

MEMORANDUM



To: Bedford Town Council
From: Rick Sawyer, Town Manager
Date: March 16, 2017
Re: **Manager's Report**

News & Noteworthy:

- 1) On Tuesday March 14th Moody's Investors Service issued the Town of Bedford an Aaa Bond Rating in anticipation of our \$11 million general obligation bond to be sold on March 22, 2017 for the next two years of the Roads Program. Bedford continues to be Moody's only Aaa community in the State of NH and Bedford has retained Aaa status since first achieving it in 2011. Moody's cited, as factors in its rating, the Town's strong financial policies, supported by conservative fiscal management, ample reserves, long-term operating stability and low debt burden. The rating also considers the Town's sizable and diverse tax base, and the high wealth levels of the population. The Notice of Sale for the Bond was made on March 15th.
- 2) Registration for Camp Witzel summer camp and other summer camp programs are now open and information is available through the Recreation page of the Town Website <http://bedfordreconline.com/info/activities/>
- 3) New Fire Engine – We have received word that our new fire engine is ready for final inspection so Chief Wiggin and members of his team will be traveling to Michigan to complete the inspection. Delivery is expect in 6-8 weeks.
- 4) Swift Water Rescue teams from the New England states, New York, and FEMA will be training in the Merrimack River March 24-31 with assistance and training by our team during the week.

Project Updates:

- 1) 2017 Roads Program – The Department of Public Works held an Open House on Saturday, March 4th which was well attended by residents in the area of 1st through 4th Streets, Wilkins Street, Hilltop Drive, Plymouth Street, Worthy Road, and Donald Street.
- 2) Land Mobile Radio Maintenance – The RFP for a complete and comprehensive plan to assess and maintain the Bedford emergency radio system has been issued with proposals due back on March 15th. A vendor is expected to be chosen by April 1st.
- 3) Chubbuck Road Cell Tower – A preliminary request has been submitted by Blue Sky Towers, LLC to place a cell tower in the same location that was previously pursued by Crown Castle in the area of the former firing range that the town owns off of Chubbuck Road. I am pursuing a contract with a consultant to provide the Council with an independent review of the proposal prior to bringing it forward for consideration.
- 4) Facilities Master Plan – The RFP for the plan has been issued with a pre-bid meeting to take place with any interested parties on March 23rd with bids due on March 30th.

- 5) Town Website – The Bedford mobile application has been released by Apple and Google and can be found by searching “Bedford NH”. (picture to the right)
- 6) Town Wide Revaluation – The project has been initiated with a meeting DRA and the issuance of commercial and industrial expense requests.
- 7) Personnel: Jim Stanford’s last day as Public Works Director is March 17th and I will be making a recommendation to fill the position at the March 20th Council meeting. One of our tax office window clerks positions will be vacated at the end of the month and a posting for the position has already produced over 30 applications in the first week. A posting for our new Production Coordinator at BCTV/WBNH has be issued, and one position at the Library is also open.



Events:

- March 19th – Sunday Matinee Series, 2 PM, Bedford Library, “Florence Foster Jenkins”.
- March 23rd – Becoming Age-Friendly a Bedford Community Assessment hosted by Southern NH Planning Commission, 6:30-8 PM, Bedford Library.
- March 27th – BeBOLD Bedford, Social & Legal Implications of Underage Alcohol Parties, 7 PM, Bedford Library.
- April 2nd – Sunday Concert Series, 2:30 PM, Bedford Library, the “Bel Airs”.
- April 2nd – BeBOLD Bedford, 2nd Annual Breaking the Silence - Drug & Alcohol Awareness Event for parents and children, 6-8 PM, Bedford Presbyterian Church.

Upcoming Meetings:

- **March 20th – 7:00 PM, Town Council**
- March 21st – 7:00 PM, Zoning Board
- March 22nd – 7:00 PM, Parks & Recreation Commission
- March 23rd – 7:00 PM, Energy Commission
- **March 25th – 8:30 AM, Town Council Retreat**
- March 27th – 7:00 PM, Planning Board
- March 28th – 7:15 AM, Highway Safety Committee
- March 28th – 7:00 PM, Conservation Commission
- April 4th – 7:00 PM, Historic District Commission
- **April 5th – 7:00 PM, Town Council**

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