



TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM

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TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT FEBRUARY 1, 2016

Town Administrator's reports are available on-line at <http://www.ashburnham-ma.gov>

TOWN COMMITTEES

Currently there are openings on the following: (1) Council on Aging Board, (1) Trust Fund Commission, (1) Conservation Commission and (1) Board of Assessors. These are listed on the Town's website under Volunteer Opportunities.

BUDGET FY 17

Governor Baker released his budget on Wednesday the 27th. There was an increase of 4.3% in general aid and 1.6% in chapter 70. There was no adjustment made to the foundation budget aid that had showed a \$1.1 Billion deficit.

Capital Planning still needs to meet to finalize the FY17 Capital requests.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

On Tuesday January 26th we received to authorization to move forward with the insulation project at the Library and have awarded the contract to Foam Run out of Ashby.. The cost of the project will approach \$59K and should begin the end of February. LED lighting has been installed in the PSB.

WATER & SEWER

On Tuesday January 12th, I met with the Water and Sewer Commissioners. The purpose of the meeting was to bring them up to date on the FY16 budget to actuals. I also wanted to discuss the issue at the Oakmont pump station where there is an installation of a shut off valve, metering system, and an odor control device that needs to be installed at a project cost of \$15 -\$20k. Since there is no room in the current budget revenues I am asking them to increase the rate by \$.50 per Hcuft. To the average user it will be about \$8 per quarter.

While at the MMA conference I had a meeting with Mayor Hawke from Gardner about the MOU for the sewer. We will look for a 5 year agreement to get things settled for now. I made sure that we need to have a full understanding of the all fees.

AWJWA Met in Winchendon regarding the billing, capital plan, contract with Veolia, and possibility of installing new water lines on Sherbert Road.