

Manager's Report –May 11, 2015

We have been working on a parking plan to help with Library parking issues. We will be paving parking space along Russell Avenue that will create two new spaces where people have been parking somewhat illegally for many years. We will designate the two spaces directly in front of the Library as 20-minute spaces, which will provide space for short-term parking for quick visits. We will also be marking spaces around the Library as 2 hour parking. Our plan is to paint the road with that notice rather than having signs. This is a little more work but will look a lot better than a huge number of signs. One tree has been removed and we will be removing the second tree in Memorial Park within a month or so to create 3-4 more spaces that are designated for Library and Park use only during the time that the library is open. We have marked out those spaces as a means of showing how they would be configured for illustrative purposes only. This will give you and others a chance to see how this could work. The most challenging thing for me is the loss of the tree that would have to be taken down to accommodate the parking. Additionally, we have been considering coming to the Board next month with a plan to make Limerock Street one way.

CES has completed their fieldwork on the building analysis of the Library and hope to have the draft report by the end of next week. This analysis is strictly limited to the existing structure, the issues it may have as far as code requirements, HVAC needs, air quality and its suitability or limitations for future expansion.

The bid specifications for the work to be performed on the Opera House are in the final stages and we hope to have that out very soon so work can begin ASAP. One thing has become known and that is the many trees that are planted far too close to the building are causing damage and will also make it very difficult to stage the building. Many of them will need to be removed.

I signed the contract with Tilson Technologies to begin the feasibility study to determine the interest and cost of providing high-speed fiber to every home and business in Rockport. The community survey should be available in the next 10 days. Along those lines, I testified in Augusta on two bills that would help bring better access to higher speed internet in the State of Maine. I also spoke at the Action Committee of 50 in Bangor and the MMA Technology Conference also in Bangor on why Broadband matters so much to Maine's future and what we did in Rockport. Additionally, I have participated in numerous next century cities conference calls.

The School Budget Meetings are March 26th at the Camden Hills Regional High School SAD 28 at 6 pm and the CSD is at 7 pm. Absentee ballots are available for the June 9th Election at the Town Office.

The Fire Department received a Grant for two AED's - one will be in the Chief's truck and the other in the rescue truck. We have not heard any word about the same grant application for the Police Department. The new Truck is nearing completion and Jason and few members of the department will be flying out to make an inspection.

The Police Department passed their audit and received a DWI grant. The security cameras are finally working at the Harbor, Town Office and Public Safety Building thanks to a generous grant.

Signed another year of Wastewater Billing Contract with Maine Water for the same price of \$4.10 per bill until April 30, 2016.

Renewed the Woodard & Curran Wastewater Services Agreement for another 3 years.

The construction of the pump station is moving along smoothly and expected to be operational very soon.

We have started engineering on all projects that we have on the table and will be getting those projects out to bid soon.

The new docks are all built however at last check not all were decked. We are waiting for Prock Marine to get here to drive the pilings so that we can install the docks. The power pedestals installed last fall have been hooked up and checked out waiting for the first user. Abbie is in the process of re- reminding boat owners that they have to get their boats in the water by June 1st or face a fine. Parking down there will start getting tight very soon after that date.

David Berry has asked if the Select Board would like to march in the Memorial Day parade.