

## TOWN HALL MONTHLY: September

RFPs for this year's two large road projects were main topics during late July and August.

The RFP for Derry Hill's reconstruction, known as the FEMA Alternate Project, was approved for contractor list distribution contingent on FEMA's final approval of the RFP language. We have already had contractors asking for an opportunity to bid on this project. The RFP for the Cold Pond Road culvert replacement was distributed. The first review of the bids was disappointing until we discovered math errors which when resolved with the contractor provided a result which fits within the RFP scope of work and the budget amount approved by voters in March. Hopefully this will lead to a contract.

At each meeting this summer Select Board member Ryanne Schoonover has reported on the work being done in follow-up to votes last March by Langdon and Walpole to explore withdrawal from the Fall Mountain School District. We've noted previously that the committees working on this are bound to present their findings this fall. It is important for all of us to know that withdrawal of either or both towns would have a significant tax impact on the remaining towns, that's us. The greatest impact would come from withdrawal by Walpole. Langdon held a meeting in August for discussion around this and there will likely be more. Please follow this as best you can.

The Conservation Commission reported on the water quality assessment just completed of Crescent Lake. ConCom co-chair Gregg Thibodeau summarized the findings for the Select Board noting that Crescent Lake has arrived at a crucial point for vulnerability to cyanobacteria blooms due to phosphorus. Unlike the majority of lakes in the State, our Lake has been spared so far. Steps need to be taken for that to continue, including property maintenance by lakeside owners and road maintenance by the Town. The assessment engineers have provided specific steps that can be incorporated into our Highway budget. The Lake is a beautiful asset for all of us as a recreational and wildlife resource.

Summer in Acworth was in its fullness during August. After the Covid hiatus, the United Church held two Friday Night Suppers. It was such a pleasure to see all those faces together enjoying each other's company. The Library hosted a lawn party with food, art and music and the Historical Society hosted our own Lindley Hanson who gave a geological history of all those rocks around us. We are so lucky to be here.

After many 80 and 90 degree days, this morning registered as 47 on my thermometer. Take care, Kathi