



Report of the Town Manager

May 9, 2022

1. Financial Updates-

- a. The Audit Committee has reviewed the Management Letter, and is expected to meet with the Board of Selectmen, School Committee, and Finance Committee at an upcoming meeting. (Date to be determined).
- b. Our Auditor is initiating a review of the Treasurer's Office spanning the last year and a half. Any discrepancies found will be brought forward upon the completion of the audit.
- c. We are moving forward with the borrowing that was authorized at your fall 2019 Special Town Meeting for the water/sewer work on Central Street. I have been working with our Treasurer's Office and DPW to ensure we do not run into any cash-flow issues in the meantime.
- d. The first Cannabis excise payment has come in from the Bud Barn. Numbers are being finalized and will be confirmed at your meeting evening.

2. Personnel Updates-

- a. We are presently advertising for the role of Treasurer/Collector. Resumes will be compiled over the coming weeks, with a preliminary review to be completed by a to be determined committee. It is our goal to have the role filled by the end of the fiscal year.
- b. We are also advertising for our recently vacated Planning and Development Director role. Special thanks to Tracy Murphy, who has made significant progress in her 8 and a half years with the town. Her expertise and vision will be missed.

3. Project Updates-

- a. Candidates were interviewed by myself, the OPM, and members of the Finance Committee and Historic Commission for Design Services for the Old Murdock. I am pleased to report that Russo Barr Associates was determined to be the best fit for this project. They are architectural/engineering building envelope specialists with decades of experience designing historic restoration work in the Commonwealth. I will be negotiating their fee, and bringing it before the board shortly.
- b. Work on Central Street is ongoing. I have been periodically stopping in at various businesses on Central Street to ensure their needs are being met as we work to coordinate this significant undertaking while minimizing negative impacts to businesses.
- c. The Winchendon Community Park Amphitheater held a site walkthrough on Wednesday the 5th. At this point all perimeters have been marked and erosion control has been put in place. The team will begin limited, targeted removal of vegetation over the coming weeks.

- d. The Robbins Road Bridge replacement is officially complete, and the road has been reopened.
- e. Bullspit continues to work through the permitting process for 4 Summer Drive. A site walk was held with the Conservation Commission this past Saturday the 7th.

4. Miscellaneous Updates –

- a. Thank you to our Town Clerk Wendy Stevens, Assistant Clerk Deb Skinner, and all of the volunteers and poll workers that help make our election process run smoothly. They did an excellent job, and we are lucky to have them. In addition, congratulations to our successful candidates, as a thank you to all that stepped up in an effort to serve our community.