



Millinocket

Maine's Biggest Small Town

Town Manager's Report – 9.8.22

School Department Budget Referendum:

- The Municipal Election to address the referendum concerning whether the community will pass the School Department Budget will take place next Tuesday, September 13th.
- This will be held in Wentworth Gymnasium at Stearns High School
- Polls will open at 8:00am and close at 8:00pm
- The Registrar will hold office hours while the polls are open to correct any error in or change a name or address on the voting list, to accept the registration of any person eligible to vote and to accept any new enrollments.
- The proposed school budget can be viewed at www.millinocket.org, by clicking the “Notice of Election” under News & Events, then clicking the link for FY23 School Budget – Rev Updated 8 29 22.

Tax Commitment & Tax Bills:

- With the delay in approval of the School Department Budget, we will experience a delay in disbursement of tax bills.
- Our Assessor has done the necessary work in preparation of tax commitment and will be ready to execute that process upon her return, the week of the 19th.
- As soon as possible, we will inform the council of the proposed mil rate, justification for it, and distribute tax bill to property and business owners.

FY22 Audit:

- The FY22 audit is in process. Ron Smith and colleagues from RHR Smith & Company have been on site this week, plugging away.
- They are meeting with representation from the Town Administration as well as the School Department to address finances and procedures.
- We will provide any appropriate updates as needed and look forward to seeing the results.

Ski Tow & Winter Kids:

- The secret is out that the Community Initiatives Director and I have made it a mission to bring the ski tow back to life. In this process, Amber has discovered the Winter Kids grant program and entered the Town of Millinocket to be in running for up to \$10,000.
- This would essentially cover the cost of the actual rope tow and installation, leaving other funding opportunities already on our radar to go towards groundwork, electricity, a building to house the mechanics, and possibly some staffing. Much is still to be determined, but the ball is rolling!
- These grants are awarded to the project with the highest number of votes, so please, please please get online and vote for the Town of Millinocket!



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- The link can be found at the Town of Millinocket's Facebook page. You can also go directly to www.winterkids.org and follow the prompts to vote.
- We are up against some much larger communities so let's encourage one another and our neighbors, our neighbor's neighbors, family members, friends, anyone in your network to jump on and cast a vote for the Town of Millinocket and help us bring that incredible community asset to life!

Local Election:

- As of the time of this report, the candidates who have returned their nomination papers and will be on the ballot are as follows:
 - Gilda Stratton – Town Council
 - Robert Higgins – Town Council
 - Tomas Malcolm – School Board
 - Kevin Libby – School Board
- The deadline for submission of nomination papers and inclusion on the ballot for the November election is Friday, September 9th!

Friendly Reminders:

My door is almost always open. If something's on your mind, or you have heard one of those fancy and upsetting rumors that spread throughout so quickly, come in and see me! I am always willing to talk and answers questions about anything I can.

Facebook is not always a source of accurate information unless it is posted directly from the Town of Millinocket. We get things done together in committee meetings, council meetings, etc., not on Facebook comment threads. All are welcome to attend and participate!

Please – If you haven't already, sign up for email correspondence and updates from the town! This is a fabulous and "very 2022" way of communicating and keeping our community up to date. Our mission with this is to be able to inform the public about what's going on and what's coming up. The success of our town depends on our community members engaging and having the right information. Our email contacts list has grown from 0 to 386 pretty quickly, but we have a few thousand to go! There are links on the Town of Millinocket Facebook page and a sign-up sheet at the Town Office. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amber Wheaton, Millinocket's Community Initiative Director, at CID@millinocket.org or (207) 447-4100.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Jamieson, Town Manager.