



Town Manager's Report to the Town Council

Submitted by:
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February 2, 2016

Town of Winslow - In the heart of Central Maine representing People, Pride and Progress.

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

I have placed the Town Office Hours on the agenda as a discussion item. For many years the town office has been open Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4:30 pm. It is not uncommon for me to see someone pull into the parking lot between 4:30 and 5 pm in hopes that the town office will be open. It is also not uncommon to have people waiting in the parking lot for the town office to open at 8 am.

Attached to this report are three different options for new town office hours. Option #1 gives us the greatest flexibility but would require closing early on Friday at 11:30 am. Option # 1 is also preferred by town office employees.

Option # 2 would allow us to stay open later Monday through Thursday and would also involve closing at noontime on Friday.

Option # 3 is the same as our current hours Monday through Wednesday. On Thursday we would be open from 8 am until 6 pm. To compensate for the additional time on Thursday we would need to close the town office at 3 pm on Friday.

We can discuss these options in more detail at our meeting on Monday.

JR. HIGH BUILDING NEXT BEST USE?

As you know, the Jr. High building is in need of substantial renovations if it is going to continue to be used as a Jr. High School. With declining student enrollment the School Department is exploring the

possibility of relocating the Jr. High students to the Elementary School (6th grade) and the High School (7th & 8th grades). This would be much less costly than renovating the Jr. High and would result in a reduction of annual facility costs because we would go from maintaining three school buildings to just two buildings.

If this were to occur then we would need to make a decision about what to do with the Jr. High building. AOS 92 thinks it would be a great place for the Superintendent's Office. Others think it could also serve as a community center. The cost, however, to tax payers to repurpose the building will be the determining factor.

So, I recommend that we form a committee very soon to explore the options and to present the options, with costs, to the Town Council for consideration.

Sebasticook River Land

The Town currently has one remaining parcel of land that emerged after the removal of the Dam. We were never able to identify any heirs of the previous owner(s) so our acquisition of the property through the tax foreclosure process is questionable. The abutting property owners, Michael and Joy Sawyer, are requesting that the Town convey any interest the Town has in the property to them. Therefore, I have prepared Order No. 1-2016 and a Municipal Quitclaim Deed that we can discuss further at our Monday night Council meeting.

Proposed Town Office Hours
01/13/2016

- 1) M 7:30 am to 5:00 pm
T 7:30 am to 5:00 pm
W 7:30 am to 5:00 pm
T 8:30 am to 6:00 pm
F 7:30 am to 11:30 am
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- 2) M 8:00 am to 5:30 pm
T 8:00 am to 5:30 pm
W 8:00 am to 5:30 pm
T 8:30 am to 6:00 pm
F 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
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- 3) M 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
T 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
W 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
T 8:00 am to 6:00 pm
F 8:00 am to 3:00 pm