

Town Manager's Report

As you review your packet materials, please do not hesitate to contact me prior to the Council meeting with any questions or concerns. Often, these conversations can help staff and me be prepared for the Council meeting and be ready to facilitate a more productive and efficient meeting for everyone.

AGENDA MATTERS

5 Continued Business

5a Lake Algae Bloom Report – Russ Melmed, Chatham Health - Russ will be at the meeting to answer questions.

5b Discussion on Water Samples – Where they are taken & how they are transported to the lab – Information from Russ Melmed has been provided in your packet that addresses these questions.

5c Draft Letter to Waterfront Residents – The Lake Commission with the help from Jeremy Hall has developed a draft letter to residents asking them to consider easements to the Town as well as to consider other mitigation efforts on their properties. The draft letter will be distributed at the Town Council meeting.

8 Bids & Contracts

8a Approval for review of water services- Scott Clayton, WPCA Administrator solicited proposals from engineering firms to review proposals submitted by Aquarion Water and Connecticut Water and recommend which proposal was best for the Town.

Action: Town Council should review the proposals but hold any recommendation for consideration at a future meeting. It may be appropriate for the Town Council to directly interview the responding firms in order to assess which firm will best meet our needs. Once a decision is made, funding for the work would likely come from contingency (\$20,000 budget). Any amount awarded in excess of \$20,000 may require an additional appropriation.

10 New Business

10a Approval of Police Department General Orders 5.10 & 5.22 - In your packet are the proposed revised General Orders relating to Securing Prisoners and Death Notification. Securing Prisoners is being modified to allow for flexibility in the number of officers required to safely transport a prisoner to a medical facility. Death Notification is a new General Order required by Public Act 08-67.

10b Proposal for Phase I Environmental Site Assessment for Property at 1 Watrous Street – Marketing the property for sale has been difficult due to the uncertainty of its environmental status for potential buyers. Jeremy DeCarli has been working with the Connecticut Brownfield Land Bank to secure a grant to provide assessment funding to conduct a Phase II environmental assessment and hazardous building material assessment with estimated cost of cleanup and abatement. Those results would allow the Town to determine the best course of action at the property including options for redevelopment or demolition. For the Land Bank to reach a decision, the following would need to be accomplished:

1. Town commits to providing a Phase I environmental assessment

2. Town completes application form, access agreement and certain worksheets from the EPA Prepared Workbook
3. Town provides written statement that the site will be able to use some portion of the adjacent site for parking
4. That the Town will commit to issuing an RFQ for developers after assessments.

A proposal for a Phase I environmental assessment has been submitted by Blue River Engineering at a cost of \$2,200. Funding is available in the Town Council budget.

Action: Town Council should approve the contract.

OTHER MATTERS

Public Works - The North Main Street Paving Project is underway. Crews from B&W have begun replacing catch basin tops. This phase of the project should be completed by 9/13/2019. Following the catch basin top replacement, milling will begin, which should last a week. Paving follows thereafter, which should last an additional week. It is anticipated that the project should reach final completion by the middle of October.

Public works will begin the drainage project on Old Marlborough Road the week of 9/9/2019. This project will consist of adding some additional drainage infrastructure to eliminate an ongoing drainage/icing issue in the area.

The chip sealing project on the north end of town is complete. The contractor has completed sweeping up excess stone from the roads.

The State is planning to resurface Hurd Park Road in the Town beginning in the upcoming weeks with an anticipated completion date in early October. Staff has communicated with the State regarding the project and will address any issues that may arise if necessary.

Parks & Recreation - We have an issue with the pavilion roof at Sears Park. It is believed there is a leak in the roof that is causing siding boards to rot out. Two years ago, the Town replaced some of the siding on the front entrance of the pavilion and more boards have rotted out suggesting continued leaking. In addition, the lights on the front of the building are now hanging because of the rotting boards.

Lake testing of Cyanobacteria ("Blue/Green Algae") is complete for this year. The Town's practice has been to test lake water until the week following Labor Day weekend.

Building & Land Use

East Hampton PZC is working on Updates to Section 3.1 – Lake Pocotopaug Protection Zone (Watershed Area) in order to better protect the lake water quality through the Zoning Regulations. Workshops are forthcoming.

Land Use Department has received a grant to fund an intern position to create a downtown plan to better integrate the Village Center with the Airline Trail for tourism purposes and increase walkability, bike-ability and better marketing of the only downtown along the entire length of the trail.

The Route 66 Corridor Study update has reached the stage of recommended improvement projects for the next twenty years. A planning team meeting was held last week. A public meeting will be held this fall to present the findings.

Update on Library Roof The project, which began in early summer, is completed as of this week.

Update on Police Radios In July, a contract was signed with Motorola Solutions, Inc. for the new radios with Utility Communications as the authorized vendor/installer of the Motorola equipment. In early August, the Chief met with Utility Communications staff and toured all three tower sites to discuss the required equipment at each site as well as the timeline of construction. Following that meeting, a Purchase Order was generated to Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$391,956.02 for the subscriber portion of the contract as well as mobile and portable radios and associated accessories. On August 29, a Purchase Order was generated to Utility Communications in the amount of \$176,870.95 for installation and some additional equipment required to install the new equipment on the three tower sites. Equipment has started to arrive at Utility Communications and is being programmed and staged at their site after which installation of the new equipment in the vehicles and towers will commence. Project completion is scheduled for December 2019/January 2020

Update on Town Hall/PD/BOE Project- The project is progressing on schedule. The exterior and interior walls are complete, and insulation has begun. Windows will be installed in the next few weeks. The buried tank for fire suppression is in the process of being installed. I will be posting photos and video on the Town Facilities Building Committee web page within a week.

Thanks to Jeff Jylkka for his assistance in preparing this report and for his work as the Interim Town Manager for the last several weeks.

Respectfully submitted,

David Cox
Town Manager