

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

October 14, 2024

As discussed last meeting, there continues to be concern for the increase in the number of unhoused persons, in Springfield and the rest of Vermont. I believe that there needs to be a safe, legal site for the unhoused to live. Otherwise, we put our service providers, including our police officers, in the position of telling people that they have to move, but not being able to say where they can set up camp. Project Action is also discussing this challenge, both for our community and for those unfortunate unhoused people.

There was a significant water break at the intersection of Giddings Street and Route 106, It caused the first “boil water” order in many years. Fortunately, once sampled, the water tested clean, so it wasn't contaminated. I want to thank Roy Farrar, Jeremy Currie, and the rest of the crew for their great work addressing this break so quickly and effectively. I also want to plug VT Alert. People who subscribed to VT Alert received immediate notification of the break and boil order. It is a fantastic resource for our citizens.

Jeff Strong, Donny Turner, and I met with officials from the school district about the dangerous crosswalk at Riverside Middle School. We agreed to reach out to Mount Ascutney Regional Commission for traffic engineering advice to see what can be done to make pedestrians safer at that location. Recently, I have seen the Sherrif department providing crosswalk safety. I want to thank them for their help.

I also met with officials from VTrans about the replacement of the Riverside culvert. This project has been in the works for several years and needs to be completed. This project will involve the closing of Route 11 at the site for several weeks once started. It will be very important to watch the timeline of this project as there will also be water and wastewater main work planned. Traffic patterns may get tricky as the Town gets all this necessary infrastructure work done.