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## TOWN OF SUTTON OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

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### MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** SELECT BOARD  
**FROM:** JAMES SMITH  
**SUBJECT:** TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE  
**DATE:** 3/10/2020

The following is an update of projects and activities for your information

- 1) Sewer project-we are currently planning on presenting the sewer project at the next Select Board's meeting on March 24. Our plan is to have On-Site engineering and McClure engineering in attendance. The whole team will also present to the finance committee meeting on Wednesday, April 1, 2020.
- 2) Special Education Stabilization Fund policy-we just considered the Stabilization Fund policy and next up we will present the Special Education Stabilization Fund policy which was last revised in June 2017. As you are aware special education costs are putting significant strain on the School Department budget. We are currently working with the school administration to come up with a solution for these unpredictable costs.
- 3) Green Communities grant-We will not be eligible to apply for Green Communities grant this year. An oversight occurred in filing required paperwork on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. while the paperwork was filed it did not have a new piece of information that was requested from the Green Communities program. We were going to request \$100,000 for the LED replacement project at the Middle School/High School. We will file this request next year. While it is unfortunate, Green Communities has been cutting back to communities that have received \$1 million in funding, because of the number of communities that are now eligible for funding. The program stated that those

communities would only be eligible to receive \$100,000 in future funding. This program has been a great funding source to help the town of Sutton reduce our energy consumption by 35% and greatly reducing our utility bills.

- 4) Coronavirus Update-on March 2 we participated in a conference call with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Cheryl Rawinski is taking the lead for the town of Sutton. An advisory to residents has been posted on social media. Cheryl has stated that the best thing we can do as a community is to follow normal flu precautions. We will continue to keep you updated on this issue.
- 5) Gear Washer/Extractor Grant-the town of Sutton Washer was awarded another Extractor Equipment Grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) and the Department of Fire Services (DFS). We will now have three of these machines to effectively clean firefighter turnout gear after it has been exposed to smoke, ash, or other hazardous materials so that firefighters do not have to wear contaminated gear.
- 6) Early Voting Presidential primary- early Voting went from February 24 through February 28. In total there were 336 individuals that voted early.

Reminders: Town Meeting and Town Election-the schedule for town meeting and town election are attached. The annual town meeting will be held on Monday May 11, 2020 and the Town election will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2020.

Sutton Spring 5K road race-the Sutton Parent Teachers Organization will be sponsoring a road race on Sunday, May 31 at 8:30 AM starting at the school property. This is a fundraiser for the PTO.