

Town Manager Update Report November 20, 2015

Below is an update on a few of the highlights from this past week in review:

- Public Works employee Ben Tinker was promoted to the position of Town Mechanic. Ben has served as the assistant to our former mechanic this past year. He has extensive metal fabrication and automotive repair experience. Ted Shane and I were in full agreement on the promotion. The position's focus will continue to be preventative vehicle maintenance and prepping and maintaining snow removal equipment, as the majority of our public works vehicles carry extended warranty. Ben will also continue to plow snow and assist in the training of a new grader operator. His former equipment operator position will go to advertise next week.
- This Saturday morning the Fire Department is scheduled to burn the Town owned Parson's house located behind the Town garage. Staff will be on hand following the burn to ensure that the site is fully extinguished.
- The CIP schedule for department heads was set this past Wednesday.
 - Monday, November 30th – Public Works
 - Thursday, December 10th – Library, and Parks and Recreation
 - Wednesday, December 16th – Fire and Rescue
- Monday we will be holding custodian interviews here in Town Hall.
- I have spent a significant portion of this week on personal property collection. We are beginning to make needed progress in this area. I am also working on a grant reimbursement for the water district for their recent fence project.
- The Sacco bench trial is scheduled for December 2nd and 3rd. The judge has ruled on the Town's motion of summary judgment. Count II, the 1983 claim related to constructive discharge has been dismissed. If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.
- Please anticipate that the Selectmen will need to meet for the Sabbathday Road bid opening on Monday, December 7th. More information about this meeting will follow. Please mark your calendars.
- New Gloucester in the News
 - I understand that a tree from the Kathleen Potter and Frank Chamber residence was selected by LL Bean this year as a part of their Freeport holiday celebration.
 - At the invitation of Perkins Thompson, I attended the E2Tech forum in Portland Thursday morning on assessing environmental risks, including those in our communities. One of the panelists was New Gloucester's Patrick Gwinn. I learned more in one hour from Mr. Gwinn and the panelists than in some of my graduate classes – tremendous!