

Town Manager's Report  
Tuesday  
March 13, 2012

**Financial Report:** As of March 1, 2012 our benchmark for measuring expenses and revenues is 66.7%. Our actual expenditures were \$9,836,997 or 66% while our revenues received were \$1,398,849 or 64%. This means we have a possible lag in revenues and if this continues it could be a higher than the 3.7%. Offsetting this lag in revenues would be the small expenditure savings we anticipate by June 2012. However, if this is the trend for next few years we will find ourselves slightly short at year end in both revenues and over expenditures. Why? With the light winter we are still at 66% expended when we should be down around 63%. So next year at this time if we see the same revenue lag and a heavy snow storm winter, by June of 2013 we will be over expended. To avoid this we may need to cut back on expenses both in the spring of 2012 as well as the spring of 2013 or make up the short falls with surplus which creates an added problem. This picture will be a slightly better once we get through the March winter weather.

On the property tax collection issues as of March 6 we were at 70% collected but should be closer to 75%. This is a typical downturn annually likely due to higher energy expenses, post holiday payoffs and the like. We will continue to monitor and encourage our tax payers to make their payments so that when the May 15 last quarterly payments are due, they will not have such large amounts due that delinquencies might occur.

**Sewer Related:** The engineers for our system have been working on establishing the system's capacities per field base upon our flow meter reports as well as the "solids" reports from testing. We have established that the Wayside Field also known as the Dodge field has at least a daily capacity of #18,180 gpd while the Harmen or lower Ballfield has about #12,666. The combined total per day is #30,833. The next step is to prepare and conduct effluent tests during the dry period and the high wet period starting in April. This will permit us to determine the "strength" of the effluent for solids and oxygen demand. If, as we believe, the testing proves there is a better quality effluent the field capacity at the lower Ballfield might be increased further. We will report this to the MDEP now and after the wet season testing.

We have also sent out to about a dozen property owners a second notice requiring them to contact the Town and detail when they will commence the I&I repairs to their tanks. We will do a follow up with non-respondents which may also include the levying of penalties

Our engineer's have also confirmed that the line behind the Whales and Hamlen building may not need replace since the lion share of I&I may be coming from those properties that must still complete their repairs.

Over Please

**Fire Department Response:**

On February 29, 2012 the Bridgton Fire Department responded as a back up to an incident in Harrison on Haskell Hill Rd. This involved a Dead River propane delivery truck. As a result of our participation the Department has invoiced the Town of Harrison who will invoice the Company for reimbursement of all our expenses. This came to \$5,648. Under the Hazardous Materials federal laws, the private company is ultimately responsible and not the tax payers of a community. We thank Chief Garland and his team for their mutual aid response to help our neighboring town.

**Salmon Point Updates:**

We have sent to all the returning campers their new leases and the existing campground rules and regulations as well as the invoices for the upcoming season calculated with the 6% increase approved last fall.

We are also advertising for two seasonal maintenance positions that will assist the Campground Manager again this Spring. We will be reviewing and interviewing the top candidates in late March and early April so that we can begin working on the facility on April 16, 2012.

**Fire Department Grant Approved:**

Fire Chief Glen Garland reports confirmation of the grant applied for earlier this year for 14 sets of specialized forest fire service gear. We have request the small match of \$3,000 in the FY 2013 budget and will have until October 2012 to make the complete transaction. The grant value is \$3,000 is from the Maine Department of Conservation Service.

**MMA Training Workshop:** Georgiann Fleck has coordinated with MMA to host a training workshop that includes many of the legal issues all of us contend with whether we are on a Board or Committee. We will pay the registration fee which was negotiated down from \$40 to \$10 per person. Though some of the focus is on Planning Boards and Boards of Appeals, the issues are also relevant to other groups as well. It is scheduled for April 3 from 4-8PM at the Town Offices.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitchell Berkowitz