Dear Reader,

This year’s Annual Meeting was rather brief and to the point. A relief for those who did not relish actually putting to test last year’s resolve to halt the meeting at 10:00 and reschedule for the following day. However, as a result, the synopsis below is a bit dry. If anyone remembers something that has been left out, please email to the address below or leave it in the Arrow box at Town Hall and we’ll publish it in the next Arrow, in September.

Meanwhile, happy summertime...

Your Town Officials

Selectboard: Chair Greg Guckenburg 442-8020, Larry Wilson 443-6970, Michele Gaillard 442-7443
Treasurer: Paul Schlein 443-3209
Tax Collector: Elizabeth Rollins 443-3655
Town Clerk: Josephine Ewing 443-9795
Fire Chief: Ike Heffron 371-9093
School Committee: Chair Eloise Vitelli 443-4660, Nancy Brown Stump 442-7527, Jody Jones 443-3697
Codes Enforcement Officer: David Foster 443-2114
Planning Board: Karen Robbins, Co-Chair 442-7533, Mary Hillery, Co-Chair 442-8020, Mary Louise Blanchard, Roger Heard, Michael Dube, Jim Tolan (Alt.), Lisa Stuart (Alt.), David Puff (Alt.)
Board of Appeals: Chair Grace Stone 442-7663, Bart Chapin, Mona Schlein, James Arsenault, Lois Hewlett, Mark Geiger (Alt.)
Recycling/Solid Waste: Chair Michael Kreindler 442-7443, Jeff Mann, Paul Schlein, Robert Kalish, Roz MacLean
Fire Prevention Officer: Charlotte Brown 442-8383
Director of Local Emergency Management: William Schumaker 443-5714
Health Officer: Mildred Stafford 443-5832
Registrar of Voters: Jean Kane 443-4978
Road Commission: Chair Jim Stump 442-7527, John Wood, Joan Richardson, Richard Elwell, Sally Drake
Conservation Commission: Chair Josephine Ewing 443-9795, William Blaiklock, Joan Richardson, Frances Smith Tolan, Mildred Stafford, Noreen Blaiklock, Henry Mann, Roger Heard
Town Historian: Mildred Stafford 443-5832
Animal Control Officer: Larry Mann 371-9089
Town Property Management Committee: James Arsenault Co-Chair 443-6970, Robert Ater Co-Chair 443-1519, Mildred Stafford, Ann Ater, Carmen Bellville, Elizabeth Wilson, George Stafford
Shellfish Conservation Committee: Chair Elizabeth Wilson 443-6970, William Blaiklock, Michael Kreindler, Richard Higgins, Phil Packard
Shellfish Warden: Jon Hentz 371-2732

A brief synopsis of Town Meeting

June 20, 2001 6:30 pm

The meeting was called to order and Darla Jewett was elected Moderator. She took the podium and went over some ground rules, discouraging folks from calling the question as this action puts an immediate stop to any discussion. Shortly thereafter, Phine Ewing was re-elected Town Clerk, uncontested and Larry Wilson was re-elected Selectman for a second term, uncontested. Also elected were Jody Jones to the School Committee (re-elected), Paul Schlein as Treasurer, and Liz Rollins as Tax Collector (re-elected). We then voted to spend $29,459 in payroll, which includes Social Security and Medicare taxes.

After some discussion, we voted to change the fire chief position from an elected to an appointed position and to accept all grants, donations and other contributions offered to the fire department. Nancy Scott announced that Brian Scott had resigned as Fire Chief.

At this point, Articles 22 and 23 were moved forward so we could continue discussion about the Fire Department: the 1966 pumper is going to be bought “for a fair price” by one of the Five Islands, and we will be purchasing a 1989 Ford 2000 gallon tank truck with a 450 gallon per minute pump. Greg Guckenburg and Ike Heffron (assistant fire chief at the time) spoke of
Arrowsic’s role in Mutual Aid as water carriers. Our mini-pumper and the Ford Tank truck can get into place that Bath’s large trucks cannot. Ike concluded by saying that we could call him anytime with fire department questions or comments.

Jeff Galuza mentioned our need to re-inventory the Town’s public and private Emergency Preparedness resources. He pointed to a survey (which we had filled out during the Y2K concern) and asked if anyone had generators, boats, etc and would be willing to lend these items to the townsfolk to please fill in another survey and mail it to the Town Hall.

We then voted to appropriate $10,000 from surplus into the Fire Department Capital Improvement fund and we raised $15,000 for Fire Protection which includes $5,000 for our contract with Bath. We also appropriated $5,000 for ambulance service.

Article 58 was moved forward so that we could discuss the Assessor’s Agent situation. Larry Wilson explained that we should have all the assessments done by the end of September, and that the selectmen had decided to try and work with Kevin McGillicuddy to finish the assessments. We then raised $2,000 to cover the costs involved.

Next were the school articles. Nancy Brown Stump thanked Bob Young for his 5 years of service as our Superintendent. She then explained the revenue and expenditure articles and announced that there are 11 Arrowsic seniors graduating next year.

The Road article was next. We voted to spend $76,000 on Road maintenance ($60,000 from excise tax, $12,370 from MDOT and $3,630 to be raised in taxes) without discussion. Jim Stump (chair of the Road Commission) wanted to say a few things but the vote had already been taken and he was denied a chance to speak. Please see his comments later in the news.

$3,000 was voted to cover the cost of recycling at $35 per ton; $8,700 was appropriated for tipping fees at the Bath Landfill and $9,300 was voted for trash pickup.

The auditor’s report was funded for $4,000, our septic costs were funded for $4,000 and charitable organizations were funded for $10,956 (the latter from surplus).

We voted $6,000 for contingency and operational spending, $2,000 for the town report, $4,000 for insurance, and $4,000 for utilities. The town report was produced almost entirely on computers this year by Larry Wilson and Paul Schlein who told us that by doing it this way, we can order 1 or 100 copies at a time at the printers. Larry thanked Paul for all of his time.

For Arrowsic’s boards and commissions we voted the following monies: $1,000 to the Planning Board, $250 to the Conservation Commission, $250 to the Shellfish Committee, $250 to the Emergency Management Agency. $4,000 was appropriated from surplus for legal expenses.

Next came the perennial articles: $10,000 (from surplus) for the Capital Improvement Fund, $4,000 from surplus for Town Hall improvements and maintenance, approval to collect all watercraft excise taxes into a waterfront fund, to collect dog license fees into an Animal Control Account, to allow selectmen to pay General Assistance out of surplus as well as to authorize them to borrow money; to authorize the selectmen to sell tax delinquent real estate and to approve a 10% cap on interest for late taxes.

We then selected Wednesday, June 19, 2002 at 6:30 for our next town meeting and the meeting was adjourned.

Fire Department News
Ike Heffron, Chief

Since March of this year the new formed Fire Department has responded to 24 calls but they were not all in Arrowsic. 3 of the calls were to trees on wires 3 to motor vehicle accidents 1 fire alarm call on Mill Island. I have also investigated two outside burns without permits. We have had some calls for mutual aid to other towns where the tanker will be a lot of help to us. The group has had one training led by Donna Blanchette during a weeknight. We will be having another training on Sat. Aug 11th at the Fire Department at 8:00 a.m. for 2 hrs. The new tank truck will be sent to us on 8-3-01. Please feel free to contact me for any questions or concerns at 371-9093.

TO THE CLASS OF 2001: The Arrowsic School Committee wishes to congratulate the most recent high school graduates. Congratulations to Elizabeth Bryant, Shannon Levesque, Mary Lou MacMahan, Jeni Nagy and Michael Pinette who graduated from Morse High School; to David Fitzherbert and Rachel Schlein who graduated from Brunswick High School; to Benjamin Galuza who graduated from Northfield-Mt. Hermon; to Trevor Geiger who graduated from North Yarmouth Academy; to Charles Hudson who graduated from Waynfleet; and to Sylvia McLean who graduated from Phillips Academy. We toss our hats into the air for you!

We hope that the beauty of Arrowsic will be a source of strength, for there is much to remember that has grown up beside you, informing your life: oaks and pines, hemlocks, cedars and marsh maples; lady slippers, goldthread, partridge berry, poison ivy and jewel weed; deer, raccoons, fox, moose and beavers; turtles and toads and peepers; humming birds and chickadees, robins, crows osprey and bald eagles; ticks, butterflies, ants, fireflies and mosquitoes. There is much you carry with you of the wonder of this place, like seeds in your pockets and burrs on your socks. The biologist, Lyall Watson suggests in his book, Gifts of Unknown Things:

“We did not come into this world. We came out of it, like buds out of branches and butterflies out of cocoons. We are a natural product of this earth, and if we turn out to be intelligent beings, then it can only be because we are fruits of an intelligent earth, which is nourished in its turn by an intelligent system of energy.”

May you flower and fly. May you nourish and be nourished. Though each of you is different, each is an offspring of life here in Arrowsic. Blessings on you!

-Nancy Brown Stump
The town has received some valuable feedback from residents clarifying the accuracy of the new address list which is currently available for review with the Town Clerk. We urge all residents to review both the list and the map posted at the Town Hall to ensure that the new address is properly recorded.

The map can be confusing so pay particular attention to the key. Note that many addresses are identified by the beginning of the driveway, not the location of the house. Also, the address interval is 50 feet, which means that the numbering begins at the head of the road and runs consecutively down the road with two addresses, one odd and one even, at each interval. The odd numbers are on the right side of the road and even numbers are on the left. Therefore, your new address will be a general indicator of how far down the road you are and whether you are on the right or the left side of the road. For example, 10 Vale Road would be about 250 feet down the road on the left side.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jim Stump at 442-7527 any time or 725-3045 during the day.

The Arrow is made possible by the generous donations of time, energy, and money from friends and neighbors it is funded, when necessary, by the Town. Deadline for the next issue is September 10th, so all submissions to the Arrow by September 10th, will be included in the next issue.

See the Arrow on the web at: www.maine.gov/art/arrow

Thanks to Larry Wilson.

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From the Road Commission
Jim Stump, Chair 442-7527

It was my intent to discuss the upcoming snowplow contract at Town Meeting. But in the thrill of the efficiency of the moment, the Road article passed before I gathered enough wits to address this issue. The following is a summary of how the Commission intends to handle snowplowing for the next three year cycle.

For the last three contracts there has been vaery little competition in the bidding process. We have had essentially two bidders, Charlie Collins at MaineMoss, and Dick Elwell. Even prior bidding revealed to us that these two contractors were really the only ones capable of providing adequate service for what we had come to expect as a reasonable bid.

However, we persisted with bidding the snowplow contract to ensure that we were satisfying State requirements regarding work that uses State funds. The Commission has decided to approach the snowplow contract differently this year. While the Maine Municipal Association has, in the past, advised us that we need not necessarily bid work regardless of its funding source, we remain skeptical and will be satisfying the perceived need requirement in the upcoming year with other work, probably the paving contract.

In review of our situation with the two contractors, the Commission has decided not to put the contract to bid, but to negotiate a contract. Because we want to maintain a good working relationship with both contractors and since MaineMoss has most recently provided the snowplowing, after discussing the situation with Charlie Collins, the Commission decided to enter into negotiations with Dick Elwell to provide this service for the next three year cycle. For those familiar with the workings of communities with less integrity than Arrowsic, you should know that while Dick, as a Commission member, provided some valuable information for consideration, such as the current cost of snowplowing in surrounding communities, he withdrew from the Commission discussion and decisions that may have represented a conflict of interest.

The Commission reached an agreement with Dick and he will be providing the snowplowing for the next three years. We will again renew our snowplow situation at the end of this three year contract. We look forward to having Dick again plow the Arrowsic roads. We thank Charlie Collins for his work.

Address Conversion

The US Postal System has indicated that we can expect the address conversion associated with the new E911 system to take effect for postal delivery August 1.
The Arrowsic Scholarship
Nancy Brown Stump, School Committee

The Arrowsic School Committee would like to announce that six students enrolled as high school seniors in the school year 2000-2001 applied for and received the Arrowsic Scholarship. The scholarship, in the amount of five hundred dollars, will go to the schools these students are attending to defray those students' costs.

This year's recipients of the Arrowsic Scholarship are Elizabeth Bryant, attending Babson College; Benjamin Galuza and Sylvia McLean attending the University of Vermont; Rachel Schlein, attending Hampshire College; and Trevor Geiger also deferring entrance to Macalaster College until 2002. These students care about music, the environment, education and helping others. We wish them well and thank them for their hard work and contributions to their various communities.

TIPS ON WHAT TO DO IF YOUR WALLET/CREDIT CARDS ARE STOLEN
Submitted by Joan Kane,
Mediator with the Attorney General's Office

Identity Theft:
If someone has used your personal identification to fraudulently establish credit, report the incident as quickly as possible to each of the credit reporting agencies and request that a fraud alert be placed on your file.

Experian 888-397-3742
Equifax 800-525-6285
Trans Union 800-680-7289

Obtain a copy of your credit report from each of the credit reporting agencies. Check to see whether any additional accounts were opened without your consent or whether unauthorized charges were billed to your accounts. To request copies of your credit reports call:
Experian 888-397-3742
Equifax 800-685-1111
Trans Union 800-966-8800

Contact the Social Security Administration's Hotline at 800-269-0271 to report the unauthorized use of your personal identification information.

Contact your State Department of Motor Vehicles to see whether the Department has issued an unauthorized license number in your name. If so, notify them that you are a victim of identity theft.


IMPORTANT: Record your CREDIT CARD NUMBERS where you can easily locate them if you need to call the above numbers to report the theft/missing cards.

from the United States Census Bureau: A Profile of General Demographic Characteristics 2001