



February 5, 2021 Edition

## TOWN MANAGER HIGHLIGHTS

- We have signed all the paperwork for our bond sale and I am happy to report that our credit score improved with Moody's and the interest rate on this bond issue is a half percent less than the Public Safety Building issue. We have a large amount of infrastructure work to do and these funds are making that possible.
- This week marked the halfway point between winter solstice and spring equinox. Regardless of what a famous groundhog saw on Tuesday we are now closer to the first day of spring than we are to the start of winter! Our DPW crews had a long day plowing snow on Monday night, Tuesday and Wednesday. Thank you to all of our drivers for keeping our roads open and safe.
- Storms activity along the beaches is becoming more aggressive and severe storms are becoming more frequent. Please do not head to the beach during a severe storm, debris coming over the seawall and flooding in the streets make this area unsafe for passenger vehicles and people on the street.
- The Jetty Cam is working again. Thank you to the PD for getting the repairs needed on this very popular piece of Wells!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### 2/8/2021

*Planning Board Meeting @ 7PM*

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### 2/11/2021

*Conservation Commission Meeting @6PM*

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### 2/14/2021

*Valentine's Day*

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### 2/15/2021

*Presidents Day Holiday*

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## PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATE

The Planning Board continued reviewing various projects in January and held Public Hearings for the Littlefield Road Solar project, Grand trail Phase 3 Subdivision and the Curaleaf Medical Marijuana Dispensary. An expansion to Mike's Clam Shack was approved and two preliminary subdivision applications were received. Two zoning changes were presented to the Board of Selectmen for consideration for the June Town Meeting.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT UPDATE

The month of February started off with a reminder of what Maine winters usually bring, in February, lots of snow. The DPW plow drivers and hired operators were called out on Monday, February 1st at 6:00 pm. Over the night it snowed 1"-2" an hour, plus the wind was very busy so overnight visibility was terrible. We can keep up with a storm that brings snow of 1" an hour, but if the snow comes faster than that, the plow operators cannot keep the roads clear and scraped down. Each plow driver has a route that takes approximately 5 hours to complete plowing and treating. The trucks travel at about 20 miles per hour so it is a long five hours to complete their route...and that is just one lane. After five hours they turn around and travel 5 hours back to the start. So that is 10 hours before they arrived back to where they started. At 1" an hour, there will be 10" of snow on the road when they get back to the beginning of their route. When visibility is minimal, they travel much slower than 20 MPH, as was the case on February 1, when they had a hard time telling where the road was. So, they plowed for 24 hours until 6:00 pm Tuesday night, when the roads were treated and scraped. Then they went home and slept for about ten hours so they could come back to work at 7 am the next morning to push snow banks back and clear piles of snow at intersections for visibility.

## LIBRARY UPDATE

The Wells Library now has 1040 and 1040-SR IRS tax forms and instructions and Schedules A and B available in the library or for curbside delivery. The status of AARP tax assistance is still up in the air. Updates will be posted on our webpage. February has all our ongoing book groups, French Club, and meditation plus special events for adults:

Tea in Jane Austen's Time, Tuesday, February 16, 6:30 p.m.

Trivia Night, Tuesday, February 23, 6:30 p.m.

Email Stefanie at [sclaydon@wellstown.org](mailto:sclaydon@wellstown.org) for more information and Zoom invitations.

The library has a great lineup of children's programs for winter break week:

Magic with B.J. Hickman, Tuesday, February 16, 10:30 a.m.

Marine Mammals of Maine, Thursday, February 18, 5:30 p.m.

Cartooning Workshop, Friday, February 19, 10:00 a.m.

Stained Glass Workshop for Grades 5-12 (registration required), Friday, February 19, 1:00 p.m. Email Allison at [aherman@wellstown.org](mailto:aherman@wellstown.org) for Zoom invitations.

Click [here](#) for more information on all programs.