

**Town Administrator Report**  
**September 8, 2015**

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1. Projects Update:

Quinebaug Regional Technology Park Bridge, Road and Utilities Construction

- Bridge deck is poured. Bridge abutments will be completed within a week.
- Water main is installed. Waiting to pressure test line. To date, water, sewer and electrical conduits, including internet service lines, have been installed.
- Sewer lift station contract has been signed and notice to proceed issued.
- Water line installation from the sewer plan to the Tech Park is covered under BETA's Contract 2 through the WPCA's water line replacement project. Notice of Award has been issued to B&W Paving and Landscaping. Construction schedule will start by mid-September and finish by mid-October. Water line installation to Tech Park will be first priority of Contract 2 contractor with a late summer/early fall start date. 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. Y may have to provide a mechanism to get water to their site on a temporary basis to cure their swimming pools once they are installed.
- Gas Main – Pipe is on-site for installation and contractor, R.H. White, is preparing to install. R.H. White has met with our site contractor, Gerber, to coordinate gas main installation in Tech Park Road.

Water Line Replacement/Relining Project

- Contract 1 work is finishing up in Thompson Avenue/Bates Avenue/Groveland area and work is now progressing in the Wilkinson/Bellevue/Prospect/Oak Streets areas to install temporary water lines.
- Contract 2 bid has been awarded to B&W Paving and Landscaping for \$8,101,905. As noted above, first priority of project will be to extend new water line into Tech Park.

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. Contract has been signed, Notice to Proceed issued and work has started. Work is progressing with two to three lift stations at a time. No change.

Manganese/Iron Treatment Building

- Requests for proposals with specifications have been sent to the two short-listed teams, Tighe&Bond/R.H. White and Waterline Industries/Stantec Consulting. RFPs have to be submitted by September 30, 2015. This project is proposed on a design-build basis.

Putnam High School Project

- Work is progressing in accordance with construction schedule. Contract for gas lines has been approved and gas will be installed in two phases for the 2015 (installed) and 2016 construction seasons.
2. Collective Bargaining Process. Tentative agreement has been reached between the Town and UPSEU. Agreement will go first to union members for ratification and then back to the Selectmen for approval. Terms will be retroactive back to July 1, 2015.
  3. WPCA. WPCA received two proposals from Veolia and United Water in response to request to have a public-private partnership for the operation, maintenance and management of the Town's water and sewer operations. WPCA selected United Water to proceed to negotiate with. One kick-off meeting has been held.
  4. Finance Director Search. Brenda Fox-Howard was hired and she began work with Town on August 10, 2015. Already attended one meeting of the Board of Finance.
  5. Conversion of Owen Tarr Park and Sabin Street/Woodstock Avenue properties. Working with Public Facilities Study Committee to meet the requirements of the state to find a substitute property of equal or better value to replace the passive, open space land off Sabin Street. A proposed conversion of these lands would have to follow the procedures established by state statute and would require that replacement property of equivalent usefulness must be acquired as that being converted. Any proposal would still be subject to approval by the DEEP Commissioner. Based on town meeting approval of an appropriation for engineering and design work on the Sabin Street property, low bidder, Messier Associates, have begun work to determine the field needs on Sabin Street and construction of a bridge to site. Committee proposes another joint commission/board meeting on September 30 to discuss the proposal for a new Library/Town Hall complex at Tarr Park.
  6. Armory. A tentative agreement has been reached with NOW, Northeast Opportunities for Wellness, and the Town to develop the armory under a design/build/finance/operate and maintain agreement with NOW. Town officials have been consulted on our space needs for the building to include office and storage space for Recreation Department, office and storage space (voting machines) for the Registrars of Voters, and space for our Veterans' Liaison. Common space shared by the Town will include a multipurpose activity hall (gym), multipurpose room/classroom, and a kitchen. A generator will be installed so that building can be used as a shelter if needed. Term of agreement will be for 25 years. A tentative diagram is attached for your information.
  7. Property Foreclosures. Town recently acquired through foreclosure sale proceedings 28 Woodstock Avenue. Checking with local realtors to provide proposals for marketing the property in order for town to recover taxes and WPCA fees owed on property.