

August 29, 2022 Town Administrator Update:

- I met with our emergency management team up at the grammar school to review what equipment is there and to discuss logistics, along with how the new 800 MGZ radio system will work. One suggestion brought up is to relocate the EOC to the new Highway Facility, so we will discuss this option with Ron next week. We will also be working on updating the EOC manual and the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan through Amanda Herrmann our Assistant EMD.
- Chris Waldo and I met to review the town's information technology system, potential grant applications and future planning.
- Allison Gage from the FRCOG let me know that they were awarded the regional energy planning assistance grant, and they will help Conway get back into Green Communities program. The FRCOG will provide technical assistance to update our energy reports going back to 2018, including a new baseline for our regional school district, thereby making the town eligible for Green Communities grants again. They will then help us apply for a grant. After this help, the town will once again need to keep up with filling out the reports. There's been a suggestion that either a revived Energy Committee or perhaps an energy working group under the Public Buildings Committee could help keep us up to date.
- The website working group has been reviewing the new website with Montague WebWorks. It is very easy to navigate and use, should be up and running by late September. We will be switching to .gov emails shortly after the website goes live.
- We have had at least two applicants for the Assistant to the Highway Department, and since one is my daughter I will not be involved in the process.
- I attended the MMA Legislative update webinar on the 18th, which included updates on items such as a 29% increase in PILOTs for state owned land, the new cannabis legislation which will have retroactive effects on 1,000 current host community agreements, depending upon what the CCC does, and the extension of open meeting laws until March 31, 2023 without the mandated hybrid meeting option for all public bodies.