

MANAGER'S REPORT  
December 12, 2019

Town Office Donation – Thanks to the Town Office staff for their \$415 donation to Bucksport Community Concerns. Each of us donates weekly for the privilege of wearing jeans on the last day of the work week and the money is donated annually to Bucksport Community Concerns.

Parade of Lights – A reminder that the Parade of Lights has been moved to Monday night at 6 p.m. because of the rain and wind forecast for Saturday night. We hope that everyone comes out for the event!

AARP Age & Ability Friendly Action Plan – The plan recently approved by the Council was forwarded to AARP national for final approval. I am pleased to inform you that the plan has not only been approved – the reviewing agency at the nation level had the following to say about Bucksport and the plan: *Wow – with a population of just under 5k –the amount, quality and history of work is just amazing. It almost reads like a novel “we lost our primary employer” I expect devastation – but the hero arrives in the form of forward thinking and planning for this. This would make a great case study. As you can probably tell by now – this action plan is approved – please send my congrats to the authors and everyone involved. My only suggestion would be to include some metrics, but from what they already display in their writing, I have no doubt that it will be included.*

Pool Committee – The Pool Committee continues to meet and has done more work on site evaluation. A meeting with a structural engineer will be held on Tuesday to determine whether the head wall is structurally sound.

Main Street Bucksport Grant – Congratulations to Main Street Bucksport for receiving a grant for three more public art pieces. They will be soliciting work from local artists as well as interest from local businesses who may wish to have public art on their building.

Monitoring Wells – Former Landfill – I am pleased to report that we received the testing results from DEP on the monitoring wells at the former landfill. They were tested for the presence of PFAS, the chemical of concern that has been in the news so much recently. While the chemical was present, it was not in concentrations high enough to require remediation. This is good news.

Whole Oceans TIF Approved by the State of Maine – I am also pleased to report that the state department of economic and community development have approved the TIF granted by the Bucksport Town Council in July of this year. They have also finalized elimination of the former VERSO TIFS that were part of that site previously. The TIF starts with the 2020-2021 tax year, but there is no reimbursement to Whole Oceans in the first year.

Former Clerk Honored – Former Town Clerk Kathy Downes was honored by the Hancock County Commissioners with a Spirit of America Award recently. Congratulations to Kathy!

Solar Array – I am pleased to report that the Solar Array at the Treatment Plant is now in operation and reducing the power usage from CMP. Even though it is winter – we should see a significant drop in the bill in the near future.

Treatment Plant Alarm - After the last Council meeting I contacted Bill and Mandy Olver, the principals of Olver Associates about the alarm issue that was discussed. I have included the emails from Bill on this matter. Neither he nor Mandy were aware of the issue. As you can see from the emails, one of his staff had been involved but had not communicated the matter to Bill or Mandy. Bill has worked with the engineer that designed the alarm system and the requested exterior light and ability to send alarm messages to phones will be installed at no cost to the Town. He did indicate that the design of the building is such that the alarm system that is already installs clears the building of any gases in the event of an alarm which is why the exterior light is not a required part of such an installation.

Annual Employee Luncheon – The annual employee Christmas Luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. Town Office and Transfer Station will be closed from 11-1 for that event.