

# Town Manager Report

*Town of Lunenburg- April 23, 2024*



## Contact Information

Email: [hlemieux@lunenburgma.gov](mailto:hlemieux@lunenburgma.gov)

Website: [www.lunenburgma.gov](http://www.lunenburgma.gov)

Location: [17 Main Street, Lunenburg, MA, USA](#)

Phone: [978-582-4130](tel:978-582-4130)

Facebook: [facebook.com/lunenburgmass](https://facebook.com/lunenburgmass)

## Meetings, Events, and Other Announcements:

- The Annual Town Meeting is Saturday, May 4th at 9 AM at the MS/HS Auditorium and the Annual Town Election is Saturday, May 18th 7 AM to 5 PM at the TC Passios Building.
- Yard Waste Days will be every Saturday until May 18th 8 AM until 4 PM at 27 Youngs Road.
- The Lunenburg Cub Scouts will host their annual plant sale on May 11th 8:45 AM until 3:00 PM on the Ritter Memorial Lawn.

## Board/Committee/Commission Vacancies:

The following is a list of current vacancies on the following boards/committees/commissions:

- Architectural Preservation District Commission (1 vacancy)
- Council on Aging (1 vacancy)
- Green Communities Committee ( 2 Associate vacancies)
- Open Space Committee (1 Member at Large vacancy)
- Personnel Committee (1 vacancy)

Interested persons can find Volunteer Applications on the Town Website and completed forms can be sent to the Select Board's Office. Anyone that has any questions on volunteer opportunities can contact the Select Board's Office at (978) 582-4130 x 144.

## Employment Opportunities with the Town:

The following is a list of current employment opportunities with the Town:

- Land Use Director (40 hours/week)
- Planning Board Administrative Assistant (36 hours/week)
- Seasonal Cemetery Laborers
- Seasonal Lifeguards

More information on each position can be found on the website under job opportunities, which are located on the town website.

## Flat Hill Drainage Update

Per the last Select Board meeting, the Town is working with McCarty Engineering on work to be done to the detention basin at the Village at Flat Hill. The surveyors were on site to survey the basin on April 22nd.

## Additional Funding from MassDOT for Flat Hill Culvert Project

After speaking with MassDOT about the Flat Hill Culvert project and possible additional state funding for that project, we submitted a letter requesting an additional \$100,000 in funding, which we were notified last week that we will be receiving. We currently have the \$500,000 Small Bridge Grant and \$375,781 remaining in the town appropriation. The project was put out to bid in March and the lowest, responsive, and responsible bidder came in at \$830,230. This additional \$100,000 from MassDOT will pay for the higher than estimated construction costs including contingency funding, project oversight from our engineering firm, utility relocation, and eminent domain expenses.

## Rural Roads Funding

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation has announced that \$25 million in supplemental funding included in a FY 2024 transportation bond bill is now available to municipalities for road and bridge repair and construction.

By statute the [Rural Roadway Funding Program](#) is to be distributed to all communities through a formula that favors rural communities, with apportionments based 20% on road miles, 20% on population, and 60% on whether a community is considered rural. For this program, rural communities are defined as having a population of less than 10,000 and a population density of fewer than 500 people per square mile.

On April 9, MassDOT said apportionments have been added to each city and town's Chapter 90 account. The funding must be spent according to [Chapter 90](#) rules and procedures, with no spending deadline. Lunenburg's apportionment is \$21,979.

## Requests for Proposals/Invitation for Bids

- An Invitation for Bids for Landscaping at Town Facilities and Parks and is due on June 11th.
- We are re-bidding the Removal of Solid Waste at the Woodruff Property (104 Fairview Road) and bids are due on June 12th.

## TCP and relocating the Public Access Studio

On Friday, April 12th there was another major leak into the Public Access studio at the TC Passios building. Due to the ongoing leaks in that area and potential damage to their equipment, the Facilities Director and I agreed we would move them to the back wing of that building where there

have not been any leaks. The Facilities Director is handling getting the necessary electricity, cabling and sealing the floors done before moving the studio, which will occur after town meeting.

## Senior Means Tested Property Tax Exemption

Representative Scarsdale notified us that at the end of last week the Senate engrossed House Bill 3911, the Home Rule Petition to authorize the Town to establish a means-tested senior citizen property tax exemption, and that it made it to the Governor's desk yesterday.

## Employee Highlights

I want to give a shout out to our IT Network Administrator, Dan Nadareski, for always being so responsive to all our employees IT troubleshooting needs and Dan has been spearheading all the IT issues, working with the Town Clerk and the remote voting equipment vendor, the School's IT staff, and public access to make sure everything is properly working in advance of the Annual Town Meeting. Thank you Dan!

Also, I want to thank everyone who participated in the Earth Day events put on by the Park Commission and Conservation Commission, which included the Police Chief and staff from his department, including Sergeant Zrate, Officer Munroe, Officer Ortega, Kennedy Jackson, and Amanda Moore. Officer LaChance provided traffic assistance for all of the events.



**Heather Lemieux**

Heather is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

