**TA Update**

February 25, 2019

**Committees**

The Open Space Committee notes that volunteers have been mowing the walking path on the meadow and would like to include it in the Town’s mowing contract. The Highway Superintendent is acutely aware of the scrutiny of his budget and went to great lengths to keep it level funded. He is going out to bid and I have asked him to include the mowing as a “add alternate” so we can see what it would cost.

We are advertising on the Town website for new Housing Committee members, who are appointed by the Moderator. we need a Committee partly because the Community Preservation Committee may have some work to do soon, and one member of that committee comes from the Housing Committee. Lisa and I are also working on shoring up the rest of the membership.

In looking at the written piece from the Capital Improvements Planning Committee, my preference would be to have a brief mission statement focused on capital planning, with the piece offered by the committee serving as a communication by the present Committee to the town.

The triennial audit of the Conway Grammar School is due again this year. I have asked the Finance Committee for a reserve fund transfer of $2,500 to cover this. After the warrant article slated for this year’s annual Town Meeting, we should not have to worry about funding this in the future.

I have also asked the Finance Committee for the remaining funds necessary ($2,601.05) to bring the M.B. Germain trust fund up to its mandatory amount of principal ($25,000). This had been set up as part of the regular mowing contract payment, but interest did not keep up with expenses, and the account was inadvertently overdrawn.

I am convening a Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan update committee. Kimberly MacPhee f the FRCOG will guide the committee through the process.

The Energy Committee is looking at possible items for a competitive grant application; I’ll keep you up to date as the deadline approaches.

**Departments**

Nexamp has hired an environmental company to respond to DEP’s concerns about the Main Poland Road solar project; they will be reporting to the Conservation Commission at their next meeting. I have a copy of DEP’s concerns and their responses if anyone would like to see it.

I have put two pole hearings on next week’s agenda, at 7:00 p.m. These are usually pro forma, taking just a few minutes. One is on Maple Street, with heavier wire replacing lighter wire and three poles proposed to shorten the span between existing poles; the other is a new pole and stepdown transformer for Old Cricket Hill Road, to match voltage for a customer.