



Report of the Town Manager

February 28th, 2022

1. Financial Updates-

- a. All departmental budget figures have been submitted and reviewed. We are still gathering some other data regarding insurance, but are on track for a draft budget for March 14th.
- b. MIIA has quoted us a 7.5% increase for health insurance costs in the FY23 budget. While I carried an 8% increase in the projected budget and planned accordingly, 7.5% is a significant budgetary impact. With that said, I am happy to report I have negotiated the 7.5% MIIA increase down to 6.5%, realizing an estimated \$20,000 in savings for FY23.

2. Personnel Updates-

- a. Interviews will be held this week for the DPW Executive Assistant position.
- b. All contracts for our unions are nearing completion, and will be brought before the Board for review prior to finalization.

3. Project Updates-

- a. Our team met with Bullspit Brewing today to lay out a schedule for the remainder of site work through the spring.
- b. Work on Central Street is slated to begin in March. We will be sure to communicate progress through the Town Website and Social Media.
- c. A meeting is scheduled in early March for a pre-construction meeting for the Winchendon Community Park Amphitheater. The project will break ground this spring.
- d. An RFP has been submitted for design services for the Old Murdock Restoration. This will be presented to the board in an upcoming meeting.
- e. Our team is in the process of creating a town map highlighting active projects throughout the community. We will review this with the board once complete.

4. Miscellaneous Updates-

- a. Senator Jo Comerford has scheduled a meeting with the board at your upcoming April 11th, 2022 Board of Selectman Meeting for an introduction at 7pm.
- b. Given the implementation of a Community Preservation Act Exploratory Committee, three public forums will be held to discuss the topic in advance of Town Meeting. These will be held in early March, April, and May.