

October 11, 2022 Town Administrator Update:

- The final tranche of ARPA funds in the amount of \$225,669.68 were received on 9/29/2022. The total Conway has received is \$559,852, and roughly \$150,000 has been obligated so far.
- I attended the MMMA Bootcamp in Sharon, which was a workshop for first time town administrators, and found it very useful.
- I attended the Massachusetts Cyber Security Summit on the 6th. The ‘minimum’ baseline of security has four goals, the first of which is the train employees how to recognize threats. Over 80% of incidents happen through phishing, so the Cyber Awareness training we are completing through the EOTSS grant is a very good first step. The next goal is for the town to develop an incident response plan.
- This week I am attending the ‘What’s New In Municipal Law’ hosted by the Department of Local Services on Thursday, and the MMA legislative breakfast on Friday morning.
- The Highway Facility Committee has set the date of Sunday, October 23rd from noon-4 for the Open House celebration of the New Highway Facility.
- There will be a training for employees who will use the website on October 20th, and then the new website should go live on Tuesday, November 1st.
- There is a SHRAB (State Historical Records Advisory Board) Veteran’s Heritage matching grant which the Cemetery Commission would like to apply for to restore Veteran’s gravesites in the public cemeteries in Conway. The total of the matching grant is \$15,000, and Peter Freisem is looking into potential sources of matching funds.
- I gather there is a rumor floating around that my salary is in the \$95,000 range. Since my contract is actually a public document, unless there is an objection, I plan to post my contract on the Town Administrator home page of the new website. I feel strongly that transparency begins at the top, and this will also hopefully quell the rumors. The FY23 budget has been posted since well before Annual Town Meeting, which clearly shows that I began at \$65,000 in 2021, and after a 3% raise for all town employees, am making \$66,950 this fiscal year.