

# **Town Manager's Report**

## **Monday, October 15, 2012**

**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 Drill:** Fire Department personnel observed an internal emergency exercise at Emerson Hospital last Wednesday. It is important to have Concord public safety personnel and Emerson Hospital staff coordinate on these critical drills so all parties will work well together when responding to a real situation. The drill went well.

**Emergency Management:** CEMA has received a \$3,000 grant to be used for communications equipment within the EOC. Deputy EMD Steve Telsey will be coordinating the installation of this much needed equipment. Equipment will be purchased by December 31, 2012 with installation soon thereafter.

### **LIGHT DEPARTMENT**

**Saddleback Ridge Wind Project:** Last week, Concord Light sent a Letter of Intent to Energy New England indicating our interest in a share of the output from the 33 megawatt Saddleback Ridge Wind Project, Carthage, ME. The terms of the power supply agreement are under discussion, but the economics appear more favorable than the Spruce Mountain agreement with Concord's share of the output estimated at four million kilowatthours annually, or about two percent of our needs. This project is being developed by Patriot Renewables, LLC which also developed the Spruce Mountain Wind Project, Woodstock, ME. Concord Light receives about six million kilowatthours annually as our share of this project, and the net cost for 2012 will be in the 4-5 cents/kwh range. This is an excellent price for renewable energy.

### **PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Building Inspection Division**

**Concord Carlisle Regional High School (CCRHS);** John Minty met with staff from the Office of Michael Rosenfeld (OMR), to discuss the possible use of a diesel emergency generator on the CCRHS site as part of the new high school construction. The result of this discussion was a zoning determination that such a use within the Ground Water Conservancy zoning district would require that the CCRHS first seek a special permit from

the Zoning Board of Appeals prior to any building permit being issued for this work on the site.

**Old Marlboro Road;** John Minty has been negotiating with a builder of a new home on Old Marlboro Road asking him to remove an 80 foot section of cedar fence that was originally located within the rail-bed right of way. The builder has agreed to remove the fence and, if replaced, locate any new fence on his own property

### **Health Division**

**Senior Flu Clinic:** The Senior Flu Clinic was held Friday, October 12 from 10am to noon at the Concord COA/Harvey Wheeler Community Center. Over 140 immunizations for influenza and pneumonia were administered. The clinic was also used as a drill to meet MDPH Public Health emergency preparedness deliverable requirements. The time needed to set up the clinic was measured; this information is useful in planning for an emergency dispensing site, should the need arise, to deliver medications or vaccines quickly to the Town's residents in a public health emergency.

**Peanut Butter Recall; Expanded Inspections:** In recent weeks, the US FDA has issued several recalls of peanut butter and peanut butter-containing products produced by Sunland, due to possible contamination with Salmonella. These products are sold under many brand names and at many retail outlets. A recent expanded recall included several brands of granola and energy bars that contain peanut butter. Health Inspector Gabrielle White has been visiting retail stores to ensure these products have been removed from sale. For full information on products that have been recalled, visit the FDA's website: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/default.htm>

### **Planning Division**

**Outdoor Lighting Policy Update:** This past summer, Fuss + O'Neill Lighting Consultant Kevin Sullivan presented his findings and a draft outdoor lighting policy to the Board of Selectmen. The findings report and draft policy have been available for the public to review on the Planning Department's web page at [http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA\\_Planning/index](http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_Planning/index) since that time; however, only one or two comments have been received to date asking about the extent of the proposed lighting districts, and commenting on the need for more pedestrian-scale lighting for people who want to walk. A press release has been prepared to solicit additional comments by the end of October.

**Plan Review:** On Thursday, plan review staff met with the development team for the proposed faculty housing project on the west side of Lowell Road across from the Middlesex School main campus. The project includes a 2-way, 18-foot wide loop drive off of Lowell Road that will provide access to five proposed detached units of faculty housing. The units are proposed to be 2 stories, with only the 1<sup>st</sup> floor constituting livable space, and partially finished walk-out basements to the backyard. The project will be served by the on-site wastewater treatment plant, and will necessitate gas and water line extensions. The stormwater system will be comprised of low impact development features such as rain gardens that will be planted with perennials and shrubs. In addition to other landscaping

throughout the site, shade trees are proposed along the Lowell Road frontage and along the loop drive. The application will be heard by the Planning Board this coming Tuesday night.

**Zoning Board of Appeals:** Thursday night, the Zoning Board of Appeals accepted the continuance requests for the proposed residential project at 12 Kenney Lane and the redevelopment project at 1112 Main Street, and the request for a withdrawal without prejudice for the expansion project at 91-107 Lowell Road. The Board then granted a special permit for work within the Floodplain Conservancy District at 68 and Lot 7B Laurel Street and a special permit for the extension of a non-conforming structure at 760 Main Street. The meeting concluded after the Board members agreed that they are in favor of remote participation.

## **POLICE**

**Operational Services:** On Tuesday October 9, Officer Capone responded to a residence on Crest St. for a report of a past larceny. Upon arrival, it was learned that someone may have entered the home on Friday night October 5 and stolen approximately \$1,000 in cash. A report was taken and leads are being followed.

On Thursday October 11, Officer Bordenca responded to Vintages of Concord on Commonwealth Ave. for a report of a counterfeit \$100 bill being passed. The bill in question was seized as evidence and a report was filed. The bill will be analyzed in an attempt to determine its type and origin.

On Saturday October 13, Inspector Skinner located three juveniles in the area of Monument Square and determined that the juveniles had “tagged” several items in Town using black spray paint and a stencil. The parents of the juveniles were all contacted advising them of the incident. The incident is being reviewed for referral.

**Community Services:** On Wednesday October 10, several officers took part in an “Active Shooter Drill” with Emerson Hospital Staff at the hospital (also noted in the Fire department report above). This safety exercise was originally requested by the Hospital as part of their emergency preparedness training for all staff. It included participation by not only police but administrators, medical personnel and other employees. This was coordinated by Off. Shelley after months of preparation with their administration and will now be used to address future policies and training for them.

On Saturday October 13, Officer Harrington, Officer Soll and Detective Camilleri assisted with the Town’s Drop Off /Swap Off day. The officers reported no issues with the event.

On Sunday October 14, Detective Morrison assisted with the First Parish Crop Walk. A large number of participants turned out for the event and no issues were reported.

On Sunday October 14, Inspector Monahan and Officer Young were present at Logan Airport to greet retired Concord Police Officer and World War II veteran Martin Yauga of Concord, who was being honored in Washington D.C. Martin was flown to Washington by Honor Flight New England to be honored for his service to this country.