**Town Manager Update**

*June 24, 2024*

Construction work on the sewer system rehabilitation project has been completed, aside from final inspections. We should have the final invoices in over the next few weeks so we can close out the project.

The City of North Adams has decided to pare down its veterans’ services and not to continue offering Dalton some of its Veterans’ Agent’s time. If they kept Dalton and other towns that joined after the original district was formed, they would be required to expand their staffing to meet the necessary level calculated by the state based on the total population served. They have decided instead on level staffing, so I have approached Pittsfield, which had been willing some time ago to provide services in the event North Adams made this decision.

The contract for the new Town website was signed a couple of weeks ago, and a very experienced Town volunteer and I are working with Town Web, Inc., the winner of the bid, to review their proposals, including a mock-up based on our initial input.

Regarding the Orchard Road and Housatonic Street easements, we need easement plans rather than construction plans showing the easements for the legal paperwork to be proper, and those are scheduled to be completed this week.

I’ve moved forward with the Transfer Station re-design engineering. This is really an extension of the work we had done a couple of years ago when we were looking at general options and so I expect it to be relatively straightforward.

It is conceivable there will be additional transfers between departments necessary before the July 18 meeting. If so, it would be necessary to have a very brief meeting sometime before July 15 (probably July 8) to approve the transfers.

There was a second meeting of the group looking at policies and procedures for the condemnation fund. We continued to make substantial progress, though we have also identified some issues to consider. We look forward to submitting a program proposal in the next few months.

Besides the new but very part-time Assessor appointed this evening, I will be talking with a local lawyer looking for part-time work who has experience with the Appellate Tax Board and abatement appeals and who may be interested in becoming a part-time Assessor as well. That would give us our full complement of three and provide more open hours than we are currently able to offer.