

03/03/12 Message

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Rosemary Kulow, Town Manager
DATE: March 3, 2012
RE: Town Manager's Report

New Customer Service Clerk

I am very pleased to announce that Poland's new Customer Service Clerk, Amie Juergens is now working for the Town in the front office. Initially, Amie is spending significant time reading about and learning her job, and residents and citizens will see her when they stop by during regular working hours. Please join me in welcoming Amie to the Town of Poland family and wishing her many happy and fulfilling years in public service with the Town of Poland.

Fire Chief's Vehicle

A new command vehicle for the Fire Chief is in the proposed CIP budget for FY13. In anticipation of funding approval for the vehicle at the annual Town Meeting April 7, 2012, the Fire Chief has prepared and sent out a request for proposals. The early initiation of the purchasing process is to enable the Town to take advantage of a reduced price opportunity for a vehicle from existing stock. No proposal received would be presented to the Board of Selectmen for authorization to purchase or contract award until it is certainly known whether the vehicle's funding is approved by Town Meeting. However, if approved by Town Meeting and the Board of Selectmen, the vehicle could be ordered after funding is approved, but before July 1st. No payment would be made for the vehicle before the beginning of the next fiscal year July 1st. Proposals are due to the Town Manager at 11:00 p.m., March 30th in the conference room and will be on the April 3rd Board of Selectmen's agenda for selection.

History Day

This week I will participate in a preliminary event at Whittier Middle School in preparation for National History Day – an event sponsored by the History Channel. I will work as a judge to help determine which 25th and 8th grade Social Studies students will go on from the school's event to the National History Day state competition in Augusta. It will be very exciting for me to see how today's middle school students learn about our country's history, and I'm sure, humbling for me to realize how much they know and how much I've most likely forgotten, even though I was a history minor myself. Either way, it will be an honor, and I'm sure, fun to be involved with local youth's education this way. I wish the best to all who are involved and thank them for their hard work and preparation.

Candidates' Night

I'm sure most people are aware by now that Candidates' Night is scheduled for Monday, March 26th at the Town Office conference room. The event will run from 7:00-8:30 p.m., and call-in questions will be accepted. Lynda Carey will answer phone calls and forward questions to the event Moderator, Susie Stover, and the candidates. The event is open to the public if folks want to see Poland's candidates in person, but for those who prefer to watch on TV at home, the event will be broadcast live on the local government access channel 6 and recorded and shown at later times, as well. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know the candidates' stances on issues and hear and see them express their ideas and opinions.

Municipal Budget Process

The Budget Committee and Board of Selectmen have concluded their review of the proposed FY13 municipal budget, and the Annual Town Meeting Warrant is now being prepared. The first draft of the Town Meeting Warrant will be presented to the Board of Selectmen at its March 6th meeting, with final acceptance scheduled for a special Board of Selectmen's meeting at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 14th.

Please keep in mind that the **Annual Town Meeting** begins at 8:00 a.m., Friday, April 6, 2012 at the Town Hall for action via secret ballot on Articles 1 and 2 – (1) choosing a Moderator and (2) election of Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor, Library Trustees, RSU 16 School Directors, and Budget Committee members. The annual town meeting resumes at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, April 7, 2012, at Poland Regional High School to act on the remaining warrant articles. Documents related to the Town Meeting warrant will be available for review at the Town Office and at the Annual Town Meeting itself.