

Town Manager's Report

November 28, 2016

TOWN TO PURCHASE BLIGHTED HOUSE

The Town has signed a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Fannie Mae to purchase 42-44 Union Street for \$10,000. A closing date has not yet been determined. After the closing the Town will demolish the garage and other external structures that were part of the original demolition order issued to the previous owner during June 2013. The exact future of the building is yet to be determined and I will be attending a meeting with the local neighborhood association to discuss the matter.

REAPPRAISAL UPDATE

As of November 18th, New England Municipal Consultants (NEMC), has contacted 18% of the town parcels and nearly all of them have been visited. Roughly 65% of all the existing records have been converted to the new computer software. Throughout late fall and early winter NEMC's two field assessors will be working in North Springfield. The NEMC employees have well received by the property owners and the town administration has received positive feedback from property owners.

2018 BUDGET PROCESS UPDATE

Department budgets have been completed by the department heads and the process is on schedule.

WATER QUALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This new committee was created by the new Vermont Clean Water Act and will have funds provided for water quality projects by the new act. The initial committee's charge is to create a regional list of water quality projects and prioritize the projects during the next six months.

TRANSFER STATION STORMWATER INFILTRATION POND PROJECT

The Town received a \$47,424 grant to build a storm water infiltration pond at the transfer station. A consultant was hired to design the pond and due to difficult site characteristics, such as; shallow ground water, existing soil contamination, and flood way proximity the design costs are \$30,230. A second grant will be pursued when a construction cost estimate is calculated. The pond will likely develop into an underground infiltration system.

The State has been very supportive of this project and that will be very beneficial in near future when new regulations will require storm water treatment at the Town's expense and this project will be done using grant funds.

TOONERVILLE TRAIL EXTENSION UPDATE

We have a fully executed grant agreement. The completion date is April 2021. This means the latest year will can build the path is 2020.