

Memo

To: Mayor and Council
cc: Department Heads
From: Pat MacQueen
Date: November 1, 2010
Re: Manager's Report

Tax Rate Setting

The approved tax rate finally set by DRA is \$31.70/K.

BHA Pilot Payment

Attached is a letter from Mary-Jo Landry Executive Director of the Berlin Housing Authority which covered the BHA's payment in lieu of taxes to the City this year of \$11,228.33. This is up close to three thousand dollars over prior year payments and is greatly appreciated. The BHA has been faithfully making Pilot payments to the City for many years.

ATV Group Meeting

A meeting with some of the York Street residents and the group that has been the steering committee for the Cross-Town ATV trail met on Wednesday October 20, 2010. The residents had the opportunity to communicate in detail all of their concerns to the group and there was good discussion about how best to deal with the issues. There was consensus among the ATV group that the trail next spring should be put back through the Dead River Park and that steps should be taken to try to anticipate and deal with the known issues that that will create.

Visit from Senator Shaheen

Senator Shaheen paid Berlin a visit last Thursday. She toured the NSP project area on the east side and witnessed the dramatic change which occurred there.

NHDES Visit

Mike Wimsatt, John Reagan, Keith Dubois from NHDES and Peter Roth from the AG's office were in Berlin on October 20th, to look at various projects and issues in Berlin including the NFHP research buildings and the Notre Dame building. Andre Caron and I were able to talk with them also at some length about issues surrounding Dummer Yard.

Better Buildings Meeting

Last Tuesday another meeting was held at WMCC to continue planning the approach for Berlin with respect to its being one of three communities (with Nashua and Plymouth) to be chosen for this energy assistance program statewide. It is finally starting to sink in with the people running this program that Berlin is a very different community than either Nashua or Plymouth and that the program in Berlin will have to be structured quite differently than the program in those two communities simply because Berlin's demographics and housing stock are so different than those communities.

East Milan Road Paving

Sargent Construction had been able to isolate the remaining leaks in the new force main as being north of White Mountain Lumber. Sargent was therefore was able to pave last week the remaining unpaved trench all the way to the 12th Street Bridge. The first leak was an easy find as it was a cracked pipe. The second leak, which was very small leak, was the difficult one. Even when isolated as being above WML, it still had to be isolated section by section. It turned out to be a rubber gasket at a pipe joint fairly near the new pump station. It has been repaired and the force main is being pressure tested again. Hopefully, this second discovered leak will turn out to be the final leak. The paving from the Bridge to the urban compact line has also been ground in anticipation of final paving next year.

12th Street Bridge Project

The concrete for the bridge deck has been tested and is ready to go. The holdup at this point is the last expansion joint which is supposed to arrive this Wednesday. It will be installed as soon as it arrives and the concrete poured in place around it. Then it is simply a

matter of giving that concrete enough time to cure and doing some final paving. Based on this, they currently anticipate opening the bridge on the 15th of November.

Paving Projects

Both the Hutchins Street and the Highland Park paving projects are slated to begin this week. The iron has been removed from the street in these areas allowing these two paving projects to go forward.

Demolition Projects Underway

The demolition project contracts for 796 Western Avenue, 761 Second Ave, 169 Green Street and 692 Second Ave. have all been awarded and should get underway this week.

White Mountain Ridge Runners Thank You

Attached is a letter from the President of the White Mountain Ridge Runners snowmobile group thanking the City for its assistance in moving a portion of their access trail near the Dead River on City property to higher ground. A picture of the new trail with the old submerged trail to the left of it is attached.

Public Works Monthly Report

Attached.

Manager's Timekeeping

Attached.