**Town Manager Update**

*April 25, 2022*

As you know, I spent a good deal; of time over the last two weeks on the preparation of the Town Meeting warrant. I’m pleased to say that I believe it’s a solid document and hope that the annual Town Meeting can work its way through it efficiently. And I’m pleased to say that the Town Report was distributed as planned despite any number of potentially difficult delays, all thanks to Alyssa Maschino.

The Motions and Explanations document was completed just today, as one final change was made. Town Counsel confirmed that the vote for the Accessory Dwelling Unit by-law in fact needs just a simple majority. The confusion was due to a lack of clarity in the Acts of 2020; the wording in the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40A, Section 5, is clear that special permits may be required for detached ADUs without losing the ability to pass the amendment with a simple majority.

I have drafted an Invitation for Bids for the Police Regionalization study and sent it to the Hinsdale Town Administrator and Police Chief. I hope we can finalize it and get it out so that we have sufficient time for the study to be completed before FY 2024 budgets are drafted, that is, before next winter.

I’m planning to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with Pittsfield for stringing two relatively short lines of fiber optic cable from their water facility, one down Old Windsor Road and the other down Washington Mountain Road. They offered us the use of four strands, and I contacted Wahconah to see if they might be able to use them, but they said they had more strands than that already strung themselves, and so were not interested.

Our Plumbing Inspector has given his notice, and the Building Commissioner is reaching out to some possible candidates. I’ve prepared a job notice and a job description for a new hire.

Alyssa and I submitted the first annual report regarding our expenditure of ARPA funds well in time for the deadline at the end of the month. Since we were able to choose the simplified path of declaring all our expenses to be under the umbrella of “revenue replacement,” the process was relatively straightforward, though the learning curve was a bit steep.