

Town Manager's Report
Tuesday
December 11, 2012

Monthly Financial Report: As of the end of November 2012 we were at a benchmark into the year of 41.7%. Expenditures are up slightly to 43.54% while Revenues are also up to 43.07%. We continue to review our expenses and in January will provide the half year report. If the winter weather is light in December we should be just about 50% expended with revenues up closer to 52%.

MDOT Items and Reminder: The Town received notice that the speed limit on the Mountain Road will be 35 MPH based upon their engineering studies. We believe this now makes the road between the two towns the same speed limit.

The MDOT will hold the first of two public meetings tomorrow, Dec. 12 from 6-8PM in the basement of the Town Offices. This is to provide information on the proposed reconstruction of Rt. 302 west from Stack Em'Inn road to Fryeburg.

New Rates that will affect our Budgets: Effective January 1, 2013, the IRS mileage rate is increasing from \$.555 to \$.565. This is the policy amount paid when employees use their personal vehicles for town business. Also, the Postal Service rate for a first class letter is going up one penny to \$.46. In both cases we will absorb those costs in this current fiscal year and will reflect those increases in the proposed FY 2014 budget.

Sale of Blow Brothers: We have recently learned that our trash hauler, Blow Brothers has been purchased by Pine Tree Cassella Waste Systems. While we do not expect any interruptions or changes to our contracts we do expect that other smaller haulers may enter the market over the next few years. This should benefit the Town's efforts through an RFP process to ultimately reduce our transportation and possible disposal costs related to solid waste. The Manager's Office will commence the research of our obligations with Econmaine after 2014 and report this to the Board and the Recycling Committee after the budget has been delivered in January.

Holiday Schedule: The following are reminders to the public regarding the Select Board meeting schedule and office hours during the holiday season. The Select Board will not meet again until January 8, 2013 at which time the proposed FY 2014 budget will be delivered. Per the Select Board standing policy, we will continue to pay on all accounts payable with oversight from the Select Board during this period.

The Offices will remain open on December 24th and December 31st but will be closed for the actual holidays.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mitchell Berkowitz
Town Manager