

# Memo

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**cc:** Department Heads  
**From:** Pat MacQueen, City Manager  
**Date:** November 21, 2011  
**Re:** Manager's Report

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## **Laura Lee Viger Botanical Gardens**

The "Laura Lee Viger Botanical Gardens" are now carved in granite. If you haven't seen this very impressive naming of the Park for Laura, stop by the Park on Hutchins Street to see it. The engraver, Mark Boucher did a remarkable job of working this engraving into the existing ledge. This recognition of Laura will live for the ages.

## **Auditors**

The audit this year has been delayed twice for two different reasons. The first was due to the loss of our Finance Director and the second was due to the illness of Bob Vachon our contract auditor. We still don't have exact dates but are expecting that they will be here early in December.

## **Tax Bills**

The Finance Office has completed the work for the sending out of the tax bills with the \$31.70/K rate approved by the DRA. These bills will go out in the mail tomorrow with a due date of December 27, 2011.

### **Land, Hazardous Waste Cleanup and Demolition and Bids**

One bid was received on 11-17-11 for 818 Fourth Avenue which was the piece of land on which no abutters had bid previously. The bid received was in the amount of \$4,525 which is above the minimum bid of \$4,000. The couple that submitted this bid owns a nearby but not abutting property on Hinchey Street.

Bids for the hazardous waste cleanup of 49 Gilbert were also received. Four bids were received for this. Three of the bids were in the \$64K-\$78K range, but the apparent low from North Ridge Contracting, Inc. of Deerfield, NH came in at \$17,750.

Finally, bids for the demolition of parts of 49 Gilbert Street were also opened on 11-17-11. Seven bids were received ranging from apparent low at \$9,800 (Spears Bros.) to a high of \$36,800. This property was owned by the former Richards Construction Company and most recently by Joe Dimauro. There had been a fire in part of it a few years ago. The bidding for our demolition and abatement jobs continues to be very competitive which is to the great benefit of the City.

### **Pre-Bid Meeting for McGee Street and Kent Street I&I project**

The pre-bid meeting for this next I&I project was held on November 17, 2011. Wright Pierce was here to lead the meeting. Four potential bidders attended the pre-bid meeting. The work will involve 1,380 linear feet of sanitary sewer replacement on Kent Street, 460 linear feet of sewer replacement on McGee Street, 210 linear feet of Riverside Drive and 370 linear feet of a cross country line off of Riverside Drive, the rehabbing of 16 manholes along the WMCC interceptor and individual house separation of improper sewer connections. It will be a nine to ten month project starting this winter

### **Delay of Closing on CPD WWTF land**

The closing for the re-acquisition of the Clean Power Development 11.5 acres of land which surrounds the City WWTF was scheduled for tomorrow November 22, 2011. However, due to one of the Gestamp (now owner of CPD) principals being unable to attend, the closing has been postponed. No new date has yet been set but it should be soon.

**DON'T FORGET THE PARADE OF LIGHTS ON FRIDAY.**

**HAVE A GREAT THANKSGIVING!**