



TOWN OF WINSLOW, MAINE

OFFICE OF TOWN MANAGER
ERICA E. LACROIX
ELACROIX@WINSLOW-ME.GOV
WWW.WINSLOW-ME.GOV

114 BENTON AVENUE
WINSLOW, ME 04901
(207) 872-2776
FAX: (207) 872-1999

Monthly Report to the Town Council – July 2023 - Presented August 14, 2023

Esteemed Councilors,

In July we were able to fill three key staff positions.

Christopher Lyons took on the role of Code Enforcement Officer under the tutelage of Amos Michaud. Mr. Lyons has 23 years of experience as a commercial and residential contractor, which gives him a solid background and understanding of building, electrical and plumbing code. He needs to obtain his certifications, and he is scheduled for the Licensed Plumbing Inspector class and test in August. He will have the next 12 months to obtain the other certifications. It has been a huge benefit to have Mr. Michaud here during the transition to train him to Winslow Codes. Mr. Michaud will be taking his leave (again) on August 17.

Interviews were conducted for the Tax Collector/Codes and Assessing Assistant with four qualified candidates. Vanessa Cote was the top candidate and has accepted the position. She will start on August 15.

On July 25 the selection process for Public Safety Director was conducted with a hiring panel of 5 interviewers. Two highly qualified persons applied (a third inquired about the position but did not turn in an application). The interviews took approximately 2 hours each and consisted of 20 questions which covered a broad range of topics including personnel management, budget preparation, leadership, union relations, and community engagement. Applicants were asked several scenario questions designed to exhibit experience and skills in problem solving and decision making. Both candidates interviewed well, but in the end the differentiating factor between the two was the focus on community. The panel unanimously chose to award the position to the Interim Public Safety Director, Leonard Macdaid. The hiring panel consisted of August Police Chief and Assistant City Manager Jared Mills, Bucksport Town Manager Susan Lessard who has managed two public safety departments and implemented one of them, Delta Ambulance Director and Winslow Resident Tim Beals, Council Chair Drapeau and myself. Anyone with questions or concerns regarding the panel should call the Town Office to make an appointment with myself and the Town Attorney to discuss.

Congratulations to all three of these individuals. We are still seeking truck drivers in Public Works.

In project news:

We have applied for CWSRF funding through the Municipal Bond Bank for the \$6.8 million of the project that is not covered by Congressional earmark funds or the CWSRF grant. This funding must be secured before Phase II of the project can be bid out. Phase I (river crossing) is on track for fall construction.

We received notice from Senator Collins and Senator King that the \$3 million request for Sunset Heights has been included in the Senate Appropriations Bill. This is the last step before budget ratification, which

has to happen before the Town will actually receive the award. Thank you to the Senators for their continued support.

The Cushman Road stormwater project is on track to begin in August.

The environmental study for the old Winslow Junior High is ongoing. They have completed all building components and are working on the underground assessment. We have a quote to have the building boarded up so utilities can be completely shut off which is on the Council's agenda for August.

The Ticonic Bridge project will move to the single direction traffic phase on August 14. At that time traffic from Winslow to Waterville will be detoured to the Carter Memorial Bridge. Travelers may also wish to consider travelling north to cross over to Fairfield in Benton depending on their final destination. NOTE this is an MDOT project not under Town control. Citizen concerns regarding this project should be directed to Robbin Lanpher, the MDOT project manager, at 207-941-4500 or via email at robin.lanpher@maine.gov.

Respectfully submitted by,
Erica LaCroix
Town Manager