
Town Administrator's Report

Date: May 8, 2008

-Preparation for Town Meeting- This past week we have been preparing for the Annual Town Meeting on May 19, 2008. The Town Meeting Warrants have been sent to all Town Meeting Representatives and we are addressing all last minute questions and concerns that typically occur at this time of year.

-Meeting with the BPPC- A meeting of the Building, Planning and Construction Committee was held on Tuesday to go over last minute issues concerning the Senior Center Project. Chairman Naser will be presenting this project at Town Meeting and he has been soliciting comments and ideas concerning the presentation. The primary concern that has been heard is the cost of the project and Mr. Naser is going to present as much information as possible to address it. If the project is supported by a two-thirds majority vote in favor of the project, it will then go to a Special Election in June to see if the Town will vote to support the funding.

-Update on the St. Mary's Land Purchase- I have been working very closely with Jim Elcock of the Real Estate firm of Meredith and Grew regarding the purchase of this land. The Town will soon be the owner of this land and I have been given no indication that this position will change. The problem in finalizing this purchase has been with the Arch Diocese in Boston in getting their real estate attorney to resolve a registered land issue with the parcel. I was informed by Mr. Elcock that the Arch Diocese is very unhappy with their law firm in not getting this matter closed. They obviously have a real interest in resolving this so that they can be paid for the parcel. We have done all of our due diligence in this matter and have had that work completed for several months now. The latest communication from the Agent is that the Arch Diocese is contemplating a change in the attorney handling this transaction so that it can be resolved soon. Mr. Elcock has requested a written report on my behalf from the Arch Diocese on the status of this matter. I also have a call into the Manager of the Arch Diocese's Real Estate Office to learn first hand on how transaction is proceeding. I do expect some movement in the very near future to get this transaction closed. I want to stress the fact that the Town has expended only a limited amount of its resources toward this transaction and that the bulk of the work remains on the end of the Arch Diocese.

-Road Paving- This week the Public Works Department is coordinating pavement work on Jersey, Wentworth, Curve and Turner Streets. In all cases the first coat or "binder" coat should be done this week and the finish pavement should be done within the next 3 to 4 weeks. This work is weather sensitive and could get pushed back if we have several rain events that result in a change of schedule for the contractor.

-Trash Program- As indicated in my last Report, I was planning to present this issue to the Board at your May 8 meeting. I have worked on the presentation but have also been evaluating other cost considerations during the past few days and have decided to postpone this discussion until I am fully comfortable with the proposal that I have received. I will keep the Board informed of my progress.
