

Town Manager's Weekly Report: (# 137)

For the Week-Ended: Friday, September 25, 2015

- The last position opening remaining in the Police department was filled this week when our newest patrol officer began duty on Monday. We are also nearing the possibility of bringing on our first, qualified "Reserve Officer" as well. Further, the meter reader position that became available when we had multiple internal promotions was filled this week also. The only remaining unfilled and outstanding position currently existing within the Town organization is the tree trimmer/landscaper position within the Electric Department's tree crew.
- The Johnson Street property donation, which the Board Approved recently, is now nearing actual title transfer. Town Attorney, Tom Hunn has provided all the documentation necessary for transfer to the Owner(s) and they are expected to execute them promptly upon receipt.
- I am continuing to pursue the possibility of a re-finance of the Installment Purchase Contract debt still outstanding on the Fire station and have been in contact with the note-holder, Park Sterling Bank to fully understand the terms and conditions attached to the debt. The originally-structured, 25-year pay-back has 18 years remaining with a final payment set for 2033. Of the Original \$1,500,000 in principal, there remains \$1,264,132.00 outstanding. The note carries a simple interest rate of 4.33% and would require a 1% pre-payment penalty if re-financed or pre-paid prior to 2018. If we can achieve clear cost savings, we will definitely be moving toward a re-finance.
- The Town received a TOP TIER Façade Improvement Grant Application this week from James Hovis, CPA for his Offices at 303 and 303A W. Trade Street and a Review Committee Meeting to review the application has been set for Friday, October 2nd. If that meeting results in a Committee recommendation for the Board, we will bring the matter to the October 13th Meeting of the Board of Aldermen for final action.
- We are experiencing what appears to be some water-seepage along the front interior gallery wall in the Courthouse and have contacted Rehab Builders (the Contractor) to have them come and examine the problem to determine the likely origin and a proper remedy. The work still remains under its one-year warranty so we will see what position the contractor takes as to the proper fix and who covers the cost.
- Late last week, we had the Jagers Park grounds seeded, aerated, and fertilized so that a proper, thick and green stand of new grass can be established. All areas other than the ball field were completed. We will have the ball field done in early spring because it requires a different type of seed which performs better with a Spring-time germination.

- The installers of the new maple wood gym floor have completed their basic installation at the Dennis Franklin Gym and will now hold off on the final finishing and installation of lines and logos until the new HVAC system is installed. To that end, we are currently having specifications for the HVAC work being completed and we should follow up with bid solicitations by later next week. All should be complete in time for the basketball season.

Respectfully Submitted,

James M. Palenick, Interim Town Manager