



TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

ADMINISTRATION

- I attended the bi-annual legal update provided by our law firm, which was very informative. Two members of the Planning Board also attended the free seminar.
- The Water District is holding a Public Hearing at the Town Office on Tuesday, October 3, at 6 PM to discuss two proposed rate increases. Two compounding 10% increases are proposed to help fund rising operational costs and a proposed 700-foot line replacement on Main Street, including the crossing over Mill Stream.
- The Town Office will be closed on Wednesday, October 4, so staff can attend the annual Maine Municipal Association conference in Augusta.
- Work continues on the new resident/visitor welcome pack; if you have something you believe should be prioritized for inclusion, please let me know.

CODE ENFORCEMENT & PLANNING

- **Planning Board Meeting: Thursday, October 12, 6:00 PM**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- The trail bridge over Mill Stream is scheduled to be rebuilt this weekend. The State and Sportsmen Association are looking for volunteers to help. Volunteers are asked to meet at the Welch Street parking lot on Saturday morning at 8.
- **TIF Committee Meeting: Tuesday, September 26, 5:00 PM**

FINANCE & COLLECTIONS

- 2023 taxes were due September 19. We've collected 83.8% of commitment; this is right on par with last year
- We've moved \$1 million from our sweep account into a 5-month CD at 5.25%.
- Liens will be filed tomorrow on unpaid sewer use charges from July-September 2022. A total of 13 accounts will be impacted.
- The new rate for Waste Management's host fees has taken full effect. Last month's check (which only was only 4 days at the new rate) was \$151,444. This puts us at over \$800,000 year-to-date and trending nearly \$220,000 ahead of where we were this time last year.

LIBRARIES

- **Library Trustee Meeting: Thursday, September 28, 3:30 PM**

PARKS

- Community Mural Unveiling: Saturday, October 14, 10:00 AM, Emery Town Square

PUBLIC SAFETY

- I am scheduled to meet with a representative from FEMA next week to conduct a preliminary review of damage incurred during the May 1 rainstorm.
- In cooperation with the Fire Chief, I signed an MOA under the Maine Workforce Development Compact with the Harold Alfond Center for the Advancement of Maine's Workforce. The agreement allows for 50% reimbursement on qualified trainings or college courses, through 2025, up to \$1,200 per trainee.
- The fire protection agreement with Mercer expires at the end of this year. I am coordinating the renewal of that agreement; I've asked Mercer to review the existing agreement and provide recommended adjustments, if any.

PUBLIC WORKS

- I am scheduled to meet with Pike again next week to discuss a formal proposal to resolve the cracking concerns on Walker Road.
- We expect delivery of the new truck from O'Connor/HP Fairfield in the next two weeks, ahead of the expected timeline when first ordered.
- Preliminary intersection work is scheduled to take place at Routes 2 and 201-A, by the Post Office/Bank between October 2 and 4. Please expect significant delays.