



Report of the Town Manager

November 19, 2018

1. Financial Updates-

- a. Tony Roselli presented the draft FY18 Management Letter to the Audit Committee on November 8th. The Audit Committee will present the audit at the December 10th Quad-Board meeting.

2. Personnel Updates-

- a. Officer James Maynard graduated from six months of Academy Training last week. He is a lifelong resident of Winchendon. Officer Maynard will begin field training shortly and be available for patrol shifts in January. Chief Walsh plans to bring Officer Maynard to a December Board meeting to introduce him to the Selectmen. Officer Brandon Lucier will begin his Academy Training in March.

3. Project Updates-

- a. Public Works is working to complete the final two dozen street light conversions. The remaining street lights are need high tension wires or need tree limbs removed. Dagle Electric, the company who upgraded the street lights to date has proposed a cost of \$2,200 per fixture to complete the work. Al Gallant and I thought the price was high so Al approached the Templeton Municipal Light for a price to do the same work along with repairs to street light fixtures as needed moving forward. The following is their response.

In 2019 for two (2) lineman (one up, one down) and one (1) aerial lift truck we would charge the Town of Winchendon \$191 per hour plus any materials we would use. For 2020 and 2021 the \$191 rate would increase consistent with our operating costs but this is an OK figure for the calendar year 2019. We can typically change 1-2 lights out per hour, depending on location and setup time, so we could get 16 or so done on a good day. So \$1,416 per day would get you 12-16 fixtures replaced.

Al and I have requested a contract from Templeton Municipal Light to complete the street lighting project this fall.

The Town was notified by National Grid that upon completion of the project National Grid will receive an Energy Initiative Rebate of \$43,972. Tanko

Lighting is updating the project financial analysis to reflect the rebate and will forward that to me in the near future.

4. Miscellaneous Updates –

- a. Tracy Murphy has been working with representatives from Mass Development and the owners of the RHI building about redeveloping the building. Mass Development believes the redevelopment of this building is the type of project they like to finance and for the right project they will finance up to 90%. Tracy will continue to work with building owners and Mass Development.

Tracy also discussed grant funding opportunities for other projects in town with Mass Development. There are "out of cycle" funds for worthy projects such as the Lincoln Ave. Extension building demolition, Poland/Streeter housing and the potential for over 55 housing in one of our vacant buildings. The Mass Development representative suggested applying for area wide assessment monies for Phase 1 & 2 environmental studies on the properties. They also suggested that we inform Senator Gobi about potential projects in town and get her on Board and then invite Secretary Ashe back to town to show him.

Tracy, Al Gallant and I met with Senator Gobi on Tuesday and she was very enthusiastic about working with the town to move these opportunities forward. Senator Gobi is also going to meet with state officials to determine if the Whitney Pond dam could be funded with recently approved environmental funding. I have shared the pertinent sections of the 2015 Montachusett Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan which outlines the impact current condition of the dam.

- b. The Town received two bids to manage the Wastewater Department. The two firms will be interviewed during the week of November 19th. A recommendation to award the bid will be brought to the Board at your December 3rd meeting.