

The Arrowsic Arrow

Volume 11, Number 2

Arrowsic, Maine 04530

May, 1996

UPDATE FROM FIRE

PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Since the last **Arrow**, much has been accomplished in bringing the issue of contracting fire service to a meaningful vote for the Town. The committee and Neil Courtney (of Maine Fire Training and Education, hired by the Town of Arrowsic) met in February with the Fire Committees, Fire Chiefs and Selectmen from the towns of Arrowsic, Woolwich, Georgetown and Bath.

We discussed the situation Arrowsic faces with costs and volunteers regarding our fire department and future fire protection for the Town. We asked the towns represented if they would be willing to discuss this further. Georgetown and Bath felt that given their current situation, they would not be able to adequately cover Arrowsic given the liability questions and costs involved. Woolwich's Fire Chief Don Forbes and the Woolwich Fire Commission agreed to further discuss the issue.

Arrowsic Selectmen and the Arrowsic Fire Prevention Committee met again with the Woolwich Fire Commission in mid-April. Woolwich had set up 5 committees to deal with the issues of insurance, mutual-aid, a fire contract, operating procedures and dispatching. They were then in the middle of researching those areas and their impact on the two towns if we agreed on a contract.

The Arrowsic Arrow is an independent publication and the views expressed in its pages are not necessarily the views of the town officials.

On April 28, the Woolwich Fire Department firefighters and the Woolwich Fire Committee voted to go ahead with the project and recommend to their town that they negotiate a contract with Arrowsic if Arrowsic so desires. After Arrowsic settles the issue at our Town Meeting June 19, Woolwich Selectmen will take up the issue.

The Arrowsic Fire Prevention Committee feels that contracting our fire service is in the best interests of the Town. The cost to upgrade our Volunteer Fire Department coupled with the lack of volunteers from our town has brought us to this position. The AVFD is using equipment that is inadequate and creates a danger for the firefighters and a legal liability for the Town and its fire chief.

A full discussion of the issue is available in the Town Warrant this year with reports by the Fire Prevention Committee and by Neil Courtney of Maine Fire Training and Safety. If anyone wants to see the reports before the Warrant becomes available, call Greg Guckenbug or Milly Stafford. A public hearing with Neil Courtney and Woolwich Fire Chief Don Forbes will be held Wednesday, June 5 at 7:00pm at the Arrowsic Town Hall to answer questions.

*Greg Guckenbug, Milly Stafford
Co-Chairs, Arrowsic Fire
Prevention Comm.*

ARROWSIC VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT COSTS

1993-94

	Payroll	\$1725.00
	F.D. Capital Fund	6000.00
Insurance	3985.00	(52% of town's total insurance costs)
Utilities	1276.00	(33% of town's total utility cost)
	Fire Dept. Budget	9488.66

TOTAL \$21767.53

Income from MEMA, Maine Yankee - 707.13
Income from taxes and/or surplus - 21,060.46

1994-95

	Payroll	\$1725.00
	F.D. Capital Fund	6500.00
	Insurance	3744.00
	Utilities	1000.00
	Fire Dept. Budget	16195.14

TOTAL \$29164.14

Income from MEMA, Maine Yankee - \$8337.13
Income from taxes and/or surplus - 20,837.01

1995-96 (Projected)

	Payroll	\$1725.00
	F.D. Capital Fund	6000.00
	Insurance	3650.00
	Utilities	1000.00
	Special Project	1500.00
	Fire Dept. Budget	10732.13

TOTAL \$24607.13

Income from MEMA, Maine Yankee - 3407.13
Income from taxes and/or surplus - 21,200.00

SPRING ROADSIDE CLEANUP SCHEDULED FOR MAY 11

The Arrowsic Conservation Committee has scheduled its annual spring roadside cleanup for Saturday, May 11, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Residents are asked to bring garbage bags and meet at the Town Hall at 10. Rain date is May 12. Refreshments will be provided. For further information contact Phinney Ewing at 443-9795

SPRING CLEAN UP SET FOR JUNE 7 AND 14.

Once again T & R Associates has agreed to pick up large items from Arrowsic

residents during their regular trash runs on June 7 and 14. Residents should place items they want hauled away with their regular trash at their regular spot. Payment is to be made on the spot by the individual resident. According to a T & R spokesperson, pickup costs for sofas or furniture is about \$5, tires are about \$2, construction materials come to about \$7 for a full hopper. Payment is between individual residents and trash hauler, the town has merely arranged for the convenient pickup.

The town wishes to thank 8th grader Brandon Elwell for his community service assignment for school.

RESPONSE TO BALD HEAD ROAD PAVING QUESTIONNAIRE:

Strongly in favor:	10
In favor:	2
No opinion	3
Opposed	3
Strongly opposed	9
Total	26*

* One Bald Head Road resident said he was "strongly in favor" of paving all of Bald Head Road and "strongly opposed" to paving only part of it.

A small sample of comments:

Like most people who drive that road often, I get aggravated by the pot holes and the summer dust. It would be a pleasure to travel a paved road. However, on balance, I think it would be a mistake. There is already too much high speed traffic on that road, and a smooth surface would only increase the problem. I suppose it might even make the road more attractive for development, which I would not like to see. And then there is the cost. So, my suggestion would be not to pave.

Thank you for letting a non-resident express his views.

(Raymond C. Holland)

We are strongly opposed to tarring any portion of Bald Head Road.

— Money could be better spent towards emergency services.

— It would be too costly.

— It's unnecessary; the existing dirt road is in good condition.

— It's a safety issue. Cars go too fast now — a tarred road would be an invitation for a speedway. Anyone who walks on the road would be in even greater danger of getting hit. Walking with dogs would be very unsafe.

— If people who have moved here from away would like to have the road tarred, then suggest they move again. The road has been fine the way it is for many years.

(Tom & Suzanne Wright)

This would be an outstanding improvement.

(Andrea Galuza)

(Strongly in favor): 1—Spring mud and heaves 2— Summer dust \ Not very desirable.

(Hamdi Akar)

We believe the overall costs of road maintenance and repair would be lower if the road were paved. Also, the wear on cars would be less, saving all road users unnecessary repairs.

(Susan & Duggan Kimball)

Annual Post Office Food Drive

The Bath Post Office is sponsoring its annual food drive on Saturday, May 11 to benefit the Bath Food Bank. Please leave non-perishable food items at your mailbox for George to pick up or at the Arrowsic Town Hall. Arrowsic has been a top contributor, so let's keep George happy!

Seated Massage and Food Drive

Donate to the Post Office Food Drive and get a massage from your Selectman! Pat Harcourt and Emily Rice, massage therapists, will be at Arrowsic Town Hall from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 11 to give free 10 minute neck and shoulder massages to all who donate food either at mailboxes or at Town Hall. So, bring your aches and pains.

An Open Letter from Selectman Pat Harcourt

As I approach the end of my term as a selectman of Arrowsic, I want to share some of my insights.

Since my background is in business and management, I think of the town of

Arrowsic as a corporation. The voters are the board of directors. Each year at Town Meeting we choose new managers for our town. If you were on a corporate board of directors, you would make these choices very carefully, because you would be placing your investment in somebody else's hands.

How much thought do you put into choosing the new executives of your town? What do you expect these town officers to do? What does the job require? How can you elect the best person for the job if you don't know what the job requirements are? How do you interview the candidates? Do you know if the current officers are doing what they were elected to do?

We can sit back and let other people make the decisions. We can skate along blindly hoping everything takes care of itself. Or, we can become better informed and take some of the mystery out of the job of selectman.

When I became a selectman, I didn't realize the depth of the responsibilities that came with the job. Nobody does upon taking the job for the first time. However, I quickly understood the need to be motivated, informed and dedicated to both the job and the town. All this takes time. Most of it is on the job training: attending assessing classes, working with all the town committees, participating in regional issues with neighboring towns, and going to municipal workshops and conferences. Another part of the job is leadership: to uphold the integrity of the town, to

provide a direction and to forge short and long term goals. These are the things I feel are necessary to be an effective selectman.

I think the town needs to decide what is expected of the selectmen. How much time do you expect them to put into learning and doing the job? We are all busy and time is very precious, so does that mean we can say: "Just forget about it" because nobody has the time?

If only one person runs, do we automatically elect that person whether or not he or she meets the qualifications? Maybe we should take the selectman's job more seriously.

I would like to see everyone get involved. If you know somebody who would be a good candidate, even if it is you, let's encourage this person to seek the office. On a small island like ours, everybody can make a difference. I would be happy to answer any questions about the job.

Town Clerk Sue Elwell reminds residents that there are still a large number of dogs unlicensed. These must be licensed by May 15.

INVITES FOR SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

The School Committee invites interested high school seniors to apply for the town scholarship by letter to be delivered to the School Committee box in the Town Hall.

Public Hearings 7pm
Arrowsic Town Hall

Patten Free Library Hearing - Thurs. May 16
School Committee - Tues. June 4
Fire Protection - Wed. June 5
Road Commission Hearing on Bald
Head Road - Sat. June 1, 9am

TOWN MEETING JUNE 19, YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

Positions to be filled:
 Fire Chief
 Tax Collector
 Registrar of Voters
 Selectman
 School Committee member

CAR REGISTRATIONS DUE -- MAY

CONTROL LIST FOR MONTH OF MAY 1996

23010 - ARROWSIC		
NAME	REGISTRATION	TAX RECEIPT NL
ATER, ROBERT	PC 7897QQ	4784693
BARTER, MARLENE E	TL L33088	4784694
BASSETT, MICHAEL A	PC 3653BY	4784695
BLANCHETTE, DONNA	PC 87178V	4784696
BROOK, DAVID M	CR 22621	4784697
BROOKS, DAVID M	PC 1370 AK	4784698
BROWN STUMP, NANCY	PC 5074AE	4784699
COST, WILLIAM T JR	PC WTC-CCC	4784700
DAVIS, RICHARD A	CR 16299	4784701
DOYLE, DOROTHY F	PC 2616AD	4784702
EDSON, ROBERT W	CR B0B E	4784703
GILLIS, JAMES R	CR 1828	4784704
HAGAR, BONNIE M	CR 8382	4784705
HARCOURT, PATRICIA L	PC 5089BR	4784706
KINGSBURY, BEVERLY A	PC 79935Y	4784707
KINGSBURY, RICHARD C	TC 0300368	4784708
KNOWLES, ROBERT L JR	PC 3650BY	4784709
LEVESQUE, CLARENCE R	PC 2019AK	4784710
METZGER, ERICA	PC 8460VV	4784711
MITCHELL, ROBERT D	PC 3658BY	4784712
PIEH, TIMOTHY	PC 5690CE	4784713
PRESBY-BARTER, NORMA D	PC 392BS	4784714
ROBBINS, KAREN M	PC 25943V	4784715
ROLLINS, ELIZABETH	PC WIFPZ	4784716
ROLLINS, ELIZABETH J	PC 36983V	4784717
SAFFORD, LILLIAN	VT 10103	4784718
SCOTT, BRIAN D	FD 25711	4784719
SHUFELT, ERNEST F	PC 1445 AK	4784720
SKILLINGS-COLEMAN, ELIZABETH	CR 22536	4784721
STAFFORD, GEORGE	TC 0303440	4784722
STINSON, LUCY	PC 246302	4784723
STONE, CALVIN J	PC 1708 AT	4784724
WEISS, DAVID R	PC 25607V	4784725
WISEMAN, ELIZABETH M	PC EMWW	4784726
WRIGHT, SUZANNE M	PC 36930V	4784727

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