
Monthly Report to the Woonsocket City Council
Department of Human Services
Department of Economic Development

June 2010 Report

Monthly Report

Department of Human Services

- Addressed numerous constituent inquiries regarding events in the City including special events in the parks, RIPTA beach transportation, beautification efforts and veterans' health care and transportation.
- Assisted a handicapped/hearing impaired individual with multiple issues that were impacting his life. He was a former Massachusetts resident who recently moved to Woonsocket is now living in one of the city's hi-rises. He needed help with getting a ride to and from his job in Warwick. The gentleman also needed a new/additional hearing aid.
 - Called RIPTA to obtain an application for its ADA Para Transit Program.
 - Called the RI office of Advocates in Action to work with him on a long term basis.
 - Called the Commission on Deaf and Hard of Hearing to look into an additional hearing aid. All the information regarding the programs were given to the individual to share with his family member/caregiver. This office also told the individual if he needed help filling out any of the applications or had questions that this office would be able to provide additional assistance as needed.
- Worked with EMA to obtain temporary shelter for resident of River Street made homeless due to code violations and regulatory action at a multi-family dwelling.
- Ongoing monitoring of cash flow and budget of the Senior Center. With the pay-off of tax anticipation notes, the City's administration of its grant to the Center should be less constrained.

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Department of Economic Development

- Ongoing development of small business loan program
 - Meeting with EDC officials on structure, parameters, etc. of state loan program
 - Meeting with Small Business development Center staff to review loan and support programs
 - Appointment of Small Business Loan Committee
 - Organizational meeting of committee
 - Development of loan application
- Ongoing review of various proposals for re-use of old Middle School building
 - Meetings with parties that had fully responsive bids on the building
 - Research into deed covenants for age restrictions on low income housing
- Main Street activities
 - Quarterly meeting of Main Street – Riverfront Initiative board
 - Meeting with building owners facing tax sale to discuss their status / plans
 - Attendance at tax sale and follow-up with selected lien holders (including 84 Fairmount, also)
- Continuation of prep for employer relocation to the City – meeting with Family Resources to outline potential needs and opportunities for coordination with State programs

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Department of Economic Development

- Testimony in House and Senate in support of Landmark Hospital tax treaty (sales tax legislation)
- Coordination of activities with tax assessor, legal department, outside parties to facilitate certificate of good standing needed for purchase of 171 St. Augustine
- Meetings with several constituents regarding business loans and JCIP