

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

To: Town Board

From: Michael Kuchta

DATES COVERED IN REPORT: Feb. 9-22, 2024

1. Accomplished/Completed

- **Energy Innovation Grant Program application.** With help from Bill Bailey and members of the Energy Committee, the application is ready to submit upon your authorization. The deadline is this Friday, March 1.

2. Coming Up

- **Special Town Meeting. Thursday, Feb. 29, 5 p.m.** Electors will vote on the portions of the Harbor Commission's financing package that could be subject to the property tax levy.
- **Gazette deadline.** Saturday March 2. The issue will be on streets from March 23-May 18.

3. Town Board Agenda – Information/Comments

- See separate memo.

4. Follow Up on Previous/Ongoing Projects

- **Airport.** The Town crew has used the weather to its advantage and cleared additional vegetation and stumps near the weather station and runway, to meet BOA guidelines.
- **Fire Department cascade bottles.** These will be donated to Cornucopia's fire department.
- **MRF solar panels.** The panels are back online and producing power.
- **Road name signs.** Decker-Supply is manufacturing 138 signs for intersections; they expect delivery within the next week or so.
- **Room accommodations tax.** With substantial help from Paul Wilharm, we sent official notice to Airbnb and Vrbo requesting that they post the increase in the Town's tax rate from 6.5% to 8%.

5. Grant Report

- **Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation.** The Town is not submitting any applications to this family of funds so that we are not in competition with the Harbor Commission.
- The Energy Committee is recommending that you approve their application for the ESB microgrid. The request is in Resolution 2024-0227B.

6. Lawsuits/Legal Issues

- **Ashland County.** Reply briefs are due by this Thursday, Feb. 29, in the Town's appeal to the Wisconsin Tax Appeals Commission.

7. Other Information

- **WCMA.** I will attend the Wisconsin City/County Management Association winter conference from Feb. 28-March 1.

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Initial: dg