



TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT



February 18, 2025

ADMINISTRATION

- Town Administrator (TA) Johnson and Assistant Town Administrator (ATA) Stephanie Duggan began regular collective bargaining agreement negotiations with the LIUNA Professionals union and LIUNA Laborers union. TA Johnson expects to begin negotiations with Director of Public Works (DPW) Justin DeMarco.
- TA Johnson is planning to take vacation April 18-27, 2025 to travel to Ireland with his family.
- On Tuesday, February 11, 2025, ATA Duggan hosted an excellent training session for all town departments concerning “Harassment” as presented by the town’s liability insurance provider, MIIA.
- TA Johnson attended the Green Meadow School Building Committee in which the bids for General Contractor for the project were considered and a vote to recommend awarding the contract was made.
- TA Johnson hosted a team of community stakeholders to evaluate submissions to the Request For Proposals (RFP) seeking space to lease for a new Senior Center. The team of evaluators will conduct on-site visits to further evaluations.
- Town Offices were closed Monday, February 17, 2025, in observance of Presidents’ Day.
- ATA Duggan is planning to attend a training session on municipal finances hosted by the Massachusetts Municipal Managers Association (MMMA) on February 27, 2025.
- During the week of February 11-14, 2025, Fire Chief Angela Lawless traveled to Washington DC to attend “Fire Day on the Hill”, as she accepted the invitation amongst her colleagues of Fire Chiefs in the Commonwealth.
- TA Johnson has assisted the Concord Finance Committee in examining the fiscal impact of Maynard Crossing development, as reference in Concord’s consideration of planning for the turnover of MCI Concord.

LIBRARY

New Layout for the Children's Areas!

The layout of the children's picture-book, play, and computer areas has been redesigned. The new arrangement has enlarged the existing play area, making it much more accessible and allowing the Library to offer more play options in that space; and it has created an entirely new play area outside the Storytime Room.

The reorientation of the shelving allows adults to browse the collection while still being able to have a view of children in the play area, and it widens the aisles, making it easier to navigate them and creating an additional reading nook. In addition, it provides better lighting from the ceiling fixtures and the natural light from the windows.

The Library is now filling the activity spaces with toys and other materials that are stimulating to children across the developmental stages, that strengthen motor skills and sensory awareness, and encourage pretend play.

The reconfiguration and some of the furnishings were made possible by a generous gift from an anonymous donor; other furnishings were funded by the Friends of the Maynard Public Library; and play materials and equipment were supported by grant funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. We are deeply grateful to all of these funders. They have made changes possible that will benefit children for years to come.

Thank you to our staff for their hard work and creative input on this project. And thank you to the community for participating in our survey a year ago. Your responses have been instrumental in guiding us through this process. There will be more developments in the coming weeks and months, but this was a big step forward.







Study pod added to the Library!

Say hello to our new study pod! It has a desk, chair, adjustable lighting and ventilation, sound proofing, and an electrical outlet for powering your device.

With the library study rooms frequently being full these days, we're thrilled to have another option we can offer visitors who are looking for a quiet place to read, study, or work. The pod is located on the second floor, right near the study rooms. Reservations are not currently required. It's first come, first served.

The addition of the pod was made possible by a generous gift from donor Catherine Greenleaf, in memory of her grandfather, Charles Lincoln Sweeney, who was born in Maynard. Charles's aunt, Nellie May, not only worked at the old Maynard Public Library; she was also principal of the Nason Street School--the current home of MPL!

Come on down and try it out!

