**Town Manager Update**

*August 8, 2022*

We have put a Police Regionalization page on the website, with an introductory piece, the proposal from Municipal Resources, Inc. describing their approach to the study, and contact information for comments. We are currently revising it with Hinsdale’s input.

News came out Friday that ARPA funds under the revenue replacement category, which is all ARPA funds in Dalton, may be spent according to State procurement rules instead of Federal procurement rules. This will be a tremendous time saver and will substantially lessen the amount of work to get projects bid.

Starting this fall, mattresses will no longer be able to be disposed of as waste—they much be recycled. The Town has been awarded a $10,000 grant for installing a container for receiving mattresses to be recycled from Dalton residents and, regionally, members of the Northern Berkshire Waste Management District. The Town can charge a premium for out-of-town mattresses.

Over the next year, I hope to review the current “salaries and benefits policies” document to turn it into a more complete employee handbook, consistent with best practices, and will keep you updated as we work toward your eventual approval.

Today brought an emergency message from the water district: we are in a Stage 2 drought. Outside water use is prohibited in general, including watering lawns or gardens, washing cars, filling swimming pools. But. on alternate days based on address (even days for even addresses, odd days for odd numbers), pre-7 a.m. and post-7 p.m. watering of gardens and lawns is allowed, though with hand-held hoses only; no sprinklers. Penalties are a written notice for first offence, $50 for the second, and $300 for subsequent offenses. Please call 684-6124 with any questions.