

Coordinator report

September 28, 2018

I am for keeping an open mind on the matter of continued operation of our local elementary school while the matter is studied. At this point it is important to get some agreement on methods of evaluation. Of interest to me are how to impute or allocate: central office, special needs, other shared services costs.

Jay Sullivan was right, and I was wrong. Once the SC adopts it budget if it increases the General Fund budget later, the towns must be noticed, and they have the right to repudiate the increase and claw it back from the assessments. It would take two towns. School Committee did, based on using more conservative state aid than obtained, subsequently vote to increase the budget. The letter went out. Does Warwick want to call a Special Town Meeting and vote to lower the assessment by repudiating the SC vote? Do you think it would pass? I can line out possible costs to Warwick and the District in the event it does.

We had one "all board meeting" on the subject of the Johnson / Fred Lincoln field. As follow-up I have obtained the purchase and sale offer which is contingent on permit approval for extraction activities. Conservation Commission has provided at my request a summary of its jurisdiction as it may apply. There are resource areas of concern including the Lily Pond. Legal counsel has advised that if the Town is serious about exercising our option to buy, he needs to notice the seller that the request was not properly formed and needs to include: "1. The name, address, and telephone of the landowner and the landowner's attorney, if any. 2. A statement of intent to sell Chapter 61, 61A, or 61B land for, or convert such land to, residential, industrial, or commercial use. 3. A statement of proposed use of the land. 4. The location and acreage of the land as shown on the Assessors' Map. 5. In the case of an intent to sell, a certified copy of an executed Purchase and Sale agreement specifying the purchase price and all terms and conditions of the proposed sale, which is limited only to the property classified under the Chapter, and which shall be a bona fide offer. A bona fide offer is a good faith offer not dependent upon potential changes to current zoning or conditions or contingencies relating to the potential for, or the potential extent of, subdivision of the property for residential use or the potential for, or the potential extent of, development of the property for industrial or commercial use. 6. Any additional agreements or a statement of any additional consideration for any contiguous land under the same ownership, and not classified under the Chapter, but sold or to be sold contemporaneously with the proposed sale. 7. In the case of an intent to convert the land to another use, the landowner must also notify the Town of the landowner's attorney, if any." (per Town Counsel).

I've written MG Land Trust and affected town boards early in the week and asked for advice on exercising the option. We requested advice / feedback in the next ten days. In short, if we want to acquire the property we need to follow the law, unless we can get the MGLT interested very quickly. But if we don't want to use or assign our option we can just say, "Thanks, and received" so our landowner can get the 120-day clock going and not delay the buyer's or seller's plans. We won't have a quorum of Selectboard able to act until after the November election as one member is also on the ZBA so we need a third acting

on this matter. If we tried to have a Selectboard act sooner, we'd need to get up to speed on "Rule of Necessity". Actual purchase by the Town would need to be approved by a TM. Assignment of our option is voted by Selectboard.

I got the reporting and reimbursement request filed and approved for the FFY17 emergency management grant. The FYY18 EMPG grant was submitted.

Broadband committee and Selectboard meet at 5 pm oct 1 Monday. We got Mt Grace Ave graded and have climbers working on wiring on Grace. I'm pleased with the results of the new billing system and its impact on collections.

Had a question about use of the library for an election related event and had to advise Trustee's against. We can only allow this if all candidates are invited, or if there is an existing standing and acceptable rental policy and a fee paid. Counsel advises against Library going anywhere near election campaigning.

Teacher negotiations are reopening at Pioneer Valley and I am on the committee. We must meet to tell them we have nothing more to offer fiscally at this time.

I spoke with Chief Shoe about camera's but forgot to put anything on the agenda. He will appear at a meeting and it seemed to me how to pay for it was his concern. I think it best to tie into Warwick Broadband for remote capture of images whenever can. For a future agenda and possibly Executive Session as it relates to deployment of security. Chief also asked for help with EOPPS Grant which I will provide.

I am working on Cemetery Commission makeup. I am inviting Shoe and George to resign to be replaced with Tracy Kirley and Brad Matthews who have agreed to appointment. George is willing to be the worker and not the Commissioner. Commissioner Toth put this together and I am doing follow-up implementation. If things come together look for this on the October 15 meeting agenda.