

## **Eliot Town Manager Report**

**May 18, 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.

### **Murray-Rowe Park.**

There continues to be interest by various groups to use Murray Rowe Park including but not limited to little league baseball, youth softball, adult softball, soccer, lacrosse, cycling events and others interested in some form or fashion.

The Public Works has done some nice work getting the field into a reasonable state. I am confident they will stay at it to the best of their ability, unfortunately the park will need more than the valiant effort of the Public Works. I hope to the Select Board will be able to support the effort to make that investment later this year.

### **Southern Maine Stormwater Working Group.**

Recently, I attended this important regional working group which addresses stormwater, including outfalls, runoff and sediment controls, public education and staff training.

The group's mission is to find ways to protect water quality in aquifers, rivers, stream, lakes and the ocean. Integrated Environmental's Kristi Rabasca the principal engineer for SMSWG was in attendance to make sure each community was aware of what was needed for their municipality to maintain the required federal and state clean water permits

One area which the public will see more of in coming weeks is the stenciling near storm water catch basin which remind people to act responsible when disposing of liquids or disposing of cigarette butts. There also are several educational campaigns which are lined up to remind citizens and workers alike about the need to keep our water ways clean. While the big projects are important environmentally, like centralizing sewers, but there are small things we can do everyday to help clean up the planet!

### **Town of Elliot Investments.**

Finance Director Kristin McNulty and I met with Chuck Patterson (Senior Vice President) from Bartholomew and Company. The firm has been handling \$5.8 million since December 8, 2022, we have a total gain of \$66,405.54 in that short five-month period of time. This far outpaces in six months the earnings of the previous year. Our estimate annual income is \$145K for 2023.

We have taken a moderate to low-risk position with investments which are on the municipal list of safe investments. However, like any investment portfolio we are holding our breath on T-bonds. With the looming federal government default this may have an impact and cause to impede future growth opportunities.

We will continue to closely monitor the progress and work to protect the Town of Eliot's gains to the greatest extent possible. We will be putting the full financial report on the website shortly, or if anyone is interest in reviewing the report, please let me know and I will get you a copy.

**Town Managers Monthly Meeting.**

The monthly meeting with department managers and staff was held at 7:15 on Wednesday May 17. It was a chance to introduce the new Town Assessor Don Ferrara and to meet directly with all departments and many of the dedicated staff.

The topics of discussion included, the progress on the public access channel, the developing website rebuild, the professional based evaluations, the Town Report process, preparations for the upcoming elections and the Water and Sewer Expansion Project construction among other topics. We also discussed the new phone system, which is improving and many of us did a training to become more familiar with the features just last week. While we are still learning the system there has been marked improvement.

**Election June 13, 2023.**

We wish all candidates for elected office well and thank you for putting your name forward to the voters. It is a courageous act to stand before the voters and each entrant should be proud.

We encourage voters to become familiar with the ballot in advance of voting, all the necessary information can be found at <https://www.eliotmaine.org/2023-election-schedule> to assist you in your decision making for this election.

Absentee ballots are available, they are secure and will allow you to pick-up a ballot and cast your vote Monday to Thursday 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM (closed May 29). This is your opportunity to make your voice heard, please exercise that right.

Respectfully submitted  
Michael J. Sullivan  
Town of Eliot, Manager