

## **First Selectman's Report**

**11/19/19**

The Highway Department continues to prepare for winter with truck maintenance, staking the catch basins, basin repair, calibrating sanders, clearing beaver debris and tree removal.

Participated in the awards presentation for the three lifeguards from Sandy Beach that helped to rescue a person who fell into the water during the boating accident on Bantam Lake this past summer. Thank you to the lifeguards and to the Sandy Beach Commission for their excellent work.

Morris Tree Worden Kyle Rosenbeck and I participated in the planting of a white oak tree in Memorial park that has been donated by the CT Tree Protective Association. The CT Tree Protective Association has donated a white oak tree to each municipality in the State of Connecticut to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the passing of Connecticut's Arborist Law.

Participated in the biweekly update meeting for the Smokey Hollow Bridge Project with the project engineers and the contractor. The steel beams for the bridge should arrive around Thanksgiving and are expected to be installed soon after.

Met with the Commander of Troop L in Litchfield, Lt. Mark Davidson, to discuss law enforcement concerns in Morris. Issues with speeding, break-ins, the Newport Academy and others were discussed.

Participated in a meeting with other area First Selectmen, Recreation Directors, representatives from DOT and representatives from the Northwest Transit District to discuss the canceling of special trips for the Seniors by the NWTD. The new submission form for the trips was reviewed and the NWTD agreed to resubmit the requested trips on the new form to the DOT for their approval.

Met with Len Fasano, Facilities Manager of the Litchfield Public School system to discuss the bidding on fuel oil and diesel for fiscal year 2020/2021. We are looking at a slight reduction in price per gallon over the current year for both fuels.

The Town employees held a reception for Nancy Skilton, the Town Treasurer, to congratulate Nancy on her retirement from the Treasurer's position that she held for four years. Since Nancy began as Treasurer in 2015, the fiscal office has seen great improvements with the audit, policies and procedures and transparency. Thank you Nancy for a job well done!

Participated in a meeting with the First Selectmen from Warren, Goshen, and Litchfield, representatives from various insurance agencies and brokers, representatives from the Woodridge Lake Sewer District and Region 6 officials to discuss an opportunity for all to work together on health insurance costs and possible ways to reduce costs to each entity.

Met with representatives from SHR Energy to discuss moving forward with plans for a solar array at the land adjacent to the Transfer Station. The Town will be seeking an 8-24 review from the Planning and Zoning Commission. This would be the first step in the process to bring the project to a Town vote.

Participated in the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Region 5 meeting at the Watertown Fire Department. We reviewed proposed procedures for accessing, utilizing and tracking Region 5 equipment, reviewed the initiative to prepare a plan for coordination of municipal public works departments in responding to disasters, election of officers, budget matters, and Homeland Security Grant spending plans.

Attended the Mary Floyd Tallmadge Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution award ceremony where Litchfield Volunteer Ambulance was honored with the Community Service Award by the DAR for their work in the community. The DAR also was celebrating their 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of their chapter in Litchfield. Congratulations to both the DAR and to LVA.