

Open Space and Recreation Committee 2015 Annual Report

The OS & R Committee has met monthly since June of 2014 to discuss matters relating to the Town's open space and recreation facilities and to formulate recommendations to the Town Administrator and Selectmen.

The Committee has met with our Town Planner and is cooperating with her to update the Open Space Plan for the Town which is necessary in order to qualify for certain types of State funds.

We have reviewed reports prepared by the Manager of the Ice Arena and Golf Course on the status, use, revenue and capital needs of these facilities. The Arena continues to show a slight positive cash flow to the Town even though some one time capital expenditures were needed to repair and replace some of the mechanical equipment this past year. The Arena still averaged \$75,526/yr. positive cash flow for the last 5 yrs.

The Unicorn Golf Course revenue to the Town is offset almost entirely by the cost to the Town to maintain the course. The revenue to the Town from the Oaks Golf course is insufficient to offset the cost to the Town to maintain that golf course. The combined revenue of both courses in 2014 was \$437,358 offset by the cost to the Town of \$443,331, resulting in a loss to the Town of \$5,973. This is the third year in a row that the golf courses have lost money for the Town. Losses in FY 13 were \$34,671, and in FY 12 the loss was \$6,064. From 1999 to 2011 the Golf courses made money for the Town. The range of profits were from \$531,158 in FY 99 to \$89,401 in FY 09. FY 11 was the last year the Golf course made money for the Town. In that year the Golf courses showed a profit to the Town of \$90,480

The OS & R Committee is very concerned about this downward trend in golf revenues and is studying strategies to reverse this trend and bring in a positive cash flow to the Town as it did in years past.

Committee Members:

Dennis Visconti, Chairman
Stephen Mc Donough
Aldo Ursino
Julie Boussy
William Previdi
James Sarno
Therese DiBlasi
Jack Bracciotti
Joanne St. Pierre
Maura Campbell
Steve Sylvester