

There are several topics that we would like to report on in this issue of the Selectmen's Corner.

We completed the pre-construction conference with Doten Construction this week and work has started. The work is scheduled for completion before the Town Meeting in March. In addition, the fire and security alarm system upgrades will be completed within the next couple weeks. With the scheduled completion of this work, we anticipate calling a public hearing between now and the Town Meeting to discuss future use of the facility. This discussion will be led by the Community Center Use Committee. Please watch for the announcement. We encourage everyone to participate.

The Board of Selectmen and the Treasurer will be busy between now and Town Meeting on 11 March as we prepare the 2017 budget warrant and 2016 Town Report.

The Town ordinances and policies are posted here on the Town website. Concurrently with preparation for the Town Meeting, we are also reviewing and updating several of the policies. The Board of Selectmen have set a goal of reviewing their policies annually and updating them when it appears necessary. We receive inputs from members of the public and we discover deficiencies and omissions thru the application of the policies during the year. Our goal is a set of clear and concise set of policies and procedures to guide municipal officers as we carry out our duties. Not every situation is going to be covered by the policies so as we update the policies we are including some background information so that current and future municipal officers will have that as a resource to help us remember not just what and how to do something, but also why. In that regard we have recently published a Public Meeting Policy and we have just signed an updated Warrant Article Policy. We are also working on an updated version of the Management and Disposition of Tax Acquired Properties Policy as well as the Municipal Employee Personnel Policy (last updated in 2009). We have also voted to establish a Financial and Budget Advisory Committee to help the Board of Selectmen develop policies and procedures related to the financial management of the Town. There are links on the home page of this website that spell out what we want that committee to achieve. There is a lot of hard work ahead in this area but we believe it will reap dividends for the Town in the long run. So far, interest has been limited so if you think you can contribute, we would love to have you.

Sincerely
Baldwin Board of Selectmen