

Appendix of Questions
for the
Madbury Public Works Exploratory Committee

The committee should use the following questions to inform its research. The questions help define the issues and suggest possible expert resources and data that may be needed. They are not an exhaustive list and will likely generate additional questions to consider.

What level and types of services do the residents of Madbury consider essential and “nice to have?”

What are current public works costs?

- How much do we spend now on public works activities (paving, plowing, road maintenance, transfer station, etc.)
- What are the current contract costs? Inflation increases?
- Assuming current contractors are no longer available, what would be the cost of hiring new contractors?
- What alternate contractors are available?

How many people (paid and volunteer) are currently conducting public works type activity and what are their roles?

What are the current public works responsibilities?

- How many miles of road do we have to plow and maintain?
- How long does it take to plow them?
- How many volunteer hours?
- How many contractor hours?

What work would the DPW do?

- Plowing, sanding, salting?
- Roadside sweeping, mowing, trimming?
- Pothole repairs, repaving?
- Road sign installation and maintenance?
- Line painting?
- Removal of roadkill, dumping (i.e., trash), downed trees and other obstacles?
- Culvert maintenance?
- Maintain landscaping at town buildings, fields, monuments, etc.?
- Oversee transfer station operations?
- Garbage collection?
- Cemetery(s) maintenance?

What DPW employees would be needed?

- How many employees?
- Full time? If not...how would plowing be done during storms of longer than a few hours duration?
- What would the job descriptions be?
- What are projected wage, overtime, and non-wage costs (Do full time go into the pensions system)?

What facilities would a DPW need?

- What type and size of facilities?
- Exactly what is needed (garage, materials storage shed, office, etc.)
- Built to what standards (i.e., paved lot or gravel, heated and cooled garage, etc.)

- Are there any other town facilities that should be consolidated?
- What are the possible locations?
- What's the acquisition cost for these facilities?
- What are the ongoing maintenance and operation costs of the facilities?

What equipment would a DPW need?

- Plows, Dump Trucks, Sanders, Pickups, Front Loaders, Power Tools, Hand Tools, etc.?
- What's the cost of said equipment?
- What materials (e.g., sand and salt) are required and how much would be needed?
- What's the acquisition cost for this equipment?
- What are the ongoing maintenance and operation costs for this equipment?

DPW operations considerations

- How do we / should we define emergency response to road issues (e.g., downed tree)? The answer could impact how we might organize / staff a DPW