



Administrative Assistant to the Select Board

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Report for Meeting of February 2, 2023

Darn, winter arrived all at once. Although it's in the mid 40's as I write on Thursday the 26th, it's going to freeze overnight and that'll create a mess. We've got some spots that have some large puddles and water buildup beside the road on Shore Road. I've asked Richard McMullen to look into that to see if we can get things drained.

Speaking of winter and roads, the plow contract will be up after this season. I suspect we should start seeking bids in March. We can discuss that further at the meeting in Mid-February.

No unicorn issues on the agenda for this meeting. That was fun, and we had our 15-minutes of fame, so to speak. We've even been contacted by ABC and CBS to distribute stories nationally. The big media this week is the "glamp-ground". The Ellsworth American has a front page story on it, and that's generated a lot of calls from folks wanting more information. The Planning Board will be looking at the application on February 6th for completeness. Once the application is deemed complete, the review & public hearing processes will begin.

Your agenda is pretty short. I dare not predict a short meeting, though.

[Minutes – January 19, 2023](#) – Please give them a look over and submit written edits if possible.

[Warrant 17](#) – This will be posted on the website and updated and printed on meeting day. The school AP warrant is fairly small and we should not have to transfer money to cover it.

[Cash & Budget Reports](#) – These will also be updated on the website periodically and printed for the meeting.

[Checking Account Reconciliation](#) – This should be ready for your review if the bank has the statement out in a reasonable fashion. I'll likely be doing the reconciliation on meeting day and will e-mail the info as well as print the reconciliation that day.

FY 2022 Audit – The auditor was working on finishing up the audit last week. As of this writing we've not received it yet. I'm in hopes that we'll have it in time for the town report.

[Town Meeting Warrant](#) – The interest rate came in at a maximum of 8%. Per your vote last meeting, the unpaid tax interest rate will be 6%. I have plugged fund balances in as of June 30, 2022 based on my closing figures which are not audited. If we get the audit in time for the meeting, I will place those figures in that article.

Town Report Draft – I've gotten a lot done. Just waiting for the audit, a report from the Health Officer and Rec Committee, a letter from Senator Grohoski. The latest draft is in your packets.

RFP Community Action Grant – The solar part of the grant is presenting some challenges. The RFP requested a Power Purchase Agreement which apparently only one firm in Maine is doing. Another firm has advised that it makes more sense to do it ourselves because of the infrastructure program. The firm that does the PPA advises that they can't apply to Versant for interconnectivity because they won't know how much power it'll generate because we don't know how much power the heat pumps will likely use. Not sure how we wish to proceed on this.

Parks – I have calls in to our two tree companies in town for the tree top at Bloomfield Park and await calls back. The Parks Commission meeting keeps getting postponed by snow storms. They meet on Monday the 30th, so we may get some more info on Marlboro Beach.

Facilities & Infrastructure – The committee meets tonight. I'll place their minutes in your packet.

Aging Committee – I'll place the minutes from this committee in your packet as well.

Regional Animal Control – We have yet to hear anything from the county, but I've not asked where they are in the hiring process yet. I'll try to check in before our meeting.

And that's the agenda. Stay safe!

stu