



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Board of Selectmen

**FROM:** John C. Curran, Town Manager

**CC:** Susan Aker, Cathy O'Dea

**SUBJECT:** Town Manager's Report, September 9, 2019

**DATE:** September 6, 2019

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### **LED Light Audit**

The LED streetlight audit will begin in Town on Sept 16th and end sometime in middle October. Employees from Tanko Lighting will be canvassing the Town and taking information on each streetlight in Town. Billerica has about 2,600 streetlights throughout Town. The Town is also taking suggestions about areas that lights could be added. After posting on Next-door & Social Media we have received around 50 specific locations for them to also audit and see if a streetlight would be needed. Chief Rosa will also be having his traffic team identify areas that may need additional lighting. If you have an area or know a resident who would like to make a suggestion please have them email Clancy at [cmain@town.billerica.ma.us](mailto:cmain@town.billerica.ma.us)

### **Veterans Café**

Joe Ruggerio and Jean Bushnell have started a new event at the Council on Aging beginning on September 24th from 9-11AM. The event will be a social coffee for Veterans to meet up, chat, and share stories with each other. It has no agenda and will allow people to meet in a casual context. A separate space will also be available if any Veteran has a personal matter that needs to be discussed with either Joe or Jean during this time. We hope this program takes off and is successful for many years to come. If you know any veterans please make them aware of this program.

### **Recreation Fall Program Guide**

The Recreation Fall Program Guide is out. Registration for programs started a few weeks back, but you still have time to sign up for many programs. Some standouts include flag football, lego league, cooking classes for kids, and a business entrepreneur (shark) program. If you have yet to take a look at the guide please take a moment to do so.

<http://anyflip.com/pvjt/lnzc/?fbclid=IwAR1wQiYh8Z33Vccyv9yw1PvlnrrueCnYowlNHmmSguDvOZAr3PqlBqmIaE>

### **Website Update**

The Town is closing in on the launch date for the new website. The Town plans to release the page to the public in the first or second week of October. The home page is almost fully functional and can be looked at here - <https://www.town.billerica.ma.us/826>. The site will be much more user friendly and will have buttons on the main screen including report a concern, Billerica Project Updates, and many

more. It will also include a How Can I which will lead to user friendly guides for the residents of Billerica. Check back often over the launch to watch how it will evolve. **EPA**

### **North Billerica Train Station**

On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Billerica Public Library kicked off Library Card Sign Up Month, a national event held every September, with a visit to the North Billerica Train Station. At the station, Community Services Librarian Lizzie Meier and Assistant Director Joe St. Germain greeted morning commuters with free Dunkin Donuts coffee and baked goods courtesy of the Family Friends of the Billerica Public Library. Over 60 commuters stopped by the table to learn about library services and programs, as well as to sign up for library cards and hear about the 12 local businesses that have partnered with the library for the month of September to offer Billerica residents discounts if they show their library card during their visit.

### **Library Summer Reading**

Summer Reading 2019 was a great success! Patrons of all ages were invited to participate in our “Neverland: An Adventure Awaits” summer reading challenge. Over 500 children, teens, and adults registered to participate in their respective summer reading challenges on our kick-off night, which was moved indoors due to rainy weather. By the end of the 6 week program, over 1,300 patrons of all ages participated in the challenges and attendance at our 64 summer reading related programs exceeded 4,000.

### **Greater Lowell Health Alliance Press Conference**

In conjunction with Billerica Substance Abuse, Greater Lowell Health Alliance will be holding a press conference on Tuesday at noon to announce some of the initiatives they will be working on this upcoming year including their fall events and more details about National Recovery Month and National Prevention month. District Attorney Marian Ryan will be in attendance and speaking. GLHA serves as a catalyst in identifying and addressing unmet healthcare needs, raising awareness, and providing resources for community partners to take actions that will lead to significant change.

### **Ditson School Study**

I have received a quote for a study of the Ditson School in the amount of \$34,500. I have attached the Scope of Services. I would recommend that all members read the 2004 study which is also attached. Additionally, I am recommending that the BOS take a tour of the building with a structural engineer. I will set this up if this is the will of the BOS.

### **Boat Launch 250 Boston Road**

Anthony Stella from Fishing and Boating Access will be making a presentation to the BOS on October 28<sup>th</sup>. He will let me know if anyone else is attending.

### **Middlesex Turnpike A-Cal Construction Site/Fence**

The Engineering Department reached out to Barletta Corp about the site at A-Cal (Manning Rd). They have a lease with A-Cal to use the site for the duration of the project which will be completed in 2022 and they plan to continue to operate out of that location. The Contractor said he has made efforts to minimize disruptions, with posting signs and not working prior to 7am. He said that they actually worked this past Saturday and spent extra time to stage everything so that they didn't have to use that area on Saturday and disturb anyone.

I have also sent a letter to the Director of District Four outlining the BOS request. I am waiting on a response.

I received a quote for a fence for Mr. Hogan's property. It would cost \$19,175 to construct 575 feet of 6 foot vinyl fence or CLF with vinyl slats (\$65/FT x 575 FT). However as stated in the last meeting this

cannot be considered until the project is complete which will be in 2022. Prices will change between now and then. I recommend revisiting this issue for consideration as the project nears completion.

### **Memorials and Benches Request**

It appears that the school committee voted to request that certain benches and plaques be placed at Alumni Field. Presuming these are not related to the memorials and are previous class gifts I do not see any issue with the exception that I would like to have Mike Haines review the locations since his department is maintaining the fields