



TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

NATHAN R. BOUDREAU

February 17, 2023

The last few weeks have been extremely busy, with budget season in full swing and spring fever project ideas running rampant. As a result, my calendar has been jam-packed with wonderful meetings and discussions, a few of which I've listed below.

The Economic Development Committee met on February 15 to discuss various initiatives for the coming spring. Several new members are eager to get started with the committee and the Town, and tenured committee members and I are excited to collaborate with them on economic development opportunities.

Select Board Vice Chair Young, and I met with the North Central Chamber of Commerce's CEO and Government Affairs Manager. We talked about how our community can collaborate with the chamber to boost economic development efforts and assist existing businesses, as well as the chamber's One North Central Plan, which aims to inspire the region's public and private sectors to collaborate in building an economically sound and prosperous area capable of benefiting from future growth and development.

I attended the Affordable Housing Committee's first meeting and assisted them in establishing the committee's focus, which is to identify goals and strategies to accomplish and meet the Chapter 40B Comprehensive Permit requirements for affordable housing production in Massachusetts while keeping the natural charm and beauty in mind. The meeting had a lot of conversation, and I look forward to meetings in the future.

Jessica Sizer, the Town Administrator in Barre, and I met to discuss potential money-saving regionalization efforts in which our two communities could participate. This is a discussion I hope to have with all neighboring Town Administrators in the coming months. While it may take time to generate ideas, starting the thought process is worthwhile in the long run.

In mid-February, the Hubbardston Emergency Management Team met to work on the Emergency Continuation of Operations (COOP) plan. We will meet again at the end of the month to discuss this initiative in greater detail.

I met with representatives of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to discuss the community's relationship with the Barre Falls Dam. The conversations are intended to help USACE better understand what people in our community know about dams and levees and the

risks and benefits associated with them so that USACE can improve communication with those these structures may impact. This communication channel is open; if residents have any concerns about the dam, don't hesitate to contact my office.

DPW Superintendent Brown and I met with MassDOT Right of Way team representatives to discuss bridge replacement on Williamsville Road over the Burnshirt River, which is scheduled for mid-2024. MassDOT received the 25% project design plans and associated right-of-way plans in November of this year. According to the current project schedule, a Design Public Hearing is scheduled for March 24. To authorize the Select Board to move forward in this initiative, Town Meeting Approval is required, as it was for the Town Center Project. I'm working with legal counsel to draft language for the proposed articles.

Finance

The finance team and I are working on the FY24 proposed budget. Some variables become clearer with each passing day, such as receiving word that the working number for the dispatch assessment increase should be 15.1%. While the preliminary budget figures are not what we would like to see, we hope that when the Healy Administration releases their budget figures, there will be additional state aid.

The Capital Improvement Plan for 2024-2028 is complete and will be presented to the Hubbardston Select Board on February 21, 2023. I'd like to thank the Capital Improvement Planning Committee for their assistance with this plan. I'm excited to build on it next year!

DPW Bi-Weekly Log

Mon.Jan.30, 2023

- Cleaned up down trees around town from the storm
- Spot treated Mt. Jefferson Rd./Cross Rd. from water run-off
- Washed and greased Trucks
- Adjusted the front brakes on the 95 Oshkosh

Tues.Jan.31, 2023

- Serviced Car#3 PD
- Replaced front LH wheel bearing Chiefs car
- Patched a pot hole on Main St.
- Continue to clean up down trees around town from the storm Old Princeton Rd., Old Colony Rd., Mt Jefferson Rd., Ragged Hill Rd., Nestle Wood Ln., and Rolling Woods Rd.
- Replaced the pull cord on the small saw

Wed.Feb.1, 2023

- Continue to clean up down trees around town from the storm on High Bridge Rd.,
- Removed the plow on the 14 F450

- Sanded dirt roads for slippery conditions
- Diagnose Nox codes on the 12 Freightliner

Thurs.Feb.2, 2023

- MMA meeting
- Continue to clean up down trees around town from the storm on
- Hot Patched Williamsville Rd., New Templeton Rd., Dogwood North, Geordie Ln., Laurel St. and Main St.
- Replaced the front timing chain cover on the 12 Freightliner
- Scraped and treated ice forming on Geordie Ln. and opened the basin per resident request

Fri.Feb.3, 2023

- Continue to brush mow Old Colony Rd.
- Changed the plow blade on the 12 Freightliner
- Cleaned and sharpened all the saws
- Replaced the spreader belt bearings on the 95 Oshkosh
- Brush mowing Dogwood North and Geordie Ln.

Mon.Feb.6, 2023

- Replaced a reverse light and greased the 18 Freightliner.
- Greased the 09 Sterling
- Installing new LED taillights on the 97 Oshkosh
- Training on Mastic and how to apply to roads

Tues.Feb.7, 2023

- installed new LED taillights and greased the 97 Oshkosh
- Filled pothole in the school parking lot
- Removed a dangerous tree on Ragged Hill Rd. and Williamsville Rd.
- Greased trucks
- Replaced the Nox sensor and fan belt on the 12 Freightliner
- 7:00PM pretreated roads for sleet and freezing rain coming

Wed.Feb.8, 2023

- Continue to clean up down trees around town from the storm on Williamsville Rd.
- Treated dirt roads for slippery conditions
- Treated the school parking lots and Ragged Hill Rd. for slippery conditions
- Unloaded and washed all the trucks
- Working on the 95 GMC

Thurs.Feb.9, 2023

- Hot patched Mt. Jefferson Rd., Brigham St. and Pitcherville Rd.
- Repaired the passenger side step and fender bracket on the 09 Sterling
- Fixed the air line on the shop compressor
- Checked a man hole on Williamsville Rd. for Mass DOT for culvert location

Fri.Feb.10, 2023

- Spot treated Williamsville Rd. and Burnshirt Rd. per request from Dispatch
- Removed banner holders on the telephone poles on Main St.
- Replaced a sign post that was knocked down on Williamsville Rd. and Burnshirt Rd.
- Fixed the backup light on the 18 Freightliner
- Straightened the spinner housing on the 12 Freightliner spreader

Procurement

We received two bids for the DPW Garage Roof. The project will be awarded to FRG Contractor Corp who submitted a bid of \$128,00. This project will start after the new year as long as the CIP is accepted and approved at Annual Town Meeting.

Personnel Recognition

I want to take a moment to recognize Nancy Perron for hitting the ground running with her additional duties as Board of Health and Building License Clerk. Nancy's customer service experience and willingness to learn is aiding her in grasping the new role quickly.

Human Resources

The Town of Hubbardston is currently seeking a Treasurer Collector and DPW Laborer to view these positions in their entirety please visit <https://www.hubbardstonma.us/employment-volunteer-opportunities/pages/employment-opportunities>

Grants

The Montachusett Regional Planning Commission awarded us two DLTA Grants. One will provide technical assistance in preparing proposed zoning changes that will encourage Agri and ecotourism business in the Town in accordance with the Hubbardston Agricultural Accessory Advisory Committee's goals and uses. The second will offer technical assistance in completing previous work on individual chapters of Hubbardston's Master Plan and compiling each chapter into a complete Master Plan document. Thank you to MRPC for their ongoing collaboration with the Town of Hubbardston.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts awarded us a Municipal Cybersecurity Awareness Grant Program. EOTSS and Proofpoint administer this program, which provides cybersecurity training

and threat simulation (cybersecurity vendor). This training will assist selected employees in detecting and mitigating municipal cyber threats.

Community News

Country Hen Scholarship

The Hubbardston Select Board is now accepting 2023 Country Hen Scholarship applications!

The deadline to apply is April 17, 2023. The Country Hen Scholarship was established to provide one or more scholarships to Hubbardston students graduating from high school and planning to attend an accredited college or university. Applicants must have resided in the Town of Hubbardston for at least three years and should be able to demonstrate significant community involvement.

Please fill out the following application. Please attach any additional documentation to this application and return it to Hubbardston Select Board, 7 Main Street Unit #3, Hubbardston, MA 01452 or by email to bos@hubbardstonma.us

Hubbardston Scholarship Committee

There are 3, \$1000 scholarships available. These scholarships are given out for more of a need base than high GPA based. You must be a resident of Hubbardston, going to college or trade school full time. These scholarships are also available to returning college students, not just first year students. Deadline is April 15th. Message us for application!

THANK YOU