

## Town Manager Report to the Board of Selectmen Monday, November 5, 2018

- Residents have started receiving information about the Community Choice Aggregation program in the mail and there has been some confusion. We'd like to remind residents that the Town Meeting and Board of Selectmen have approved the Community Choice Aggregation program and earlier this month, the town did receive a very good bid for electricity supply cost, beginning November 1. The cost of the basic program, for electricity supply is \$11.4 center per kWh, however, any resident who wishes to opt out of the program can do so and they will automatically be put back into the National Grid pricing structure. For more information residents can go to [www.hamiltoncca.com](http://www.hamiltoncca.com) or call 866-226-3953 and leave a message and you will get a call back.
- The job Description for the Patton Homestead Director has been completed and posted. We have been actively reaching out to other networks and constituencies in order to get as wide a distribution of the position as possible and I am hopeful that we will have a good pool of candidates in the next three to four weeks. I'd like to thank the folks with the Patton Homestead Inc. for helping me re-draft that job description to reflect the current needs.
- Our Finance Director Marisa Batista has begun interviewing a pool of candidates for the open position in the accounting department. I am hopeful that final interviews will begin in the next week or two, as we try to get that department fully staffed.
- We are also still accepting applications and resumes for the open position in the Treasurer/Collector's office.
- We have gratefully accepted the services of Caroline Johnson, on a temporary fulltime basis, to assist in the Treasurer-Collectors office. Caroline has previously worked in both Manchester and Wenham in the collectors offices in those towns and is well versed in that work, she has been a great addition to our staff at Town Hall.
- We currently have 4 employees out on medical leave and three others who have requested FMLA in several departments. We wish all of those employees good luck with the variety of issues they are addressing and we hope to have them all back to work as soon as they are able.
- The Town Hall Study Committee interviewed 3 architectural/design firms out of nine that had responded to the RFP. Following the interviews and a healthy discussion about each of the finalists the Committee selected LLB Architects and the Town Manager's office will now enter negotiations to enter into a contract with LLB for the scope and design work.
- Echo Cove Road project has begun. Aggregate has already ground the existing pavement down and will be spending a day or two to repave the road in the next week or so. DPW has been informing the residents ahead of the work and will continue to do so.
- The Town did receive some unfortunate news last week, our request for reimbursement for cost overruns of the Bridge Street culvert project were denied by FEMA, because the Town's Pre-Disaster Mitigation plan had lapsed last spring. I have reached out to the MAPC to initiate the process for updating our PDM plan, as without it we will not be eligible to receive any FEMA funding going forward.