



Town Manager's Report to the Town Council

Submitted by:
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Town of Winslow - In the heart of Central Maine representing People, Pride and Progress.

TOWN CDBG UPDATE

Last month I reported I intended to submit a CDBG Letter of Intent for a building improvement project at our Industrial Building. The State's DECD Office has invited us to submit a full application after reviewing our Letter of Intent.

In the Council packet is Resolution 27-2012 which if approved will authorize me to submit a CDBG grant application totaling \$263,166. As you will see I have increased the project estimate by 15% to compensate for higher material prices and the requirement to pay Davis Bacon wages to those doing the work.

We will be conducting a public hearing on the project at Monday night's Council meeting, which will start at 7:00 pm. The public hearing is a requirement of the CDBG application.

PHONE SYSTEM UPDATE

In June I reported that the IT staff from the City of Waterville recommended that we upgrade our phone system due to its age. I have since learned that the system was installed in 1985 and that only refurbished parts are available if repairs are needed.

I have been working with two vendors to get cost estimates to replace our current phone system. At this point CTI Communication has given me the lowest cost estimate to upgrade our system (see attached). The City of Waterville uses CTI and they are very pleased with the system and service.

Our existing service agreement with FairPoint will expire this October. I have looked into Internet Based Phone service but I am hesitant to recommend that at this time.

Attached is a proposal from FairPoint to extend our phone service another three years. As you will see our monthly fixed costs could

go down and our toll rate could decrease from \$0.053 to \$0.025.

If you are agreeable to extending our service with FairPoint I will arrange to have the contracts drafted for the September Council meeting..

BOND ORDERS

In the Council packet are two Orders (No. 13-2012 & No. 17-2012) that will allow us to borrow money from Bangor Savings Bank with an interest rate of 1.58% by designating our borrowing as "qualified tax-exempt obligations". The loan proposals from Bangor Savings Bank are attached. I will be requesting that the second reading be waived so that we can close on the loans by August 17th.

As you know the Fire Marshal's Office has not yet made a determination on whether we need to sprinkle the town office as part of the PD project. This was an oversight on my part. I had anticipated getting a response from the Fire Marshal's Office much sooner in the process, which would have given us time to adjust the project budget accordingly.

Peachey has provided me with an estimate of \$67,828 to sprinkle the town office in the event it is required by the Fire Marshal's Office. I have adjusted Order No. 17-2012 to reflect this increase. Order No. 14-2012 will authorize an increase in project costs to accommodate the increase for the sprinkler system.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDIT

Our Auditors will be here conducting our annual audit during the weeks of August 13th and August 20th. I hope to have some preliminary audit results at the September 10th Council meeting.