

# MEMORANDUM



To: Bedford Town Council  
From: Rick Sawyer, AICP, Town Manager  
Date: August 19, 2016  
Re: **Manager's Report**

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## **News & Noteworthy:**

- 1) The end of July and the beginning of August was a devastating time on our roadways with fatal accidents happening on South River Road and Route 101 and another multi-car accident happening on Route 101 with all three accidents requiring the roads to be closed for several hours. As a result of these accidents and continued observations of aggressive driving, distracted driving, speeding, and running of red lights, Chief Bryfonski implemented an intensive enforcement program and included the notion that, "we are not out there to ruin your day; we are out there to save your life."
- 2) Chief Bryfonski was honored to be invited and attend the White House 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing Briefing on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Given the timing of this briefing with events happening across our country and the world, I know the discussions were meaningful and engaging. President Obama un-expectedly spoke at a portion of the session and also provided a written letter of support and appreciation for our law enforcement community.
- 3) Cyanobacteria warnings have been issued and remain in effect for Sebbins Pond where the bluish-green globs (as they are described) have been seen. Our Health Officer continues to monitor the situation with DES and additional testing is being completed.
- 4) Our Police and Fire Departments participated in an Annual National Night Out softball game on August 2<sup>nd</sup> which is intended to foster police-community relationships (the PD won for the third year in a row). WZID also held a neighborhood block party at the same time at the pool complex area which was very well attended by local vendors and residents.
- 5) The Summer Concert Series has concluded for the year after holding 10 events at the Bedford Village Common and Pool Complex that were well attended.
- 6) The last day to register to vote or to make name and address changes prior to the Primary is Tuesday, September 6, 2016. The Town Office Building will be open extra hours on Tuesday September 6, 2016 from 6:30 to 7:30 PM for any last minute registration and changes. The Primary is Tuesday September 13, 2016, 7 AM to 7 PM, at the Bedford High School Gymnasium. Sample and absentee ballots are available at the Town Office Building.

## **Project Updates:**

- 1) We continue to monitor and work on the PFC water contamination issue and a full staff report is available on SharePoint. Unfortunately water samples from the Bedford landfill monitoring wells were received and two wells exceed the EPA Long Term Health Advisory and the NH Emergency Groundwater Standard of 70 PPT. DES is now completing an expanded investigation of private wells abutting the complex.

- 2) 2016 CIP & Budget – The Department Heads have submitted their department goals, CIP, staffing, and budget requests. The draft facilities and project related portion of the CIP has been handed out to the Planning Board but due to the lateness of their last meeting it will be discussed at the next meeting so that they can provide any comments prior to the full CIP being presented to the Council in September.
- 3) Website - The new website is currently scheduled to be live on September 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 4) The Nashua Road sidewalk has been completed with the exception of the lighting and one sidewalk tip-down that is awaiting the relocation of a utility pole. The improvements at the County Road/Nashua Road and County Road/Liberty Hill Road intersections for the 4-way stops have been substantially completed. The LED stop sign have been ordered after receiving more suitable pricing and will be installed when they arrive.
- 5) Work continues to progress on Wallace road with the phase 2 portion opening this week. Construction continues between Nashua Road and Brick Mill Road. The project is scheduled to continue into November. Work on Lindahl Road has started and plans are progressing for Worthy Road.
- 6) The South River Road TIF Area wearing course has been completed with the exception of the portion between Kilton Road and Meetinghouse Road due to the Market and Main (former Macy's) project. An open house and ribbon cutting was held with DES on July 29<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the daylighting of the brook and overall improvements.
- 7) Personnel –Assistant Planning Director position Mark Conners has started to the relief of Becky and the whole Planning Department. First and second round interviews for the new accountant position have been completed and an offer will be made next week. Our equipment operator position in DPW that became available due to a retirement earlier this year has been filled by Roland Normand, a Bedford Resident.

Officers Matthew Proulx, Corey Ford and Tyler Berry will be graduating from their 16-week training at the NH Police Academy on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Following graduation, all three will begin their 20-week Field Training Program. The Department has been completing interviews for the two open patrol positions and offers will likely be made soon however the next academy does not start until January.

A draft of the fire and police department employee salary and benefit study has been received and a second draft is expect to be received on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Negotiations with the Police and Fire Unions are being scheduled.

The Department Heads and supervisors will be receiving harassment prevention training on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Events:**

- **September 5<sup>th</sup> – Town Office, Library& Transfer Station closed in honor of Labor Day.**
- September 24<sup>th</sup> – Olde Towne Day from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- August 23<sup>rd</sup> – 7:15 AM, Highway Safety Committee
- August 23<sup>rd</sup> – 7:00 PM, Conservation Commission
- **August 24<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM, Town Council**
- August 25<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM, Energy Commission
- August 29<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM, Planning Board (additional meeting)
- September 6<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM, Historic District Commission
- September 8<sup>th</sup> – 7:45 AM Water & Sewer Committee
- September 12<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM, Planning Board
- September 13<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM, Parks & Recreation Commission
- **September 14<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM, Town Council**
- September 20<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM, Zoning Board
- September 22<sup>nd</sup> – 7:00 PM, Energy Commission
- September 26<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM, Planning Board (workshop)
- September 27<sup>th</sup> – 7:15 AM, Highway Safety Committee
- September 27<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM, Conservation Commission
- **September 28<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM, Town Council**

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