

Town Manager's Report

Monday, April 25, 2011

To: Board of Selectmen
From: Christopher Whelan, Town Manager

Following are some of the matters reported on this week by various Town Departments:

FINANCE

Bond Sale: As noted in the Finance Department's April 22 press release, the Town has scheduled a bond sale for Wednesday, May 4 on \$8.75 million of General Obligation debt pursuant to authorizations approved by prior Annual Town Meetings related to various capital projects. Additional details are posted on the Town's web site.

FIRE

Station 1 Renovation: The Fire Chief reports that furnishings should arrive this upcoming week for the newly renovated space. A relatively small area of the first floor (including a restroom) remains in need of renovation as it was not within the scope of the project. That work will begin within about a month using a combination of funds on hand for such improvements.

Apparatus: Engine 3 was placed back in service last week after having been unavailable for some time for warranty repairs.

PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT

Planning Division

Planning Board: On Tuesday, April 12, the Planning Board voted as follows on the following non-zoning articles: no position on Article 25 Restoration of Streetlights; support for Article 41, CPC Appropriation Recommendations; and support for Article 42, Land Acquisition. The Planning Board then voted to recommend affirmative action on the following Zoning Bylaw Amendments: Articles 43 & 44, Residence C Side Yards & Height; Articles 45, 46, 48 & 49 (which are on the consent calendar); and Article 47, Commercial Vehicle Wheel Base. The Board also voted affirmative action on the West Concord articles as follows: Articles 50-53; Article 55 (Formula Business without a Cap); and for Special Town Meeting Articles 3 and 4. The Board voted no action on Article 54 (Formula Business with a Cap) and STM Article 6 (Establish West Concord Village District) – by Petition.

Comprehensive Sustainable Energy Committee (CSEC): Thursday, April 12, the CSEC made favorable recommendations on the proposals for \$3,500 for a structural analysis for a

solar installation at the Beede Center and \$3,940 for the energy-efficiency improvements to 141 Keyes Road. They reviewed the proposal for an LED upgrade in the Harvey Wheeler parking lot, but decided to gather more information about motion sensors, conservation measures and the requirements of the Town's Outdoor Lighting Policy before making a recommendation. The meeting concluded after they voted no action on Article 25 Restoration of Streetlights and unanimous support for Article 37 Guidelines for a Sustainable Concord.

Solar Siting Committee: On April 13, the Solar Siting Committee finalized their short list and decided that site visits would be helpful for the following locations: 835 Old Marlboro Road (Sanborn School), 1231 Old Marlboro Road and 7B Old Pickard Road (Peabody School and playing fields) 97A Old Marlboro Road (Jenny Dugan Well), 363 ORNAC and 42B ORNAC (Deaconess Well), 416 Walden Street (near Alcott School), 755 Walden Street, and 10A Riverdale Circle. The site visits will be scheduled for Friday, May 6 8:00-11:00 a.m.

Health Division

Walden Grille Hearing: The Board of Health held a public hearing with the Owner of Walden Grille on April 19 to discuss violation of a 2001 consent agreement for illicit discharge to a catch basin, and a documented history of recurrent food safety violations. After a lengthy discussion, the Board voted to allow Walden Grille to continue operating provided certain clearly delineated actions are completed by April 27, 2011.

The Board also directed staff to draft a consent agreement that outlines Walden Grille's responsibility to comply with the food code and maintain contract services with specific penalties for violation of those provisions.

Town Meeting Article 38: The Board discussed Town Meeting involvement regarding Article 38 to ban the sale of bottled drinking water in Concord. The Board decided they would not make any formal presentation at Town Meeting. The Board requested that their letter to the Board of Selectmen, dated 12/21/2010, be available for distribution at Town Meeting with a member in attendance to answer any questions.

Building and Inspections Division

Inspection/Permitting Activity: Spring has brought the seasonal increase in inspections and permits for review in the Building Division. There are 4 new codes, plus stretch code (energy) in effect. Inspections staff members are trying to disperse the information to as many contractors, engineers, architects etc. as possible as the changes come on an almost daily basis.



Alexan/Millcreek has had over 20 inspections in the past three weeks with excavation, foundation frost wall, underground electrical, plumbing and a slab already poured at the club house. Several other foundation frost walls have been poured and framing is expected to start within the next week.

Natural Resources Division

Hazardous Material Spills: This week DNR staff responded to a fertilizer and fungicide spill at an Aurora Lane residence. An undetermined amount, estimated to be between ten and fifty gallons, of lawn pesticides leaked from a landscaping truck, down the road, and into a catch basin. Clean Harbors was contacted to clean the area, consisting of cleaning the street and pumping out the catch basin. The spill appears to have been contained within the basin. On Patriots Day, DNR staff responded to a call when a landscaping company ruptured a hydraulic line in their truck at a Monument Farms Road residence. Hydraulic fluid was contained in a series of catch basins and Clean Harbors was called to pump out the basins.



Chamberlain Park: On April 21, 2011, staff was made aware of a large tree in Chamberlain Park that fell towards the Christian Science Church parking lot at 7 Monument Square, hitting two cars. Fortunately no one was hurt, as one car was occupied when the tree fell.

POLICE

Community Services: On April 18, the Department coordinated with other Town Departments for the annual Patriots Day activities and parade. There were no unusual incidents that took place during the event and the Parade went off without any issues.