



Interim Town Manager's Report

June 1, 2023

General Overview. The month of May has been one of transition at Town Hall. Hak Ung was sworn in as the new Finance Director for the Town. Susan Hiscocks, former long-time Town Finance Director, retired as of May 31st. With assistance from Finance Office staff, Mr. Ung has assumed his new role and job responsibilities. Mike Ciriello resigned as Town Planning Director as of May 12th for an employment opportunity in the State of Virginia to be closer to his family and friends. Katie Rhyne, Town Planner, has been appointed as Acting Planning Director until a new Planning Director can be recruited and employed. Advertising for the Planning Director has begun so the incoming Town Manager will be able to move forward with hiring in a timely manner.

Sidewalk Improvements Project. This project is well underway. Existing sidewalks have been removed and replaced with wider walkways and ramps along part of 12th Street and all of D Street. No sidewalks currently exist on E Street where work is moving rapidly. Work along 12th Street is moving along well.

BPS Parking Lot/Driveway Replacement Project. The engineering design and development of specifications have been completed by Davis-Martin-Powell for this long-awaited project. Included in this project is an alternate bid for needed relocation of one of the handicap parking spaces. Advertisements for bids should begin soon, and it is possible that the Town Council might be able to award bids in its July meeting (or no later than the August meeting).

Forestry Project. Reid Daniel, Public Works Director, and Tim Harris, the Town's Forestry Consultant, have been conducting a preliminary cruise of the Town's large 750-acre tract of land in preparation for thinning some of the timber this fall. Of even more immediate interest and concern is the need to trim dead limbs and cut dead trees along the perimeter of the property to reduce risks related to falling debris from those trees. It is anticipated that bids to cut the dead trees and separate bids to cut designated spots of good timber can be solicited in mid to late summer. Harvesting of timber from selected areas as well as work along the perimeter is expected to commence in early fall.