

Town of Hamilton

Town Manager's Office

Town Manager Report to the Board of Selectmen Monday May 3, 2021

Annual Town Election Thursday – Just a reminder that annual Town Elections are Thursday, May 6, all voting precincts vote at the HW Recreation center on Union Street.

There are contested races for the Board of Selectmen and a ballot question to be considered, so we are hoping for a good turnout.

Town Clerk Kale announces election reimbursement – Town Clerk Carin Kale informed us today that the Secretary of State's office has reimbursed the Town Clerk's office nearly \$6,700 for costs associated with early voting in the fall elections. The amount was equal to what the Clerk had reported for additional expenses associated with those elections.

Kaleigh and Pat embracing new opportunities – It is with quite a bit of regret that I have accepted and am announcing the resignations of Kaleigh (Shaugnessy) Pare as the Patton Homestead Director and Pat Shannon as the Assistant to the Town Manager and Community Preservation Coordinator.

Kaleigh has been working reduced hours at the Patton Homestead since last July and has been commuting over an hour each way to her home in New Hampshire. She is moving to a position closer to home and one that will allow her to continue her goal of working in museums. It has been great having her on the team and I wish she were not leaving, but I understand her desire to return to the career she has a passion for. In her time here she has helped us prepare the Patton Homestead for visitors – developed the Patton business plan, created rental and insurance agreements, coordinated with the Patton Homestead Inc. and other tenants of the building, overseen the development of marketing and press materials, engaged potential customers. Booked events for rental and coordinate with the facilities director to improve the appearance of the Homestead and worked with dozens of partners and more. Any success we have bringing the Patton Homestead to sustainability going forward will be built on the work that Kaleigh has done here.

Pat Shannon joined us this past July, after moving back to Massachusetts from Colorado. Pat was a significant addition because he not only took over most of the administrative functions in the Town Manager's office, but has also: coordinated the activities for the Community Preservation Committee, Affordable Housing Trust, and Historic District Commission; provided assistance to the Hamilton Development Corporation and the Hamilton Foundation; assisted with the writing and submission of several successful grant opportunities; and has been responsible for the creation of the new bi-weekly e-newsletter, website updates and many informational posts to the website and town social media accounts.



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\$200,000 annual grant awarded – The towns of Hamilton, Wenham, Manchester and Essex were informed last week by the Department of Public Health that we have been awarded a grant to regionalize additional public health nursing and social worker functions to serve the four towns in planning and responding to public health crises. The town's will get about \$37,000 this year and \$200,000 in each of the next three years to hire 1 FTE regional public health nurse coordinator and a .75 FTE public health social worker, with the goal that the two new positions identify and pursue future grants that will make the roles sustainable for the towns.

The regional grant application was a joint effort, but Pat Shannon of the Hamilton Town Manager's office produced the bulk of the grant narrative and submitted the application on behalf of the four towns.

Our collective response to the pandemic showed where we can improve in our public health delivery and how coordinated, collaborative effort can make all four towns stronger.

We are excited to begin the process of partnering with these neighbors to improve public health for all residents in all four towns.

Organics Ban takes effect May 1 – REMINDER, starting the week of May 3, 2021 there is a mandatory change to the trash collection program. Under the revised program, any "Town of Hamilton" black official barrel that is not accompanied by a green compost bin will result in your trash being left and uncollected. Casella has new trash trucks with an automated arm. Please place your barrel 2 feet from the curb with the bar facing the street for collection. Please have your other receptacles at least 2 feet away from your Town issued barrel to ensure there are no obstructions.



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