



TOWN OF EAST LONGMEADOW

Town Manager's Report

June 12, 2018

Good evening –

It's hard to believe that we are nearing the close of the 2018 Fiscal Year. It is quite a busy time closing out the current year and beginning implementation of next year's budget.

Our Town Attorney Jim Donahue has decided to end his service to the Town effective June 30, 2018. We wish Jim many years of health and happiness as he finds ways to enjoy his retirement and we thank him for his years of dedicated service to East Longmeadow. Jim will be providing me with documentation of outstanding legal matters he has that I will move to Attorney Kevin Maynard of Bulkley, Richardson and Gelinias. I have been using Attorney Maynard for our labor matters since June 2017. If the Council would like to meet Attorney Maynard, I can arrange to have him attend a meeting when your agendas slow down a little.

Public Safety: the Town's Emergency Management team will be participating in a Hampden County Shelter Exercise tomorrow. I have participated in quite a few of these and have found them to be very helpful in knowing how our plan would work during a real emergency and quickly points out deficiencies we should work on.

The new ladder truck has been delivered to the Fire Department. Please stop by the station to check it out.

Our effort for a combined dispatch with Hampden has had some ups & downs since we withdrew from the Chicopee regional dispatch 6 months ago. We have tackled all the decisions related to the shared service such as responsibilities and supervision of the dispatch operation, housing, financing and cost sharing of the dispatch, executive oversight by both towns and general legal provisions necessary for any joint agreement between 2 towns. On May 9th Hampden's Police Chief and East Longmeadow's Police & Fire Chiefs, finance, IT and I reached agreement on a final draft contract to send to our respective Town Attorneys. On June 6, we received a revised agreement from Hampden's counsel that not only did not incorporate what we had agreed to on May 9, it reverted to a draft that had been negotiated and revised at meetings in April. With this backward movement from Hampden and no response from Attorney Donahue, I have asked Attorney Maynard to handle any further discussion of the IMA (Intermunicipal Agreement) with Hampden's attorney. I hope to have progress on the agreement to share with you in Executive Session at our next Council meeting.

The Police Union members have ratified their July 1, 2018-June 30, 2021 contract on June 8.

Finance: Director Sara Menard has passed the certifications needed to be the Certified Procurement Officer for the Town's goods and services. We expect that we will be strengthening our procurement practices which will in turn lead to cost savings and insured compliance with Mass General Law.

Public works: is working on the design of the Elm Street sidewalk project that will be the "big" sidewalk project for this year. The Superintendent expects it to go out to bid shortly with expected construction beginning late this summer.

The July 4th Celebration: is coming together very smoothly. The Parade Committee has reported that the parade plans are going well. The Rotary Club is handling the Carnival this year as a fundraiser, which will help with the expenses of the fireworks that they are also handling. Thank you to East Longmeadow's great Rotary Club! In addition, Bentley's will be handling the beer tent. I'm meeting with representatives from Bentley's to finalize that piece. My second year of this project has gone much better than last year

and our 3rd year will be East Longmeadow's 125th anniversary . . . time to start thinking about what you would like to see for that celebration.

The Open Space & Recreation Committee has been reactivated to allow completion of the Open Space & Recreation Plan that was close to completed in 2016. This Committee will make & provide a recommended Open Space & Recreation Plan to the Town Council for their approval that will then need approval by the State. Once all approvals are in place, the Town will be eligible for numerous State conservation and recreation grants along with grants for the Community Preservation Commission.

The following appointments fall within the Council's purview to review within 45 days of my appointment:

Name	Office	Appointed
Paul Morrissette	Fire Chief	May 30
Melanie Mannheim	Board of Library Trustees	May 25
Jonathan Torcia	Planning Board	May 14

REMINDERS

June 21	4pm-7pm	Summer Reading kickoff @ Center Square Parking Lot
June 29-July 4		Annual carnival, parade & fireworks
August 25	8am-5pm	Laura Cunningham Memorial Blood Drive @ Heritage Park

Finally, I will be out of the office June 14 through 19, returning to the office on June 20. As always, I will be available by phone and will be checking email. I will be out of the country on the 15th & 16th so will have limited phone access.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Menard_