

### **November 14, 2022 Town Administrator Update:**

- Last week I attended the MMA's update on the new law governing Host Community Agreements, which went into effect on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Of interest is that municipalities may now waive an HCA requirement altogether and use the special permit process alone to address concerns. Also, any impact fees assessed must document the actual costs incurred by the municipality for the preceding year, may not exceed 3%, and can be effective for eight years from the date the license was issued. All municipalities must also establish minimum standards to promote social equity for businesses by June 30, 2023.
- As you are aware, the second bridge on North Poland Road off of 116 has been closed, effective November 4<sup>th</sup>. MassDOT was conducting their quarterly inspection and recommended the bridge be shut down immediately. I met with emergency services on the 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss the impacts to response time and drafted the letter to send to MassDOT outlining the hardships the town will face due to the closure.
- The Emergency Management team met to discuss a grant application through which the town will apply for two new laptops for our EMD and Assistant EMD, along with plans to update the Emergency Operations Center manual.