

2010 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION

We started the year off with snow on New Year's Eve and a very prolonged storm on January 2nd and 3rd lasting over 24 hours and leaving us with 6" of snow.

The DPW Water Division hosted a workshop with other Town Departments and has begun the process of converting its billing system to the new SoftRight system.

The DPW has been involved in a very comprehensive energy conservation effort for all Town buildings. Throughout this process, DPW staff dealt with twelve separate agencies and companies and as a result, the Town received over \$500,000 in energy grants as follows:

\$350,000	for a 50 KW Solar Facility
\$75,000	for Building Energy Audits
\$300	Gas Company Rebates
\$45,425	National Grid for their small Commercial Lighting Program
\$48,617	National Grid for their Large Commercial/ Industrial Lighting Program
\$11,650	The Massachusetts Green Communities Technical Assistance Program
\$8,000	Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust

The DPW provided setup of three polling locations for the special election of U.S. Senator held on January 19th; set-up for the November 2nd election at the Oliver Ames High School and set-up for Town Meetings at the Oliver Ames High School on April 5th, May 17th and June 14th.

Renovations were completed at Frothingham Hall on Barrows Street in January to allow for the relocation of the Council on Aging and Recreation Department into that facility. A kick-off meeting was held on February 8th with the Town Administrator, the Frothingham Hall Steering Committee and representatives of CBT Architects, the architect selected to design the Frothingham Hall Community Center. The committee participated in a LEED Charrette regarding the Green Sustainability Design of Frothingham Hall. This was a working session with Architects, Engineers and Town Officials discussing building finishes, approaches to design and operation issues of various systems

Preliminary discussions were held with the Town's consultant Woodard and Curran on the proposed plan of establishing a wastewater district and the necessary regulations to fund the operation.

On January 28th the DPW Water Division conducted a public bid opening for the installation of water mains on Gary Lane and Red Mill Road. Twenty seven bids were received with prices ranging from \$109,000.00 to \$195,000.00. The bid was awarded to the low qualified bidder, Blue Diamond Equipment Company of Foxboro, MA in the amount of \$109,786.30.

The Traffic Safety Committee met with the Board of Selectmen on Monday February 8th along with BETA Traffic Engineers to discuss improvements to the roadway system and sidewalks in and around the school complex between Lothrop Street and Columbus Ave.

At the Selectmen's meeting held on February 22nd, the DPW was honored along with other members of Easton's Executive Loss Control Committee and received an award from the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Agency (MIIA) for the committee's outstanding efforts during the past year.

The DPW Director was a guest speaking in a MIIA Seminar "The DPW Road to Excellence and participated as a speaker at a Source Water Protection Workshop hosted by the EPA and DEP discussing the protection of Easton's Aquifers.

The DPW hosted a meeting with the Massachusetts Environmental Protection Agency (MEPA) Hearing on Monday March 22nd regarding the improvements to the 5-Corners intersection. The DPW staff attended the Conservation Commission Meeting regarding the issuance of an Order of Conditions for the 5-Corners roadway improvements and DPW staff attended a preconstruction meeting on November 3rd at the Massachusetts Department of Transportation District #5 regarding the reconstruction of the 5-Corners Intersection.

Easton experienced severe flooding in March after two back to back 6" rain storms soaked the Northeast, breaking all records of rainfall for the month of March as well as becoming the second wettest month of all. The DPW filled over a thousand sand bags and placed them along the French's Pond Dam on Union Street to prevent road flooding, the Shovel Shop Dam off Pond Street and many flood prone locations throughout the community. Norton Avenue was closed due to severe flooding. Signs and barrels were used throughout town to alert motorists of potential flooding areas. The DPW yard on Center Street required pumping to allow municipal vehicles access to the fuel pumps. All dams in Easton were monitored throughout the storm. The Police Chief, Fire Chief and the DPW Director were in constant contact during the storm. On May 10th and July 7th, DPW staff attended FEMA meetings regarding reimbursements for storm related activities between the emergency declaration period of March 12th through April 26, 2010.

The DPW staff provided a training seminar for students of the Southeastern Regional Technical High School who participated in the Envirothon competition regarding water quality protection issues.

A meeting to discuss necessary repairs to the Long Pond Dam was called by the Town Administrator. Members of the Easton DPW, the Town Manager of Stoughton and Stoughton's engineering staff were present. The cutting and removal of all trees on the Long Pond Dam was completed by the Building and Grounds Division. This was one of the largest in-house projects that the Department has done in many years.

The Department of Public Works hosted several public events in 2010:

A very successful 26th Annual Household Hazardous waste collection day was held on Saturday April 24th at the DPW on Center Street with 524 residents participating.

The Community Pride Roadside Cleanup was held on Saturday April 24th and Sunday April 25th with dozens of Easton residents assisting the DPW in the 3rd annual cleanup.

The Town was honored for the 22nd consecutive year as Tree City USA and Arbor Day was celebrated on Friday April 30th with the planting of two Tulip Trees at the Ames Free Library. Town officials and residents were present for the program.

The Water Division held its 26th Annual Open House and Poster Contest on Saturday May 1st at 417 Bay Road with approximately 100 attendees.

The Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee held its 23rd Annual Awareness Day on Saturday May 8th at the Mansfield Fish and Game Club. Twenty members and guests were present for the program.

GIS Day was celebrated on November 17th with displays at the DPW

On Tuesday May 4th the Easton Water Division was honored at the State House during the National Drinking Water Week Celebration by receiving an award from the DEP for our continued excellence in providing safe drinking water to the residents of Easton.

Annual mowing of the 22 acre closed landfill site on Prospect Street was completed. Repairs were made to the computerized flare and the underground electric service at the landfill. On August 2, 2010 a meeting was held at the closed landfill site on Prospect Street with Town and State officials to discuss the options of

installing a solar energy collection site on the landfill and what procedures and permits would be necessary to proceed with such a project.

The DPW provides data, maps, and support for all Town of Easton Departments. The GIS Specialist has created “in-house” GIS map layers amounting to 60 layers (these are comprised of map layer geometry and linked tabular information). Of these, 6 GIS map layers have been developed through importing and correcting over 5700 GPS coordinates collected by DPW and Water Division personnel. Additionally, numerous paper maps have been scanned and geo-referenced for use in GIS to further the digitization of parcels and infrastructure including drainage, building floor plans, and water system components. The data utilized in performing GIS mapping and analysis includes MassGIS map layers of which more than 200 are currently available for download.

The DPW held an open house for retiring Water Division employee Raymond Keyes who completed 45 years of service to the DPW.

I would like to praise the entire staff at the Department of Public Works for their dedication to the community throughout the year.

The DPW office staff Shirley Tufts, Jan Jacobson and Karen Gallo strives to provide knowledgeable service to all our customers.

The DPW managers, John Marsh, Maurice Goulet, John Fresh and Paul O’Neill have provided excellent leadership to their respective Divisions.

Please visit our website www.eastondpw.org/dpw

“With Community Pride”

Wayne P. Southworth, Director