

**Town Manager Report to the Board of Selectmen**  
**Monday, April 1, 2019**

- Town Meeting is this coming Saturday, April 6, 2019 beginning at 9 a.m. at the H-W Regional High School Auditorium. In preparation for Town Meeting, and some of the articles that will be up for consideration, Selectman Jeff Hubbard will be attending the Senior Center on Wednesday, April 3 at about 10:30 to make a short presentation and answer questions about progress on the Town Hall Building preservation project and the request to fund further design efforts on that project. Additionally, Marc Johnson of the Patton Homestead Inc. will be presenting information and updates on the progress made at the Patton Homestead since last fall's Special Town Meeting vote. I plan to attend and be available to answer questions on either or both of those subjects as needed.
  
- At the last Board of Selectmen's Meeting on March 18, the Board voted to approve and authorize me and Chief Russell Stevens to enter into a pair of agreements that would effectuate the establishment of a School Resource Officer (SRO) in the Hamilton-based schools of the HWRS. Coupled with that, the Board approved the inclusion of funding for that position in the FY'20 budget, with the expectation that the town will also be receiving funding for the Host Community Agreement it signed with Green Meadow Farms last year. The Board also asked that once the agreements were full executed by the town and school district, that the School district remove the funding it had included in its budget for the SRO. I am pleased to report that the School Committee formally voted to enter into the SRO agreements with the Town of Hamilton and executed the documents at their last meeting on Wednesday, March 27. As a result, the School District has amended its budget to remove the funding for the SRO from the school budget and thus reduced the apportionment of the School Budget to Hamilton as well. When the two budget go to the Town Meeting floor on Saturday, it will be with corrected
  
- Update on Town Manager Goals:
  - Self-Sufficiency of the Patton Homestead – Patton Director Kaleigh Paré and I presented the Patton Homestead Business Plan in a public meeting last Thursday night, March 28 at the Memorial Room. Most of the meeting was broadcast by HWVCAM, but due to an operational error, the first ten minutes of our presentation was missed. I will be providing a briefer summary of the business plan later in this meeting, but the public should know that they business plan has been posted to the town website under the Patton Homestead page, along with the PowerPoint that was used to present the plan to the community last Thursday night.
  - Financial Policies and Stabilization Funds – We will begin work on additional financial policies and best practices following the Annual Town Meeting on April 6.

- Chebacco Road/Well Exploration and Manchester – The FY'20 budget projection for capital investment includes a request of Town Meeting for \$1 million to pave the unpaved portion of Chebacco Road and return it to the town's right of way, the current dirt road strays from the right of way in several places. If funding for this project is approved by Town Meeting, we will begin the process of planning the work, including a public meeting with the neighbors and residents of Chebacco Road to ensure that the project is constructed in a manner that improves the conditions for those on that street. The
- Town Hall Renovations – There are two funding articles on the Town Meeting warrant, including a CPA request of \$150,000 and a separate budget request of \$75,000 from the general fund, for a total of \$225,000 to complete design development for a Town hall renovation project, which can be presented to the fall Special Town Meeting. Town Hall Building Committee Chairman Mike Twomey will appear before the Board tonight, in just a few minutes, and before the Town Meeting on April 6, to explain the project, its history and the THBC's recommendations.

We Thank Mike for being here tonight and all of the THBC members for their hard work and effort over these last several months.

If both Town Meeting articles are approved on April 6, the design team and the Town Hall Building Committee will push forward with a development proposal that can be presented to the Special Town Meeting for approval in the fall. The final step would be to present a complete plan for construction, including costs of the approved design to the Annual Town Meeting next year.
- Master Plan and Housing – The latest edition to the **Master Plan: Housing Profile** document has been received and is under review. It will be posted to the town website soon. The second of two town wide housing forums has been re-scheduled to April 29, at the Hamilton-Wenham Public Library beginning at 7 p.m.