

TOWN OF KINGSTON

Memorandum

**Office of the
Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator**

TO: Honorable Board of Selectmen
FROM: Nancy Howlett, Assistant to Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen
DATE: September 22, 2011
SUBJECT: Staff Report for the BOS Meeting of September 27, 2011

WIND TURBINE PRE-CONSTRUCTION MEETING AND GROUNDBREAKING

A Pre-construction meeting was held on September 22nd. Items discussed were;

- Discussion of WPLM-AM concern about turbine interference with radio station signal. Kially has letter he will address with WPLM
- Discussion of MBTA wind turbine possible interference with Kingston Independence. No turbulence expected. The general rule is "Ten (10) rotor diameters of distance = No effect" The MBTA turbine will have 35 foot long blades of approximately 80 feet in diameter. As long as our turbine is more than 800 feet away (it is) there should be no ill effects. In addition to the distance their turbine is not lined up on the prevailing wind, is 268 feet shorter (from the ground to the tip of the blade and will be at a considerable lower elevation.
- Discussion about prospects for using excavation from Transfer Station reconfiguration for fill and grading at the landfill.
- Discussion about need to fill some areas where landfill is settling and strategies to do so
- Discussion about D & C funding peer review. There is an amount for such in the PPA.
 - Lynnfield engineering will do quality control for DEP
 - Weston and Sampson inspections for Town of Kingston
- Logistics of working around the transfer stations hours and especially during construction of access road and delivery of turbine
- Construction Schedule attached

After the meeting, a Ground-breaking Ceremony was held at the capped landfill, the site for the Wind Turbine. The rain stopped and the sun broke through just in time to enjoy the view from the top of the hill and consider the magnitude of the Turbine that would soon be built on the site. Speaking for the Green Energy Committee, Mark Beaton explained the significance in naming the Turbine "Independence", after the Brig Independence depicted on the Kingston Town Seal and the effort to become independent from the use of fossil fuels.

SURPLUS PROPERTY

We received a memo from the Waterfront Committee regarding a sailboat donated by the Hoban Family for the Recreation Dept. sailing program that is no longer being used. The boat is being stored outside the Maple Street Fire Station and is in disrepair. The condition is such that the Committee has requested that the Board declare it surplus. Once that is done, a value can be determined and it can be

sold in the Town's next surplus auction. It has also been requested that it be stored in another place due to the deteriorated condition. I will work with the Harbormaster and Highway Supt. to find a suitable storage place.

OLD COLONY ELDER SERVICES

Linda Felix received a letter of appreciation from the Board of Directors and staff of the Old Colony Elder Services for inviting them to attend the "Lunch and Learn" event held at the Senior Center. A raffle was held to benefit the OCES Nutrition Program and to continue providing services to the elderly.

RECOGNITION OF THOMAS GALLO

Linda Felix request that the Board recognize Thomas Gallo who volunteer to do custodial work at the Senior Center. Mr. Gallo filled in the gaps while the recruitment for the PT Custodian assigned to the Senior Center was completed. I respectfully request that the Board publicly thank Mr. Gallo.

ELM STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

We have received notification that the construction contract for the bridge replacement was advertise on September 17, 2011. Manny Patel from MDOT reports that construction should begin in about 120 days.

REPAIRS OF THE DAMAGE AT THE SENIOR CENTER

This week, a contract has been awarded to MCM, USA for the repairs to the Senior Center caused by a tree falling during Hurricane Irene. We received payment in the amount of \$25,318.00 from the Town's insurance through MIIA. The Town is responsible for a \$5,000 deductible.

MMA STATEWIDE ESSAY CONTEST FOR 6TH GRADERS

The Massachusetts Municipal Association announced the annual Essay Contest to raise public awareness, promote the attributes of good local government and encourage future leaders of Massachusetts to take an active interest in the community activities. Students are asked to complete the following; "If I were elected leader of my community, I would make a difference by...." I will be forwarding the information to the Superintendent so that the contest can be offered to students.