 **TOWN OF BRIDGTON**

**DEPUTY TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT**

**May 26, 2020**

**General**

On Friday, May 15th there was an onsite auction conducted by Auctioneer Christopher Grant at the **First and Last Motel** property located at 461 Portland Road, Bridgton. There were two bidders participating with winning bid of $41,600 placed by Mark Lopez.

**Opening Monday, June 1, 2020 at 8:00a.m.-4:00p.m.**

The Town Office will be opening its doors to customers on Monday, June 1st to resume regular office hours Monday – Friday 8:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. To protect our citizens and staff protocols will be in place which includes appointments for some Department Heads.

**Opening Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at 7:00a.m.**

The Transfer Station Store and bottle donation bin will be opening on Tuesday, June 2nd. Again there will be a protocol put in place to protect the wellbeing of citizens and staff entering the store and leaving bottles in the donation bin.

We are pleased to announce the **hiring** of the following people:

**Liem Opie** – Full-time Employee of the Parks and Cemeteries Division of the Bridgton Public Services Department.

**Justin Adams** – Full-time Water Reclamation Foreman.

**Nikki Hamlin** – Full-time Executive Assistant.

**Linda Goldrup** – Part-time per-diem custodian.

Also, once again we have the opportunity for a summer intern so this year **Emily Grazyb** will be starting on June 1st with a primary focus of digitizing selected town records.

The following employees have recently resigned and therefore we would like to wish them the best of luck in their next endeavors:

**Sophie Swiatek** – Bridgton Police Officer, recently resigned and has taken a position as officer in the Freeport Police Department and **Kari Downs**, Administrative Assistant, has recently resigned.

On Wednesday, May 20th, we began weekly **testing of the** **public beaches**. Included are Highland Lake, Woods Pond, Salmon Point Campground, Salmon Point and Plummers Landing Beaches. This week the results were well below the acceptable limits.

**Annual Town Meeting**

The Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 14th 8:00AM to 8:00PM at the Town Hall on North High Street and will be strictly referendum/secret ballot. This is the first year that voting on all the warrant articles will be done by a secret ballot. A virtual Public Hearing will be scheduled prior to July 14th so citizens have the opportunity to ask questions on each of the 38 proposed warrant articles and absentee ballots will be available at least 30 days prior to July 14th . The

Elections page on the website is being updated regularly. Questions regarding specifically Ordinance amendments please contact Linda Lacroix, Community Development Director at 595-3550 or email Linda at [llcroix@bridgtonmaine.org](mailto:llcroix@bridgtonmaine.org). To accommodate our voters the office will be open additional hours:

Tuesday, June 23 ;4PM to 6PM

Thursday, June 25 ;4PM to 6PM

Saturday, June 27 ;8AM to Noon

Tuesday, July 7; 4PM to 6PMJ

Thursday, July 9; 4PM to 7PM

**!!Avoid long lines, take your time filling out your ballot, VOTE Absentee!!**

**Bridgton Fire Department**

The Fire Department would like to note the passing of **Donald Spiller** who was a former department Captain in South Bridgton. The Chief attended the Cumberland/Oxford area **Chief’s meeting**. The department received notification of **pending donation from the Lions Club** for personal protective equipment to include masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, safety glasses and a thermometer. The department continues to gain **new members** interested in the department, a new recent applicant has extensive fire service experience and if approved will be another great asset to the department.

**Community Development**

Linda Lacriox, Community Development Director, has initiated a **broadband effort** that includes officials from state, county, and town governments as well as citizens and businesses. The group has had two meetings to date and will roll out a framework in the coming weeks and months. If interested in joining a working group, or receiving updates please contact Linda at 595-3550 or email [llacroix@bridgtonmaine.org](mailto:llacroix@bridgtonmaine.org). The Community Development department continues to update information and links on the town website at [www.bridgtonmaine.org](http://www.bridgtonmaine.org). We are anticipating grant funding in June for several initiatives to be carried out by the Bridgton Community Center in partnership with the Town of Bridgton.

**Summer Recreation** begins Monday, June 8th at 8:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. for 9 weeks, **swim lessions** begin on June 22nd . The virtual exercise programs and trivia continue via ZOOM For these and more information about summer recreation refer to our website at [www.bridgtonmaine.org](http://www.bridgtonmaine.org) or contact Gary Colello at 207-647-1126.

**COVID 19** continues to be a dangerous virus with increases of positive testing daily. For the sake of yourself, your loved ones, friends, co-workers, etc. please don’t let your guard down! Continue to practice physical distancing and mask when physical distancing is not possible. Observe the CDC’s minimum recommendations on physical distancing and personal hygiene.

We at the Town of Bridgton are asking the public to please be patient and respectful and follow the rules that have been put in place for the opening of our buildings to the public.

Until next time.…be safe and be well.

 Respectfully submitted,

Georgiann M. Fleck

Deputy Town Manager