

Town Administrator's Weekly Report  
November 9, 2016

Each week, when the Select Board has a scheduled meeting, the Town Administrator provides a report to the Select Board members.

This report provides an overview of the Town Administrator's week and updates from Town Departments and Offices on various programs and initiatives. The weekly report also includes information about projects and a schedule of upcoming community events.

Here is the report for the week of November 9, 2016.

**Projects**

Bay Road Bridge Update: The environmental permit is still in process, but funding for the bridge has been secured. The contractor has been authorized to order materials, which will take 6 to 8 weeks for delivery.

Route 9 Widening Update: The final course of blacktop was scheduled for November 8, and then the project is mostly complete. Only punch list and cleanup items remain to be done.

Public Safety Complex Roof Update: The contract for the projects were sent to the contractor for signatures, certificates of insurance, and performance and payment bonds. A Notice to Proceed has been sent. Work will be completed in 180 days.

Land Requests For Proposals: The two responses were received for the Center Hadley RFP for Proposal for land, and none were received for the RFP for land in North Hadley. The bids were disseminated to the Capital Planning Committee for their review.

Owners Project Manager: The OPM is working with the Council on Aging and the North Hadley Fire Substation Ad hoc Committee. A designer selection procurement process has been prepared and awaits the Board's approval. The award of the contract will be explicitly contingent on the availability of funding.

Wage and Classification Study: In process.

Commonwealth Compact Update: The Town was awarded technical support for two projects: (a) development of a financial management team and (b) a safe route to school project. The Department of Revenue has conducted a site visit and a series of interviews with key town officials. We expect a report in time for the FY 2018 budget process.

Electricity Net Metering Credit Agreement (Phase 2) Update: The second solar installation on Mill Valley Road is now complete and was made operational on October 25, 2016. The developer, Nexamp, is implementing the net metering credit agreement under SREC 2 for 30% of our municipal electrical load, resulting in a 16% discount on many municipal electrical accounts. (We already have a net metering credit agreement under SREC 1 resulting in a 21%

discount for 70% of our municipal electricity.) Future savings over 20 years is estimated to be \$150,000 to \$300,000.

Electricity Aggregation Project Update: Good Energy and several towns, including Hadley, held a conference call with an attorney representing the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities. Hadley's application was reviewed and found to be in order. A hearing with DPU is the next step. Once, DPU gives their approval, Good Energy will conduct a bid process for electric rates. Assuming a favorable outcome, Hadley residential electricity users should start seeing a discount on their electricity bills.

Special Town Meeting Update: All the borrowing articles passed, and now the Select Board will set a ballot election date. The recommended date is January 10, 2017

### **Departmental Functions**

Safety Committee Update: The Safety Committee reviewed the insurance loss runs for FY 2016. The claims in all categories have dropped in number and the reserved exposure to the Town has also dropped compared to the prior year. The Committee has applied for a MIAA risk management grant application for \$15,000 for emergency signaling for police and fire vehicles along Route 9.

MS4 Stormwater Permit Update: The Town Meeting passed the borrowing for our compliance effort, and now it goes to the ballot for final approval. Marlo Warner and I are working with our engineers to implement the town's compliance efforts.

Election 2016: Early voting was a success with about 20% of registered voters showing up by close of business November 4. Unfortunately, MassDOT decided to pave the intersection of Routes 9 and 47 on Election Day, and there was a lot of inconvenience and confusion as a result. Overall election turnout exceeded 80%.

Audits: The FY 2015 audit is complete, and we are trying to schedule the auditor in for a presentation to the Board. The FY 2016 audit is underway, and the auditors are going to be on-site in mid-December.

### **Upcoming Projects and Events**

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| North Hadley Sugar Shack<br>Tractor Pull     | November 12, 2016 |
| Trivia Night at Mia Tierra<br>To Benefit COA | November 14, 2016 |
| Mothers' Club Holiday Festival:              | November 19, 2016 |
| Craft Fair at Hadley Farms                   | November 27, 2016 |
| Debt Exclusion Ballot:                       | January 10, 2017. |

Annual Town Meeting:

May 4, 2017.