

February 5th, 2024 Town Administrator Update:

Grant research

I attended a webinar about the Community One Stop program grants. Ron and I are in discussions about a potential STRAP (Small Town Road Improvements to Enhance Public Safety) for Shelburne Falls Road.

Departments

IT

The Executive Office of Technical Security & Services (EOTSS) has given us free services to develop a Cyber Incident Response Plan (CIRP) in the event of a cyber security attack on the town's system. Our team consists of Jan Warner, Don Bates, Adam Reed, Roy Cohen, Erica Goleman and myself, along with members of NuHarbor and EOTSS. We are meeting twice weekly for an hour to review what procedures the town already has in place and then begin to develop the plan, and it should take 3-4 weeks to complete. Eventually we will hold a tabletop exercise to tweak the plan. Just so you are aware, a big problem for small towns like ours is not all volunteers use town email accounts – they are costly to provide – but this involves security risks, as does the use of personal phones to house emails.

I also participated in the CISO (Chief Information Security Officer) meeting held by EOTSS. I am participating in this to provide feedback and also make sure Conway is as up to date as possible regarding new threats and opportunities.

Transfer Station

Jan Ameen just sent me the latest information on our waste reduction tonnage. Great news, we're currently down by 20%!

	FY23	FY23	FY24	FY24	Tonnage	Tip fee	
	tonnage	hauls	tonnage	hauls	reduction	savings	
October	38.84	5	30.07	5	8.77	\$896.82	
November	22.54	3	24.49	4	-1.95	-\$199.41	
December	33.06	5	22.61	4	10.45	\$1,068.62	
Subtotal	94.44	13	77.17	13	17.27	\$1,766.03	18% redux in tonnage
January	38.15	5	29.05	5	9.1	\$930.57	20% redux Oct-January

Committees

Sustainability met last week and reviewed where they are so far with research into street lights, MVP and Green Communities grants. They are reaching out to meet with Public Buildings to discuss energy options in public spaces, and will be presenting their latest information update to the board on the 20th.

Miscellaneous

The Community Climate Advisory Committee had its first meeting today. This group has been created and brought together through EEA, and has five representatives from each of the six MVP regions. The idea is to have this group, which is composed of municipal officials, non-profits and other organizations, be a sounding board for new initiatives with respect to climate change. The path will go both ways, with the advisory group giving feedback, and the state letting us know which feedback is incorporated into their processes, which is not, why it was not incorporated, and how it might be able to be incorporated in future. Meetings will be monthly, and being a part of this advisory council will allow me to keep the town up to date on the latest developments as well as be an advocate for Conway.