



TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

JUNE 3, 2020

ADMINISTRATION

- This week, we phased cash acceptance back in and have extended hours to include Thursday evening. The other hours will remain in place for the time being (closed 1:00-2:00 for lunch/cleaning, closing at 4:00)
- Facebook disabled our ability to post due to our inability to verify our location. As a result, we have had to create a new page.

AIRPORT

- The process of obstruction clearing continues at the airport. The process seems to be going smoothly as the work progresses.
- We had a planning meeting in advance of our CIP meeting with DOT and FAA later this month. There is concern about the Town's preparedness for its local share to reconstruct runway 3/21 in 2022. We will be working with DOT and DPS to determine what the willingness to fund such a project will be.

ASSESSING

- Donna has returned to her normal schedule and is making strong progress with her spring field work. She is in the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Please schedule an appointment in advance.
- Reminder that exemption and land use program applications deadline is extended to July 1.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- Reminder that most projects require a building permit of some sort. We strongly recommend that residents contact the Code Office prior to doing any construction to verify permit status.
- Willow Street junkyard hearing is tentatively scheduled for June 17, if no objection from the Board.
- I attended a pre-hearing conference with MaineDEP regarding Waste Management. There will be a series of meeting in advance of a September/October 2020 public hearing. As more information becomes available, we will keep the public informed. The hearing will likely be held at the school.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- The flags honoring SAHS seniors was a great success. We have received an abundance of positive comments from the public and were successful with the public relations piece in the Sentinel/KJ.

FINANCE/COLLECTIONS

- Effective the first payroll in August, all employee will be required to transition to direct deposit.
- Approximately 255 courtesy notices went out for unpaid 2019 taxes on May 20, which will have a 30-day notice mailed on June 23 and liens filed on July 31. 230 accounts are still outstanding.
- The SAD will hold a special meeting tomorrow night at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom to present its draft 2020-21 budget. Preliminary figures indicate a 1.21% increase in local contribution from Norridgewock, while the total district's local contribution decreases by 1.27%. The total budget is down \$101,678 (-0.27%)
- The Somerset County Budget Hearing is scheduled for June 10, at 5:30 p.m. Preliminary figures indicate an increase of \$13,835.37 (+2.71%) Norridgewock, while the total county tax increased by \$270,364.41 (+2.12%).

FIRE/EMA

- The final delivery/pickup meals were served on Monday. Excess product was brought to the Town Office for distribution. We will continue to offer food (mostly non-perishable) at the Town Office. Additionally, when produce deliveries become available, we plan to have a table set up outside so people can pick up those products.

LIBRARIES

- Curbside pickup became available on Tuesday. This will be the method for library operations for the foreseeable future. The Trustees were instrumental in determining the parameters of the program, as well as the marketing materials. While not ideal, the process will grant users access to books without putting the library at risk.
- The librarian will not be working at Sophie May until pandemic restrictions are lifted. We are working with the Trustees to determine when that time may be. In the short-term, we will be using the time to sort through materials and evaluation their value to the branch's collection.

PARKS

- Given public health conditions, together with the restrictions being set forth by executive orders, I have conferred with the Parks Committee and determined that the full Oosoola Days festivities will not be taking place in 2020. Closer to Labor Day, the decision may be made to run the duck race or frog race, but that will depend on conditions at that time.

While a difficult decision, it is largely based on the time and financial resources required to make it happen and the likelihood that conditions may not be conducive to holding the event.

PUBLIC WORKS

- A consultant from CES reviewed the erosion concerns at 820 Ward Hill Road and they are working to provide us with plans for a cost-effective repair. We have made several modifications to the original intended plan, in an effort to reduce costs.
- Betterment, Childs, and Frederick Corner Roads are all being finished up with shoulder gravel this week. The contract price for Betterment was extended to the other two roads.

SEWER

- Work continues on the upgrade. We have had a couple of small change orders at the Mechanic Street pump station, but all came in reasonably priced and were recommended to be accepted by our consultant. The project is still on track, in terms of schedule and budget.