

Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 09/20/2011:

1. The FYI Folder: FYI Folder which contains items that come in between the Town Council Meetings has the following this evening: READ

2. Nomination Papers for Town Council and School Board: Nomination papers are now available for the following seats: 1 – District 2 Councilor; 1 – District 3 Councilor; 1 – Councilor At Large; and 3 SAD #53 Board members. Nomination papers must be returned to the Town Office for filing by 5:00 pm, Monday, September 26, 2011.

3. SVH Community Health Fair:

Health Connections Close to Home on Saturday, September 10, 2011 from 9:00 am to noon went very well.

4. Healthy SV: Creating Healthy Communities: The Annual Meeting was held today in which we had awards and recognition for several individuals who have done a lot for the region which included Robin Winslow, CEO of Seabasticook Family Doctors; Rita Bubar, Former HR Director for Cianbro (working part-time for them). We also had a brief overview of the process to date on planning to implement changes for the 2010 Community Health Needs Assessment that was published this year; completed some brainstorming and heard a report out of the highlights; and had a closer look at Youth Substance Abuse and Tobacco Use in the Seabasticook Valley. READ upcoming meeting schedule.

5. Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Day: READ Notice.

6. Theatre Fundraiser: Glo-Ball Golf Tournament: READ Notice.

7. 1st Annual SVH Women's Health Duck Race: READ Notice

8. KVCOG 44th Annual Meeting: READ Notice & advise need to know if there will be any representation from the Town Council.

9. Town of Pittsfield 2011 Board/Committee Openings: Positions expire every year on the Town's many boards and committees. The Town has over 20 boards and committees. Positions remaining available are the following: 1 Opening on the Board of Appeals; 2 openings of the Board of Assessment Review; 1 Opening on the Board of Ethics; 1 Opening on the Economic Development Team; 1 Opening on the Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Committee; and 1 Opening for an Alternate member of the Planning Board.

10. Pittsfield Earth Day 2011 Backyard Compost Bin Sale: READ Announcement. We are still accepting orders.

11. Trash To Treasure Re-Use Center: The new Trash to Treasure Re-Use Center is open on Saturdays from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. The Re-Use Center is in the former Veterans of Foreign Wars Building opposite the Transfer Station and Recycling Center. The facility is on Saturdays from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Those who have completed their yard sales and have items left over that they do not want to take back to their homes might consider donating the clothing to Pennywise and the other items to the Re-Use Center. The Town has a comprehensive list of items that can be donated at the facility available at the Town Office.

12. 2010 Sewer Rates in the State of Maine: The results of the Maine Rural Water Association's Sewer Rate survey was released this week. There were 125 Towns or Districts that funded their sewer systems with utility billings that responded including Pittsfield. There were a few towns that fund their sewer systems with taxation so I excluded them. Of the 125 Towns or Districts that issue sewer bills, 106 or 84.8% were higher than Pittsfield, then there was Pittsfield and 18 or 14.4% were lower than Pittsfield. The rates were converted to 8,000 cubic feet. Pittsfield's bill for this would have been \$284.24 per year. The Average State-wide rate is \$450.60 per year. So through 06/30/2011, we remain in the lowest 20% of sewer rates in the State of Maine.

As the sewer rate has increased as of 07/01/2011 due to the required sludge removal project to \$7.25/1,000 valuation, we will watch the next survey to determine how the Town's sewer rate matches up to the average State-wide rate.

13. 2010 Water Rates in the State of Maine: In March, I reported the results of the 2010 Maine Public Utilities Commission Water Rate Publication. There are 155 Water Districts/Departments including the Pittsfield Water Works. 23 Districts/Departments have water rates less than Pittsfield or 15%, then there is Pittsfield, then there are 131 Districts/Departments that have water rates higher than Pittsfield or 85%. This was after the Town's water rate increase was implemented after not having one for 10 years. While we were updating our rate, many other Districts/Departments went in also for rate increases. Therefore, we are still in the lowest percentage of water rates in the State of Maine.

So basically, for both water and sewer rates, 85% of the Districts/Towns in the State of Maine had rates higher than Pittsfield's water and sewer rates in 2010.

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