



Town of
Longmeadow, Massachusetts
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TO: Chairwoman Angelides and Members of the Select Board

FROM: Lyn N. Simmons, Town Manager

DATE: February 18, 2020

SUBJECT: Town Manager Report

MVP Action Grant

The new MVP action grant round is expected to open soon. In follow up conversations with MVP staff we were told that some of the items we applied for in the last round were viewed as items the town would need to do anyway and would likely pursue with or without MVP funding, which was one of the reasons our application was not approved. In considering our next application I met with Rivermoor Energy and several department heads to hear about a possible energy resiliency project opportunity. After the presentation from Rivermoor Energy, a decision was made to pursue an MVP action grant application for solar resiliency work and an additional application to design and engineer stormwater infrastructure and erosion control work at the dingle on Dwight Road next to the new DPW facility (this application would be done with PVPC assistance). The solar resiliency work will be an application to MVP to fund the design and engineering of solar arrays at the new adult center, new DPW facility, Longmeadow High School and the Town Hall/Public Safety campus, the design will include energy storage for these critical facilities to allow them to come online and run for a period of time (3-10 days likely) in the event of a power outage. When the power is not needed to run the facilities the solar generation will be helping to offset our energy costs at these facilities. Rivermoor Energy will be preparing the application and if we receive a grant award Rivermoor will do the design and engineering work. Just this week the applicants from the last round who were successful in securing a grant were [announced](#). Both Monson and [Yarmouth](#) (half way through the story you will see the relevant piece) received grants for a very similar project to what we would be applying for, both of these projects are being done by Rivermoor Energy.

Cable License Negotiations

The Cable Advisory Committee is very actively meeting right now and are hoping to conclude negotiations on the next license soon. The license expires in June 2021. There are 4967 cable subscribers in Longmeadow, down from the 5400 households that previously subscribed.

North Interceptor Sewer Replacement Project Engineering Design

The contract for the second phase work (Phase 1A) was signed last week. This is the second phase of a project after the planning study for the replacement and/or relocation of the North Interceptor was completed. The previous planning study recommended that the elevated section of the exposed gravity sewer be relocated into the backyards (via proposed easements) of the properties adjacent to the easement. This current project includes the design, permitting, bidding, construction, and easement-support engineering services for the Phase 1A North Interceptor Sewer Replacement, \$800,000 was authorized for this project at the spring 2019 Annual Town Meeting. This engineering work will also include closed circuit television (CCTV) inspection of the cross country gravity sewer mains along the North Interceptor, from Western Drive to Emerson Road. The CCTV work will add to the CCTV work that was completed of all the gravity sewer mains in the road.

Wolf Swamp Field Design

A redesign of the Wolf Swamp Athletic Fields has been prepared and is available on the Town's [website](#) for review and comment until February 26, 2020, comments can be emailed to Director of Parks & Recreation, Bari Jarvis at bjarvis@longmeadow.org. In the spring of 2019, Town residents voted to borrow \$1,541,000 for the renovation of the Wolf Swamp athletic fields. These fields are the most widely used Town athletic fields and see over 10,000 visitors each year. Members of the general public as well as youth sport leaders have attended a series of three publicly posted meetings for the last several months to discuss and develop a design plan that meets the needs of our community.

Longmeadow News

By now we are all aware of the unfortunate announcement that The Longmeadow News will cease publication on February 20. The closure of this newspaper highlights the need for the Town to increase the availability of information on the town website and to aid in that effort over the next 6 weeks 16 staff members will receive website training. Additionally we will be working to better utilize our social media accounts. The Town's [Facebook account](#) @LongmeadowMA and [Twitter account](#) @LongmeadowMA will be sharing important updates, deadlines and notices. Later this year I expect to provide information on a website refresh project to update the current longmeadow.org site.