



## Report of the Town Manager

June 26, 2017

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### **1. Financial Updates-**

- a. The Accounting Department continues to prepare for the fiscal year end. I am confident that the financial records are in order and the year will be closed with a higher than anticipated revenues and expenditures below budget.

### **2. Personnel Updates-**

- a. Lindsay Kuchta was hired as the Administrative Assistant in the Town Manager's office.
- b. Brian Hart was hired to fill an opening at Public Works
- c. Phil Tousignat was hired to fill an opening in the Water Department

### **3. Project Updates-**

- a. Work on the High Street Bridge is underway. When the contractor removed a portion of the pavement on the bridge they found some additional work that needs to be completed. Al Gallant is working with the MassDOT and the contractor to receive a cost estimate and approval from MassDOT for the added work. It is anticipated that the work will be less than \$25,000. The additional funds are available in Chapter 90 funds.
- b. Al Gallant provided Senator Gobi and Representative Zlotnik with a revised scope of work and cost estimate for the Whitney Dam repairs. Senator Gobi and Representative Zlotnik are hopeful that reducing the price of the repairs will entice the Governor to sign the approved bond bill to authorize the repairs.
- c. The drainage work on Walnut Street is complete. The contractor will begin fine grading next week in preparation to pave in the near future.
- d. The Town received approval to begin filling the Elmwood Road water tank. The tank will be filled using the Fire Department's ladder truck to provide the necessary water pressure.
- e. MassDOT informed Al Gallant on Wednesday that DOT will be repaving Maple Street from Glenallen Road to just beyond the Ingleside property in the summer of 2018. DOT agreeing to pave Maple Street is due to Al Gallant proposing the work when DOT stated they were looking for small projects to complete at the Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting that Al began attending last year.

### **4. Miscellaneous Updates –**

- a. Public Works has removed the stumps of the trees that were in front of the Town Offices this morning. New trees will be planted prior to June 30th.
- b. The Economic Development Fund Grant application for the redevelopment of the RHI building has made it through the first application review stage. Planning will now work on providing more information to support the application in preparation for a final decision.
- c. The Police and Fire Departments are meeting with Comcast to determine if Comcast will donate a communications tower located on High Street that Comcast plans to remove to the Town for radio communications.

Verizon and National Grid will be upgrading services to Cumberland Farms beginning on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. The work area is from Pleasant Street down Front Street into Cumberland Farms. Work will be in the sidewalk. Once the sidewalk is restored Public Works will be planting three trees in front of the Town Offices.

The wheels will be installed on the cannon at Legion Park this week prior to the Zip Trip broadcast.

Fire Captain Marty Brooks is retiring in July after working for the Winchendon Fire Department for over 30 years, the past five and one half holding the rank of Captain. The Fire Department is hosting a small party Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm to thank Marty for his 30 years of service. Please feel free to stop by and wish Marty well in the future.

Route 140 has been paved. The new pavement marking will be painted shortly.

The Harris Road bridge will have the first coat of pavement installed in the next couple of weeks with the bridges anticipated reopening a short time after.

The Building Commissioner has inspected 70 multifamily units and has follow-up inspections this Wednesday on some of the buildings.

The contractor for Cumberland Farms will be repairing the pavement they disturbed when installing drainage later this week. Cumberland Farms has committed to replacing all of the sidewalk along their frontage on Central and Front Streets.

The date of October 7<sup>th</sup> has been set for this years Fall Festival. A group of downtown businesses are spearheading the event and have begun meeting regularly. I am scheduled to meet with the business group on Tuesday afternoon.