

# **TOWN STATUS REPORT**

**January 22, 2023**

## **1. Milford Community Lands (Formally Brox) Alteration of Terrain Permit – Gravel Operations (Update)**

The Town and Northeast Sand & Gravel submitted responses and revised plan set to the NH Dept. Of Environmental Services (permitting agency) and NH Fish & Game (NHFG) on December 1, 2023. The submittal was in response to a list of detailed comments from NHFG involving several areas of the project. These include, but are not limited to the following: (1) the determining the area and location of onsite mitigation currently 75+ acres of proposed conservation area, (2) the legal conservation instrument to manage the proposed 75+ acre area, (3) flood plain management of Heron Pond, (4) the scope and development of a Stewardship plan, and (5) level of required monitoring by a qualified, 3rd party company/individual.

Town staff continues to communicate with NHFG and await their response/comments. It anticipated that the Town and Northeast Sand & Gravel will be meeting with both state agencies in February to resolve the remaining elements of the application/permit for approval and allow the Town to resume the gravel operation this year.

## **2. Milford Community Power / Standard Power – Informational Meeting**

Milford Community Power is launching this spring after being approved by Milford voters in March 2023. The program provides stable rates for 20 months, from March 2024 to November 2025, and three options with more renewable energy for electricity customers up to 100%. There is no cost to the municipality for running the program, no individual customer contracts, and customers can leave, change products or rejoin the program with no fees or penalties effective on their next meter read date. See attached Press Release.

On Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, the Town will be hosting an informational meeting to present and discuss the program. The public meeting will be held in the Town Hall Auditorium (3<sup>rd</sup> floor) beginning at 6:00 pm. A short presentation will be followed by an opportunity for residents to ask questions about program options and how to enroll, opt out or make another choice. We encourage residents to bring their electric bill to the public session to ask questions. Please visit [www.MilfordCommunityPower.com](http://www.MilfordCommunityPower.com) for more information.

## **3. Library Building Maintenance**

Town Staff and two Selectmen attended the recent Library Trustees' meeting to discuss several maintenance items involving the library. In addition to discussing the remaining items to address concerns involving the roof project and the proposed warrant article to replace the electrical panels, it was discovered that water is most likely infiltrating the interior of the building from sections of the exterior brick walls causing additional water damage. Public Work Director, Mr. Lessard is currently assessing the building and will be contacting contractors to provide cost estimates, mostly likely in the early late Winter/early Spring. Staff will continue to apprise the Board of Selectmen and Library Trustees as this project moves forward and we have better information.

## **4. Town Staff 2024 Goals & Objectives**

With the start of the new year, Department Heads were asked to submit their 2024 Departmental goals and objectives. In addition to the annual goals, Department Heads have been challenged to include several what are termed "Stretch Goals". A stretch goals is one that will be difficult (not impossible) and will "move the

needle” or make noticeable difference for the town. The Town Administrator will be meeting with each Department Head over the next two weeks to discuss and review the submitted goals and objectives and reflect upon 2023.

**5. Ambulance Mutual Aid Agreement (DRAFT)**

The purpose of this request is to introduce the draft Emergency Medical Services Mutual Aid agreement to the Board for consideration, discussion, and approval at a future meeting. The draft agreement would update and replace the previously executed agreement from 1994. Ambulance Director, Eric Schelberg will be present to discuss and provide an update to the Board regarding the potential changes and ongoing communications with the participating towns of Amherst, Brookline, Hollis and Wilton. Director Schelberg is awaiting final approval of wording from the four other communities with which the agreement is expected to be signatories to – Amherst, Brookline, Hollis and Wilton. As such, no request to approve and sign the agreement is being requested. Attached, please find the (1) memo from Director Schelberg and (2) proposed draft and 1994 Mutual Aid Agreements.

**6. Board, Commission, Committee Volunteers**

The Town is actively seeking volunteers seeking to serve on the various boards, commissions, and committees. The following is a listing of current vacancies:

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|---|-----------------------|
| • Board of Adjustment                   | 2 Alternate Positions |
| • Conservation Commission               | 2 Alternate Positions |
| • Economic Development Advisory Council | TBD (January 2024)    |
| • Recycling Committee                   | 1 Full Time Position  |
| • Planning Board                        | 2 Alternate Positions |

If you are interested in applying, please contact the Administration Office or visit the Town website at [www.milford.nh.gov](http://www.milford.nh.gov) and download /complete the volunteer application.