



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Wrentham
Board of Selectmen
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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Selectmen

From: William Ketcham, Town Administrator

Re: Town Administrator's Report October 1st – 15th, 2015

Date: October 15, 2015

Procurements

I have advertised for a designer for the Rice Field building. The RFQ was advertised in the Central Register and the Sun Chronicle on October 14th. Copies have been requested by eleven firms. A site inspection is scheduled for October 21st and responses are due by October 30th. Bids for winter salt have been received with prices ranging from \$65.80 to \$68.00 delivered or \$64.00 to \$68.00 picked up.

Inquiries about Cell Tower location

I have received several contacts relating to efforts to locate a cell tower in the Route 495 corridor in Wrentham. Cell providers have expressed that coverage is needed in this area. I have also been contacted by homeowners who are very concerned that a tower might be located near their homes. The Town's present by-law allows siting in a CRSP zone in connection with town communication facilities.

I was recently contacted by an attorney for Verizon expressing interest in a portion of the Wollomonopoag property. I have spoken with the Chairman of the Conservation Commission and the Conservation Agent in regard to this interest and provided it stays away from wetlands and sensitive areas it seemed to them to be a good alternative to a siting on private property which might be less desirable due to its nearness to residences. I have asked that Verizon identify the particular site on town property that they are interested in. Town meeting authorization is necessary for the lease of the property. I have asked town counsel to prepare the article.

Town Meeting

Staff is preparing for town meeting on November 9th. I met with the General By-Law Review committee on October 14th. The committee voted to support the bylaw change requested by the Capital Budget Planning Committee and by-law for the establishment of a department of planning and development. They felt that the by-law for the establishment of an Inspectional Services Department needed some additional drafting work. Town Counsel is presently reviewing the draft warrant. The Finance Committee will meet on October 19th and the Capital Budget Planning Committee will meet on October 21st.

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Union Negotiations

The Wrentham Police Association has agreed to a contract modification which would allow the Chief with the approval of the Town Administrator to allow additional vacation time to officers who transfer into the Wrentham Police Department. This should assist the department in attracting and retaining experienced officers.

The Public Works union has agreed to a wage rate for the new position of Building Maintenance Worker / Groundskeeper which was funded in the FY 2016 budget.

On October 15th I met with representatives of the Clerical Union, whose last contract expired on June 30, 2015. We have scheduled another meeting for October 29, 2015. I will discuss the negotiation further with the Board in executive session.

WFK/amr