



Town of Rockport, Maine

Town Manager's Office

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Town Manager's Report & Update May 6, 2021

Resignations:

Library:

Laura Poole - Technical Services and Cataloging Librarian's last day is May 11th. Laura has worked for the Town for five years.

Opera House:

G. Andrew Weber - Rockport Opera House Manager and Rental Agent's last day is June 30, 2021. Drew has worked for the Town for three years.

Retirement:

Public Works:

Daryl Libby - Public Works Equipment Operator/Truck Driver will be retiring the end of May. Daryl has worked for the Town for 16 ½ years.

The Town wishes them the best and thanks them for their service.

Memorial Day Parade

There WILL be a Memorial Day Parade this year and we expect social distancing to be practiced by any attendees. The High School will NOT have a band marching but will have a quartet and a bugle player for TAPS. The American Legion will also put wreaths at Memorial Park, Pascal Avenue bridge and Amesbury Cemetery. The wreaths are donated by the Town of Rockport.

Special Edition Newsletter

There will be a special edition of *The Rockport Resource* in the next week or so that will provide information on the Annual Town Meeting by referendum scheduled for June 8.

Route 1 Wastewater Extension Project

The Town is in the final steps of applying for interim financing from the Maine Municipal Bond Bank for the Route 1 Wastewater Project. This funding is basically a "construction loan" that the Town will use during construction to pay the contractor. Once the project is complete, the interim financing will then be paid with a permanent bond as approved by the voters previously. The estimated interest rate for the interim financing is 1.0%.

Library “Punch List”

The interior punch list for the Library is essentially complete with a few remaining items that should be completed by mid-May. The contractor is waiting for stone blocks/pavers for the exterior punch list. These are delayed as have many building products. They are expected to be delivered mid-May and then will be installed.

Revenue Sharing – LD 328

The Legislature approved increasing municipal revenue sharing from 3.75% to 5% with an effective date of January 1, 2021. There was one vote in the House of Representatives and Senate opposed to this bill. However, the Appropriations Committee must now approve funding for this to be official. If approved, the Town will receive the additional 1.25% in revenue sharing funding retroactive to January 1, 2021. State law already requires revenue sharing to increase to 5% as of July 1, 2021.

Remote Meetings – LD 32

The public hearing for LD 32 that would allow remote public meetings to continue permanently was held on April 30 and had overwhelming testimony in support. If approved by the legislature, the Select Board would need to approve a policy regarding remote meetings after public notice and hearing.

MMA Workers’ Compensation Incentive Program

The Town’s Safety Committee approved a Wellness Program as part of the Safety Plan in April, and this was submitted to MMA for the incentive program. With this final step completed, the Town now has reached Tier III of the Workers’ Compensation Incentive Program and will receive a 10% reduction in its workers’ compensation insurance premium, up from 7.5% from Tier II.