

# Town Manager's Report Monday, July 7, 2014

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

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

## **FIRE**

**Expanded EMS Services:** With the generous donation from Mrs. Audrey J Mold providing the new ambulance, the four new firefighters began on July 1 responding to ambulance calls from the West Concord Station.

A celebration was held on July 1 at 7:30 AM at the West Concord Fire Station to welcome the new firefighters, display the new ambulance and share some light refreshments.

**July 4 Weather-related Cancellations:** Due to the projected July 4 weather, the Picnic in the Park Committee made the difficult but warranted decision to cancel all outside activities for this year's celebration. As many of the activities as possible were moved indoors.

The Minuteman Classic Road Race scheduled for July 4 was also cancelled prior to the morning of the race after the Fire, Recreation and Parks Departments jointly concluded – given weather forecasts - that the race could not be run without excessive risk based upon the planning and logistical matters that needed to be in place before that morning.

## **PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT**

### **Health Division**

**Board of Health Hearing on Proposed Tobacco Regulation:** The Board of Health will hold a public hearing on Tuesday morning, July 8 to consider voting to adopt proposed revisions to its regulation, *Sale of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Products*. The hearing will be held at **7:30 a.m.** in the first floor conference room, DPLM Building, 141 Keyes Rd. All members of the public are welcome to attend. In advance of the hearing, a notice containing a summary of the proposed regulation was sent to all business with tobacco sales, food service, retail food, motel, swimming pool, body art, and tanning licenses. Tobacco retailers were sent a complete written copy of the proposed regulation; all other licensees were directed to an on-line copy of the regulation, which is available at: [http://www.concordma.gov/Pages/ConcordMA\\_HealthNews](http://www.concordma.gov/Pages/ConcordMA_HealthNews) .

## **Building Inspections Division**

**Trinity Church of Concord:** A demolition permit has been issued for the Trinity Episcopal Church located at 81 Elm Street. After receiving a special permit for renovations and additions to this property earlier this year from the Zoning Board of Appeals, work should begin on Monday, July 7 according to the General Contractor CE Floyd of Bedford. This construction company is the same company responsible for the addition to the Fowler Library.

**New Building Code Regarding Flooring:** A new building code has been promulgated and is in full effect as of July 1, 2014 regarding floor fire protection. This was initiated through the Department of Fire services for engineered type joists. Engineered joists have been shown to burn more quickly than regular lumber; now flooring systems are required to have a fire rating to reduce the potential for floors to collapse during a fire.

**Monsen Road Development on the Former Scimone Land:** Bentley Building Corp. has submitted construction plans for three of the eight house lots in the Monsen Road project. Building permits have not yet been issued while the developer completes information required by other Town departments.

**“Small Project” Permit Now Available:** The Building Inspections Division staff has created a “small project” permit for doors, windows, siding and roofing that is available on-line at: ([http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA\\_Code/forms/SKMBT\\_42314062515330.pdf](http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_Code/forms/SKMBT_42314062515330.pdf)). This permit can now be issued by a Building Inspector (when available) over the counter, thereby reducing the waiting period for these smaller projects.

## **Planning Division**

**Concord Center Cultural District Celebrates at State House with 24 other Cultural Districts:** On June 25, the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) organized a reception at the Grand Staircase in the State House to celebrate the first 25 cultural districts in the Commonwealth. Representative Cory Atkins, Chair of the Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development, helped lead the celebration. The Umbrella Executive Director Jerry Wedge, Selectman Alice Kaufman and Director of Planning & Land Management Marcia Rasmussen attended on behalf of the Concord Center Cultural District.

**The White Barn at McGrath Farmstead:** Interior renovations to the existing house have been completed with some additional exterior work remaining to be done (siding, painting and roof replacement). Plans for renovating the White Barn at the McGrath Farmstead have been submitted for a building permit and a preliminary estimate for the work has been prepared for the Finance Dept. by Director Rasmussen with input from Facilities Maintenance Supervisor Jim Macone. Work is expected to begin after July.

## **Natural Resources Division**

**Natural Resources Commission:** Applications to be heard at the July 9 NRC meeting include: continued hearings for the after-the-fact Notice of Intent (NOI) for driveway reconstruction at 24 Off Harrington Road; an NOI for the construction of a new driveway to service an existing house at 165 Ball's Hill Road; an NOI to install a dock and landscaping at 112 Great Meadows Road; and new applications including an NOI to construct a new driveway at 55 Estabrook Road; an NOI to replace a septic system at 199 Cambridge Turnpike Road; an NOI to install utilities at 1501 Monument Street; and an NOI to demolish and construct a new house at 165 Lindsay Pond Road.