**Committees**

Holly Hatch, the daughter of Hal and Fran Hatch, asked about donating a planting or bench to the Town in her parents’ memory. I forwarded the offer to the Highway Department, Parks, Recreation, and Trails Committee, and the Open Space Committee. So far, only the Open Space Committee has replied, with the information that they have benches on the list of needs for the renovated South River Meadow (the former Rose Field), and Holly has expressed preliminary interest in funding a bench.

The Highway Facility Committee met with a design team on Tuesday. The revision of procurement law under the Municipal Modernization Act changed the law in an unexpected way; while changing the thresholds for triggering bidding for design work from $10,000 for the design cost and $100,000 for the estimated construction cost to $30,000 and $300,000, the syntax was changed so that now meeting either of those thresholds allows towns not to bid. With the project split in two, we expect the design costs for each to be under $30,000 and so expect not to have to go out for bids for the design work for either project. The construction phase of both projects will still have to be bid.

As you know, during the last two months of the fiscal year the Finance Committee and Select Board can move money from one appropriated line item to another. At this point, I have only one request: that $4,100 be moved from the Town Clerk “salary and wages” line to the Town Clerk operating expense line (both 161, but voted as separate lines at Town Meeting). This should happen in early May so that Ginny can assist the new Town Clerk in her duties right after the election. The vote could happen at a joint meeting just prior to the annual Town Meeting; the Select Board has to meet anyway to approve the bi-weekly financial warrants.

**Departments**

Kimberly MacPhee of the FRCOG and I convened a group to update the Town’s Hazard Mitigation Plan on Thursday morning to kick off the update process, which is funded largely by FEMA ($7,500) with $2,500 in Town funds. Staff included Ron Sweet, Ken Ouimette, George Murphy, Robert Baker, and me, with Bob Armstrong and Joe Strzegowski attending as well.

The new growth figures from Comcast seem low after completing the building out (on the order of $150,000) compared with the amount we received after completing the Shirkshire district (on the order of $500,000). The Administrative Assessor is in communication with Comcast, who are reviewing the numbers.

**Other**

All Conway residents are invited to come to a pre-Town Meeting dessert potluck and discussion on Monday, May 6 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. at the Conway Grammar School.