

Town Administrator Report
June 16, 2014

1. Quinebaug Regional Technology Park. Still dealing with the following regulatory or permitting issues: a) received email from Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) stating that project can go forward under their general permit requirements and we do not have to file any additional paperwork to satisfy their review, b) based on providing email evidence of ACOE approval, State Historic Preservation Office is preparing a letter signing off on project, and c) a MOU has been prepared and signed by the Town establishing the conditions of the Town receiving a deed for property on the east side of the Quinebaug River allowing access to roadway access to property. MOU is being reviewed by state Office of Policy and Management and will be forwarded to Attorney General for his signature. CME, our consulting engineer on bridge and roadway design, has been given go-ahead to go out to bid on these aspects of project. Working with Fuss & O'Neill on an application to USDA for the water and sewer components of the project. We hope to receive both loan and grant funding for water and sewer. These costs will be paid for by user and system betterment fees. Gravel removal is progressing and will be completed before June 30, 2014. Had meetings with Brooklyn First Selectman to discuss that Town's investment in project. Will be meeting with Pomfret officials to gauge their continued interest in supporting project. Attended public hearing to review the interlocal agreement between towns detailing their responsibilities under the agreement.
2. Water Line Replacement/Relining Project. We are currently approved for a USDA loan of \$10.6 million and a grant of \$4.7 million and received approval from state Department of Public Health for a combination of Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan and grants in the amount of \$7.5 million. Our bond counsel is working on a plan that we would fully expend the USDA funds and close out the full \$10.6 million loan. On USDA loan closure, we would then use that portion of the DWSRF funds to pre-pay a portion of the USDA loans because the DWSRF loans are at 2% and the USDA loans are at 3.25%. We are also awaiting DPH approval on the project plans before we can go out to bid on this project. Anticipated start date is in September. Our engineers, BETA Group, is also working on adding additional streets to the project to insure that we will be able to use all available funds from the USDA. This is due to the fact that loan funds have to be used first before the grant funds and if we don't have enough streets under the project, we could lose out on grant funds.
3. Manganese Treatment Removal Project. On May 24, 2014, a pilot test was begun to evaluate the efficacy of different treatment options to remove excess manganese from the groundwater pumped from the well field. The purpose of the pilot test is to identify the optimal treatment system and collect the necessary data to design the full-scale system.
4. Sewer Pump Stations. Final contract documents are being reviewed by Town and upon Town approval, they will be forwarded to USDA for approval to advertise to

bid. The recently completed rehabilitation project of the sewer plant indicates that the plant is performing well during April and is meeting permit and design requirements.

5. Cargill Falls Mill Project. Mill owners with their developer are in process of submitting an application under the state's Competitive Housing Assistance for Multi-Family Properties (CHAMP) Program for \$5 million. In addition to the CHAMP financing, they have over \$15.3 million in other project funding, including brownfields funds, state and federal historic tax credits, energy rebates and private financing. There is a gap remainder of \$2.85 million of funding that the town is seeking on their behalf from the state under the Urban Act program. Contacts have been made with state Office of Policy and Management and Senator Williams office indicating the town's interest in obtaining this financing. The project will create 40 temporary, 60 part-time and 200 full-time jobs. The project entails 82 residential apartment units along with 30,000 square feet of commercial space.
6. Meetings Attended. NECCOG monthly meeting. High school building committee. YMCA Regional Advisory Board. Wheelabrator annual picnic. Special Town Meeting on QRTP and Water Lines project.
7. Airline Trail-Hankins Property. On Sunday, June 8th, as part of Connecticut Trails Weekend, I was a co-leader on a hike on the one-mile section of the Airline Trail that the Town acquired an easement for hiking, biking and horse riding. This was the first official town opening of the trail for public use. Trail is still in rough fashion and certain portions have significant drainage issues. We have a state grant of \$125,000 to repair trail by placing drainage and stone dust to make the trail passable for the above uses.