

Town Manager's Weekly Report: (# 134)

For the Week-Ended: Friday, September 4, 2015

- The portable, electronic speed-monitoring signs purchased by the Police Department as provided for in this year's Budget have been delivered, and are now being test-utilized for the first time – with one installed on North Oakland, and the other on Trade Street East-bound near the bridge. They will continue to be placed at various locations in Town as the Department sees fit and in response to areas of speed concerns.
- The State of North Carolina Office of Budget and Management has provided us the yearly, "Certified estimate of permanent resident population" for the Town of Dallas, effective July 1, 2014. That number equals 4,687. This is the official state number and is used to support Grant applications and other formal reporting requirements.
- We are now moving forward with the installation of the new floor at the Dennis Franklin Memorial Gym, having authorized the low-bid contractor (Moe's flooring of Denver) to begin the work at their bid price just above \$52,000. They will install the vapor-barrier, sub-floor and new flooring, but hold off on final floor-finishing and logo-installation until the new HVAC system is installed. To that end, we are also finalizing the review of bids for that Air-conditioning and heating work and should be able to authorize an award by next week. In combination, we expect to complete both projects below the approved Budget of \$154,300.
- We are also now ready to award the contract for the signalization, pole, and mast-arm work for the two, Trade Street intersections to the low-bidder as soon as our consultant can put together the appropriate contract documentation. This portion of the intersection work, which was budgeted at \$250,000 has come in just above \$202,000, so it allows us some leeway as we now look to bid and award the paving/construction portion of the work. We have several local contractors who are looking at, and have indicated a desire to bid on, this NCDOT-approved pavement/crosswalk/sidewalk/infrastructure component to the project.
- We continue to see more and more interest in utilizing the online-bill pay option for utility customers as the availability and convenience of such option becomes more well-known. Specifically, in July (the first full-month after roll-out) we saw 114 transactions, while that number rose to 257 in the just-completed month of August.
- The Clean Fuel Advanced Technology (CFAT) project and companion Grant that the Town was awarded for the Charging Stations and electric vehicles has now been in service and evaluated long enough that the reporting period is concluding. So, with my final close-out report due on September 15th, we will have finished all our obligations relative to the Grant and can simply

enjoy the use of the vehicles and infrastructure with no remaining requirements for ongoing evaluation and reporting.

- The Town received the County Property Tax bill this week for the Setzer property that the Town purchased from Coleen Cloninger earlier in the year and which is now proposed for redevelopment as a Restaurant. Total County property Taxes on the \$76,778 –evaluated property is \$667.97; while the Town of Dallas portion would amount to \$291.76. Like all other County property owners, we have until January 6th to pay in full to avoid penalties and interest. Beginning next year, if the Town still owns the property, the building would become tax-exempt due to government ownership.

Respectfully Submitted,

James M. Palenick, Interim Town Manager