

MEMORANDUM

To: Bedford Town Council
From: Rick Sawyer, Town Manager
Date: April 8, 2022
Re: **Manager's Report**



News & Noteworthy:

- 1) Clean Up Bedford Day – April 16th, 9 AM-1 PM. Residents, businesses, students, and clubs are all encouraged to join in this community wide event to help Clean Up Bedford! Blue bags can be picked up at the Transfer Station, Town Office Building, Library, Safety Complex, and Educational Farm at Joppa Hill. You are welcome to leave the bags along the side of the road for later pick up or bring them to the Transfer Station.



- 2) PFAS Contamination – NHDES and Saint Gobain are testing a large number of private wells in southeastern Bedford but unfortunately they have not announced any remediation steps yet while they wait for more data. If you have received a request for well testing from Golder Associates it is critical that you sign the agreement and return the paperwork as soon as possible.

Outside of the Saint-Gobain area of responsibility (generally north of Route 101) residents can request that their well water be tested by submitting an application through the NHDES website at: https://www4.des.state.nh.us/nh-pfas-investigation/?page_id=307

The Department of Public Works has submitted a \$1.5M grant request with NHDES in hopes of being able to extend a public water main down Bedford Center Road to Primary Plaza to address PFAS contamination in that area.

- 3) A live burn training event for the Fire Department will take place on April 23rd at 99 McAllister Road so please expect to see smoke and emergency vehicles in that area.
- 4) The 100th Anniversary of the formation of the Bedford Fire Department is being celebrated this year and they are announcing a save the date for a traditional muster to take place on June 25th as part of the celebration.
- 5) The Town is still accepting applications for those interested in serving on our many boards and commissions. We are especially in need for volunteers for the ZBA and HDC. The application can be found at: <https://www.bedfordnh.org/DocumentCenter/View/5667/Board-Application>
- 6) Starting on April 25th during school vacation week the traffic patterns at the High School are scheduled to change. Advance notification signage will go up next week and all work

necessary for the change is scheduled to be completed for the students return to school on May 2nd. There may be limited access to the school and delays during the work.

- 7) Registration for Camp Witzel summer camp and other summer camp programs are now open and information is available through the Recreation page of the Town Website <https://bedfordnh.myrec.com/info/activities/default.aspx?type=activities>

Project Updates:

- 1) Security System Upgrades – The project remains ongoing and is nearing completion. The Library should be fully operational in the next week. Staff training will be completed as the buildings are ready to swap over to the new systems.
- 2) Fire Department Vehicles – The long awaited new ladder truck remains on schedule for delivery in June. The Squad is scheduled to arrive in October. Unfortunately our ambulance delivery has been pushed back until spring of 2023.
- 3) Audit - The financial audit for 2021 will continue with the four days of in office review April 11-14 and staff will follow up with any requested materials over the next few weeks in anticipation of a completed audit in mid-May.
- 4) Personnel – Christopher Anton has started as the new Highway Superintendent. Chris comes to us from the Town of Milford where he served in a similar position and has had a long municipal career as a former police officer and firefighter. There are currently 3 openings and 1 other is out on extended leave in the Highway Department. I am happy to announce that Firefighter Keith Culligan has achieved his Paramedic certification. The Police and Fire Departments are fully staffed except for the positions approved at town meeting and two firefighters who are out on extended leave. The Deputy Town Clerk position is vacant which can only be filled by Bedford residents. Those interested should contact the Town Clerk for more information. Applications are being accepted for Payroll Accounting Clerk, Truck Drivers, BCTV Broadcast Production Coordinator, Police Officer, and part time Library Clerk, Transfer Station Attendant, Summer Camp Councilor, Lifeguard, and Library Page positions.
- 5) Collective Bargaining Agreements – Initial meetings are scheduled with the Fire and DPW unions for the last week in April.

Events:

- April 10 – Cinema Sunday, "High Noon", 1:30-4:30 PM, Bedford Library. Please register in advance on the Library website.
- April 16 – Clean up Bedford Spring Event, 9 AM - 1 PM.
- April 17 – Library closed for Easter.
- April 30 – National Prescription Drug Takeback Day, Bedford Safety Complex, 10 AM – 2 PM.
- May 29 – Police Department Bicycle Rodeo at the High School, 10:00 – Noon



- May 29 – Memorial Day Parade, 1 PM, Bedford High School to McKelvie Intermediate School via County Road with a theme of “Freedom Through Unity”.
- May 30 – Bedford Town Offices, Library, Transfer Station, & BCTV Closed for Memorial Day.
- June 25 – Household Hazardous Waste Day, 8:30 AM – 3 PM, Highway Garage, 19 Chubbuck Road.

Upcoming Meetings:

- ~~April 11 – 7:00 PM, Planning Board~~
- April 12 – 7:00 PM, Conservation Commission
- **April 13 – 6:00 PM Interviews, 7:00 PM, Town Council Meeting**
- ~~April 14 – 7:45 AM Water & Sewer Committee~~
- ~~April 14 – 9:00 AM Poles & Wires Committee~~
- April 18 – 7:00 PM, Planning Board
- April 19 – 7:00 PM, Zoning Board
- April 22 – 11:30 AM, Telecommunications Committee
- April 26 – 7:15 AM, Highway Safety Committee
- **April 27 – 7:00 PM, Town Council**
- April 28 – 7:00 PM, Energy Commission

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