

MANAGER'S REPORT – January 14, 2016

- December Revenue and Expense reports show that we are doing well in managing expenses through the first six months of the year and that revenue receipt is doing well also. We have collected 59% of estimated excise revenue through 50% of the year. Thanks to the favorable winter thus far the Public Works budget is healthy, and all other departments are doing an excellent job in monitoring their expenses.
- I have scheduled a Department Head meeting next week to discuss the 2016-17 Budget. I plan to have a draft budget meeting schedule for the Council at the next meeting for approval.
- The lawsuit between the Penobscot Indian Nation and the State of Maine was resolved on December 16, 2015 in favor of the State. The Town had supported a coalition of communities in opposition to the lawsuit by virtue of a resolve from 2012.
- Penobscot Energy Recovery Committee and the Municipal Review Committee have two competing proposals for solid waste disposal post –March 2018. Over the next couple of months the Solid Waste Committee/Council will have to decide which proposal to choose. We will be scheduling presentations by both entities.
- I attended a meeting in Hermon last week to review a legal opinion of the documents related to the Municipal Review Committee proposal for waste disposal post March 2018. We made recommendations for changes to the proposed documents and are awaiting a response from the MRC.
- Rich Rotella has hit the ground running as the Community & Economic Development Director. He has been visiting businesses, getting Heart & Soul off the ground, assisting other local groups and meeting with residents.
- A local group looking at the possibility of the YMCA providing some recreational services in Bucksport has been meeting and is working on a proposal that would eventually get to the Town Council for consideration.
- I am working with AIM and the environmental consultant on the time for a site visit related to the Phase I Environmental Assessment.
- We had a claim for damages to a vehicle for going through water by McDonalds during the storm this past weekend. I consulted Maine Municipal Association legal services and they confirmed that we have no liability in that occurrence.
- The oil shed at the Transfer Station blew off its 'foundation' during the windy weather on Monday. Public Works put it back as well as they could but it needs either repair or replacement. I will be getting estimates. If it is substantially over our insurance deductible I will file a claim.
- Real Estate foreclosures for unpaid 2014 property taxes occurred on December 17th, 2015. Several more properties were added to the original list that was discussed at finance in November. Now that we have the complete list – notifications will be going out within the next two weeks for people to contact us in regard to payment arrangements to avoid property sale.