions, and "FAQ's" on critical topics. You can also find *Town & City* magazine articles—current and historical, the *NHMA Legislative Bulletin*, NHMA member-adopted legislative policy positions, and the full NHMA Member Services Plan.

The 2019 legislative session will soon begin; we typically monitor around 300 bills which seek to change the rules for local governments. as well as. The 2019 session year will include the adoption of the state budget, and we will monitor closely the various state aid programs contained in the budget, working to restore state aid revenues cut during the down economy and to preserve the existing sources, including meals and rooms tax and highway block grants. For more information on the status of state aid programs, be sure to see 2018 edition of *State Aid to Municipalities: History & Trends* available on the NHMA website.

NHMA staff have been busy this year and we hope you have had a chance to see us in action, either at a workshop, at the State House, or at an *On Demand* presentation in your city or town. NHMA has a very talented, experienced, and dedicated staff bringing you the services you need every day.

(over)

NHMA's real strength comes from its members—we are better together and together we can be a force to be reckoned with as we maintain a strong local government voice before the legislature. We also believe it is critical that municipalities continue to support NHMA to ensure the availability of all the services it provides. A strong NHMA keeps local governments strong.

Staff and Board members are always interested in hearing from you, so please let us know your thoughts. Thank you for your support of NHMA!

Sincerely,

Brent Lemire, Chair

Grent I. Lemine

NHMA Board of Directors

Selectman, Town of Litchfield

Judy/A. Silva

Executive Director

New Hampshire Municipal Association