

Municipal Corner – April 2017

Ten Years: April 9th marked my tenth year as Stowe's Town Manager. I want to thank the community for the opportunity to serve in this capacity. I also want to thank all of the elected and appointed officials who help lead the community. Last, but not least, I want to extend my appreciation to all of the employees who work hard to provide services.

It takes a lot to for a community to successfully operate. It requires a combination of efforts; from the snow plow driver being out for an extended period of time to ensure we can safely get to work, to the Selectboard members giving up their evening to weigh through a variety of opinions to determine the appropriate policy direction for the community, to the emergency responders helping their neighbors in their time of need.

Rt. 100 Paving Project: The State is planning on paving Rt. 100 between Stowe and Waterbury over the next couple of years. They intend to remove the concrete that lies under the asphalt and pave the entire length from the Interstate to the Stowe Public Safety Facility. Although they will do work throughout the whole corridor on utility lines and drainage, their intent is to start on the Waterbury side, removing the concrete and paving up to Guptil Road this summer. In order to coordinate with the Lower Village Sidewalk Project, the State will begin in the spring of 2018 on the Stowe side, removing the concrete and paving and work towards Guptil Road. In order to minimize adverse impacts to traffic, much of the work will be done at night.

Luce Hill / Rt. 100 Intersection: The State Agency of Transportation has agreed to perform an in-depth intersection alternatives analysis for the Luce Hill / Rt. 100 intersection. An alternatives analysis is the first step in advancing major intersection improvements with Federal / State transportation dollars. Senator Richard Westman was very helpful in securing the funding necessary.

Town Meeting Follow Up: Thank you to all that come to Town Meeting. The number of voters participating in the floor voting increased from approximately 150 in 2016 to approximately 250 in 2017. At Town Meeting a capital survey was distributed to voters asking for their input on the importance of various capital projects. Also, it was suggested at Town Meeting on the floor that the Selectboard consider developing a social and community services policy to guide future appropriation decisions. At the Selectboard's April 24th meeting the Selectboard is scheduled to discuss the prioritization of capital projects and what might be an appropriate debt limit. They are also scheduled to discuss the concept of a social and community services appropriation policy. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Stay Connected: Stowe's Town website (www.townofstovevermont.org) has a number of options to have information sent directly to your email, including the Selectboard agendas. Also, the Selectboard packet is uploaded to the website the Friday before each meeting, so that you have an opportunity to review the same information as the Selectboard does prior to the meeting.

Dogs: Please remember that Stowe's Animal Control Ordinance requires you to pick up after your dog. Also, it requires that dogs be on a leash while on the Stowe Rec Path and under immediate control of the attendant at all other times. In other words, dogs are not permitted to

run-at-large. The Stowe Police is responsible for enforcing Stowe's Animal Control Ordinance. Their non-emergency number is 253-7126.