

Town Manager's Report
August 12, 2019

As we close in on the end of summer, there are many items to report on.

Scott Dyer Road construction will be wrapping up work on Phase two this week, with safety improvements, drainage improvements, and an improved travel surface. The one caution I will raise is be careful of increased speed due to the new pavement.

Tax Assessor Clinton Swett committed taxes, and the 2019-2020 tax bills are coming this week. The positive news to report is the new mil rate is \$19.68, and it is eight cents less than anticipated. Tax due dates will be October 1, 2019 and April 1, 2020, with an interest rate for late payments of 9%, as set by the Legislature.

The Town Offices will be closed this Thursday, August 15 for the full day as staff will perform annual training. The focus is on customer service and mandatory sexual harassment training. Later in the morning the annual employee appreciation day and service awards luncheon will take place at the Fort.

The Thomas Memorial Library will be closed August 31 for the day as a deep cleaning of the facility will take place with all of the carpets being cleaned and will require some time to dry.

I am meeting this week with Josef Chalot and representatives from the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society to review proposed updates and renovations to the Spurwink School building, working to advance this project.

Staff is finalizing its preparations for the annual audit, which will begin August 26, with the auditors planning to be here for the week.

On July 22 the paper streets case was argued in the Business Court, with two counts under consideration. The Town prevailed in the first count due to the Court finding the claim of adverse possession as unsupported. In the second count the Court found the argument as unripe, as the Town has only extended its incipient rights of dedication. On Friday, August 9th initial filings for appealing this decision to the Law Court were filed.

Readers may notice a new function of the financial dashboard, information on the revenues from pay and display parking. This month it shows the gross revenues, while next month it will provide the net proceeds after expenses. One will note gross revenues for the month of July as \$122,670.

Finally, I have been participating in a local work group of GPCOG communities investigating the conversion to LED street lights. We recently interviewed four providers of such lighting and it makes excellent business sense to continue investigating the cost savings and pay / back options. I will have more to report as these discussions continue.