

MANAGER'S REPORT
February 23, 2017

French Taxes – Keith French paid the 2014 and 2015 real estate taxes to redeem the property on Route 46 from foreclosure as agreed with the Council on January 12, 2017. He is aware that the 2016 taxes must be paid by December to avoid foreclosure again.

Budget Update – I am pleased to report that we got the 2017/18 Hancock County Tax bill and it is a little over \$96,000 lower than the 2016/17 County tax bill because of the change in the Town valuation. I am also in the process of reviewing the budgets submitted by the department heads and am pleased with the thought and care that they have put into providing reasonable requests. Budget preparation is consuming a good deal of my time at the moment and will continue to do so until it is delivered to the Council on March 13th.

EMDC EPA Grant – The organizational meeting for the EPA grant for site redevelopment at the AIM property will be held next week. The actual grant will begin the first of April.

82 Elm Street – The Elm Street mobile home has been removed and the lot cleaned up. I will have the tax and sewer abatements for signature at the next meeting.

Senior Resource Group- I met with the Senior Resource Group on 2/22. They had questions about how programs related to seniors and the Senior Center and Senior Center Director would be handled as the Recreation Department moves forward. I explained that the budget for the Senior Center and staff/programming would be handled separately no matter what Recreation option was selected by the Council.

Public Works – A big thank you to the Public Works department for the above-and-beyond efforts during the huge snow events of the past several weeks. Despite multiple equipment issues particularly with regard to the sidewalk plows, the crew did a good job.

Legislative Policy Committee – I attended a legislative policy committee meeting at the Maine Municipal Association today in Augusta. We discussed numerous bills that would have an impact on municipal interests, from tax exemptions to proposed changes in Shoreland Zoning and subdivision regulations.