

**Town Administrator Report**  
**June 15, 2015**

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1. Projects Update:

Quinebaug Regional Technology Park Bridge, Road and Utilities Construction

- Great progress is being made on project. Work finalized on temporary erection platform and driving piles in preparation for installing bridge abutments and to place the steel beams. Bridge abutments installed with possibility of steel beams coming in this week
- Gerber Construction, contractor for west approach road with utilities construction, has finished the clearing necessary for the roadway right-of-way and the area needed for the sewer lift station to service the Tech Park. The temporary bypass road has been installed and drainage work is progressing.
- 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. Having received both approvals from USDA and state Department of Public Health, Contract 2 was rebid last week with a return date mid-July. Option still being reviewed 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. Contract agreements have been received and waiting approval from Board.
- 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.
- Both USDA and state Department of Public Health have approved our plans from rebidding Contract 2. Bids were advertise last week with a bid opening in mid-July. 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 33,000 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. Work is progressing on the lift stations in a phased approach two to three lift stations at a time.

## Manganese/Iron Treatment Building

- USDA has submitted comments to the review of the specifications and bid documents for the project. WPCA selected two design/build partner teams – Stantec/Waterline and Tighe & Bond/RH White to provide full proposals. Need some concerns to be addressed by WPCA before design specifications are provided to the design/build project teams.

## Putnam High School Project

- Work is progressing in accordance with construction schedule. Gas contracts have been received and you will review for approval at Monday's meeting.

2. Collective Bargaining Process. Initial contract proposals were exchanged at first meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Additional meetings have been scheduled for negotiations. Contract expires on June 30, 2015.
3. Solar Photovoltaic System on Municipal Solid Waste Landfill. Solar City has developed our bid application for the LREC bid solicitation this week.
4. WPCA. No change. 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. Subject of joint meeting with Facilities Committee next week.
7. Bond Anticipation Notes. Official Statement for new issuance of \$16,190,000 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes finalized. New notes will mature on November 18, 2015. BANs will cover interim financing for water and sewer projects, high school project, and tech park project.

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. Few resumes have been received. Might have to reconsider our approach – possibly using a professional search firm. However, position will remain open until filled.