



Town Manager's Report September 18, 2019

Administration

- Prices for 2019-20 heating season have been locked in: Propane (Fabian Oil, \$1.299; \$1.499 PY), #2 Oil (Fabian Oil, \$2.249; \$2.4695 PY), and Diesel (Bob's Cash Fuel, +\$0.18 over rack—\$2.149 vs. \$2.609 PY equivalent)
- I had a meeting with New Balance and Somerset Public Health on 9/13 to discuss food pantries in the community and what needs to be done to bridge the gap and meet the community's needs. We are working from several angles, but short- and long-term goals, but this is still in its initial stages of development.
- I will be attending a free training/legal update that is being hosted by our law firm on 9/26
 - ▶ **KVCOG Annual Meeting is scheduled for September 30, 4:00 pm at Chase Forum at the Alford Commons in Waterville.**
 - ▶ **Maine Municipal Association Annual Conference—October 2-3; the Town Office will be closed Wednesday, October 2.**

Airport

- Crack sealing started last week and they worked for 2 days; we are awaiting their return to complete the project.

Animal Control

- Dexter "Buzz" Bridges has been appointed Animal Control Officer, effective September 11.

Assessing

- ▶ **Next Assessor Meeting is 10/2, 5:30 pm**
- ▶ **Donna's upcoming scheduled days are 9/26 and 10/10**

Cemeteries

- None

Code Enforcement

- We continue to struggle with service of the Notice of Violation for a junkyard on Oak Hill Road. This property cleanup remains a priority for enforcement.
- Notice has been sent to landowners on Wilder Hill Road, Dodlin Road, and Depot Street landowners for having debris and/or obstructions in the public right-of-way.

- ▶ **The Public Informational Meeting for Waste Management's proposed Phase 14 expansion is scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 6:00 pm, Mill Stream School**
- ▶ **Planning Board facility tour of Waste Management is tentatively scheduled for September 26, 5:00 pm**

Economic Development

- Downtown pressure washing is scheduled to begin tomorrow morning. We will be posting Main Street has been posted for no overnight parking 9/18 into 9/19 to ensure the manlift has safe, proper access to the buildings.
- ▶ **Community Revitalization Public Meeting is 9/24, 6:30 pm, Mill Stream Gym**

Finance/Collections

- As of this morning, we had a collection rate of 79% (79% PY) for real estate and personal property collections of 96%.
- Lien waivers have still not been received for recent sewer project pay requisitions, so we continue to withhold payment from the contractor, Penta Corp. As of now, we have about \$1.5 million outstanding.
- ▶ **Taxes were due yesterday; if you haven't paid, make sure you check for interest accrual**

Fire/EMA

- The new fire truck has arrived in Massachusetts; its next steps are to go for graphics, pre-delivery inspection, and any warranty work that might have occurred during the drive from Florida. The truck will then head towards Maine and the tires will be studded. Estimated delivery window is 2-4 weeks.

Libraries

- ▶ **The Library will host a bake sale with all proceeds to benefit childhood cancer research this Saturday (9/21) beginning at 10:00 am at Mercer Road Library**
- ▶ **The Library will host the Chewonki Foundation's *Owls of Maine* on September 28, beginning at 11:00 am at the Grange.**

Parks

- We have received the 50% reimbursement for expenses associated with the boat launch construction. We are still waiting for the State to process the 100% reimbursement request for engineering fees.

Public Works

- The railroad crossings were paved over on 9/6 with mixed reviews. Some are thankful for the lack of potholes, while others say the repairs resemble a speed hump.
- We are meeting with our new engineer tomorrow to discuss potential road projects, as well as having the firm review our existing roadwork plans for re-certification.

- Two cross-culverts on Frederick Corner Rd. were replaced this week.
- I have requested a meeting with DOT to discuss intersection safety at Route 2/Frederick Corner. Ideally, the State would stripe more, as well as install additional signage on Route 2.

Sewer

- Regarding the damaged, new generator: In addition to completing the necessary repairs, Penta has tentatively agreed to provide us with an extra five-year warranty on the generator as a result of the accident.
 - ▶ Maine DEP will be conducting a site inspection on Wednesday, September 25. We are confident in our current position and Olver Associates is working to ensure our contractors are in full compliance with regulations. This inspection is to allow our new primary point of contact with DEP to become more familiar with our facility.