



Town of
Longmeadow, Massachusetts
20 Williams Street, Longmeadow, MA 01106



Tel. (413) 565-4110 ● Fax (413) 565-4112

TO: Chairman Strange and Members of the Select Board
FROM: Lyn N. Simmons, Town Manager
DATE: July 19, 2021
SUBJECT: Town Manager Report

COVID-19 Update

COVID-19 cases in town continue to remain at the same number we've seen the last few weeks, as of today's writing there are 4 cases.

Converse Street Sewer Improvements

During the week of Jun 28 when the Converse Street sewer improvement started the town had issues with the contractor adhering to the work hour restrictions. These necessary hour restrictions were put in place to assist with traffic flow, resident and neighbor access and road detail work scheduling. Despite repeated conversations with the contractor, work continued past the 4:00pm closure time daily. The contractor and the contractor's performance bond surety company were put on notice that this was not acceptable and that no further work shall take place until a conference with the Contractor and Employers Mutual Casualty Company took place to discuss the failure to adhere to the work hour restriction. The meeting is being scheduled for July 20 or 21. No further work on the project will take place until after that meeting.

WestCOMM Update

This is a modified excerpt from the Fire Department's monthly report and contains information that I would like to specifically mention in my report. WestComm is moving toward the Priority Dispatch Platform. This June, significant progress was made with the response matrices and dispatcher training is taking place. When this system is deployed there is a quality control aspect to ensure it is meeting the community needs. This effort will eventually result in full accreditation for WestComm, making WestComm one of only a few accredited dispatch centers in New England. WestComm has a Community Engagement team that will be doing a public information program to educate our residents on this new system. The education will include information on why our residents are being asked for more information when they call 911, gathering this additional information does not delay the response of police, fire or EMS, it actually helps improve the response and the timing. More information on the public education will be shared as soon as it is available.

Car Break-Ins and Thefts

Our town and area in general is seeing a rash of car break-ins and motor vehicle thefts. The Longmeadow Police Department has put out notices to remind people to lock their cars at night and to draw attention to the increased instances in our area. Chief Stocks notes that "residents are becoming uneasy (rightfully so) and I have augmented my patrol shifts in an effort to address this growing concern." Area police departments are sharing information as the string of break-ins and thefts may be by the same groups.