

## Town Manager's Report Monday, November 29, 2010

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

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

### **FIRE**

**Emergency Preparedness:** Last week, the Fire Chief and several other key emergency preparedness representatives from Concord attended an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) management course given by MEMA and held at Hanscom Air Force Base. The course focused on improving and operating the EOC.

**Fire Station Renovations:** The structural steel is expected to be delivered on site today, marking the beginning of the new addition phase of the renovations.

### **LIGHT DEPARTMENT**

**Power Outage:** The Light Plant responded to a power outage Friday morning at approximately 7:30 AM. There were approximately 262 customers without power due to what is believed to be a previously undetected lighting strike on the lines at the intersection of Deacon Haynes Road and Old Marlboro Road. The damage caused by the lighting weakened the overhead lines to such an extent on Friday they broke apart and activated the system's circuit breaker protection. The following roads were without power:

Barton's Way, Blueberry Lane, Captain Miles Lane, Caterina Heights, Deacon Haynes Road, Deer Grass Lane, Drum Hill Road, Hunter's Ridge Road, Indian Pipe Lane, Old Marlboro Road (From Williams Road to the Sudbury Town Line), Old Pickard Road, Spring Road, and Stone Root Lane.

CMLP crews worked to replace the downed lines while also responding to several isolated service calls in other parts of Town. All power was restored to the affected area at approximately 9:45 AM.

**Willard School Solar Photo Voltaic Project:** The Light Department reports that all reporting requirements have now been met in order for Concord to receive the final \$37,500 in Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funds for the Willard solar PV project.

**Smart Grid/ Fiber Project Update:** The Light Department reports that the contractor has now completed the installation of 24,662 feet of aerial cable, 2,630 feet of underground cable and 2 fiber splitter cabinets.

**Revised Commercial Lighting Rebate Program:** The commercial lighting rebate program has now been revised so that rebates can be made on the basis of the number of kW by which demand was reduced, rather than on the basis of the cost of the lighting upgrade project. This new approach better rewards energy efficient lighting projects that produce larger reductions in demand.

## **PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT**

**Caesar Robbins House:** The Request for Proposals (for the lease of Town Property) for relocating the Caesar Robbins House to Monument Street is scheduled to be advertised beginning this week. The deadline for submittals under this RFP process is January 6.

## **POLICE**

**Community Services:** The Police Department has been working with Concord Academy in an effort resolve a series of nighttime disturbances created by teenagers outside the School. Patrol activity has been increased in the area at night resulting in suspicious individuals being identified. Other individuals that were identified have been interviewed. A letter of no trespass has also been issued against one individual believed to be directly involved.

The Police Chief reports that this year the Department is seeing an increase in domestic disturbance calls from previous years. As of November 26, there have been 91 such calls as compared to 84 in 2009 and 89 in 2008. Department staff members continue to work closely with Domestic Violence Services Network in order to provide services to witnesses and victims of domestic violence.

**Grant Opportunities:** The Department recently applied for two State traffic grants in order to better serve and protect the citizens of Concord. The Executive Office of Public Safety has made available a grant which will fund traffic enforcement initiatives aimed at drunk drivers, speeding vehicles and seatbelt usage. The other grant would fund the purchase of a license plate reader which will allow the Department to quickly identify everything from expired registrations to missing persons.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

**Water Main Repair:** The Public Works Department recently made repairs to a damaged water main on The Valley Road but, in doing so, saw that more extensive repairs were needed. Those repairs will be undertaken this week, with CPW notifying in advance those residents whose water service will be temporarily affected.