



Town of Rockport, Maine

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Town Manager's Report & Update April 7, 2021

Public Hearing for Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles

The public hearing for the Select Board to hear public comments on the Annual Town Meeting warrant articles will be May 10, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the start of the Select Board's regular meeting. A public hearing on all the articles is required by state statute because the town meeting is by referendum. None of the articles can be amended.

LD 94 – Firefighter Excise Tax Bill

The public hearing for LD 94 occurred with the Taxation Committee on April 2nd. Nine pieces of written testimony were supplied to the Committee with two in opposition to the bill (Town of Georgetown and Maine Municipal Association), four in support (Town of Thomaston, a resident of Washington, Rep. Doudera and me, and the rest neither for nor against with information provided. Rep. Doudera is optimistic as am I. The work session is scheduled for April 8th.

Harbor Work

There are several projects that will be occurring at the Harbor over the next several weeks. The Town will be contracting with Prock Marine to rebuild the pier as part of the infrastructure bond work. In addition, Public Works will be excavating and repairing the fill behind the seawall where several holes were created this winter by the storms and tide surge. After that, the parking area by the Harbormaster's building will be redesigned and paved along with a correction to drainage along the road leading to the boat ramp.

Marge Jones Recreation Field

Mike Young and I met with Barrett Brown representing the local Babe Ruth baseball organization. Five Towns Babe Ruth and Little League would like to install two new batting cages at the fields. One would replace a batting cage that was past its useful life and that was removed last year. This was located outside the center field fence of the Babe Ruth field. The second batting cage will be located behind the first base dugout at the Babe Ruth field. After reviewing the locations and discussing the plans, I have approved the installation of these batting cages. The labor and materials will be provided by the two leagues. I appreciate their efforts.

Parks Brochure

The Parks and Beautification Committee created a tri-fold brochure highlighting the different parks in Rockport. Lincoln County Publishing printed these and they are available for

distribution. I sincerely appreciate the work done by this committee on this brochure. This will also be included as an insert in the May edition of *The Rockport Resource*.

West Rockport Fire Station Project

I have received the preliminary estimate for the West Rockport Fire Station as designed from the estimator. Chief Peasley, Bill Lane and I will be meeting soon to review and then have a meeting of the WRFS Building Committee.

Old Rockland Street Project

Rhino Services, Inc. began the rebuild of Old Rockland Street on Monday, April 5th.