



Town of Concord

Weekly Operations Report

2024 Volume 6/February 23, 2024

General Administration

Town Clerk

Election Reminders

- The deadline to apply for a vote by mail ballot is Tuesday, February 27th at 5:00 pm
- Early in person voting begins on Saturday, February 24th and continues through the week during normal business hours until 12:30 pm on Friday, March 1st.
- In person absentee voting is available at the Town Clerk's Office until 12 noon on Monday, March 4th
- The polls are open on Election Day from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm!
- Vote by mail ballots must be returned to the Town Clerk's Office (not the polls) before 8:00 pm on Monday, March 5th, Election Day. **MAKE SURE TO SIGN YOUR BALLOT ENVELOPE!** We cannot accept ballot envelopes that are not signed.
- Sample ballots are available online at [Sample Ballots | Concord, MA \(concordma.gov\)](https://www.concordma.gov/sample-ballots)

Elections Q and A

Q- What do Town Democratic and Republic Committees do?

A- In Massachusetts, ward and town committees are the building blocks of political parties. In towns, party town committees are elected town-wide. In cities, party committees are elected by voters in each ward. Ward and town committees range in size from 3-35 elected members. Their duties include:

- Representing their party at the local and neighborhood level
 - Promoting the objectives of the party
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- Working for the nomination and election of party candidates

The answer is found on the Elections Division website- [Elections Division \(state.ma.us\)](https://www.elections.state.ma.us)

Voter Information

Upcoming Voter Activities

If you haven't yet registered to vote and otherwise qualify or wish to change your party enrollment, please make note of the voter registration deadlines for each event below:

- **February 20, 2024: Deadline** to return nomination papers for local office
(Alternative to Caucus nomination)
- **March 5, 2024:** Presidential Primary: Register to vote before 5:00 pm on 2/24/2024
- **April 9, 2024:** Annual Town Election: Register to vote before 5:00 pm on 3/29/2024
- **April 29, 2024:** Annual Town Meeting: Register to vote before 5:00 pm on 4/19/2024
- **September 3, 2024:** State Primary: Register to vote before 5:00 pm on 8/24/2024
- **November 5, 2024:** Presidential Election: Register to vote before 5:00 pm on 10/26/2024

Registration link: [Register to Vote!](#)

Police Department

Thursday, February 15 - Wednesday, February 21, 2024

- Log items: 522
 - Traffic enforcement: 41
 - Motor vehicle stops: 99
 - Motor vehicle crashes and/or paper exchanges: 7
 - Arrests: 2
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Personnel News

Officer Sellards attended "Vehicle Contraband Hide Identification" Training hosted by The Municipal Police Institute at the Haverhill Police Department on February 15th.

Captain Goldman, Lieutenant Landers and Inspector Holsinger, and members from the Fire Department, attended a GIS planning meeting on February 15th to review road closures and staging areas for the 250th Celebration.

The Department welcomed its new Office Administrator, Jacqueline Mahoney to the department on February 20th.

Fire Department

Calls for Service:

Between February 17th and February 23rd, 2024, the Concord Fire Department received a total of 73 calls for service.

On February 19th, Group 2 received a report about a dog running loose near Warners Pond. Upon arrival, Engine 4 witnessed the dog falling through the ice approximately 400 feet away from the shore. The crew immediately put on their ice rescue gear and brought E4's inflatable "Fortuna" boat to the scene. Captain Murphy reported that they successfully rescued Sally, the beagle, and returned her to her owner. The dog was then taken to the vet, where it received treatment for severe hypothermia.

On Wednesday, February 21st, Engine 4 responded to a multiple-alarm structure fire in the Town of Sudbury.



Emergency Management

Concord hosted a MEMA class, "Introduction to ICS for Senior Leadership," this past week. The class was well-attended by Concord senior staff and staff from Lincoln and Lexington as well. This class offering was part of the town's preparation for the 250th anniversary of the revolution.

Fire Prevention

During the weekly Newbury Court resident's meeting, Firefighter Evan Foisy, who has been recently appointed as the department's SAFE and Senior SAFE coordinator, along with Lieutenant Nichols, gave a presentation on emergency response and evacuation procedures.



Sustainability

Fossil Fuel Free Building Demonstration Program

On December 22nd, 2023, the Town received formal notification from the MA Department of Energy Resources (DOER) that Concord's application to participate in the [Fossil Fuel Free Building Demonstration Program \(FFFBDP\)](#) was approved. The approval process has been several years in the making, starting with local approval of a bylaw and a home rule petition at 2021 Annual Town Meeting. Participation in the program allows Concord to be one of only ten MA communities to prohibit the use of fossil fuels in new residential and commercial building construction, with a scheduled effective date of June 22nd, 2024. A warrant article for the 2024 Annual Town Meeting seeks to amend the current bylaw to 1) include major renovations, and 2) include affordable housing. These proposed changes were strongly recommended by DOER to align Concord's bylaw more closely with the goals and regulations of the program and with the bylaws of other participating towns, which already include major renovations and affordable housing. The changes will also increase the impact of the program in Concord, helping the Town to move closer to the greenhouse gas reduction goals set forth in our Climate Action and Resilience Plan.

Green House Tours

In conjunction with the Climate Action Committee, Concord Clean Comfort (CMLP), and Mothers Out Front - Concord, the Sustainability Division is sponsoring a collection of Concord Green Home Tours on March 9th and March 23rd. Each date will feature three Concord residences that have taken steps to electrify their homes and transportation,

including heat pumps, solar panels, water heating, induction cooking, and electric vehicles. Participants will hear directly from homeowners about their experiences, as well as the opportunity to engage with CMLP heating/cooling coaches and EV specialists to learn more about technologies and rebates/incentives. Residents who are interested in visiting one or more homes during the tours can register here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf5nC4JbQvmwj0whjThf-aiHygiQcj7Ram3SmntpsDRuovMTA/viewform?pli=1>

League of Women Voters Transportation Forum

Sustainability Director Eric Simms was invited by the League of Women Voters of Concord-

Carlisle to participate as a panel member in a 'First Friday' public transportation forum at the Concord Public Library on February 2nd, 2024. The forum featured brief presentations from the Transportation Advisory Committee, the Town Engineer, the Economic Vitality Manager, and the Sustainability Director on the needs, challenges, and goals of improving transportation infrastructure and mobility in Concord, including multi-modal transportation options that support greenhouse gas reductions and climate resilience. A recording of the event is expected to be available soon on the [LWV-CC Website](#).

Conservation and Climate Coffee

The Sustainability Division continues to partner with the Natural Resources Division to host monthly Conservation and Climate Coffee events on the 1st Tuesday of each month from 7:30-9:00 am at the DPLM Building (141 Keyes Rd). These events provide a regular opportunity for the hosts and participants to share news, updates, successes, and concerns over a friendly cup of coffee and some breakfast treats. Note: The Conservation and Climate Coffee for March will be on March 12th to avoid conflict with election set-up. All are welcome!

Council on Aging

Spaghetti Luncheon

The Concord Lions Club hosted its annual Spaghetti Luncheon for Concord Seniors on Saturday, February 17th. About 80 residents enjoyed pasta, cake and more! The Lions' motto is "We Serve" and that they did. The HWCC auditorium was full of people, chatter, and aroma.





Pictured clockwise starting front left: Bob Marquis, Dick LaBossiere, Dave Reilly, Andrew Evans, Cheryl McGiven (hidden), Tom Reed, Dave Hayes, Ray Phillips, Christine Evans, Mrs. Evans, Nancy Crowley, Anne Presiance, Heidi Webster

Appreciation to Nancy Crowley who organized this year's luncheon.

Recreation

Programs

Below is a recent drawing by an After School participant at Concord Recreation. Her mother sent it to us to thank us. She shared that this picture was drawn by her daughter, titled "After School Program" and illustrates the comfort and inclusiveness she feels when she attends our program.



Summer camp registration opened to non-residents this week. We have waitlists started on most weeks.

School-age childcare (before and after) opened; Thoreau and Willard hit capacity in 8 minutes.

There were 114 participants in the February Vacation Program. The kids had a blast enjoying the field trips held throughout the week.

Personnel News

We are hiring for a new Camp Director & replacement Recreation Supervisor as Connor Mullin is moving up to NH in early March. We will miss you Connor and thank you for your service! We wish you all the best in your next endeavor!

Coming Up

Preparations are underway for the Shamrock Ball on March 16, 2024 . The ball is already sold out!

Recreation Committee meeting is on Thursday, 2/29, at the Beede Recreation Center at 6:30pm

Veterans Services

Veteran Parking

Veterans Agent Dick Krug is pleased to announce the launch of a dedicated Veteran Parking space in front of the Town House at 22 Monument Square. The designation of the space is a small way to honor our community's veterans.

Lt. Col. Margaret Laneri (Retired) and Concord Veteran Service Officer Dick Krug pose in front of the Veterans Parking Space.

