



## *A Message from your Town Administrator*

Happy New Year! I hope you all enjoyed a very happy and healthy holiday season! The New Year for me is full of meetings as I continue to build solid relationships and show my support for each department in town. One such meeting took me to the Dighton Public Library. This library has so much to offer beyond books and technical services, such as patrons' ability to rent a ukulele, puppet books, a learn to knit kit, a microscope, and more. Library Director Jocelyn Tavares also shared with me a wonderful program she will soon be introducing that will allow residents, new and old, to come learn more about what they "need to know" about their town and meet local officials.

I also had the opportunity to visit the firefighters at the Main Street station, and get to know their needs. It was very clear that this group of employees has great comradery and a culture of doing what it takes to get the job done. It was a fantastic visit and I look forward to seeing all that Chief Maguy and his department will bring in the coming years. Check out his presentation at the 1/10/2018 Selectmen's meeting.

In an impromptu meeting with the Cable Committee I was able to learn about their plans for expanding programming as well. 2018 will be an exciting time for this group as they update their equipment and provide more tapings of meetings and various departments around town. Stay tuned!

Over the last month, Highway Superintendent Tom Ferry and I have worked to solicit quotes for design and engineering services for sidewalks at three separate locations in Town - Center Street, Somerset Avenue, and Pearl Street. These projects were funded at the Special Town Meeting in October and fall under the state's Complete Streets grant program. Tom and I were also able to work out a way to save the taxpayers a substantial sum of money to finish up work on a sidewalk project on Center Street. Due to the talent within our own Highway Department, we can complete that job by building a retaining wall in house, paying only for materials. I've had the distinct pleasure of meeting a few of the Highway workers and I am very impressed with the quality of work and wonderful disposition of our team. I'll add here a quick note of appreciation to the employees of this department who worked tirelessly to clear roadways and sidewalks to keep up with the January 4 snowstorm.

At the end of December, two members of the Rehoboth Board of Selectmen came to a Board of Selectmen's regular meeting and informed us that Rehoboth would be taking a vote on replacing the high school roof later this month. They indicated that they anticipated the vote to be favorable - good news for our students who deserve a dry, safe place to learn!

Administratively, I have been reviewing policies for the Board of Selectmen. I will be issuing a recommendation on those policies, whether it be to retain, strike, revamp, or replace them with new policies. Fellow department heads have assisted me in evaluating the current policies and ensuring they are appropriate for the Town of Dighton and are achieving what they set out to achieve. I thank them for their support and assistance in this endeavor.

Until next month!

Sincerely,  
Mallory Aronstein  
Town Administrator