



Report of the Town Manager

January 10, 2022

1. Financial Updates-

- a. The Water & Sewer Assistance Program closed out at the end of the year. We issued \$6,450 in grants, providing relief to 27 households. Thank you to Tracy, Nicole, Joanne, and Lynn for helping administer this program.
- b. My office coordinated with Representative Zlotnik to secure an additional \$100,000 in ARPA funding in Governor Baker's ARPA Spending Bill (H4269). This bill slates the funding for "Water and Sewer improvements in the Downtown Area) and can used for upcoming improvements on Beech St.
- c. A tri-board meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, Tuesday January 11th. This will include ARPA funding discussions, as well as a review of the FY23 Budget schedule.
- d. The Capital Planning Committee will be meeting on Monday, January 31st to review the first draft of out FY23-FY27 Capital Plan.

2. Personnel Updates-

- a. Callie Knowler, our Assistant Account, has resigned. The position has been posted, and we thank Callie for her years of dedicated service to Winchendon.

3. Project Updates-

- a. A proposed new Walgreens on Central Street is making its way through the Planning Board process.
- b. Our DPW team is working to cold patch potholes throughout town as quickly as possible. Residents are encouraged to reach out with any issues.
- c. As a reminder, the project at Lake and Spring Street is on hold through the winter due to supply issues for curbing. We are aware of the pooling and it will be addressed in the spring when the project is completed.

4. Miscellaneous Updates –

- a. A grant strategy session was held with members of our team to reset for the New Year. This included Green Communities, the Municipal Vulnerability Program (MVP), MRPC DLTA, the PARC Grant and other that would support funding initiatives ranging from a review of our Zoning Bylaws, Central Street Street Lighting, and the creation of a park on Beech St among other projects.
- b. A special thanks to our DPW for their work in snow and ice removal over the past month. There have been significant staffing shortages due to COVID 19, and their efforts to keep the town moving are appreciated.