

Town Manager's Report Monday, March 17, 2014

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 Hearing on 2015 Enterprise Budgets Tonight (Monday, March 17): The Town Manager's Proposed Enterprise Budgets for FY2015 will be the subject of the Finance Committee's Public Hearing this evening at the Town House beginning at 7 PM.

The FY2015 combined budget for the town's five enterprise operations is almost \$34 million.

This covers the following operations supported by user fees and receiving **no** property tax support:

- Water Fund
- Sewer Fund
- Light Fund (CMLP)
- Solid Waste Fund (the curbside trash collection and recycling program)
- Swim & Fitness Center Fund (the Beede Center)

The budget document is available for public review on the Town website, at:
http://concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_Finance/budgetbooks.

Questions about the Town Manager's Proposed Enterprise Budgets for FY2015 may be addressed to finance@concordma.gov.

The Enterprise Budget Hearing comprises the following Warrant Articles: 22, 23, 25 through 29.

The Town Meeting Warrant can be viewed at:

http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_BOS/2014%20Town%20Meeting/2014%20Warrant%20for%20the%20Web.pdf. Highlight each link and click "open hyperlink".

Electronic presentations that are made on any Article will be available on the 2014 Town Meeting website shortly after each Hearing.

Voter Registration for Town Meeting: The deadline for unregistered residents to register to participate in and vote at the Annual Town Meeting beginning on Sunday, May 4 at 2 PM is Monday, April 14. On that date, the Town Clerk's office will again be open until 8 PM.

Absentee Ballots Available for Annual Town Election: Reminder that the Annual Town Election is scheduled for Tuesday, March 25. The polls will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. If you will be away from Concord during polling hours, or are unable to get to the polls in person due to physical disability or religious belief, you are eligible to vote using an absentee ballot. Absentee balloting may be done in person at the Town House during office hours (8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday) or via postal mail. A written request is required to authorize us to mail an absentee ballot – send the request by email: townclerk@concordma.gov or by Fax: 978-318-3093; or by mail: Town Clerk, P.O. Box 535, Concord, MA 01742. The deadline for requesting an absentee ballot is Noon on Monday, March 24th. All returned ballots must be received at the Town Clerk's Office by 8:00 pm on Election Day.

PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT

Health Division

Emergency Planning: Susan Rask and Stan Sosnicki are working with emergency planning staff at Emerson Hospital to design a tabletop emergency exercise with the hospital. The exercise will test both the hospital's and the town's ability to work together in an emergency response. The drill is scheduled to be conducted in late May. Susan Rask also met with MDPH emergency planning staff to review this year's emergency planning deliverables; all deliverables have been met, including training, call down drills, and practicing setting up an emergency dispensing site at the COA flu clinic.

CHNA 15 Grant: The Concord Health and Planning Divisions were awarded a joint \$1000 grant from CHNA 15 to fund activities under Healthy Concord's initiative for improved bicycle and road safety and active streets planning. Residents are reminded that Healthy Concord is sponsoring a survey asking residents to share their experience bicycling in Concord and make suggestions for ways to improve the cycling experience. Residents are invited to take the survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HealthyConcordBikeSurvey>

Rabies Clinic: All resident pet owners are welcome to attend the annual rabies vaccination clinic which will be held Saturday March 15 from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Public Works Building, 133 Keyes Rd. Vaccine will be administered to dogs from 1-1:45; all dogs must be on a leash. Cats will be vaccinated from 1:45-2:30; all cats must be in a cat carrier.

Planning Division

McGrath House Renovations: The renovations to the 3-bedroom unit at the McGrath house are nearly complete and just in time for the selected farmer to move in on March 22. Renovations to the one-bedroom apartment continue – carpet and flooring were selected

this week (quotes on the work are expected shortly); insulation is expected to be installed March 19.

FEMA 2014 Flood Maps and Study Received: The final July 7, 2014 Flood Insurance Study and Flood Insurance Rate Maps were delivered this week – these are the plans that are referenced in the proposed Zoning Bylaw Amendment to the Flood Plain Conservancy District under Article 47 of the Town Meeting Warrant.

Building Inspections Division

1888 Main Street: The Department of Planning and Land Management staff this week got a first look at a new Planned Residential Development proposal for the property at 1888 Main Street in West Concord.

320 Baker Avenue, New Hotel: Planning staff met this week with the property owner and developers representatives to discuss a proposal to build a 128 unit “extended stay” hotel at 320 Baker Avenue. This will be a 3-story structure limited to 40 feet in height. The hotel use is allowed under a bylaw change that was approved at the 2013 Town Meeting. The applicant will still need to go to the Planning Board and Board of Appeals for site plan approval.

POLICE

Operational Services: On Tuesday, March 11, Officer Burgess responded to the Trails End Café on Lowell Road for a report of a counterfeit bill that had been passed in the store. Upon speaking with the reporting party, it was determined that this was the second counterfeit bill that had been passed at that location in the past week. Detective Bureau will be following up.

On Thursday, March 13, Officer Mearn responded to 352 Lexington Road for a report of a head-on vehicle collision with multiple injuries. One party was removed from vehicle by Concord Fire utilizing “jaws of life” and transported to Emerson Hospital. Icy/snowy road conditions were determined to be a factor in the crash.

On Friday, March 14, Officer Harrington investigated a walk-in report of a past domestic assault that allegedly occurred on 12/27/13 at a home on Border Road. There is an ongoing family issue at the residence. Based on wife’s statements, husband will be summoned to Concord District Court for Assault and Battery.

Also on Friday, March 14, Sergeant Troiano, Officer Hodgson, and Detective Camilleri responded to the Emerson Hospital Emergency Room for a report of an out-of-control patient. Upon arrival, they observed a 25-year-old man from Wakefield who had come in for detox but decided to leave. Officers on scene determined the man was heavily intoxicated and acting in a combative manner toward hospital staff members. He was placed into Protective Custody.

On Saturday, March 15, Concord Police Dispatch received a call from the homeowner at 80 Highland Street. She advised that she had allowed a male party to stay the night in the home, but he had not paid her the fee that she requested from him. She was referred to Civil Court for the matter; ongoing issue at the residence.