



TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

April 2, 2024



ADMINISTRATION

- Town Administrator (TA) Johnson and Assistant Town Administrator (ATA) Stephanie Duggan are conducting regular collective bargaining agreement negotiations with the AFSCME Clerical Union, and have commenced negotiations with the IAFF Fire Fighters Local 1947 union. We are expecting to commence negotiations with Public Safety Tele-Communicators NEPBA Local 114 dispatchers union. Individual personnel employment agreements to be negotiated include the Planning Director.
- Town Hall offices will be closed to the public on the morning of Monday, April 8, 2024, to allow for the moving of office equipment between the Town Administrator's Offices and Town Accountant's and Municipal Services Director.
- TA Johnson is planning to use Personal Time Off on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 9 and 10, 2024.
- The Treasurer/Collector's Office will be closed Wednesday, April 10, 2024, as the staff attends the Annual Mass Collector Treasurer Association meeting.
- Town offices will closed Monday, April 15, 2024 in observance of Patriots Day holiday.
- Town Administration met with Maynard High School Senior Pepper Popovic (they/them) about possible Senior Project shadowing of local government staff.
- Town staff conferred with Moody's credit rating agency to report on the financial and economic status of the town, as the agency considers rating assignment in relation to upcoming bonds for the new elementary school and continuation of water supply projects. The analyst from Moody's initial reaction to staff reports is that the town's financial conditions continue to be stable and positive, considering sustained growth and controlled expenses. Additionally, Moody's analyst remarked favorably on the town's utility funds (water and sewer).
- Town Accountant Kevin Petersen and his wife welcomed their second baby! The Petersens happen to be Maynard residents as well, so look out for the growing family around town!

- Town Administration hosted an Insurance Advisory Committee (IAC) meeting, in which the employee representatives endorsed the FY25 renewal of health and dental insurance benefits premiums presented by MIIA.
- The Maynard Senior Center Committee is seeking public input via a Maynard Needs Assessment Survey, produced by UMass Boston. The survey can be completed online as well as hard copy. The survey submission period ends April 3, 2024.



https://umassboston.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1HREIjgq9i1KI8m

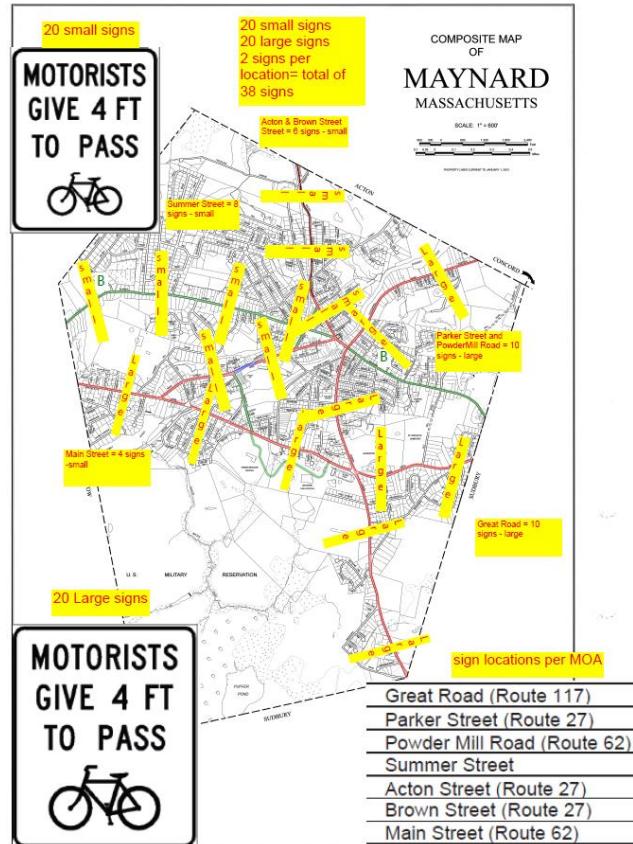
PUBLIC WORKS

- As part of a collaborative project with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MASSDOT) traffic safety division. The Town of Maynard's Department of Public Works (DPW) has just completed our installation of 38 signs across the community. These regulatory signs are the final aspect of the adoption of state legislature as follows to enhance public safety.

“An Act to Reduce Fatalities” was signed into law in December 2022. As part of the law, the following was added. “In passing a vulnerable user, the operator of a motor vehicle shall pass at a safe distance of not less than 4 feet and at a reasonable and proper speed. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation shall erect and maintain signage along public ways necessary to notify operators of motor vehicles of the requirements for passing a vulnerable user from a safe distance as required by this section.



Maynard was provided signage at no cost to the Town, but our department provided the full installation. We are happy to enhance our community's public safety, and continue to improve our complete streets goals, allowing all our residents to navigate our public ways in a safe manner.



- The DPW's Water and Sewer Division will be conducting town wide hydrant main flushing of the water distribution system. This process will be conducted during the departments regular work schedule and in the evening hours when warmer temperatures arrive. This process will be conducted over the next several weeks, as weather permits. Impacts to our customers are typically low water pressure, and discolored water. We thank you for your patience in advance as we conduct regular maintenance of your utility.
- DPW will be conducted overnight street and sidewalk sweeping Downtown. Operations create high levels of noise which will be scattered during the process. We thank you all in advance for your patience and understanding.

- DPW commenced its annual Spring street sweeping process, starting March 26th, lasting until completion. Initiation and completion are subject to weather conducive to the operation. Impacts as it relates to the operation will be minimal, slowed traffic, and one-way traffic patterns. The Department will be following its pre-determined priority street sweeping list. Following the list as seen on the Departments website:

Business District/Main Street Area

Fletcher St. Area

Vose Hill Area to Sudbury Town Line

Old Marlboro Rd Area

Presidential Area

Butler, Crane, Douglas Terraces etc.

Elmwood, Fairfield, Thompson etc.

Glendale, Prospect Tremont & Concord St Area

Upper Acton Area, Maple, Brooks Linden

Lincoln, Brooks, Mayfield, Amory, Randall Areas

Mockingbird, Dix, Durant, Patti Area

Howard, Florida, Summerhill

Pine, Spring, Sudbury

FIRE

- The Maynard Fire Department's S.A.F.E. team hosted an Easter Bunny Hunt for Hazards and an open house for 30 children in March. Children and families participated in a presentation of items in the home that are safe and what could be hot and hazardous. Participants decorated Easter baskets for an egg hunt. They turned in the eggs for prizes. Children were also able to get some experience with a fire hose and help put out the “fire”. Even the Easter Bunny got to participate. Parents got to tour our new facility.



- The department finished up the last component of NERO's training this month. Thank you to our Police Officer Allison McCann & Belmont K9 Handler, Maynard Resident, Cory Taylor who provided the training and their dogs for our crews to learn how to assist with K9s that may be injured while on duty.
- We are having a hiring process with applications due on April 10th. Looking for strong candidates to be part of our team.
- Fire Fighter Mark Latta and wife welcomed their third child.
- Fire Chief Lawless will be staffing the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the Boston Marathon in Holliston, MA.
- The Maynard School Safety Committee conducted an emergency operations planning “tabletop exercise” at the Maynard Fire Station on Thursday, March 28, 2024, hosted by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency.

COUNCIL ON AGING

- The Council on Aging is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The COA provides information and referral for supportive services including home care, health insurance counseling, fuel assistance, food resources, housing, legal issues, public assistance programs and transportation. The Council on Aging accepts and lends durable medical equipment.
- The Council on Aging van service provides transportation Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Destinations include medical appointments, grocery shopping, banks, and salons.
- Researchers from the Center for Social & Demographic Research on Aging at the Gerontology Institute of UMASS Boston, will be conducting a study focusing on the needs and interests of Maynard's current and future older adult population (age 50 and over). The study will inform the Town of Maynard's planning for programs and services meant to address the evolving needs and interests of Maynard's older residents. Final results of the study will be released in October.
- The Council on Aging Senior Watercolor class is having an exhibition of their artwork at the Maynard Library for the month of April. Opening reception is on April 4, between 4:30 – 6:30 at the Maynard Library.





- The Council on Aging sponsored a trip to the Commonwealth Ballet Company's Spring Show at the Maynard High School. Transportation was provided.
- The Council on Aging co-sponsored with the Maynard Library another travel series trip to the Galapagos Islands with Bill Gette leading the way via Zoom. An in-person "watch party" was held at the library.
- The March newsletter provided information on community events including Spring ArtWalk and Maynard Community Gardeners Annual Plant Sale, special COA programs including a monthly presentation by Maynard Firefighter EMT Jenn Hureau, felted crafts, and more. Rep. Kate Hogan's office provided an article on legal services for seniors. Food and fuel resources were also included in the newsletter.