

Eliot Town Manager Report

January 31, 2024

Submitted by

Michael J. Sullivan to the Eliot Selectboard

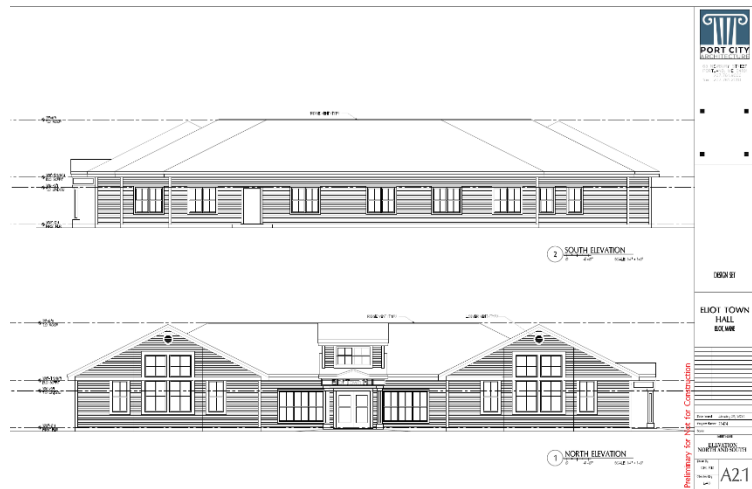
Honorable Select Board, this is an abridged accounting of some of the projects and issues I and the dedicated municipal staff have been working on lately for the benefit of the Town of Eliot and its citizens.

Town Hall Project.

There is a lot going on in the background as is the case with any major municipal project.

There have been weekly meetings with the architect, meetings with the civil engineer, surveyor, HVAC, electrical, security and access experts.

There has been outreach to property owners, including churches, retail, vacant spaces of all types which may be used as temporary quarters for Town Hall operations.



We are all being diligent internally preparing to move, including off-sitting material, reducing when appropriate and digitizing everything we are able. We will be working towards ensuring records a moved and stored in a secure manner, with accessibility as required. Sounds easy, but it is not so.

Eliot Website Rebuild.

The Eliot rebuild is moving along with our partner CivicPlus. Like the Town Hall project, the behind the scenes work if far more than expected and is largely invisible to the public. If someone cared to take a peak of the “aesthetic” aspects of the rebuild and did not mind some of the quirks which have not been worked out they are invited to go to this temporary link <https://me-eliot.civicplus.com/> . Remember this is not a live site so new features or convenience may not be working yet.

Kim Tackett, one of our incredible employees, has taken on the responsibility of project manager, in addition to all her other duties. There also has been input from departments, including the long-time webmaster Wendy Rawski :) I cannot thank Kim, Wendy, David and everyone who has helped to move this project along.

The new site will also work towards consolidating internal competing sites maintained by individual departments. All departments will be afforded their own page and will be able to post content of their choosing and consistent with existing policies.

If you have any concerns or inquiries please email msullivan@eliotme.org or ktackett@eliotme.org and we will do our best to accommodate.

Eliot Recreation Department.



The Community Service Department was renamed by the Select Board recently to become the “Eliot Recreation Department”. The name change will not alter the great program and services provided by this hardworking department.

The branding is really well done and professional, I compliment Director Heather Muzeroll and her staff for delivering such a professional look.

We certainly are looking forward to the Farmer’s Market which will be integrated with the summer concert series. The Recreation Department has integrated the Arm Chair Yoga program previously established by the Aging In Place Committee and continues make consider new of recreational offerings. Cool logos!



Fire Department Training Room Renovation.

First of all, congratulations to Chief Jay Muzeroll for being re-elected by his peers as Chief of Eliot Fire Department. The election of Chief Muzeroll was subsequently unanimously certified by the Eliot Select Board.

The Chief has been overseeing some renovations to the training room at the station. The reno includes new equipment, floor replacement and a variety of other updates and improvements. The cost associated with the project is largely from grants and donations.

I can say from experience I witnessed full time departments which did less training and I continue to be in awe of the spirit of camaraderie that exists in and around the department. The volunteers of the Eliot Fire Department should be commended for their contribution to public safety in the Town of Eliot.

Police Department Vehicle.

The police Chief is exploring the possibility of a slightly different approach to the next vehicle purchase. His approach has been methodical and well thought out from a cost perspective. The strategy is to consider a small crew cab pickup with four-wheel drive capabilities.

Officers on numerous occasions find themselves in a situation where they need to transport a bike, scooter, traffic cones, debris or other such items in an emergency situation which does really fit well into a crossover SUV. Having four-wheel drive capabilities will allow access to some "hard to get to" areas as well.

The good news is early quotes would suggest that this type of vehicle will be very price competitive if not less expensive, similar gas mileage and outfitting will be similar in price as well compared to the present standard PD SUV. I am sure many of you have seen where other PDs have been adding a vehicle of this type to their motor pool.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Sullivan

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Town of Eliot, Manager