



TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT AUGUST 5, 2020

ADMINISTRATION

- A representative from the Census Bureau will be at the Town Office on August 6, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm to help residents complete their census and/or answer any questions.
- Absentee ballot requests are now available for the November 3 election. Actual ballots will not be available until late September or early October.

AIRPORT

- FAA has informed us that the grant funding for the taxi lane project has been awarded in the full amount (\$1,004,720). This will fund the entire base bid and the alternate project. The construction start date is pending; we are expecting a pre-construction conference the week of August 17.
- As of July 20, the airport has received \$66,579.57 in revenue from clearing.

ASSESSING

- Commitment is scheduled for August 13. Tax bills will be mailed before August 21 and will be due September 22. Are there any items/suggestions for inclusion in this year's tax bills?

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- We are continuing to monitor the unlicensed junkyard on Willow Street; a notice of violation has been issued, but property conditions have not improved. We are also proceeding with enforcement of the unlicensed junkyard at 31 Oak Hill Rd.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- The electronic signboard for downtown is expected within 2-3 weeks.
- The TIF Committee has assembled informally to introduce a back to school supply drive for students at Mill Stream. The goal is to provide supplies to teachers that would help every student. Collection points are at the Norridgewock, Mercer, and Smithfield town offices and cash donations may be made at Skowhegan Savings and at the town office.

FINANCE/COLLECTIONS

- The State has released revised revenue sharing projections. March projections provided for an estimated \$238,188. Today's projections decreased by approximately 12% to \$210,201. We are still in a strong budgetary position, as only \$150,000 was used in our 2020 budget.
- We received dividends from Maine Municipal Association for good performance in the property/casualty pool, as well with workers' compensation. The 2020 dividend was \$3,430 (+\$66 vs. PY)

FIRE/EMA

- As communicated previously, I have moved forward with the purchase of a gear dryer from Fire Tech and Safety (Winthrop). The estimated delivery time is 2-3 weeks.
- I have been trying to contact Blane Casey regarding the warranty claim denial from Allura on the building fascia. He has been busy with a variety of items, but is going back to review the project and will be contacting me and possibly addressing with the manufacturer.
- We received eight applications for the full-time positions. Initial application review is underway and I am exploring Maine Municipal Association as a possibility for proctoring our preliminary exams.
- I have submitted a second grant application as a part of the Keep Maine Healthy Initiative. The \$35,600 would fund the purchase of additional PPE, disinfectants, improved website design for communication with the public, EDDM for updates services communications, and educational materials for the airport.

LIBRARIES

- I've been working with the Trustees to modify the configuration of the library, including moving the sink into the bathroom. That adjustment has been made already and shelves will be moved in the next week or so.
- Trustees are considering upgrading to laptops and rolling carts, pending a reopening date for the library. At present, it appears as though we will be well positioned to open by the first of September, pending any changes in public health.
- I have finalized a purchase order with American Glass to install glass around the circulation desk. This will be permanently installed at a cost of \$1,438.58. This will be paid for out of the Library Building account and submitted to FEMA for reimbursement.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- We have continued to receive concerns regarding the property on Depot Street and the treatment of animals. Senator Farrin has been working with Maine Animal Welfare and our local ACO to monitor the situation.

PUBLIC WORKS

- After the last meeting, I contacted Waste Management, Anson Madison Sanitary, and Poland Spring to discuss truck traffic in Norridgewock. All were cooperative in their willingness to communicate the need for low speeds and limited engine braking. Additionally, Franklin County Sheriff’s Office has loaned us a speed trailer that has been recording traffic/speed data on Waterville Road. Residents have noticed a decrease in engine brake use, but the problem still remains. We will be looking at the data from the speed trailer and continue to work with trucking companies to reduce this problem. I have also initiated conversations with the Sheriff regarding a detail.

SEWER

- At first look, there is a forecasted \$250,000 in residual grant funds that will be remaining after the sewer upgrade. These funds are purely grant, so it is in the Town’s best interest to exhaust them. Projects to consider: purchase of new pickup, equipment storage building (to store new generator trailer, etc.), roof replacement, painting of building interior, exterior siding/painting, driveway overlay, etc. I have forwarded these items to the Sewer Commission, but have not received a response. The projects will have to be considered very soon, as the project goes into its final phases. For the most efficient spend of the funds, it is likely that we will get the best prices by seeking three bids outside of the current contract with Penta.

RECREATION

- I have made preliminary contact with our consultant on the feasibility of constructing an indoor recreation facility at the airport. There are only two locations that such a facility would fit, given the non-aeronautical designation and the location of wetlands. The next step will be to set up a meeting with FAA and DOT to discuss any other concerns related to such a project. If there are no remaining obstacles, the next step should be to conduct a feasibility study for the proposal.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
2	3	4 5PM TIF Mtg	5 6PM Selectmen	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 9am Assessors 6PM Planning Board Mtg	14	15
16	17	18	19 6PM Selectmen	20	21	22