



## TOWN OF EAST LONGMEADOW

Town Manager's Report

September 25, 2018

Good evening -

Its official, East Longmeadow has been named the "2019 Best Town/City to Live In" in the Republican/MassLive readership area for the second year in a row!

### Grant funded items:

- ~ Representative from East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, PVPC and the State met last week regarding a grant-funded study on the possibility of East Longmeadow and Longmeadow sharing public health services. Although very preliminary, it appears to be a promising possibility.
- ~ Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) Community Development Block Grant representative John O'Leary met with us on September 13, 2018. John confirmed that PVPC handles the administration and procurement of the grant-funded projects. He expects the projects will go out to bid this winter, with projects starting in the Spring of 2019 and concluding by the Summer of 2019. A formal performance hearing will be held at a Council meeting upon substantial completion of projects. I have attached a budget sheet that has a brief description of the projects.
- ~ I am waiting to hear from Senator Lesser's office regarding the grant for the police station.

Connie Brawders, our Town Planner, has analyzed the information she received from a survey she began in August. After she has presented her findings to the Planning Board, she will be presenting the information to the Council if you would like. This fairly informal survey was conducted as the beginning of fact gathering for updating the Town's Master Plan.

The auditors have gathered the onsite information they need to begin the 2017-2018 audit.

Seven hundred fifty pounds of produce were donated to the Council on Aging by the Town's Community Gardens.

As a follow up to my brief mention at the Council's last meeting, Bruce Fenney and I met with Rick Green, a member of the Hampden Planning Board, regarding Hampden's future sewer and water needs. Mr. Green explained that the discussion is very preliminary and will help the Hampden Planning Board as they look at their master plan. Bruce and I made ourselves available if we could be of further assistance.

We have heard nothing further regarding our dispatch proposal to Hampden.

For those who have not been on Elm Street in the last few days, the sidewalk project has begun. It is expected to be completed in approximately 4 weeks.

Although it's hard to believe, the 2020 budget process has begun. I have attached a copy of the memo sent to all department heads asking for their capital project requests.

I was unable to attend but have heard that the first meeting of the volunteers that will help plan, find funding and implement the Town's 125<sup>th</sup> celebration was very well attended. Lots of ideas, lots of volunteers . . . I'm not surprised. I find the community spirit and pride in East Longmeadow to be exceptional. I will keep you informed as ideas become plans.

Last Wednesday I had the pleasure of attending the East Longmeadow Lion's meeting. A couple of things of interest that were discussed included:

- ~ Their Annual Christmas Tree Lighting will be bigger and brighter than ever as they are replacing the current lights with new LED lights and a new (I think they said) 3 foot star for the top of the tree.
- ~ To help fund the new lights, they are considering a Holiday Ornament contest. They are still working out the details but it sounds very interesting.
- ~ Someone presented a proposal to revive the Annual Fishing Derby that used to be organized by the Jaycees.

**FOR YOUR CALENDARS**

September 29	10 am	Camp Alex Day at the Library
October 5	6-11 pm	Detective Barone retirement party
October 7	11-5	Military Family Appreciation Day
October 10	2 pm-6 pm	Flu Clinic at Town Hall Parking Lot
October 12	5-7:30	Veterans Memorial Committee Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Menard