

19 December 2023 Mayor's Report

I want to welcome everyone this chilly December evening. Thank you for continuing to support the Town and the Commission with your interest and participation. Thank you also to those attending the Mayor's Town Hall meetings – we had another full house on Saturday with informative and lively discussion. When we know better, we can do better.

The past year was not without challenges and difficulties, but as resident Mary Jane Moon said months ago - we are a Phoenix rising! And how true! We are building a team that is committed to our municipality and you, as residents. Jeff Conklin is our new “man on the street” in Public Works – please shout a quick greeting when you see him out and about.

We continue to make progress on clarifying and establishing Town policies, staff training, fee schedules, revising the Personnel Manual, the Town Charter, and working toward modernizing our website, record keeping and other office processes.

In the next few months, we will fix the Hall Road culvert, replace septic systems for the Town, repair the sidewalks on Dayton, begin restoration of the HWCH and re-open the playground. Please also keep an eye out as we begin the process of installing our refurbished reflective street signs to improve visibility and safety.

We will host workshops on our revised Town Charter and Law Enforcement options to prepare residents to make informed, knowledgeable decisions on election referendums. Keep an eye on the Cardinal Calendar, the Bulletin Board and Next Door – and hopefully, I'll get our email listserv, Constant Contact, up and running in the very near future.

Save the date: we will be hosting an Invitation-Only dinner on Saturday January 20th, to honor the dedicated volunteers who support our Town by giving their time and effort throughout the year. Keep an eye out for information in the Cardinal and via email. VM Foster is leading this effort.

I can summarize the overarching sentiment I've felt from residents over this past year – it is one of progress and positivity. I am grateful and honored to have the opportunity to serve as your Mayor.

Hope you have a Happy Holiday! and a great New Year!

Let's keep the conversation going!

Sue Ditty, Mayor