

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
TUESDAY AUGUST 4, 2020
VIRTUAL AGENDA
6 PM**

Streaming @ <https://shctv15.com/watch-live/>

or

Cable Channel 15

<p>Note: Not all the topics listed in this notice may be reached for discussion. In addition, the topics listed are those which the chair reasonably expects will be discussed as of the date of this notice. These meetings may be audio and/or visually recorded</p>

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Draft minutes of May 5, 2020, May 12, 2020, May 19, 2020, May 26, 2020, June 16, 2020 and June 23, 2020
3. COVID 19 (Sharon Hart)
4. Vote September Election Warrant
5. Virtual Platform Committee Report (Chair Geraghty)
6. Fall Town Meeting Discussion
7. PEG Access Expenditure /Comcast Essentials Program
8. Fall Selectboard Schedule
9. Town Administrator's Report
10. Adjourn

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2020
MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING – 6:00 P. M**

Present were Chair Jeff Cyr, Vice Chair Sarah Etelman, member Bruce Forcier, member Christopher Geraghty, member Andrea Miles, and Town Administrator Michael J. Sullivan

CALL TO ORDER

Cyr called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

UPDATE ON COVID 19

Sullivan updated the Board of the number of COVID-19 cases in Town as the rate was increasing. A local nursing home recently experienced an outbreak of the virus. Controls were implemented and the nursing home instated a separate COVID-19 wing. The number of cases within the displayed spreadsheet did not reflect the cases at the nursing home. The figures within the spreadsheet were compiled by the State and it takes the States a number of days to incorporate new information as it is received.

Sullivan noted that the State intended on rolling out its phased reopening plan next week and that a face mask wearing mandate would soon go into effect

FY 21 BUDGET DRAFT FINAL REVIEW

Sullivan displayed a 'Sources and Uses Report' followed by a comparison on the FY2020 budget and the draft FY2021 budget. Roughly \$260K had been stuck from the draft budget. Summer and part-time positions had been removed, Town administrative staff cut their salaries, and vacant staff positions would not be filled. A future Special Town Meeting could be called to restore the funding. On a positive note, there were no expected decreases in State aid and building permit applications were being filed again.

LEAF/LAWN DEBRIS COLLECTION

Sullivan explained that, starting May 18, law debris collection would begin and fall on residents' normal collection day. Residents were encouraged to take advantage of the service. Next month, the Town anticipated re-opening the compost area with new protocols to ensure the safety of the public and staff.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT DRAFT

Sullivan explained that the draft warrant was sent to the Board today. The warrant only considered the items necessary to allow government to function. The budget would likely need to be reconsidered at a future Special Town meeting.

TOWN MEETING UPDATE

Sullivan explained that a site visit at the Mount Holyoke College Field House was scheduled to evaluate the feasibility of hosting Town Meeting there. At the next meeting, Town Moderator John Hine and Town Clerk Carlene Hamlin would be present to discuss Town Meeting protocols.

ADJOURN

Etleman motioned to adjourn. Miles seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
DRAFT
Colleen Canning, Senior Clerk Planning and Conservation**

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2020
MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING – 6:00 P. M**

Present were Chair Jeff Cyr, Vice Chair Sarah Etelman, member Bruce Forcier, member Christopher Geraghty, member Andrea Miles, and Town Administrator Michael J. Sullivan

CALL TO ORDER

Cyr called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

UPDATE COVID-19 (DIRECTOR HART)

Sharon Hart, Public Health Director/ Emergency Management Director, was present at the virtual meeting and offered updates on the Town's response to COVID-19. Confirmed number of cases had increased across all populations. Sullivan noted that golf courses and conservation trails were open again with new protocols to increase the public's safety.

TOWN MEETING UPDATE (CLERK HAMLIN, MODERATOR HINE)

Sullivan explained that a site visit at the Mount Holyoke College field house amongst Town staff was performed to assess the feasibility of hosting Annual Town Meeting at that location. Hart found that the location was a good choice as it was large and well ventilated.

John Hine, Town Moderator, explained that other communities were considering a wide range of platforms to host their Town Meetings. He voiced his support for implementing a consent agenda in which the first seven warrant articles could be considered together. If a Town Meeting Member voiced interest in discussing any of those articles further, it could be pulled out for further consideration. The Board expressed support of the implementing a consent agenda.

Carlene Hamlin, Town Clerk, explained that the Massachusetts Clerk's Association was not supportive of a virtual platform at this time and added that the legislature had not yet acted to allow virtual Town Meetings.

Board members addressed the advantages and pitfalls of hosting Town Meeting both virtually and in-person. Both required a large amount of coordination and there was not unilateral support for either option. The Board supported providing Town Meeting members a poll in which they could voice their preference.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT DRAFT

Sullivan displayed the drafted Town Meeting warrant. Articles one through seven were the common articles that were accepted manually, article seven would establish a BATTERY BROOK PARK revolving fund, and article eight would be the operating budget.

FY 21 BUDGET FINAL DRAFT

Sullivan presented the FY2021 final draft budget. An amount of money remained unallocated to allow the Selectboard to make important future adjustments as needed. The draft budget would need to be reviewed by the Appropriations Committee and would be followed by the public hearing which would be held virtually. Sullivan added that he would conduct a virtual review of all articles for interested parties.

REQUEST FOR MSBA APPLICATION MOSIER SCHOOL

Sullivan explained that a statement of interest was received from Dr. Diana Bonville, Interim Superintendent of Schools, for assistance from the MSBA for preliminary upgrade designs to the Mosier School. If selected for assistance, the Town would need to contribute a financial match. The Board considered the Town's ability to support the effort. As there was already a substantial gap between the school's requested operational budget and the available funding, the cost of upgrading Mosier School appeared to be too large a financial burden at this time. Additionally, it was unknown how the COVID-19 pandemic would affect the structure of education in the future. The Board acknowledged the difficulty of the decision as there were substantial upgrades that needed to be performed at the school.

Sullivan would draft a letter in response to the School Department's request reiterating the Selectboard's support for the upgrades to the Mosier School. However, due to uncertain financial and planning outlook, the Town would not be in a position to satisfy the financial requirements of the application's request. The letter would be sent to the Board to consider before being endorsed by the Chair.

SENIOR CENTER UPDATE

Sullivan explained that during demolition of the old Senior Center building, a void with an associated asbestos pipe was uncovered. Removal of the pipe, paired with construction delays associated with COVID-19, would result in a delay in opening the new senior center by two months. A representative of the project would be in attendance at a future meeting to update the Board.

ADJOURN

Etelman motioned to adjourn. Who seconded. Miles in favor. The meeting adjourned 7:44 PM.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
DRAFT
Colleen Canning, Senior Clerk Planning and Conservation**

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2020
MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING – 6:00 P. M**

Present were Chair Jeff Cyr, Vice Chair Sarah Etelman, member Bruce Forcier, member Christopher Geraghty, member Andrea Miles, and Town Administrator Michael J. Sullivan

CALL TO ORDER

Cyr called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

UPDATE COVID-19

Sullivan reviewed the number of confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Town and indicated that the number of cases were growing. The State's reopening plan was slated to roll out in early June and Town officials were working on developing protocols to help facilitate services throughout the re-open.

SENIOR CENTER PROJECT (OPM PHIL PALUMBO)

Phil Palumbo, the Owner's Project Manager (OPM) of the new senior center construction, was present at the virtual meeting. He explained that during excavation an asbestos pipe was uncovered and its removal would delay the project's completion date. He explained that all protocols due to the COVID-19 State-of-Emergency were being followed on site. All subcontractors were required to self-certify and logs were maintained by the general contractor. At this time, there was no request for financial assistance from the general contractor for the cost of implementation of additional protocols.

Sullivan noted that the Senior Center Building Committee had come to an agreement to replace the play apparatus that was removed per recommendation of the Town's insurance company. Construction of the new playscape would be financed through the contingency budget.

REPUBLIC CONTRACT

Sullivan explained that Town Counsel was reviewing the drafted contract with Republic Services. There were items that she was recommending to be added to protect the Town's interests. The recommended items had yet to be added to the contract. Therefore, he recommended that the Board consider the contract at a future meeting.

SOLID WASTE ANNUAL FEE

Sullivan explained that calculations for the FY2021 solid waste fee showed increases in rates. The increase was a result of multiple factors which included increases in tipping fees and the loss of revenue from recycling to offset collection costs. However, the rate would remain within the industry standard. The Board could consider a vote on the matter at a future meeting. Members recommended developing a matrix to show the costs difference between remaining with the current provider versus the cost of a private hauler.

TOWN MEETING FORMAT DISCUSSION

John Hine, Town Meeting Moderator, was present at the meeting.

Sullivan explained that the legislature had not yet voted to allow virtual Town Meetings and had not yet voted to allow reduction of quorum to ten percent. There were previous considerations to hold an in-person Town Meeting at the Mount Holyoke College field house. Sullivan explained that representatives of the College were reconsidering their offer to host citing health and safety concerns. As options for hosting Town Meeting were dwindling, the Board could consider a 1/12 budget but it was not recommended. None of the options before the Board were ideal.

Hine described how other towns were hosting their Town Meetings. Some communities were pushing ahead with a virtual platform and were well equipped to do so. South Hadley did not have the level of integrated technology that these other communities had. Most communities were planning to host in-person and varying levels of creativity. One community hosted their Town Meeting in a 'drive-in theatre' style where attendees all stayed on their cars. Board members expressed interest in hosting Town Meeting as a 'drive-in'.

Sullivan recommended that the Board vote to endorse the allowance to reduce Town Meeting quorum to ten percent. This action would signal the Selectboard's support of the action to the legislature.

Motion: Etelman moved to endorse the concept of reduction of Town Meeting quorum to ten percent. Geraghty seconded. All in favor.

Sullivan recommended that a committee be formed to investigate the potential for hosting future Special Town Meetings on a virtual form. He would compile a statement for the board to consider at a future meeting.

DOR SOUTH HADLEY FINANCIAL POLICIES

Sullivan explained that the Town's financial procedures were reviewed. Within the review, it was acknowledged that the Town staff was performing well and was satisfying best practices. However, as the policy had not been updated since 1998, there were some items that needed to be updated to reflect DOR's most up-to-date standards. The policy would be reviewed by the Appropriations Committee prior to acceptance.

ADJOURN

Miles moved to adjourn the meeting. Etelman seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
DRAFT
Colleen Canning, Senior Clerk Planning and Conservation**

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2020
MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING – 6:00 P. M**

Present were Chair Jeff Cyr, Vice Chair Sarah Etelman, member Bruce Forcier, member Chris Geraghty, member Andrea Miles, and Town Administrator Michael J. Sullivan

CALL TO ORDER

Cyr called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

UPDATE COVID 19 (SHARON HART)

Sharon Hart, Emergency Management Director and Public Health Director, was present at the virtual meeting and offered updates on the Town's COVID-19 response. She reviewed numbers of confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Sullivan explained that local businesses were ramping up to reopen. Review of reopening plans and enforcement for non-compliance could be funded through grant money. Town administration was working with Town staff to develop strategies for review.

TRANSFER OF UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK PERMIT

Sullivan explained that the gas station located at 17 Bridge Street was undergoing site improvements. The Selectboard was asked to consider a transfer of the storage tank permit from Keye Petroleum Corp to Laxmi Petroleum Inc. The transfer would be the first stage in site improvements. One of the existing gasoline storage tanks was now being proposed for diesel storage.

Motion: Etelman moved to allow the transfer of the underground storage tank permit at 17 Bridge Street from Keye Petroleum Corp to Laxmi Petroleum Inc. Geraghty second. All voted in favor through roll call vote.

REPUBLIC CONTACT

Sullivan explained that Town Counsel reviewed the contact and restructured portions of it to best serve the Town. The Board would review the draft and hopefully be able to endorse it at the next meeting.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SELL UNDER CHAPTER 61A

Anne Capra, Conservation Administrator/Planner, was present at the virtual meeting. She explained that the property at 315 Amherst Road was for sale and now had an interested buyer. The lot was placed into Chapter 61A as a portion of it was used as an agricultural hay field. That designation allowed the property to be taxed at a reduced rate. In the event that the use of the property was to change, the Town would be entitled to 'exercise its first right of refusal' to

acquire the property. She detailed the environmental significance of the property and expressed the Conservation Commission's interest in acquiring the land.

The Board addressed financial concerns in purchase of the property. Capra explained that the Conservation Commission had money in their funds which could be used to fund part of the acquisition. The remainder of the required funding could be received under the Land Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) grant. As the grant functioned as a reimbursement, a vote of Town Meeting would be required to release the funding which would later be returned.

Sullivan explained that Town Counsel was undergoing a title search of the property. Town Counsel was being consulted on how the Covid-19 State-of-Emergency affected timelines to act on the acquisition

Motion: Etelman moved to notify the seller of 315 Amherst Road of the Town's interest in purchasing the property under Chapter 61A. Miles seconded. All voted in favor through roll call.

CARES ACTION GRANT

Sullivan explained that the CARES Action grant application was due June 5, 2020 to help offset the unexpected costs related to COVID-19. The funding could only be used for costs that were not previously budgeted for.

TOWN MEETING FORMAT DISCUSSION

Sullivan sent the Board the final Town Meeting warrant which required a vote of approval from the Board. The Town Meeting would be held in the parking lot of St. Theresa's Church and attendees would remain in their cars. Prior to the Town Meeting date, Sullivan would host a virtual review of the articles.

Motion: Etelman moved to approve the Town Meeting Warrant for the date of June 17, 2020 at 6:00 PM to be located at St. Teresa's Church at 9 East Parkview Drive. Miles second. All voted in favor by roll call.

ADJOURN

Etelman moved to adjourn the meeting. Miles seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
DRAFT
Colleen Canning, Senior Clerk Planning and Conservation**

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2020
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM – 6 P.M.**

Present were Chair Jeff Cyr, Vice Chair Sarah Etelman, member Chris Geraghty, member Bruce Forcier, Member Andrea Miles, and Town Administrator Michael J. Sullivan.

CALL TO ORDER

Cyr called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

COVID-19 UPDATE

There are 142 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in South Hadley, 130 contact cases, three probable cases and two suspected cases. There are 20 deaths.

Sullivan said tag sales are now allowed. Guidelines are reflective of what the town received from Governor Baker. Basketball hoops are back up and cautionary signs are installed at playgrounds and parks according to the governor's office.

CONSERVATION RESTRICTION AT 339 PEARL STREET

Conservation Administrator Anne Capra explained the owner of land at 339 Pearl Street is interested in granting a conservation restriction. The land is now privately owned and will remain so after the restriction is granted.

Paul Gagnon of Kestrel Trust explained there will be public access for through-hiking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing and the like. All of the land will be conservation land except for a section along the road where a house is located. The conserved land will be part of a larger project within the Mount Holyoke Range. The land remains as taxable private conservation land. The state requires a co-holder, which the South Hadley Conservation Commission will pick up. The Town of South Hadley will be the backup interest holder in the unlikelyhood the Kestrel Trust disbands.

Etelman motioned to accept the conservation restriction as presented at 339 Pearl Street. Miles seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Member Geraghty - Aye

Member Forcier - Aye

Member Miles - Aye

Vice Chair Etelman - Aye

Chair Cyr – Aye

All in favor.

TRASH FEE FY21

Miles moved to increase the FY21 trash fee from \$75 to \$125. Geraghty seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Member Geraghty - Aye

Member Forcier - Aye

Member Miles - Aye

Vice Chair Etelman - Aye

Chair Cyr - Aye

All in favor.

TOWN MEETING QUORUM REDUCTION

Miles moved to accept Chapter 92 of the Acts of 2020, Section 7 to allow reduction of the South Hadley quorum from 60 to 7 for the June 17, 2020 Annual Town Meeting. Cyr seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Member Geraghty - Aye

Member Forcier - Aye

Member Miles - Aye

Vice Chair Etelman - Aye

Chair Cyr - Aye

All in favor.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

After meeting weekly since March, the Selectboard will meet June 23 and 30, and then resume its twice-a-month schedule for July 7 and 21, and Aug. 4 and 18. Sullivan will resume writing his town administrator's reports.

Miles suggested Police Chief Jennifer Gundersen attend a future Selectboard meeting to give an overview of police policies and an inside view of how the South Hadley department operates. Sullivan said he and Etelman have discussed rekindling the Symposium of Understanding to have a forum at which residents can discuss topics like racism.

Miles is interested in having Recreation Director Andy Rogers attend a future Selectboard meeting to discuss what forms of recreation are offered during the pandemic and how the town is trying to keep youth busy but also safe.

ADJOURN

Geraghty motioned to adjourn. Miles seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
Kristin Maher
Executive Assistant to Administration

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2020
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING ROOM – 6 P.M.**

Present were Chair Jeff Cyr, Vice Chair Sarah Etelman, member Chris Geraghty, member Bruce Forcier, Member Andrea Miles, and Town Administrator Michael J. Sullivan.

CALL TO ORDER

Cyr called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Sharon Hart said confirmed COVID cases are 142 and contacts are 129 (down by 1 from last week after a contact was transferred to a different town). There are no new cases this week but deaths have risen to 23. VERO closed its COVID floor and none of its residents are currently hospitalized. All of its staff members have returned.

Hart, Public Health Nurse Marge Bernard and Mount Holyoke health staff will virtually meet at the end of this week to discuss the college's reopening plan and disease tracing.

Cyr asked Hart to expand on why Cumberland Farms initially was able to provide self-service and more recently had to shut that down. Hart said the store was not allowed from the get-go to offer self-service according to the Health Department, but Cumberland Farms disagreed. Both entities checked with the state, and when the state reported back that self-service was not allowed Cumberland Farms ceased allowing it.

Hart said MAVEN, the state system used by the Health Department to track COVID numbers, cannot show active cases, only cumulative numbers.

The Health Department has not heard from the Department of Education about health mandates regarding the return to school. Hart and Facilities Manager / Health & Safety Coordinator Matt Cowie are in contact with the school department about air exchange and water fountains, and possibly performing upgrades with CARES Act grant monies.

In total, TOSH was awarded \$1.57 million in CARES Act funding. A portion - \$627,000 – was received this week. Some of that needed to be spent before the end of Fiscal Year 20. \$28,000 was spent on upgrading voting booths as there needs to be more distance between each one. The School Department is ordering \$200,000 worth of Chromebooks for distance learning and IT upgrades.

Funding has also been used for communication signs to be installed around town. Payment for the use of contract services is also being considered for assistance with COVID-19 contact tracing and enforcement. Contract services are a benefit when compared to hiring additional staff in that TOSH can adjust more quickly when the grant funding for the contract services runs out.

Departments that feel they have needs which meet the specific CARES Act funding requirements must submit proposals to Sullivan. The Planning Department will make sure the proposals meet CARES Act guidelines. The needs must be directly related to COVID-19 and the funding cannot replace typical revenue or budget funding.

POLICE POLICY BRIEFING

Police Chief Jennifer Gundersen said the South Hadley Police Department is extremely disturbed and disheartened by the violence police officers around the country have committed on people of color. She said it is concerning that other police officers have stood by and watched this behavior that some may think is rogue but in reality is not. The department has discussed concerns about what they are seeing daily, and the chief has spoken with the police union about having an open mind about how the department provides services to the community. Honest and difficult discussions need to be had.

She can say with confidence SHPD complies with “Eight Can’t Wait” in policy and practice. SHPD only uses force when necessary – a few times a year, said Gundersen - and when officers do use force there is a strict reporting requirement they must follow. A shift supervisor first reviews the force report. Then, a second and third level of review is completed by the lieutenant in charge of patrol operations and the officer in charge of training to ensure policy and training compliance. Finally, the chief is the fourth level of review.

Gundersen said there is no quota for officers when stopping motor vehicles, however, she is often communicating down through the supervisors to the officers about various areas she expects officers to enforce, such as traffic laws when valid complaints from the community are made. As an example, a complaint about speeding on Hadley Street was recently made. After deeming the complaint valid, she communicated to supervisors she expects officers to patrol the area. The largest complaint she routinely receives is about the rotary.

There are times when directed traffic enforcement, made available through grants from the Executive Office of Public Safety, such as Click It or Ticket, have quotas of sorts. For example, EOPS will give a recommendation for Click It or Ticket to stop three cars per hour. Gundersen will then tell officers the result of the stops could be a citation or a warning. She prefers warnings.

She has reviewed the demographics of who officers are stopping and ticketing. She believes they are in accordance and not discriminatory. A traffic study would be a better gauge of determining who is actually driving through South Hadley instead of using census data, which not everyone fills out.

Chokehold are banned by written policy and practice. It is considered deadly force by the department. She said it is disturbing to see what happened to George Floyd, and nothing like that force would ever be allowed in South Hadley. SHPD does not have or use military equipment like teargas or flashbangs. Officers are not trained on those or on chokeholds. Gundersen said she believes there is no role for any of that in what the department offers the community. She noted South Hadley officers wear Molle Carriers. It is not military clothing, but it can look that

way. These carriers allow officers to wear their equipment on their chest. This offers no tactical advantage or disadvantage but will prevent injuries that commonly occur when gear is worn on the hips and low back.

She is looking to develop a bicycle patrol and would appreciate guidance from the Selectboard on how SHPD can better engage community members. This meeting, she said, is a step toward that.

Gundersen is a fan of having a school resource officer. She has never worked in a community with a civilian review board but said in some communities it brings added value.

The South Hadley Police Department has 28 officers of which five are women, two are Hispanic and one is Black. All but five have college degrees - four have masters degrees, four have associates degrees and the rest have bachelors degrees.

Gundersen is rewriting SHPD policies, and giving new responsibilities and roles. In the last year-and-a-half, there have not been any professional standards reviews for on-duty behavior or serious infractions.

TOWN MEETING RECAP

The drive-in style town meeting went well. Moderator John Hine spoke about the incident in which a resident who was not a town meeting member wished to speak and was not acknowledged for some time despite town meeting members using allotted time during a vote on a warrant article asking for the moderator to let the resident speak. Eventually, Hine allowed the person to speak.

Hine said he did not know the person or have an idea of what the person was going to say, so it was hard to make a judgement call on whether the person would have something helpful to say related to town meeting, which is generally the criteria for allowing non-town meeting members to speak. He stressed to the public that if they want to speak during town meeting to reach out to Hine ahead of time. Additionally, town meeting members can make a motion to allow non-members to speak. Geraghty confirmed with Hine that in this instance, if town meeting members made a motion to allow this person to speak, the person could have spoken without any issue.

Miles brought up that state bylaws regarding annual town meeting specify anyone who is a registered voter in town may be allowed to speak, even if that person is not a town meeting member, which is in conflict with the town's bylaws. Town counsel is reviewing this discrepancy.

AD-HOC VIRTUAL TOWN MEETING

The Selectboard agreed to create an ad-hoc committee with the goal of finding a virtual platform to use in the event the town needs to hold the fall annual town meeting virtually. Members will be appointed at the board's July 7 meeting. Selectboard members agreed to have Sullivan reach out to current town meeting members and the Commission on Disabilities to suggest members for the committee. Two will be from town meeting and one from the CoD, in addition to people from other facets of town boards and offices, yet to be determined.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Cyr asked about town hall reopening to the public. Sullivan said internal discussions have been had about the town's ability to provide nearly every service during the pandemic, either online or via the mail. Town Clerk Carlene Hamlin is performing marriage intentions and swearing people in outside or at the SHPD vestibule. He said opening right now does not make sense, although at times it feels inconvenient to the public and staff. The risk of opening town hall too great.

While there is still a threat of opening parks and spray parks, it is what the public has demanded, and TOSH does not have a direct responsibility to protect employees at these places - but it does at town hall if town hall were to open to the public. In the case of spray parks, the risk of not opening was greater than opening. Sullivan said TOSH did not want to force people to take risks such as going to the Connecticut River to cool off. Spray parks are open Monday – Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There is a continues spray to eliminate the need to touch the structures to get them to turn on. Condo pools remain closed because they cannot meet established safety standards.

ADJOURN

Miles motioned to adjourn. Etelman seconded. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Kristin Maher

Executive Assistant to Administration

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR 2020 STATE PRIMARY

SS.

To the Constables of the Town of South Hadley

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said city or town who are qualified to vote in Primaries to vote at:

PRECINCT A, B, C, D & E

SOUTH HADLEY HIGH SCHOOL, 153 NEWTON STREET, SOUTH HADLEY, MA 01075

on **TUESDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020**, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Primaries for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

SENATOR IN CONGRESS. FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS. FIRST DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR. EIGHTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT HAMPSHIRE, FRANKLIN & WORCESTER DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT. SECOND HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT
REGISTER OF PROBATE. HAMPSHIRE COUNTY

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Selectboard of South Hadley

Posting: Town Hall, Library, COA, District 1 Water, District 2 Fire

_____, 2020.
Constable

Warrant must be posted by **August 25, 2020**, (at least *seven days prior* to the **September 1, 2020** State Primary).

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR 2020 STATE PRIMARY

SS.

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REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT. SECOND HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT
REGISTER OF PROBATE. HAMPSHIRE COUNTY

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Constable

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR 2020 STATE PRIMARY

SS.

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REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS. FIRST DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR. EIGHTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT HAMPSHIRE, FRANKLIN & WORCESTER DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT. SECOND HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT
REGISTER OF PROBATE. HAMPSHIRE COUNTY

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Selectboard of South Hadley

Posting: Town Hall, Library, COA, District 1 Water, District 2 Fire

_____, 2020.
Constable

Warrant must be posted by **August 25, 2020**, (at least *seven days prior* to the **September 1, 2020** State Primary).

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR 2020 STATE PRIMARY

SS.

To the Constables of the Town of South Hadley

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said city or town who are qualified to vote in Primaries to vote at:

PRECINCT A, B, C, D & E

SOUTH HADLEY HIGH SCHOOL, 153 NEWTON STREET, SOUTH HADLEY, MA 01075

on **TUESDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020**, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Primaries for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

SENATOR IN CONGRESS. FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS. FIRST DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR. EIGHTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT HAMPSHIRE, FRANKLIN & WORCESTER DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT. SECOND HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT
REGISTER OF PROBATE. HAMPSHIRE COUNTY

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Selectboard of South Hadley

Posting: Town Hall, Library, COA, District 1 Water, District 2 Fire

_____, 2020.
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REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT.....SECOND HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT
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Jeff Cyr, Chair
Sarah Etelman, Vice-Chair
Christopher Geraghty, Clerk
Andrea Miles
Bruce Forcier

Michael J. Sullivan
Town Administrator

Town Administrator’s Report to the Selectboard for July 28, 2020

Honorable Selectboard,

Please consider and review the information presented in this report. Thank you for your attention, patience, and leadership!

COVID 19 Update

I have copied a one page of data from the Mass.gov analysis and one section of the BioBot report regarding COVID 19.

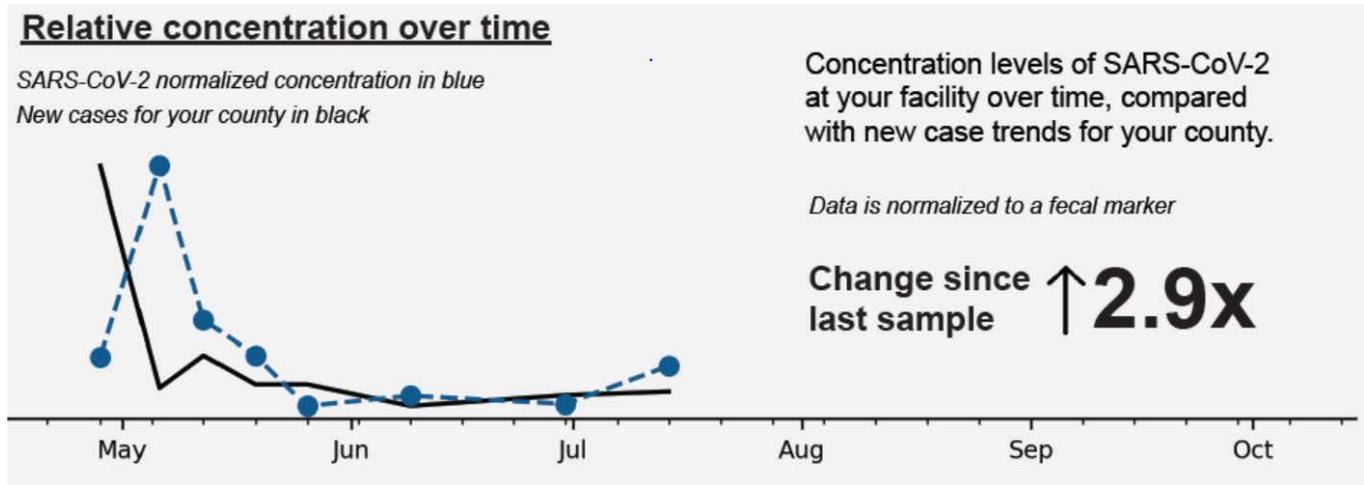


Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard – Wednesday, July 22, 2020

Count and Rate (per 100,000) of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases and Tests Performed¹ in MA by City/Town, January 1, 2020 – July 22, 2020

City/Town	Total Case Count	Case Count (Last 14 Days)	Percent Change ²	Total Tests	Total Tests (Last 14 days)	Total Positive Tests (Last 14 days)	Percent Positivity (Last 14 days)
Rockland	285	<5	Decrease	3138	329	3	0.91%
Rockport	82	<5	No change	1047	142	2	1.41%
Rowe	0	0	No change	43	8	0	0%
Rowley	63	<5	Decrease	1082	143	3	2.10%
Royalston	<5	0	No change	162	29	0	0%
Russell	17	<5	Decrease	198	30	5	16.67%
Rutland	54	<5	No change	1175	182	2	1.10%
Salem	651	13	Increase	8876	1229	17	1.38%
Salisbury	59	5	Decrease	1329	192	5	2.60%
Sandisfield	<5	0	No change	210	40	0	0%
Sandwich	98	<5	Decrease	2644	396	3	0.76%
Saugus	566	8	No change	5926	718	12	1.67%
Savoy	<5	<5	Increase	73	26	1	3.85%
Scituate	195	5	Decrease	2781	347	5	1.44%
Seekonk	90	<5	Decrease	1582	225	3	1.33%
Sharon	161	<5	Increase	2727	347	2	0.58%
Sheffield	15	0	No change	400	93	0	0%
Shelburne	8	0	No change	511	98	0	0%
Sherborn	15	0	No change	542	90	0	0%
Shirley	176	0	Decrease	2947	99	0	0%
Shrewsbury	340	13	Increase	5898	1044	13	1.25%
Shutesbury	<5	0	No change	196	48	0	0%
Somerset	212	7	Increase	3685	256	9	3.52%
Somerville	998	24	Increase	20715	2781	29	1.04%
South Hadley	168	<5	Decrease	2178	339	2	0.59%

The above Mass.gov data suggests there is a very small rise in cases in South Hadley (.59%). Some of this may be affected by timing of the reporting to MAVEN from healthcare facilities for South Hadley residents, but generally the trending continues to suggest the virus continues to increase its presence in South Hadley.



BioBot is a twice-monthly sampling of fecal material at the wastewater treatment plant that reveals RNA, which is a messenger carrying instructions from DNA for controlling the synthesis of proteins. In this study it is used to determine how much RNA related to COVID 19 is prevalent in South Hadley. The test material is taken every two weeks and will build a database for leading indicators to determine when COVID's presence is increasing in South Hadley.

In the last week the concentration levels have increased nearly three times over the previous test. The present amount is used in a calculation which would suggest there were about 417 cases of COVID in South Hadley at the time of the test. This may include individuals who have recovered and were or are asymptomatic during their infection.

The recent outbreak of 36 (23 staff, 13 patients) at Baystate in Springfield literally overnight indicates how quickly things can change with this virus. One day it looks like we have it under control - we take a breath, start to relax and are again in the middle of a battle.

I would like to thank the public employees who have had to survive the wrath of a small number of frustrated citizens. This includes verbal abuse to a more concerning incident where an employee was spit at when the spray park automatically shut off and a woman demanded it be turned back on. We understand how the pandemic has made us all a bit more edgy, but this type of behavior is unacceptable.

We appreciate citizen support in wearing masks, practicing social distancing and some old favorites like not littering, speeding, or taking care of their property. Please stay safe and think of others.

Mount Holyoke Reopening



Beginning Aug.18 the first of three waves of 350 (approximately) students will arrive on the MHC campus. There will be additional groups of similar size returning on Aug. 20 and 22. All students will be tested upon arrival, restricted to campus for their first 14 days and will be isolated immediately if they test positive for COVID-19 in the arrival test or the twice-a-week tests following arrival.

Any positive cases will be traced by MHC staff and the data will be provided to the South Hadley Health Department for processing into MAVEN. The MHC staff will be, and have been, working closely with Health/Emergency Management Director Sharon Hart, and Public Health Nurse Marge Bernard. The Chief of Police and the two fire district chiefs are also very involved and aware of the developing process for returning students at MHC.

The campus-only restriction will not allow students to visit the Village Commons for the initial period of campus quarantine (14 days). The final measures are still being worked out internally at the college, but the attention to detail and MHC's clear understanding of protecting students and protecting the community is central to the policy development.

Senior Center Update



The Senior Center on Dayton Street continues to take shape and given all the challenges is staying on schedule for the most part. It certainly looks like the contractor will be able to get the building enclosed and be in a good position to do interior work during the late fall and winter.

The project also continues to be working within the original funding and there have been no substantial cost overruns which would cause this project to seek additional funds. We continue to monitor needs which may arise to address issues related to the pandemic.

However, we do want to avoid changes which may significantly cause cost increases, particularly if those changes will not be critical long term for the center. The trajectory over the coming months will influence everything related to the center from programing to scheduling to staffing. Everything will be done to protect the safety of the most vulnerable demographic for any community.

Recent Police Department Swearing-in

On July 16, Town Clerk Carlene Hamlin swore in Officer Emily Tebow who just completed six months at the training academy. Her family and colleagues were on hand as she officially became a member of the South Hadley Police Department.

Officer Tebow is certainly no stranger to the department as she has served for eight years as police dispatcher in an exemplary manner. She will be a welcome addition as we continue to make every attempt to create a diverse department within the regulations of Civil Service and other requirements. The chief made some brief but important remarks about the importance of building relationships with the community and how the South Hadley Police Department is dedicated to that principle.



This was also an auspicious day in the career of

Officer Doug Percy as he was promoted to sergeant. He scored the highest on the civil service list for the promotion, he performed well in the interview process, and he has a solid history serving the South Hadley community as a police officer. The chief is fully engaged in evolving the department to meet and exceed the evolving standards of training, opportunity, and inclusion for all members of the South Hadley Police Department.

August 2019 Main Street Pump Station Upgrade

You may recall we unfortunately had an unauthorized release of raw sewage into the Connecticut River in 2019 due to an equipment failure of the contractor (Sherborn). There was a cuff connected to a high-pressure hose which failed. The sewage started to back-up in the pump pits inside of the station.

We had the choice of releasing the effluent into the river or



116 MAIN STREET, SUITE 109, SOUTH HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS 01075-2896

allowing it to back-up in the basements of the buildings in the Falls. I authorized the plant operator to open the release valve to the river. I did not make the decision lightly. The contaminated effluent went into the river untreated.

As required, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) must have a hearing any time there is an unauthorized release into the river or a tributary. We attended the hearing virtually last week and I am confident there will be a reasonable resolution. The DEP recognizes the Town of South Hadley was investing in continuing a clean water legacy – a legacy in which South Hadley can be very proud. They also clearly saw this was just an unfortunate accident, there was a responsible design of the project, an experienced and well-regarded contractor, and an engaged community.

However, they will still likely assess a penalty commensurate with the release. This is nearly always the practice no matter the circumstances. The bright side is DEP is very much willing to cooperate in respect to any monetary penalties to have them expressed in projects related to improving the WWTP operations and protections of the river and its tributaries in South Hadley.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Sullivan
Town Administrator, South Hadley