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To: Board of Selectmen  
From: William G. Keegan, Jr., Town Administrator  
CC: Assistant Town Administrator  
Date: January 4, 2013  
Re: Town Administrator's Report for January 3, 2013

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Happy New Year to everyone! Let's hope that 2013 is as productive as 2012 and that everyone achieves their goals for the New Year.

Some of the more notable reports that I received yesterday from Department Heads included the following:

- Police Chief D'Entremont reported that a second citizens academy will be starting later this month. The Chief will be meeting with the Retired Men's Club this month. In light of the recent tragedy in Newtown, Ct, there is now an increased Police presence at schools. Later this month the Chief will be meeting with Jason Mammone to discuss a new plan for business deliveries in the new Dedham Square. Detective Mahoney and the Chief met with Liberty Lane residents about concerns due to some recent crime activity in their neighborhood. The possibility now exists for a new Neighborhood Crime Watch to begin. The Chief met with his personnel last week to discuss some of the latest development concerning the new medical Marijuana law. The Chief inquired about the possibility of using some space at the old Avery School for some practice range simulator. The process of selecting the new 2012 Police Officer of the Year is now underway. An announcement will be made shortly.
- Acting Fire Chief Spillane reported that about the Fire Department responded to about 140 incident calls during 10 day holiday period.

Fortunately not many of the calls were fire related but there were a number of accident calls that required a response from the Department including a call on Monday, December 31 that involved a response from Needham Fire. The call involved a car accident where the person needed to be extracted from her vehicle using the Jaws of Life. The good news was that the victim was not seriously hurt as a result of the accident. The Chief is working with the Facilities Director on heating issues at the Central Fire Station. The Chief also suggested that there may be a need for some additional security lighting in the rear of the East Dedham Station to prevent vandalism. The Chief talked about maintenance agreement for portable radios. As a Town we have talked about the possibility of combining all radios under one contract for maintenance and we now intend to move forward on this new initiative. We need an accounting of all radio equipment from Police, Fire, DPW, Board of Health and Dispatch. Facilities will help to coordinate

- Finance Director Mariellen Murphy reported and the Director of Assessing concurred that property tax bills are now out. W2's for employees will be issued by the end of the month. Mariellen also noted that federal law now requires that the value of the health insurance benefits must now be reported on W2's but that this is for informational purposes only.
- Building Commissioner Ken Cimeno reported that the new mixed use office building located at 125 Washington Street in Dedham now has a Certificate of Occupancy. The 27 Bridge Street and Whiting Avenue projects are moving along and making good progress. The new Visions Health Care Building (formerly Sagra) ribbon cutting is set for 1/14/13.
- Town Planner Rich McCarthy reported that 1000 Washington Street and plans for a new assisted living facility located off of West Street are going before the Planning Board next month.
- Youth Commission Director Rob Blaney reported that the holiday gift giving events went great. He thanked all of those who donated this year's events. He reported that over 400 children were served by the gift giving program during the holidays. He also reported that they have a new program with Dedham Housing Authority where they meet at the Veterans Road clubhouse every Wednesday to assist kids with homework. He said about 15 kids from first grade to middle school attend on a regular basis. Plans are now under way for their spring programs. They are seeking additional funding sources to expand the Rise and College Bound programs as interest in these programs is rising.