

# Town of Ayer

## Benefits and Payroll Department



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## Memorandum

**Date:** October 20, 2018  
**To:** Town Manager Robert Pontbriand  
**From:** Kevin A. Johnston *KAS*  
**Subject:** Monthly Report – September 2018

The September 2018 monthly report for the Benefits and Payroll Office includes the following:

Health Benefits Request for Quotation – A summary of the quotations received for FY 2020 health benefits was prepared for presentation to the Insurance Advisory Committee (IAC). The IAC will meet in October to discuss the RFQ.

Harpers Payroll Electronic Timesheets – Work began with Harpers Payroll Services to implement their Time & Attendance module which provides the ability to use electronic timesheets. The Town Hall will be the initial location for electronic timesheets with testing and training scheduled for October and implementation planned for November.

Minuteman Nashoba Health Group (MNHG) – The MNHG Steering Committee and Directors met on September 24<sup>th</sup>. The meeting included the following:

- A review of the fiscal year to date financial reports; finances are on target for FY 2019.
- A report on the MNHG Wellness programs.
- Renewal rates for Medicare supplement health benefits were provided by the carriers and are as follows:

|                                     | <u>2018</u> | <u>2019</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tufts Medicare Preferred Supplement | \$ 430      | \$ 430      |
| Tufts Medicare HMO Prime            | \$ 314      | \$ 317      |
| Fallon Senior Plan                  | \$ 394      | \$ 399      |

The changes represent a 1% increase for Medicare eligible retirees. Open enrollment for the Medicare supplement health plans will be on Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12 Noon in the Town Hall.

Middlesex County Retirement System (MCRS) – Representatives from MCRS visited Ayer on September 6<sup>th</sup> to present a Regional Education Seminar. Over 80 members of the retirement system from Middlesex County communities attended the meeting in the Great Hall. The meeting included information on membership in the retirement system, a financial update of the system, retirement benefits and coordination of MCRS retirement benefits and Social Security benefits.

I attended a meeting of the MCRS Sub-committee on Assessments and Investments on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Discussion included the reduction of the investment rate of return to 7.5%, annual Payroll staff training in October, and increasing the COLA base for retirees.