



Millinocket

Maine's Biggest Small Town

Town Manager's Report – 12.08.22

Millinocket Dog Park:

- With the recent change in the weather, Sebec Fencing was able to come to Millinocket and install the fencing for our new dog park! This is the same fence company who performed the gate replacement at our Wastewater Treatment Facility recently.
- We will be finalizing the sign containing rules and disclaimers for use of the dog park as well as adding the pet waste receptacle and bags as soon as possible. We also have intentions of using unspent CDBG funds to add dog park signage to our wayfinding signage, directing visitors and locals alike to the dog park.
- It is likely that we will be able to open the dog park for some use, be it maybe brief, before northern Maine winter really hunkers us down.
- We ask that everyone please respect this process, allow the work to be completed, and wait for an official announcement of the park to be open before using it with your dogs.
- I would again like to thank our Community Initiatives Director, the Sustainability Committee, and the Town Council for their work on this and allowing this project to come to life!

Climate Resiliency Grant:

- We received the official word on Friday of last week that Millinocket's application for funding from the Maine Resiliency Partnership was APPROVED.
- We have been awarded \$50,000.00 to pay for the purchase and installation of heat pumps in municipally owned buildings. This will be done at no cost to the Town and will provide noticeable positive impact on our municipal budget moving forward.
- The original plan for these funds had to be adapted due to an oversight in the spending stipulations. We disagree with that ruling but are making the best of it. We have learned from that experience and are taking steps to allow us to revisit the original plan in the spring for submission. The original plan was to be able to provide heat pumps to households in the community. We believe we have figured out the solution and are hopeful we can provide that service in the next round of funding.
- This was Amber's first major grant award as Millinocket's Community Initiatives Director. Congratulations to you and thank you for your dedication to the position. We look forward to more good news to come!



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Code Enforcement Officer:

- Millinocket will have a new full-time Code Enforcement Officer beginning next week!
- His name is Chris Beyer. He lives in the Katahdin region. He joins our team already certified as a Code Enforcement Officer as well as a Licensed Plumbing Inspector with experience working in several towns and is eager to hit the ground running.
- We have all intentions of fostering a positive relationship around Code Enforcement with our community members. The key points will be education, communication, and thorough work across the board.
- This is something that has fallen far to the wayside over the past 3 decades and has proven to be needed desperately. I will speak more to these points and the importance of proper permitting and documentation at upcoming meetings as it affects our town's valuation, taxes, safety, etc.
- I will be sure to have Chris join us for an upcoming Council meeting to introduce himself and meet the Council.

Special Mentions:

- I would like to offer sincere thanks to Donna Hakes for DIY'ing and donating our new Penobscot Ave holiday decorations. Those beautiful, lighted, white wreathes mounted to the light posts along Penobscot Ave were made by Donna out of coat hangers! Thank you, Donna.
- Jamie Perry from our Public Works Crew noticed that our big, beautiful, new flag at the Municipal Building was showing signs of wear and was torn from the wind. He was really passionate about having that flag flying high and looking sharp for marathon weekend, so he came and grabbed it on his own time and had it fixed. Local seamstress, Patsy Huston, performed the repairs and old glory was back in action in time for the weekend of festivities!

Budget Review:

- I will use this time to provide an overview of the attached Year-To-Date budget report on both expenses and revenues.
- Moving forward, these budget updates from myself and the school will be presented quarterly.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Jamieson, Town Manager.