**TA Update**

**Committee news**

The Open Space Committee requested some Highway equipment (a rock sifter) be moved from the “Riverbend Meadow,” and Ron has taken care of that. He also plans to spread out the pile of stones and dirt toward Shelburne Falls Road, which should help improve the aesthetics of the entrance to the site.

The Planning Board has requested a joint meeting in late summer or early fall regarding the best way to accomplish access to Planning Board documents currently housed in Town Hall, saying they believe there is value in having historical documents, maps, and files archived in a way in which both the public and Town officials can locate important information. We are also looking at ways of using the space in our vaults most effectively.

**Departments**

I received a gift of three original plans for the generating station for the Conway Electric Railway Company. I sent them to the Historical Commission, who said that Peter Freisem is interested in getting them copied and scanned when his schedule permits.

Our IT consultant, Lisa, and I are reviewing Town Facebook pages in preparation for a social media policy recommendation for such pages that represent Town departments or committees. The immediate goal is to have all such pages use Town e-mails as their contact information and to have their passwords in case the Town needs to take any action in the absence of the people who set up the pages. Right now, pages have been set up by individuals and have their personal e-mails and passwords.

We applied this year for two different FEMA grants for Delabarre Avenue work. One, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant proposal, has been selected for further review by FEMA, which is a step in the right direction. We have been advised not to proceed with the duplicate Hazard Mitigation grant proposal (which was rejected last year) and so are not planning to move that one forward at this time.

We have received an informal request to consider merging the Fire Departments of Conway and Ashfield. Our Fire Chief supports this proposal. I’m working with them, the Ashfield Town Administrator, and Select Board chairs to try to identify the issues.

**Town Meeting**

Some items: The Highway Facility Committee is planning to propose funding for the maintenance building. The Town Clerk is planning to propose three articles for the next Town Meeting-- raising some Town Clerk fees, one specifically for dog license fees; and providing non-criminal disposition for the failure to license dogs (really a public health issue, ensuring rabies shots). The Assessors are proposing to change the assessing year to the fiscal year. Any other ideas would be welcome—please let me know of any others. No doubt this will be an agenda item soon.