

Town Manager's Report
Monday, June 20, 2011

To: Board of Selectmen
From Christopher Whelan, Town Manager

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

GENERAL MATTERS.

Summer Hours. Several Town Departments will begin implementing their summer schedule after the July 4 holiday. The Finance and Human Resources Departments in the Town House will be closed at noon on Fridays through Labor Day, as will the Planning & Land Management Department at 141 Keyes Road. The Public Works Dept and Light Plant will remain open on Friday but some employees may opt to work a summer schedule. Employees will be permitted to leave at noon on Friday by either using paid leave hours or by working longer hours Monday through Thursday. This is the fourth year the summer schedule has been utilized.

FIRE DEPARTMENT (Mark Cotreau, Chief)

On Monday night, June 14th at 1104 pm fire companies responded to an alarm of fire at 40 Beharrell Street. On arrival they found smoke in the building and a fire involving some building contents. The fire was quickly extinguished with no structural damage to the building.

I have recommended the following promotions to Captain: Lt. Tom Judge, Lt. Bill Noke

CFD personnel stood by on Hanscom Drive for the motorcade transporting the remains of Marine Corporal Voitowicz home to Groton on Tuesday. On Wednesday, we provided an ambulance to standby at the services. These details were provided by Concord firefighters who volunteered their time as a tribute to Corporal Voitowicz. I thank them for their dedication.

LIGHT DEPARTMENT (Dave Wood, Director)

Wind Power

Concord Light will soon be purchasing energy from wind as the project at Spruce Mountain located in Woodstock, Maine has completed the necessary environmental permits in order to commence construction. Next week construction on a road into the project site will commence with start-up estimated at years end. Concord Light's share of the output is approximately six million kilowatt hours per year or 3% of our energy needs.

Street Lights

Bids

On Thursday June 16, 2011 bids were received and opened for street light stock. This stock will be used to fulfill the Town Meeting vote for Article 25. Pricing was as anticipated and the total cost for materials is just under \$75,000. It should be noted that this cost does not include labor and equipment charges. The cost to install approximately 500 lights is \$110,000. Therefore the total cost capital cost for CMLP to install approximately 500 lights is \$185,000 (paid for out of CMLP funds). Lead times for materials ranged from 4-8 weeks.

Demonstration Areas

Per the request of the public hearing held at the Town House on May 18, two street light demonstration areas were completed on Wednesday 6/15/11. These areas will allow residents to visually compare the difference between 300 foot and 400 foot street light spacing. The 300 foot demonstration area is located in the Emerson Playground neighborhood spanning Thoreau Street to Walden Street and Sudbury Road to Laurel Street. The 400 foot demonstration area is located in the area of Nimrod Drive, Coburn Hill Road, Adams Road, Baker Avenue and the connecting portion of Elm Street. Maps for these locations can be found on the Light Department website, under the "Street Lights" link. http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_LightPlant/street%20lights

POLICE DEPARTMENT (Barry Neal, Chief)

Operational Services:

Tuesday 14th, Officers investigated a report of a motor vehicle break-in that occurred in Wedgewood Common. The owner of the vehicle came to the Police Station to file a report stating that several personal items, including a cell phone, were stolen. The cell phone was recovered in Saugus. Detectives are following up with several leads.

-Officers also assisted in a funeral escort/procession from Hanscom AFB for a Marine from Groton who was killed in Afghanistan.

Wednesday 15th, NEMLEC RRT and Motor Cycle Unit Callout to Boston for Game 7 of the Stanley Cup, Officers Shelley, Toumayan, Troiano, Monahan and Burgess responded.

-Officer Toumayan responded with K-9 partner, Charik, for Mutual Aid to the Town of Lexington to conduct a search warrant on 2 houses. Approx. 2 lbs of Marijuana and other narcotics detected during the search.

-Dissemination of Anti-Obama literature in front of the Post Office on Walden St. We received several complaints about the nature of the display and their message. They were checked several times and found to be in compliance with Town policy APP#20.

-Motor vehicle crash into a pole on Monument St breaking the pole in two and shutting down the roadway for approx. 2 hrs until wires and other debris could be cleared. 17 year old Monument St. resident was cited for Marked Lane violation and Impeded Operation. He was uninjured during crash.

Saturday 18th, Officer Troiano participated in the NEMLEC RRT callout to Boston to assist Boston PD with the Rolling Rally for the celebration of the Stanley Cup.

Community Services:

Friday June 17th, a car seat installation and check point was conducted by Kevin Monahan and Jeff Young at the Concord Children's Center. The officer's reported the check point as a great success and plan to schedule another one during the summer.

Sunday 12th, officers assisted with the annual PMC Children's Bike ride through Concord. The ride started at the Middlesex School and proceeded through the Concord and Carlisle. Insp. Tom Mulcahy assisted with the ride and there were no reported problems or incidents.

Administrative Services:

We completed second round interviews for Police Officer candidates, forwarding a group to me for interviews this week. The candidates are an extremely competent and competitive group offering a great pool to draw on over the next year.

Lieutenant's recruitment update: A Request to Make a Job Offer to Inspector Tom Mulcahy was forwarded to Town Manager for review.

Sergeants and officers continue to attend mandated re-certification in the breathalyzer at the Boylston Academy and other locations. The Massachusetts Police Training Committee (MPTC) discontinued departments to conduct their own re-certifications. The MPTC budget is expected to be cut in half for FY12. This will have a substantial impact on our ability to comply with veteran officer mandated trainings.

Officers Shelley and Troiano conducted firearms recertification Mon-Fri at the Lexington Range for all officers. This training is part of our annual firearms re-certification. The range location is ideal for us to use as officers can be scheduled during their shifts, with little or no impact to staffing.

CONCORD PUBLIC WORKS (Rich Reine, Director)

Guardrail Replacement Project – Following the recent bid and award of CPW's annual guardrail replacement project to DeLucca Fence of Methuen, MA work is scheduled to begin on the replacement of failing guardrail along the "S" turns on Barrett's Mill Road. The project is scheduled to be completed in late June/early July.

Baseball Field Maintenance – A coordinated effort utilizing Park and Tree Division field maintenance expertise along with assistance from MCI Concord work crews and Valley Crest landscaping has resulted in all fields at Rideout and Emerson Fields along with Alcott School being in outstanding condition. Work consisted of mechanical weed removal of all infield skins, addition of clay material and grading of skin areas to remove infield lips, cutting of base paths and infields, sod addition and rebuilding of pitcher's all mounds.

2010/2011 Roads Program – Project contractor Lazaro Paving completed installation of top course pavement and loam and seed in the Mildred Circle/Sarah Way neighborhood the week of June 6th. Upcoming work the week of June 20th will include the installation of bituminous berm on Nimrod Road with top course paving planned to be completed for the week of June 27th.

Lazaro Paving was also the low bidder for the 2011 Roads Program contract. Work related to that contract is anticipated to begin in mid-July. The work includes mill and overlay of Thoreau Street (Sudbury Road to Walden Street) and reclamation treatments on Whittemore Street (coordinated with completed water/sewer, drainage and CMLP improvements), the Union / Willow / Fielding neighborhood (which includes water main and sewer main replacement work) and the Central Street/Riverside/Derby Street neighborhood (coordinated with the Highway Division drainage internal project).

Junction Park Reconstruction – The Engineering Division completed a proposal to the Organization for the Assabet River to re-appropriate grant funding received by CPW for Church Street porous pavement parking lot project and portions of the Pail Factory Pocket Park project. The grant was awarded for infiltration project within the Assabet River watershed. Due to environmental concerns related to an adjacent 21E contaminated site, the MA Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP) requested the Town abandon the Church Street project and not increase groundwater recharge within the project area. This facilitated CPW's evaluation for replacement projects. The scope of the Junction Park Project (adjacent to West Concord Depot) will reduce the footprint of brick hardscape and replace the brick with porous pavers while adding multiple landscaping areas and new trees within the park. The project will provide a 75% increase in annual infiltration when compared to the Church Street project and was selected because of the high visibility of the project location which will serve promote awareness of Low Impact Development (LID) and sustainable construction techniques.

2010/2011 Sidewalk Program – Allied Paving will continue to work on the sidewalk contract at the Lowell Road sidewalk extension the week of June 20th. Work will include the reconstruction of the remaining stone wall currently underway at house #987, continuation of excavation, gravel installation and binder course sidewalk pavement installation approximately between house #1079 to house #951. Additionally, the installation and pouring of the retaining wall footings between house #987 and house #963 and between house #943 and house #925 will be completed.

Remaining contract work includes the sidewalk extension on Powder Mill Road from Plainfield Road to the Willard School as well the replacement of the bituminous sidewalk with concrete sidewalk on Sudbury Road from Main Street to Thoreau Street.

Keyes Road Activity and Use Limitation (AUL), DEP Inspection - MassDEP performed an AUL inspection at the 133 Keyes Road site on June 13th. This was associated with an AUL that applies to a limited area around the perimeter of 133 Keyes Road. The AUL was put in place following an underground storage tank removal project in the late 1990's, and has been in effect since 1999. The AUL mandates that the site cannot be utilized for certain alternate uses such as a daycare center, playground, etc. without additional soil remediation and also precludes excavations of more than 2 feet in the designated AUL area without proper DEP notification and permit approval. The June 13th visit was a random inspection. The DEP attempts to inspect 10% of the AUL sites in the Commonwealth each year. The 133 Keyes Road site passed the inspection with no violations note. The DEP informs CPW that we should receive a written confirmation and report within 2-3 weeks.