

From the Town Manager's Desk

Perry A. Ellsworth
South Berwick, Maine

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A Holiday Message To The Residents Of South Berwick

As we move through the holiday season we should take a moment to think about how fortunate we are to have friends and family around us.

In my position as Town Manager, I am taking a moment to reflect on the last year and can only start to comment on the support the staff, Council, and residents have given me during my first year here.

As a manager, when you work with people eight to ten hours a day, they become part of your extended family. I want to share with you that I am truly lucky to have so much talent in our family work group.

The Town of South Berwick is blessed with an exceptional group of employees who continue to provide optimum services no matter what obstacles they may have in front of them. When an employee resigns they are quick to step up to the plate and carry the extra workload until someone is chosen and trained to take care of the needs of the position. They have made due through budget cuts and staff reductions often without comment and without disruption of services. The average person on the street likely does not understand the extent of what employees do here because they just get things done. Over the course of the next year I hope to help get the word out by helping you understand the workings within your municipal government. I will put on my list of things that are important to me that you take a moment to thank them personally for the work that they do for you daily.

I intend to share with you the complexity and demands of each position and how you benefit from those services. As we move through the budget process I encourage you to stop by my office and chat about the things that go on here. I believe that you will be surprised at the magnitude of work that is accomplished by a staff that has been reduced to a level that does not allow for anything but getting the job done as efficiently as possible.

Improvements in the economy continue at a very slow pace. We are dedicated to providing the services that are essential and others that make this community a great place to live or visit. Please let us know upfront those items of the budget that you see essential and if you think there should be changes please help us with solutions. Feel free to email me at pellsworth@sbmaine.us, call me at 384-3300 X115, or even better yet stop by and share your ideas in my office. You will find my door always open unless I am in a meeting. A Christmas present for me would be getting to know more of you on a one to one basis. I hope to see you soon.

I wish every one of you a safe holiday season and look forward to the best possible New Year.

Respectfully,

Perry A. Ellsworth