

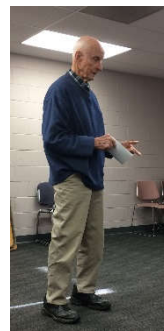
MEMORANDUM



To: Bedford Town Council
From: Rick Sawyer, Town Manager
Date: December 10, 2015
Re: **Manager's Report**

News & Noteworthy:

- 1) Santa's Mailbox – Time is running out to get letters to Santa in time for Christmas. Our direct mailbox to Santa remains available until Friday, December 16th in the Town Office Building Lobby.
- 2) Holiday Coloring Contest – Ages 5-10, help decorate the Town Office Lobby, print out the page and bring it in by Friday, December 16th.
- 3) School Vacation Yoga for Kids & Teens – December 26-30, please see the Parks & Recreation website for times and pricing.
- 4) I would like to thank the Bedford Garden Club for again supplying our public buildings with beautiful holiday wreaths. The Club also provides and cares for flowers at the Town Office Building the rest of the year which truly improves the experience for visitors and employees.
- 5) The Police Department recently held their annual all hands meeting and awards ceremony which included an inspiring presentation from resident Bernie Ruchin US Maries-Retired and member of our "greatest generation" which was extremely timely given the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor being the previous day which was the act that called Mr. Ruchin into service and he has been serving the public and community in one form or another ever since. I am so proud of our civilian employees and many officers who received recognition for going above and beyond the regular call of duty during 2016.



- 6) A major redevelopment plan for the three lots on Old Bedford Road north of the Bedford Grand at BVI hotel was presented to the Planning Board on November 7th for a conceptual review and was scheduled to request variances from the ZBA in November however they did not and it is our understanding that they will be seeking a rezoning by citizen petition for the

subject properties. The project includes a mix of retail, garden style and duplex style elderly housing within the RA Zone.

Project Updates:

- 1) Roads Program – the final phase of Wallace Road was paved and open to traffic as scheduled on November 23rd. Rutledge Road was also completed and opened for the winter and is a vast improvement over previous conditions. Surveying and design for the roads to be completed next year has been initiated and we may seek Council approval to award the initial construction contracts in January to secure the best pricing and spring schedule.
- 2) Facilities – The staff has been able to keep the Library septic flow clogging problem to a minimum over the last several weeks while solutions and contractors are sought. Correcting the problem will necessitate closure of the building and replacement of the line under the concrete slab.
- 3) Bids for the design and construction of the splash pad improvements were submitted on November 10th and have been reviewed and we anticipate recommending award of the contract at one of the January Council meetings. The hope is that design can take place over the winter with installation in 2017.
- 4) PFC water contamination - We continue to monitor and work on the PFC water contamination issue and a full staff report has been provided. Meetings with NHDES and Pennichuck have been held to determine the preferred solution and a meeting with Saint-Gobain is scheduled for December 21, 2016.
- 5) Route 101 - Town staff will be meeting with NH DOT on December 14th to review 90% design drawings. We also met with DOT on November 30th to further review the landscape plans and since that meeting DOT has informed us they will not be installing the previously presented decorative fencing along their stormwater treatment facilities or steep slope areas adjacent to the sidewalks and they will not install any landscaping between the sidewalks and roadway as we will not maintain them. In the MOU with the State we have agreed to maintain median landscaping and to plow the sidewalks but roadside landscaping and fencing was not agreed to. Bid documents will be issued in April with initial construction starting in the summer of 2017.
- 6) Union Negotiations – Agreements have been reached with the Police and Fire Union negotiating committees and the Police Union has voted to accept the management proposal which will be presented to the Council at the December meeting for placement on the 2017 Budgetary Town Meeting Warrant. We are hopeful that the Fire Union will also ratify the agreement and that we will be able to present it to the Council at the first January meeting. This has been a very high level of focus for the management teams over the last two months.
- 7) Personnel – The Police Department has selected a candidate for their last open position and we are hopeful the last three candidates will be able to start in the Police Academy in January. Public Works has filled their vacant equipment operator position from within which now creates a truck driver opening.

Events:

- December 14th – Fire Department Pinning Ceremony for our recent six new members, 5 PM at the Safety Complex.
- December 15th – The Town Office Building will be closing at 3 PM in order for employees to attend our holiday celebration.
- December 18th – Sunday Matinee of “A Christmas Story” will take place at 2 PM at the Library.
- December 24th – The Library will be closed and the Transfer Station will be closing at 2 PM.
- December 26th – The Town Office Building, Library, and Transfer Station will be closed.
- December 27th – The Town Office Building, Library, and Transfer Station will reopen for regular hours.
- December 29th – School Holiday Movie for Kids, “Kubo” will take place at 2 PM at the Library.
- December 31st – The Library will be closed and the Transfer Station will be closing at 2 PM.
- January 2nd – The Town Office Building, Library, and Transfer Station will be closed.
- January 3rd – The Town Office Building, Library, and Transfer Station will reopen for regular hours.

Upcoming Meetings:

- ~~December 12th – 7:00 PM, WBNH-LPFM Board of Overseers~~
- ~~December 13th – 7:00 PM, Parks & Recreation Commission~~
- **December 14th – 6:00 PM, Town Council**
- December 19th – 7:00 PM, Planning Board
- December 20th – 7:00 PM, Zoning Board
- December 22nd – 7:00 PM, Energy Commission
- December 27th – 7:15 AM, Highway Safety Committee
- ~~December 27th – 7:00 PM, Conservation Commission~~
- January 3rd – 7:00 PM, Historic District Commission
- January 5th – 7:00 PM, BCTV Board of Overseers
- January 9th – 7:00 PM, Planning Board
- **January 11th – 7:00 PM, Town Council**

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