

**HYBRID JOINT SELECTBOARD  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE & APPROPRIATIONS MEETING  
TUESDAY, JAN. 24, 2023  
AGENDA  
SENIOR CENTER MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM  
7:30 P.M.**

**Join Zoom Webinar from your computer:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81022499444?pwd=Q21ITTh0eTZBOFlhVnhTV1BISUNUQT09>

**By phone: +1 646 558 8656 | Webinar ID: 810 2249 9444 | Passcode: 863220**

**Watch live on SHCTV Channel 15 or <https://shctv15.com/watch-live/>**

**Note: Not all topics listed here 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. This meeting may be audio and/or visually recorded.**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER (all three boards need to be called to order)**
- 2. TRI-BOARD MEETING**
  - A. Purpose & Introductions
  - B. FY2024 Budget & Financial Projections (Administration, Accounting, Assessor, HR, Treasurer)
  - C. Priorities
  - D. Statement of Interest
  - E. Schedule
  - F. Next Steps
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Draft Minutes of Jan. 10, 2023
- 4. CONSENT AGENDA**
  - A. One Day Beer & Wine License for Robert Adam on Feb. 16.
  - B. One Day Beer & Wine License for Jeff Millard for Feb. 10
- 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS / OPEN FORUM**
- 6. NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. Mid-Year Financial Report
  - B. Lauzier Disclosure and Waiver of 120-day Notice Period
  - C. Municipal Light Board Vacancy
- 7. RESIGNATION**
  - A. Gregory R. Dubreuil from Municipal Light Board
- 8. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**
- 9. ADJOURN**

# TRI-BOARD / SELECTBOARD MEETING MOTIONS

Jan. 24, 2023

## TRI-BOARD

B. I move to support the creation of a joint facilities department between the town and schools in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget and to direct the Town Administrator and Superintendent to draft a Memorandum of Agreement.

D. I move to support the submission of a Statement of Interest to the Massachusetts School Building Authority for Mosier Elementary School.\*

\* this would authorize the District to draft the SOI. Prior to the April 14, 2023 deadline, a formal vote would need to be taken by the School Committee and Selectboard.

## MINUTES

A. I move to accept the draft minutes of Jan. 10, 2022.

## CONSENT AGENDA

A. I move to approve the consent agenda as presented.

## NEW BUSINESS

B. **Read:** In compliance with G. L. c. 7C, Section 37, the Commonwealth Massachusetts, acting by and through its Department of Agricultural Resources (the “Department”), hereby gives notice that it proposes to acquire an agricultural preservation restriction (“APR”) on the real property identified herein for the purpose of protecting in perpetuity its superior and productive agricultural resources by preventing their conversion to other uses.

The application received by MDAR indicates that the property is owned by Estate of Yvonne L. Lauzier and consists of parcels) located at 73 Alvord Street in South Hadley as approximately represented on the attached map. The APR may encompass all or parts of the area shown.

The current use of the property is primarily for forage corn, hay and pasture.

Following the recording of the APR, the use of the subject property is limited to agricultural use and more particularly set forth in the APR document, the General Laws [Chapter 184, Sections 31], and the Regulations of the Department [330 CMR 22.00 et seq].

I move to reduce the 120 day notice period prescribed for the announcement at a public meeting on the Commonwealth’s proposed acquisition of an Agricultural Preservation Restriction referenced above to no less than 60 days.

C. I move to fill the vacancy on the South Hadley Electric Light Department in conjunction with the April 2023 annual town election.

## RESIGNATION

A. I move to accept the resignation of Gregory Dubreuil from the Municipal Light Board.

## ADJOURN

A. I move to adjourn.

# Tri-Board Meeting

Appropriations - School Committee - Selectboard



January 24, 2023 @ 7:30pm  
South Hadley Senior Center

# Overview

The Tri-Board leadership (Chairs/Vice-Chairs) began meeting almost monthly in December 2021 to revive meetings that would periodically take place between the full boards.

The meetings have helped broker common understanding between the boards to coordinate the annual budget process, capital needs and policy issues. This has been especially helpful with changes in staff and board leadership during this period to assist with the transition processes.

Topics involving consideration by one or more full boards are brought forth to the appropriate board(s) by the appropriate staff, either in an individual or joint meeting.

# Budget Processes prior to Annual Town Meeting

## Appropriations

### Article II, Section 7-25 (A)

The Appropriations Committee Chair will work with the Town Administrator to make background information available for any appropriation or budget request to be presented at Annual Town Meeting no less than 15 days before said meeting or five days before a Special Town Meeting.

## School Committee

### M.G.L. 71:34; 71:37 and 71:38N

Budgeting is regulated and controlled by legislation, state regulations, and local School Committee requirements. The operating budget for the school system will be prepared and presented in line with state policy and will be developed and refined in accordance with these same requirements. The School Committee is directed to hold a public hearing on a proposed budget before it takes a final vote on a proposed budget.

## Selectboard

### Article IV, Section 4 (D)(1)(a)

The selectboard, after consultation with the town administrator and the appropriations committee, shall issue a policy statement relating to the budget for the next fiscal year. The statement shall establish the parameters of expected budget growth, if any, for the town, with appropriate guidance provided to various town agencies, officers and committees for use in the preparation of operating budgets for the ensuing fiscal year.

# Schedule\*

\* This is not a comprehensive list of all the meetings. More Meetings may be scheduled.

2/7 & 2/9 @6pm Joint Meeting with Selectboard and Appropriations to review department budget proposals

2/27, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20 @5pm Capital Planning Committee to review department requests.

3/14 Appropriations meeting with Town Administrator to review budget

3/7, 3/21 Selectboard discuss, vote on budget

TBD School Committee public hearing

4/25 Appropriations Public Hearing

5/10 Annual Town Meeting

## **Administration Team:**

**School Superintendent Mark McLaughlin**

**School Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Voyik**

**Town Administrator Lisa Wong**

**Town Accountant William Sutton**

**Town Assessor Melissa Couture Rimbold**

**Town Human Resources Director Michelle Parent**

**Town Treasurer/Collector Donna Whiteley**

# Fiscal Year 2024 - First Look

# Projections as of January 19, 2023 (using FY23 as baseline)

## Revenue

- \$770,000 Taxation
- \$200,000 New Growth
- \$25-75k Local Receipts
- \$780k-\$1.2m Chapter 70 School\*
- \$75,000-\$150k General Aid

TOTAL: \$1.85m - \$2.4m

\*8-12% increase estimate. FY23 increase was 12.7% and much higher than previous years. Revenue consensus hearing on 1/24 may provide more insight. Governor's budget is due 3/1.

## Expenses

- \$950k-\$1.3m Schools
- \$500,000 Town Contracts
- \$282,000 Health Insurance\*\*
- \$325,000 Retirement
- \$75,000 Veterans Services
- \$50,000 Elections
- 0-\$200,000 Town - new positions

TOTAL: \$2.18m - \$2.73m

\*\*Assume a 6% rate increase.

# Fiscal Year 2024 - Priorities

# Priorities for Tri-Board Discussion

## Communication

- Establish need and benefit to meetings
- Discuss frequency and topics

## Facilities

- Discuss goals and models
- Provide direction for FY2024 Budget

## Mosier School

- Understand process and initial steps
- Discuss whether to proceed with SOI

## Community Meetings

- Establish goals for meetings
- Discuss dates and other logistics

# Facilities - 3 Common Options

## 1. Joint Facilities

- Hire a Director of Facilities under the direction of the Superintendent and Town Administrator
- Ensure Department has staffing and funding
- Create a joint Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between School Committee and Selectboard.
- (Optional) Town Meeting votes to adopt MGL Chapter 71, Section 37M to consolidate maintenance

## 2. School Position

- District creates a position within the School Department
- Position would likely oversee custodial staff
- Position would collaborate with current Facilities Manager for the Town
- Depending on funding and job description, position could oversee the MSBA process for Mosier. The Joint position would have this included in their duties.

## 3. Integrated in DPW

- Town would have to add resources
- Typical model is a position within the Department of Public Works, similar to the level of a Superintendent
- There would have to be an arrangement for how this position would interact with school staff.

# Mosier School (Built 1969, Renovated 2004)

Grades: 2-4

Square footage: 57,788

Enrollment: 456

## START

### Statement of Interest

Mass School Building Authority (MSBA) opened period to submit SOIs in 2023 between 1/13 and 4/14. District need to write the SOI. School Committee AND Selectboard have to vote to submit the SOI.

[www.massschoolbuildings.org/building/SOIs](http://www.massschoolbuildings.org/building/SOIs)

## MODULE 1

### Eligibility Period

MSBA makes determination if invited into this period. They will determine which projects across the state are the most needy, and has a cap based on sales tax. If invited in, the District has 270 days to form a committee and authorize Feasibility funds.

## MODULE 2

### Project Team

If MSBA determines that the pre-requisites are met, including forming a School Building Committee, the District will procure a team of professionals following MSBA's procurement process. The Team includes an Owner's Project Manager and Designer Services.

## MODULE 3

### Feasibility Study

Document the District's educational program, generate an initial space summary, document existing conditions, establish design parameters, develop and evaluate alternatives, recommend most cost-effective and educationally appropriate solution.

# Next Steps

**HYBRID SELECTBOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, JAN. 10, 2023  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
SENIOR CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM  
7 P.M.**

*Present in person were Chair Jeff Cyr, Vice Chair Andrea Miles, member Carol Constant, member Nicole Casolari, and Town Administrator Lisa Wong. Present virtually was Clerk Renee Sweeney.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Cyr called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

**MINUTES**

Constant motioned to accept the draft minutes of Dec. 19, 2022 as amended. Casolari seconded. All in favor. Unanimous.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Constant noted nomination papers are available for elected office in the town clerk's office. Wong informed the public the census is now available.

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION APPOINTMENT**

Sweeney expressed interest in the commission as the Selectboard representative and the board supported her interest. Members agreed the second Selectboard appointment to the commission should be someone in the South Hadley community.

**SPECIAL MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES**

Constant moved to designate the School Committee and Board of Assessors as Special Municipal Employees in accordance with MGL c. 268A. Miles seconded. Four in favor. Casolari abstained. Unanimous.

**ARPA UPDATE**

Wong provided an update on ARPA expenditures.

**CAPITAL UPDATE**

Wong gave an overview of capital projects and their status.

**FY24 BUDGET**

Wong explained proposals for FY24 and said no decision will be made until revenue figures are clearer.

**TA REPORT**

For the full town administrator's report, see the Jan. 10, 2023 Selectboard packet on the town website.

**ADJOURN**

Miles motioned to adjourn. Constant seconded. All in favor. Roll call vote.

Miles – Aye

Constant – Aye

Sweeney – Aye

Casolari – Aye

Cyr – Aye

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted  
Kristin Maher  
Executive Assistant to Administration**



# OD-74

1 Day Alcohol License

**Status:** Active

**Date Created:** Jan 12, 2023

## Applicant Email

\*APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF AN EVENT. APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED LESS THAN TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR REVIEW BY THE SELECTBOARD.\*

## Permit Info

### Permit For

1 Day Beer and Wine

**Check this box to acknowledge that individual applicants can be approved for up to 30 permits per year.**



## Event Details

**Date of Event**

02/16/2023

**Name or Organization Hosting Event**

South Hadley's Tower Theaters

**Provide a Detailed Description of What The Event Is**

South Hadley and Granby Chamber of Commerce Dinner and a Movie Meeting at Tower Theaters

**Street Address of Where The Event is Held**

19 College Street

**Hours of Operation (Ex. 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM)**

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM



# OD-75

1 Day Alcohol License

**Status:** Active

**Date Created:** Jan 12, 2023

## Applicant Email

\*APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF AN EVENT. APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED LESS THAN TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR REVIEW BY THE SELECTBOARD.\*

## Permit Info

### Permit For

1 Day Beer and Wine

**Check this box to acknowledge that individual applicants can be approved for up to 30 permits per year.**



## Event Details

**Date of Event**

02/10/2023

**Name or Organization Hosting Event**

Gaylord Memorial Library Association

**Provide a Detailed Description of What The Event Is**

Wine Down fundraiser. \$10 entry gets tickets for up to 3 small pours of wine or beer. Light snacks are also available.

**Street Address of Where The Event is Held**

47 College St

**Hours of Operation (Ex. 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM)**

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

WILLIAM SUTTON, Town Accountant

To: Selectboard  
Appropriations Committee

From : William Sutton  
Town Accountant

January 23, 2023

This letter is to inform you that the Statement of Expenditures vs. Appropriations printout has been run for December 2022. The printout was analyzed for expenditures exceeding budgeted totals by more than 50.0%, since this report represents expenditures through the first half of the fiscal year. The printout has been checked and highlighted for informative purposes to determine the course the various appropriations are on for the fiscal year. There is not necessarily a major problem with the appropriations that are more than 50.0% spent since some departments have the majority of their expenditures at the start of the fiscal year and/ or due to the timing of some of the various expenditures. However, close attention may need to be applied to these appropriations as we move forward into the fiscal year and further expenditures are processed.

Attached is a listing of the departments whose expenditures exceeded 50.0% of the budget as of 12/31/22. Also attached is a copy of the complete printout, excluding school, of expenditures (the report can be quite lengthy). I also attached a quick summary page on how revenues are tracking through the same time period as well as a revenue report. If there are any further questions or explanations needed, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

William Sutton  
Town Accountant

cc: Lisa Wong  
Town Administrator

Revenue items listed below represent the larger revenue items or changes that appear material in nature at this time only.

Note of caution: The timing of receipts in a particular month from one year to the next can impact the overall assumptions either favorably or unfavorably.

Based on the Revenue report as of December 31, 2022:

The majority of the General Fund revenues are tracking similar to last year and within or exceeding the revenue estimates at this time with a few exceptions. A couple highlighted areas are listed below.

**Revenues that are tracking above last year at this time:**

Tax Liens/Foreclosures is up roughly \$50,000

Motor Vehicle Excise is up approximately \$100,000 which is about 39% over last year at this time. This could be due to the timing of the MVE commitments and payments.

Penalties and Interest is up \$26,000 about 37% from this time last year mainly in excise and tax liens.

Licenses and permits are up roughly \$110,000 (75%) from this time last year mainly in the area of building permits.

Interest Income is up roughly \$123,000 above this time last year.

**Revenues that are tracking below last year's revenues:**

Other Departmental Revenues is down \$47,000 from last year as we have not received our PVTA reimbursement yet.

**Enterprise Funds:**

Overall revenues in the Landfill Enterprise Fund are tracking slightly lower than last year mainly in the area of Pay as You Throw payments and interest income.

Revenues in the WWTP Enterprise Fund are tracking similar to last year overall.

Golf Course revenues (non-Food & Beverage) are tracking about \$105,000 or 19% higher than last year. Basically, in greens fees and season passes.

Food & Beverage is up from this time last year about \$48,000.

Overall, Ledges is tracking higher than last year currently.

**List of Departments Exceeding 50.0% of Budget**  
**Listing as of 12/31/22:**

<u>Department</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>% Spent</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Elections	Personal Services	72.7%	election workers; registrars
IT Department	Other Expenses	66.0%	Software Maintenance; computer re
Weights & Measures	Other Expenses	92.4%	Other purchased services (pd up
Snow & Ice (as of 1/20/23)	Personal Services	30.4%	Bal 1/20/23 \$14,621
	Other Expenses	67.3%	Bal 1/20/23 \$26,281
Veterans	Other Expenses	54.8%	District amount paid up front
Library	Other Expenses	56.7%	Electricity; network services; con
Old Firehouse Museum	Other Expenses	99.9%	Rep/Mnt buildings
Employee Benefits	Retirement Contrib.	100.0%	Timing of payments - paid up fr
	Health Insurance	52.7% *	Timing of payments ( <i>Should hav</i>
Other Misc.	Liability Insurance	90.9%	Payment at start of year;



**CONFIRMATION OF NOTICE**  
**REGARDING PROPOSED ACQUISITION**  
**OF AN AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION RESTRICTION**

In compliance with the G. L. c. 7C, Section 37, notice is hereby given that an announcement at a public meeting was held for the purpose of disclosing the conditions or reasons supporting the Commonwealth's proposed acquisition of an agricultural preservation restriction ("APR") on certain property in the Town of South Hadley as more particularly described in the attached NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACQUISITION.

The date, time, and place of the public meeting are as follows:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Place: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF NOTICE**

I certify that this Confirmation of Notice Regarding Proposed Acquisition of an Agricultural Preservation Restriction was posted or published in the following manner:

I further certify that an announcement was held at the place, date, and time indicated in this Notice.

x \_\_\_\_\_  
(name and title: \_\_\_\_\_ )

*Please complete this form and return the original to:*

**Dorothy Du, APR Program**  
**Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources**  
**225 Turnpike Road, Suite 300**  
**Southborough, MA 01772**

*Electronic copy can be emailed to:*

[dorothy.du@mass.gov](mailto:dorothy.du@mass.gov)

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

255 Turnpike Road, Suite 300, Southborough, MA 01772  
617-626-1700 fax: 617-626-1850 www.mass.gov/agr



CHARLES D. BAKER  
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO  
Lt. Governor

REBECCA TEPPER  
Secretary

JOHN LEBEAUX  
Commissioner

January 3, 2023

Board of Selectmen  
Town Hall  
116 Main Street  
Room 119  
South Hadley, MA 01075

**Re: APR Project Name: Estate of Yvonne L. Lauzier, Project ID # 22C06**

The Commonwealth Massachusetts, acting by and through its Department of Agricultural Resources (the "Department"), hereby gives notice that it proposes to acquire an agricultural preservation restriction ("APR") on the real property identified herein for the purpose of protecting in perpetuity its superior and productive agricultural resources by preventing their conversion to other uses.

The applicable regulations require the disclosure of the Commonwealth's reasons for the proposed land acquisition at a public hearing held in the city or town in which such real property is located. To comply with this requirement, we ask that the Board of Selectmen announce that the Commonwealth is considering this acquisition for the above-stated purposes at its next regularly scheduled and publicly noticed meeting by reading the enclosed "**Notice of Proposed Acquisition**". The Board of Selectmen does not need to take any formal action on its part. Please document the announcement in the Board of Selectmen's meeting minutes and **please complete and return the enclosed signed "Certificate of Notice"**. The date that you certify for the announcement starts the minimum 120-day (4-month) clock for closing on the APR.

The applicable regulations require that, 120 days prior to a purchase, an agency must notify certain public officials of its proposed action. The notification is for informational purposes only. Because of the Department's priority classification of this farmland for protection, we ask that your municipality agree to reduce the 120 day notification period to 60 days to expedite the process. The closing for this project is a time-sensitive matter, and **therefore ask that you agree to waive the 120-day notice period**. If in agreement, please **complete and return the enclosed "Consent to Reduction of Notice Period"**.

If you have any question regarding this proposed acquisition, I can be contacted at 617-455-9204. Thank you for your assistance.

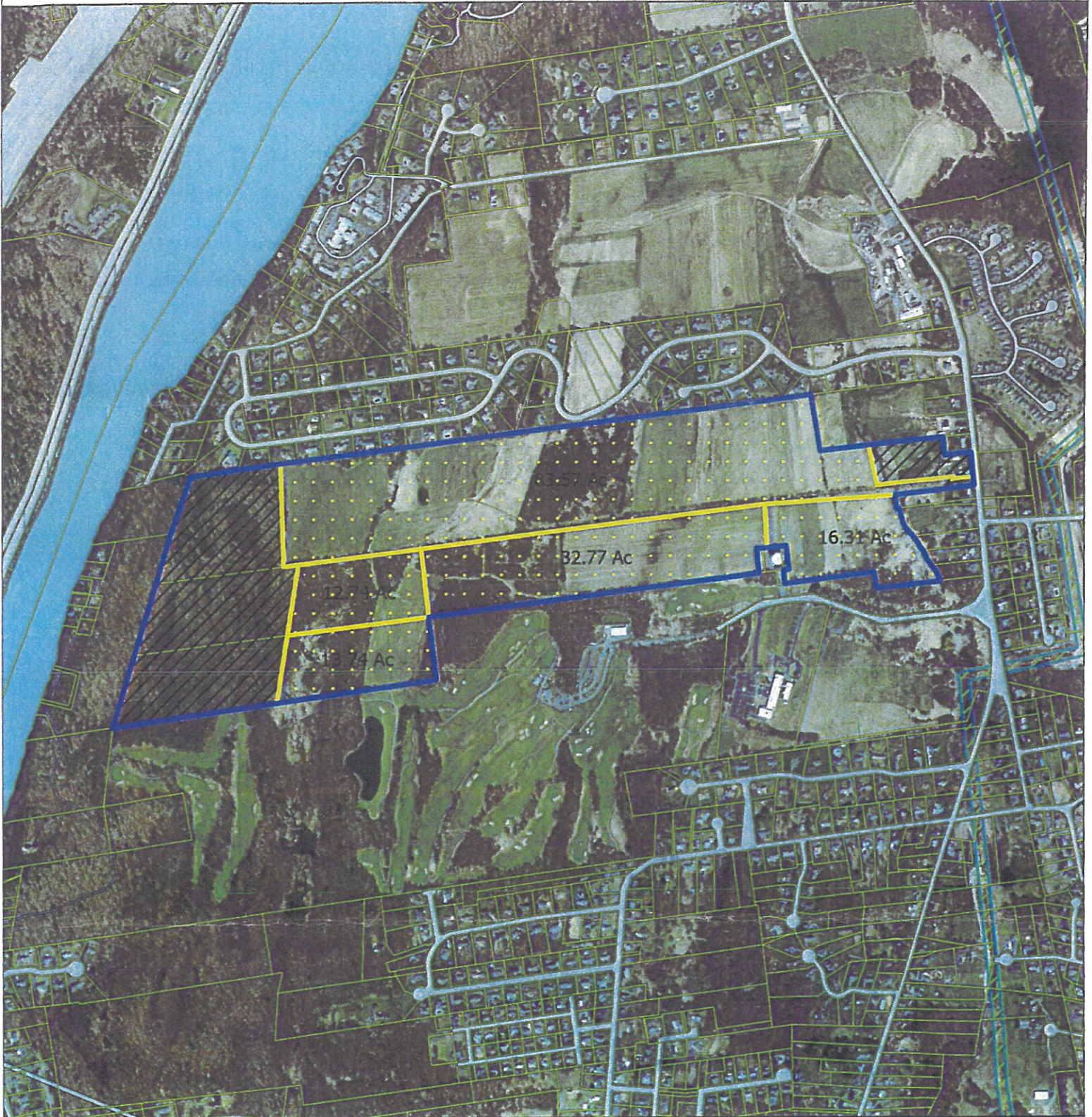
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christine Chisholm".

Christine Chisholm  
APR Regional Planner

Cc: Dorothy Du, APR Program Administrator

# Project Name: Lauzier, South Hadley - Aerial



Acres  
Included:  
159.13  
Acres  
Excluded:  
4.99

0 540 1,080  
US Feet



Data Provided by MassGIS

Created By Massachusetts Department of  
Agricultural Resources

Created: 9/2/2020 1:08 PM

- |                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| FY21 APR Projects                 | Rail Right-of-Way            |
| FY21 APR Projects Less Exclusions | Water                        |
| FY 21 Exclusions                  | <b>Other Legal Interests</b> |
| <b>Tax Parcels</b>                | Private Right-of-Way         |
| Assessed Parcel                   | Easement                     |
| Public Right-of-Way               | <b>FY 21 Exclusions</b>      |



SARAH GMEINER, Clerk

To: Selectboard, Municipal Light Board Committee  
From: Sarah Gmeiner  
Date: January 20, 2023  
Re: Letter of Resignation

The Town Clerk's office received and accepted a resignation letter on Friday, January 20, 2023 from Gregory R. Dubreuil. Mr. Dubreuil is resigning from the South Hadley Municipal Light Board effective February 6, 2023. I am attaching a copy Mr. Dubreuil's letter of resignation.

This resignation creates a vacancy for a position on the Municipal Light Board ending in 2024. Should the Selectboard wish to place the vacated position on the ballot for the April 11, 2023 Annual Town Election the Town Clerk's office will need to receive notification from the Selectboard no later than February 6, 2023.

*From the Desk of:*  
**Gregory R. Dubreuil, CMA, CPA**  
**5 Eagle Drive**  
**South Hadley, MA 01075**  
**(413)563-2050**

January 20, 2023

Mr. Jeffrey Cyr, Chair  
South Hadley Selectboard  
116 Main Street, Room M20  
South Hadley, MA 01075

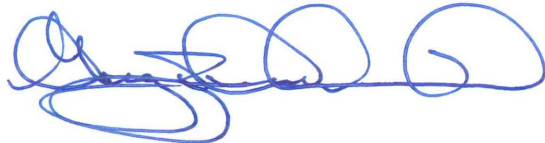
Dear Mr. Cyr:

I am tendering my resignation from the South Hadley Electric Light Department Board of Commissioners effective February 6, 2023. It is my understanding from the Town Clerk that resignation by this date will allow my seat to appear on this April's ballot so the voters can select a replacement rather than appointing a replacement until the April 2024 election. I am providing notice today so that the Selectboard can include my resignation on their agenda and officially accept it at your January 24 meeting.

I'm eternally grateful to the voters of South Hadley for placing their trust in me by electing me to the Board. I have always acted in what I believe to be the best interest of the ratepayers and the Town, and have worked diligently to bring transparency and fiscal responsibility to the Department. It has been an honor to serve on the Board, and as Chair, through challenging times. I firmly believe in trying to leave everything we touch in life a little better than we found it, and I'm proud of the accomplishments of the Board and Department over the seven years I've had the opportunity to serve.

I wish the Board and the Department the very best.

Respectfully,



Gregory R. Dubreuil

C: John Hine, Chair South Hadley Electric Light Department Board of Commissioners  
Lisa Wong, South Hadley Town Administrator  
Sarah Gmeiner, South Hadley Town Clerk

Jeff Cyr, Chair  
Andrea Miles, Vice-Chair  
Renee Sweeney, Clerk  
Carol Constant  
Nicole Casolari

Lisa Wong  
Town Administrator

## Town Administrator's Report to Selectboard January 24, 2023

### Administration, Finance and Operations

- **Hybrid Meetings:** The equipment for hybrid meetings are being installed in the Library Trustee room and the Senior Center's large conference room on January 24th.
- **State Revenue Hearing:** The consensus revenue hearing, convened by the governor's budget team and the House and Senate Ways and Means committees, will start at 11 a.m. at the State House, with streaming for the public and press available through the <https://malegislature.gov/Events/SpecialEvents>.

### Community

- **Heat Pumps:** NextZero has increased heat pump rebates for 2023. South Hadley Electric Light Department customers can save \$625-\$1,750 on heat pump system purchases. Learn more at [www.NextZero.org/South-Hadley/Heating-Cooling](http://www.NextZero.org/South-Hadley/Heating-Cooling).
- **Energy Audits:** The Sustainability and Energy Committee has requested that SHELDT update the audits for town buildings that were last done in 2019. The audits should be completed in the next few weeks and will be used to evaluate what further improvements can be made and whether the Town should move forward with an application to become a Green Community.
- **Candidates:** Last day to pick up nomination papers are February 16, 2023, and the last day to file is February 21st at 5pm. The papers are available to be picked up in person only at the Clerk's office.
  - 2 Selectboard seats for terms of 3 years
  - 1 School Committee seat for term of 1 year
  - 2 School Committee seats for terms of 3 years
  - 1 Board of Assessors seat for term of 3 years
  - 2 Board of Health seats for terms of 3 years
  - 3 Library Trustees for terms of 3 years
  - 1 Municipal Light Board seat for term of 3 years
  - 2 Planning Board seats for terms of 3 years
  - 8 Town Meeting Members for Precincts A, B, C, D, and E for terms of 3 years
  - One (1) Precinct B Town Meeting Member for term of 1 year
  - One (1) Precinct C Town Meeting Member for term of 2 years
  - One (1) Precinct D Town Meeting Member for term of 2 years
  - One (1) Precinct E Town Meeting Member for term of 1 year

- **Census Forms:** Forms should be arriving in households the week of January 23rd. Residents should fill them out as soon as possible to allow an accurate count. The forms can be mailed in the enclosed envelope, hand-delivered to the Clerk's office or placed in the drop-box outside of Town Hall. Dog license renewals can also be done along with the census, or online at [www.southhadley.org/784/Dog-Licenses](http://www.southhadley.org/784/Dog-Licenses)

### Planning

- **REDO Grant:** The Town is receiving another \$80,000 from a Regional Economic Development Organization grant for facade improvements. The Town previously received \$60,000 towards projects in the Falls area. This grant will fund at least 8 facades across the Town. The Town will advertise the application on the website when the contract and details are finalized for the grant.
- **Housing Grant:** The Town is resubmitting requests to Pioneer Valley Planning Commission for a DLTA grant for a public outreach series on housing and exploring an Affordable Housing Trust. The Town applied for this program successfully last year, but PVPC was unable to provide a consultant to work on the project.

### Public Health

- **Council on Aging "Stay Well" Wellness Fund:** The Wellness Fund is available to South Hadley residents 60-yrs and over. A maximum of \$150 yearly can be used to cover the cost of exercise classes, activities or programs. Interested individuals please contact Ann Andras at 538-5030 x6206.
- In addition to the opioid settlements for the "Big Three distributors" and Johnson & Johnson, the Town will have to consider before the end of March 2023 whether to opt-in to settle with CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, Teva and Allergan. The outside consortium of national law firms representing the Town in the litigation will send more information for the Town to review.

### Public Safety

- **New Officer:** Welcome to newly sworn-in officer Ryan Condino, son of retired officer Ron Condino.

### Public Works

- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program:** The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to update the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan Update in the amount of \$23,850. The updated plan will address mitigation of multiple natural hazards that may affect the community, including flood hazards, winter storm hazards, wind hazards, wildfire hazards and geologic hazards.
- **Trash Calendar:** Printed 2023 trash calendars are available at the South Hadley Public Library, South Hadley Council on Aging, Town Hall, White Wing, and the DPW. The calendar was also published in the Dec. 30 edition of The Town Reminder. A digital version can be found here: <http://southhadley.org/.../10250/2023-Collection-Calendar>