

05/11/2012 Message

Staff Positions & Interviews

This week I participated with an interview panel for Fire Fighter/EMT applicants. The applicant pool was chosen from the Fire Rescue service, so in-house candidates were interviewed. A decision and employment offer will be made shortly.

I am also participating in interviews the morning of Friday, May 11th for the Poland deputy position with Board of Selectmen Chairperson, Wendy Sanborn and Captain LaFrance. My understanding is that four candidates will be interviewed.

The Recreation Department and Ricker Memorial Library have also been interviewing applicants for positions within their departments. The Library received 13 applications for the part-time aide position. Recreation received 6 applications for the Teen Adventure position, and they are interviewing 3 candidates. Six applications were received for the Beach Attendant position, and all of them will be interviewed.

Recreation is also fortunate that Devin Goyette will be working as an intern for 120 hours this summer at no charge to the Town. Thank you, Devin!

Water & Sewer Project

This week, based on the recommendation of Wright-Pierce Engineers, I signed certificates of substantial completion for K & K Excavation, Inc. and Natgun Corporation. Punch lists are being developed, and work should be completely wrapped up within a month. If a more detailed report is produced by Wright-Pierce, it will be forwarded it to Selectmen. Route 122 will be paved as soon as weather allows, as it was scheduled to be done this week.

MDOT's High Crash Locations (HCL)

Joan Walton of AVCOG sent me MDOT's new list of high crash locations for 2009-2011, and there is only one HCL in both Mechanic Falls and Poland. That one location is at the five corners intersection. There were 27 crashes in the three-year period, which seems to show a reversal of the trend of crash reductions we thought was occurring. We hoped the safety improvements done a few years ago were helping reduce the number of crashes, but that may not be the case after all. Joan is requesting more information about the types of crashes, and she will report back to us.

FLSA Workshop

I attended a workshop at MMA this week concerned with wage and hour law in the public sector. I attend one of these workshops every few years to stay current on changes in the law and get that refresher course we all need from time to time. It was time spent wisely, as I learned a few new things and received answers to questions I had about some of our compensation situations in Poland.

Management Team

At today's Management Team meeting, members voted unanimously to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that *if* the board chooses to change health insurance plans within the Maine Municipal Employees Health Trust, the change should occur no earlier than the end of the current plan year on December 31, 2012.

MMEHT representative, Susan Smith, will be at the town office Monday, May 14th to hold two sessions with town employees. She will explain the PPO 1500 plan and how it compares to the current plans. She will also answer questions from employees.