*Town Administrator update*

**Committees**

The Highway Facility Committee made great progress Tuesday night in developing a proposal to bring two separate articles to Town Meeting, one for the cold barn and one for the maintenance building; these are not included in the Word file. The current idea is to have a simple barn (perhaps modular) built with the prep work being done by the Highway Department, thus saving money. This would be paid for fully out of Highway Stabilization, though we do not have an estimated cost for this yet. The second article would be to pay for the design and OPM for the maintenance building in preparation for future borrowing (much as the last proposal, but with the cold barn removed). These funds would also come out of Highway Stabilization. We have enough money to pay for both articles and have a substantial amount left over for reducing any debt for eventual construction.

This gives those townspeople who would prefer funding one building at a time to argue for that, while allowing the possibility that both buildings could be moved forward (though to different degrees). My current calculation, based on estimates by the previous designer, is that we would need $196,000 for design, bidding, and construction management for the maintenance building; I’m not sure at this point how construction management is bid (whether and how it would be bid “contingent on further funding”) but I’m pursuing the answer.

**Departments**

The HCGIT has voted to make some plan changes, though not as substantial as those proposed last year. This means we’ll need to go through what’s referred to as “the 32B process” again.

We are continuing to improve our internal accounting. As a result of discussion with the accountant, we are removing the debt service for the Frontier borrowing, as it is not a Town debt, and will include the capital service in the Frontier line item.

We have received word that the state has accepted the FRCOG’s proposal for a regional municipal accounting training program and staffing it. As we signed on as a partner, we will be working with the state as part of the grant process, so I expect to bring you a Community Compact contract in the near future.

Eversource will be setting new poles and running new wires over the next few weeks. They will keep us informed of the work and any planned outages, and will also contact anyone who will be impacted by any planned outages.