

Town Manager's Report

October 23, 2017

VTrans Grants Awarded

Two grants have been awarded to the Town. One is for \$47,950 with an equal match. It is to be used for pedestrian improvements and a green strip on Main Street between Summer and Valley Streets.

The second grant is for \$156,320 and it requires a 20% match. This grant provides additional funds to complete the South Street Sidewalk.

TIF Schedule

The State has inform White and Burke that a TIF application will not be accepted until the Town wide reappraisal is complete. More specifically, the Selectboard can't hold a public hearing on the TIF District Plan until the reappraisal numbers have been released. Based upon that information the draft schedule is as follows:

1. May to mid-June 2018: Selectboard public meetings on TIF District Plan
2. End of June 2018: Submit TIF District Plan to VEPC
3. July to September 2018: VEPC hearings
4. November 2018 or March 2019: Public bond vote for public infrastructure project(s)

In general town staff has been and continues to work with White and Burke providing information that will enable them to complete the feasibility study. By the end of November there should be a preliminary feasibility conclusion.

Water and Sewer Delinquency Update

The Town Hall Finance Department and the Water Department have been diligently working to reduce the water and sewer delinquencies by requiring stringent adherence to payment contracts, timely water shut-offs for non-compliance of payment contracts and tax sales for the largest delinquent accounts. The departments are now maintaining consistency and accountability with all accounts and that will lead to future delinquency reductions.

The delinquencies were first reported to Selectboard on June 13, 2016 and the amount was \$259,000. The current delinquency amount is \$135,384 which is a total reduction of \$123,166. Work to further reduce the delinquencies will continue.

Reappraisal Progress Report – October 20th, 2017

NEMC has just begun the ninth batch of data collection for the 2018 Reappraisal. At this point, 90% of all residential property has received mailing notice. Roughly 84% of residential property has at least been visited once. We will continue to visit properties and send initial notices to those who have gone unseen. After that initial completion, we will mail notices to residents in previous maps who haven't had interior inspections. This will undoubtedly create a better entry rate.

Income and expense notices will be sent to commercial property owners within the next 30 days. We ask for full cooperation in order to accurately assess value with the more trusted approach. The information is kept confidential to the Assessor/Listeners Office. We will determine whether a second batch of I&E forms are necessary; depending on initial response.

Over the next few months, data collection will resume for commercial property. More recently, we have been viewing the remaining residential property. The current sections of town being viewed are areas that include commercial property. We ask that business owners allow data collection in order to confirm physical attributes.

We have enjoyed working in Springfield. Residents have been very accommodating with data collectors. Springfield Police continue to be updated on our daily whereabouts.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Krajewski, New England Municipal Consultants