

TOWN OF CAPE ELIZABETH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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Matthew W. Sturgis, Town Manager

Dear Matt,

When I started my professional working career I would have never envisioned that most of my adult work life would be spent with one organization. Looking back, it's hard to believe that over forty years have passed since I joined the Public Works Department in September of 1979.

I've enjoyed a long career with the town, but after careful consideration, I wanted to officially convey my intention to retire effective Friday, July 31, 2020. It has been a challenging; yet very rewarding experience to be the Director of Public Works here in Cape Elizabeth for nearly 34 years. I am grateful to the citizens for their support of the department and me but the time has come to start another chapter in the journey of life.

First of all, I want to thank my staff (both past and present) who shared my commitment and dedication by working with me on a multitude of tasks throughout the years. It has truly been a team effort.

During my tenure as the Director I have had the pleasure of participating in so many successful projects and endeavors in the community. There have been several road reconstruction and drainage projects, two major sanitary sewer projects in 1987 and 2006 and several improvements at Fort Williams Park. I am particularly proud of my contributions to the design and construction of the Public Works Facility in 1999, the roadway improvements to the Elizabeth Park neighborhood in 2006 and the Recycling Center Upgrade Project in 2017.

No manager of any organization enjoys a long tenure without the help of others. My wife, Becky, has been there through thick and thin; providing encouragement and moral support throughout my tenure as Director, including clearing our driveway during the winter season while I attended to countless winter storms.

A tremendous depth of gratitude is owed to former Town Manager, Michael McGovern. Mike appointed me when I was younger and much less experienced than any of my peers at the time. He was there for so much of my career; providing direction, wisdom and guidance along the way.

In addition, there have been several fellow department heads, elected officials, committee members, consultants, professionals and residents that I owe thanks to. In particular, I would be remiss if I did not mention my mentor and former Fire Chief Charles "Chuck" Wilson. Chuck was on the board that originally interviewed me for this position and I served with him on three municipal committees. I would also like to thank Debra Lane, our Asst. Town Manager/Town Clerk and Stephen D. Harding, P.E., our Town Engineer, for their support and friendship.

Finally, I would like to thank you, Matt, for your guidance, friendship and your sense of humor. I have really enjoyed working with you and the moral support you provide to me and the other department heads on a daily basis.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert C. Malley

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Director of Public Works