

City of Sanford



**From the Desk of
Steven R. Buck
City Manager**



Memorandum

To: City Council

Subject: Manager's Report for February 16th, 2016

Date: February 16th, 2016

Broadband –

There have been several recent developments on the pending construction of the Municipal Broadband Fiber Optic Network as follows:

Administration met last week with our partner GWI who is providing the system engineering and design and will operate and light the system post construction. The timeline is fully developed for each of the critical steps in the process of completing the 32 miles of fiber optic network. The Timeline span 18 to 24 months from the time the City submits for leveraged funding, secures the final funding, and then issues a notice to proceed to Next Gen our construction partner and GWI our operator. Funding applications have been competed for the Federal Economic Development Authority, have been drafted for Community Development Block Grant, and are pending to Maine Schools and Libraries or the Federal E-Rate program.

The City has also drafted an application to the USDA and EPA for the recently announced Cool and Connected Grant opportunity. The Cool and Connected Grant is a collaborative between the USDA and EPA to provide consultants to the 5 awarded Communities to develop a plan to foster pace-based redevelopment. The City seeks to link our former industrialized complexes and our use of EPA Brownfield funds to our emerging specialty agricultural base and Food Hub. The City will be competing for one of the five awards nationally and therefore seeks to demonstrate the unique opportunities that Sanford is working to create through its Broadband Initiative, Downtown redevelopment, Mill Yard redevelopment, and Agricultural Food Hub. The submission is due by March 1st.

The City has also conferenced with an existing large Company who is very reliant upon technology, broadband, and connectivity for daily operations. Administration as well as GWI engineers collaborated during the conference. The takeaway was that Sanford's design of the Open Access Non-Discriminatory Dark and Lit Fiber Optic System is exactly what the Company needs and will take upon construction. These interviews and meeting have continued to ensure that the final system design and layout maximizes business opportunity and provides for a wide array of business needs.

The City has also started the process of applying for the Pole Permits necessary to permit the placement and construction of the fiber optic cable on existing utility poles in the dedicated space.

Emerson School:

Cumberland Farms recently delayed their final presentation before the planning board this month as they are continuing final design, engineering, and cost estimates for the intersection improvements for the Project. Once finalized, they will be back before the Planning Board likely in March.

Medical Marijuana Moratorium Extension:

The City Council will be considering the extension of the current Medical Marijuana Moratorium for up to an additional six (6) months. The reason for the consideration for the extension stems from the large amount of public input at both the Planning Board and City Council public hearings requesting that the City consider further work/amendments in the following areas:

- Review Sanford's Ordinance Amendments in relation to the currently pending Town of York Case based upon a pending ruling
- Address Inspection Protocols for life safety codes, if any are made post production, to ensure contamination is not an issue within a clean room environment
- Further clarification on Odor Standards and their application universally as a Nuisance
- Further delineate Accessory Use, Home Occupation, and Production Facilities and the associated standards, if any, for each
- Further review of the Setback Standards for the various levels of use
- Clarification on the sale of paraphernalia as it relates to registered care givers and properties
- Address the density standards within multifamily homes as necessary
- References to Code standards for waste disposal, Sewer District regulations, and State standards as may be applicable
- Amend or strike language on limits of liability
- Further perspectives on Licensing and when and where it is deemed appropriate relating to life safety codes
- Others as may be identified

SWOT Analysis:

Both City Administration and the City Council have completed a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats analysis for Municipal Service provisions as well as Sanford as a City. A summary of the initial Analysis will be presented during the City Council meeting on February 16th, 2016 as an update to the Residents. The City Council will work with Administration to further delineate and prioritize this SWOT Analysis to be used towards the development of both long and short term Goals for the Council's top priorities. The Council will then direct Administration to develop the Objectives for each Goal with the finalized results to become an Action Plan for the City Council as it strives to improve upon service provision and financial sustainability of Municipal Services. The Council will continue to report out the progress as made towards the final Plan.

School Construction:

Members of the Core Building Committee, a Committee appointed by the City Council and delegated the authority to develop the New Sanford High School, traveled to Augusta last Wednesday, February 10th, to present the Final Design and Project Budget to the Maine Department of Education (DOE) Board of Directors. Presenting to the Board was State Architect Scott Brown, Superintendent David Theoharides, City Manager Steven Buck, and Project Architect Lance Whitehead of Lavallee-Brensinger. The Group presented the last step in the process seeking confirmation and approval from the DOE that the Project has been designed to meet the educational needs of the students in compliance with State and Local laws and that the Project is within the State and Locally approved Budget. After presentations mr. Brown and Sanford Representatives and after questions were answered to the DOE, the Maine Department of Education Board voted unanimously to approve the New Sanford High School Construction Project.

The following day on February 11th, 2016 Lavallee-Brensinger issued Bid Documents to eight (8) pre-qualified firms to bid our Project as below:

- CTA Construction
- Cianbro
- Consigli
- Eckman Construction
- Harvey Construction
- Hutter
- JCN Construction
- PC Construction

Next steps and schedule are:

- 2/11/2016: Bid Documents Made available
- 2/25/2016: Pre-Bid Conference at the Sanford City Hall, Council Chambers, 1:00. Required attendance by all pre-qualified GCs.
- 3/16/2016: Filed sub-bids are due to the AGC Maine at 188 Whitten Rd, Augusta, ME by 3:00.
- 3/23/2016: Final bids due to the Sanford School Department at 917 Main Street, Sanford ME by 2:00. Bid Opening is planned for that same day.

Provided that a Qualified Bid that is at or below Budget is identified, the Project is anticipated to issue a Notice to Proceed to Construction by May 1st, 2016 with an given construction schedule to provide for opening August of 2018.

Emery Mills Dam Engineering and Design Interviews:

Members of the Mousam Watershed Dam Coalition comprised of members from Acton, Shapleigh, Sanford, and a representatives from the Square Pond and Mousam Lake Associations, met last Friday to conduct interviews engineering services. The Committee interviewed four firms to identify a qualified Firm with the best practical approach to engineer a design to address key issues impacting the long term maintenance and operation of the Emery Mills Dam that forms the impoundment of Mousam Lake.

The four Firms interviewed were:

- Kleinschmidt/Haley-Aldrich
- GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.
- Wright-Pierce
- MPB Consulting

Primary elements requested to be addressed by each firm were:

- Assessment, engineering, and approach to address the settlement, leakage, and operation of the Gate Structures of the Dam
- assessment, engineering, and approach to address the root penetrations of the Dam Structure
- potential to lower the Spill Way to the currently accepted lake level of 30” below current Spill Way heights and how this will impact all other aspects of the Dams operation and repairs
- assessment, engineering, and approach to sealing the upstream apron of the Dam to prevent leakage through the stone Dam structure
- How these Four Major Areas of consideration will influence the future proposed repairs and operation of the Dam

The Committee completed the interviews and has requested Sanford Administration perform further follow up with the Firms. A secondary interview process has been scheduled for February 19th, 2016 at 10:00AM to finalize a selection of an engineering firm. The Committee seeks to engage a Firm this year to complete surevey, analysis, and solution proposals. Once the final scope of work is selected by the Committee, a likely multi-phased approach and respective budgets will be developed. A timeline and associated funding will be developed such that all three Municipalities can seek legislative approval for the Project and funding.

American Legion Oratorical Scholarship Program:

I would like to extend recognition and congratulations to Cherith Bell form the Sanford Christian Academy for winning 1st Place as the T.W. Cole Post #19 Contestant. Ms. Bell placed first in the American Legion Department of Maine High School Oratorical Scholarship Program on February 13th, 2016 at Thomas College. Contestants had to give an eight minute speech on topics relating to the U.S. Constitution. Ms. Bell gave her speech on Freedom of Speech and Religion. She was also challenged to speak on the Writ of Habitus Corpus or the lawfulness of a person’s detention. Cherith will be going to Indianapolis to represent Maine at the National Finals April 15-17th, 2016.