

## TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

August 14, 2023

The sale of the former Parks and Woolson Building at 33 Park Street has been completed. The purchase price was \$68,600, with Springfield Regional Development Corporation purchasing the property with funding from the Town of Springfield Revolving Loan Account. I want to thank SRDC, River Moguls, their attorneys and the attorney representing Springfield, Nate Stearns, for all their efforts to complete this difficult transaction. I also want to thank our Public Works Department for their efforts to secure the property. This is an important element of the Town's revitalization efforts. That said, please note that these efforts will take quite a bit of time. The next step is for a Phase II environmental study to be performed on the property. Following steps will be determined by the results of that study. Work on this site will take years, but we are on the path forward.

I need to recognize the wonderful work of Public Works, Water, and Wastewater employees in response to the flooding events of the past month. They have done an amazing job not only addressing the damage to Town roads and a wastewater line, but have been willing to help neighboring communities, especially Chester and Ludlow, that suffered much more damage than we did. Thank you all!

The Town has had the required asbestos testing done for properties at 43 Park and 295 Clinton in anticipation of demolishing both properties. Once the test results are received, any required remediation will be performed, and the request for bids for the demolishing of both properties will be posted. As a reminder, the work at 43 Park is being funded by a grant under the Flood Hazard Mitigation program. The demolition at 295 Clinton is important to the Town for the future redevelopment of the pump station on the site.

The Riverside Skateboard park will soon see a new ramp! Chris Merrill was approached with a proposal to remove an older ramp at the park and replace it with a new ramp. This work will be completely donated. This will make the using the park safer, and will not cost any taxpayer dollars.

At the July Board meeting, the Board approved the painting of a mural on the parking lot side of Town Hall. This work will be done the week of August 21-27. This work requires that the entrance to the Town Hall parking lot and roughly half the lot be closed for the week. I am working on a plan to still have some access to the lot through the exit. I encourage those who are able to utilize parking places on the street, if possible, when visiting Town Hall during this week.