

## **Town Status Report**

### **February 27, 2023**

**Four Day Work Week** – Staff continues to evaluate the feasibility of implementing a 4 or 4.5 day work schedule at Town Hall and DPW. The Ambulance, Fire, Police Departments have their own unique work schedules requiring twenty-four hour coverage and as such, are not part of this review. Staff views the alternative schedule as a means to respond to demand for services, offer additional flexibility to residents/property owners/development community, and provide a tool/benefit to retain and recruit employees.

Since the last Board meeting, an informal public session was held on February 21st in the Board of Selectmen's Meeting for residents/stakeholders to provide input/comments. The discussion and feedback provided by in-person and online participants proved extremely constructive and demonstrated a need for further public outreach and analysis.

Concurrent with the input session, Staff published a modified public online survey. To date, the responses from the previous and current survey are encouraging with majority either supporting the proposed 4 or 4.5 day work week with the extended hours in the evening or indicating that the changes have no impact. (See attached survey summaries) The survey will be extended to March 17<sup>th</sup> and we will use the Town vote on March 14<sup>th</sup> as an opportunity to receive more input from the public. Lastly, the Community Development Office contacted representatives from the development community who expressed their general support of the concept.

With regards Public Works, staff is considering a flexible schedule for buildings, highways, parks, cemetery. This would include a 5-day schedule during the colder months from October – April and 4-day work week from May – September. Staff also is continuing to evaluate alternatives and extended hours for the Transfer Station.

At this time, additional discussions with staff and input from the public are necessary. All alternatives are being considered and we continue to work/coordinate with the Town Clerk's office. The final proposal for the alternative hours will be presented to the Board of Selectmen at the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting for review and consideration.