



MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Selectmen

FROM: John C. Curran, Town Manager

CC: Susan Aker, Cathy O’Dea

SUBJECT: Town Manager’s Report, October 29, 2018

DATE: October 26, 2018

Dog Park

The Town signed a contract on October 24, 2018, for \$192,930.00. The Town received a Stanton Foundation Grant for \$173,637.00 (90%) and the Friends of Billerica Dog Park contributed \$18,884.10 (10%). There were also private contributions totaling \$9,000 to cover contingencies if needed.

A preconstruction meeting was held on October 24, 2018 with Green Acres Landscaping & Construction Co., Inc. The project will start this fall and continue as long as weather permits. Work will recommence in the spring for plantings/loam & seed and other minor work. The final completion date will be May 31, 2019. Green Acres Landscaping will provide the Town with a schedule.

The Recreation Department plans to schedule a ground breaking ceremony for the project. We will coordinate with the contractor for a date.

Waste Management

The DPW met with Waste Management on Tuesday. They brought in 4 levels of management and their vehicle maintenance supervisor to meet with Abdul, Katie Mahoney and Steve Robertson. It was strongly and clearly conveyed that they need to do a better job of maintaining the vehicles, to prevent the leaks and breakdowns they have been having recently.

The Town will continue to stay on top of this issue. It appears that WM is having a difficult time retaining good employees in this economy. Additionally, the Town has one of the most competitive contracts in the state. We are one of the only communities that receive a credit for recycling materials. Most Communities are paying a fee to have recyclables picked up. Billerica has a contamination rate of 20% in its’ recycling stream – we are allowed to have a rate of 5%.

Dementia Friendly Training for Town Hall Staff

September 8th the Town had the first annual Dementia Friendly Billerica Day to educate the community on the challenges of this disease. This was a first step to recognizing the burden that the disease places on residents, businesses, and caregivers. The Town of Billerica is exploring the possibility of scheduling a training session for Town Hall staff – and potentially boards and committees – to recognize and assist those people affected by the disease.”

Middlesex Turnpike

Currently DEP has approved the contractor's proposed bridge design change at the Shawsheen River – this involves installing a bridge instead of a culvert. This is a no cost change showing a time savings to the contract schedule. It needs to be finalized through Mass DOT. Cabot site redesign of a mitigation area is under review (changes precipitated to avoid features being preserved). A buried oil tank was found at the 99 (approximately 100gallon kerosene, not leaking). An LSP was involved and an extra work order has been submitted for approval. Night and weekend work was completed at Lexington Road to install a culvert from 10/19 through 10/20.

Activity in Billerica includes ongoing work installing the mechanically stabilized slope near the project limits north of Manning Road; ongoing work installing drainage structures near Bedford Town Line and 900 Middlesex Turnpike. On the week of Oct 29th, various drainage installation work is scheduled near the project limits north of Manning Road.

Old Ditson School

As you know a Risk Management and Facilities Assessment Study of the Fire Department was done in February of 2018. This study was, in part, intended to provide direction as to whether Engine Three should be relocated to this location. The Study finds that, *"this new location does little to improve the fire protection system. The initial response area still extends into Burlington with no corresponding increase into the Town. The project team does not recommend this option."* The Study further concluded that the current location does little to improve the fire protection system and recommends a location in the area of Shawsheen and Boston Roads. These findings were presented to the BOS in February 23rd of 2018.

The next step is to commission a more detailed study of the engine three fire house. The questions to be explored are to relocate, raise and rebuild or rehabilitate. In any case, it is prudent to maintain the current status of the old Ditson as it may be used as a temporary location for Engine Three. This office is in the process of drafting an RFP for this next phase of the study.

Roof Projects

The Town Hall, Police, Fire and The Howe roofs have been completed. All that remains is some finish work at the Library which should take several weeks. Please see attached memo from the DPW Director.

Water Meter Installation

This project is 78% complete. It is expected to be completed in January of 2019. Please see attached memo from the DPW Director.

Street Light Inspection and Repair

The Town does not own the streetlights. They are owned by National Grid. If a resident needs to report a streetlight outage they can call National Grid at 1(800)323-3223 or 1 (800)465-1212. A pole number will also be needed. You can also request street lights through this number.

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