



TOWN OF READFIELD – Town Manager

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Town Manager Report

October 16, 2023

Administration and Personnel:

- We have a staff meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 19th.
- We have a rabies clinic coming up at the Town Office on Wednesday, October 25th starting at 4:00 PM. Pre-registration is required.
- A State Referendum is being held Tuesday, November 7th from 8am to 8pm at the Kents Hill School Alford Center. Absentee ballots are available.
- The Town will be sponsoring a Veterans Day event at the Town Office at 11am on November 11th, 2023. Please arrive a few minutes early. We'll be having a free crock-pot lunch and dessert following the formal ceremony. Thanks to Anjelica Pittman for her organizing efforts and to Carol Doorenbos for helping to coordinate desserts.
- The Town Office will be closed Friday, November 10th, and the Library and Transfer Station will be closed Saturday the 11th in observance of the holiday.
- The Town's Comprehensive Plan, submitted for review by the State of Maine this spring, was found to be complete and consistent with statewide planning goals.
- We are pursuing more direct approaches to getting information from Charter, including a letter from our Town attorney, so we can more effectively negotiate a franchise renewal.
- The budget process is ramping up and we are already seeing indications that we are approaching another challenging year. This makes planning and goal setting even more Important.
- I want to acknowledge the passing of Ralph Eno and state that he was a true friend, mentor, and asset to our community. He will be missed.

Roads, Traffic, Parking and Safety:

- Winter maintenance planning is in full swing. We have updated the plowing contract and ordered salt. Truck inspections will be happening this week.
- Roadside mowing is complete and we are moving on to brush.
- The Church Rd. Sidewalk hearing on October 2nd went very well and we received many constructive comments. The engineers are moving forward with more detailed planning and cost estimates for the next Public Hearing (likely in January or February).
- We are making progress on the P Ridge and Nickerson intersection issue and developing a few new alternatives to meet safety standards and balance the 'aesthetic barrier' preferences of the affected property owner

- We've applied for a free flashing x-walk sign through MDOT and are looking at purchasing others to address the need at various points on Rt. 17 (the Beach, Readfield Corner, and Kents Hill)
- We are beginning to work on a "traffic calming" policy with the Road Committee to set standard criteria for what kinds of techniques we use and when we apply them.
- It was brought to our attention that we have never (in recent history) had speed limit signs on Thundercastle Rd. so we are in the process of installing those.
- We held a very productive Road Committee meeting last week. I want to thank the Road Committee and Deputy Road Commissioner Matt Seems for their recent work and discussion.

Maintenance:

- Exterior work on the Library is complete with the exception of some electrical. Town staff and volunteers will be working on the interior of the building over the next six weeks.
- Cemetery work is a high priority in advance of Veterans Day.

Transfer Station:

- We had a good Solid Waste and Recycling Committee meeting last week and are moving ahead with projects ranging from capital planning for a canopy structure at the Transfer Station to new stickers for the member towns.
- Final numbers from the Household Hazardous waste Day showed a very productive and well-utilized event.
- We have stable staffing at the Transfer Station and look forward to returning to full staffing in a few weeks.