



Report of the Town Manager

August 7, 2017

1. Financial Updates-

- a. The FY18 budget has been posted to MUNIS allowing departments to monitor their budgets.
- b. I am working with the Finance Committee at their request to tour town buildings to see their current conditions and discuss possible future needs in preparation for the FY19 budget.

2. Personnel Updates-

- a. There are no personnel updates.

3. Project Updates-

- a. The Department of Public Works reviewed the roads planned for repaving this summer with the winning bidder. As a reminder the roads approved by the Board at the June 12th meeting were Old County Road, Tucker Street, Whitney Street and Willoughby Avenue. Due to the savings realized from the most recent paving bid Oakland Street, Eastern Avenue, Hall Road and North Central Street from Central to the end of pavement and Forestall Road to end of pavement.
- b. The contractor for the High Street bridge work has been delayed two weeks while waiting for supplies. The bridge still is expected to open later this summer.
- c. The reconstruction of Walnut Street is near completion. Punch list items remain and will be completed in August.
- d. The Water Department continues the repairs to fire hydrants that are not working properly after being flushed earlier this spring. Repairs will continue throughout the fall.
- e. The Riverside Cemetery paving is complete. Public Works will be placing loam along the edges of the roadside and planting grass during the next couple of weeks.

4. Miscellaneous Updates –

- a. The Fall Festival has been scheduled for Saturday, October 7th. The committee of local business owners and staff met this past week to begin discussions for street closures. The Fall Festival will be located on Central Street this year instead of the Ingleside property.
- b. The Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center currently rents a portion of the Street School to provide veteran support services in Winchendon. The

Outreach Center inspects all of the property they rent for insurance purposes. During a recent inspection of the Streeter School by the Outreach Center inspector they determined the wiring at the school is outdated and either needs to be replaced or they need to move to another building. The Outreach Center met with the Senior Center Director and me this week to determine if there is a location in the Senior Center that could provide space needed.

- c. The Senior Work off program has been finalized. We had 8 applications submitted since it was approved at May Town Meeting. All eight applications have been reviewed, have met the requirements and will be participating in the program this fiscal year. The positions covered will be:
 - 1. Broadcasting Board/Committee Meetings
 - 2. Building Custodial Assistance
 - 3. Assessor's office clerk assistance
 - 4. Floating Town Hall clerk assistance
 - 5. DPW Assistance - painting
 - 6. Senior Center assistance
 - 7. School Music Programs/Play Assistance
 - 8. School Custodial Work – painting

Unless there is a cancellation or someone is not able to finish their hours, the program is complete for this fiscal year. The participants will earn up to \$850.00 off their tax bill.

It's nice to be reporting that all available positions have been filled as in the past few years we have had openings.

- d. I will be attending the Annual Chili cook-off on Saturday, August 5th. The event will be at the American Legion from 11:00 to 4:00.

Additional Comments at Board meeting

Chief Walsh is working with Ford Motor Company and Mathieu Ford to install carbon monoxide detectors in the Police Department Ford Explorers. There haven't been any complaints to date but Chief Walsh is proactively addressing the issues due to concerns raised by other departments that use Ford Explorers.

Cumberland Farms has agreed to fund some additional work repairing the sidewalk in front of the Town Offices. Verizon is responsible for most of the work after damaging the sidewalk while installing underground utilities for Cumberland Farms. There is approximately 2 feet of brick between the curbing and cement sidewalk that is damaged with weeds growing between the bricks. I would like to remove the bricks. Cumberland is going to pay for the additional concrete needed where the bricks once were.