

Eliot Town Manager Report

March 2, 2023

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.

Eliot-Kittery Municipal Employment Fair.



March 1 the Town of Kittery hosted a municipal job fair at the Kittery Community Center (nice place) as a joint effort of the Marshwood and Kittery Adult Education Program. It was not well attended by the public unfortunately; however it provided an excellent opportunity for to get to know our neighboring colleagues.

Town Clerk Wendy Rawski and Officer Casey Cyr were on hand to give testimony about the advantages to working in a municipal setting. I cannot thank them both enough for representing Eliot Town Employees so well. It is an honor to work with these two and so many others who really love their work, the Eliot community and can articulate it so well.

We will continue to participate in these regional events to promote municipal careers, as we work to attract and retain the best staff to serve the citizens of Eliot. Thank you to Town Manager Kendra Amaral for hosting the event.

Citizen's Option Meeting.

The Citizens Option Meeting will be held on Monday March 27th @ Eliot Elementary School 1298 State Road. We will be covering the financial articles which will appear on the June Town Meeting Referendum Ballot. This is an opportunity for citizens to gain an understanding about the FY 24 Budget. The Select Board, Budget Committee and the Town Manager will all be present to answer questions and discuss possible adjustments to the proposed expenditures for the next fiscal year.

This is a critical meeting for obtaining clear and accurate information for the fiscal year 2024 budget. This meeting will be recorded, but I think we all agree it loses something in the translation and results in a lot of "I wish I was there...." moments.

State-Beech Ped/Bike Project.

There was a meeting with all the possible partners including the Town Manager, Town Planner Stantec (doing initial 10% plan) and Maine DOT to discuss the planning phase for the bike/ped project. While this becoming a reality is years away, to attract investment whether through grants or other funding it is critical to have a plan.

It is very interesting considering the low density in the “Village” section of Eliot on just how much traffic the sidewalks get. This is a key indicator on how much pent-up demand exists in the community.

FY 24 Budget.

New material has been added to the on-line budget material, I would encourage everyone look at <https://www.eliotmaine.org/town-manager/pages/town-manager-budget-proposal-fy24> Thank you to the Finance Director, department managers, Town Clerk and the (former) Town Assessor for all your assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Sullivan
Town of Eliot, Manager