

The Weekly Wrap-up

A Report from Town Administrator Lisa Wong

Ballots assembled and mailed for early voting



The warrant for the General Election and the Special Town Election has been approved for Tuesday, Nov. 8. More information can be found at: www.southhadley.org/620/Elections. Thank you to all of the town hall staff who helped with thousands of ballots that were mailed this week.

IMPORTANT NEWS

The Conservation Commission is actively seeking donations for the Lauzier family farm on Alvord Street to preserve the farm with an Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR). This is the last large operating farm of its kind, and the APR will protect the farm from development.

The town will need to contribute \$190,000 to match a state grant \$1.7 million. \$84k has already been raised so far with a deadline of May 2023 to raise the remaining balance.

Donation forms and other information can be found at www.southhadley.org/1100/Protect-Lauzier-Farm

Selectboard

The next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. The hybrid meeting will be held at the Senior Center. Agenda and link will be posted on the website: www.southhadley.org/agendacenter

Tax Hearing

The annual tax classification hearing held by the Selectboard and prudential committees will be on Dec. 6 to set the tax rate after the assessors have determined final values and property classifications.

Early Voting

Early Voting starts Saturday, Oct. 22 until Friday, Nov. 4. For exact times and locations, visit: www.southhadley.org/CivicAlerts

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



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The Selectboard approved \$50,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funds to help with Land of Low Value (currently 58), Owner Unknown (currently 4), and Tax Title (currently 31) parcels to proceed with tax takings and foreclosures. The outstanding taxes on these properties total more than \$1 million. There may be development opportunities when parcels are sold, especially if combined with adjacent properties. The project has been ongoing since 2015. There are parcels ready to move to land court, and this new round of funding will fund more projects.



ABOVE: Town Clerk Sarah Gmeiner swears in new Assistant Town Clerk Zoe Ingram. Zoe started this past Monday and has a great municipal background working in several departments in the City of Easthampton.

LEFT: A Trunk or Treat event on Oct. 28 sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.