

# MEMORANDUM

To: Bedford Town Council  
From: Rick Sawyer, Town Manager  
Date: May 19, 2022  
Re: **Manager's Report**

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## News & Noteworthy:

- 1) The Bedford Memorial Day Parade will be held Sunday, May 29, 2022 starting at the High School at 1 PM and traveling down County Road to the McKelvie Intermediate School. At the conclusion of the parade the Richard K. Harvell VFW Post will conduct a service to honor and remember our fallen service members and the Bedford Men's Club will have refreshments available.



- 2) PFAS Contamination – NHDES held a virtual public information meeting on May 4<sup>th</sup> where they described their recent agreement with Saint-Gobain that provides for point of entry treatment systems and a few public water connections for properties south of Country Road and East of Liberty Hill Road. To see if your specific property has been identified for a solution, please see the agreement on the NHDES website or the Town website at: [NHDES-Press-Release-on-partial-PFAS-mitigation-4-18-2022](#) No information has been provided for the remaining properties in the Saint-Gobain consent decree area. A video recording of the meeting is available through BCTV on demand and the NHDES YouTube site.

Saint Gobain is continuing to test a large number of private wells in southeastern Bedford. If you have received a request for well testing from Golder Associates it is critical that you sign the agreement and return the paperwork as soon as possible.

Outside of the Saint-Gobain area of responsibility (generally north of Route 101) residents can request that their well water be tested by submitting an application through the NHDES website at: <https://www4.des.state.nh.us/nh-pfas-investigation/> NHDES is also sending letters to residents in this area that are within 500 feet of a well that has tested above the PFAS limits requesting to test your well.

The Department of Public Works has submitted a \$1.5M grant request with NHDES in hopes of being able to extend a public water main down Bedford Center Road to Primary Plaza to address PFAS contamination in that area.

The Town has also submitted a grant that would allow for the reimbursement of property owners up to \$6,500 who are outside of the Saint-Gobain consent decree area that have PFAS readings above State standards who install treatment systems or connect to public water. Both grants are awaiting State approval.

- 3) The last day to make party affiliation changes prior to the September 13, 2022 Primary Election is Tuesday, May 31, 2022. You can check your affiliation through the Secretary of State's website at: <https://www.sos.nh.gov/>
- 4) The filing period for candidacy for the State Primary Election and General Election is June 1-10. All those filing for office must be registered voters by May 31.

- 5) Tax bills are being mailed this week with a July 1<sup>st</sup> due date. The first bill of the year is based on the tax rate set in 2021 with property valuation updates made for any changes to the property completed by April 1, 2022. 41 tax liens have been issued, which is down from 66 a year ago.
- 6) The Town of Bedford has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for our 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report from the Government Finance Officers Association. This marks the 17<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that our Finance team has achieved this recognition. Congratulations!
- 7) The Bedford PTG Color Blast Fun Run will take place on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 AM at the High School and running down Nashua Road to Hamilton Way. Please avoid the area if you are not participating.
- 8) The Bedford Library and Bedford Police Department will host a free session on *How to Identify and Avoid Internet and Phone Scams* for people of all ages, Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-2:30 PM at the Library. Preregistration is encourage on the Library website.
- 9) The Bedford Historical Society Annual Clothing Drive runs through May 26<sup>th</sup> and donations can be placed in the U-Haul bin placed in front of the Stevens Buswell Building during the day.
- 10) Please register your dog(s) prior to June 1<sup>st</sup> in order to avoid any late fees for 2022.
- 11) The Bedford Farmers Market opens June 14<sup>th</sup> and continues on Tuesdays from 3-6 PM until October 11<sup>th</sup> at Murphy's Taproom parking lot, 393 Route 101.
- 12) Bedford Memorial Pool – The pool is scheduled to open on Father's Day, June 19<sup>th</sup>. Seasonal pool passes are available through the Recreation Department: single \$75, family \$125, and family with baby sitter \$145. Passes are free for those over 60 years of age.
- 13) The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the Bedford Fire Department is being celebrated this year and a traditional firefighter muster will take place as part of the celebration on June 25<sup>th</sup> starting at 11:00 AM at Legacy Park.
- 14) Registration for Camp Witzel summer camp and other summer camp programs is open and information is available through the Recreation page of the Town Website <https://bedfordnh.myrec.com>

### How to Identify and Avoid Internet and Phone Scams



**Wednesday, May 25 1:30pm - 2:30pm  
Bedford Public Library**

#### **Project Updates:**

- 1) DPW Accreditation – Our DPW team has been working the last two years on becoming accredited by updating and creating policies and procedures for all of their responsibilities and will have a review over several days starting on June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 2) 2022 Roads Program – Crews have paved Dam and Beaver Brook Roads and tree clearing has been completed on Polly Peabody Road, which is scheduled to be upgraded to a paved road this year.

- 3) Personnel – The organization continues to be impacted by COVID with several people out in various departments each week. The Assistant Forman at the Transfer Station has given notice, which now makes 2.5 openings in DPW and 1 other is on extended light duty. One firefighter has given notice, which makes 3 openings plus two remain out on extended leave. The Police Department has 1 patrol and 1 Accreditation Manager/Analyst position open. One officer will be graduating the Academy soon. Interviews have been taking place for the Deputy Town Clerk position, which can only be filled by Bedford residents. Those interested should contact the Town Clerk for more information. Applications are also being accepted for the Director of Strategic Initiatives.
- 4) Collective Bargaining Agreements – Initial meetings have been held with the Fire & DPW unions.

**Events:**

- May 21 - The Bedford Garden Club will be holding a Plant Sale at the Bedford Village Common, 15 Bell Hill Road, 11 AM - 2 PM.
- May 22 - The Bedford PTG Color Blast Fun Run at the High School, 9:30 AM.
- May 29 – Police Department Bicycle Rodeo at the High School, 10:00 – Noon
- May 29 – Memorial Day Parade, 1 PM, Bedford High School to McKelvie Intermediate School via County Road with a theme of "Freedom through Unity".
- May 29 – Bedford Library Closed for Memorial Day.
- May 30 – Bedford Town Offices, Library, Transfer Station, & BCTV Closed for Memorial Day.
- June 4 – Bedford High School Graduation, 10 AM.
- June 14 – Bedford Farmers Market opens for the season, Tuesdays, 3-6 PM, 393 Route 101 Murphy's Taproom.
- June 25 – Household Hazardous Waste Day, 8:30 AM – 3 PM, Highway Garage, 19 Chubbuck Road.
- June 25 - The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the Bedford Fire Department is being celebrated with a traditional muster at Legacy Park, 11 AM.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- May 23 – 7:00 PM, Planning Board Workshop
- ~~May 24 – 7:15 AM, Highway Safety Committee~~
- May 24 – 7:00 PM, Conservation Commission
- **May 25 – 7:00 PM, Town Council**
- May 26 – 7:00 PM, Energy Commission
- May 27 – 9:00 AM, Telecommunications
- June 7 – 7:00 PM, Historic District Commission
- **June 8 – 7:00 PM, Town Council**
- June 9 – 7:45 AM Water & Sewer Committee
- ~~June 9 – 9:00 AM, Poles & Wires Committee~~
- June 13 – 7:00 PM, Planning Board
- June 21 – 7:00 PM, Zoning Board
- **June 22 – 7:00 PM, Town Council**

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