



TOWN ADMINSTRATOR REPORT

October 1, 2024



ADMINISTRATION

- Town Administrator (TA) Johnson and Assistant Town Administrator (ATA) Stephanie Duggan are conducting regular collective bargaining agreement negotiations with the IAFF Fire Fighters Local 1947 union.
- TA Johnson and Treasurer/Collector Jenn Welch attended the “Whats New In Municipal Law” seminar hosted by the state’s Division of Local Services (DLS) at Bentley University on Monday, September 23, 2024.
- TA Johnson attended the Green Meadow School Building Committee (SBC) meeting held Monday, September 23, 2024, and expects to attend the SBC meeting scheduled for Monday, September 30, 2024.
- TA Johnson expects to attend the Finance Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, September 30, 2024, which serves as the public hearing held prior to the Special Town Meeting of October 7, 2024.
- The TA Office hosted an Insurance Advisory Committee meeting on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at which the town’s unions representatives received an overview from Blue Cross Blue Shield as to projected cost increases based on current and trending loss-ratios. That insight is considered when developing the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) general fund budget that includes benefits for all subscribing town employees, including school department employees.
- The TA Office hosted a brunch to welcome new Town Clerk Melissa Pelletier on her first day, Wednesday, September 25, 2024.
- Town offices will be closed from 11:00am to 1:00pm on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, for town staff training and luncheon.
- The [Warrant for the upcoming Special Town Meeting scheduled for October 7, 2024 is available online.](#)
- TA Johnson is planning to take Personal Time Off (PTO) from October 8-15, 2024.
- Town Offices will be closed in observance of Indigenous Peoples Day on Monday, October 14, 2024.

- ArtSpace Maynard welcomed Senator Elridge on Main Street on September 18, 2024 in appreciation of his advocacy to secure an earmark to support the non-profit artist studios and spaces.
- The Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) is hosting a Legislative Breakfast the Maynard Fire Station, 30 Sudbury Street, on October 18, 2024.
- The Presidential Election is scheduled for Tuesday, November 5, 2024, and [more information can be found at the Town Clerk's website.](#)



PUBLIC WORKS

- Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MASSDOT) has informed the Town of Maynard that Lazaro Paving Corporation will be performing roadway and sidewalk reconstruction at the intersection of Parker Street (Route 27) and Great Road (Route 117) beginning on or around September 23, 2024, and running through October, weather permitting. The work consists of roadway milling, pavement overlay, sidewalk reconstruction, curbing, pedestrian curb ramps, signage, and pavement markings. Once construction is started, daily vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic detours may be put into place to facilitate the contractor's construction of the roadway improvements. Please plan on potential delays or to seek alternate travel routes during times when detours are in place.
- Construction of traffic improvements at Route 27 and Concord/Haynes/Acton Street is nearly complete, but is paused until the traffic and pedestrian lights are received to be installed.
- The Town of Maynard Department of Public Works will begin hydrant flushing and maintenance starting September 17, 2024 through the end of October. Hydrant flushing is part of the water system's preventative maintenance program. Flushing helps to remove sediment from the distribution system which assists in maintaining water quality and clarity. Flushing also allows the Department of Public Works to test the hydrants for adequate flow and pressure, identify leaks in the distribution system and inspect gate valves. While flushing hydrants in your neighborhood you may experience temporary discoloration of water in your home. High velocity flows during flushing scour sediment from inside the



water pipes. While most of the sediment is flushed from the pipes, a small amount will remain suspended in the water and may cause temporary discoloration. Once hydrant flushing is completed in your area, please make sure that both your hot and cold water are running clear. Public Works recommends running the hot and cold-water faucets in your home for ten minutes after flushing is completed in your area. It is also recommended to change the water filter if you have a whole house filtration system installed in your home. Please note that discolored water may stain light colored laundry. There are a number of products available that can be added to your laundry to prevent stains. If you have any questions or concerns regarding hydrant flushing, please contact the Maynard Department of Public Works at (978) 897-1317 or by e-mail at dpw@townofmaynard.net



- E.L Harvey has informed the town that our annual Fall townwide Yard waste pickup will be commencing on the weeks of November 4th – 8th & November 18th – 22nd per the regular scheduled solid waste collection routes. We encourage residents to be patient with this service, some neighbors put out more than others. This can cause delays in scheduled pickup times and days.

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.
- UMASS Boston's Gerontology Institute presents: "Aging in Maynard: A Community Needs Assessment Study" on October 15 at the Maynard Select Board Meeting and October 22 at the Maynard Public Library at 3:00 p.m. Please join us for the research findings of "Aging in Maynard: A Community Needs Assessment Study." Caitlin Coyle, PhD, from the Center for Social & Demographic Research on Aging, will discuss the key results, implications, and recommendations from the study. Questionnaires were sent to residents over the age of 50, key informant interviews and focus groups were held from January to April of 2024. The needs and interests of Maynard's current and future adult population are important as they will shape the planning and development of Maynard's Council on Aging & Senior Center and ensure that Maynard is a friendly, accessible, and inclusive place for residents to grow up and grow old.
- On September 13, the Council on Aging welcomed Mary Brannelly and Natasha Rivera from the Maynard School Committee for an informal discussion of the needs and interests of Maynard's seniors.
- Fall health and wellness presentation series started in September with emergency preparedness planning by Moira Carter, Public Health Nurse for the Towns of Maynard and Concord. Deaconess Abundant

Life Services shared tips for safety in the home and Therese LaRose from Life Care Centers of Nashoba Valley led a breathwork and balance workshop.

- Special “Road Trips” included Rota Spring Farm in Sterling and The Chateau Restaurant in Waltham with a stop at Verrill Farm on the way back to Maynard. The COA also sponsored trips to Walmart in Hudson and Ocean State Job Lot and Savers thrift store in Marlborough.
- Ongoing favorite activities include knitting, bingo, mahjong, and Mexican train dominos. Fitness classes include Seated Senior Fitness which includes a Drums Alive session every other week.

