

**Town Administrator Report**  
**June 1, 2015**

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1. Projects Update:

Quinebaug Regional Technology Park Bridge, Road and Utilities Construction

- Tully Construction is back on bridge construction job. Work continues on temporary erection platform and driving piles in preparation for installing bridge abutments and to place the steel beams.
- Gerber Construction, contractor for west approach road with utilities construction, has begun the clearing necessary for the roadway right-of-way and the area needed for the sewer lift station to service the Tech Park.
- Sewer Lift Station bid has gone out to bid with a return date of June 11<sup>th</sup>. At a recent meeting, it was decided that Pomfret would pursue an option of bringing their sewer line all the way down the Airline Trail to tie directly into the Town's wastewater treatment plant. They will not tie into proposed Tech Park lift station.
- Water line installation is covered under BETA's Contract 2 through the WPCA's water line replacement project. After a careful review of all bids received, it was determined that they exceeded the financial resources currently available to fund the project as it was bid. BETA has prepared a new bid with a reduced scope and they have received permission from USDA to rebid. Still need approval from state Department of Public Health. Still reviewing the option to use the existing contractor on Contract #1 to bring the water line down to the Tech Park from the wastewater treatment plant. Activities are being coordinated with construction of Regional YMCA community center to insure that utilities are in place by the time required by the Y. The Y's need for water may be in advance of our ability to provide even a temporary fix to bring water to their site by the time they need it. They have been informed that if they need water before we can provide either through a temporary or permanent fix, then they will be responsible to bring temporary water to the site for their needs.
- Working with Eversource Gas Division (Yankee Gas) on possible routes to bring natural gas to the Tech Park. Route has been agreed upon. Project meeting held and waiting from contract from Eversource.
- Permanent electricity has finally been brought to the site and the Y has a temporary hookup.

Water Line Replacement/Relining Project

- Contract 1 work has begun on Thompson Avenue to installation of temporary water lines. Contract will primarily cover cleaning and cement lining of existing water mains in Groveland/Thompson Avenue/Bates Avenue area and Wilkinson/Bellevue/Prospect/Oak Streets area.
- No change except that USDA has approved us rebidding Contract #2. Still waiting for state approval to rebid. Project is expected to begin early to late summer. Contract 2 covers the bulk of the water line replacement/relining project totaling 40,000 linear feet. This amount will have to be reduced to approximately 30,000 linear feet.

## Sewer Lift Stations

- Bid has been awarded to Associated Construction in the amount of \$2.9 million for rehabilitation/reconstruction of town's ten sewer lift stations. They have begun work on the lift stations in a phased approach two to three lift stations at a time.

## Manganese/Iron Treatment Building

- No change. Four companies submitted proposals to the Request for Qualifications. WPCA selected two design/build partner teams – Stantec/Waterline and Tighe & Bond/RH White to provide full proposals. Specifications of proposal are being reviewed by USDA as funding agency before submittal to design/build teams.

## Putnam High School Project

- Work is progressing in accordance with construction schedule. Still waiting for a revised contract from Eversource to provide gas for 2015 and 2016 construction seasons.

2. Collective Bargaining Process. In process of working out a time schedule to begin negotiations with United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU) representing town employees. Initial meeting held on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and ground rules for future negotiating sessions approved by both parties. Contract expires on June 30, 2015. A series of future meetings have been scheduled. Management team still meeting to plan strategy for upcoming negotiation sessions.
3. Solar Photovoltaic System on Municipal Solid Waste Landfill. No change. Still working with representatives of Solar City and we are providing them with certain information about our accounts and town financial information.
4. WPCA. WPCA received two proposals from Veolia and United Water in response to request have a public-private partnership for the operation, maintenance and management of the Town's water and sewer operations. Proposals are being reviewed by WPCA and staff and interviews were conducted with firms. We have been consulting with our Town Attorney, Labor Counsel and Bond Counsel to review the draft agreement that WPCA will use once a firm is selected. A meeting was held with union representatives to discuss the implications of a public-private operation, management and maintenance partnership on town employees. The union will need further time to study proposal and understand the ramifications on their covered employees.
5. Regional Community YMCA Advisory Board. Coordination of road/bridge and utility construction is becoming paramount as the Y has certain timeframes under their construction schedule that need to be tied in with Town's construction schedule for instance providing water to site and gas.
6. Sabin Street Recreation Project. On tonight's agenda for discussion.

7. Bond Anticipation Notes. Paula Lajeunesse and I have begun discussions with our bond counsel and financial advisor about renewing our bond anticipation notes that mature on July 1, 2015. These notes covered \$16.2 million to cover the temporary expenses related to the sewer and water projects, the high school and the Tech Park. Paula and I will be working on an official statement and compiling financial information about anticipated expenses for the above projects. BANs will be issued for project activities through end of November 2015.
8. Finance Director. Position has been advertised in Hartford Courant, CCM Bulletin and the International City Management Association bulletin. First review of applications will start on June 5. However, position will remain open until filled.