

THIRD QUARTER SELECT BOARD REPORT

Fun-The Independence Day Committee hosted a very successful Independence Day event! Thanks to all the volunteers and attendees.

The Beach Program had a summer of fun, camp, swimming and lessons. Thanks to Bob Thebedo, Rose Carlo and all the camp counselors and life guards. Beavers had fun too, industriously building massive homes, raising the pond levels and the frustration levels of property owners who had beach front land under water. That issue is being dealt with.

New boat racks were added to the area so that safety and grounds maintenance was assured.

Jennifer Cooke was an inspiration to watch as she and occasionally the highway guys worked to create a lovely garden area at the town offices. A granite bench, donated by Steve Hewes in memory of Joanne Coburn will be installed before snow flies.

Plans to create a more level area for the skating rink on the Common are in place.

Business-Diana Calder, the town's assessor for many years completed the 5-year revaluation on Lyme properties as her swan song to retirement from serving Lyme. Her expertise has been greatly appreciated and we wish her well in her retirement. A Tax Assessor Search Committee recommended Todd Haywood to replace Diana, which was approved by the Select Board on September 15, 2016.

The discovery of significant climbing activity and property damage on Holts Ledge has been the subject of discussion since late spring. In an effort to enable the conditional use of the property, a "Holt's Ledge Management Plan" is being considered. There will be a public meeting to discuss this issue. Until the issue is resolved, the property remains posted.

The Board voted, following the suggestion of the Attendants, to adjust winter hours at the Transfer Station to 2pm to 4pm on Wednesdays. This will coincide with the daylight savings Time Change on November 6. Wednesday November 9th will start the new hours until the time changes back in the spring. So, Wednesday hours continue this winter! Thank your attendants!

The Tax Study Committee has spent considerable hours looking for ways to make paying our property taxes more manageable. Twice a year tax billing is being considered again.

And roads.....As has been the norm now for months, River Road remains a focus. With each storm new areas of concern emerge. The Army Corps of Engineers has taken an interest in a couple of the locations and has offered assistance in providing remedial measures. The Roads Committee, in conjunction with the Road Agent continue to investigate cost effective and efficient ways to upgrade the town roads. Evidence of this successful endeavor is noticeable on all the roads. Culvert replacements and upgrades continue. As they say: "timing is everything."

Not two weeks after two vulnerable, non-functioning culverts were replaced on Grafton Turnpike Road, a beaver dam let loose in the middle of the night in the wilds of Pickledish Hollow. Three properties had driveway damage, but because of the functioning culverts, the road

sustained minimal damage. If they hadn't been addressed, the road would have been totally compromised and its repair extremely costly. Prevention is everything.

The status of "Slump #1" re-route remains in limbo as we await further information about an updated appraisal of the potentially affected property.

And finally—Personnel: We welcome Lisa Garcia who you will find greeting you at the front desk in the Select Board office. And, sadly we have received notification that Sergeant Swett has been offered and accepted a position with the Police Department in his home town of Plainfield. His resignation was accepted with sincere regret.

COMING SOON (calendar dates):

Class V Roads Study Committee Public Meeting
November 1, 2016 at 7 pm --School Cafeteria

Tax Study and Advisory Committee Public Meeting
November 14, 2016 at 7 pm Town Office Conference Room