



Town of
Longmeadow, Massachusetts
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TO: Chairman Lachiusa and Members of the Select Board
FROM: Lyn N. Simmons, Town Manager
DATE: July 6, 2020
SUBJECT: Town Manager Report

COVID-19 Coronavirus – Updates will continue to be available on the Town’s dedicated COVID-19 coronavirus website www.longmeadow.org/coronavirus

Reopening Guidance and Updates

Town departments are continuing to review guidance for reopening. We are retrofitting space in the community house to begin in-person transactions again and will be able to announce those plans by the middle of July. After reviewing the guidelines related to pools and camps we made the decision to not open for the summer. Furloughs were extended for a majority of those currently furloughed with 4 additional positions, 3 staff were brought back to Storrs Library to assist with inter-library loan that is anticipated to start again. We have retained a COVID-19 compliance officer to assist in reviewing reopening guidance and compliance for town departments and the school district. Retired Fire Captain Andy Fraser has been hired for this role and he will be working approximately 19 hours/week.

Adult Center Granite Bench

The granite bench dedicated to former Director Karen Michelman was vandalized and broken. It is not repairable and needs to be replaced. Adult Center Director Jim Leyden will be discussing with the Council on Aging and considering the next steps, especially as we look toward moving into the new building.

Shared Street and Spaces Grant Program

The Department of Public Works has prepared two applications to the shared street and spaces grant program. One application is for the completion of a pedestrian safety gap of sidewalk on Lynnwood Drive of approximately .5 mile and would include new crosswalks with wheelchair ramps at two cross streets. The other application is for the Knollwood Drive sidewalk project.

Knollwood Sidewalk Project

The final sidewalk design was put out to bid and bids are due July 14.

Wolf Swamp Fields

The Conservation Commission approved the Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) with conditions. Final revisions to the project design are being made and will be put out to bid by the end of the month.

Eagle Scout Project at Town Hall

We are fortunate to benefit from an Eagle Scout Service Project by Mason Merchant. Mason will work to remove the broken and deteriorating concrete from the decommissioned WWII memorial at Town Hall and install better landscaping while preserving the flagpole. Mason has worked with DPW to

communicate on the future plantings so they may provide easier maintenance and are tolerant to the area. Once the project is approved by the Regional Council, Mason will start work in phases.

LED Streetlights

The first batch of 400 decorative fixtures have shipped and are expected to be received on July 8. The second batch is being prepared and should be shipping in the next few weeks. Arden is working out an installation schedule and the online interactive map will be updated.

Shared Health Services

The East Longmeadow Town Council discussed the shared health services agreement at their meeting of June 23, 2020. They had further questions related to cost sharing and OPEB liability and have continued the conversation until August 11. The agreement is currently being reviewed by the Town Attorney.

WestCOMM

East Longmeadow went live on June 29. WestCOMM is currently in negotiations to purchase Salter College to locate WestCOMM in that facility. This would allow the operation to grow and take on more municipalities.