

NOTES FROM TOWN HALL
Town Administrator Rosemary Cashman

Tyngsborough Bridge. The Massachusetts Highway Department is overseeing the renovations to the Tyngsborough Bridge. Bids have been received and construction is expected to begin this summer. The State will pay for this project. The timeframe is more than 3 years.

Former Campground. In prior years, the Town purchased approximately 8 acres along the Merrimack River off Frost Road. The goal is to develop a park at this site. Old vehicles and debris have been removed. A master plan has been developed. We are in the permitting stages of this project. We expect to obtain bids this summer, and complete the project this fall. The park will provide picnic tables, benches, grills, a swing set, horseshoe pits, walkways, and parking. The existing boat ramp will be used for carry-on boats such as kayaks and canoes.

Town Center. The Town continues to move forward with the development of a Town Center. During the past few years, the Town has prepared a master plan for the Town Center as well as zoning regulations and design guidelines. As part of the Town Center study, we have been discussing what to do with some vacant town buildings and property: Old Town Hall, Littlefield Library, Winslow School, Shur Fine Market. The next step for this project is to perform a market analysis to determine what types of activities are likely to be successful in the Town Center, including retail, offices, restaurants, housing, and meeting space. We are in the process of hiring a consultant, and hope to have the study completed by the end of the year.

Recreational Fields. New recreational fields are currently being constructed at the Elementary School. The following will be created: 3 multi-purpose fields for soccer, football, lacrosse, and field hockey; 1 softball field; 5 tennis courts; 1 basketball court; 1 baseball field; and walking areas. Currently, we do not have enough field space for recreational activities. During the last several years, the number of participants and the types of activities have increased. Furthermore, many of the existing fields are getting overused, and this causes safety and maintenance issues. The Town's Recreation Director will continue to oversee the scheduling of the new fields, and will work with the various sports groups in Town. These groups will help pay for the ongoing maintenance of the fields. It is anticipated that citizens of all ages will use these facilities, including the tennis courts, basketball court, and walking areas.