

Jim Palenick

From: Jim Palenick [jpalenick@dallasnc.net]
Sent: Friday, January 04, 2013 12:28 PM
To: 'Ricky Coleman'; 'ronniemorrow@att.net'; 'JOHN BEATY'; 'huggybarber@att.net'; 'hoylewithers@yahoo.com'; 'Martin, Scott'
Cc: 'Maria Stroupe'; 'Bill Trudnak'; 'A Martin'; 'Doug Huffman'; 'David Kahler'; 'Gary Buckner'; 'slambert@dallasnc.net'; 'jthomashunn@aol.com'
Subject: Town Manager's Weekly Report (#13)

Mayor & Board of Aldermen:

Please accept the following as the Town Manager's Report for the Week-ended Friday, January 4th, 2013.

- The Town received official word today, from the Office of the State Treasurer, that our Audit for Fiscal-year 2012 has been accepted and approved. As a result, I would expect to now have our Auditors, Collis & Associates, present the final document at the scheduled, February 12th Board Meeting.
- We have now finalized the placement of the required mulch under the newly-installed play-structures, so each is now fully-complete and open to public use. Specifically, this includes the structures at Cloninger Park and Jagers Park, and the new swingsets near the Gym.
- Last evening David Kahler conducted an open Public Informational Meeting to introduce and receive input on the PARTF Grant Application for the proposed "Phasel Improvements" at Jagers Park. This is the same as Agenda Item "8A" in your Board Packet for Tuesday night. Five (5) citizens were in attendance and heard a brief presentation on the proposal and there seemed to be a universal sense of support from those in attendance. A sign-up sheet was provided and minutes will be produced as part of the final Grant application submittal. We also are hoping to conduct a meeting of the Recreation Committee on Monday, prior the Board Meeting. Each of these steps of involvement, and documentation will allow us to potentially score better and be more competitive at the evaluation phase of the Grant award process. To that end, we also asked those in attendance last evening to submit and/or solicit additional letters of support from interested parties to further add to the grant packet materials.
- In conversation with Duke Energy representatives this week Doug Huffman learned that the results of our wholesale purchase power "true-up" for calendar-year 2012 (based on data from 10 months actually received, as well as reasonable projections for the remaining two months not yet confirmed) will be that the Town of Dallas should receive a positive adjustment (actual payment to us) which will exceed last year's positive True-up of \$ 187,000. Largely as a result of a combination of mild winter weather and the continuing historically-low natural gas prices, this is exceptionally good news and represents the largest such payment the Town will have received under our Agreement with Duke.
- Earlier in the week I completed and submitted an on-line Grant request to the Bank of America Foundation for capital funds on behalf of the Dallas Historic Courthouse Foundation fund-raising efforts for the Courthouse rehabilitation project. The request submitted asked for \$50,000 in support under their "Community Development" category of Grant-making and won't be acted upon until late spring. We will continue to look for similar type opportunities to submit additional requests as we become aware of them.
- We are now engaged in more spirited discussions with representatives of AT&T regarding the renegotiation of our Joint-Use Pole Attachment Agreement. Like their counterparts, Time-Warner and Charter Communications, they are now digging their heels in over our new Ordinance and its associated \$15 pole attachment fees. We have been being paid an absurdly-low \$1 per attachment by AT&T under the old agreement, and had so far gotten them to a higher, yet still-unacceptable \$9 for a new agreement; but as you know that is still better than the circumstances with Time -Warner and Charter where we have been receiving nothing. In each case we will continue to hold an absolute hard-line regarding our demands for no less than the Ordinance-established \$15 per attachment.
- David Kahler and Chief Lambert are in the process of preparing and submitting a Federal Grant request for \$4900 in funding for the acquisition of Fire prevention materials such as pamphlets and brochures used in our

ongoing outreach to school students and others. This program is competitive and we have not received a grant award since 2004. Knowing this, our request would fund multiple years of our prevention programming.

Thank You,

Jim Palenick
Interim Town Manager