
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

TO: NORWICH SELECTBOARD
FROM: PETE WEBSTER, TOWN MANAGER
SUBJECT: TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT
DATE: 2/5/2010

The past couple of weeks have been taken up with final Town Report preparations (it's done!), union negotiations, meetings with the Listers concerning the Mascoma Bank tax appeal, and meetings with the Energy Committee concerning the proposed solar project. As far as union contract negotiations go, we have a tentative agreement that will need your review and decision, in Executive Session. Concerning the Energy Committee meetings, I met with Paul Harwood, logger, and Andy Hodgdon this past week about clearing the proposed site for the solar installation, with an eye towards a possible future highway garage expansion. I will have more for you on Wednesday, but we would need to clear a 6.1 acre area of Town property to accommodate both projects, and it makes good sense to do this at the same time. If the solar project is ultimately approved, the site would need to be cleared this coming summer, and it makes sense from a long-term planning standpoint to also clear for a possible future garage. We can discuss this in more detail at your meeting.

I met with a Third Grade Marion Cross School French teacher, Allison Litten, who would like to have her class create a Christo-like exhibit on the Town Green, utilizing the bandstand. As you know, Christo is a French artist who created the Gates exhibit in Central Park a few years back. Ms. Litten has proposed, and I've approved, wrapping the bandstand in sheets next week (Monday), and it would be up for about a week. She will monitor the exhibit daily to make sure it is in good condition. Christo will be visiting at Dartmouth next week and she was hopeful of getting him to visit Norwich. I just wanted you to have this heads-up in case you are asked about it.

We had a great send off for Hannah Kearney last week. Many nice comments and positive feedback on the bandstand. A quiet time just before Town Meeting.

Sincerely,

Pete Webster