



TOWN MANAGER

E-Mail Newsletter

Welcome to the third edition of the Town Manager’s E-Mail Newsletter. It will be sent on a weekly basis that will outline upcoming meetings, news, address issues and projects that are active. Included in the Newsletter will be reports by other departments and agencies. The Newsletter will be placed on the Town’s Website for the general public to read.



Meetings for January & February 2018

IMPORTANT JANUARY & FEBRUARY DATES			
Monday	22-Jan	Planning Board Town Hall 7PM	
Wednesday	24-Jan	Budget Committee- Town Hall Meeting Rm 5:30	
Thursday	25-Jan	Harbor Advisory Committee 5PM	
Saturday	27-Jan	Sr Center Town Hall Sponsored Luncheon 10:30AM	
Sunday	28-Jan	Wellness Committee Employee/Family Red Claws Game 1PM	
Monday	29-Jan	Zoning Board of Appeals - Town hall 7PM	
Wednesday	31-Jan	Budget Committee- Town Hall Meeting Rm 5:30	
Friday	2-Feb	PAC Meeting -8AM	
Monday	5-Feb	ZBA Meeting 7PM	
Tuesday	6-Feb	BOS WS 5 & 7PM Meeting - Town Hall	
Wednesday	7-Feb	Budget Committee- Town Hall Meeting Rm 5:30	
Monday	12-Feb	Planning Board Town Hall 7PM	
Wednesday	14-Feb	Budget Committee- Town Hall Meeting Rm 5:30	
Monday	19-Feb	Presidents Day Holiday -Municipal Facilities Closed	
Tuesday	20-Feb	BOS WS 5 & 7PM Meeting - Town Hall	
Wednesday	21-Feb	Staff Review Committee 9AM Town Hall	
Sunday	25-Jan	TAST OF WELLS EVENT	Johnson Hall Event Center 12-4
Monday	26-Feb	Planning Board Town Hall 7PM	



NEWS / UPDATES / ISSUES:

- **Tanya Freeman’s 32 Years of Service -Retirement Party 1/18/18- Johnson Hall Museum Event Center.**

Pictures



-  **2017 Year in Review and outlook for 2018.**
At the January 2, 2018 Board of Selectmen Meeting, the Selectmen read a list of town achievements in 2017 and discussed 2018. The list is available from the below link. <http://www.wellstown.org/720/Achievements-in-2017-and-Direction-in-20>

-  **New Tax Law & Tax Code Changes – Does it Help or Hurt Your Paycheck ?**

Hello all,

Recently the new federal tax code for 2018 became official. As you've no doubt heard by now, it represents a fairly major break from how taxes were calculated in the past. For employees, there will be both winners and losers.

The federal changes have now been implemented into your paychecks this week, so you may have noticed a difference in your federal and/or state tax withholdings and the resulting net pay. However, please note that employees' withholding amounts for federal (and state) income taxes are still based on the W-4s you have on file. Those withholding amounts likely were based on your elections based on the old tax code and so you may be having too much taken out or not enough taken out for federal and state income taxes under the new tax code. Therefore, each person will need to review their personal tax situation, and discuss your circumstances with your tax adviser if possible, to ensure you are withholding appropriately.

Because each individual employee's tax situation is different and may include more than one earner, etc., this is not something Payroll or HR can advise you on. Our understanding is that some time in February, there will be an online tool on the IRS website that individuals can use to help them assess if they are withholding appropriately. We will let you know more about that when we have more info. In the meantime, it may make sense as you prepare your 2017 income tax return to use that process and any tax preparation help you typically get to consider your withholdings for 2018.

Finally, there is not yet a new federal W-4 for 2018 based on the new tax code available from the IRS. Please bear that in mind as you consider this issue. As soon as that is available, we will let you know.

Jodie Sanborn with assistance from Stephanie Weaver HR Director ((Compiled from HR Director Discussions)



- **Town Events** being worked on in 2018

TASTE



Of Wells

TASTE OF WELLS – February 25, 2018

- Winter event to benefit the Special Fuel Fund and Project Graduation. Come and sample from local restaurants. It will be held at the Johnson Hall Museum Event Center on Route 1 from **Noon to 4PM** \$10.00 per ticket. 7 Restaurants competing for awards.



Wells Harbor Brew Fest – June 23, 2018 (In the planning stages)

2018 Wells Harborfest July 27/28, 2018



- **PIPING PLOVER 2017 OUTCOME**

2017 Summer		Pairs	Nest	Fledgling
State Totals From 11 Coastal Communities		64	96	102
	Wells	9	14	16
	%	14%	15%	16%



- **Saturday, January 27, 2018 – Town Hall Serving its Annual Warming Lunch to the Senior Center.** For the past several years the Town Hall staff and other departments and elected volunteers have been serving a lunch to about 100 seniors at the Wells Ogunquit Senior Center. This year it will be on Saturday, January 27, 2017 serving a ham and bean dinner from the IGA. I would appreciate anyone who can volunteer to help with this event. We meet at 10:30AM and set up the tables and serve food at noon with cleanup and it is over and we are out the door no later than 2PM. Please let myself or Marianne know if you can assist. Thank you.

- **New WEMS Director-James LaPolla:**

New Director Appointed to Wells Emergency Medical Services (WEMS)

James Lapolla was approved as Director of Wells Emergency Medical Services by the Wells Board of Selectmen at their November 21st meeting. He will be taking over the helm from Brian Watkins who served as the WEMS Director for 6 years.

Director Lapolla has extensive experience in the emergency medical services field having begun his career in 1982 as a hospital corpsman in the Navy where he served in Orlando and then Guantanamo Bay until 1986. Since then he has served the Town of Durham, New Hampshire as an Firefighter/Paramedic for 20 years, at Frisbee Hospital as a paramedic, and most recently 4 years as the Assistant Emergency Management Director for the University of New Hampshire in Durham.

Jim is no stranger to Wells. He has served as a paramedic for the last year and a half and has learned his way around town and about our community. He looks forward to continuing the great reputation Wells EMS already enjoys and to continue the current 24 hour staff of 4 (plus him) with 2 ambulances available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. He also looks forward to increasing WEMS participation at local events here in Wells. Those who enjoy attending our Wells Warriors High School football games have already seen WEMS ambulance and staff at every game.

Jim currently lives in New Hampshire with his son. If you would like to speak to Director Lapolla, feel free to contact him at 641-8099 or via e-mail at Director@wellems.net.



- Streaming Meetings of the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals- to watch go to our Website- www.wellstown.org under the front left hand side under “Video Streaming” or press the link.**
<http://townhallstreams.com/locations/wells-me>

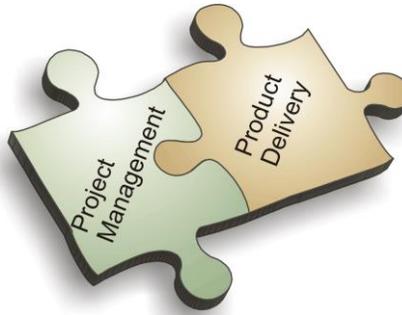


- Budget Committee Agenda for 1/24/18 - 5:30 PM –
Town Hall**

Department	Budget Type	Book Section	Book Pages
Code Enforcement	Municipal	4	65-96
Planning	Municipal	4	97-117
Town Manger	Municipal	4	220-237
TM - Building Improvement	CIP	4	238
TM - Preservation Funding	CIP	4	239
TM - 1710 House	CIP	4	240
TM - Boy Scout Building	CIP	4	241
TM - Gazebo	CIP	4	242
TM - Harbor Observation Deck	CIP	4	243
TM - Pavillion	CIP	4	244
TM - LED Lighting	CIP	4	245
TM - Town Hall Siding	CIP	4	246
TM - Central Server Room	CIP	4	247
TM - Add. Traffic/PED Walk Light	CIP	4	248
TM - Townwide Beautification	CIP	4	249
TM - Harbor Benches	CIP	4	250
TM - Garage Solar Panel Buyout	CIP	4	251
TM - Transfer Station Deficit	CIP	4	252
TM - Town-wide Wayfinder	CIP	4	253

To view the presented budget, click on the below link.

- <http://www.wellstown.org/135/Budget-Review-Committee>



Projects:

- **Blizzard of 2018:**

Update on Furbish Rd culvert damaged in the January 4, 2018 Blizzard. This same update was given to the Board of Selectmen at their 1/16/18 meeting. The following has taken place:

- On January 5th the day following the Blizzard, the Town discovered the damage to the culvert. It appeared and later confirmed that the new subfloor was ripped out by the ice and storm surge which traveled into the stream bed. We then secured the floor bulk of metal with a heavy utility rope for later extraction.
- We held a meeting on January 11, 2018 on site with the sales Engineer from the CONTECH Company who manufactured the culvert, the Incoming PWD Director Andy Bouchard Sr.; Town Engineer, Mike Livingston PE; Geoffrey Aleva, PE, Sr. Project Engineer from Civil Consultants and the Town's structural engineer consultant and Jon Carter Town Manager.
- The summary report with recommendations from the January 11th Meeting is attached in a memo from Mr. Aleva.
- The Town has closed the road over the culvert to traffic for the foreseeable future in an abundance of caution.

The Town will be working through further engineering, funding strategies, construction/environmental windows of opportunities and a plan of attack to get the culvert fixed...

Harbor: An insurance claim has been filed on the damage and an adjuster has reviewed the site and items destroyed. We are awaiting word on the settlement of the claim and making preparations to restore the floats and pilings lost.

- **Harbor Park Trail Project: The Official name of the trail to be built is the Webhannet Marsh Trail:** The bid specifications will be released 1/23/18. Permits in hand.
- **Harbor Road Trail FLAP Grant:** The refined Project Scope of Work and the two MOUs (State & Town and Feds, State and Town) are being worked on

for submittal to the Feds. As this moves forward, we will update the BOS and Rachel Carson.

- **Furbish Road FLAP Grant:** Just before Christmas, the Town received notice of the second grant application submitted on the Furbish Road was awarded. We are exploring with the Feds if the grant can be expanded to cover the culvert repairs damaged in the 2018 Blizzard.
- **Comp Plan & Maps:** The Comprehensive Plan Update is being ready for public review and comment. The final maps to go along with the Plan are being enhanced from the draft stage to a more readable state and should be ready shortly.



▪ **Public Safety Complex and Substation:**

Work is progressing on the following:

- Finalizing design and cost. Last meeting on refinements 1/17/18 with final costing expected within the next two weeks.
- Planning Board submittals
- Asbestos Abatement to the out building to be demolished -Commenced 1/15/18
- Geo-technical work on the Fire substation completed. Final site plan expected for this facility for Planning Board submittal for February.



Library Addition Update:

- A temporary wall separating the new addition and the main library has been constructed and framed. This will allow the contractor to demolish the wall in between the buildings for the interior building entrance.

Reports /Updates

- **Police Report:** Attached

- **CEO Permit Report:** Attached
- **Fire Department Report:** Attached
- **Part-time Volunteer / Event Coordinator's Weekly Report:** Attached

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