

Town Manager's Report

Tuesday

November 12, 2013

Tax Payment Reminder- The second of four payments is due the Town by 4:00 PM on November 15, 2013. We encourage all tax payers to continue to meet their timely payments. The last two payments will be due on Feb.15 and May 15, 2014.

Monthly Financial Report: Our benchmark for the year to date expenses and revenues is 33.3%. Our Revenues came in at 34.29% while expenditures came in at 36.89%. Though our expenses are about 3% higher than the benchmark, contributing to this was the annual payment of the county tax, about \$610,000. If we had not made this payment, we would be right at the benchmark level.

Holiday Schedule: This is the time of year that allows us to celebrate some very important holiday. To allow our employees and their families the same opportunity the Town Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 28, 2013. We are also going to be closed for Christmas on Wednesday December 25, 2013 and for New Year's day on Wednesday, January 1, 2014.

Maine Public Health Warning: The Maine Department of Health and Human Services and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention have issued their report that the influenza season has arrived in Maine. Besides the available flu shots, people are reminded to wash their hands repeatedly and cover your cough and if symptoms begin they should remain at home until after recovery. Symptoms include coughing, fever, upset stomach and chills. People with immune deficiencies and the elderly may be more susceptible and should get the vaccines after talking with their medical professional.

Transfer Station Stickers: Stickers are now available at the Town office and cover the next two years, ending in December of 2015. Residents of the Town of Bridgton may purchase the new stickers for \$10. Renters need only provide proof that they are living in Bridgton. This may be their electric bill, copy of their rent agreement or other similar documentation.

DFIRM Maps are in: The Town has received a draft copy of the latest FEMA maps that attempt to identify the areas of Bridgton that are suspect to flooding. We will review these over the next month and they are also available for public review at the map room at the Town Office. Property owners living near water should review these since they may influence the premiums charged to cover losses due to flooding.

Vigilant Guard '14 Exercise: Todd Perrault our Emergency Management Coordinator reports the Town participated in the statewide exercise on November 6th. We had over 40 people participate dedicating over 111 hours of work and preparations. We tested some of our readiness only to determine that our ability to complete the delivery of emergency services would be hampered by the lack of back up electrical power. Sheltering, cooking, communications, fuel dispensing, rescue and safety services all require some form of back up and intern allow for the delivery of services. This is valuable information which will become part of our more complete report to the Board in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitchell A. Berkowitz
Town Manager