

**Town Manager's Report**  
**Monday, October 3, 2011**

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

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

**FINANCE**

**Credit Rating for Note Sale:** Posted on the Town's web site under "News & Notices" is Moody's most recent credit rating report associated with the sale of short term notes. Other than the reference to the "negative outlook" applied to the Town's Aaa long-term debt rating, this is an unobjectionable report from Moody's which strikes many positive notes in awarding its highest credit rating of MIG-1 to the \$2,675,000 of short-term notes.

The notes are dated October 12, 2011 and will be payable May 31, 2012. Financing will be provided for the following capital projects:

Rogers land acquisition	\$150,000	Article 42 of 2011 (note rollover)
CPS building improvements	\$600,000	Article 24 of 2010
Road improvements	\$750,000	Article 22 of 2011
Fire Ladder Truck	\$800,000	Article 33 of 2011
Library equipment	\$125,000	Article 34 of 2011
Recreation facilities (Rideout)	\$250,000	Article 35 of 2011

In the report, the final paragraph, "OUTLOOK", briefly recites the rating agency's current position. We have not yet been advised when Moody's will conduct its review for the purpose of confirming or removing the "negative outlook". However, this present review prompted by the short-term note sale was a good opportunity to bring Moody's up to date on the status of our financial results for FY2011 and the continued stable outlook for our current budget year.

**FIRE**

**Fire:** There was a small fire Saturday afternoon at "Slow Pokes Barbeque", 50 Beharrell Street. The pellet fueled slow cooker appears to have malfunctioned somehow and caused a large flame that licked the ceiling when the attendee opened the door. There were ceiling tiles that melted and smoke traveled through the loft area into other

occupancies. There were some occupants present in the adjacent space but no one was injured.

**Station 1 Renovations:** Work continues on the first floor construction area. Sheet rock has been installed and framing has been installed for new interior compartment windows. Plastering will begin this week.

**New Ladder Truck:** The updated delivery date for the new ladder truck to the local dealer is the first week of November. The dealer will then have the unit for a period of time to complete mounting of equipment, final punch list issues, etc. If all goes smoothly, the unit may be in service the first week of December.

**Sudbury Road in Acton Now Open:** The roadway from Route 62 to Old Powder Mill Road is now open. It has been expanded to a 24-foot width, paved with a base binder coarse of asphalt, and stop signs have been installed.

## **LIBRARY**

**Private Library Tour:** The Library reports that this fund-raising which was held over the past weekend was very successful and well attended with about 500 people taking part in the tour.

## **LIGHT DEPARTMENT**

**Concord Light Open House:** Concord Light hosted an Open House to celebrate Public Power Week on Saturday, October 1, and approximately 160 Concord residents and their families attended the event. Concord Light celebrates National Public Power Week the first week in October along with more than 2,000 electric utility companies that collectively supply electricity on a not-for-profit basis to over 43 million residents and businesses. This country-wide program marks the importance of public power to local citizens, state government, and national officials.

Activities included a display of energy efficient compact fluorescent and LED lighting; demonstrations by trained energy auditors on how to weather strip a window and identify heat leaks, learning how electricity is delivered to the home and how an electrical circuit works; and exploring options for generating solar electricity at home. Guests also could take a ride in a bucket truck, operate a mini-excavator, and see how line crews work underground.

## **PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT**

### **Planning Division**

**Planning Board:** Among their business last Tuesday night, Planning Board members provided updates on their goals for the upcoming year, and had a lengthy discussion of the potential for a solar zoning bylaw amendment for Town Meeting 2012 (which is a recommendation of the Solar Siting Committee).

**Community Preservation Committee:** The CPC announced that 19 applications had been received by the Wednesday application deadline for possible funding by the 2012 Annual Town Meeting. The CPC anticipates that there will be approximately \$1.1 million available in Community Preservation Act funds to be appropriated by the 2012 Annual Town Meeting for these Concord projects. These projects address historic preservation, open space, community housing, and recreation priorities and total \$1,868,772 in requested funds.

Over the next two months, the CPC will be reviewing each of the proposed applications to determine which projects the CPC will recommend for consideration at the 2012 Annual Town Meeting. Site visits to project sites will be held on Saturday, October 22.

### **Health Division**

**Asian Gourmet/Sushi House:** Last week, staff responded after normal work hours to an emergency loss of electrical power resulting from a car accident that damaged the restaurant building. Health Division staff have worked with the restaurant operators to ensure that spoiled food is removed, refrigeration and dishwashing capability is restored, and kitchen facilities are cleaned, so that the restaurant may reopen.

**Trails End Café:** This establishment has opened for business.

### **Building and Inspections Division**

**Nashoba Brooks School:** The school has been issued a building permit for construction of a new addition to the rear. The addition is for more classrooms which will increase the occupancy of the entire building. Adequate parking has been provided in prior plan approvals.

### **POLICE**

**Operational Services:** On Wednesday September 28, officers responded to the area of Ridgeway Road for a report of suspicious persons. Upon arrival, officers located a vehicle matching the description they had been given, and fleeing the area. The vehicle was subsequently stopped, and items (silverware) inside the vehicle were linked to house breaks in Lexington, Arlington and Winchester. Further investigation revealed that the suspects attempted to break into a Ridgeway Road home. The suspects were arrested and charged in connection with the crimes in Lexington, Arlington and Winchester, as well as attempting to commit a crime (breaking and entering), in Concord.

**Community Services:** Officers have been enforcing traffic regulations on Thoreau Street near Middle Street as a result of motorists observed driving around traffic on the wrong side of the road.

On Saturday October 1, Officers assisted with the Kicks for Cancer soccer tournament at Concord Carlisle High School. That same day, officers also assisted with The Cystic Fibrosis "Cycle for Life" in Concord. Both events went forward without incident.