

MANAGER'S REPORT

Heart & Soul Meeting – I had the pleasure of attending the January 24th Heart & Soul meeting to review hopes and concerns expressed by residents as part of the stories collected through this program. I am impressed with the amount of time that the Heart & Soul volunteers have spent on this – and with the thoughtful and valuable stories and feedback provided by the residents of the community.

Board of Environmental Protection – I received an appointment from Governor LePage to the Maine Board of Environmental Protection recently. I had served on the Board in the past from 2007 to 2015 and was asked to return. The responsibilities of the Board have been reduced through legislative action and deal now primarily with licensing appeals of the DEP, major substantive rulemaking, and licensing of projects of statewide significance. It will require approximately the same time commitment that was needed on the Municipal Review Committee Board. Since there is a conflict of interest, I will be resigning from that Board. The Environment and Natural Resources Committee yesterday approved the nomination from the Governor and the Senate voted to confirm the nomination today.

Handicapped Accessible Front Door – I would like to schedule a Finance Committee meeting prior to the next Council Meeting for the purpose of considering bids for the installation of automatic door openers on the Town Office front door. Money was appropriated for this two years ago.

Fitness Room Equipment – I would also like to include on that Finance Committee agenda a recommendation from the Recreation Committee to replace treadmills at the fitness facility at the Jewett School.

Skating! – Have you been to the skating rink today? Wow – the surface is the best that it has been all season. Credit to Nick and his volunteers keeping the surface clear of snow – and to everyone for staying off the rink when it is warmer to prevent damaging the ice.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Project – I will be meeting with the project engineers in the near future to discuss the amount of the remaining contingency, the report from the work done this summer to inspect the interceptor line from Hannaford to the plant, and options for use of the remaining monies.

Goals Session – I have asked Department Heads for lists of their projects and priorities for the coming year and will have those available at the February 1st meeting so that the Council knows what work is already in progress.

Gazebo – Thank you to Public Works for modifying the railings at the front of the gazebo to having round tops that are easier to grip when climbing the steps. Although there is a handicapped accessible path and ramp to the gazebo, railings were also

requested from the Senior Resource Committee on the front of the gazebo to assist those walking up the steps. Railings had been installed but had just flat tops which were not easy for people to grip.