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TOWN OF SUTTON OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

TO: SELECT BOARD
FROM: JAMES SMITH
SUBJECT: TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE
DATE: 9/27/2022

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

1. Grants received- I am pleased to announce the Town has been awarded two grants.

The first is a Municipal Vulnerability Program award in the amount of \$75,000. This grant will be used to conduct a hydrologic evaluation in the village of Manchaug with the aim of improving the flow of water in the area and mitigating the threat of future flooding.

The second is a Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities, also known as a PARC grant in the amount of \$85,800. The project will include the installation of four play elements, fencing, benches, picnic tables, bike rack, environmental signage and an ADA accessible pathway from the parking lot to the playground at Van Dyke Park Playground in South Sutton.

I would like to thank Jen Hager, the Director of Planning & Economic Development on securing these grants to support our efforts.

2. Fiber Project- after further discussions we have decided to move forward on the entire project and not stopping at the Wilkinsonville water tower on Dodge Hill Road. Instead we will continue beyond the water tower on Dodge Hill Road and continue on to Central Turnpike. At this point we will need some help from National grid to install telephone poles at certain sections of Central Turnpike.

Once that is complete we will run down Central Turnpike to Purgatory Road. From there we would take Purgatory Road to Southwick Road; Southwick Road to Mendon Road; Mendon Road to Barnett Road; Barnett Road to Whitins Road; and Whitins Road to Hough Road terminating at the Sewer Department Communication tower. We have a meeting scheduled for Friday, September 30 with Brian Hopkins from our vendor Comm Tract.

The quote to run fiber to Wilkes Water Tower is \$479,000. Thanks to Ryan Fattman and Joe McKenna we have received \$250,000 as an earmark in the State budget and we have also received \$200,000 in a State fiber grant courtesy of Pam Nichols and Paul Maynard and we have a \$150,000 capital plan appropriation.

3. Fall Chapter 90 projects-we are planning on doing the following pavement this coming fall: Smith Road from Stone School Road heading north to end of road; Lincoln Road from Central Turnpike, South to the Northbridge line; Carr Street from the Northbridge line to Mendon Road; Barnett Road from Whitinsville Road to Quabbin Path; Fuller Road; and Waters Road from Douglas Road to the end.
4. National Grid's increase in winter rates-on Wednesday, September 21 National Grid announced their intent to raise winter rates effective November 1, 2022. National grid's current residential basic supply price is 11.49 cents per kilowatt hour. National grid is proposing to raise these rates to 33.89 cents per kilowatt hour for the winter. The Atty. Gen. for the state of Massachusetts is involved with this rate proposal. The town of Sutton power choice option is 10.65 cents per kilowatt hour. The town of Sutton's agreement goes until January 1, 2024.
5. COVID booster clinic-will be held on Saturday, October 1, 2022 from 10 AM to 12 noon. This clinic is available to all Sutton residents. Residents must pre-register using the link found on the town's website at www.SuttonMA.org.
6. Employee appreciation Day cookout-will be held on Tuesday, October 4 from 11:30 AM-1PM at the Sutton Senior center 19 Hough Road. The Board is invited to attend.
7. Brush Chipping day-residents with transfer station stickers will be able to bring their brush to the transfer station on Saturday, October 15 from 8 AM to noon.

Reminder: Fall Town meeting-will be held on Monday, October 17 at 7 PM in the Middle School/ High School Auditorium.