

## **Town Manager's Report to the Select Board October 25, 2021**

### **Augie's Rest Stop:**

This past week Augie's Rest Stop was regraded, and a new surface of stay-mat put down. Work was performed by Kevin Fadden and Kevin Horne; material was supplied by the Town of Haverhill through the Highway Department. Also, NH District 2 will adjust the height of the drop inlet within the turn-a-round.

### **Railroad Park:**

Sunday October 25th the walking path in Railroad Park received a new stay-mat surface. The swing set and picnic tables received new wood chips, the path to the river overlook received a new surface, and the drive was graded, and new stay-mat was added. Work was performed by Matthew Bjelobrk and Mark Codling, material was supplied by the Town of Haverhill through the Parks & Recreation Department.

### **Woodsville Lawsuit:**

The Woodsville Fire District filed a lawsuit against the Town of Haverhill in Grafton Superior Court in 2019, related to Town funding of the Woodsville Highway Department. The Woodsville Fire District filed for Declaratory Judgement in early June; the Town responded on Monday June 28th. The Town requested that with the passing of SB26 that both parties agree to drop the case, the Woodsville District Commissioners declined. The court hearing for the original lawsuit scheduled to go to trial this month. However, due to the pending Declaratory Judgement motion made by the Woodsville Village District, the court hearing for the original lawsuit has now been "continued" February 2022. All filings are public record.

### **North Haverhill Cross Walks:**

The Town has sent its formal request for approval to install five new pedestrian crossings along Route 10 in North Haverhill Village. The sidewalks will need to be ADA accessible, pedestrian signs and cross walk markings would need to be installed, and possibly street lighting. The locations have tentatively been identified, one near the entrance to River Meadow Campground where the sidewalk ends, one near Aldrich's Store, one near the Town Administration Office, one near the Fire Station, and one near the Post Office. The installation of one cross walk (depending upon elements needed at the location) range from \$5,000 - \$15,000 each. We are still awaiting design and estimates from the NH DOT for these crosswalks.

### **Mailbox Relocation Requests:**

After concerns were raised about the safety of residents due to the location of their mailboxes along Route 10 in North Haverhill, the Town submitted a request asking for permission from the USPS to work with twenty-four (24) homeowners to relocate their mailboxes to the side of the street their homes sit upon. I visited with the No. Haverhill postmaster and he indicated that he passed our request onto the Federal United States Postal Service and does not expect them to approve it. It has been recommended that we request assistance from Jeanne Shaheen's office.

### **White Mountain Drive:**

The Town entered into an agreement with the Mountain Lakes District to widen and make other improvements to and along White Mountain Drive (Killer Hill). The purpose being to allow for year-round, two-way traffic on that hill. This will provide for better traffic flow around the lake and will allow for development along the roadway, which had been requested by a property owner who wanted to build. This work has been completed and the road is now two lanes and a through road in both directions.

### **Allagash Road:**

The Town replaced a failing culvert and realigned a small section of Allagash Road; this work is now complete.

### **Open Public Discussion:**

The next open public discussion will take place on Saturday November 13, 2021 at 2:00pm at the Robert E Clifford Memorial Building 65 S Court St, Woodsville, NH 03785. Over 100 Haverhill residents attended the last Open Public Discussion and it proved to be a wonderful forum for residents to ask questions, offer comments, and discuss items of public interest with the Select Board, Town Administration, and their neighbors. This event will again be moderated by Doug Dutile and will follow the same format as the Open Public Discussion the Town hosted prior to the 2020 Town Meeting; once a subject arises it will be exhausted before we will move onto another subject.

### **2022 DRAFT Town Manager Budget:**

The draft budget has gone to Department Heads so that they can review the Town Manager's proposed budget and prepare for meetings to discuss their departmental needs. Those meetings will begin the week of November 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Department Head Reports:**

- ❖ **Tax Collector** – Getting ready to tax deed properties.
- ❖ **Dean Memorial Airport** – Getting ready for installation of the credit card reader.
- ❖ **Highway Dept** – Beginning preparations for winter maintenance.

- ❖ **Maintenance Dept** – Hosting students from the River Bend program Tuesday, will choose a couple of students to begin working with as part of the apprenticeship program. Sewer Pump Station recently needed repairs. The temporary hold dog shelter is complete.
- ❖ **Welfare Dept** – Working on updates to the Welfare Guidelines, monitoring, tracking, and managing active cases.
- ❖ **Emergency Management** – Sitting in on Emergency Operations Center (EOC) calls and keeping apprised of COVID-19 and weather-related events.
- ❖ **Public Health** – Still working on the vacated house in Woodsville, while addressing other concerns around Haverhill.
- ❖ **Parks & Recreation Dept** – Haunted Happenings Saturday night, Truck or Treat Friday night.
- ❖ **Town Fire Department** – Haverhill Corner Fire station’s new Deputy Chief, Keith Charpentier in coordination with Fire Chief Blanchard held interviews and appointed a new roster of officers. Jeff Huntington, Captain; Shane Stygles, Lieutenant; and Kyle Boutin, Lieutenant.
- ❖ **Police Department** –
  - Budget compilation underway
  - OME cruiser maintenance completed (electronic issues noted on obsolete system)
  - Halloween dates and coverage set
  - NESPIN and training set for October 26th, 1000
  - Budget season is upon us and PD Administrator Aldrich is compiling numbers, working hard at getting us what we need to succeed
  - Firearms qualification for PD continues this week
  - Low light training being drafted
  - Calendar fund task assignments set to be completed Oct 23.
  - Detectives in the process of closing older cases and picking up new work
  - Officer Mitchell completed two firearm courses
  - CRASE course new Date TBD
  - Aride class selected for Officer Brown
  - Minor remodel of the Detective officer underway, new desks received
  - Continued transfer of hard copy reports to digital format (Slow, must make a priority)
  - Clean up of record storage underway (Seeking mobile shredding service)
  - New uniforms and gear nearing conclusion still awaiting badges
  - Seeking new training opportunities for Cpl. DiDomenico
  - SOP re-writes (Continues)
  - Awaiting start of configuration for two PD offices (January)
  - New hard plates received
  - Department ground fighting and de-escalation training continues weekly
  - Still seeking Officer candidates and ACO candidate