**Town Manager Update**

*March 11, 2024*

As you can see, I’ve been busy mostly with developing the budget and the warrant for Town Meeting.

In other news, Dalton Fire District Chief Tobin reported that the District has decided to move forward with a suit against Northern Fire Equipment regarding their failure to provide the tower truck.

On another Fire Chief note, he has consulted with his crew as the Town’s Forest Warden and believes he does not need the trailer approved at last year’s Town Meeting. We can close that account and the funds will revert to next year’s free cash.

In DPW news, I have sent out the Invitation for Bids to repair the Highway garage roof. It will be published on state websites on Wednesday, and bids are due April 24.

In DPW personnel news, the Administrative Assistant has resigned her position as DPW Administrative Assistant for a position at the Pittsfield Airport, and an Equipment Operator has also resigned; he will be returning to his old employer.

In other personnel news, the Assistant Collector has given her notice, and will also be returning to a previous employer.

In more procurement news, I’m also in the final steps of reviewing the Climate Action Plan Request for Proposals, as authorized at last year’s Town Meeting, and expect to send that out soon.

I’m continuing to work on a response to Cape Cod Builders’ rebuttal to our negative evaluation. I met with the architect last week and drafted an initial response. I’ve reached out to the former Buildings and Grounds Superintendent for any input he’d care to share, and am in touch with both DCAMM and Town Counsel regarding the process.

We have concluded our state cybersecurity review and are ready to brief the Select Board in executive session for security reasons whenever it is convenient.

The sale of the Bardin property is proceeding as planned. If all goes as planned, closing will be this Friday, March 15.

Finally, we just received notice of our FY 2025 Chapter 90 apportionment, $214,429.17. That said, we can look forward to Fair Share money coming in through the Chapter 90 program as well, which was about $120,000 last year.