

## **April 18<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Town Administrator Update:**

- At the quarterly FRCOG town administrators meeting EV charging was discussed. There are some grant funds available and the application is May 30<sup>th</sup>, but FRCOG needs to discuss with the state the gap between profit and payment, the commercial rate for electricity, and what the \$50,000 seed money would cover.
- The latest ARPA reporting, due April 30<sup>th</sup>, has been submitted for us by Capital Strategic Solutions.
- Phil and I met with Sue Bridge, Cayte McDonough and Kendall Clark to discuss the stalled pollinator project on 116 on Audubon land. This project was delayed in large part due to covid and other complications, and we are now getting it back on track. I am in touch with Audubon about what they need from the town in order to proceed, which mostly involves a map of the area and a little more detail about plans going forward. We intend to meet next with Tom Sullivan on site, who has already done some work on the project, to list out next steps.
- I attended both an MVP planning grant meeting & MVP 2.0 introductory webinar. After chatting with MVP staff it was decided not to apply for MVP 2.0 and focus all energies on the upcoming action planning grant application, due May 4<sup>th</sup>. I have three support letters (which includes the one from the selectboard) ready to be signed as part of the application, and will draft the budget and introduction this week.
- John Craine and I reviewed more special revenue fund accounts, including town trusts, and will continue that work. The goal is to make sure all accounts are up to date, and that any funds which may be released back into the general fund are indeed released.
- I had another OSHA training with Jan & Lynn, there should be one or two more before we're all set. The guardrails were installed at the transfer station, and there is a little consternation that it's harder to dump materials into the hopper now. I'm hoping to figure out some sort of lifting system to make it easier to dump bags into the guarded hopper.
- I have had a couple of meetings with MassDOT about the permanent replacement bridge on North Poland Road and the need to obtain Right of Ways in order to proceed. It was agreed that we could wait for Special Town Meeting and still be on track for having the bridge constructed while school is out of session in 2025.
- Jan Warner has let me know that the land of low value at 0 off Ashfield Road is now ready for the board to proceed with the sale, as the tax lien has been released.
- I met with Ron & Walter to discuss upcoming tree hearing May 8<sup>th</sup> for two maple trees, and have posted in the Recorder the legal notices for the hearing, which will be held at 5:30 on May 8<sup>th</sup> just prior to the regular selectboard meeting.
- Roy has given me the information necessary to keep the town IT system running should he be unavailable, the 'Keys to the Kingdom' as it were, which was recommended in our cyber security assessment.