

Office of the Town Manager

Bridget A. Sullivan, Administrative Asst.

Email: selectmen@townofathol.org

Shaun A. Suhoski, Town Manager Email: ssuhoski@townofathol.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: Athol Board of Selectmen

FR: Shaun A. Suhoski, Town Manager

RE: Town Manager's Report

DT: October 16, 2018

Dear Board: Please see following update for tonight's meeting.

<u>Shared Services Agreement - Acting Police Chief</u>: As the Board is aware, I have met with officials in the town of Orange and we have collaboratively put together a draft agreement for shared services of Orange Police Chief Craig Lundgren for the balance of fiscal 2019 (copy in packets).

The Orange BOS met last Wednesday and further this week in hopes of reaching agreement along the lines of the draft document. It is a simple equation: split time and cost 50/50 with the ability of either party to opt-out upon 45 days' notice with no penalties. This proposal makes economic sense and will bring an established and experienced chief to provide guidance and internal staff development for Athol's professional officers.

I would request the Board to include this on the October 23 special meeting agenda for potential ratification.

<u>Bond Anticipation Notes</u>: Reminder that the Board will meet briefly on October 23 to execute required documentation for \$6.925 million in bond anticipation notes (BANs) that were all previously approved by Town Meeting voters on January 13, 2014 (elementary school) and on March 5, 2018 (Exchange Street Bridge, DPW barn roof, Pleasant St. sidwalks).

By issuing the BAN with notes to mature in August 2019 the Town can proceed with its projects, allow final close-out of the school project, and budget firm debt service costs in the FY20 budget.

Miscellaneous:

- Meetings with Finance Team; NewVue Communities re: Ellen Bigelow/Riverbend project;
 STAM program committee; BSC Group re: economic development planning (downtown / Bidwell); MassGrow LLC about additional phasing at Union Twist Mill
- Completed information and attended Fall Town Meeting; Participated in "Manufacturing Day" at L.S. Starrett Co.