

MANAGER'S REPORT
March 9, 2017

SHAPE Program – The Town had its follow up inspection for designation as part of the Maine Department of Labor SHAPE program. This designation helps lower the Town's Worker's Compensation premiums and keeps the Town exempt from Department of Labor inspections as long as the SHAPE designation is maintained. Thanks to Chief Bowden for spearheading this project and for all the departments doing the work it took to meet the program requirements.

Bucksport Bay Healthy Communities – I met with representatives from BBHCC, the Town and the Chamber of Commerce to discuss funding issues that BBHCC is having in regard to the very important Thriving In Place program that they operate to assist senior citizens in staying in their homes as they age. Funding for the past three years of this program has been through a State program that has indicated it will no longer provide funding. We have reached out to our State Senator and Representatives to ask for assistance in setting up a meeting with DHHS to discuss continuation of this critical program.

EPA Grant Meeting – We had a successful organizational meeting on 2/28 for the \$200,000 EPA grant that the town will be working on with Eastern Maine Development Corporation over the next two years. The grant begins on April 1st. I am encouraged by the enthusiasm and energy that was present at the meeting – and also by what we learned about additional funding that is available to assist in areas not covered by the grant.

Sewer Liens – Sewer liens will be placed on Monday for unpaid sewer bills for the second and third quarters of 2016.

Sewer Treatment Plant Staffing – I am requesting a meeting of the Sewer Committee to discuss staffing options for the treatment plant and review a comparison between contracting or the town hiring another staff person on its own. It would be great if this could be held prior to the next Council meeting since we are getting close to the time when additional personnel will be needed in some capacity.