



TOWN ADMINSTRATOR REPORT

November 6, 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 Fire Chief Lawless hosted the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) Legislative Breakfast at the Maynard Fire Station on Friday, October 18, 2024.



- TA Johnson attended the Budget Sub Committee (BSC) meeting held Wednesday, October 23, 2024 and reviewed the main budget concerns for next fiscal year's General Fund.
- TA Johnson and his family joined a huge crowd at the Downtown Trick or Treat on Thursday, October 24, 2024, hosted by the Assabet Chamber of Commerce.



- Town Hall staff were encouraged to wear costumes on Halloween, October 31, 2024:



- The new Town Clerk Melissa Pelletier and the Assistant Town Clerk Jim Alexander are commended for their execution and management of the presidential election that lasted weeks and culminated in the November 5, 2024 election at the Fowler School. Thanks also goes to all the election workers and town staff and other officials that served in providing a successful election.
- Town Offices will be closed in observance of Veterans Day holiday on Monday, November 11, 2024.

- TA Johnson and ATA Stephanie Duggan plan to attend the Mass. Municipal Managers Association (MMMA) Fall Conference in Northampton on Thursday and Friday, November 21-22, 2024.
- TA Johnson and Planning Director Bill Nemser travelled to Worcester and attended an announcement of the fiscal year 2025 (FY25) round of the “Community One Stop for Growth” grant from the state’s Executive Office of Economic Development and the Healey-Driscoll Administration. The town is receiving a grant in the amount of \$500,000 from the MassWorks Infrastructure Program that has been approved to support the Powder Mill Sewer project. This project is the same plan considered at Special Town Meeting in October 2024 to approve the acquisition of easements to improve and upgrade the sewer pump stations along the Powder Mill Corridor.



- TA Johnson was elected to serve on the Executive Board of the Central Middlesex Emergency Response Association (CMERA) that oversees the regional partnership amongst 9 towns to contract with Pro-EMS and provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulatory services. These services enhance the Maynard Fire Department’s Basic Life Support (BLS) capabilities. Basic Life Support consists of a number of life-saving techniques focused on the "ABCs" (Airway, Breathing, and Circulation) of pre-hospital emergency care. An ALS (Advance Life Support) provider may perform advanced procedures and skills on a patient involving invasive and non-invasive procedures.

LIBRARY

Maynard Fest

The Maynard Public Library and the Friends of the Maynard Public Library participated in Maynard Fest on October 5 with a booth downtown. Visitors signed up for library cards, were informed of library e-resources and upcoming events, played games, and learned about Friends activities and membership. Meanwhile, the library building was open as usual, and the Friends held a large book sale there to raise funds to support the mission of the library.



ARNWR History and Bunker Tour

In partnership with the Friends of Woodlands and Waters, the Library organized a tour of the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge on October 12. Local volunteer historians presented an informative slideshow, followed by a tour of a WWII supply storage bunker, teaching participants about the Refuge's history from the 1700s to the present, from forest to farms, as an Army installation and now returned to forest as a national wildlife refuge.



New Library Bench

The latest component of the Library Landscape Improvement Project was installed on October 23 in the birch-tree garden at the corner of the parking lot near the EV charging stations. While Maynard residents are spending time outside in the beautiful fall weather, we hope they get a chance to try out the bench, maybe bringing a book or audiobook to enjoy while sitting there. This project has been funded by a Cultural District Enhancement Fund grant. Our thanks again to the Select Board for awarding this grant and helping us beautify the downtown area.



6th Annual Pumpkin Decorating Art Show

Led by Young Adult Librarian Casey Petipas-Haggerty, the Library distributed kits and held three in-person events for participants of all ages to decorate pumpkins to represent their favorite characters and more. Forty-five pumpkin artists submitted their creations to the art show. Each pumpkin is displayed with a book, movie, or television show representing the inspiration behind it. The show is on view at the Library Saturday, October 26, through Saturday, November 2.



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

FIRE

- Congratulations to FF. Chiasson who graduated from the Fire Academy in October. We are very excited to have her back in our department. There no doubt from what we have seen in year one that she will have a positive impact in our community. FF. Chiasson has been assigned to Group 1. This is the group that recently received a Live Safe Citation.



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- We have taken delivery of our new Engine 1. This engine will replace our existing back-up pump and will become our new front-line apparatus to respond to all fires and medicals. It will take a few weeks to get all the equipment and training in place. When we are ready to put it on the road, we hope to invite our community to a “push in” ceremony. We are very excited to thank the community for the support for this critical resource.





- Maynard Fire Department supported the efforts of state-wide cooperation in fighting brush fires on the north shore that burned hundreds of acres. Maynard was deployed two times this past week as part of our State Mobilization plan to active brush fires in the state. On Friday, October 25, 2024, at 10:30, FF. Chiasson, FF Cutone and Chief Lawless responded with Car 1 and Brush 1 to the Town of Wilmington until 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 29, 2024, at 0930 FF. Chiasson, FF. Gross and Chief Lawless responded to Town of Salem until 6:30 p.m. Both responses our firefighters worked extremely hard for a long period of time in very difficult terrain. The state is still at critical risk for brush fires, we are doing our best to spread that message to our community with social media to hopefully eliminate the risk.



- Maynard Celebrated Halloween this year participating in both Downtown trick and treating as well as setting up an oasis on the 31st. Group 1 had treats ready for kids, parents and any puppies that were out for the stroll on a beautiful evening.



COUNCIL ON AGING

- The Council on Aging (COA) 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.
- The COA's "new" newsletter was distributed to 5100 households with positive feedback and increased participation in programs and utilization of services. The newsletter is funded through community-based advertising and printed by Liturgical Publications Inc.
- The Council on Aging Board shared a table with the Friends of Maynard Seniors at Maynard Fest. Information about the COA programs and services distributed.



- During the month of October, the COA offered special craft programs by Pop Up Art School including watercolor trees and felted wool pumpkins. Seniors had an opportunity to craft their own special mix of seasonings during a workshop with Therapy Gardens.





- Moira Carter, Public Health Nurse for the towns of Maynard and Concord, gave a presentation on vaccines and Deaconess Abundant Life Services reviewed cold and flu symptoms. Moira Carter also facilitates the COA's monthly blood pressure clinic.
- The COA and the Maynard Library co-sponsored a Blue Cross Blue Shield presentation on Medicare Supplement plans at the Maynard Library in the evening and the COA offered an opportunity for its SHINE counselor to give an overview of Medicare plans changes at the COA during the day.
- Senior pickleball returned to the Assabet Valley Boys & Girls Club at the beginning of October. Interest continues to grow with the potential to increase available play time or offer in the evenings.
- October's Road Trip included lunch at the 1761 Old Mill Restaurant in Westminster along with a scenic drive to enjoy stunning foliage and unusually warm weather.



MUNICIPAL SERVICES

- Moira Carter, the town's Public Health Nurse, hosted two flu vaccine clinics at the Fowler School on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 and Saturday, October 26, 2024. The total services provided:
 - 128 people served
 - 184 vaccinations administered
 - COVID boosters = 87
 - Flu Boosters = 97
 - The town also provided vaccinations for 4 uninsured townspeople
- The town of Maynard is awarded \$25,000 from the state's Executive Office of Economic Development (EOED) for the state's Downtown Initiative Technical Assistance Program. The purpose of the grant is to assist in the study of a "road diet" change to the traffic system downtown, specifically considering the number of and size of lanes and parking spaces). The widening of Main Street Maynard's sidewalks and narrowing of its travel lanes to a single lane between Nason Street and Waltham Street can provide another tool for economic development for Downtown Maynard. The addition of wider and safer

sidewalks can increase activity and vibrancy of downtowns, not only for pedestrians, but also for businesses. Maynard's 2020 Master Plan, the Community Development Principles, the Long-Range Recovery Plan, and Town-wide surveys all highlight activation of Downtown's streets as beneficial for the Town to pursue. Outdoor dining, a silver lining of the COVID-19 pandemic, is also a viable economic driver. The Office of Municipal Services and the Department of Public Works both support this initiative and believe Maynard's downtown economy will be strengthened through increased pedestrian activity. The core objectives are to: maximize sidewalk width, preserve on-street parking, and provide increased opportunities for downtown businesses.

Benefits include:

- Further solidifies outdoor dining as an economic initiative for Town.
- Calms traffic, improving public safety.
- Results in little or no loss of on-street parking.
- Increases visibility for downtown businesses.
- Increases revenue for the Town through increased business activity.

POLICE

Incidents:

- On Thursday, Sept. 5, at approximately 1:30 a.m., Detective Sgt. Trista Manchusowas conducting an area check of Maynard Motors, 145 Great Road, which was closed at the time. Detective Sgt. Manchusowas located a vehicle parked next to the building with its lights off and two occupants inside, and investigated further. As Detective Emmanuel “Manny” Avril arrived to assist, the detectives saw drugs and drug paraphernalia in plain sight in the center of the vehicle. As a result, a more thorough search of the vehicle was conducted and multiple forms of drugs were found, as well as a stolen firearm, almost \$3,000 in cash and drug paraphernalia. “I want to thank our detectives for their diligent work, attention to detail, and professionalism which resulted in a major seizure of drugs and a stolen firearm,” said Chief Noble.



- On September 1st, 2024, Detective/SRO McCann took a report of damage to a motor vehicle on Dawn Road. The damage was photographed, and it was documented.
- On September 8th, 2024, Officer Noonan took a report of a juvenile's bicycle that was stolen from McDonald's. The area was canvassed and Officer Noonan requested video footage from the business. The incident was documented and is under investigation.
- On September 12th, 2024, Officer Riviere took a report from a resident reporting that her son's vehicle had been vandalized with a white substance. The vehicle was photographed, and it was documented. Officers canvassed the area for video footage and is under investigation.
- On September 13th, 2024, Officer Noonan and Officer Oliveira responded to 7-eleven for a report of an unruly customer. The customer did not have proper identification for a purchase, was asked to leave the store and was transported home.
- On September 14th, 2024, Officer Noonan responded to the AssabetCo-op Market for a report of a hit and run motor vehicle accident. While inside of the store the owner's vehicle was damaged. Video footage was reviewed, and the incident was documented.
- On September 14th, 2024, Officer Noonan took a report from a juvenile that had their bicycle had been stolen from downtown. The area was canvassed, and the incident was documented.
- On September 19th, 2024, Detective Avril responded to the Verizon building for a report of over 100 pounds of cable wire that had been stolen. The incident is under investigation.
- On September 24th, 2024, Officer Banatoski responded to Great Road for a report of a vehicle that had been abandoned. Officer Banatoski attempted to contact the owner of the vehicle, and the property manager was advised.
- On September 25th, 2024, Sergeant Petersen was conducting an area check of an abandoned residence and observed an open window and bulkhead. While conducting a search of the house there appeared to be copper pipes that had been removed using a tool. The incident was documented, and the owner of the property was notified.

Personnel:

- Chief Mike Noble began his career with the Maynard Police Department in 1994. He advanced from Patrol Officer, to Sergeant, to Lieutenant and finally to Chief of Police. Congratulations and thank you for your service to the Town of Maynard! He was presented with a plaque for 30 years of service. Pictured from left to right: Sergeant Sutherland, Sergeant Bodwell, Chief Noble, Deputy Chief Troiano

and Lieutenant Cushing.



Community Outreach:

- 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.
- There have been reports of a text scammer requesting EZ Drive Massachusetts customers pay a fee for unpaid tolls. This may easily be confused with MassDOT's tolling program, EZDriveMA. If you receive a similar message-based scam, report it to the Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov. To avoid being scammed, never share personal information over the phone, never respond to unknown numbers, do not click on hyperlinks and report and block phone numbers that appear to be scams. We want to thank the Methuen Police Department and MassDOT for bringing this scam to the public's attention. Stay safe!
- On September 14th, 2024, Detective McCann and K9 Otis were at Market Basket for a Stuff a Cruiser event, collecting items for the Maynard Food Pantry.
- Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MASSDOT) has just 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.

- On September 27th, 2024, The Maynard Police and Maynard Fire Departments participated in High Five Friday at the Green Meadow School.

Training:

- Lieutenant Cushing and Sergeant Bodwell attended a new firearms law presentation in Hudson.
- Detective/SROMcCann attended a Crisis Response and Behavioral Health training.
- Officer Banatoski attended the National Child Passenger Safety Certification course in Tewksbury.
- Chief Noble and Deputy Chief Troiano attended the Massachusetts Chief's of Police Association Conference in Norwood.

Motor Vehicle Stops:

Civil Citation: 6

Written Warnings: 39

Verbal Warnings: 106

Arrests (MV related): 0

Criminal Complaints: 5

Total MV Stops: 156

Motor Vehicle Accidents:

Digital Way: 4

Great Road: 2

Main Street: 3

Powder Mill Road: 1

Sudbury St: 1

Summer Hill Glen: 1