Belmont taking money from capital reserve fund to finish pavilion & bridge projects

By Gail Oster
THE LACONIA DAILY SUN

BELMONT — Selectmen voted Monday night to take between $10,000 and $15,000 from the facilities capital reserve fund to give the town enough money to complete the renovation and the footbridge over the Tioga River that are part of the village revitalization project.

Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin said the total grant from the Land and Water Conservation fund is slightly over $99,000 for both both projects and $25,000 of that is earmarked for the footbridge acquired from the City of Dover.

The pavilion will be a covered area, 26-feet by 80-feet and built on a 4-inch cement slab, next to the Belmont Mill. It will be used for outdoor functions, concerts and community events. It will be open sided with shingles on each end of the roof portion.

The pavilion will have two bathrooms plus an enclosed storage area and was included in the Village Revitalization Plan. An additional grant for $30,000 was procured for the completion of the river walk along the Tioga.

The money from the capital reserve fund will be used to complete the plumbing and some of the finish work.

Beaudin said the pavilion is a very simple, carriage house design and the the construction group of NCM of Gilford has been hired as construction manager. One of the company’s partners is George Meretti of Belmont and she said he has been instrumental in the design of the pavilion.

Construction is scheduled to begin the week of July 28 and should be finished by mid October.

DOCTOR from page 2

patient] could have went out in the hallway and just walked down the offices until he ran out of ammunition,” Malineux said.

The dead caseworker was identified only as a 53-year-old woman who had entered the doctor’s office with the patient before the gunfire erupted. Police said they were trying to find relatives to notify.

Two guns were recovered, Whelan said. Authorities said the motive for the shooting was unknown.

The patient, who was critically injured and was taken into custody, was identified as Richard Plots, an Upper Darby resident in his mid-30s.

The prosecutor said Plots had been involved in previous incidents with staff, but he did not know their nature. He also said he did not know if that is why the doctor had a gun or if the doctor would have been required to have a permit.

After the door of the office was closed, staff members heard loud arguing inside, opened the door and noticed the patient had a gun, Whelan said. They then closed the door and dialed 911. Gunshots were heard a short time later, just before 2:30 p.m.

After Plots emerged from the office, another doctor and a caseworker helped wrestle him to the floor of the hallway and grabbed his weapon, Whelan said. By that point he had already been severely wounded from several shots, he said.

“They acted vigilantly. They acted bravely,” Whelan said.

The exchange of gunfire occurred on the third floor of the Wellness Center at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, a 204-bed community teaching hospital just southwest of Philadelphia.

Authorities said there were no surveillance cameras in the doctor’s office or the waiting area outside. They also said the center had no metal detectors.

“Do you evaluate that now ... in light of this incident to make sure people are safe, especially in what can be a dangerous environment?” Whelan asked.

Patients waiting in the first-floor lobby reported a tense scene when police arrived and ordered everyone out. Most of the patients were elderly.

“I dazed off, and I heard the cop shouting, ‘Come on, come on, get out!’” said Millicent Russell, 73.