



TOWN OF CONCORD

Town Manager's Report

Week Of: July 20 , 2015

Assistant Town Clerk Graduates from New England Municipal Clerks' Institute

Assistant Town Clerk Patricia Clifford has just completed Year 3 of a three-year training program sponsored by the New England Municipal Clerks' Institute. After completing 120 hours of training at the Institute over the past three years, Pat is now eligible to become certified as a Municipal Clerk through the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. The rigorous program is hosted by Plymouth State University in Plymouth, N.H. Pat was among seven graduates from Massachusetts, in a graduating class of 17 participants. Pat has worked for the Town of Concord in the Town Clerk's Office since December 2001, and became Assistant Town Clerk in 2006. The Town congratulates Pat on this significant achievement.

Concord Fire Department

On Thursday July 16th the Fire Department responded to a home on Water St. for a report of a dumpster fire with the fire extending to a garage. At the time that the FD was dispatched Engine 4 was on Rte. 62 heading west, because of the timing Engine 4 arrived in less than one minute of being notified. When they arrived, the Lieutenant confirmed that the fire was extending to the building. They quickly knocked down the fire and kept damage to the garage to a small section of the building.

Main Street (Route 62), Rail Road Bridge Reconstruction, Alternate Lane Closures Planned

Single lane closures are expected to begin on Monday July 20th at 7:00 AM.

MBTA bridge project contractor J.F. White will begin the installation of temporary shoring towers for the Railroad Bridge Replacement. Additionally, Main St. is scheduled to be closed at the railroad bridge for the weekend of July 25th and 26th and again for one week from August 26th through September 2nd to roll in the new railroad bridge structure.

NEWS FROM THE ENERGY MANAGER!

Concord has formally received notification from the state Department of Energy Resources of our grant award for this year's Green Communities project. A team including Brian Schlegel (Facilities Manager for Concord Public Schools and Concord-Carlisle Regional School District) and Pamela Cady (Energy Manager for the Towns of Concord and Carlisle) applied for \$250,000 from the state, which was the maximum application allowed.

Due to the popularity of the Green Communities program, DOER could not give the full amount to any of the applicants; however, Concord received an award of \$244,000 for the project, which is more than 97% of our request. Of the 51 towns awarded grants, Concord received the 3rd highest grant amount.

Our application also estimated utility incentive payments of an additional \$41,000. The money will be used towards the cost of installing new energy-efficient boilers at Sanborn Middle School. A big Thank You goes to Brian Schlegel for doing such a great job with last year's new boiler project at Peabody Middle School – this application was directly modeled on the success of that project. This winter, the Peabody Middle School used 30% less natural gas than last year.

We are one step closer to another significantly more energy-efficient school in Concord!

White Pond Algae Bloom:

Health Division staff continued monitoring the algal bloom at White Pond and coordinating with MDPH for weekly samples to be taken. As of 7/17, the recreational water use advisory remains in effect. The pond will be sampled again on Monday July 20.

Board of Health meeting of July 14th

The Board granted variances from the requirements of 105 CMR 590.00 (Title 5), for septic designs at 41 Allen Farm Lane (to rebuild damaged solarium over existing septic tank) and 17 Seymour St. (repair to allow septic tank and pump chamber to be located <10 ft. to the property line and to allow the soil absorption system to be located beyond the property line). The Board also granted a variance from the Massachusetts Food Code to New Leaf Café at 561 Virginia Rd. to allow construction of an exposed ceiling and piping in the dining room.



PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT

BUILDING INSPECTION • PLANNING • NATURAL RESOURCES • BOARD OF HEALTH • ZONING

Natural Resources Division

White Pond Erosion Control Efforts: Next Wednesday, Division staff and volunteers will undertake measures to stabilize areas of erosion on town land. Efforts will include installing coir logs and erosion control blankets along sections of trail and shoreline to stabilize erosion, placing more sturdy fencing, and installing metal signs to replace some of the temporary laminated paper signs. **Contact the Division at 978.318.3285 if you are interested in joining this effort!**

Walking in Emerson and Thoreau's Footsteps: The Emerson-Thoreau Amble Trail Guide is now available at the trail head and at the Division of Natural Resources Office at 141 Keyes Road. This 1.7-mile walk travels from Heywood Meadow to Walden Pond, approximating the route taken by Emerson and Thoreau to get from Emerson's Bush house to Thoreau's cabin. A printable version is also available on the DNR webpage at: http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_NaturalResources/Emerson-%20Thoreau%20Amble%20Trail%20Guide.pdf

Natural Resources Commission: Projects reviewed this week for the July 22nd NRC meeting include: a Notice of Intent (NOI) for a septic system replacement at 1771 Main Street; a Request for Determination of Applicability to decommission an existing septic system at 17 Seymour Street; an NOI for the Concord Country Club to relocate the existing driveway and cartpath and to reconfigure the 8th and 9th green and tee boxes; and an NOI for 333 Sudbury Road to construct additions to an existing single family house.

Health Division

- Colonial Inn on Monument Square – met with current staff of the Inn to rectify long list of physical facility issues which must be brought into compliance prior to transfer of ownership. Worked with new buyer's representative regarding out of compliance issues which must be remedied prior to issuance of a permit to operate. Food Service Permits are non-transferable and all facilities must be in full compliance with 105 CMR 590.00 prior to issuance of a new permit.
- Saltbox Kitchen at 84 Commonwealth Ave.--consulted with new food facility to advise on compliance with hot/cold holding for food on display
- Papa Razzi at 768 Elm St.--continued support to facility management for upcoming construction project and advised as to how this facility can prepare food while under construction. Multiple inspections will be required throughout the process.
- Twin Seafood at 7 Church St.--prepared documents as requested by MDPH for issuance of a Division of Marine Fisheries Permit for the fish market.

Building Inspections Division: Marriott Hotel at 320 Baker Ave.: A foundation only permit was issued this week for the new extended-stay hotel on Baker Ave./Baker Ave. Extension. A formal ground-breaking ceremony is being planned for mid-August.

Building Official Training re: Zoning Exemptions related to Educational and Religious Uses: Concord Building Inspectors attended a seminar on M.G.L. Ch. 40-A Use Exemptions related to the Dover Amendment for Churches and Schools. These types of training/educational seminars are required for Building Officials to maintain their credits for licensing.

Planning Division: Community Preservation Committee meeting of July 13th: The CPC discussed upcoming projects, goals and issues in Community Housing with Barbara Morse of the Concord Housing Development Corporation (CHDC) and Marianne Nelson from the Concord Housing Authority (CHA). The Committee then reviewed and approved the updated 2016 Community Preservation Plan, authorized the use of some of the remaining Caesar Robbins House funding to be used to complete an Historic Structure Report for the building, and discussed the question of public/private partnerships and the use of CPA funding. The Committee has canceled their meeting in August and will hold their next meeting on September 15 when they hold their annual information session at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center. The 2015 application and all updated CPA funding materials are now available for review on the CPC's webpage (http://concordma.gov/Pages/ConcordMA_CPC/index).

Black Birch PRD off Forest Ridge Road: The 25-unit over-55 Planned Residential Development received a unanimous recommendation for approval from the Planning Board on July 14th. The project then received unanimous approval from the Zoning Board of Appeals on July 16th.

Planning Board meeting of July 14th: The Planning Board discussed goals and priorities for the coming year. The Board determined a high level of commitment for the update to the Comprehensive Plan and addressing the growing concerns with tear-downs and mansionization. The Board identified the following housekeeping items - update to the Subdivision Rules & Regulation and amending various sections of the Zoning Bylaw regarding agricultural uses so they are in conformance with State Law. With the final adoption of the revised flood plain boundary for the Mill Brook on August 14, 2015, the Board will put forward a warrant article to update the Flood Plain Conservancy District at the next available town meeting. The Board decided that further study is required of a Tree Preservation/Clear Cutting Bylaw; the Board will move forward with appointing a subcommittee to conduct outreach to stakeholders and the community and present options for consideration by the Board.





CONCORD PUBLIC WORKS

ADMINISTRATION • ENGINEERING • HIGHWAY & GROUNDS • SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING • WATER & SEWER

Sewer Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Investigation

CPW's Water & Sewer Division is into the third month of an intensive sewer collection system inflow & infiltration flow monitoring program utilizing 11 non-contact flow meters which have been installed at strategic locations through the sewer system. The program has been established to quantify inflow and infiltration for each sewer "sub-basin" which is being monitored. Once completed, the data will be compiled and evaluated to allow for the prioritization of more costly inspection (via TV inspection) and sewer main rehabilitation efforts.

Roadway System Drainage Maintenance – CPW Highway Division crews have resumed annual cleaning of the Town's roadway drainage systems. The Town's catch basin cleaning equipment has been mobilized on a daily basis with a focus on removing sediment from catch basins and inspecting the condition of the drainage structures. This work is completed to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Town's federally issued EPA Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. In late June, Highway Division crews completed work on the cleaning of the stormwater drainage swale on Annursnac Hill Road. This work included trimming brush, removing leaves and debris from the swales, and inspecting drain pipes connected to the swale. Drainage system maintenance will continue throughout the summer and fall.

Road Program Maintenance Activities – Annual Roadway repairs which began in February/March have been ongoing throughout the summer. In addition to full depth patching and filling of roadway defects resulting from the severe winter season, Highway Division crews have been repairing catch basins and manholes at various locations throughout Town. Data collected during catch basin cleaning is used to assess the condition of drainage structures and repairs are then prioritized based on that information. In June, CPW also coordinated with North American Infrared, an outside contractor specializing in the use of Infrared Patching technology, to repair various roadway defects. Efforts focused on repairing potholes and areas surrounding manholes, catch basins, and water gates. Infrared repairs took place on Lowell Road, Monument Square, Lexington Road and Main Street. Based on favorable results, CPW plans on continuing with infrared repairs through the summer and fall.

Annual HAZCOM, SPCC and Right to Know Training - All Concord Public Works employees took part in annual training on June 24th and July 15th. The annual training was comprised of three segments: the Commonwealth's Right-To-Know Law (RTK Law), Hazardous Waste Management, and SPCC (Oil Spill Control & Countermeasure) training. The Right-To-Know Law training is required by the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety (DOS). Hazardous Waste Management training is mandated by the EPA and MA DEP, and SPCC training is required by the EPA. The annual training was conducted by Rod Robison, CPW's Environmental Services Program Administrator.

Water System Seasonal Demands - CPW is pleased to report that water system supply and demand has been maintained due to a combination of intermittent rains, cooler weather, and positive demand management activities employed by Concord Public Works Water Division customers. Such conditions have resulted in the Public Works Commission maintaining an "advisory" status of CPW's Seasonal Water Demand Management Plan, which includes volunteer compliance with the 2-day per week outdoor irrigation (before 9 AM) and unrestricted use of water for flower beds and vegetable gardens. CPW and the Public Works Commission thank our customers who continue to use water wisely!

Main Street Sidewalk Improvement Project - Project contractor Century Paving has finished the first section of sidewalk between Keyes Road and the main entrance of Concord Academy. Remaining work in this section includes the installation of the loam and seed for the grass strip. To date, the contractor has installed about 850ft of concrete sidewalk, reconstructed two driveway aprons, and installed five new curb ramps. Work the week of July 13th began with the removal of 1,100 feet of existing sidewalk in the second section from the main entrance of Concord Academy to Nashawtuc Road. The anticipated schedule for the next two weeks will include removing and resetting the remaining curb within the second sidewalk section, grading and prepping the sidewalk/driveways, and pouring concrete as weather permits. CPW's Engineering Division expects this segment of sidewalk reconstruction to be completed towards the end of July. The contractor will then begin the reconstruction of the sidewalk along the library frontage and the reconstruction of the brick crosswalk by Academy Lane.

97 Thoreau Street Pocket Park and Storm Water Sustainability Retrofit - Project contractor Pecora Contracting began work on this project during the week of July 13th with minor incidental pavement saw-cutting work. Work the week of July 20th is anticipated to include the installation of the tree-box filter and the water service for the drinking water fountain. The following weeks will include the reconstruction of the cement concrete sidewalk, the installation of the curb ramps, installing the bollards, installing the landscape areas, setting the porous pavers and all other incidental work.

2015 Roads Program - Project contractor Lazaro Paving continued to make progress during the week of July 13th on the various streets targeted for improvement in the 2015 Roads Program. Highlights include the paving of top course pavement on Conant Street, paving of binder course pavement on Belknap Street, installing curb ramps at various locations and beginning reclaim, blending, grading and compacting of Deacon Haynes Road following the completion of water main installation. Work anticipated for the week of July 20th includes the completion of the Deacon Haynes reclaim and paving binder course pavement as well as the continuation of miscellaneous curb ramp work.





HUMAN SERVICES DIVISIONS

RECREATION • COUNCIL ON AGING • COMMUNITY SERVICES • YOUTH SERVICES • VETERANS OUTREACH

COUNCIL ON AGING

The COA will host an Ice Cream Social on Thursday, July 23rd at 2:30 at Harvey Wheeler. Reservations are required. Please call 978-318-3020 to sign up for a chance to make your own sundae while listening to piano entertainment by Gerry Hurley.

Due to an increasing need for transportation, we will be adding additional van service on Thursdays starting in September. The COA provides transportation for residents over 60 within Town limits. There is a suggested donation of \$2 round trip for this service. We are also able to provide transportation for wheel chair bound seniors. All rides are scheduled on a first come first served basis. For more information on how the COA van service works, please call the office.

The COA will offer a screening of the 90 minute documentary, "The Genius of Marian" on Tuesday, August 11th at 10am. This film explores the heartbreak of Alzheimer's disease, the power of art and the meaning of family. Following the film, Social Services Coordinator, Sally Lopez will be available to answer questions. This film was graciously donated to the COA by the Acton Pharmacy. Please call to sign up.

VETERANS' SERVICES

The office of veterans' services continued looking into a government grave marker for a Korean War veteran. Concord veterans' services assisted the family in filing for the records of the veteran. Once the record is received by the family, a grave marker will be placed. The office notified both the town's fire department and the state's fire marshal's office of two "half-staff" flag notices from the governor's office. The first was for a 1st Sergeant from Wareham and in the National Guard who died of 7/6/2015. The second was for a Marine Gunny Sergeant from Springfield who was killed with three other Marines at a recruiting station in Tennessee on July 16, 2015.

Veterans' services was contacted by a local veteran who receives benefits via Chapter 115. The veteran claims that he did not receive his monthly benefit for the month of April, 2015. Veterans' services contacted the finance office and the bank learning that the check had cleared the bank. The veteran was notified. A local human services charity contacted the office of veterans' services in reference to a local veteran in need of services but with inconsistent information about the veteran.

CONCORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Did you know there is so much fun to be had at the Concord Free Public Library? Last week, several participants were able to create keyboards using simple electronics and, as you can see, bananas! The workshop was for school-aged youths and is part of a series of activities which the Library offers throughout the summer months to keep young minds active and healthy. Where else could you assemble a tool, use it, and gobble it up ...all in one sitting?

We are totally bananas over the offerings at the CFPL.

