

MANAGER'S REPORT
June 28, 2018

Whole Oceans – Whole Oceans will be having a staff person at the Local Variety on Thursday mornings for the next several weeks to answer questions that people may have about the coming development. I encourage anyone who is interested to stop by and talk with Jennifer.

Wednesday On Main – Another great Wednesday on Main event last night featuring fiddler Gus LaCasse and guitarist Peter Lindquist! The event was well attended and \$755 was raised to help continue this program! Continuing thanks to Paula Kee for spearheading this program and for the great sponsors and volunteers who contribute as well. The week of the fourth will not have a program but the July 11th show features the Mainely Country band at the gazebo!

Year-end – The Town Office will be closing at 2 p.m. on Friday, June 29th to allow staff to do fiscal year end closure and reporting. We will re-open on Monday, July 2nd at 8 a.m.

17/18 Highlights

During the 17/18 fiscal year, in addition to providing regular public services, the following were just some of the additional items worked on/accomplished by the Town

- Mil rate reduced from \$16.50 to \$16.40 for 17/18 fiscal year
- LED lighting installed on walkway, in Town Office and in Public Safety Building
- 'Night Sky' modifications installed on Walkway lights
- Town received Visionary Award from Hancock County Planning Commission
- Town received Community of the Year from Eastern Maine Development Corp
- Work began on EPA Planning Grant with 2 public sessions and a draft Master Plan completed
- Work with Whole Oceans to locate a land-based aquaculture project at the former mill site
- Two new business locations at the business park
- Completion of the secondary treatment facility with sufficient remaining contingency to allow for installation of a solar array at the site to help offset electric costs.
- Broadband Grant received and completed
- Attained SAFER designation through the Department of Labor for all Town Departments
- 225th Birthday Celebration held in conjunction with Bucksport Bay Festival
- Microloans to three new businesses and two to existing businesses
- ADA grants from the Town to assist with access to local businesses granted to three more businesses
- Town Council adopted Community Heart & Soul Statements resulting from the Heart & Soul Program

- Town started work on a comprehensive community transportation plan
- Town contracted for solar array on Public Works Garage
- Second Annual Parade of Lights was held
- Town contracted with RSU 25 for the provision of IT services
- Town contracted for a study of drainage issues behind Main Street businesses and in the Woodland Heights and Forest Hills areas
- The Council reorganized its Committee structure and continues work on a review of local ordinances to make them more 'user friendly'
- Installed handicapped accessible entrance at Town Office and installed railings at Gazebo to improve access
- Replaced treadmills at the fitness center after the Y had relocated and renovated the fitness room at the Jewett School
- Skating rink renovated by the Y
- Updated truck and backhoe in Highway department and purchased road edger
- Completed first full year of Town hauling its own solid waste for disposal
- Completed 4th year of Marina ownership without use of taxpayer funds
- Vernal Pool project on Miles Lane trails in conjunction with Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust and RSU 25
- Development proposal from Richard Campbell for Wilson Hall renovation
- Assisted Historical Society with roof shingling project
- Individual awards:
 - Chief Geagan named as president of Maine Chiefs of Police
 - Sargent Winchester awarded bravery/lifesaving award from Maine Chiefs of Police
 - Fire Department received EMS Excellence Award
 - Captain Connors received Training Instructor of the Year from the Maine Fire Service
 - Town Manager named to Maine Board of Environmental Protection by Governor LePage and to the Local Government Advisory Committee of the EPA by Secretary Pruitt
- SAFER grant received and accepted for two full-time Firefighter/EMS staff members
- Changed Fire/EMS staffing plan to allow for two full-time employees per shift
- Added 6 parking spaces on Main Street and approved an electric vehicle charging station to be located in one space in a municipal parking lot
- Accepted Royal Ridge Drive as a Town Road
- Sold 52 Main Street to Knox Masonry
- 2018 Spirit of America Award to Heart & Soul Program
- Completed Town wide revaluation
- Approved 18/19 budget resulting in a reduction in the mil rate from \$16.40 to \$16.30