

Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 11/20/2007:

1. The FYI Folder: The FYI Book contains the following items this week: Read List

2. 2008 Budget Calendar: The calendar of meetings has been available at the Town Office since September and on the Town's web site. A budget session will be held this evening and the next session will be 12/04/2007.

3. New Water Meter Installation for the Automatic Reading System: Letters have gone out to schedule the appointments for installation of the new meters. Books 3&4 will be the first area to have the new meters installed as those are the last readings to be taken. Letters will be sent out a couple of weeks and will be staggered, which means that given the number of meters to be installed across Town, that this project will be on-going this Winter into Spring. Books 3&4 include Lancey; Nichols; Franklin; Peltoma; Harrison; Cianchette; Chester, Summer; Cross; Main (formerly South Main); Stinson; Library; Manson; Libby; and Raymond Streets. The first installations are on November 26th forward.

4. Summer Street Sewer Separation Project: This project has been shut down for the winter. The Town was unable to obtain an entrance permit into Peltoma Avenue to start construction on the project due to MDOT concern over the separation of the stormwater from the sewer system. Normally an entrance permit takes a few days to be issued. The Town built the Peltoma Avenue stormwater drain system in 1993 with MDOT approval, however, that approval can not be located by MDOT or the Town. We are working with Klienschmidt Associates on the sizing of the drains and the necessary paperwork. It is obvious that it is sized for considerable flow. This issue will be resolved for the project to be constructed in Summer of 2008. The contractor is holding his prices and we are purchasing the supplies and stockpiling them to avoid 2008 cost increase. Considering the weather as of late, a summer project may work out to our advantage.

5. Environmental Community Forum: We would like to thank all of the community groups which attended the forum and set up display tables on their civic project. It was a great evening to see all of our volunteer groups and thank them for their commitment to the community and its citizens. The Project Canopy Program was excellent. WMCI will air the program including interviews with a number of the community group representatives.

6. Neighborhood Watch: A new neighborhood watch group has been formed and they are inviting everyone to join them to exchange ideas and share information to make the community a safer place. Get tips on how to protect your loved ones and your property while learning how you can make a difference doing things you already do. The next scheduled meeting is:
Monday, 12/03/2007 6:30 p.m.: Vacation planning – who to tell you are leaving: Things to do to keep your home safe while you are gone.
Monday, 01/07/2008 6:30 p.m.: Street Security: Know your neighbors and know your neighborhood and Keys to a good neighborhood watch system.
All meetings are at the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building.

7. The Paul E. Bertrand Community Pool Upcoming Fundraisers:

Benefit Spaghetti Dinner: Saturday, November 24, 2007 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm at the new MCI Dining Hall and Student Center, the Donna Leavitt Furman '41 Student Center. Tickets on sale now at Heidi Ann's Flower Shop, corner of Main Street and Somerset Avenue (487-5557); Arts Club Members Bev Rollins (487-2778), Connie Thies (487-3122), and Kim Duncombe (487-6356); and at the Town Office (487-3136). Tickets will also be available at the door for your convenience. Adults - \$5.00; Children under 12 - \$3.00; and Family - \$20.00.

Pennies for the Pool: Students in each of the elementary schools - Manson Park, Burnham, Vickery and Warsaw - are collecting pennies for the pool. Contribute your change to a student that you know!

Scrapbooking Expo: Coming in late January, 2008

The Fundraising Goal: \$400,000

Funds Left to Raise: \$128,000

The gunite is in and the pool is being filled for the winter this week. Now we need to concentrate on raising the funds and donations for the essential components of the pool – the security lighting, new fencing, bathhouse/restrooms, picnic tables, groundwork, paving, etc.

Send contributions to the Town of Pittsfield, c/o Pittsfield Community Swimming Pool Fund, 112 Somerset Avenue, Pittsfield, ME 04967 to help make this entire project a reality!

8. Pinnacle Reunion Meeting: The Pinnacle Park Board will be calling a reunion or revitalization meeting for the Pinnacle on Tuesday, 12/11/2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Pinnacle Facility off Waverly Avenue. The purpose of the meeting is to determine interest in revitalizing the facility, updating people on the work that could be done to update the facility, get people together to plan opening up the facility this winter and determine possible new uses for the site. This should be a fun evening and for a wonderful cause – keeping the facility open where 1000's of children learned to first ski.

Saved for future Town Manager Reports:

1. Moses Martin Re-dedication of the First Homestead: The re-dedication ceremony was held on Saturday, 08/04/2007 by the Pittsfield Historical Society and the Maine State Organization Daughters of the American Revolution. This was a very nice event and well attended. We received a beautiful bronze plaque to place at the Homestead. The homestead site has been cleaned up and there is a path to it now as part of the preservation efforts. The Town is fortunate to own the Peltoma property where the Town Farm and the first Homestead are located. This property also houses the Police Shooting range on the opposite side of the property. For everyone's protection, the site will remain gated. The Historical Society will coordinate with the Town and Police Department to schedule tours of the first Homestead, most likely during the Spring and late Summer/early Fall prior to Hunting Season.

2. Town Maps: The new In-Town and Rural Routes E-911 Road maps are now on the Town's website on the front page under News. They can be downloaded and will print on 8 ½ X 11 paper so they can be printed out at peoples' homes or businesses now.

3. Historical Society Project: The Pittsfield Historical Society is looking for volunteers and donations to assist them with rebuilding the cupola at the caboose and painting the caboose. The caboose needs to be re-painted after the vandalism. In order to paint the caboose, the wooden cupola needs to be rebuilt. Anyone who has carpentry skill would be welcome at the Pittsfield Historical Society to assist them with this very important project which will then allow the painting to take place. They have one volunteer at this time. More are welcome. Anyone who would like to donate or would like more information, please contact Tom Brown at 487-4926 or Clem Spencer at 487-2408.

4. Pittsfield Farmers' Market: Rain or shine all Summer and Fall, the Pittsfield Farmers' Market will be in Hathorn Park until November 1 every Monday & Thursday from 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm. We have new brochures at the Town Office for anyone who is interested.

5. E-911 Implementation: E-911 matches a physical address with a telephone number and this information is displayed on a computer screen to dispatchers. With each letter, the Town opted to purchase and enclose numbers to be placed on everyone's houses and businesses. All numbers are supposed to be up on 05/01/2007, on homes or mailboxes if your house is away from the road. We need your new numbers up so that Public Safety can find you as well as to help the post office, delivery companies and visitors. Remember, the Post Office will deliver your mail up to 1 year from the date of your notification, so you have time to use up your checks, letterhead, etc. With your next order, just order the items with your new address. Copies of the new two-sided map with an urban in-town map and a country roads map is available at the Town Office and Library. More and more people have their numbers up. If your numbers are not up, please put them up. If you have lost your numbers, we have extras available at the Town Office until they run out.

6. Reminder for police issues: If there is an emergency, call 911. If you are calling in a police complaint, please call the regular police number of 487-3101 and relay the issue. The Police voice mails should not be used for filing police complaints. With a rotating schedule and days off, it may be 2 or more days for a police officer to check their voice mail. Complaints need to be answered right off so they can not be left on the officers' voice mail.

7. Water/Sewer Services: With over 60 miles of water and sewer pipes and approximately 700 gate boxes, 1400 service boxes, 500 manholes and 10 sewer cleanouts, the Water and Sewer Department can be kept quite busy. If anyone notices a manhole or box sunken or heaved in the roadway, please call Assistant Water/Sewer Superintendent Scott Noble at the Water/Sewer Garage at 487-5203 listing the road and approximate location. With literally hundreds of these items in the roadway and the difficult winters we are having now, a few of them are going to shift out of place.