
MEMORANDUM - OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Michael Branley, Town Administrator
RE: Weekly Update
DATE: May 4, 2015
CC:

Next Board of Selectmen meeting Monday 5/4 at 5:30 p.m.

OTHER UPCOMING MEETINGS: 5/6 at 7:00 p.m. in Bennington & 5/20 at 7:00 p.m. at FES for Police Department Public Forum

With the Mooseplate Grant submitted and no Board meeting this was a good week to get caught up on some outstanding items. Also this week the Town Clerk's office went "live" with Avitar software.

On Monday we opened the bids for the bridge replacement projects on Woodward Hill and Juniper Hill Roads. For Woodward Hill the bids ranged from \$495,000 to \$667,000 (CLD's estimate was \$567,000), with Hansen Construction as the low bidder. For Juniper Hill the bids ranged from \$399,000 to \$528,000 (CLD's estimate was \$658,000), also with Hansen Construction as the low bidder. At CLD's request NHDOT reviewed CLD's bid tabulations and has authorized you to award the contracts for both projects. We are currently trying to resolve an outstanding easement issue FairPoint needs for utility poles for Juniper Hill.

I emailed Deb Rogers regarding the proposed landscaping work at the library and am scheduled to meet with her and our landscaper over there today. Scott and I also met with two vendors to get estimates for the tree work behind the library, behind the horse sheds, and on the Town Common.

I met with a local and federal representative from FEMA on Tuesday to review our documentation for the declared disaster in January. Based on information received from the mandatory "kick-off" meeting we also added to our request for reimbursement the roof shoveling and some administrative expenses.

I have put together a press release for you to review announcing the police department public forum on 5/20 to ensure we are all on the same page with our expectations. I also asked Fred and Steve to come in to your meeting on 5/18, where they will update you on their progress in the department so far, you can discuss with them the Primex risk management assessment so you

can direct them on your priorities and thoughts on the recommendations, and to discuss the status of the budget and staffing until we hire a new Chief.

On Thursday I attended a local town administrators' lunch meeting and one of the items we are exploring is getting a few towns together to see if we might be able to jointly purchase oil, propane, and/or on-road fuels collectively to get a lower price.

Town Hall Update – I put together a proposed contract with Michael Bruss for owner's rep services and had town counsel review it (which is more cost effective than paying him to draft the contract) and sent it Mr. Bruss for his review. I have sent out thank you/notification letters to the other firms who submitted proposals. Michael P., Michael Bruss, and the Heritage Commission are planning to attend your meeting tonight to discuss our current road forward on the project.