

Town Manager Report

September 06, 2016

I am very much looking forward to working with the Board in the coming year to achieve the goals we set at the recent Select Board retreat.

Budget & Finance:

- We received formal approval of our \$426,000 loan for the new fire truck from the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. Scheduling of financing is expected well before truck delivery.
- John, Bruce, and I met to discuss possible changes in the finance / warrant process (better and more timely information), meeting schedule (times, dates, and use of workshops), and general work flow (efficiency and transparency). They are all related and I hope to see implementation this year if the Board so chooses.

Solid Waste and Recycling:

- I attended a meeting this morning with Senior engineering students and faculty from UMaine Orono to begin the process of having them assist with design ideas for the Transfer Station and Salt Shed. Thanks to Will Scott for the suggestion.
- I met last week with a representative of Waste Management with whom we have our waste hauling and tipping contract. We are due for renewal in June and they are offering a five year extension.

Maintenance & Infrastructure:

- Paving is scheduled to begin next week; however the start date is weather dependent and may also be impacted by other factors. This will give ample time for shoulder work and the remainder of the striping to take place this fall.
- The Maranacook Outlet Dam project is moving along but the engineering costs are likely going to exceed the \$31,000 budget. I met with the dam committee last week and they have identified several areas where they can work to bring down the current low bid. I expect the Board will see a revised contract for engineering services on the 19th - hopefully on budget but there is a lot of ground to cover.
- I have met with an engineer (one of the respondents to our engineering RFQ) to consider the layout of our parking lot including how best to address concerns around ADA access to Gile Hall, parking, and pedestrian and traffic flow.
- The Mill Stream Dam project organizers have submitted a strong grant application for a little over a third of the total project cost. The remainder of the expenses will be covered by donations and in-kind labor. They met with the Maine DEP today.

Personnel:

- I am interviewing this week to fill the grounds maintenance position we have advertised for.
- Robin is on vacation for the next few weeks.

Announcements:

- The Town has a few different sources of firewood in the event that residents are in need. If your wood pile isn't sufficient please call the Town Office. It's much easier to process and move now than in January.