

# **Town Manager's Weekly Report: (# 130)**

**For the Week-Ended: Friday, July 24 2015**

- Please note that the July 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting will be a Special Called Meeting (not a Work Session) beginning at 6:00 p.m. (not 5:00 p.m.) and the complete packet will be delivered today (Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>). Much of the Meeting will be devoted to the proposed re-development of the Town-owned building at 130 W. Trade St. and the proposed "Grant" and "Lease with Option to Purchase" Agreements which will facilitate the re-development and adaptive re-use of the building as a destination restaurant.
- This week we submitted our quarterly report on the "Clean Fuel Advanced Technology" (CFAT) Grant (Electric cars and charging stations), and I think it is quite remarkable when we look at the quarterly results for performance and savings. Specifically, the two Town meter-readers, operating the electric cars rather than their previous V-8 pick-up trucks, averaged 68.13 and 51.69 miles-per-gallon respectively; while cumulatively (for the 3-months reported) saved 438.34 gallons of fuel. At an average cost of \$2.50/gallon, that is \$1,095.85 in fuel savings for one quarter. The electric costs of charging, conversely, averaged 76 cents per-day, per-car. Quite impressive indeed, and great for the environment.
- After only 3-weeks of on-line availability, with little of any promotion or advertising to-date, we have seen seventy (70) Town utility customers pay their utility bills on line. We expect this number to grow exponentially in the future, particularly as more people become aware and as we have more opportunity to get the word out on the availability of this option for payment. We are adding language to our printed bills which will identify this payment option.
- We had an overwhelming response to our recent advertisement for the Customer Service position at Town Hall. In fact, 187 applications were received by the deadline – indicating a pronounced desire to work for the Town. A small group of semi-finalists have now been identified, and interviews will be conducted next week. An offer could be extended shortly after the conclusion of these interviews.
- The large, 100'-high capacity electric bucket/boom truck that the Town Electric Department rented to complete the identified tree and line work that was otherwise beyond our existing equipment capacity, was returned this week after completing all of the identified back-log of locations. As a result, we shouldn't have any issues for at least a year or better before we may again look to rent such equipment for specific, limited efforts.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**James M. Palenick, Interim Town Manager**