

## Town Manager's Report

Tuesday

June 26, 2012

**MMA Legislative Policy Committee Membership:** We have included in your agenda package this evening a ballot representing the four candidates who are seeking our District 13 approval to represent us on the MMA Policy Legislative Committee. Before the end of the meeting I would ask the Chair to call for a vote and have the two who you concur with by a majority properly noted on the official ballot and that all Board members should sign before you leave.

**Cable Franchise Agreement Meeting:** Last Thursday I attended a regional meeting held in Naples and coordinated by Lisa Villa of Harrison to create a regional consortium of towns that would negotiate the soon to expire Cable Franchise Agreements. There are several benefits that come by approaching this contract as a region including the sharing of ideas and demands at the bargaining table, more efficient use when an attorney is asked to step into the process and a stronger bargaining position overall. I am asking the Select Board to agree to participate in this regional negotiation process and if you will, assign the town manager to represent Bridgton. Like any similar approach I would bring information back to you as a body in executive session until the contract negotiations are resolved.

**CMP Tree Care Program:** We have been notified that CMP will be conducting the tree and limb cutting along their road side power lines over the coming weeks. Their arborists will be working with the contractors to make sure this work is done properly. If a person wants to be placed on the notification list they must contact CMP by calling 1.800.972.8600.

**Town Bids:** There are two additional bids that are currently seeking responses from vendors. The first is the PWD Truck which must be received by Tuesday, July 3, 2102. The second is for next seasons Heating and Fuel Oil which must be received by Tuesday, July 3, 2012 at 1:00 PM. Information about the bids is available through Jim Kidder-Public Works Director at 647-2326 and the Town Manager's Office at 647-8786 for the Heating and Fuel Oil bid. Lastly, we notified by certified mail the successful bidder for two of the cruisers. We have confirmation the notice was signed for but the person never contacted us by the deadline and therefore the Town should redirect the successful bids to the next highest bidder Mr. Corey Fitch.

**Town Offices Open This Saturday:** Counter services will be available at the Town Offices this Saturday from 8-11:30 AM. Services such as registrations will be offered. This is the last Saturday this season that such weekend services will be provided until next April, 2013.

**Tax Collections:** As of June 19<sup>th</sup> we had collected about 93% of our property taxes and 89% of the personal property. Once we send out the delinquent tax notices those numbers tend to rise to the 96%+ levels. Tax payers are encouraged to make their full and complete payments to avoid the tax lien and ultimately the tax foreclosure process.

**Preliminary Audit:** Annually the Town's Auditor does a preliminary audit before June 30 and will then complete the audit in late July or early August. This year's preliminary audit like past years, went very smoothly with Linda providing the Auditor with the needed information. We believe the final audit will again confirm the town's fiscal affairs are being properly managed, recorded and reported.

**Bridgton Water District 2011 Report:** Annually we receive the District's report that gives a snap shot of their water test results. The Report will be available at the Town Offices for the next month. The bottom line is that there were no violations in 2011.

**ISO Review:** The Insurance Services Office will be reviewing our grading, last done in 2005 as it relates to our building codes and enforcement. On the range from 1-10 with 1 being exemplary, Bridgton was a class 7. Robbie will be working with them during the summer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitchell Berkowitz

Town Manager