

Jim Palenick

From: Jim Palenick [jpalenick@dallasnc.net]
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 12:35 PM
To: 'Rick Coleman'; 'ronniemorrow@att.net'; 'huggybarber@att.net'; 'hoylewithers@yahoo.com'; 'jjerryc2@att.net'; 'jcmalker@gmail.com'
Cc: 'MStroupe'; 'David Kahler'; 'Doug Huffman'; 'Gary Buckner'; 'Steve Lambert'; 'Bill Trudnak'; 'A. Martin'; 'J. Thomas Hunn'
Subject: Town Manager's Weekly Report (#67)

Mayor & Board of Aldermen(Women):

Please accept the following as the **Town Manager's Report for the Week-ended Friday, March 14, 2014.**

- As I neared completion of the Grant application to the NC Solar Center (NCSU) for the electric charging station(s) and plug-in electric vehicle project grant, I learned that the Grant, if awarded, actually only covers the incremental cost between the price of a gasoline-engine vehicle and the higher cost of a comparable plug-in electric – rather than the full cost of the plug-in electric. In the case of the Ford C-max which we were proposing and applying for (two to replace the meter-reader vehicles) this amounts to \$9,345.00 each. However, when you realize that the current two vehicles use some 1947 gallons of fuel yearly, at an average cost of \$3.25/gallon, that's \$6,327.00 a year in fuel cost savings. In four years we would then fully recoup the complete cost of the vehicle. So, the grant still makes a good deal of sense. Also, I have further learned that awards will likely occur by late April or early May and our chances for success are probably better than I had first anticipated. The Program is a "reimbursable" grant wherein you have to expend the monies on eligible items then submit paid invoices for the 80% reimbursement. The application was completed and submitted earlier today in advance of the March 18th deadline.
- Please take note that the Planning Board will be meeting this upcoming Thursday, March 20th, to conduct a Public Hearing and make a subsequent recommendation on the proposed rezoning of the multiple properties along Trade St. from "residential" to "Central Business" District Zoning. This matter will then be taken up by the Board of Aldermen at your April 8th Meeting for any possible final action. Also this upcoming week, on Monday, March 17th, there is the regular monthly Meeting of the Dallas Historic Courthouse Foundation (6:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall Community Room). This month's Work Session will be held on Tuesday, March 25th, for the first time beginning at 5:00 p.m. An agenda for this Meeting will go out around mid-week – at this point, the only topic I have for discussion is the draft of the Electronic Variable Message Reader Board Sign Policy.
- Look for a couple stories pertaining to Dallas to appear in local newspapers over the next several days. Specifically, the Gaston Gazette is likely to run a brief piece on the new Walmart "Neighborhood Market" coming to the site on Dallas Cherryville Road; while the Charlotte Observer, in its continuing feature coverage of the Duke Energy Coal Ash contamination, is running a story comparing NCDENR's enforcement actions and punitive fines in the case of Duke and coal ash, to the Town of Dallas (and other regional municipalities) and its "spills" and/or non-compliance at its Waste-water treatment plant.
- For the April 22nd Board Work Session, we are tentatively scheduling a presentation, by Land-Use-Planning consultant Jack Kiser, on the Draft Downtown Development and Revitalization plan that he was commissioned to create. We hope to have the narrative details of said plan well in advance and will forward same to each of you for review prior to the presentation.

Thank You,

James M. (Jim) Palenick
Interim Dallas Town Manager
210 N. Holland St.

Dallas, NC 28034
704-922-3176 office
704-214-1031 cell
ipalenick@dallasnc.net