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TOWN OF SUTTON OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

TO: BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FROM: JAMES SMITH
SUBJECT: TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE
DATE: 10/1/2019

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

- 1) Opioid Litigation update-as you may be aware the town of Sutton joined a Mass Tort litigation in February 2018 to sue big pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors for their alleged roles in opioid addiction. KP law is one of a group of attorneys that is leading this effort. The judge overseeing this issue signed an order last week creating a negotiation class for the opioid litigation. The town of Sutton has until November 22, 2019 to decide if we would like to remain in the Negotiation Class or opt-out. I've enclosed information on a number of videos and webinars that explain our options. My recommendation to the Board is that we stay in the Negotiation Class with 34,000 entities versus opting out and going it alone.
- 2) Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Community (MVP)-we were recently notified by the State of Massachusetts that Sutton was designated as an MVP community. I would like to thank Doreen DeFazio for all her efforts in preparing the plan that was approved by the state. As a result the town will apply, at the next funding opportunity, to address the 40-year-old sewer pipe that serves the Wilkinsonville neighborhood.
- 3) Goddard Lodge Painting-the town put in a request to the Sheriff's office for assistance in painting Goddard Lodge. For the past couple week's inmates have been painting the exterior and interior of the Lodge. I like to thank Sheriff Lew Evangelidis for his assistance and Building Commissioner John Couture for his oversight of this project.
- 4) Unity Park grant-on Wednesday, September 25 the town of Sutton received a \$100,000 grant from the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) through the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. These funds will go towards renovations at Unity Park. I

would like to thank the Jen Hager and the Unity Park Committee for all their efforts on this application.

- 5) Library sidewalk- the improvements in front of the library are almost complete. There were no change orders and Mattero construction will wrap up the project shortly. I would like to thank the library staff and patrons for their patience during this work.
- 6) Temporary Vaping Ban products- on Tuesday, September 24 Gov. Baker declared a public health emergency in the state of Massachusetts due to E cigarettes and vaping products. The order last for 4 months and may be extended. The order temporarily prohibits the sale and public display of all vaping products in retail establishments, online, and by any other means in Massachusetts. The town's public health director Cheryl Rawinski has visited all the local establishments and had the establishment sign off as to the receipt of this ban.
- 7) Flu clinics-will be held at the senior center on Thursday, October 3 from 9am-12noon and Tuesday, October 8 from 4 PM to 7 PM at town hall. Please bring your health insurance card. There will be additional flu clinics scheduled through the health department and we will provide a list of these clinics.
- 8) Brush chipping-Will take place at the transfer station on Saturday, October 19 from 8 AM to 12 noon.
- 9) Marion's Camp cookout-on Saturday, October 12, 2019 a cookout will take place at Marion's camp from 11 AM to 3 PM. Burgers and hotdogs will be provided. Individuals can bring snacks or side dish and beverages.

Reminder: Central Turnpike repaving-the town received the signed contract back from JH Lynch for Central Turnpike. They are scheduled to start in the month of October. The work should take 30-45 days to complete.