



Town Manager's Report to the Town Council

Submitted by:
Michael W. Heavener
October 6, 2015

Town of Winslow - In the heart of Central Maine representing People, Pride and Progress.

STREET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

In our street ordinance there are two conflicting sections regarding when sidewalks are required. For example, Section 11-3A states:

Urban Roads: An Urban road is designed for subdivisions and developments within the MDOT Urban Compact Areas. The Urban Road Design is intended to reflect the more densely – developed portions of the town. Sidewalks, curbs, and gutters will be required when the abutting public road is already serviced. Open ditch drainage may be used in those areas not served by the municipal system.

This sections indicated sidewalks are NOT required if the abutting public road does not have a sidewalk.

Section 11-10 Curbs and Sidewalks, however, states:

Sidewalks are required on at least one side on an Urban Road and whenever a new road connects to an existing road with a sidewalk. Sidewalks shall meet the following minimum standards:

This section indicates that a sidewalk is required on an urban road. Therefore, I have prepared a proposed amendment to Section 11-10 to address this inconsistency. See Ordinance No. 10-2015 in the Council packet.

SEWER FORECLOSURE

Earlier I reported that we had foreclosed on 750 Benton Avenue due to unpaid sewer fees. We have since learned that the Bank of America sold the property to the Bank of New York MELLON (BNYM). Although we sent the required notices to the Bank of America, we did not send any notices to BNYM. Therefore, we did not perfect the foreclosure so we do not own the property. It is too late to start the foreclosure process with BNYM this year.

If the fees remain unpaid next year then we will be able to again initiate the foreclosure process at that time.

NEW PART-TIME CLERK

I am happy to report that I have hired Tanya Goding to fill the part-time clerk position in the collections department. She is a 2006 graduate of the Kennebec Valley Community College with an Associates Degree in Business Administration/Marketing. Tanya has worked in the banking field since 2007. Her first day of work here was Monday, October 5th.

We received 24 applications for the position and we interviewed four (4) applicants. We had planned to interview eight (8) applicants but four dropped out at the last minute.

Judy Mathiau and Pam Smiley assisted me with interviewing the applicants and the selection of Tanya Goding was unanimous.

COPS HIRING GRANT

We have been awarded a COPS hiring grant in the amount of \$125,000 and if approved, Resolution No. 30-2015 will authorize me to accept the grant. The grant would fund 75% of a new Patrol Officer position over a three year period. The Town's cost over this same time period would be approximately \$82,215.69. In the Police Chief's report he points out that we could use the Reserve Officer funds for the first two years (FY16 & FY17) to fund our share of the position. In the third year (FY18) we would need to increase the budget by approximately \$56,442.33. During that same year we will have retired \$339,517 in bond payments (see attached). Then in the fourth year (FY19) we would need to increase the budget by \$5,343.51.