

October 17th, 2023 Town Administrator Update:

- I recently filled out our first opioid funds expenditure reporting, which currently stands at \$0 for expenditures by the town. The total amount of funds received was \$15,679.09 for FY23. Mike created a new stabilization account for the town, so all the annual funds received are now going directly to our Opioid Stabilization fund account. This will be very helpful as these funds will be coming in annually for a couple of decades, and this is the easiest way to track them. Use of those stabilization funds will require a town meeting vote.
- I met with Megan Rhodes and Ryan Clary from the FRCOG to walk the area of Pine Hill, Upper Baptist and Baptist Hill to see what the town might be able to do with respect to road repair and culvert work in the area to help alleviate flooding concerns. They will work on a basic engineered plan for the town to review, and will be using LIDAR to map out how the water flows from Pine Hill on down.
- The removal of the trees from the town property on the South River was successfully completed on October 5th. Due to delays beyond anyone's control, there will likely be additional expenses billed to the town by both Pantermehl's and Stockman Associates. I do not yet have an estimate of those additional expenses.
- Ron and I met with Shelburne Selectboard Chair Robert Manners and Highway Superintendent Mark Shippee to discuss Bardwells Ferry bridge repairs. It was decided that each town's selectboard would send a letter to MassDOT asking for financial assistance.
- Plans for the MVP harvest meal to be held Saturday October 21st on the ballfield are advancing nicely. Postcards have been sent out to every household, the tent & tables ordered, and food ordered from Greenfield's Market. Other fall MVP activities include an educational river walk with Nicolas Miller scheduled for November 18th with rain date of the 19th, and Nic will also be giving a background talk at the Historical Society in January. The purpose of these activities is to give Conway residents a chance to ask questions, understand the work which is planned under the grant, and also to explain prior work done on the South River. Nic is a fluvial geomorphologist and has worked on the South River in Conway for years.
- Brittany Nickerson has been appointed to the Community Preservation Committee by the Conservation Commission as their representative, and Hank Horstmann has been appointed to the CPC from the Historical Commission as their representative.
- It was announced that the MIP accounting program through the FRCOG will be costing significantly more for FY25. Bob Dean had a meeting on Monday with the affected towns, which I was unable to attend. I will be catching up with Bob this week to find out what transpired at that meeting, as well as speaking directly with someone from the MIP/Abila software company.