

MANAGER'S REPORT  
9/23/2021

Candidate Forum – The Candidate forum will be held on Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 p.m. at Brown Hall adjacent to the Elm Street Congregational Church. It will be shared live via Facebook Live and will also be recorded for rebroadcast on the Town website and Facebook page. The forum is sponsored by the Enterprise and will be moderated by Dr. Stephen York.

Wall Project – Attached is an update from Community & Economic Development Director Rich Rotella.

Covid 19 related 'stuff' – I have had several residents ask if we were going to go to all remote meetings again due to the increase in COVID 19 cases due to the variants. My response has been that the Council had thus far followed requirements issued by the State or Federal government, which we are doing at this time. There are recommendations made by State and Federal agencies related to this pandemic but at this time there are no requirements related to masking, meetings, etc. The purpose of having this item in this report is to see if the Council wishes to make any changes in the way we are conducting business at this time.

In addition, I have had questions regarding masking. Although masking and social distancing is currently recommended, there is no state or federal regulation requiring this. If the Town were to decide to 'require' it in public spaces we would have to do some sort of ordinance. What role do you want the Town to have with this whole issue? Do we continue to follow state/federal regulation or do you wish to start acting on recommendations?

Senior Center Lease – It has come to my attention that a lease signed by Town Manager Michael Brennan in July of 2012 included provisions for the Town to pay not only the lease payment itself for the Senior Center, but also propane and electric charges for the kitchen at the center. Those items were supposed to have been changed over into the name of the Town in 2012, but were not. The Town has never received a bill from the owners of the apartment complex where the center is located. It was not until we were contacted by the current management of the facility that this matter came to light. They have provided a bill for what they say are the outstanding amounts – which is substantial (\$65,000). I have asked for copies of the bills and reached out to our attorney. The company representative that I spoke with indicated that they wanted to work with the town on a solution to this and I will be talking with her again next week once I have all the bills and an opportunity to review them as well as to discuss this further with our legal counsel as to our responsibility here. Waiting nearly ten years to send any bills is a bit excessive.