



# *Town Manager's Report to the Town Council*

Submitted by:  
Michael W. Heavener  
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*Town of Winslow - In the heart of Central Maine representing People, Pride and Progress.*

## **END OF FISCAL YEAR BUDGET UP-DATE**

On June 30, 2009 we ended our 2009 Fiscal Year and preliminary reports indicate we ended the year with a surplus. Our overall expenditures were under budget by about \$200,000 and our revenues exceeded our projections by about \$100,000. The only department that exceeded budgeted expenditures was the Sewer Department, which was the direct result of the substantial increase in our KSTD fee.

Our annual audit will be taking place during the weeks of August 17th and 24th. At the conclusion of the audit we will have firm budget numbers.

## **TOWN OFFICE ROOF UPDATE**

A.E. Hodsdon has prepared bid documents for addressing issues with the municipal building's roof (see my June 2009 report) at an approximate cost of \$26,500.00. Bids are expected to be opened on Thursday, July 30th. I will have an update on the process for the August Town Council meeting.

## **UNITY COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP**

Professor Lois Ongley of Unity College will be teaching a class on Chromium this Fall at Unity College. Professor Ongley will be teaching the class in collaboration with the Town and her students will be conducting Chromium testing along the Sebasticook under her direction. Jane Edwards and I are scheduled to speak with her students on Thursday, September 3rd to provide our perspective on the Chromium issue.

Professor Ongley is planning to have a final report to present to the Town Council on Monday, December 14, 2009.

## **MILE BROOK BRIDGE UPDATE**

On June 24th at 6:00 PM, Nate Benoint of the Maine DOT conducted a public meeting regarding the planned replacement of the Mile Brook Bridge on the Garland Road.

MDOT has been planning for sometime now (since 2003) to make repairs to the bridge, however, since the removal of the dam they have had a growing concern for erosion that could be occurring on the bridge pillars. Therefore, MDOT is planning to replace the bridge and hope to have the project complete by the Fall of 2011. Construction is expected to begin in the Summer of 2010 and traffic will be rerouted to the N. Reynolds Road.

The Mile Brook Bridge was built in 1947 and handles about 2,500 vehicles a day. The bridge will be rebuilt to handle about 3,500 vehicles a day at a cost of about 6.5 million. Eighty percent (80%) of the cost will be paid for with Federal funds.

## **FIRST PARK REVENUES**

We have received a personal property tax payment of \$21,018.76 from FirstPark. We did not anticipate this revenue, which has come at a time of shrinking State revenues. Additional FirstPark information is included in your council packet.

## **LOHMANN ANIMAL HEALTH INTERNATIONAL**

In my report last month I indicated Lohmann Animal Health International (LAHI) was planning to request a TIF from the town. I have since received their request and the TIF Advisory Committee has met once to discuss LAHI's proposal.

I anticipate having a TIF Advisory Committee recommendation for the Council meeting in August.

## PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS

In your packet is a copy of the Town Charter with proposed minor amendments. The Charter Review Committee (*Councilor Roland Michaud, Councilor Gerald Saint Amand and myself*) has reviewed the charter and is proposing the changes.

We will discuss the proposed changes at the Council meeting on the 13th.

## COUNCIL AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Dan Bernier has expressed his intention of appealing a decision made by Code Enforcement Officer Frank Stankevitz. The new plumbing code we recently adopted requires that the first step in the appeal process be made to the municipal officers. Subsequent steps in the appeal process are conducted at the State level. We need to decide when the appeal will be heard by the Town Council in August. The hearing itself will likely be conducted much like a Zoning Board of Appeals hearing. Mr. Bernier's attorney, Alton Stevens, is planning to call the following witnesses: Amy Lemelin, Colin Clark, Russell Martin and Dan Bernier.
- There has been a great deal of discussion recently about adult entertainment ordinances. I would like to know if the Town Council is interested in having the Planning Board develop such an ordinance for Winslow.
- I am hopeful that by the July 13th Council meeting, FPLE land along the Sebasticook River will have been conveyed to the Town. If so, I will be looking for direction from the Town Council on what your intention for the land is. For example, will a committee be formed to decide how the land will be used? Or, will the land be conveyed to abutting property owners so they will be waterfront property owners once again?