

December 8, 2005

BOS have recently sponsored the latest meeting of the towns "Canton Communications Forum". This unique meeting which included numerous multiple member bodies of the town, was held at the Canton Public Library. The purpose of these multidiscipline forums are to regularly have key multiple member boards, committees and commissions town wide, come together to share information and work together to come up with coordinated strategy to address a variety of issues facing the Town. The meetings are normally held quarterly and all members of "boards and committees" are invited and encouraged to attend! The next session is planned for February 2006.

The Town will be implementing a Reverse 911 System which enables, during any emergency or situation that requires public outreach to residents and businesses, the town to directly communicate important information. The "Reversed 911" accomplishes this via a computerized calling system. The Town will have the system up and running during 2006. The system has the capability of contacting residents town wide or in a specific identified area of town, to provide information on a variety of important emergency or convenience related information. This important communication enhancement will be managed by the Canton Fire Department.

Recently the Town of Canton Public Works, Water and Sewer Division, has relocated to the second floor of Memorial Hall. The Public Works, Engineering Division has also relocated, and it now resides on the lower level of Memorial Hall located at 801 Washington Street, Canton, MA. The reason for the move was to enhance customer service and improve the proximity of municipal operating departments. The Board of Selectmen recognize the Building Maintenance Department for their assistance with these office moves.

The Board of Selectmen, led by Victor Del Vecchio, announce it's intention to finalize a comprehensive Development Guide. In conjunction with the town's Economic Development Committee, who recently launched via this web site, an economic development tool which is designed to attract and grow business in Canton. This informative presentation provides vital information to current and prospective businesses to expand or relocate to Canton. The Development Guide seeks to provide information to anyone contemplating small or large residential or commercial development in Canton. The guide expected to be finalized January of 2006, outlines and summarizes the multitude of permitting requirements and provides an easy to use guide including a "checklist approach". The goal is to streamline and expedite the permitting process from an initial development proposal inquiry, to issuance of building permits. The Town via this effort will benefit through the creation of a initial project review committee. This multi disciplined Committee headed by the Building Commissioner, will meet where necessary, with prospective permit applicants for large or small commercial or residential projects and advise them on the requirements usually based on project scope. This will hopefully minimize approval time and improve overall communication and ensure the continuance of quality economic development.

The Board of Selectmen have commissioned and completed the survey necessary for the Glen Echo Pond area to begin the design process of a new water system for that area. The Board of Selectmen, led by John Connolly, expects that the design and costs estimating of the construction of the project, to be complete by the annual town meeting set for April 2006. At that time, the Board will ask Town Meeting for construction funding for this new water distribution system to service approximately 75 homes in the area now on private wells. The construction of the new water system is expected to be completed by the end of 2006. The Board of Selectmen at their meeting of December 6th, awarded the design contract to Vollmer Engineering, Boston. The funding of this project will be via the water enterprise system.

All renewals for licenses issued by the Board of Selectmen have nearly been completed for this calendar year. All of these licenses expire on 12/31/05. It is not lawful to operate under an expired license for any reason. In the case of Alcohol license issued by the Board, the State now requires every Alcohol License holder (with the exception of Package Stores) to have an annual inspection by the Building and Fire departments to ensure public safety. The Town recognizes the efforts of the Board of selectmen and their Licensing Agent Ms. Tina Carlton for her diligence and effectiveness administering the many licenses the Boards issues annually.