

To: Hubbardston Board of Selectmen

From: Raeanne Siegel, Interim Town Administrator

Date: September 06, 2016

Re: Town Administrator's Report

State primary and QRSD override ballot question: On August 23, 2016, the Quabbin Regional School District notified the Town of a revised assessment for the upcoming 2016 – 2017 school year. Our current assessment is now below what was voted on at the Annual Town Meeting in June. Therefore, while the Town was required to call for a Special Town Meeting and ballot question for the assessment presented on July 18th, this additional funding is no longer needed. Due to the timing of the revised assessment, ballots for the override will still be available for voting on September 8th, however the outcome will have no effect on Hubbardston's tax rate or QRSD assessment for the Town.

Beaver dam cost on MT. Jeff from 2014: The costs relating to the beaver debris breach on Mt. Jefferson Road, which occurred on April 6, 2014 is approx. \$9,345.35. It appears as though this amount was never recouped from the resident whose dam located in a pond on their property caused the breach. Does the Board want to pursue this amount with the resident?

Update on Ragged Hill lots: The RFB for each of the lots are complete, and have been sent to KP Law for review. Once final wording is acceptable, the lots will be put out for the bid process, and realtors can be notified.

Cell Towers: Vin Ritchie will be attending the BOS meeting on the 19th, to discuss leasing the two adjacent plots of town owned land off of Ragged Hill Road for cell towers. I will be meeting with Vin prior to this meeting, and will gather all information for the discussion.

MART contract: Last week MART sent a contract for review, in order to fulfill a requirement to have an active contract with each participating town. While the majority of the contract is listing procedures and requirements that are already in place, there are two areas with changes that may affect our budget. First, MART is now requiring that all towns insure their own van. While they will reimburse up to \$2k for premium, if the van is in an accident, the town will be responsible for damages, and costs associated with the accident. Additionally, MART will no longer reimburse 100% of payroll for the amount of time the COA Director spends performing MART related duties, instead listing only a 20% reimbursement. I attended the most recent MART meeting on Tuesday the 30th, where both of these items were discussed, as they are a concern to most towns. MART will hold two separate meetings, one regarding the insurance issue, the other the reimbursement issue, both to be held in September. I will be attending both of these meetings, and have asked that Claudia Provencal, our COA Director, accompany me to the reimbursement meeting as well.

Dept Logs: Currently only the Police and Fire logs are provided on the Town website. Beginning with the August log, we will be providing the DPW log to the website. In the near future, I will work on providing for the website a TA log to be included as well to promote greater transparency.

Hubbardston Field Day: Field day will be held on September 10th at 11:00 at the Curtis field. This year, there will be a cornhole tournament, with teams of 2. Last year, the BOS took first place in the horseshoe contest, beating Police and Fire, thanks to Jeff, Pat and Raeanne. If any BOS members are interested in forming teams, please let me know.

