

Jeff Cyr, Chair  
Sarah Etelman, Vice-Chair  
Carol Constant, Clerk  
Chris Geraghty  
Andrea Miles

Lisa Wong  
Town Administrator

## Town Administrator's Report to Selectboard February 15, 2022

### Administration, Finance and Operations

- ARPA requests and Capital Planning requests are due into the Town Administrator's office. The TA will review the requests and see if any information is missing and will compile the ARAP requests for the Selectboard to review in March and the Capital Planning Committee to begin review at their February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.
- The Town Administrator is completing courses for the renewal of the Massachusetts Certified Public Procurement Official (MCPPO) designation. The designation is for 3 years and the TA's existing certification expires in June 2022.

### Community Highlights

- The Public Library has organized programs for children during the February school vacation break. <http://shadleylib.org/Pages/Index/176/childrens-programs>
- The Council on Aging is finalizing the purchase of a 4-passenger electric vehicle to assist our seniors with appointments (medical, out of town).
- The Town Administrator send out an annual reminder to Town departments to purchase products with recycled content and/or are environmentally preferable. The Town's primary vendor for office supplies has a wide supply of products containing recycled materials.

### Planning and Economic Development

- The Town plans to focus on the design for the Titus Pond/ Queensville Dam project for the upcoming round of Massachusetts Vulnerability Planning grants. The dam is rated in poor condition and the Town will have a better idea in the next month what the scope should be. The Newton Smith / Lower Pond dam is also in poor condition and MassDEP (Dept of Environmental Protection) has approved a project to do some repairs at the dam and just awarded the bids to complete the work.
- The Town is also looking at applying for the Massachusetts Department of Ecological Restoration (DER) Culvert grant for the design of the Pearl Street culvert replacement.
- The Planning Board held two public hearings on Monday. The 1 Wood Ave hearing ended in approval of the special permit but with conditions to not store toxic chemicals. The Gaylord Street Redevelopment hearing was continued until next month.

**Public Health**

- 39 active confirmed cases as of 2/8. 6 are 65 years of age and over, and 1 is under age 5.
- Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley announced that the statewide mask requirement for K-12 schools will be lifted on February 28. The South Hadley School Committee will discuss this at an upcoming meeting.
- The next Board of Health meeting will be held on March 1 and the town-wide mask mandate will be on the agenda. The Town Administrator will make a recommendation in the upcoming weeks for the town buildings mask mandate.
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health has awarded a Public Health Excellence for Shared Services Grant with South Hadley, Holyoke and Chicopee in an annualized amount of \$300,000 pending negotiation of a final workplan. The contract for the remainder of FY22 will be negotiated with South Hadley as the lead community. Thank you to our Health Director Sharon Hart for her hard work on this. The funds will be used to support the boards of health with a variety of public health issues, including COVID-19 and other diseases.

**Public Safety**

- The Town is considering requests for additional streetlights as part of the annual budget process. The requests are coming from town departments as well as residents. Per the Selectboard policy, the Town Administrator will review the requests with the Police and Public Works department before making a recommendation to the Selectboard this Spring.
- There was local coverage of the collaboration with the Police Department and the Behavioral Health Network recently: The Republican / MassLive: <https://www.masslive.com/springfield/2022/02/granby-south-hadley-receive-30450-grant-from-massachusetts-department-of-health-to-fund-mental-health-clinician-to-respond-with-police.html> and 22News: <https://www.wvlp.com/news/local-news/hampshire-county/south-hadley-and-granby-police-collaborating-with-mental-health-experts-on-emergency-calls/>

**Public Works**

- The DPW is out patching Main St and swept up all of the material that has come out of the holes too. There are signs up to warn drivers, as with the rain and freeze thaw conditions that are happening potholes could pop up. The DPW is using synthetic cold patch and will use hot mix when it becomes available. As it is still February, we unfortunately cannot make better and more permanent repairs yet. Crews are out every day patching and making roads as safe as we can.