

# Town Manager's Report Monday, February 25, 2013

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

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

## LIGHT DEPARTMENT

**Energy Efficient Lighting Upgrades Completed:** Concord Light congratulates two of its business customers who have recently received rebates from Concord Light to offset the cost of installing more efficient lighting in their facilities. Concord Light also presented each customer with a plaque recognizing their participation in the High Efficiency Lighting Program.

Jamey Pope, owner of Concord Chair Studios, took over a space next door to the Nashoba Brook Bakery in 2012, and replaced the old, inefficient T12 lamps and magnetic ballasts in the overhead fixtures with energy-saving T8 lamps and electronic ballasts.



Jim and Carol White and Elizabeth Akehurst-Moore upgraded to high efficiency LED and fluorescent lighting in the Trails End Café and Corner Store and in the Millbrook Tarry Office Condominium Building, all at the corner of Lowell and Keyes Roads.

**Students Mix Fun with Learning:** Concord Light staff met with each of the twelve 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes in the Concord Public Schools last week to talk about how electricity is made, how it gets to their homes, and how Concord Light's line workers do their job. As part of the interactive lesson, students got the chance to make some electricity by riding a bicycle generator, create circuits to operate fans and pinwheels, and touch a real solar panel – the same type of panel that provides some of the electricity used by the Willard School.



One third grader from the Willard School wrote to Concord Light afterwards, "I loved when you came. I learned so much from you. It was so much fun. You have a fun job. P.S. Don't get shocked!" Another said "I learned that if you have a solar panel on a roof, the photons from the sun hit the solar panel and the electrons will be set free. I loved how we could come up and try the bicycle. The circuits were great. I learned a lot from Ted [the line worker]. I can't believe that in Concord there is a pole that is 60 feet tall. Wow! A third student asked, "Are you coming back again, because I'm sure other people would like your assembly."

Concord Light's energy conservation coordinator, customer service staff, administrative assistant, engineering staff, line workers, electrician and custodian all pitched in along with Concord Public Schools faculty and staff to make these sessions happen for the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes. Concord Light had a great time, too, and is already looking forward to next year!

**Concord Light Staff Speaks at Department of Energy Webinar:** At the invitation of DOE's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Concord Light staff delivered a presentation on its solar photovoltaic rebate program as part of a webinar on how municipal utilities fund solar energy projects.

## **PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT**

### **Building Inspections Division**

**Concord-Carlisle High School:** The Building Division has issued two separate permits, for the mobilization of the site and for demolition of the modular buildings, classrooms and bus depot for the CCHS project.

**Seminars attended:** Building Inspectors Laurie Livoli and Ray Matte attended an educational seminar on Thursday 2/21/13 regarding helical piers and foundations in Woburn, MA. Laurie also attended a seminar on Tuesday, 2/19/13 at the MA Fire Academy regarding UL listings and smoke detectors and alarms.

## Health Division

**MA DEP/Massachusetts Health Officers Association Seminar:** Public Health Director Susan Rask attended the annual meeting with MA DEP officials to discuss new and upcoming changes in regulatory requirements including solid waste disposal; requirements for diversion of organic wastes from the solid waste stream; hazardous waste site cleanup; and changes to Title 5 permitting requirements for on-site sewage disposal systems.

**Contract for Bathing Beach Sampling Services:** Administrative Assistant Karen Byrne drafted and issued a Request for Quotes for services to perform sampling and analysis of water at the three semi-public beaches during summer 2013. Karen also sent the annual letter to beach owners asking whether they wish to contract with the Town for water sampling services this summer. It is anticipated that contracts for all services will be finalized by the end of March so that the summer beach sampling season proceeds smoothly.

## Planning Division

**Plan Review for Fenn School:** Plan review staff met with the development team for the proposed bus loop and courtyard reconfiguration at the Fenn School. Staff concerns were minimal, and mainly focused on the ability for buses to queue in the loop without spillover onto Monument Street, proposed landscaping features within the courtyard area, and potential plan changes that may be needed to allow the Fire Department's ladder truck to access Thompson Hall. The applicant has received a waiver from the Public Works Commission for the proposed flare widths of the curb cuts, which exceed the width of Monument Street. This application is scheduled for February 26 Planning Board meeting.

**Historic Districts Commission:** The HDC held their meeting on Thursday to review two continued and four new applications for Certificates of Appropriateness. The Commission approved Certificates of Appropriateness for a new freestanding garage at 10 Wood Street; new additions, paint color, paving, and other site alterations at 51 Lang Street; new windows at 57 Main Street; and new sidewalks and curb cuts along Monument Street. The HDC also agreed to issue a blanket approval for the replacement of all existing ADA ramps within the Districts using an agreed upon standard design presented by the Public Works Department, with the understanding that any entirely new ramp locations or unusual situations requiring a different design will still need to be reviewed by the Commission. The HDC reviewed a request to determine the visibility of a proposed new generator to be located behind the Public Safety Building at 209 Walden Street and determined that no further review would be required.

**Resale of an Affordable Housing Unit at Riverbend Condominiums:** In January, the Planning Division was notified that the owner of an affordable unit in the Riverbend Development was interested in selling. Over the last month, Senior Planner Lara Kritzer has worked with the unit owner and RHSO Coordinator Beth Rust to develop application and publicity materials for the new unit and review the applications of potential new homeowners. The Planning Division was not only able to increase the affordability of the unit from 140% Area Median Income (AMI) to 100% AMI, but has already located an eligible

household to purchase the more affordable unit in record time. The unit is anticipated to close with the new owners later this spring.

## **POLICE**

**Operational Services:** On Wednesday February 20, Detective Forten responded to the Holy Family Church in Monument Square for a report of a past larceny. An unknown individual(s) stole approximately \$200 worth of copper tubing from the back of a pickup truck that was parked in front of the Church. Several leads are being followed up on and the case is under investigation.

On Thursday February 21, Sergeant Connell and Officer Toumayan responded to a Concord Greene residence for a domestic disturbance report. Upon arrival, officers spoke with both parties who refused to speak about the incident. A report was filed and there are currently no charges pending.

On Saturday February 23, Sergeant Troiano conducted a motor vehicle stop on Route 2 at Main Street related to a possible drunk driver. Sergeant Troiano conducted an investigation and determined that the operator was impaired and should not be driving. The operator of the motor vehicle was arrested and charged with second (2<sup>nd</sup>) offense drunk driving. The subject was transported to the station for processing.

**Community Services:** CPD Officers and Dispatchers begin training this week with the Domestic Violence Services Network (DVSN). The training lasts approximately 4 weeks and is essential in developing a better understanding of the domestic violence process, and the partnership program we have with DVSN.