



TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

**February 6,
2024**



ADMINISTRATION

- Town offices scheduled to be closed: Monday, February 19, 2024, in observance of Washington's Birthday.
- Town Administrator (TA) Johnson attended the Finance Committee on Monday, February 5, 2024.
- The Town Charter defined Joint Budget Review meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 10, 2024 at the Maynard Fire Station on Sudbury Street.
- 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.
- The deadline of February 9, 2024 was issued for submissions to the Annual Town Report. Submissions can be delivered to Executive Assistant Greg Wilson in the Town Administrator's Office.
- TA Johnson observed the construction of the training mezzanine at the Maynard Fire Station:



- TA Johnson joined town officials and community members on Saturday, January 27, 2024 to observe the Cultural Council's hosting of ice sculpturing on Memorial Park.



PUBLIC WORKS

- The Town of Maynard is happy to announce and introduce the Department of Public Works' new water utility interactive customer use portal. Please sign up today and enjoy the ability to track your water usage on a daily basis, as well as features such as usage alerts and info graphs. We are committed to enhancing your customer experience, and encouraging all customers to consider water conservation measures as we continue to invest in the communities public drinking water utility. Please visit our website for information and instruction on how to utilize this feature [CUSTOMER WATER PORTAL | Maynard, MA \(townofmaynard-ma.gov\)](http://CUSTOMER WATER PORTAL | Maynard, MA (townofmaynard-ma.gov))
- Reminder to all public drinking water customers: Please be advised that an instruction mailer will be going out to Maynard residents regarding an upcoming water service line review. To stay in compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) recent Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, we will be collecting data on the age of homes, water mains, and service lines in this water service inventory project. The mail notice will include detailed instructions for self-reporting information to assist the Town in this effort. It will also include information for scheduling a service line identification appointment. Thank you for your participation and supporting our Town and the community.
- As part of the recent water main break / repair located on Summer street on Sunday January 28th, Maynard's water department was able to isolate, locate and expedite repairs in an efficient and effective time. This is due to recent improvements in equipment, and operation methods incorporated with ever evolving distribution improvements in our infrastructure. Regarding the Summer Street west bound

road closure, we have secured a contractor to pave the large, impacted area of the travel lane and are anticipating the road being fully opened by end of day Friday, February 2nd.





LIBRARY

LIBRARY

Mark Malcolm's 25th Anniversary Celebration

Thank you to everyone who joined us for—or otherwise supported—the celebration for Children's Librarian Mark Malcolm on January 4. It was a wonderful event, held in the Roosevelt Room and funded by the Friends of the Library. Around 200 people took part in the three-hour celebration to thank Mark for the incredible contributions he has made (so far!) to the community. There was a slideshow of many Mr. Mark images from over the years, cake and other treats, and (of course) kazoos. Remarks were made by the Chair of the Library Trustees, the current and former Library Directors, the President of the Friends of the Library, and current and former colleagues. Mark received citations from the town (presented by Select Board members Jeff Swanberg and David Gavin) and the Massachusetts Senate honoring his 25 years of service, and he was given a coat embroidered with the Library and Town logos. Mark led the gathering in a kazoo performance. He described the celebration as “being enveloped in a wonderful cloud of love.”



Winter Reads Bingo Challenge

From now through February 24, the public is invited to participate in the Library's Winter Reads Bingo Challenge, coordinated by Young Adult Librarian Casey Petipas-Haggerty. Simply get a bingo card at the library or on our website, complete the activities in the squares (ranging from such activities as visiting the library, to walking the rail trail, to reading for three days in a row) to get BINGO, and bring your card to the library to receive your prize! Open to everyone ages 3 and over.

<https://www.maynardpubliclibrary.org/winter-reads>



WINTER READS

@ the Maynard Public Library



Reading Challenge

Maynard Public Library is also partnering with the Massachusetts Center for the Book in a year-long Reading Challenge. There's a different category of reading for each month. There are monthly prize drawings and another one at the end of the year. You can pick up a bookmark at the library, see our book displays, and log your reading at <https://www.massbook.org/readingchallenge>.



New Minuteman Library Catalog

The Minuteman Library Network launched a new online library catalog in the fall, which allows each library in the network to offer a customized interface for their community. Check out the Maynard Public Library version here: <https://maynard.minlib.net>. Special thanks to Collection Services Librarian Rachel Alexander,

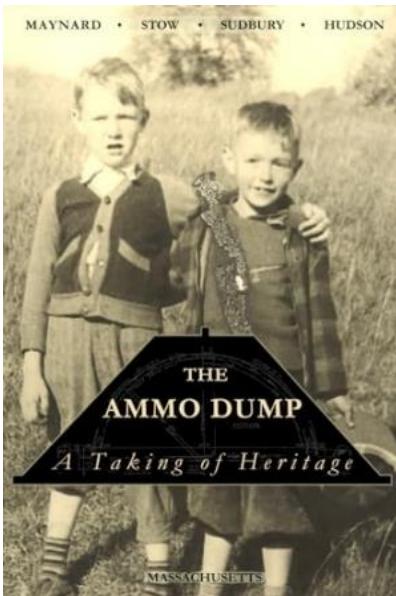
who carried out much of the customization work. Assistant Library Director Jeremy Robichaud will be presenting a workshop on how to get the most out of this new catalog on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 7pm.



Ammo Dump

On Saturday, January 20, 71 attendees filled the Roosevelt Room to hear a talk by authors Paul Boothroyd Sr., Todd Boothroyd, and Paul Boothroyd Jr. about *The Ammo Dump: A Taking of Heritage*, their book which tells the stories of the families in Maynard and nearby towns who were forced by the federal government to leave their homes and farms in 1942 to make way for an ammunition storage facility. Many thanks to WAVM, who recorded the event. The video can be watched at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VTt-L7gk-3M>



Tax Time

Get your taxes prepared for free at the Library as we host the **AARP Tax-Aide program**, the nation's largest free, volunteer-run tax preparation and assistance program. It serves low- and middle-income taxpayers with special attention to those ages 60 and older. Please call Bill Cranshaw at 978-760-9146 to set up an appointment, check on eligibility, or ask any questions.



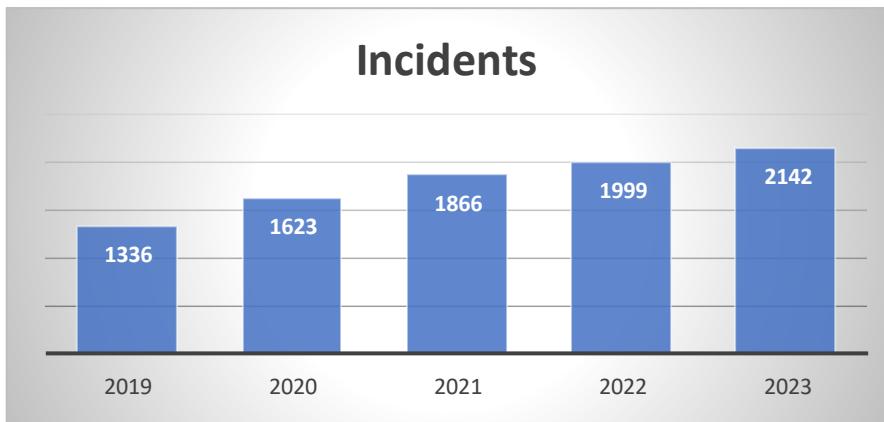
The Library will also be offering an **Understanding Your Taxes program** by the CFA Society Boston on Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 7pm. Learn how to understand the basics of tax forms and deadlines, how your tax is calculated, and more.

February School Vacation Activities

Families, be sure to visit the library during February school vacation. We will be offering such activities as Paint Night for Teens, Bunny Storytime (children ages 3 and over), and an Indoor Beach Party (ages 3-18)!

There are many more programs coming up! See maynardpubliclibrary.org/calendar for details and registration.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:



Our call volume has increased as it has in the past few years. In 2023 we responded to 2,142 incidents. The complete report including the breakdown of incidents is still in the process. Our calls have increased by 60.33% in the past five years.



In collaboration with the Maynard Fire Department, Communications Department, Fowler School, and Police Department – we have completed the installation and acceptance test of the Bi-Directional Amplifier (BDA) in the Fowler School. This is an increase in the public safety of the schools allowing police and fire radio transmissions to now be able to be sent and received while in the Fowler School. This is an increase in safety for our students, staff, and first responders. Thank you to the Select Board for supporting this asset to the community.



Construction is almost completed on our training mezzanine. This is going to be an invaluable resource for our firefighters as well as others in the area. We will be able to conduct training including but not limited to; Firefighter bailouts, Rescues, Ladder drills, Hose handling and attacks, Technical Rescues, RIT, Search and rescue, and others. This resource will allow us to host technical rescue classes here for our department as well as provide a training facility for other departments in our district.

Congratulations to firefighters James McGowan and Alan Portis for completing and becoming Pro-Board Certified in Fire Officer I. Chief Lawless and FF. Travis Gross completed Fire Prevention Officer I. Both 5-week classes were taught by Massachusetts Fire Academy and hosted at the Maynard Fire Department in

our Training room. Our new station is being utilized by firefighters in the Commonwealth, sharing knowledge and increasing our skill set!