

## **23 May 2023 Mayor's Report**

It is hard to believe the month of May has gone so quickly and summer is here already.

The Commission has completed a full read-through and revision of the Personnel Manual, which was in dire need of an upgrade after 16 years. We also approved the final version of the job description for the Code Enforcement Officer and will post the open position in the near future. The Commission will next begin review and approval all job descriptions, some of which also date back 16 years or more for approved versions.

Last month we held our second Law Enforcement Workshop, which was a Q&A session with Leaders from the BCSO South Precinct. We have prepared an FAQ document and a comparison of a Municipal Service Tax Unit (MSTU) versus a Service Contract. Both documents will be printed in the next Cardinal and are available in the office. We had good attendance, but not as many as would benefit from hearing this information and understanding where the Town stands now and in the future regarding police presence and cost to the Town and residents. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to attend. The next Workshop will be Saturday July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10am in the AHF Hall, when we will host Pat Riley, the Mayor of Malabar. They went through a progression of having their own police department, to a service contract and now MSTU. We aren't trying to mimic Malabar, nor have we decided anything, but I'm hopeful his perspective based on their experience will be beneficial.

We had a special meeting last week for a 6-month budget review to assess how our projections are holding up to reality. Our Town Clerk, Heather Roberts, first reviewed the status of the budget with the Finance Committee, who agreed with the proposed reallocations to ensure we have the necessary funds in the right line items for the remainder of the fiscal year. The Commission then reviewed and approved the modifications. We are doing well at this timepoint with money in our contingency fund, plus the ARPA grant, and hopefully an additional \$225 for SW/Culvert repair. We appreciate the oversight and transparency that Heather has brought to our Treasurer position and the collaborative relationship with the Finance Committee, who responsibly uses a fine-tooth comb to review the data and ensure accuracy and responsible fiscal decisions.

Speaking of money, the Town will be spending some in the near future. I hope that the overdue, interim repair of Hall Road has begun by the time I'm reading this note. I am thankful for the collaborative relationship we have with the AHF and their decision to pay half the cost of this interim repair. The RFP for replacing the roofs on our Town Hall and PW Garage/workshop was sent to 20 roofing companies. Not sure when this work will begin based on the expected backlog due to the severe hailstorm we experienced at the end of last month, but again, we are moving forward.

If you look at the Consent Agenda, you see that the Town, Boards and Committees have been very busy. The volunteer Commissioners who sit beside me agreed to serve the Town, but I'm not sure they knew it would mean consistently attending multiple meetings and workshops each month, on top of their Action Items, and other duties. I want to recognize that each Commissioner has been willing to work hard and do whatever is needed as they serve the Town and residents. I also want to thank our Attorney, John Cary, who attends Code Enforcement Board meetings, Commission Meetings and has served as a great resource for us these past few months.

As a reminder, the next Town Hall with the Mayor will be on Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup> at 10am, here in the Town Hall. I will be bring more donuts since we ran out last time.

As always, let's keep the conversation going.

Sincerely,

Mayor Sue Ditty