

To our Washington neighbors:

January 2018

Over two dozen adults and any number of children – they were running around far too much to keep track of – sang carols and kept warm with hot chocolate at the Tree Lighting on December 2 in the Town Park Gazebo. Thanks to all who made this memorable event happen!

The Parks Commission is working with several vendors to set up an ice skating rink at the Town Park this winter. We certainly have cold enough weather now!

We have forwarded a copy of the survey of the five acres on Washington Mountain Road promised to the Town thirty years ago to Pittsfield's City Solicitor. Their City Council should now be able to review our request for its transfer.

Our broadband system design is moving forward. We have to decide how much coverage to provide to potential building lots in addition to making sure every current property in Town is served.

We have sent invitations to several residents to participate in the Town Planning effort with the Board and the Finance Committee.

- We are applying for a DLTA grant and may also apply for Community Compact funding that will pay for assistance from Berkshire Regional Planning.
- If you are interested in participating in this effort to plan the future of our Town please contact Jodi.

Road & Bridge:

- Bad news: our MassWorks grant application for the full-depth reclamation of Lovers Lane has been turned down. We will reapply in the spring and look for other grant opportunities.
- Better news: we have been told by DOT that the Small Bridge grant for the Middlefield Road bridge over Coles Brook will be increased to \$500,000. We still have not received formal notification but we fully expect to, which means we should be able to replace the bridge in 2018.
- We will also work with Becket and Middlefield to get funding through the Transportation Improvement Process (TIP) to fully reconstruct Middlefield Road through all three towns.
- We have gotten the funding for the design of a new deep culvert on upper Frost Road. Once the design is complete we will apply for grant funding for the construction.

Seems like winter finally got here after an extended warm fall. Please take care to stay warm and watch out for icy patches on the ground and roadways.

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and we wish you all a safe, prosperous and healthy 2018!

Jim Huebner
Select Board Chair

Tricia Drugmand
Select Board Clerk

Dick Grillon
Select Board