

## 04/26/2012 Message

### Irving Energy Contract

The contract with Irving Energy Distribution & Marketing for liquid propane gas is now signed at a fixed per-gallon price of \$2.105, which will begin July 1, 2012 and continue through May 31, 2013.

### Fire Rescue Station Project

As he initiated the permitting process for the new addition on the Fire Rescue Station, the Code Enforcement Officer discovered that the Maine DEP does not know about the zoning change that was approved by voters at town meeting last year. MDEP personnel said they do not have copies of the zoning change in their possession. All shoreland zoning changes must be approved by the MDEP, so the CEO obtained new certified copies of the ordinances from the Town Clerk and sent them to MDEP.

The Fire Station Committee reviewed the request for proposals (RFP) at a meeting this week and recommended some changes. Fire Rescue staff have made the requested changes, and the RFP will have a final review by the Town Manager and Fire Rescue Chief before being sent to prospective bidders.

It is important to note that soil borings and geotechnical analyses of the site should be done before the actual placement of the structure can be determined. This, and if necessary, the development of a site plan by an engineer should be done before submitting an application to the Poland Planning Board for review and permitting.

### Community Garden Water

A Community Garden will be overseen by the Poland Recreation Department and located at Shaker Hill Nursery. A source of water will be needed to water the plants, and a couple of water tanks are located on site that Shaker Hill Nursery owners will allow the Town to use. Staff learned today from Auburn Water District personnel that it may be possible to run a Fire Department hose from the last fire hydrant on the new line to fill the tanks. The tanks will most likely need to be filled only once for the growing season. Many thanks to AWD!

### Tour of Outdoor Recreation Facilities

Last Friday I toured outdoor recreation facilities with Recreation Director, Scott Segal. I was amazed by the quality of our outdoor facilities and heartened to know that the citizens of Poland have these wonderful recreational resources at their disposal. I came away with a satisfying feeling of community spirit after seeing some of the resources that are available to Poland residents.

### Paving RFP

No *crack-sealing* needs have been identified for Poland roads this year, but the Public Works Director and I are finalizing the request for proposals for Paving. We need to finish the accumulation of road specifications for the scope of work; then the RFPs will be sent to paving companies. We hope to begin the paving work in mid-June and complete it by the end of August.

### County/Regional Dispatch

Disagreement and debate continues about the solution for regional dispatch for Androscoggin County. A "Governance Committee" made up of a few town/city managers and sanctioned by the County Commissioners, is scheduled to meet early next week to develop a recommended governance model for regional dispatch. However, there is still a great deal of disagreement about the location of a regional dispatch center after eight years of analysis, meetings, and debate. The County Commissioners are planning to address the issue again next Wednesday. Stay tuned . . .

### Form-Based Codes

Alan Manoian will visit Poland Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. to make a presentation about "form-based codes." Of course, the meeting is open to the public, but the Planning Board, Budget Committee, Community & Economic Development Committee, Comprehensive Planning Committee, and Mechanic Falls town officials have been invited to hear the presentation in the Town Office conference room before the Board of Selectmen's regular meeting. I think all will find the presentation interesting and informative as we proceed with planning for downtown development.