

Town Manager's Report
Tuesday
January 10, 2012

Meeting with MDEP: As indicated at your December 27th meeting, I was scheduled to meet with the representative from MDEP to review the two amendments to the Shore Land Zone that had been approved on December 13th. The meeting went well but as a result of the Department's concerns, I must submit additional information by January 13th to support our request to change the minimum lot size in the GD-II district to #5,000 sf and the density for bedroom units to #1,000 sf. As for the GDI district, the MDEP has indicated they will not approve the reductions to #5,000 sf minimum lot size but that we may pursue that in the future.

Trees Harvested in Town's Right of Way: We have been made aware of timber harvesting that took eight trees down along Del Chadbourne road. We are not sure if the parties knew the trees were within the Town's easement/right of way. We are making contact with the property owner and their timber harvester to make them aware of this unlawful action and will attempt a reasonable settlement at this stage of the communications. We will keep the Select Board informed.

Tax Related Matters: Laurie has informed me that the last Land Purchase Installment contract has been paid in full. This arose out of the 2008 delinquent taxes and by working with the original property owner, they will now receive a quit claim deed from the Town.

We also remind folks that the 45 day automatic foreclosure notice will expire on January 21st. This means if you received this notice for delinquent 2009 taxes and you do not make payment of all that is due by the 21st, the Town's foreclosure becomes automatic and the Town becomes the owner of that property. Please make your payments to avoid foreclosure.

More Information:

Dog licenses are now due for renewal. Late fees will be charged after January 31, 2012.

The Republican Caucus will be held at the Bridgton Community Center on February 4, 2012 at 2:00PM for all those who are interested in attending.

The Democratic caucus will be held on February 26, 2012 at 1:30 PM in the grand room of the Town Office Complex. Please use the Iredale street entrance..

Fiscal Report: At the 50% mark or half way through this fiscal year our revenues excluding tax collections are at 52% while expenses are at 51%. This is a healthy and on target position. Tax collections are holding steady at slightly under 50%. This serves as a reminder that the next installment of property tax payments are due on February 15, 2012.

MMA Dues: At the beginning of each calendar year, we receive the invoice from MMA for that ensuing year's dues. The Executive Board adopted a budget that requires a small increase in the dues this year. We are invoiced at \$6,400 for 2012 where as 2011 dues were at \$6,244. This will be paid in the next Treasurers' warrant.

Police Office Upgrade: Chief Schofield indicates that the upgrade to the PSAA office is now underway. The separation wall will be built next week and then the flooring will be installed this coming Saturday. The funding comes from the funds that we have for the change over in dispatching services.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitchell A. Berkowitz
Town Manager