



May 11, 2012

Board of Selectmen
195 Main Street
Maynard, Massachusetts 01754

Honorable Board of Selectmen;

Please accept this as an abridged accounting of activities related to my efforts as Town Administrator;

Local Hearing Officer; On Thursday morning I attended training at the Stow Fire Academy and was trained to be a “hearing officer” for Chapter 148A, the new stretch code provision for fire permits. Eventually there will be training for the building code as well; fire personnel or building department personnel cannot serve as the “hearing officer”.

It was interesting and was mostly directed as to how one should record and conduct a hearing. I enjoyed and learned a great deal. One issue is that you must take a formal vote to appoint me if you so choose. It should be noted there is a \$2,500 stipend paid to whoever is appointed as your hearing officer, unless that person agrees to waive the payment, I would definitely waive the fee as I do not agree with it in principle. The Commonwealth should not be mandating compensation, I may never even hear a complaint and I would be conducting hearing at work (which I am already getting paid for) not poolside.

Financial Team Meeting; May 10th there was a meeting of the members of the Financial Team. We are still struggling hopefully internally with some billing issues. Most of the defect is regarding the utility billing and how address information is interfaced through our software. Let us just say it does not work well. It is doubtful we will be able to correct the entire shortfall in time for the next billing cycle, but we will do everything to eliminate problems. It should be noted that out of 4,000 bills this actually affects only about 40 customers.

Artwork: Please take the time to enjoy the new art show in the MJG room by Maynard resident Joyce Dwyer. She has had exhibits around the world and throughout the New England states. It is god that she has finally had a chance to display her work in her own town. Her media is pencil or watercolors, and she captures our area beautifully.

Mark Altman/Billtrust ; Staff from the Treasurers Collectors Office attended a seminar and luncheon at the new Billtrust headquarters formerly Altman Associates. Billtrust will continue to do our mailing and billing. We will be working with them on some new offerings they will have through this Buyout. Mark Altman will stay on in the area for about two years as a consultant.

Transportation, Transportation; On consecutive Friday’s I have partaken in regional meetings on transportation, hopefully if we talk enough about it maybe something will happen . Last week’s meeting in Boxborough was well, attended and there was an update on the CIC grant being managed by Acton. This grant will develop a strategy where we will be able to coordinate rides for COA’s, Minutevan, Clock Tower Vans and other rolling stock. The MinuteVan service is also now being offered to surrounding towns on a limited basis including Maynard as part of their dial-a-ride service. This week’s meeting was held in Maynard Town Hall and recorded, hosted by our own State Representative Kate Hogan. I cannot say often enough how dedicated Representative Hogan is to this community. Senator Eldridge and Representative Jen Benson were also in attendance at this transportation summit.

MAPC's Eric Halvorsen, Mart's Mo Kahn and representatives from five other towns and Metrowest Alliance, all discussing and strategizing how we can use existing resources to better serve the public in regards to mass and fixed route transportation. Everyone agrees this is the biggest economic imperative facing the region.

If it is okay I will give the rest of my report verbally, it has been a long and productive week.

Thank you,

Mike Sullivan

Maynard Town Administrator