TOWN OF ATHOL



Office of the Town Manager

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## **MEMORANDUM**

- TO: Athol Board of Selectmen
- FR: Shaun A. Suhoski, Town Manager
- RE: Town Manager's Report
- DT: June 20, 2017

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

**State 911 Proposed Response**: The DRAFT response was circulated to the whole Board by email on June 15. This draft was reviewed and developed by Selectmen Raymond and Young, Chiefs Duguay and Kleber, the Town Manager and Town Counsel John Barrett. The working group met twice and held a telephone conference with Town Counsel to discuss the proposed response.

The team, further to discussion at the Board's last meeting, focused primarily on public safety concerns and the deficiencies in the State 911 proposal relative to same. I believe the proposed response leaves open the possibility for the State to counter-propose a strategy that:

- ° Satisfies the legitimate public safety concerns of the Town
- ° Is financially and technically feasible
- Allows Athol to remain/resume PSAP status on its own or in a future regional model housed in the Athol Police Department
- ° Avoids costly litigation with uncertain outcomes for either party

The document is a starting point for the Board's discussion on Tuesday.

**Town Hall Heating System Assessment Grant**: The Town's Energy Committee has proposed that the Town submit a grant application for \$12,500 to update all prior assessments and available

information concerning the heating plant in Town Hall and to develop a recommendation and scope of work for future replacement or improvements of the heating system.

The funds would come from the Dept. of Energy Resources (DOER) through the Municipal Energy Technical Assistance (META) grant program. An information sheet is included in your packets.



Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources The grant is due on or before June 28 and I am requesting the Board vote to authorize the Chairman to execute the application.

**<u>FY18 Town Manager Goals</u>**: I have prepared for the Board an update on the status of all goals and objectives established by a prior board and I, together with a clean document that seeks to set forth a workplan for the Town Manager for fiscal 2018. The goals were last reviewed in June 2016, so, the timing is right. Once the Board finalizes my goals I will then work to carry the municipal agenda through the various departments.

The DRAFT document reflects some remaining (incomplete) goals from the prior year and my suggested priorities for my time and effort. I'm hopeful that the membership can review these documents and that we can establish the formal FY18 goals at a meeting in July.

## **Miscellaneous**

- Held department head meeting and attended FWAC meeting for end-of-year reserve fund transfer requests
- Attended pre-development meeting for proposed large-scale solar project off Partridgeville Road
- Attended annual meeting of the Small Town Administrators of Massachusetts (STAM) and heard presentations from Lt. Governor Polito, Senior MassDOR Deputy Commissioner Sean Cronin and Linda Strout of the Mass. Film Office
- · Met with MIIA / Cabot Risk regarding insurance matters
- · Met with incoming Superintendent for Athol-Royalston Regional School District
- · Participated in Housing Task Force discussion and formal meeting