

Town Manager's Report
Monday, May 14, 2012

To: Board of Selectmen
From Christopher Whelan, Town Manager

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

FINANCE

Public Notice of Bond Sale: The Town of Concord has scheduled a bond sale for Wednesday, May 16, 2012 at 11 A.M. Sealed bids will be accepted at First Southwest Company, 54 Canal Street, 3rd floor, Boston, Massachusetts, on \$2,785,000 of General Obligation debt with serial maturities from May 15, 2013 through May 15, 2019 as detailed in the Preliminary Official Statement dated May 7, 2012. In connection with the sale, the Town has applied for a rating on the bonds from Moody's Investors Service, Inc. The Town has not contracted for the issuance of any policy of municipal bond insurance or any other credit enhancement facility. The most recent sale of long-term debt was an \$8.75 million issuance bid on May 4, 2011. **In connection with that sale, Moody's Investors Service assigned its highest rating of Aaa and concurrently affirmed the Aaa rating assigned to the Town's outstanding rated long-term debt.** The Town's credit rating has been unchanged at Aaa since 1987.

Use of Proceeds

The bonds will finance the following projects pursuant to authorizations approved by the Concord Town Meeting:

A. **Debt service to be paid within the property tax levy limit**

- **School Building Improvements** \$ 600,000
-Pursuant to Article 24 of the 2010 Annual Town Meeting
- **Road Improvement Program** \$ 750,000
-Pursuant to Article 22 of the 2011 Annual Town Meeting
- **School Building Improvements** \$ 100,000
-Pursuant to Article 27 of the 2011 Annual Town Meeting;
-Partial issuance of \$600,000 authorization

- **Fire Department Equipment – Aerial Ladder Truck** \$ 800,000

-Pursuant to Article 33 of the 2011 Annual Town Meeting;

-Partial issuance of \$900,000 authorization, with the unused balance expected to be rescinded at a future Town Meeting
- **Library – Radio Frequency ID system (automated security and self-service check-out)** \$ 125,000

-Pursuant to Article 34 of the 2011 Annual Town Meeting

-Partial issuance of \$140,000 authorization
- **Recreation Facilities – Rideout Playground Improvements** \$ 250,000

-Pursuant to Article 35 of the 2011 Annual Town Meeting
- **Land Acquisition - 169 Harrington Ave (Marshall)** \$ 150,000

-Pursuant to Article 42 of the 2011 Annual Town Meeting

-Partial issuance of \$450,000 authorization, with the unused balance expected to be rescinded at a future Town Meeting

B. Debt service authorized by ballot vote to be

excluded from the property tax levy limit

- **Willard Elementary School Building** \$ 10,000

-Pursuant to Article 5 of the November 2008 Special Town Meeting

-Issuance of the remaining authorization to meet final project charges

Proceeds will first be applied to the scheduled redemption of \$2,675,000 of Bond Anticipation Notes issued on October 12, 2011 pursuant to authorizations included in the present bond issue for a term of 229 days with a maturity date of May 31, 2012. Additionally, approximately \$110,000 of the bond proceeds will reimburse the general treasury for project expenditures incurred for which short-term Bond Anticipation Notes had not previously been issued.

The bonds will be awarded to the underwriter offering the lowest true interest cost to the Town over the life of the bonds through May 15, 2019. The award will be made upon the recommendation of the Treasurer and the approval of the Board of Selectmen at the May 21 meeting of the Board.

The Credit Review statement from Moody's Investors Service will be available on the Town website (concordma.gov) as soon as it is received, expected by Monday, May 14. The Preliminary Official Statement prepared in connection with the bond issue is available on the Town website (click on "Important Documents" on the front page, then "Budget and Finance", or use the link under "News and Notices"). Questions concerning this document can be addressed to Anthony T. Logalbo, Treasurer, Town of Concord, by telephone at 978-318-3090, or by e-mail at alogalbo@concordma.gov.

PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT

Health Division

Beach Testing Summer 2012: Health Division staff met with a representative from G&L Laboratories which will be conducting the summer 2012 beach water sampling and analysis, to finalize plans for the coming season

The Gallery Tattoo Studio: Health Director Susan Rask and Board of Health Chair Alan Woodward, M.D., made a site visit to the proposed body art studio in preparation for the Board of Health hearing on May 15, at which time the Board will consider licensure of the business.

Planning Division

Planning Board: Last Tuesday night, the Planning Board meeting began with the continued Public Hearing for the 80 Squaw Sachem Trail 2-lot Definitive Subdivision. After presentations by the applicant, and a public comment period, the Board reviewed the new plan and waivers sought by the applicant. After discussion, the applicant granted the Board an extension of time to June 1 to allow time for staff to comment on the new plan and prepare recommended conditions for consideration. The Public Hearing was continued to May 29 at which time the Board anticipates a decision will be rendered. The Board then made a favorable recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals on the application for a mobile medical trailer at Emerson Hospital, and endorsed two Approval Not Required Plans, one for the Burke Realty Trust at 321 & 333 Bedford Street, and one for land of Gromada and Teichert at 98 and 124 Sandy Pond Road.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Last Thursday night, the Zoning Board of Appeals had a very short meeting, hearing just two applications after accepting the continuance request for the CCHS project. The Board granted a special permit to allow new owners to continue use of an additional dwelling unit at 31 Oxbow Road, and granted a special permit for temporary mobile medical trailers at Emerson Hospital, utilizing the new bylaw section that allows such permits to be granted for a maximum period of 10 years.

Public Outreach/Workshop for the Parking Management Plan: Approximately 20 residents and stakeholders attended the 2-1/2 hour public outreach and workshop as part of the early information gathering phase for developing a parking management plan. The consultant shared preliminary results from the online survey (over 500 responses so far; 250 people participating, if each person took both surveys) and discussed additional outreach efforts to capture information from those visiting Concord.

POLICE

Operational Services: Last week, several signs and CMLP boxes were found spray painted in the area of West Concord business district. Officer Damon Reinold has been assigned to follow-up on this community crime problem and will be working with CPW to coordinate the clean-up of the signs. A community communication will be forwarded to our media outlets to week regarding this incident.

On Thursday May 10, Officer Soll arrested a Stow resident for operating under the influence. This was the arrestee's 8th overall drunk driving offense. Officer Soll continues to lead the Department in drunken driving detection and apprehension.

On Saturday May 12, at 8:00 am a bicyclist struck a vehicle that was stopped alongside the roadway in the areas of 934 Lowell Rd. The bicyclist, from Sudbury, received serious but non-life threatening injuries. He was transported by Medflight helicopter to Brigham & Women's Hospital. The matter is still under investigation and no charges are expected to be filed against the driver or the bicyclist.

Community Services: The U.S. Immigration and Customs Service (ICE) implemented their Secure Communities Program in Massachusetts today. For purposes of Department daily operations, nothing will change. The Department will continue to fingerprint persons arrested for criminal offenses and will continue to submit fingerprint data to the FBI. The change will occur at the Federal level where the FBI will then share submitted fingerprint data with the Department of Homeland Security and ICE.

It is expected that all Department members will continue performing their duties in a fair and impartial manner. We will redistribute our policy statement on the prohibition of racially biased policing, seek additional training on this topic, and the Chief will visit police roll calls to discuss the importance of Department policy and the importance of officers performing their duties fairly and without bias.

A safety lockdown drill was conducted at CCHS on Friday May 11, with officers working with school staff and students. There were no issues during the drill and a follow-up debriefing with Department staff and CCHS faculty and administrators will be held this week.

Administrative Services: The Safety Officer/Inspector interviews were completed and, as part of the selection process, a list of the top 3 candidates will be forwarded to the Town Manager this week.