

Town Manager's Report

November 13, 2017

Solar Project at Public Works Facility

The Rare, Threatened or Endangered Species study was completed before the annual October deadline and the permit is being prepared. The developer is waiting on Green Mountain Power to officially sanction the site and provide an approval so that approvals from the PUC can proceed and the Certificate of Public Good can be obtained.

This project is moving more slowly than other solar projects the developer is doing since it is the end of the year and lots of other projects are more important to GMP and the PUC than this one. The developer is trying to get GMP to commit to connect another installation going in the Town of Hartford before the end of the year and they simply won't make any promises.

Police Department Energy Conservation Project

The lighting fixtures have arrived and the electrician has started the project. The project will be completed before the end of the calendar year.

New Grant Award

A new grant has been awarded from the Ecosystem Restoration Grant funding through the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation's Clean Water Initiative Program (CWIP) on behalf of the Ottauquechee Natural Resources Conservation District. The Ecosystem Restoration Project Selection Committee has selected the Springfield Transfer Station Infiltration Chamber/Riparian Buffer Implementation to be funded. The Ottauquechee Natural Resources Conservation District has been selected to receive up to \$141,032 for the project pending a Vermont DEC hazardous waste site review approval.

Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Update

After the completion of this summer's project, the Town has completed all CSO locations that the State is going to make us modify. Since 1995 there has been approximately \$9.75 million spent on CSO projects. This will have a significant impact on keeping the river clean and Springfield is far ahead of other municipalities in the State. This will also enable future bonds to concentrate on community and economic development efforts.

CDBG Award for Woolson Block

\$400,000 has been awarded for the Woolson Block project. \$750,000 was requested and it has been suggested that the \$350,000 shortfall will come from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. An award ceremony in Springfield is tentatively scheduled for either the week of 11/13 or 11/20. The governor is likely to attend.

Brownfields Grant Application

Funds to deal with the evaluation and clean-up of Brownfields-type contamination are being sought through a joint effort organized by Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission. The Regional Planning Commission, SRDC and the Town of Springfield are all potential grantees. As the redevelopment of the downtown continues Brownfields-type contamination will likely be discovered and this funding will enable us to deal with it.

VOSHA Inspection

VOSHA Inspectors appeared, unannounced, on August 21st and proceeded to inspect the Town facilities. They identified many inferior items and requested corresponding improvements. There were several items mentioned in citations. However, there were only two (2) citation items upon which fines were issued. All the cited items have corrected and a meeting is schedule on November 16th to discuss the fines. Our goal is to get the fines eliminated.