

To: Ancram Town Board
From: Art Bassin
Date: 4/13/2014



Subject: April 2014 Supervisor's Report

Town Issues

1. **Financial Report** - We ended March with \$1,288,000 in the bank, and pretty much on target in the 1Q in terms of revenues and expenses against plan. Barring any unexpected surprises, we should end the year with between \$750,000 and 800,000 in the bank, which will be slightly better than where we were at year end 2013.
2. **Fee Schedule** – We will discuss it Thursday, and will consider it for approval. Its attached to the Resolution.
3. **Town Priorities** – An updated list of Town priorities and issues follows this note. We will review and update this list on Thursday, and make it a part of our monthly routine.
4. **No burning** - The annual outdoor burning ban continues in effect from to May 15.
5. **Proposed Ridgeline and Steep Slope Regs** – Public hearing at 6 pm on 4/17. We have some updated maps and lists of affected parcels which I will send around separately.

County Issues

1. **Airport** – The BOS approved the “Porreca Plan” runway safety area plan on 4/9 by a vote of 3020 for, 305 against. This will allow the County to comply with FAA safety guidelines for the north end of the runway without the need for any land from the Meadowgreens. This is the least cost and least disruptive way to meet FAA safety guidelines while keeping the airport jet-capable. The solution involves adding 450 feet of runway to the south, making the runway 5800 feet long, and “declaring” 800 feet of that longer runway as a safety area. Pilots using the airport think they now have a longer, 5800 foot runway, and they do, but for FAA purposes, we have a shorter 5000 foot runway, with a 1000 foot safety area. So everyone is happy. Almost.
2. **Pine Haven** – The BOS Chair has halted work on the design on the new nursing home facility pending further review of options, which include selling the nursing home, or outsourcing the management of Pine Haven. While it is important that we keep Pine Haven’s 120 beds available in the County, there are organizations that more skilled at managing this kind of facility than the County is. We need to get Pine Haven into the strongest possible management hands we can, for the benefit of Pine Haven’s residents and the County’s taxpayers.

Town Priorities & Issues

Long Term

1. Blass Field
 - Pavilion
 - New Pool
 - Fix up current pool
 - Support for community septic
2. Repay part or all of garage loan early, or invest in projects
3. Center of Ancram
 - Fix sight line west up 82 from 7
 - Improve turning radius from 82 to 7 north
 - Community septic & water solutions for center of Ancram
 - Parking & sidewalks in center of Ancram
 - Unsafe buildings law - code enforcement
 - Tin Smith, Stiehle & Porter's
4. Comp Plan - 5 year review; right to farm law
5. Heritage Resources Plans – Historic Districts
6. Natural Resources Plan...culvert study
7. Emergency Management Plan, Flood Control
8. Ridgeline & Steep Slope Law; revised zoning law; subdivision law

Annual/Operational Issues

1. Cut or raise taxes
2. Spend more or less on roads and highway equipment
3. Improve salaries & benefits for town employees or hold flat
4. Grant applications
5. Annual Farm Tour
6. Kid's Camp