

The Claremont City Council held a meeting on Wednesday, February 10, 2010, in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Cutts at 6:30 p.m.

Members of the Council present were:

Ward II Councilor Keith Raymond  
Ward III Councilor Nicholas Koloski  
Assistant Mayor Andrew Austin  
Mayor Deborah Cutts  
At-Large Councilor Adam Burke  
At-Large Councilor Christopher Lewis  
At-Large Councilor Kyle Messier  
At-Large Councilor Jeffrey Goff (Late)

Absent:

Ward I Councilor Victor Bergeron (Excused)

Also present were:

Guy Santagate, City Manager  
Jane Taylor, City Solicitor

#### **REPORT OF THE SECRETARY**

**A motion was made by Mr. Raymond and seconded by Mr. Lewis to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2010, City Council meeting.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 7-0.**

#### **MAYOR'S NOTES**

##### Stevens High School Student Council Update

None

Mr. Burke briefed Council about the New Elected Officials Workshop given by LGC (Local Government Center). He recommended the workshop to all Councilors.

Mayor Cutts talked about the Council tour and as soon as a date is set, Councilors will be notified.

At 6:32 p.m., Mr. Goff arrived.

Mr. Koloski talked about ribbon cuttings for new businesses and new or expanded locations for current businesses (Joe's Family Car Care - addition; Out Fit U - Pleasant Street - New Business; Ming Cheng - Pleasant Street - New Business; Elegant Bridal - 35 Pleasant Street - New Ownership; NCL Imaging and Awards - 51 Pleasant Street - Name Change; The Pool Man - 164 Washington Street - New Ownership; Big Brothers/Sisters - 126 Washington Street - New Location; Heather's Helping Hands - 137 Maple Ave. #1 - New Business)

Mayor Cutts acknowledged and congratulated employees who are Roads Scholars through the State of New Hampshire.

City employees who are currently a level I or higher Roads Scholar:

Level 1:

Companion, Peter  
Condon, David  
DeCoteau, Scott  
Lee, Arthur  
Miller, Dan  
Miller, Larry  
Murray, Todd  
Paranto, Forrest

Level 2:

Hamilton, Ken

Level 3 (Senior Roads Scholar):

Miller, Terry

Level 4 (Master Roads Scholar):

Frechette, Henri  
Hanson, James  
Hooper, Dean

Roads Scholar Level 1 requires 25 contact hours or 5 one-day workshops.

Roads Scholar Level 2 requires 50 contact hours and specific subject area coverage or 10 one-day workshops.

Senior Roads Scholar (Level 3) requires 75 contact hours or 15 one-day workshops.

Master Roads Scholar (Level 4) requires 100 contact hours or 20 one-day workshops.

Mayor Cutts said she had received two citizen complaints. One was from Mr. Gates in reference to snow removal. The complaint was referred to the City Manager. It was worked out and Mr. Gates thanked the City. Another one was from Mr. Gauthier in reference to a rental property. The problem has also been resolved and Mr. Gauthier is pleased with the response from the City.

Mayor Cutts thanked Stevens High School Freshman, Victoria Webster, for communicating her concerns and suggestions for improving processes in the community. They were referred to Public Works and Public Works is following up.

Mayor Cutts thanked Ann Cleveland for letting the Council know that Father Stan had a double knee replacement. She wished him well.

#### **APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

##### Claremont Development Authority

**Mr. Burke nominated Keith Raymond to seat #1 of the Claremont Development Authority.**

**Ms. Messier nominated Robert Porter to seat #2 of the Claremont Development Authority.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 7-1 with Mr. Raymond abstaining.**

##### Goodwin Community Center Commission

**Mr. Raymond nominated Theodore Hopkins to seat #4 of the Goodwin Community Center Commission.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 8-0.**

##### Tax Increment Finance District Advisory Board – River Road

**Ms. Messier nominated Harvey Hill to seat #1 of the Tax Increment Finance District Advisory Board – River Road.**

**Mr. Burke nominated Robert Porter to seat #4 of the Tax Increment Finance District Advisory Board – River Road.**

**Mr. Raymond nominated Allen Damren to seat #5 of the Tax Increment Finance District Advisory Board – River Road.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 8-0.**

Mr. Raymond noted that seat #3 (property owner) is still vacant.

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Mayor Cutts recognized the late Robert Woodman for the work he had done and sent sympathies to his family.

**Mr. Goff nominated Thomas Rock to seat #4 of the Zoning Board of Adjustment.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 8-0.**

Council Board Seats

Airport Advisory – **Mr. Burke nominated Mr. Raymond.** Mr. Raymond accepted.

Board of Appeals – Mayor Cutts said Mr. Bergeron had indicated he was interested. **Mr. Koloski nominated Mr. Bergeron.**

Conservation Commission – **Mr. Goff nominated Mr. Koloski.** Mr. Koloski accepted.

Claremont Community Television Board of Directors (Seat 1 Vacant) – **Mr. Raymond nominated Mr. Lewis.** Mr. Lewis accepted.

Historic District Commission – Mayor Cutts expressed her desire to continue on this board.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 8-0.**

Mr. Austin noted that Winterfest would be happening at Arrowhead February 12 through 20.

Motion - License for 2-6 Tremont Street

Nancy Merrill, Planning and Development Director, said that 2-6 Tremont Street has a new owner (Lone Pine Capital, LLC) and the property needs to have handicap accessibility. Pathways is the new tenant. The handicapped access will have to extend over the City sidewalk and the owner is requesting approval of a license to accommodate the access.

Mr. Koloski asked if abutters need to be notified of this. Matthew Nelson, Lone Pine Capital, LLC, said this issue is on the schedule for the Historic District Commission (HDC) meeting and abutters can express their opinions there. He said he is the abutter on one side and his broker is the abutter on the other side. Ms. Merrill said this request is for authorization for him to put a ramp in, but the matter will go to HDC.

**A motion was made by Mr. Burke and seconded by Mr. Koloski to authorize the City Manager or his designees to negotiate, execute and take all such actions as may be required to enter into a license agreement with Lone Pine Capital LLC for construction of an ADA-compliant pedestrian access across City-owned sidewalk for entry into a building located at 2-6 Tremont Street, Parcel 120-46. Said license shall expire upon development of**

**alternative ADA-compliant pedestrian access; change in law, regulation or building reconstruction making it no longer necessary; or destruction or removal of the building by any cause or for any reason. Said license to be detailed in an appropriate License Agreement to be filed in the Sullivan County Registry of Deeds.**

Mr. Goff asked about the process. Ms. Merrill said because the ramp goes onto the public sidewalk, there would have to be an easement or a license. This license will go with the owner.

Mr. Koloski asked about liability. Ms. Taylor said the license agreement will include those provisions.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 8-0.**

Acceptance of \$3,500 in Exercise Equipment for the Fire Department from Professional Firefighters of Claremont Local 1571

Fire Chief Peter Chase explained the Claremont Professional Firefighters received a \$2,000 wellness grant and along with \$1,500 of their own money, purchased new exercise equipment for the Fire Department and they asked the City to accept it as a gift.

**A motion was made by Mr. Koloski and seconded by Mr. Lewis to authorize the city manager, or his designees, to accept a WELLDollars Grant in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2000.00) from NH Local Government Center HealthTrust, LLC for the purchase of exercise equipment for the Claremont Fire Department and to accept a donation of exercise equipment for the benefit of the Claremont Fire Department valued at one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) from the Professional Firefighters of Claremont, Local 1571.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 8-0.**

Motion – Lease for Innovative Homes Maps 68-14 and 68-15

Mr. Santagate said in August Council voted to sell a piece of property to Innovative Homes so they can develop it. There have been some delays in clearing the title. In order not to delay development of the property, the City is asking to enter into a short-term lease until the title can clear and the property be transferred. A sale office will be constructed and homes will be displayed.

Mr. Goff asked why it has taken six months to get to this point. Mr. Santagate said the City had run into legal questions (technicalities). This step prevents delay from continuing. Mr. Goff said he has heard complaints about the speed at which city hall works. Mr. Santagate explained the delay is not on our side of the ledger. People talk about process and government is laden with processes.

Mr. Koloski asked if the lease would slow the process of getting the property back on the tax rolls. Mr. Santagate said the lease is month-to-month and the City is willing to work as quickly as it can be cleared. He thinks it will be cleared in a short period of time.

**A motion was made by Mr. Raymond and seconded by Ms. Messier to authorize the City Manager or his designees to negotiate and enter into lease agreements with Innovative Homes of NE, LLC for the lease of City-owned property located at 796 Main Street, Parcels 68-14 and 68-15, on a month-to-month basis, until such time as the conveyance of said parcels, as authorized by the City Council at its August 12, 2009 meeting, duly noticed.**

Mayor Cutts asked for further clarification, so Mr. Santagate explained that many years ago property owners were notified that the property would be taken by the City. One owner apparently was not properly notified of the tax lien, so that needs to be cleared up. If the party is not located, there is a court procedure that will be followed. The purchaser(s) want it cleared. This lease is so the project wouldn't be delayed. The City and the potential owners both want to go ahead.

Mr. Goff asked if that situation would be covered under title insurance. Ms. Taylor said this issue was brought to the City's attention two weeks ago by the purchaser's attorney. The City is trying to resolve it and it could potentially be resolved in a couple of weeks. Unless this issue is resolved, the buyer can't get title insurance.

Mr. Koloski asked about the lease and development. Ms. Taylor said that is why you enter into the lease. Mr. Koloski is in favor of this to expedite getting the property back on the tax rolls. Mayor Cutts agreed.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 7-1 with Mr. Goff voting no.**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **CITIZEN'S FORUM**

Joe Osgood, Ward 2, State Representative, talked about economic issues before the legislature. Five million dollars Rooms and Meals Tax sharing will be given back to the towns. Revenue sharing which was \$25 million failed to pass by a slim margin. He said he was the only Claremont Representative to vote in favor of that. He said the City needs representation in Concord to get its money back and that representation did not come through. He talked about the LLC Tax (HB661) repeal. The LLC Tax amounts to an income tax. Another bill that parallels this is called Reasonable Compensation (HB1607); a business with income over \$50,000 will have to pay interest and dividend taxes on the amount over \$50,000. He also talked about HB 1664. He expects the Councilors to look at those bills. Mr. Osgood said he is available for questions.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Presentation by the School Department

School Board Chairman David Putnam and School Superintendent Jacqueline Guillette gave a PowerPoint presentation about the new school building proposal.

Ms. Guillette said last week was the deliberative session; 150 people showed up. March 9<sup>th</sup> will be the vote.

- SHS Revitalization Project: Analysis of Upgrades by Design Layers-February 3, 2010
  - Plans are on the schools website
- Revitalization Sale: 60% Off-One Time Only (toward cost of principle)
  - After June 2010, no State Building Aid
- Design Layer 1: Access & Security
  - Improve vehicular access & parking
- SHS – View of main entrance from Broad Street
- Design Layer 2: Curriculum & Support
  - Almost all classrooms are undersized
  - Have to have 15% empty space in buildings at any given time. Right now 92-93% occupancy rate
  - Band room is currently directly below library
- Proposed Addition – Ground Floor
- SHS – Main Entrance
- Design Layer 3 – Code Compliance: ADA Standards
- Design Layer 3 – Code Compliance: Fire Separation
- Design Layer 3 – Code Compliance: Other Life Safety Measures
- Design Layer 4: Operations & Maintenance
- Design Layer 5: Building Systems
  - Mechanical system upgrades were done in 1992
  - Electrical system
    - Bond is for 20 years & anything with a shelf life of at least 20 years will be kept
- Construction Phasing Project Timeline
  - Start July 2010
  - Finish September/October 2013
- Project Budget
  - Purchase of Additional Property \$2.3 million
  - Site Development \$1.4 million
  - New Addition \$7.1 million
  - General Renovations \$4.2 million
  - Required Code Upgrades \$1.5 million
  - Miscellaneous Items \$6.2 million
  - Project Total \$22.9 million

- 10% contingency
- Tax Impact for 2010-2011 = 16 cents/\$1,000 (\$5 million bond at 1-2% interest)
- Tax Impact for 2011-2012 = \$1.86/\$1,000 (lock in 20 year bond)
- 60% State Building Aid = \$13+ million prior to 6/10

Ms. Guillette thanked City participants who were on all the committees.

Mr. Burke asked what the ramifications of not doing the project are. Mr. Putnam said the perception of having a high school that is not accredited limits development and affects how people see Claremont. The facilities are on warning status and that puts the curriculum on warning status (i.e. technology). A positive vote will remove the warning status. In 2006, the school was moved into warning status. The building plan has to be reviewed by the State Department of Education (DOE) in order to get the State Aid. State Building Aid requires a certain number of parking spaces. They have been able to get a waiver to reduce the number of spaces. Since 2006, annual reports have been sent to the state showing the improvements done at the school. They are at the end of where they can make changes unless they have a new building.

Mr. Goff asked if the community can afford not to do this. The financing rate is the lowest we'll see in a long time. Construction costs are low and Building Aid is available. He strongly urged the public to take a serious look at this. Mr. Putnam said people have questioned whether or not the state will pay it. He said they are not obligated, however they have always paid it.

Mr. Lewis thanked community members that volunteered their time on the Building Committee. He agreed with Mr. Goff. This is important to the growth of the City. The time is right to do this.

Mr. Austin said he is in support of this renovation. Ms. Messier echoed the thanks to the volunteers. She will vote yes on the bond. Mr. Raymond echoed Ms. Messier's comments. He is in favor. We need to keep the momentum of the City moving forward. Mr. Burke said he is in support of the project and he asked if the drop in the occupancy rates will compensate for the large elementary classes coming up. Mr. Putnam said yes.

Mr. Putnam credited the City Manager with his letter of support. He said Mr. Santagate was on the School Reinvestment Committee. There has been a lot of good work in Claremont: Home Depot, Wal-Mart Superstore, Claremont Savings Bank, Red River Computer Company, Common Man Inn & Restaurant and Lowes. It is very important for the school to be a part of the economic development. Through research, they found people want to see the historic building preserved.

Mayor Cutts said she has had two kids graduate from Stevens High School and a third will do so soon. The building is horrible. The tax is difficult to swallow, however she will vote in favor of the bond and encourage everyone else to do so.

Ordinance 505 Water Rates – First Reading

The purpose of this proposal is to revise and update both the Code provisions and rate schedule to implement the Water Rate Study recommendations presented to the City Council at its January 2009 meeting.

Enactment of this Ordinance will provide adequate funding to the Water Enterprise Fund for funding the costs of operation, maintenance and capital improvements for the City's water system and treatment facilities and to qualify for state revolving loan fund grants for future improvements to the City's water supply infrastructure.

Bruce Temple, Public Works Director, said in January a presentation was given to the Council about how the rates were developed.

Mr. Burke asked about when the radio read program would be implemented. Mr. Temple said it depends. The state may fund up to 50%. The program qualifies for green points as it saves fuel and manhours. The next round of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) may offer 50% forgiveness, so implementation may be sooner than 2012. Mr. Burke asked about billing monthly or quarterly. Mr. Temple said we do most billing semi-annually, but this program allows us to go to quarterly or monthly, if needed. There are 3,600 accounts. Currently to manually read the meters, it takes 2-3 people over a 2-week period twice a year. Radio read would allow Public Works to see if there are leaks. Lebanon will be starting the program. It appears that NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) is receptive to funding radio read programs.

Mr. Lewis asked if a leak could be detected in a basement. Mr. Temple said it depends on where the leak occurred in relation to the meter. Mr. Lewis asked if there will be information sharing with City of Lebanon. Mr. Temple said yes. Lebanon got grant money in the first round of the recovery. There will be more grant money coming out under what is called "Jobs for Main Street."

Mr. Austin asked how the radio read is done. Mr. Temple said there are two methods. There is a truck with a receiver and computer and the employee drives past each property. The other method reads and transmits to Public Works or City Hall. The technology is competitive and both have benefits.

Mr. Koloski asked where on the list of water usage Marion Phillips Apartments and the Earl Bourden Center are. Mr. Temple said the largest water user is Wheelabrator with 43 million gallons per year to generate steam. They don't use sewer. Pleasant Valley Estates is second with about 4 million gallons per year. Valley Regional Hospital uses about 3.4 million gallons per year, Bourdon Center uses about 855,000 gallons per year and Marion Phillips uses about 1.47 million gallons per year. Marion Phillips has a separate meter for the sprinkler and is not charged sewer for that.

Mayor Cutts asked Mr. Santagate how much money could be saved with the meter reading program. Mr. Santagate said we currently use 400 manhours a year, but that is not necessarily what would be saved. There are still other costs.

Mr. Goff asked what percentage of households have access to water and/or sewer that do not use them. Mr. Temple said they are required by City Code to tie in if within a certain number of feet. There are 3,500-3,600 water and 2,500 sewer customers. Mr. Goff asked about the ability to increase the number of users without new development. Mr. Temple said he doesn't know of a lot of spots, although there may be some vacant spots.

Mr. Burke asked about the cost of implementation of the radio read program and how long it would be before we see a return on investment. Mr. Temple said we are looking at phasing it in over a 3 to 4 year period. Numbers indicate a 5-year payback. We know where 75-80% of our water goes. He is looking to get that number up to 90-95%.

Mr. Koloski asked about the last rate increase. Mr. Temple said in 2008 there was a small increase in water which was needed for forgiveness from the state revolving loan fund. Prior to that, there was an increase around 2000. Mr. Temple said there have been 2 to 3 adjustments since 1978 (32 years ago). He said he and Assistant Public Works Director Wayne Leonard have come up with some capital improvements that need to be done and that is why the rates need to be increased.

Ms. Messier said this is a good plan.

Mr. Temple pointed out that treating of water has some basic fundamentals. Our rates are lower than Keene, Newport and Lebanon. Hanover's rates are lower than ours. Newport and Lebanon are looking at huge increases. We have good water.

Mr. Koloski asked about a contingency plan if these ordinances don't pass. Finance Director Mary Walter said these are enterprise funds and they must be self sufficient. If not, the auditors will tell us we have to raise rates or it goes back on the General Fund.

**A motion was made by Mr. Burke and seconded by Mr. Raymond to adopt Ordinance 505 Water Rates on first reading.**

Mr. Burke read the explanation of proposed action into the record.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 8-0.**

Ordinance 506 Sewer Rates – First Reading

The purpose of this proposal is to revise and update both the Code provisions and rate schedule to implement the Sewer Rate Study recommendations presented to the City Council at its January 2009 meeting.

Enactment of this Ordinance will provide adequate funding for the Sewer Enterprise Fund to fund the costs of operation, maintenance and capital improvements for the City's wastewater system and treatment facilities, to bring the City's wastewater treatment rate structure into compliance with federal law and regulation and to qualify for state revolving loan fund grants for future improvements to the City's sewer system infrastructure. This is the first increase in City wastewater rates since 2000.

Mr. Temple said the last time the sewer rates were raised was in 2000. The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and DES (Department of Environmental Services) continue to require more treatment. Part of the rate analysis is anticipating what the requirements will be for the new permit which is up for review this year. Maple Avenue sewer repair is in this year's plan, but was not in last year's plan. We are taking care of it on a temporary basis. A sanitary review (similar to the water review) was received in 2008. We spent \$2.5 million to upgrade the sewage plant. Our collection system and two old pump stations are over 30 yrs old (Washington and Elm Streets) will need upgrades. The Washington pump station carries waste from the County Home. We still have some combined stormwater and sewer lines that have to be separated. The CIP (Capital Improvements Program) addresses a lot of those concerns.

Mr. Burke asked about the "shelf life" of new pipes being laid. Mr. Temple said some pipes in the ground are 60-100 years old. Ductile iron pipe has a service life of about 100 years. The pipe on Maple Avenue was corrugated and it failed. The Maple Avenue area has a lot of this corrugated pipe. Some of the old vitrified pipes are not too bad. With new PVC pipes, we can expect a service life of 50 years.

**A motion was made by Mr. Raymond Mr. Raymond and seconded by Mr. Goff to adopt Ordinance 506 Sewer Rates on first reading.**

Mr. Raymond read the explanation of proposed action into the record.

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 8-0.**

Street Maintenance and Paving

Mr. Temple gave a PowerPoint presentation about Claremont Paving Projects.

- 2004 – 10 Locations \$298,000
- 2005 – 10 Locations \$468,000
- 2006 – 9 Locations \$526,000
- 2007 – 7 Locations \$468,000
  - This was just for paving, although there were other projects going on outside of paving.
- 2008 – 14 Locations \$1.1 million
- 2009 – 11 Locations \$800,000
  - Some FEMA money was used
  - Encumbered money from the Transfer Station and paved entrance road up there

- Roosevelt Road
  - It had a 1 ½-inch water line in poor condition. Replaced it with an 8-inch line, upgraded fire hydrants and put in a guardrail
    - Some funding (about 1/3) came from the Water Enterprise Fund
- Stacked Stone – FEMA - \$82,000
  - 75/25 split. FEMA pays 75%, Public Works Pays 25% and Water Department pays pro-rata share of the 25%
- Thrasher Road 2010 FEMA/City - \$58,000
  - Whole road will be raised
  - 75% FEMA/25% City split
  - Finish paving this year
- Coy Bridge
  - Bridge deck is distressed
  - It will be repaved
  - In 2015/2017 concrete deck will need to be removed and restored
- Plains Road
- Pleasant Valley Estates FEMA - \$97,000
  - Slip lined pipe has now failed
  - To the right is the new Pleasant Valley Estates pump station which is out on Clay Hill Road
  - 75% FEMA/25% City split
  - New pipe, new inlet, new outlet and some paving
  - Norma Limoges, Public Works Office Manager, is very good at getting FEMA grants
- Chestnut Street
  - Start at Broad Street and run 4,000-5,000 feet to the urban compact line
  - In-place recycling, drainage, structures for sanitary sewer upgraded
  - This will be done this summer
- Willow Street between Durham and Bellevue
  - Half-way up the road, a storm water pipe has come out of the road
- 2010 Highway Resurfacing & Drainage Work This Summer
  - Chestnut Street – Broad to Urban Compact – 3,300 LF
  - Willow Street – Durham to Bellevue – 330 LF
  - Thrasher Road – Rte. 120 to Winter – 1,500 LF
  - Foisy Hill Road – Cat Hole to End – 2,250 LF
  - Cat Hole Road – Thrasher to Class VI – 5,200 LF
  - Case Hill Road – Sugar River Drive to End – 3,625 LF
  - Alden Road – Case Hill to End – 750 LF
    - Can do chip sealing on some rural roads as preventative measure
- 2010 Bridge & Culvert Work
  - Stacked Stone Culvert & Water Line Extension
    - Pine Hill Mobile Home Park can get water from two different directions and can take care of fire service
  - Clay Hill Road Culvert & Roadway

- Stone House Forge Culvert & Roadway
- Coy Paper Bridge & Roadway Approaches with Water Line Upgrades
- Other Projects This Year (Money Permitting)
  - Elm Street – Recycle/Gravel/Grading – 5,280 LF
  - Piper Hill Road – Gravel/Grading – 800 LF
  - East Green Mountain Road – Drainage & Grading – 2,500 LF
    - Estimated Total Expenditures: \$600,000 (including muni transportation money)
    - Draper’s Corner (City portion) \$200,000 (for \$1.75 million project)
      - Funds came from the state
      - Mr. Santagate said Draper’s Corner (scheduled 2010/2011) and the intersection of North and Main Streets (scheduled 2012) are two safety issues and we have been able to get earmarked money (about \$5 million to \$6 million) for them from the Congressional Delegation. The City portion for the North and Main Streets will be about \$400,000. The City tries to cobble together funds to do the projects, but it’s not always enough, so we do what we can and then go back to finish up when we have more money.
    - 14 Locations Throughout the City
- Projects Moving Forward
  - Piper Hill Road                      Clay Hill Road
  - Thrasher Road                      Elm Street
  - Bible Hill Road                      Durham Avenue
  - Highland Avenue                      Myrtle Street
  - Grove Street                      Pearl Street
  - Central Street                      Sullivan Street
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Street                      2<sup>nd</sup> Street
  - Buena Vista                      Leslie Avenue
  - Stone Avenue                      LaPlante Avenue
  - Marcotte Avenue                      Cottage Street
  - Henry Street                      Severance Street
  - North Street

Mr. Temple said he tries to pick streets with lots of traffic volume (i.e. Charlestown Road) which are usually main thoroughfares. Criteria also include condition of the road. He tries to do something in each ward. He listens to what crews are saying about potholes and known maintenance issues. The City does 10-12 projects a year.

Mr. Austin thanked Mr. Temple for the presentation and asked that if money is left over due to the mild winter, can it be put somewhere else. Mr. Temple said the winter season is January to March and then November to December and we need to keep that in mind. Salt is now \$70/ton versus \$42/ton a few years ago. Our supply of salt is good.

Mr. Goff thanked Mr. Temple for the comprehensive explanation.

Mr. Lewis noted that we have road issues due to a lack of maintenance 10-15 years ago. Tonight's presentation is important for the Council and the viewing public to understand the process. He appreciated the work Public Works had done.

Mr. Raymond thanked Mr. Temple and said it was nice to see we are still moving forward working on some streets.

Acceptance of \$4,000 Wellness Grant from LGC

Ms. Walter said this is the formal acceptance of the Local Government Center grant to be used for wellness (similar to the Fire Department's grant).

**A motion was made by Mr. Goff and seconded by Mr. Koloski to accept the \$4,000 Wellness Grant from LGC.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 8-0.**

Motion to Authorize Conveyance & Easements to G.B. New Hampshire 2 LLC (CVS)

Mr. Santagate requested to move this to the March meeting.

Claremont's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Mayor Cutts said Claremont's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will be in 2014. Volunteers are working on it now. The City will not take a lead in this activity for a variety of reasons, i.e. money, but individuals will keep the Council informed. She asked for Councilors to help. Messrs. Koloski and Burke volunteered. Mayor Cutts asked them to keep the Council updated.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Santagate said he met with Mr. Lewis in reference to the road projects and that led to the presentation tonight. They also discussed the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) (items that don't fit into the operating budget, i.e. life span of 5 years and value of \$15,000). The CIP we have is for 2003-2008. He hopes to submit a new CIP to the Council by September. Examples of items in a CIP are vehicle replacements, fire equipment/engines and buildings. The skateboard park was put in the 2003 CIP. The key is for the administration to meet with departments for a list of what needs to be done. Departments have been asked to submit their requests to the Administration by June or July with the idea of coming to the Council in September. It will identify items to be replaced and when; the plan will span five years. Funding will be on the tax rate; water, sewer or cemetery enterprise funds; or bonding. He was surprised by the number of projects from the old CIP that have been done. The CIP is a 5-year plan. The first year becomes the budget. Not all projects will get done, but it allows us to look at the bigger picture. The mini CIP for the water and sewer will be incorporated into the City's overall CIP. He gave Council copies of the old CIP.

Mr. Santagate said Mr. Koloski had asked him how other councils operate (rules). Mr. Santagate will come back at the next meeting with an answer as there was not enough time to do it before this meeting.

Mr. Lewis said he learned a lot from his meeting with the City Manager. He looks forward to seeing the updated CIP.

Mayor Cutts talked about the Claremont Boston Post Cane. The original cane is now on display in Council Chambers, along with a plaque listing recipients.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND DIRECTIVES**

Mr. Burke asked about a cooperative buying program with other communities (i.e. who we partner with and savings). He wants to talk about it in April. He wants to know what we currently do. He wants to talk about improving communication with the public using social networks. Mayor Cutts encouraged the Council to discuss it.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### Master Plan Committee

None

### **CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**At 9:51 p.m., a motion was made by Ms. Messier and seconded by Mr. Lewis to adjourn.**

**Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 8-0.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Dorée M. Russell  
Clerk to the Council