

Town Manager's Report

Monday, December 16, 2013

To: Board of Selectmen
From Christopher Whelan, Town Manager

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

FINANCE

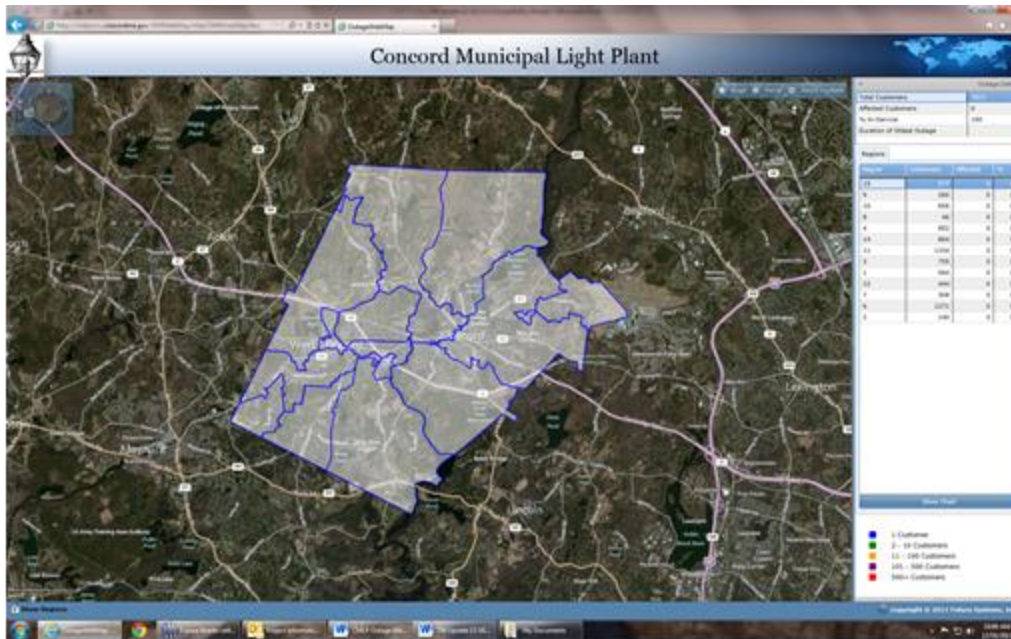
Short-term Note Sale Results: The Town Treasurer accepted competitive public bids on Thursday, December 12 at 11 AM from underwriters for a \$4.65 million short-term bond anticipation note dated December 19 to be due and payable June 16, 2014. The note will provide interim financing for various projects approved as debt authorizations at the 2011, 2012 and 2013 Annual Town Meetings, including \$2.8 million for the Light Plant expansion project (new transformers at the Forest Ridge Substation and expanded enclosed warehouse space at the CMLP Operations Center on Route 2A.

The lowest of five bids received for the 177-day note is an interest rate of 0.1724%, submitted by TD Securities. A memorandum from the Treasurer to the Town Manager describing the terms of the bid and use of proceeds is available on the town website at: http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_Finance/Bond%20Anticipation%20Note%20Sale%20Results%2012%2012%2013.pdf.

The Selectmen will vote on the award recommendation at its meeting on Monday, December 16.

LIGHT DEPARTMENT

CMLP Outage Management System: Concord Municipal Light Plant announces the launch of an advanced outage management system (OMS). The outage management system will enable CMLP to provide more timely information to customers and help utility personnel restore electricity to customers efficiently. The OMS system is integrated into the Geographic Information System ([GIS](#)), which provides highly-detailed geographical images and technical data about the electric grid. OMS will group the calls and perform network traces to predict which upstream devices are without power. This will give CMLP operations staff the tools to quickly identify potential outages and dispatch crews more efficiently and accurately. The OMS will prove useful to effectively track multiple outages during large storms to ensure power is restored as soon as possible. Once the predicted outage area has been confirmed by CMLP Line Crews or Operations Staff the information will be immediately available to the customers on outage map available on CMLP's page on the town's website at: <http://cmlpoms.concordma.gov/OMSWebMap>.



PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT

Planning Division

Historical Commission: The CHC met on Thursday to review projects underway and proposed for the future. Members received an update on the Wheeler Harrington House and Park studies – three proposals were submitted, which are currently under review with the goal of having a final consultant selected and ready to start in January. The West Concord Historic Resource Survey work had been completed since the November meeting and members discussed next steps for future survey work. Mr. Koh gave an update on his efforts to organize a class to conduct archeological work in the Town and explained that he had reached out to the Concord Museum and Brandeis University to develop a program that could begin in Concord in 2015; the CHC plans to begin seeking community support for these potential future projects. Ms. Bagley then updated members on the proposed changes to Cambridge Turnpike presented at the Public Works Commission hearing and Mr. Taylor provided information on the draft recommendations for 2014 Community Preservation Act funding. Lastly, Ms. Kinkade reviewed the proposed warrant article for the Demolition Delay Bylaw and encouraged members to review the article again before it was finalized at the end of the month.

Millbrook Tarry Task Force Report Now Online: The Final Report of the Millbrook Tarry Task Force has been posted to the Town’s website on the MTTF web page. The MTTF will be meeting with the Planning Board on Wednesday, December 18 to present the report and discuss the findings and recommendations.

Zoning Bylaw Amendments: Director Marcia Rasmussen has been revising the proposed zoning bylaw amendment language in preparation for submittal to the Town Meeting warrant by January 6. The Planning Board will review the revisions at their next meeting on

December 18 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Hearing Room at the Town House in Monument Square. Additional suggested revisions to the Flood Plain Conservancy District were received on Friday from the State's Flood Hazard Mapping Coordinator; these revisions will be incorporated and distributed prior to the December 18 Planning Board meeting.

Natural Resources Division

Natural Resources Commission: New applications received for the December 18 NRC meeting include: a Notice of Intent (NOI) application for an addition at 2250-2254 Main Street; an NOI to demolish and reconstruct a single family house at 108 Laurel Street; and, an NOI to construct a garage at 190 Southfield Road. Continued matters to be heard at the December 18 NRC meeting include: an NOI for modifications to the handicap ramp and parking at 52 Main Street; an NOI to repair the septic system at 768 Elm Street; and an Abbreviated NOI to reconstruct a retaining wall at 5C Shore Drive.

40 Squaw Sachem Trail (Lots 1 and 2): Staff held a pre-construction meeting for Lots 1 and 2 Squaw Sachem Trail this week. Site work will commence on Lot 1 next week.

Building Inspections Division

Sprinkler Code Training: Building Inspections staff attended a training session on Fire Protection Engineering this week. The training was sponsored by the Metro-West Building Officials.

Construction Activity This Year: As of this week the Building Inspection Division has issued over 900 building permits for the year. Compare this to only 733 building permits issued in 2012.

Health Division

Public Health Emergency Preparedness: Public Health Director Susan Rask attended a FEMA class "Using Social Media for Natural Disaster Response and Recovery". The course provided training in using various social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Hoot Suite to push information to the public proactively and as a tool to receive real-time information back from the public during emergencies. The Health Division will create Facebook and Twitter accounts that will be used to provide residents with public health news, guidance and instructions in emergencies. Facebook and Twitter accounts will also be created for Healthy Concord and used as a tool to send notifications to residents of upcoming Healthy Concord events and programs offered by partner organizations.

POLICE

Operational Services: On Monday December 9, Officer Reinold responded a resident on Nathan Pratt Drive whom reported that he had been the victim of credit card fraud. The resident reported that the thefts involved his international credit card and the fraudulent

activity has been going on since the end of November. A report was taken and the case is under investigation.

On Tuesday December 10, Officer McGrath responded to Colonial Motors on Main Street for a report of an individual possibly sleeping in a vehicle parked on the lot. Officer McGrath learned that an individual had been spotted by an employee of the gas station inside the vehicle, and when confronted, the individual ran off. Officer McGrath noted that there were sleeping bags and other paraphernalia inside the vehicle, giving an indication that the subject had been spending the night there. Patrols were advised to keep an extra eye on the area and the case is under investigation to see if it is connected to the recent car breaks in the area.

On Wednesday December 11, Officer McGrath and Officer Hodgson responded to motor vehicle crash on Sudbury Road involving a vehicle striking a tree. Upon arrival officers identified the operator and confirmed that no one was hurt. Officers performed an investigation of the crash and determined that the crash was caused due to the operator being impaired by alcohol and prescription medication. The operator was arrested and charged with drunk driving, driving while intoxicated by drugs, negligent operation of a motor vehicle and marked lanes violations.

On Friday December 13, Sgt. Connell, Officer Hodgson and Officer Mearn responded to a Main Street residence for a report of a domestic disturbance involving a father and son. Officers arrived and separated all parties while they conducted their investigation. Officers determined that the son was the aggressor and placed him under arrest. The son was transported to the station for processing.

Community Services: Officers assisted the Highway Department with storm related issues during the snow storm that occurred on Saturday and Sunday. Officers responded to several complaints of vehicles parked in the streets and impeding the plows. In addition, officers assisted several disabled motorists whom had issues getting home in the snow.