

Town Manager's Report – 2.23.23

Congressional Directed Spending:

- Senator King has officially requested that our CDS application for the reconstruction of our downtown corridor road, sidewalks, and lights be funded by the Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Subcommittee on Appropriations.
- •____This does not guarantee funding; however, it moves our project into the next round.
- •____It will need to pass the Committee and then the vote of both the Senate and the House.
- •___Stay Tuned! More to come!

Millinocket Dog Park:

- The snow has melted, and we are starting to see a major increase of use at our new dog park.
- I would like to remind the community that this is still brand new and yet to be finished. The Fencing to divide the space and the gate were installed this past December just before the snow really flew. We recognize that we still need to complete some repairs to the existing fencing, place a grate in front of the drainage culvert, install the permanent rules signage, and add additional picnic tables and benches. We also plan to add the dog park to our branded wayfinding signage to point users to the area.
- Please be patient and respectful as our small crew of overloaded employees work to complete this work.
- We look forward to having an opening celebration once the work is completed!

Representing Millinocket's Great Work to Larger Audiences:

- I was recently contacted by a journalist for the magazine produced by the Maine Municipal Association to be interviewed on aspects and challenges of municipal employment.
 - <u>o</u> The article covers the challenges of attracting and retaining employees in various areas of the state, what is working and what needs to be improved.
 - **o** This invite came from my involvement in a panel discussion at last fall's MMA conference on a similar topic.
- I am please to say that I have been invited to participate as a speaker in Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future's second Communities Leading on Climate conference on Thursday, May 11 at the University of Maine's Wells Conference Center in Orono.
 - <u>o</u> This invitation comes from the great work we are doing with the Community Resiliency Partnership funding as well as our planning/efforts around EV charging and solar.



Northern Forest Center Grant Funding Assistance:

- We recently finalized some work with the Northern Forest Center regarding additional grant funding toward the engineering and design work for our Airport Terminal.
- Happy to say this resulted in \$50,000 toward Millinocket's Project as a subaward grantee among other projects included in a much larger award.

Reminders from the Clerk's Office:

- Nominations Papers Available now through May 5th; must be returned to the Clerk's office by Friday, May 5th, 2023, at 4:00pm. Special Election to be held May 23rd.
 - o Current list of community members with Nomination Papers out:
 - Richard Angotti
 - Jim Bisque
 - Gilda Stratton
 - o At the time this report is submitted, no nomination papers have been returned.
 - o Please, if you feel inspired to try your had at this civic duty and help move the Town of Millinocket forward, visit our Town Clerk's office to grab your nomination papers!
- Anticipated: School Budget 1st Public Hearing & Adoption May 11th, 2023, Regular Council Meeting.

Employment Opportunities:

- •____Millinocket is currently seeking application for the following employment opportunities:
 - o___Code Enforcement Officer/Licensed Plumbing Inspector
 - o____Seasonal Cemetery Worker
 - o_Code and Assessor Assistant
 - o_Airport Attendant
 - o_Public Works Mechanic
 - o___Fire/EMS (3 positions)
 - o_East Millinocket Police Department Officer (Through East Millinocket)
- If you or someone you know may be interested in any of these positions, please contact our staff for more information. The applications are also available at Millinocket.org under Community, then Employment.
- Municipal Employment offers great schedules, incredible benefits, and Maine State Retirement! Consider applying!

Respectfully submitted,



Peter Jamieson, Town Manager