

MANAGER'S REPORT

January 28, 2016

Sudden & Severe Application Update – Superintendent Boothby has been notified by the Department of Education that State Revenue services notified them to reduce Bucksport's municipal valuation by \$270 million dollars for the past three commitments. While the outcome from that change will not be finalized until the School district is notified of its state funding at the end of February, the valuation reduction is slightly less than anticipated but well within the expected range. This is good news in terms of funding and we will have the actual figure before we begin discussion of the 16/17 budget in March.

Solid Waste Proposals – I met with representatives from the PERC project this week to discuss their proposal and hope to schedule a presentation from them in this region in the near future. I will also be talking with MRC representatives about their proposal – the most recent copy of which I received on Monday and have not yet finished reviewing.

Ellsworth YMCA – Attached to this report is a letter from the Director of the Ellsworth Y which indicates that the organization is not prepared at this time to present a proposal to offer services to the Town of Bucksport. This is in response to a local group that had been looking at this possibility. With budget season upon us, I think it would be best for the Town to move forward with local recreation programming and look again next year at any information that the Y might be able to provide at that time.

Budget – Department head budgets are due to be submitted to me by February 12th and I will be reviewing them and then meeting with each individually to come up with a final version for submission to the Town Council. I am looking forward to working with the group to develop a good budget for consideration by the Town Council.

Negotiations – I have received a request to initiate negotiations for police, fire, and public works unions. Current contracts expire 06/30/2016.

Manager's Interchange – March – I have been asked to participate in a panel discussion at the March Maine Town, City & County Manager's Association interchange on the topic of age and ability friendly communities. Bucksport is known throughout the state as having done a good deal of work in this area. I will be meeting with James Bradney of Bucksport Bay Healthy Communities to get more information for that meeting. It is one more positive recognition of the Community.