



# Town of Abington

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY  
ABINGTON, MA 02351

TO: BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
FROM: TOWN MANAGER  
DATE: January 10, 2014  
SUBJ: GENERAL UPDATE

***The following is meant to be a general update of activities of the Town Manager and staff. Should any member desire more information regarding any particular matter please contact me personally.***

1. Memorial Arch – We received 4 bids for the Masonry piece of the project (by far the largest part of the project). One was quite low and was subsequently withdrawn by the bidder. The next three were reasonably close. The issue presented is that acceptance of the remaining low bid will likely not leave sufficient funds to complete the bronze restoration piece with a subsequent appropriation, however, in the interests of moving this project forward and not re-bidding with all of the potential bidders now having knowledge of each other's pricing (which I am advised by the project manager will not likely result in an advantage for the town) I will likely be awarding this bid next week upon final concurrence by the project manager. In the meantime we will be seeking additional grant funds to assist with the project and getting the bronze restoration procurement moving forward. As you all know the goal is to have this work line up for the early spring.
2. Chestnut Street/Hancock Street Intersection Road Safety Audit – Old Colony Planning Council is in the process of choosing a date (and alternate date in the event of weather issues).
3. Financial – 5 Year Forecast has been/will be forwarded to you for Board meeting. This the information that I provided to the Finance Committee this past week. I am drafting narrative to accompany the spreadsheet document which should be done next week. Obviously the point is to provide focus for FY 15. Budget requests have been compiled and will be forwarded to the Finance Committee next week. I have met with all departments with the exception of the School Department to discuss their budget submissions. I have also met with the Finance Committee to coordinate their meeting schedules with department heads which will likely begin in February.
4. Human Resources Audit – Per my last update I have executed the scope of services with the Collins Center to conduct this project. I have also discussed this with the Finance Committee in the event I need their cooperation in moving funds later in the fiscal year if necessary. We are looking for 3<sup>rd</sup> party assistance to fund all or part of the project.
5. Veteran's District – I have a follow up meeting with the Town Administrator of Whitman next week to continue to formulate a proposal to the Dept. of Veterans Affairs.
6. Web Site – We have continued to try to be more dynamic in the use of the site as a resource for the public to access community events, etc. Our Network/IT Administrator Wayne Norling has informed me that the number email alerts available is up to 17 and there are over 900 people signed up to received instant email notifications. Another question to consider is whether or not it is prudent for the town government to also move into the realm of social media.
7. Griffins Dairy – We are researching procurement models for the removal of the house and barn on this property. You will recall that the town did appropriate funds for this purpose. The goal would be to have a procurement out this winter for a spring project.