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TOWN OF SUTTON OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

TO: SELECT BOARD
FROM: JAMES SMITH
SUBJECT: TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE
DATE: FEBRUARY 6, 2024

The following is an update of projects and activities for your information

1. Massachusetts Municipal Association Annual meeting-was held on Friday, January 19 and 20 at the Hynes Convention Center. Gov. Healey spoke at the opening session. The Governor's H1 budget included a \$30 per student chapter 70 number and a 3% increase in unrestricted general government aid. She also introduced pending legislation called the Municipal Empowerment act. This legislation will allow municipalities to increase the lodging tax from 6% to 7%. It would also allow for any increase in the local meals tax from .75% to 1%. Additionally, the legislation would create a local option for a 5% motor vehicle excise surcharge. This legislation still has to make its way through the legislative process at the state level prior to being considered at the town.
2. Green communities grant award-Jen Hager applied for and received an award of \$190,172 for a number of projects throughout town. This will finish off the LED lighting at the School Department as well as projects with the Fire Department, Sewer Department, and Council on Aging. I have attached a copy of the grant award.
3. The Annual Audit presentation- Will take place on Tuesday, March 12 at the Select Board meeting.
4. FY 2025 Preliminary Budget Presentation-will take place on Tuesday February 20.