



Town of Island Falls

Growing Into Modern Times

As Selectmen, we are often asked “What’s going on in Town?” Our various committees have been quite busy. The minutes of the various meetings are posted, so I will just mention the highlights:

Cemetery Committee:

This is one is a very busy committee, and the appearance of our cemetery shows the great amount of pride they take in their work. This year you will see the addition of trash cans for old flowers and a solar powered light for the flag pole. Broken head stones will be documented and death dates added to some of the stones in the New Cemetery. The committee is also working on a new “purchase/policy” regarding who is allowed to be buried in the lots.

150th Celebration Committee:

On February 26th 2022 our Town will be 150 years old – and we plan to celebrate! The celebration will be in two parts coinciding with our traditional Winterfest and Summerfest activities. Everything is still very much in the planning stage, but here are a few of the projects.

- Greyhawk has donated a handcrafted Damascus steel knife and sheath. The knife is a true work of art. Only 100 raffle tickets have been printed. Price per ticket is \$10 and can be purchased at the Town Office and Library.
- The Commemorative Coin Sub-committee is finalizing the coin design. Silver and brass coins will be minted and can be pre-ordered later this year.
- The Entertainment Sub-committee is working to get live entertainment for the summer activity and possibly the winter.
- A Commemorative Calendar will be printed with vintage pictures of our town’s history and evolution. You will need to get one to keep track of all of the activities.
- And of course there will be food, parade, fireworks and a lot of special activities.

We could use your help with the planning and organizing the activities. If interested, please contact Frank Porter or Jim Lord.

Planning Board:

For the past several months the Planning Board has been working on a Land Use Ordinance. We already have a Shoreland Zoning Ordinance for our lake and river areas. This new document is a critical part to the Comprehensive Plan that will guide the future development of our downtown area. The ordinance follows State guidelines on land use for the various industrial and residential zones. Like all ordinances, residents will have a chance to review it at a Public Hearing and vote on it a Special Town Meeting.

Roads Committee:

Our Roads Committee has the job of recommending to the Select Board which roads get repaved, which roads get patched, which culverts get replaced, and which roads sides get ditched. Their annual report is a result of countless

hours thoroughly examining each of our roads and streets. Since we can't afford to do everything, their report also prioritizes the jobs. They try to follow a 5 – 10- 15 year maintenance plan.

This year's top priority is the repaving of the Walker Settlement Road. This job will also involve digging up the granite in the area causing the perpetual frost heave as well as ditching the side to keep the water off.

In addition to the Walker Settlement Road, the paving of the replaced culverts that were done last year on High Street and Beaver Dam Point are scheduled to be done as well. The boat launch on Pleasant Pond is scheduled to be straightened, the dock replaced, and the brush cut back along the road. The Brooks Road leading to the Mattawamkeag Lake boat ramp is scheduled to be ditched and a culvert installed to divert the water.

Select Board:

The Selectmen are working on a number of projects that will be discussed in future newsletters. Please come to our meetings. We want your opinions!

Tony

Anthony Binotto
Selectman – Town of Island Falls