

First Selectman's Report

June 18, 2019

The First Selectman has had several meetings for the Smokey Hollow Bridge Project with the engineers and construction company. Work began on June 3, 2019 and will continue through April of 2020. The bridge is expected to be closed within the next couple weeks and will remain closed through the duration of the project. A detour for the affected area will be posted as soon as it is finalized.

PermitLink, the new online building permit application software is up and running. A link for PermitLink is available on the Town website and there is a kiosk in the Town Hall, outside of the Town Clerk's Office where people may apply for building permits online.

The Highway Department has been preparing roads for chip sealing which will take place when the weather clears for a couple of days. The roads that are scheduled for chip sealing are: Alain White Road, Stoddard Road, Benedict Road and Straits Turnpike Lane. Please use caution when navigating the chip sealed roads with the loose stone. The Town Beach will be receiving some fresh sand and new clay for the softball field. Quotes are being obtained for the repair of one dump truck and for the purchase of a new truck to replace the current small dump truck. Road sides are being mowed and pot holes are being patched.

The First Selectman met with a representative from CivicLift, a new website platform that is a single resource to showcase local events, destinations as well as meeting the municipal government's needs. The Town would be looking at a 20% savings over the current site and will have the ability to be more accessible to a greater number of people.

June is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month. Town resident Joyce Woodward, spearheaded a drive to have the Town recognize this by proclamation. The color chosen to represent Alzheimer's and Brain awareness is purple. You may have noticed the purple bows around Town and on the Town Green. Purple lights lite up trees in the park as well as the Community Hall cupola. Thank you to Joyce for bringing more awareness of these two issues to us.

The State bridge project on Route 109 (Thomaston Road) by the reservoir has begun. The latest word on the road closure for that project is after July 4th. As soon as a firm date is known, it will be advertised by the State and the Town.

The First Selectman and the Chairperson of the Pension Commission traveled to Harford for a hearing on a Freedom of Information complaint filed by Joel Skilton. In his complaint, Mr. Skilton alleges that the Pension Commission conducted an illegal meeting. The Pension Commission contends that no such meeting took place.

A Town Budget Meeting was held on June 5th and the Town Budget was passed 72-6. A number of volunteers were elected to various boards and commissions. Thank you to everyone that stepped up to serve.