April 16th & 23rd 2024 Town Administrator Update:

Most of the week from April 11th through the 15th was vacation. Much of the rest of the time I was working on the budget and warrant.

Grants

The MVP team met again to review the grant application for FY25. We also met with Emma Sass to discuss changing from creating a rain garden for the K-6 educational portion of this year's grant and instead use the funds for that task to purchase a rain table and hold educational activities at the Conway Grammar School. This change had to happen due the the lack of time between now and June 30th to complete the task and the fact that the rain garden design as presented was not able to be used.

Committees

Council on Aging

Phil and I spoke with Tina Cote of the Franklin Regional Transit Authority (FRTA) to discuss the possibility of expanded transportation services for seniors in Conway.

I had a meeting with Molly Evans and Adam Frank from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) to review the terms of the grant the South County Senior Center obtained, which includes Conway as a collaborating partner.

Sustainability

The committee continues to work on street lights and will also look into how to become a Climate Leader community.

Miscellaneous / Webinars

Phil, Mike, Jan, Donna and I met to discuss the financial mechanisms for bringing the Festival of the Hills back under the umbrella of the town. We spoke with Kenneth Woodland from DOR about the options, which Phil is discussing tonight.

I attended a webinar run by Evan George, Compliance Office for the Massachusetts Office of Disability (MOD) and Dawn Brantley, Director of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. This webinar was focused on using the MOD grants as a way to increase accessibility for residents in an emergency. I have reached out to Amanda Herrmann and Kathy Llamas to work with me on this grant application.

I attended a webinar held by MMA/MIIA on Climate Action.

I attended a Broadband Digital Equity webinar put on by MBI, the Massachusetts Broadband Institure. MBI will be producing a map of unserved and underserved areas in the state. Once that map is produced, we will find out if Conway is eligible for funding.