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MEMORANDUM

TO: Athol Board of Selectmen
FR: Shaun A. Suhoski, Town Manager
RE: Town Manager's Report
DT: June 5, 2018

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

Silver Lake Park / David Gaspar: Though I am not sure of the origin, there was an agenda item for Silver Lake Park (Dave Gaspar) on the Board's draft agenda for tonight. On Thursday, I requested Bridget to remove the item as I had not received any new information from Mr. Gaspar, the DPW or Planning Dept. that would require Board action. Today I emailed the following outline to Mr. Gaspar and the applicable parties which I believe represents the consensus process to move forward:

- Develop Silver Lake master plan (needed to raise funds; apply for grants, etc.)
 - Eric Smith to seek preliminary quote from Conway School of Landscape and Design (complete: cost \$7,000)
 - Obtain funds for Silver Lake Park master plan (fall Town Meeting subject to availability of funds, or, FY20 budget)
 - Complete master plan with input from Open Space and Recreation Plan committee and general public (subject to BOS approval)
- Establish Town's Recreational Spending priorities with OSRP, public input for BOS approval (eg. Lake Ellis, park gazebo replacement, Alan Rich, Silver Lake Park)
- Seek Appropriate Funding for Priority Projects (will utilize planning documents to secure local and grant funds)

In the meantime, Mr. Gaspar has met with Doug Walsh and they are working together to install dog waste stations at the park. The DPW is also committed to making other project-based improvements at the park, however, the lead-up to Memorial Day ceremonies, spring cleanup and now the installation of the accessible floating dock require substantial time commitment.

My office is committed to working towards the master plan concept outlined above and then prioritizing with the OSRP committee and Board of Selectmen among the many competing needs for time and money.

Marijuana Establishments – Host Community Agreements: Town Counsel and I have reviewed several iterations of the host community agreements and have a working draft template for the two cultivation facilities pending licensure. As Counsel can advise, MGL c. 94G, sec. 3(d) provides limitations on what municipalities can exact through HCAs.

Both cultivating facilities (MassGrow proposal for former Union Twist Mill site; 1620 Labs proposal for former Agway site) have held community outreach meetings and will appear before the planning board tomorrow evening. Elev8 Cannabis LLC is the sole retail sales operation in the permitting process at this time and has likewise completed a community outreach meeting and is scheduled before the planning board tomorrow night. Town Counsel and I will next look to develop a template agreement for retail operators.

As a reminder, the HCA agreements are in addition to the three percent local option sales excise (retail operators) and all property, personal property and/or user fees applicable in the Town.

Pleasant Street School Lease with LaunchSpace, Inc.: Alec MacLeod, Brianna Drohen, Sean O’Donnell (all of LaunchSpace) and Rebecca Bialecki, Bob Muzzy and I (for the Town) met on May 21 to review potential lease terms for reuse of the former Pleasant Street School.

The meeting was very productive and a revised draft lease is now circulating among the parties for a final review before bringing the proposal to the Board. I would anticipate the lease proposal being placed on the June 18 or July 3 agenda.



Miscellaneous:

- Participated in housing task force meeting; held Finance Team meeting
- Met with potential development team for Union Twist Mill (MassGrow)
- Met with Toni Phillips regarding Memorial Day programming and discussion for future planning
- Attended regional economic forum on downtown development at North Central Mass. Chamber of Commerce; met briefly with EOHE Secretary Jay Ash to discuss Athol’s ongoing projects
- Attended Athol High School graduation ceremony – great group of students, great day!