

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

### August 2015

#### Revenue

Nothing new to report.

#### Beautification

We have received the latest engineering designs and associated cost from Holden Engineering. Included are granite curbing for the parking islands and concrete sidewalks. The cost estimates \$405,081.63. These numbers are engineering estimates of construction costs. They are not actual costs that have been bid out. The original cost estimate from the Landscape Architects was \$718,827.00. A presentation is scheduled for the August 18 Selectboard meeting where Peter Holden will explain the design and cost estimates.

#### Events

The Blueberry Parade is scheduled for August 1.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Concert in the Dover Park was held with Patty Carpenter and the Dysfunctional Family Jazz Band. The concerts have been drawing approximately 70 – 125 spectators. We will evaluate the event at the conclusion of all concerts.

#### Marketing

Eilis Cahill, producer from Caterpillar Event LLC (Preggers), has notified us that she wants to shoot some scenes at the Austrian Haus. She is in contact with them to work out the details. The shoot dates are September 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>. They will bring 10 – 12 people to the shoot. As for accommodations, they are renting a ski house from Airbnb.

We have installed 2 new benches as part of the donation program. They are from Virginia Dittrich and Gail Filler. We have another bench on order for Louie Cibischino.

The picnic table that was ordered for the park and was on back order was shipped, but damaged in shipping, so it never arrived. Although we will need to reorder it, we should evaluate if it makes sense to wait until next spring.

#### DASP

##### FY '14 – '15

To date 18 applicants have applied for \$23,253.92 of the \$24,000 in DASP funding. To date we paid \$14,066.30 in rebate amounts. We have \$9,933.70 remaining in unpaid funding.

##### FY '15 – '16

To date 3 applicant has applied for \$6,412.80 of the \$24,000 in DASP funding. To date we have paid \$0.00

#### Do-It

##### FY '14 – '15

Green Mountain Nutmeggers is the only business who still needs to submit paid invoices for the work performed. They have until August 31 to do so.

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#### FY '15 – '16

To date 16 applicants have applied for all of the \$36,000 budgeted for the program. To date we have paid \$2,500. There have been no other requests for funding since the beginning of July. When comparing project cost to rebate cost, the total project cost is \$61,369.10 and the total rebate cost is \$36,000. Only 7 of the 16 applicants will spend a project cost equal to the rebate cost. 56% of the businesses are adding additional funding to their projects.

#### Bi-Town

Nothing new to report

#### **Telecommunications**

I have been unable to secure a meeting with Vtel to discuss wireless telecommunications development. Laying fiber is still in the \$25,000 per mile category. Vtel claims that their service will be operational from the Rice Hill Tower of Green Mountain Power by the end of summer, 2015. We will have to evaluate at that time. Another potential solution is for municipal takeover of the internet bandwidth. Perhaps discussions with Burlington, VT would shed some light on the costs and pitfalls of such a project.

In conversations with the head of their wireless program at Vtel, Jeff Monder, they will initiate service from their Rice Hill tower by the end of the summer. The antennas have been installed and they are waiting for installation of bandwidth to the tower. This will come in the form of a microwave backhaul off of a tower at Mount Snow. It is expected that service will hit the west side of the ridge, Cooper Hill Road, and parts of Dover Hill Road. It is not known what the maximum bandwidth or costs are, but 40 Mbps was mentioned as a bandwidth for the area.

We also spoke about a more aggressive infrastructure within Dover and a meeting with Michel Guite. Their website offers Internet plans of 1 Gbps for \$60 per month and 10 Gbps for \$400 per month. This is a direct fiber connection. The cost estimate of \$25,000 per mile to lay the fiber was mentioned.

#### **Website**

Nothing new to report

#### **Trails**

##### Road, Parking Area and Trail Leading to Ridge Trail from Handle Road

Andy McLean and I met with members of the US Forest Service to build a road, parking area and assess an existing logging trail leading to the Ridge Trail, all from Handle Road just south of Bears Crossing. In attendance were David Francomb (District Ranger for the Manchester Ranger District), Carol Knight (Project Coordinator) and David Donahue (Engineer). We walked the proposed trail discussing the objectives of the project. The US Forest Service wants to prohibit snowmobiling, motorized vehicles and mountain biking to prevent excessive damage to the trails in question. They also want the town to demonstrate that we have the personnel, either paid or volunteer, to maintain the proposed trail and trailhead. They will furnish us with a list of design specifications for us to develop a proposal due in the March 2016 timeframe. We will submit that proposal for Selectboard approval prior to that submission. It will identify all design and cost considerations. Funding for the project should come from Economic Development as part of our trails initiative.

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Dover/Wilmington Trail:

Nothing new to report.

Valley Trail A:

Contractor plans for Trail A have been submitted to Vtrans. Explanations regarding comments made by Vtrans on the final plan have been answered by Roger Dickinson. We have received the formal Right of Way certificate (ROW) from Vtrans. The proverbial ball is currently with Vtrans. Once the Contractor plans are approved, we can then advertise at any time. In separate conversations with Vtrans and L&D Engineering, it is suggested that we wait until year end or January to advertise. The reason given is that with fluctuating materials costs, construction companies are reluctant to give accurate bids for say 6 – 8 months hence. What they do is raise the estimate to account for such price fluctuations.

Another approach suggested by Roger Dickinson is to perform some preliminary tasks later this year. This will leave the area in a state of disarray at the start of the winter season. I believe we should start fresh when the frost leaves around mid May, 2016. It will take approximately 3 months to complete the project including street light installation.

Task	Duration (business days)	Responsibility	Notes
Issuance of a 1111 permit	5 days	Vtrans	Done concurrently with Final Plan approval
Issuance of a Right of Way Certificate	5 days	Vtrans	Done
Final Plan approval	21 days	Vtrans	
Utility Clearance	5 days	GMP/Fairpoint	
Contractor Plans Development & Approval	21 days	Lamoureux & Dickinson/Vtrans	Contractor Plans completed and sent to Vtrans but not approved. Can occur simultaneously with final plan approval
Contractor Advertising	21 days	Vtrans/Economic Development	
Resident Engineer Advertising & Selection	21 days	Economic Development/Vtrans	Can occur simultaneously with contractor advertising
Construction Award	21 days	L&D, Vtrans, Economic Development, Dover Selectboard	Includes review of bids and presentation to Dover Selectboard

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Construction	3 months	TBD	
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To date we have spent \$111,005.25 of the \$118,208 engineering study. This leaves \$7,202.75 remaining on the engineering contract.

The cost estimate for the Valley Trail A sidewalk project is now \$759,156.51. **This leaves a current deficit of (\$46,654.67).** The actual bids will change this number.

The cost for street lighting was taken directly from the actual cost at the Dover Park. We did have some issues with the company who manufactured the lights and would consider switching to an alternate company whose light is similar. The pole would remain the same. The previous lighting estimate did not reflect the cost of installing the concrete poles which the highway department performed. Installing 21 lights versus 4 is a far different task. This function is now added to the street light cost as well as a modest increase in the cost of the light caused by switching companies.

The current cost estimate for the project is listed below. This contains the latest cost estimate from the project engineer.

Valley Trail A Minus: Dorr Fitch to Tollgate Village and Valley Trail B Plus: Mountain Park Plaza to Stugger Rd:

The cost for the additional engineering on the bridge portion of Valley Trail A- is \$17,133.79. This cost is payable from the construction grant. Given the length of time necessary to satisfy the grant requirements, I feel it is unlikely that construction will take place in 2016. It is more likely to be in 2017.

The cost estimate is based on a bridge project that L&D is working on in Williston, VT. This estimate does not include contingency, resident engineer or easement costs. We will get a better feel for actual prices on A- as we get into the construction portion of A, next spring.

Holden Engineering was chosen as the engineering firm to perform the scoping study on B+

Valley Trail C: Stugger Road to South Access Road

The application for a scoping study grant was submitted to Vtrans. Decisions are expected in the late August or early September 2015 timeframe.

Trails Trail Balance

Item	Cost
<b>Trail A</b>	
<u>Revenue</u>	
Trail "A" Account	\$407,305.84
Federal Grant	\$300,000.00
Sub Total	\$707,305.84
<u>Expense</u>	

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Current Construction Estimate	\$446,646.80
State Suggested Contingency	\$44,664.68
Resident Engineer	\$89,329.36
Remaining L&D Engineering	\$7,202.75
Street Lights (21)	\$126,000.00
Electrical Accessories (Wire, Conduit, etc)	\$29786.92
Easement Costs	\$10,330.00
Sub Total	\$753,960.51
<u>Net Revenue/Expense Total</u>	<b>(\$46,654.67)</b>
<b>Trail A- (Tollgate Village to Dorr Fitch Rd)</b>	
<u>Revenue</u>	
Trail "A-" Account (Local Portion)	\$32,349.45
Federal Grant Portion	\$263,510.00
State Grant Portion	\$28,990.00
Sub Total	\$324,849.25
<u>Expense</u>	
L&D Engineering	\$17,133.79
Bridge over Deerfield River	\$270,000.00
Resident Engineer	N/A
Construction	\$60,000.00
Street Lights	N/A
Sub Total	\$347,133.79
<u>Net Revenue/Expense Total</u>	<b>(\$22,284.54)</b>
<b>Trail B+ Scoping Study (Mountain Park Plaza to West Dover Fire House)</b>	
<u>Revenue</u>	
Trail B+ Account (Local Portion)	\$2,777.30
Federal Grant Portion	\$26,756.00
State Grant Portion	\$2,944.00
Sub Total	\$32,477.30
<u>Expense</u>	
Advertising for Scoping Study	\$135.89
Engineering Study	\$22,919.71
<u>Net Revenue/Expense Total</u>	\$9,121.70

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**Venue**

The schedule is listed below.

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|--|------------------|-----------|
| • Miles Band   | (Popular – Rock) | July 5    |
| • The Equalites  | (Reggae)         | July 12   |
| • The Lonesome Brothers                                  | (American Rock)  | July 19   |
| • Patty Carpenter and the Dysfunctional Family Jazz Band | (Jazz)           | July 26   |
| • Stockwell Brothers                                     | (Bluegrass)      | August 2  |
| • Slippery Sneakers                                      | (Zydeco)         | August 9  |
| • American Pop   | (Popular – Rock) | August 16 |
| • The Nines  | (Popular – Rock) | August 23 |

**Financial**

Full statements are included under separate cover.