

November 6th, 2023 Town Administrator Update:

Grants

MVP – Postcards are being mailed to every household in Conway and Ashfield for the upcoming river walk with Nic Miller on November 18th. The FRCOG will be renting a bus for the occasion. Flyers are also up in local buildings.

Community Transit - I am working on arranging a meeting with FRTA and two other Conway residents to discuss what services are actually available for town residents.

Firewood Bank - Susan Fentin, Betsy Potter, Ron, Walter and I will be meeting this week to discuss how the project will work and then begin work on the application.

Departments/Committees

Liz Huntley-Field has resigned from the highway department. Donald Joraleman has resigned from the CPC.

Transfer station decal sales were \$13,538 from August 28th to October 31st, and were \$7,975 from June 1, 2022 through August 27th, 2023. Since FY23's were only \$10, double that amount to roughly \$16k and we're right on track. Jan Ameen has started a spreadsheet to track the trash tonnage pre- and post-PAYT. There was a reduction of almost 8.8 tons in October, which is a 21% reduction!

Highway Department's update today on Facebook

Starting Monday, Nov. 6, reclamation will begin on Main Poland Road. The road will be closed to thru traffic from the covered bridge (Rte 116) to North Poland Road. You can access the Mass Wildlife Area from North Poland Road end. Pine Hill Road from Upper Baptist Hill Road will be reclaimed when Main Poland Road is done, possibly in the same week. Paving for the two roads will begin the week of the 12th. Roads will be closed during paving. Update on roads worked on since last post: Shelburne Falls Road, Wilder Hill Road, Pine Hill Road, Main Poland Road, Fields Hill Road, and Harrison Road. We are also doing some regular maintenance like roadside mowing, blowing leaves out of ditches and filling potholes. Mass DOT has completed the work that they did for Conway's Roads. THANK YOU Mass DOT!!!

Financial

The Department of Local Services (DLS) has rolled out some wonderful new data modules, showing new visualizations for towns, including capital improvements, a calculator to see the effect of any borrowing on the tax rate, etc.

July Floods

Stockman Associates has submitted their final invoice for the turtle sweep on the South River during the removal of the trees, which is on this week's warrant. Megan Rhodes and Ryan Clary presented their assessment of the Pine Hill area, and this information was emailed to the residents in the affected area.

Miscellaneous

Signs are up for the special town meeting, and more lawn signs will be purchased for this and future special town meetings. The website has been updated, childcare will be provided through Kristen Gordon.