

2023-2024 Select Board Goals & Objectives

COMMUNITY DIVERSITY & WELLNESS

- Sustain and where needed improve Harpswell's capacity to inclusively welcome and support residents of all backgrounds, ages and economic conditions.
 - Explore the need for housing and ways to make it accessible
 - Continue partnership with HAH (& others) to support aging in place for Harpswell elders
 - Continue to assess unmet needs of families with a focus on the wellness of youth, and identify strategies to address them

ENVIRONMENT

- Develop plans and strategies that: a) protect and preserve Harpswell's lands and waters for future generations, b) increase community resilience in the face of climate change, and c) reduce Harpswell's carbon footprint.
 - Review, and as needed update land use ordinances to prevent environmental degradation including consideration of more pesticide/insecticide regulation
 - Support mission of the Resiliency and Sustainability Committee and adopt strategies for addressing impacts of climate change with public education being a key focus
 - Set goals and implement energy efficiencies and carbon footprint reduction strategies
 - Educate and inform property owners about proposed FEMA Floodplain maps and Town revisions with likely adoption in 2024

ECONOMIC VITALITY

- Support Harpswell's economic vitality especially in the fishing, tourism and housing sectors.
 - Continue working to better understand forces affecting the health of Harpswell's marine resources and find solutions that work at the local level
 - Support Harpswell's fishing community to adapt to and build resiliency against negative climate change impacts
 - Assess the effects of the vacation rental sector on our economy, services and neighborhoods and develop policy which may lead initially to a registry— consider separate task force

INFRASTRUCTURE & LONG-RANGE PLANNING

- Improve and maintain Town infrastructure
 - Complete Town Office HVAC upgrade and Recycling Center renovations
 - Maintain a multi-year comprehensive capital maintenance/improvement plan for all municipal infrastructure including roads, buildings, wharfs, landings, fire and safety
 - Consider current service/staff capacity and consider whether it needs to be increased, and if so, in what areas
 - Focus on long-range planning for emergency services

- Develop an affordable broadband infrastructure strategy that reaches all parts of Harpswell and improves capacity to deliver Town services
- Complete comprehensive review of all cemeteries that seek financial support from the Town
- Assess options and undertake public process for the re-use/disposition of the Administration building at Mitchell Field

DEVELOP PLAN FOR USE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS

- Consider Housing and Emergency Services as potential priorities

COMMUNICATIONS

- Improve the effectiveness/efficiency of Town Services and Governance
 - Prioritizing and implementing recommendations of the Technology and Communications TF in process
 - Purchase equipment and establish policy and means for real time remote as well as in-person participation in Town board/committee meetings

COMPLETE PRIOR GOALS

- Complete new Comcast Negotiation—2023
- Determine maintenance status of family-owned cemeteries—2023
- Work toward completing update of the Comprehensive Plan—2024

Adopted by the Select Board June 22, 2023