

Town Manager's Report
Tuesday
March 25, 2014

Revenues: The Town has received the annual franchise fee from Time Warner Cable in the amount of \$48,835. We had budgeted \$51,000 for a variance of \$2,165. The amount is based upon the fee that the Select Board sets each year. The FCC allows the fee to run between 0 and 5%. The Board authorized 3% last year, the same amount that has been authorized for the past several years. The number of subscribers remains around #1665 though there is a seasonal increase during the summer months.

The Town also received \$4,803 in revenue sharing from the State of Maine. This brings the yearly total to \$148,245 or 73% of the projection. The total amount budgeted was \$203,955. Whether we receive our full amount will depend on how the State's economy fares over the next few months. My revised estimate for the year is that we should receive just shy of \$199,000 for a shortfall of \$4,955.

Expenses: This winter has taken its toll on our public works department sand and salt budget as well as repairs. For tonight I want to discuss the first two items. As of March 20 we expended \$95,910 for salt and \$46,809 for sand. This leaves us with about a \$4,246 over expenditure for both sand and salt. Under the state statutes the Select Board may authorize the expenditure beyond the appropriations in the amount of 15%. Therefore with an original appropriation of \$131,910 and the Board's approval of the 15% statute applied, we could expend up to \$151,696 before we would need a special town meeting. We will likely need some additional sand and salt and are requesting the Board's formal approval to over expend but not exceed the 15% statute.

State Park Revenues: We have also received notice from the Bureau of Parks and Lands that we will be receiving a check in the amount of \$1,438.56 as part of the Fee Sharing of the acres of property owned by the State in Bridgton. This will go directly to the current year revenues.

Application Deadline: Any Bridgton property owner intending on applying for any of the exemptions or current use program must have their applications and forms in to the Town Office no later than April 1, 2014. Applications and information are available either at the Town Office or on the website www.Bridgtonmaine.org. These include veterans and blind exemptions and the Homestead exemptions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitchell A. Berkowitz
Town Manager