



Town of Wenham

Selectmen / Town Administrator

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Selectmen
FROM: Peter Lombardi, Town Administrator
RE: Town Administrator's Report
DATE: May 15, 2018

Enon One Facility

Enon One, the Town's historic fire pumper, will be back on display in time for our 375th celebration. Originally located for many years behind the Fire Station, the pumper will now be housed in a prefabricated 12x28' structure behind Town Hall by the upper parking lot. The concrete footings are scheduled to be installed next week and the new shed should be delivered in the next few weeks. Over the summer, the shed will be painted, landscaping will be completed, and interpretive signage will be designed and installed. Enon One will be in the 375th parade on the morning of September 8, with a ribbon cutting ceremony planned for later that afternoon commemorating its return to town.

Street Tree Inventory and Management Plan

Funded in part with \$5k in grant funding from MIIA, Bartlett Tree Experts recently completed a Tree Inventory and Management Plan for more than 300 street trees on our main roads - Walnut, Larch, Grapevine, Dodges, Arbor, Monument, Cherry, Maple, and Topsfield. Based on their assessment, they recommend that all of the trees they evaluated either need pruning (55%) or to be removed (45%). With only \$25k in funding for tree removal programmed into the FY19 budget, I will be working with the DPW Director and Tree Warden to develop a plan to tackle the highest priority trees for removal starting in July so we can spend our limited funds as strategically as possible. As part of this process, we will also develop a planting plan to replace trees that are removed, but may need additional funds to make progress on that front. Bartlett's inventory provides helpful data to address this longstanding issue across town as we balance considerations of risk management with the aesthetic impact on our neighborhoods.

Pingree Park Tennis Courts

The Hamilton-Wenham Regional District School Committee discussed this issue at their May 9 meeting and concluded that they have no plans to construct new tennis courts on school grounds in the foreseeable future but expressed interest in understanding what Wenham's plans are for the courts at Pingree Park. They currently have 54 participants in the Boys & Girls Varsity and Junior Varsity teams, and need 6 playable courts from late March through early June in order to practice and host home matches.

The Recreation Director conducted a follow-up inspection of the 3 courts at Patton Park, which are in relatively good condition. There are no known issues with the nets as those all measure regulation height. Although there are a few minor cracks, they will be filled at minimal cost in the next few weeks. While the contractor is on site doing that work, the Recreation Director will get their input in terms of the need for any substantial repairs, although none are anticipated at this time. In the meantime, the WVIS has generously allowed the tennis teams to use their courts these past couple weeks. Alternative scenarios to address this issue both short- and long-term, besides full reconstruction of the Pingree Park courts, may include working out an arrangement with the WVIS and/or Gordon College for use of their courts.