

November 7, 2022 Town Administrator Update:

- I attended two training sessions last week, one on conflict management and the other on the updated stretch code.
 - Conflict management was held because there has been a rise across the state (nation, actually) in confrontations and conflicts between the public and government officials, as well as interpersonal employee conflicts. Strategies were given for how to de-escalate before a conflict arises, the difference between anger and abuse, and a suggestion for a town 'code of conduct' policy, stating the principles that govern the town (respect, integrity, etc.). The book 'Getting to Yes' was also recommended.
 - The stretch code update and specialized code is a bit more complicated, and includes a net zero policy, more reliance on electric energy and emphasis on demand reduction.
- On Friday I met with George Stephan, Ashfield's EMD, to discuss issues our towns have in common, including the Ashfield Lake dam & repairs, and how we might be able to increase mutual aid between emergency management departments. We have scheduled a visit to the dam to see the repair work which is being done.