



Report of the Town Manager

October 5, 2020

1. Financial Updates-

- Fieldwork for the annual audit has been completed on the town's records. The School Department is working with the outside auditor to provide all of the information the auditors need to complete the audit.
- I anticipate asking to place the annual tax reclassification hearing on the Board's October 26th Board meeting.
- Town Clerk Wendy Stevens was made aware of a Center for Tech and Civic Life Grant funding from the State Elections Division. Wendy found out today that the grant was approved in the amount of \$5,000. The grant will supplement funding for election staffing for early voting as well as extra election workers on Election Day. Additionally, the grant will fund vote-by-mail/absentee voting equipment or supplies and election administration equipment

2. Personnel Updates-

- There are no personnel updates this week.

3. Project Updates-

- Public Works Director Al Gallant has met with Mass Broken Stone to review and schedule the paving on the unaccepted portion of Mellen Road. Mass Broken Stone has committed to paving the road this fall. Tracy Murphy has contacted the surveyor to schedule the survey work for the metes and bounds once the paving is complete.
- Al Gallant and Tracy Murphy are scheduling meetings with property owners on the section of Central Street that will be reconstructed. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the temporary construction easements needed for the project. The meetings are tentatively scheduled for November 5th.

4. Miscellaneous Updates –

- I met with the Robinson Broadhurst trustees on Thursday, October 1st so the trustees could share their decision on increasing the Community Park funding. I will update the Board on the results shortly after the meeting concludes.
- As part of the Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center's redevelopment of the Poland and Streeter schools, MVOC has applied for Chapter 40B Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI) for their proposed 44 apartments. At present, Department of Housing and Community Development shows the town of Winchendon housing stock at 4088 units. Of those units 331 qualify (accepted), resulting in 8.1% of the housing is

recorded on the SHI. 77 additional units will help Winchendon meet the States' 10% goal of SHI units.

The Poland and Streeter School project will add 44 units to this inventory. As a result of this project, the town's SHI will reach 9% and now only be 33 units short of the State goal. This is significant. While the project with Poland and Streeter Schools is a collaborative effort between the town and MVOC, not all 40B developments are. As we near 10% and ultimately reach that mark, future 40B developments will not have benefit of the appeals process afforded when we are below that threshold.

There is a 30 day comment period on MVOC's 40B application. If you are interested in reviewing MVOC's application and submitting a comment, please visit the Town of Winchendon website at www.townofwinchendon.com.

- The Town has received and responded to nine Public Record Requests from the Mellen Road Action Committee.