



TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

February 15, 2022



ADMINISTRATION:

- Town offices will be closed in observance of Washington's Birthday on Monday, February 21, 2022.
- Town Administrator (TA) Greg Johnson has been attending Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) Annual Conference Workshops/Webinars, as presented instead of an in-person annual conference for 2022.
- The Select Board and Finance Committee hosted the Town Charter directed Joint Budget Review on Saturday, February 12, 2022, via Zoom. [Information related to the development of the town's General Fund budget for Fiscal Year 2023 can be found on the Select Board's webpage.](#)
- Town and school employees are registered to receive and participate in cyber-security awareness training, being offered through the state. Training began recently and will continue through May 2022.
- The town's regular, annual audit is nearing completion from a contracted accounting firm.
- A joint meeting of the Planning Board and Select Board is scheduled for Tuesday, February 22, 2022, via Zoom, to receive the report from the Powder Mill Corridor Study.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES:

Health:

From Kathy McMillan, RN, Chair, Maynard Board of Health:

“At the Maynard Board of Health Meeting of February 9, 2022, the recent development by DESE and Governor Baker was discussed. DESE Education Commissioner's recent decision to lift the mask requirement for ages K-12 was made after consulting with medical experts, including infectious disease physicians, other medical experts and the MA Dept of Public Health, after it expires on February 28, 2022. While decisions regarding mask policies will be made by the local school district, and is not the jurisdiction of the BOH, we respect and support their efforts and will support their decision regarding masks. We will continue to monitor the situation and continue to work closely with the schools.

“As a side note, the new guidance does not apply to daycares. We expect updated daycare guidance soon....

“The BOH also asks that no matter which side of this debate you are on, we be respectful of each others decisions.”

- The Board of Health has replaced the January 13th Face Covering Order with the below Mask Advisory effective today, February 10, 2022.
- Mask Advisory for Vaccinated and Unvaccinated Residents

Consistent with Massachusetts Department of Public Health and CDC recommendations, the Board of Health for the Town of Maynard advises that all residents, regardless of vaccination status, wear a mask or face covering when indoors (and not in your own home). Further, the Board particularly urges this recommendation if you have a weakened immune system, or if you are at increased risk for severe disease because of your age or an underlying medical condition, or if someone in your household has a weakened immune system, is at increased risk for severe disease, or is unvaccinated. Information concerning mask use may be found at [the Massachusetts Department of Public Health](#) and [CDC](#).

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- The Town Administrator has not lifted the face-covering requirement for town offices. Town Administrator Johnson is seeking advice from the Health Agent and town staff.
- The Town of Maynard is working with town counsel through the MA Superior Court to require Maynard Pros, LLC to make necessary repairs to their units located on Railroad Street in Maynard. In September, 2021, the Town of Maynard and Maynard Pros, LLC (the property owner) filed the attached Joint Submission Pursuant to Court's Expanded Endorsement and Order. The order outlined that the work should have been completed by December 10, 2021. Unfortunately, several items remain outstanding including the application for plumbing permits to restore washing machine connections to working order, and final inspections for sheet metal permits for venting dryers and chimney liners for the venting of furnaces/boilers. Per our last conversation with Town Counsel earlier this week, he was going to speak with the Maynard Pros, LLC attorney to identify next steps. Our primary concern is that the units are safely brought into compliance with all state codes and we will continue to work through the necessary channels to ensure compliance.

Conservation

- Well 4A was approved with conditions on February 9, 2022, pending Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program approval.
- Conservation Commission is currently looking for volunteers to join a trail stewardship & Invasive Species working group. This group is for anyone interested in helping identify invasive species on conservation land, minimal trail maintenance or planning volunteer days, we welcome all ages and abilities. Anyone interested can email conservation@townofmaynard.net.

Planning/Zoning and Economic Development

- Assabet Co-Op Market: approved by Conservation Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals. Next Planning Board hearing on February 22, 2022.
- Home Occupations/Trade Shop: The Planning Board hosted a public workshop on February 9, 2022, to discuss potential changes to the Zoning By-laws., The ZBA also attended. There was an active discussion with approximately 30 attendees. Next step both boards will work to draft potential updates for consideration.
- Maynard Crossings: Capital Group is proposing to divide building are three into two separate buildings with the same approximate footprint but a reduction of approximately 10,000 square feet and the addition of a courtyard. Next Planning Board hearing February 22, 2022.

POLICE:

Incidents:

- On January 5, 2022, the Maynard Police Department received a report from the Library Director that the cleaning crew located a male subject inside of the building after hours. The incident is under investigation.
- On January 9, 2022, the Maynard Police and Fire Departments responded to a report of a structure fire behind the former Gruber Brothers furniture store, which is abandoned. Upon arrival MFD entered the building in quickly extinguished the flames. The investigation is open, and charges are pending.
- On January 13, 2022, a resident reported that he was connecting with an individual through a dating app who counseled him on how to invest in crypto currency. The individual transferred over \$20,000 into a crypto currency trading application. He wanted to withdraw the funds and would be faced with an income tax fee. The individual was advised to contact his bank, the FTC and the crypto application.
- On January 20, 2022, Officers responded to Conant Street for a report of a truck that took wires down and was leaving the area. The truck was located by the Acton Police Department and the individuals were spoken too. There was no criminal activity, and they had notified their employer of the incident. Verizon was notified to address the low hanging wires.
- On January 20, 2022, while on foot patrol downtown Officer McGrath observed a political sticker on a parking meter on Main Street. The sticker was removed and the incident documented.
- On January 26, 2022, a report of a male making threats to harm himself on Powder Mill Road was received. That individual left on foot into a wooded area. The Acton Police Department contacted MSP resources (K9 Unit and Air Wing) to conduct a search in the area. After a thorough search, they were unable to locate him. The individual was eventually located the following morning and was evaluated.



Community Outreach

- On January 29, 2022, we had our first blizzard of 2022. The Maynard Police Department is happy to report there were few calls for service on that day. The DPW did a fantastic job keeping the roads plowed, and continue to clean up areas that had large areas of snow accumulation.
- Chief Noble and Officer Moore answered questions and gave a tour to Girl Scout Troop 70515 as part of their First Aid/911 badge. The girls had excellent questions and will be preparing their own first aid kits. We enjoyed hosting this great Troop!



Employee Recognition

Three Maynard Public Safety Dispatchers were recognized by the Mass. State 911 Department:

Alicia Luther, Dispatcher
Dan Cacciatore, Dispatcher
James McGowan, Firefighter

9-1-1 Spotlight:
Maynard Public Safety Communications Center
Dispatcher Alicia Luther

During the overnight shift on August 21, 2021, as the sole dispatcher on duty, Dispatcher Alicia Luther began receiving reports of a shooting on Cindy Lane in Maynard, which resulted in three people shot. Dispatcher Luther updated Police, Fire and EMS with critical information for responder safety, mutual aid and ample resources for Police/Fire/EMS on scene all while maintaining a calm and collected demeanor. It was clear that her concern for responder safety, anticipation of their needs, and clear communications were vital in a successful outcome.

9-1-1 Spotlight:
Maynard Public Safety Communications Center
Dispatcher Dan Cacciatore

On September 2, 2021, at approximately 16:10 hours Dispatcher Dan Cacciatore received a report for a strange odor inside of a residence on Park Street. As the Maynard Police and Fire Departments were dispatched to investigate an explosion was reported, and a 2-alarm structure fire resulted. Unfortunately, this incident resulted in a fatality, and two Police Officers, and one Firefighter being transported to the hospital. Dispatcher Cacciatore was the sole Dispatcher on duty at this time, and he was able to coordinate Police/Fire/EMS entities until assistance arrived. Dispatcher Cacciatore was able to remain calm, and work through multiple requests from various agencies at once.

9-1-1 Spotlight:
Firefighter James McGowan
Maynard Public Safety Communications Center

On September 2nd, 2021, Firefighter James McGowan was completing Day One of his NG9-1-1 training at the Maynard Police Department. As he prepared to leave for the day he received a notification for station coverage for an explosion. Firefighter McGowan immediately stepped into Dispatch and took over Fire Communications while Dispatcher Cacciatore handled contacting mutual aid, utilities and Police Communications. Firefighter McGowan played a vital role in anticipating the needs of the Fire Department, responder safety, and clear communications. Since this event, Firefighter McGowan has gone on to complete his certification, and is being released from training to begin his role as Public Safety Dispatcher while recovering from an injury.

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Training:

- Special Officer Jones attended In Service Training.
 - Officer Gennaro attended In Service Training.
 - Special Officer Loomer attended In Service Training.
 - Special Officer Corrigan attended In Service Training
- Sergeant Manchuso attended In Service Training

Animal Control:

Total Number of Calls: 11

Cat Related (Other): 3

Animal/Wildlife Calls: 4

Miscellaneous: 3

Total Number of Human Bites: 1

10 Day Quarantine Orders (human bite): Released: 1

Motor Vehicle Stops:

Action Taken:

Civil Citation: 10

Written Warning: 30

Verbal Warning: 81

Arrests(Motor Vehicle Related): 3

Criminal Complaint: 5

Total Motor Vehicle Stops: 129

- A study required by the Commonwealth on motor vehicle stops were tabulated over a period of time to look for potential racial biases from the more than 300 police agencies in Massachusetts that issue citations. The data presented that no support was shown for a pattern of racial disparity in police motor vehicle stops for the state as a whole. The data for Maynard specifically showed a complete anti-bias for motor vehicle stops. Motor vehicle stops by Maynard officers statistically are very anti-bias: as officers are less likely to stop a black motorist (8.8% less), less likely to stop Hispanic (13.4% less), and more likely to stop white motorist (23.9% more) than the state average. These statistics are supportive of the Maynard Police Department's commitment to treat everyone equally with respect and professionalism.

Motor Vehicle Accidents:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Number of Motor Vehicle Accidents</u>
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Acton Street	1
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Apple Ridge Road	1
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Brown Street	1
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Concord Street	1
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Digital Way	1
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Main Street	3
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Parker Street	6
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Summer Street	1
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Walnut Street	1
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Waltham Street	2
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Wood Lane	1
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Total 19

PUBLIC WORKS:

The Department of Public Works (DPW) conducted snow and ice operations for the recent blizzard that enveloped the town of Maynard. Public works responded with 30 pieces of equipment conducting snow plowing and deicing operations. Initial storm response consisted of operations conducted for 31 straight hours spanning between Friday, January 28, 2022, and ending on Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 5am. Secondary

operations continued on Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 10pm, and continued until Monday the next day at 5pm. Public works will continue to address areas of excessive snow build up for public safety priority needs.

