



# TOWN OF BOW

## Town Manager

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### TOWN MANAGER'S MESSAGE #4 COVID 19 RESPONSE

April 24, 2020

One month and one week later, life carries on for all of us, albeit in a whole different way. People have had to make a lot of adjustments to their typical routines, but social distancing seems to be working at keeping the rate of infection down. We just cannot get lax with following the recommended social distancing guidelines.

#### **Town Operations**

The Town continues to operate, and our departments and employees are doing a great job. The Town's boards, committees and commissions continue to meet, including the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Adjustment. The public may participate in these meetings by utilizing the various virtual meeting tools that have been put in place. Connection info is available on all posted meeting agendas.

#### **Town Finances**

The Board of Selectmen, Town Manager and Finance Director continue to closely monitor the Town's finances. The Finance Director conducted a detailed cash flow analysis to project the Town's cash flow needs based upon the potential drop in State fund revenues and grants, MV registration fees and other factors. We have had continued discussions on how to address the Town's capital and operating budget expenditures and any purchasing that may be deferred until we have a better idea of where things are headed.

#### **Concern with FD reduction in medical and fire service calls**

Fire Chief Mitch Harrington is concerned that the Department has seen a 50% reduction in calls for service, which as he says, is good news in their business. However, as we further analyze this, we are concerned that residents, particularly senior citizens, are delaying necessary healthcare needs. We encourage everyone to make informed decisions with advice from your primary care provider and certainly call 911 if you have an emergency." The Department is working collaboratively with state and healthcare partners on getting information to our senior citizens relative to risks of delaying care, status of health resources, and measures taken to reduce COVID transmission in healthcare settings.

#### **Time to Catch up**

One good thing that has come from the situation that we are in has been our ability to catch up on projects and tasks that have been deferred in the past. Our Community Development Director has been able to work on re-writing and "cleaning up" the Town's subdivision regulations; we have updated the contact list for all Bow businesses that we will rely on for our various business outreach programs; a wall has been taken down in the Parks and Recreation office at the Community Building which will provide a better working space and setup for conducting P&R business. The lumber from the old wall will be re-used to build storage shelves for their supplies and materials.

## **Community Outreach**

We have had some fun reaching out to the community in a variety of ways. You can check out photos and videos of these activities on the Town of Bow, Bow Police Department, Bow Fire Department, Bow Parks and Recreation, and Bow Community Facebook pages.

- **Morris goes on a ride along:** School Resource Officer Mike Carpenter took Morris from Bow Memorial School for a ride along. They visited K-9 Roxy and Sgt. Matte Pratte, took a tour of the Police Department, and more fun stuff. Check out the photos to see how his day went!
- **Poetry Reading:** School Resource Officer Mike Carpenter read a poem, from inside his cruiser, to Bow Elementary School students as part of Read Out Loud Poetry Week.
- **Fire truck ride-a-long:** Captain Brandon Skoglund and Firefighter-AEMT John Bowler took viewers on a virtual fire truck ride.
- **Your DPW at Work:** We posted a video of two of our DPW crew, Duane Resse and Corey Welcome, cleaning out a catch basin.
- **Bowgie does a magic trick:** Bow Parks and Recreation mascot Bowgie performed a magic trick with our Recreation Director Darcy Little.
- **Birthday Parades:** The Police Department and Fire Department have enjoyed participating in the birthday parades that have been happening all over the community.

## **Calling all creative kids!**

BPD has published a coloring book page of K-9 Roxy on its Facebook page. They are looking for artwork submissions from any kids currently enrolled (or home schooled) in the Bow/Dunbarton SAU school district. The more creative the better! Of the submissions received, Bow Police will pick 10 of them to send a BPD care package. For fairness, the 10 will be chosen completely at random and parents will be contacted via email. Check out our FB page for more info.

## **PD Message Sign**

Check out the everchanging messages on the electronic message board located at the Community Building. They are both informative and entertaining.

## **Bow Food Closet**

The Bow Food Closet continues to serve those with food insecurities during these uncertain times. Food pickups may be arranged by contacting Deb Bourbeau at 603-223-3917. We are also conducting food and necessities collection events. Keep an eye out for the next scheduled collection. Thank you very much to all of our volunteers helping out with the collections and sorting of donations.

I continue to be very proud of all our Town employees and the work that they perform every day during this emergency. I am also impressed by how the community has responded helping others and helping to get us through these crazy times. Thank you

**#bowstrong #bowrocks**

David Stack  
Town Manager