

The Arrowsic Arrow

Vol. 28 No. 1

February 2014

West Bath Litigation Update From the Arrowsic Select Board

A year ago, the County Sheriff served Arrowsic with notice that we were being sued by West Bath for \$183,526. The case is still in process but several people have asked the Select Board about it, so we're sharing this information as an update. West Bath claims that Arrowsic residents unjustly benefited when the Regional School Unit (RSU1) allocated costs across towns between 2008 and 2012. West Bath is also suing RSU1, Bath and Woolwich, bringing their total claim to about \$1.9 million.

The Select Board decided the town needed to hire a lawyer to represent Arrowsic in the case and selected Rufus Brown. In a special town meeting last spring, residents approved funds for associated legal fees in addition to the funds normally budgeted for legal services. Mr. Brown has focused specifically on Arrowsic's interests and worked with us to keep costs down. He has researched the legal issues and background, prepared initial motions and worked with the attorneys for the other defendants.

After a hearing last June, the Superior Court denied motions to dismiss the suit. In December, Arrowsic and other defendants submitted a request for "Summary Judgment," arguing that the evidence does not support West Bath's claim for compensation. A judgment on the latest filings is not likely until the spring or summer.

Bill Savedoff

From the Animal Control Officer



You're Late!!
if you haven't licensed your dog yet.

Please do so as soon as possible,
Thanks!

Jeremy Blaiklock

Pesticide Notice from the Maine Board of Pesticide Control

Pesticides are used every day in Maine for control of insects, weeds, and other pests, to protect our food supply, ourselves, and our homes and gardens.

If you want to know in advance what pesticides are used and when, you have the right to know, but it's **your responsibility to ask your neighbor first.**

Everyone has the right to use pesticides, **but with that right comes the responsibility to abide by the law and notify people who ask.**

For more information, go to **thinkfirstspraylast.org**, or call the Maine Board of Pesticides Control at 207-287-2731.

Paul Schein

ITEMS TO REMEMBER

The Arrow is available 24/7 on the Arrowsic website www.arrowsic.org

We are (relatively) paperless! If you want a paper copy of the Arrow, please pick one up at the Town Hall.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Andrea Galuza "Award Winning Broker" RE/MAX Riverside
1 Bowdoin Mill Island Ste 111 Topsham, ME 04086
207-725-8505 Ext 111 207-751-9701 Cell

TRASH & RECYCLING CALENDAR 2014

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| January 10 24 | February 7 21 |
| March 7 21 | April 4 18 |
| May 2 16 30 | June 6* 13 20* 27 |
| July 5* 11 18* 25 | July 5 th is a Saturday pick up day. |
| August 1* 8 15* 22 29* | September 5 19 |
| October 3 17 31 | November 14 28 |
| December 12 26 | |

* Denotes trash only/ no recycling on this date.

Recycling is mandatory!

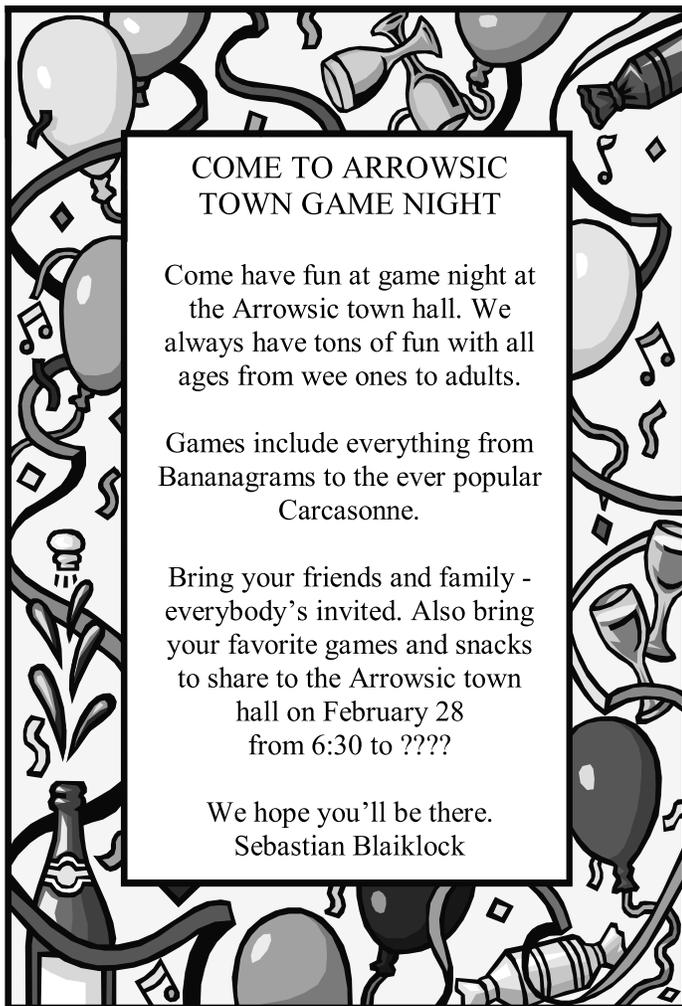
Please no bulky items or hazardous waste.

Trash/Recycling questions/Comments/ Contact John Hinds, Judy Kahrl, Roz Mclean, Liz Parker Ware, or Damian Sokol.

Propane Coop coming to Arrowsic

The co-op is a chance for Arrowsic residents that use propane in any capacity to join together to save money as a collective group. The companies offer a discounted price based on volume most of the time and about 2 years ago we were able to negotiate a price of \$2.19/gallon of propane locked for 2 years. This offers significant savings based on each members situation. If residents have interest they can reach out to Matt Bachman at mbachman17@gmail.com and I can offer further details about joining the co-op and taking advantage of a simple group that can save significant dollars. This spring I will be reaching out to the companies to try and get the best price possible for as many arrowsic residents as possible. Last time around we had a little of 10 households. I hope to hear from people.

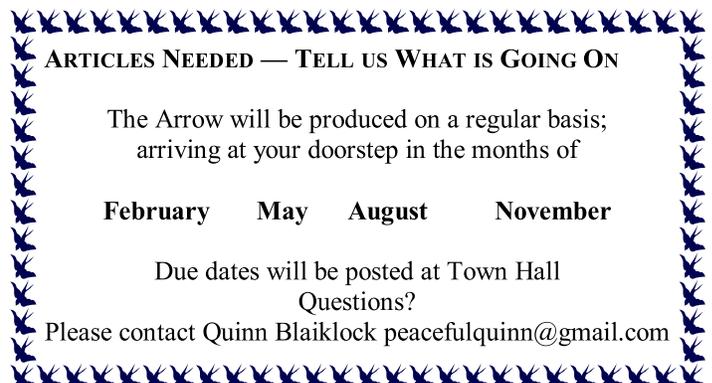
Thanks
Matt Bachman



Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event Information

- ❖ Start planning by visiting www.cityofbath.com to determine what is appropriate to bring
- ❖ Whenever possible, avoid having leftover hazardous waste materials by using items as intended rather than disposing of them, or passing them along to someone who can use them. Also, avoid purchasing hazardous materials to begin with any time that you can use an alternative method or get the job done with non-hazardous materials.
- ❖ If disposal is necessary begin collecting items in a safe area of your home and then bring them to the HHW event for the appropriate disposal.
- ❖ You must pre-register and give a complete list of your items and the total number and volume of containers. Registration is on a first call, first served basis. You might not get in if you don't register early.
- ❖ *If in doubt about your items, please contact any committee member to discuss!!!!!!* Any amount over 5 total gallons should be discussed in advance. Please give us a change to avoid problems on the day of collection.
- ❖ The town pays per unit for disposal, so remember that two nearly empty containers will cost more than the contents of those two containers combined into one. *Do not mix chemicals, however!!*
- ❖ Please be aware that materials related to your business are not acceptable for collection; only hazardous *household* materials please.

John Hinds



January 25, 2014

Dear Arrowsic Town Resident,

Last year, the Select Board agreed that the Town needs to reach some resolution about how to organize ourselves with regard to education issues that are not currently being addressed by any specific standing committee. Consequently, a group of residents have been discussing the Town's education-related needs, investigating the current status of different education functions, and identifying some distribution of responsibilities or form of organization that could be presented to the town at our next Annual Meeting. Invitations to attend the first three meetings were widely circulated and the minutes are publicly available for consultation in the Town Hall. We also consulted a number of officials and residents who had served on the Town's School Committee prior to 2008.

The results of this work are the two following documents. One summarizes the group's views on the Town's education needs and a detailed list of activities that would satisfy these needs. The other is a draft ordinance for creating a standing Education Committee which, if it were to be approved and established, could then undertake some or all of the activities that were identified.

We intend to hold a public hearing on March 13th at 7pm in the Town Hall to discuss the creation of a Town Education Committee and the proposed ordinance. If you are unable to attend the meeting, we would welcome any written comments which can be sent to Bill Savedoff by email (savedoff@gmail.com) or dropped off at the Town Hall. Or you can contact one of the following people listed below who participated in these discussions.

We hope to see you in March.

Bill Savedoff
Lisa Holley
David Howe
Camille Kauffunger
Janet Kehl
Karen Robbins

Proposed Ordinance to Establish an Education Committee - Draft

Article TBD.

To see if the Town will enact an Ordinance entitled “**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**” as it appears below:

- I. Authority: This ordinance is adopted pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. §3001.
- II. Ordinance Purpose: To establish an education committee for the Town of Arrowsic to address the diverse educational needs of Arrowsic residents.
- III. Education Committee Composition:
 - a. The Select Board shall appoint five members. The initial terms of office are one one-year position, two two-year positions and two three-year positions. All terms will be three years thereafter to provide rolling terms of office.
 - b. Vacancies in membership shall be filled in the same manner and for the balance of the term of the original appointment.
 - c. Officers of the Education Committee shall be a Chairperson and Secretary selected annually by the members of the Education Committee.
 - i. The Chairperson, in addition to duties imposed by law, shall convene the committee on a regularly scheduled basis, preside over the meetings, and be an ex-officio member of all sub-committees.
 - ii. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings, shall provide a copy to the Select Board and perform all other duties imposed by law.
 - d. A majority of the members of the Education Committee shall constitute a quorum and shall be sufficient to direct the activities and decisions of the committee.
 - e. Sub-committees may be created by vote of the Committee and may be populated by non-Education Committee Arrowsic residents.
- IV. Education Committee Duties and Responsibilities:
 - a. Promote educational experiences that allow each student develop their knowledge, skills and critical thinking in a way that results in their ability to fully participate in the global community of the 21st century.
 - b. Oversee Town interests as related to education of Town residents
 - i. Render to the Select Board a summary of services received from the School Unit of which Arrowsic is a member.
 - ii. Evaluate from time to time the performance of the School Unit of which Arrowsic is a member.
 - iii. Facilitate communications among stakeholders of Arrowsic Education such as and not limited to the School Unit, parents, residents or taxpayers.
 - c. Perform other duties as allowed by law.
- V. Separability: If any section, subsection, sentence or part of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decisions shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.
- VI. Effective Date: This ordinance shall be in effect twenty days after adoption.

Education in Arrowsic: Needs and Activities

What does the Town of Arrowsic need in relation to education?

The Town of Arrowsic, in its desire to ensure that the diverse needs of all its residents are being met by the various educational options available to them, seeks to have an active voice in the education process. To that end, it needs to find ways for the community to be adequately informed about all of those options and about ongoing changes in school missions, policies or procedures. It also needs to establish a responsive framework for parents and students to express their ideas and concerns and for the Town to communicate those ideas and concerns both to appropriate decision-making bodies or individuals and to all Town residents.

What activities would serve these needs?

To fulfill these education needs, the Town must be organized to take responsibility for activities involving (1) Town relations with and among residents, (2) Town education policies, and (3) Town relations with our school district(s).

1. Town relations with and among Resident

Town residents are the Town's key resource and constituency in education.

- a. Gather and share information about education among residents
 - i. Produce an accurate account of Arrowsic students: who, how many, what schools they are attending
 - ii. Collect and disseminate information on education options and services for Arrowsic children
 - iii. Present an annual education report to the Town
 - iv. Solicit identification of concerns and general feedback from Arrowsic's students and parents and from residents interested in education issues
 - v. Build an institutional memory
- b. Provide support to address education needs of residents
 - i. Seek resources to support life-long learning opportunities
 - ii. Seek resources to support other non-formal educational learning, including home schooling.
 - iii. Respond to problems or grievances that arise in relation to formal schooling of Town residents.
 - iv. Advocate for Arrowsic families as appropriate.
 - v. Provide advice and guidance on the use of the Town's scholarship fund, including nominating candidates.

2. Town education policies

Education is a critical responsibility for our community, requiring us to set policies which will guide our actions.

- a. Articulate a vision to meet the needs of Arrowsic students in formal education
- b. Develop Town policies regarding the educational needs of community members outside of formal schooling
- c. Periodically review whether continued participation in our school district(s) is advisable in light of alternatives
- d. Periodically review the framework for addressing education issues and propose changes as required

3. Town relations with our school district(s)

The Town of Arrowsic has no schools of its own and therefore has cooperated with other municipalities in the governance of school districts such as Union 47 and RSU1. So long as Arrowsic participates in such arrangements, the Town will have responsibilities to:

- a. Assess and report on the school district's performance
 - i. Attend school district meetings related to education policy, finances and management
 - ii. Identify performance criteria for evaluating the school district
 - iii. Periodically report to the Town on the school district's performance
- b. Influence the school district on issues of concern to the Town
 - i. Alert the Town to important issues as they arise
 - ii. Solicit the views of residents on educational issues
 - iii. Meet with school district boards, committees, management and others to provide feedback, collaborate in problem solving, express concerns and make proposals
- c. Carry out administrative functions
 - i. Review budget proposals in relation to school district goals and Town interests
 - ii. Review education expenses billed to Arrowsic in relation to school district cost allocation policies
 - iii. Monitor procedures and records related to Arrowsic students attending district schools