

TO: Mayor Craig and Town Council
FROM: Kenneth Vittum, Interim Town Manager
RE: Council Report for February 25-March 1, 2019
DATE: March 1, 2019

- **Storm Water Update** – Last weekends rains caused several flooding problems locally. There was road closings on Tunnel Street and East Main. The streets were reopened as soon as flood water receded enough to allow safe passage. One of the 24” drains on East Main was blocked by a trash can that floated in and lodged. This did not help the situation at this location. The Sewer Plant reported four manholes and two pump stations that overflowed. The appropriate reports were submitted to DEQ. The Plant did not overflow and peaked at 11.5 million gallons. By Monday flow was down to 9 million gallons.
- **Health Insurance** – The town’s carrier has notified staff that rates will increase 10.3% next fiscal year. This results in 28% increase over the last 3 years.
- **Urban Path** – Plans are moving forward for an April 12th Grand Opening. Any remaining funds in the budget will be directed towards needed signage. Staff is targeting substantial completion for March 29 to prepare for the Opening day.
- **O. Winston Link Photos** – These have been removed from the Finley House for repair and framing adjustments. They will be reinstalled prior to the busy season this spring.
- **Watauga Project** – The engineering design plans have been received from T&L. Notice to Bid has been advertised. Bids will be opened mid-March with award scheduled for the April council meeting.
- **Fairview** – Contracts are being reviewed by the parties and staff is hoping to have this completed for the April council meeting.
- **Mountain Bike Park** – Preliminary planning continues on this project. April 1-3 meetings and site visits have been set up look at and begin planning the facility.
- **Sinking Springs Cemetery** – Work on markers and landscaping is completed. Two trees fell in the cemetery during the recent storm and are being removed. Staff recommends that the fence not be moved due to cost and continued use of a parking space.
- **Trestle Study** – Work is underway to finalize the scope and budget for the project. A late spring advertisement is planned with work completed this summer.
- **Sappo Property** – Staff is advertising for agricultural lease on this property. This should be completed in March.
- **July 4th Fireworks** – Staff has had to change vendors this year and will be contracting with Dynamic Effects out of Rogersville, Tn.
- **Washington County Sewer Agreement** – Staff will meet with CHA next week to review pre-treatment requirements and needed language regarding this. Staff will meet with the county administrator and service authority on March 12 to prepare a final draft. This will be sent to attorneys and council for review. Final adoption would be at a joint meeting April 9.
- **Green Springs Road** – With weather delays the Substantial Completion date is now March 24 with Final Completion date of April 24. This gives a limited window for any additional change orders to be submitted.

- **Urban Path Railroad Crossings** – This project is being considered for a VDOT Enhancement Project. Preliminary Application is due in May. Full application would be in the Fall. This is 80/20 Funding. A Resolution will be on the April council agenda for this project. Estimated cost of this project is \$100,000.
- **Sports Complex** – Plan documents are now at the 90% complete stage. Remaining work includes Final Grading and Bid Documents. The project has been flown with drone to prepare for final mapping. This will be available next week. CHA will work with staff on recommending the Final Grading as a Green Springs Change Order or as a separate bid. If bid, it would include project water, sewer, and storm water components. The thought is that a Change Order could save significant amounts by eliminating mobilization costs. Staff will attempt to resolve this prior to the March work session so that a Change Order could be submitted prior to the Green Springs Road Substantial Completion date. Staff plans to meet again March 21 and CHA will have a report at the April 1 council meeting.
- **Sports Complex Funding** – Staff continues to look for and apply for additional funding for the project. CHA is taking the lead on applying for VDOT Bikeway (\$75,000 grant/\$15,000 match) and VDOT Recreational Access (\$350,000 grant/\$100,000 match). Town staff will take a lead in US Soccer Foundation (\$50,000-65,000+), Baseball Tomorrow Fund (\$40,000+/-), and AEP (\$50,000). In addition, staff will be looking into grants for score board and working towards private donation effort.
- **Thursday Jam** – The regional chapter of the American Advertising Awards honored Abingdon with a Golden Addy and Judges Choice Award, their highest awards, for Thursday Jam. The designer for Abingdon's 80's Block Party, Nathan Wampler, received a Silver Addy.
- **Muster Grounds** – Staff is meeting next week to plan the schedule for installation of the new Trail.
- **The Meadows** – Construction is underway on the first buildings for the commercial development.
- **Noise Ordinance** – Staff and the town attorney are looking at the Ordinance to determine what changes, if any, are needed. This is a follow up to a recent noise complaint.
- **Budget** – Staff is working on the draft of the new budget. Council meetings are set for next week to review department requests.