

TO: Selectboard
FROM: Rod Francis, Acting Town Manager
RE: Town Manager Report
DATE: May 20, 2022

Staffing

Our new Zoning Administrator, Steven Bauer, has been getting to know the office and has attended his first DRB meeting. We are still seeking a permanent part-time ZA, and staff for DPW (3.5 FTE positions).

Computer Upgrades

The first batch of new computers has arrived and are up and operating. Oldest computers and computers that could be repurposed for light duty functions were replaced first. The second (and final) batch are schedule to arrive soon.

Casella Agreement

We are waiting on the final version of the agreement, which we expect very soon.

Moore Lane Bridge Release of Materials

In 2019 when Town Manager Durfee was in vacation I answered a query concerning possible hazardous materials in the Bloody Brook just downstream from the Moor Lane Bridge. Subsequently it was confirmed that the materials were used to construct the Moore Lane bridge. Former DPW Director Wiggins worked with Vermont DEC and Stantec engineers to formulate an approved response. A containment structure was designed such that the materials would be collected on a smooth surface suspended under the bridge to collect the material in a 'catch can', which would be periodically emptied. As an interim step DPW staff had wrapped the underside of the bridge with tarpaulins to capture the materials.

In September, while in the role of Interim Town Manager I finalized the bid documents and advertised the project. There was no response to the bid announcement. Earlier communication with DEC informed them of the non-responsive bid process and a commitment to re-bid the project. We were encouraged to pursue the approved strategy as soon as practicable.

Recently Vermont DEC has received further complaints and on May 18 notified the town that we must provide the VT DEC Spill Program a work plan for the sampling and analysis by June 2 and complete the sampling by June 17, 2022.

On Friday May 20 I sought a cost proposal from an Environmental Services company to sample the materials and consult on the Vermont DEC Spill Program requirements. It is expected that we will meet the deadlines and work cooperatively with the DEC Spills Program. I have re-advertised the bid documents and am hoping that the warmer weather will be more conducive to doing the work.