



# Town Manager's Report to the Town Council

Submitted by:  
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June 5, 2012

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

## FORT HALIFAX PARK IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

Last month I submitted a Letter of Intent to apply for funding through the Maine DOT Transportation Enhancement program. The requested funding will allow us to complete the following elements in our Fort Halifax Park Concept Master Plan:

Engineering & Design	\$22,000
Gravel for Parking & Roadway	\$16,000
Paving	\$50,000
Granite Curbing (installed)	\$20,000
Misc. Materials	\$10,000
Labor & Equipment	\$50,000
Railroad Crossing	<u>\$10,000</u>

**TOTAL \$178,000**



The funding will allow us to remove the existing dirt parking lot and re-construct a paved parking lot in a new location. It will also allow us to add the

welcoming display area and the paved pathway leading to a river overlook. Both locations will include interpretive signage.

There is a 20% local match requirement totaling \$35,600 that can be an in-kind match as well. Funding for the project would not be awarded until FY 2014.

Due to a higher than expected interest in the program MDOT has extended the deadline to August 3, 2012. Therefore, I will present a resolution to the Council at the July Council meeting authorizing me to submit a grant application on behalf of the town.

## TAX ACQUIRED PROPERTY

On February 23rd we acquired seven (7) properties for unpaid property taxes. A letter was sent to the previous owners on March 15th informing them of their right to reacquire their property by paying all unpaid taxes and fees , as well as, the coming fiscal year's property taxes within 90 days. Thus far only one property owner has reacquired their property.

At the close of business on June 13th the right to reacquire will expire. Attached to this report is a list of the six remaining properties. As you will see the total assessed value of the properties is \$377,400. The total to reacquire for all the properties is \$23,534.

At the July 9th Town Council meeting we will have a further discussion on the disposition of the properties that are not reacquired.

## LITHGOW STREET LIBRARY UPDATE

As some of you may recall, last September I reported that the Lithgow Street Library was in need of some repairs totaling an estimated \$10,715. Of that amount \$8,680 was for labor.

The Taconnett Falls Genealogy Society has provided me with a plan to address the needed repairs (see attached). Since they plan to do the work themselves there will be no labor cost and there will be no cost to the town.



### PHONE SYSTEM CONCERN

Our IT Support Person, Josh Grant, recently alerted me that our current phone system is at least 15 years old. He raised the concern after moving some phone lines for the Police Department in response to the renovation project. Josh recommends that we consider upgrading our system due to its age.

I will be exploring our options including when it may be necessary to update the system.

### HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS TRACK

At the last Council meeting there was some discussion about the poor condition of the H.S. Sports Track. The track is owned by the town and is used by the School Department for sporting events. Citizens also use the track as a walking track. Due to the poor condition of the track it currently cannot be used for sporting events.

In your packet is Order No. 11-2012, which if approved would authorize me to borrow \$185,000 to complete the track reconstruction project. If reconstruction does not begin before August then it is very likely the track will not be used again next year for H.S. sporting events.



### HEATING FUEL CONTRACT

In the Council packet is Resolution No. 20-2012 which authorizes me to sign an agreement with Spring Brook Ice & Fuel Co. to purchase 10,000 gallons of heating oil at \$3.29 a gallon. We still have 2,000 gallons of heating fuel remaining from this year's agreement with Spring Brook at \$3.15 a gallon. They are allowing us to carry forward this surplus into the next fiscal year.

### PSAP AGREEMENT

It is that time of year again for us to renew our PSAP Call Handling Agreement with the Somerset County Communications Center. In the Council Packet is Resolution No. 21-2012 that authorizes me to sign the agreement on behalf of the town. There are no changes in the agreement and the cost remains \$1.25 per capita or \$9,742.50.

### ADOPTED FY 2013 BUDGET

In the Council Packet is the FY 2013 adopted budget, which has been indexed and spiral bound. Pages 49 through 67 contain a comprehensive assessment of our capital needs and will be helpful when making decisions about future capital investments.

### JUNE 12TH SPECIAL ELECTION

Poles will be open at the VFW on Veteran Drive from 8 am to 8 pm on the 12th. This is a primary election and residents in District 4 will be voting for a School Board member. Residents will also be voting on the acceptance of the school budget.