

Town Manager Report to the Board of Selectmen – Mon., Sep. 24, 2018

- Free Cash has been certified by the state. We have good news to report in that regard, with approximately \$2.7 million having been certified in Free Cash and a little over \$1 million in retained earnings in the Water Enterprise fund.
- The shared inspectors have started, the new building inspector started on September 17 and the electrical and gas inspectors started at the beginning of the month.
- As we continue to transition to the new shared ISD service with Wenham, we have been getting some very good assistance from our IT Director Andy Wood, who has jumped right in to help us plan how we will transition assessing data to the new ISD/Permitting software that Wenham will be using. I want to thank Andy, as well as Patrick, Mary Ellen and Tina for their efforts in their respective departments. Jackie Bresnahan of Wenham has also been extremely helpful during this phase of the transition.
- Public Works Director Tim Olson has announced that the water department will begin flushing hydrants starting this week – please see the town website for information about how the flushing may affect your water service and when the flushing will take place in your neighborhood.
- I continue to make the rounds meeting with local residents, boards and committees and other organizations that are involved in town life here in Hamilton.
- I met with President Hollinger and Jay Trewern at Gordon Conwell on Monday and we discussed having their folks begin meeting with the new GCTS Task Force. They both expressed their feeling that the earlier meetings had laid a positive groundwork for our future discussions and agreed to continue meeting with us.
- I also met with HMRSD Superintendent Mike Harvey and Jeff Sands to talk about the schools, our upcoming budget process and future collaborations.
- I joined our Finance Director Marisa Batista, Treasurer Cheryl Booth and Scott Maddern in meeting with the Fin Com last Wednesday night. We had a good meeting, which included a presentation from the town's investment firm, Bartholomew and Co. I will leave it to Scott to provide an update on that.
- Improvements to the employee lunch room at Town Hall have begun and the staff has been asked to provide input on the type of lunch room furniture that will be provided.
- I also took time to meet jointly with the presidents of all five bargaining units to open the lines of communications with our employees and separately visited with the DPW staff to introduce myself as well.
- The Hamilton Council on Aging accepted donations of food (non-perishable food items), which they in turn donated to the Lawrence Council on Aging to aid the victims of the Merrimack Valley area gas accident.
- Also met with Veterans Agent Karen Tyler. She will be visiting the board at your October 9 meeting.
- Marisa and I will be reviewing the draft Budget Calendar that Robin created while she was here. Our goal is to make some amendments, so that we can begin our budget process almost as soon as STM is over.