



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Wrentham
Board of Selectmen
79 South Street, Wrentham, MA 02093

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Memorandum

To: Board of Selectmen

From: Town Administrator

Re: Town Administrator's Report
December 12 – December 30, 2014

Date: December 30, 2014

FY 2016 Budget

On December 22nd Chairman Kennedy, Finance Chairman McGovern and I attended the meeting of the King Philip Regional School District Finance sub-committee. Representatives of the Towns of Norfolk and Plainville also attended. There was general agreement as to the need to change the submission date of the KP budget from February as required by the Regional School Agreement to a later date. It was generally felt that changing the date to March 15th would be desirable. This will be proposed as a warrant article at each of the three town meetings. There was discussion of keeping budget requests to a number which the towns can sustain through normal revenue growth. In the case of Wrentham, this would limit a KP request for increase in the assessment to 4%.

Telephone System

The selection committee, after meeting with two vendors, met on December 17th and selected BETCO, Boston Electric and Telephone Corp., as the vendor under the State telephone contract ITT 50. The system proposed is generally to use an NEC SV9100 system over Comcast while retaining some Verizon copper connections to insure continued connections to all town facilities in the event of internet outages. The school buildings are currently connected by fiber, but no fiber connections exist between any other town buildings. Connectivity using the planned radio tower and the cost of dedicated between building fiber will be investigated and the final design will allow for upgrading connections in the future depending upon cost, and for adding the Public Safety Building after the relocation of dispatch. The goal is to upgrade the system and to allow for future improvement. BETCO is visiting town facilities to prepare a final contract proposal for review by the Town.

Union Negotiations

I have now received proposals from both the Public Works and Clerical Unions. I am currently reviewing these with the effected department heads who will also be assisting me in developing town proposals. The next meetings are scheduled for January 15th.

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Regional Dispatch

The MECC Board met on December 16th and selected Jacunski-Humes as the architect at an agreed fee of \$180,000.

The MECC is negotiating a lease of space in the Town of Norfolk's recently acquired site. An issue has been raised that the existing Inter-Municipal Agreement will expire in 2020 and that a longer term lease may be desirable to the MECC. The change in the term of the Inter-Municipal Agreement would require the approval of each of the four towns, in Wrentham's case through the Board of Selectmen. The maximum term of an Inter-Municipal Agreement is 25 years.

Capital Budget Planning Committee

The Committee met on December 15th to hear presentations by the Finance Department and the Department of Public Works. The next meeting is on January 12th.

Donation Report

Attached is the Quarterly Donation Report.

Recommended Action: That the Board vote to accept the report and donations and authorize their expenditure by both donor departments.

WK/nal

Attachment