



TOWN OF SUDBURY

Town Manager Newsletter

January/February 2018

Message from the Town Manager

Dear Neighbor,

January was a month of many celebrations: a retirement reception for former Fire Chief Bill Miles, a swearing in ceremony for our new Fire Chief (and former Deputy Chief) John Whalen and even a Pre-Super Bowl spirit rally for the Patriots, who remain our favorite team in spite of the game's outcome!

I'm proud to congratulate Chief Whalen on his new position and I am confident that the Town of Sudbury will continue its long-standing fire department traditions under his steady hand.

The warrant for Annual Town Meeting has closed, and town staff is busy compiling the final document and getting it ready to arrive in your mailboxes. There are many interesting items to be discussed including the Town budget, capital articles and a zoning bylaw regarding marijuana.

I'm proud to announce that for the first time the Town will be offering [Town Meeting babysitting](http://www.sudburyrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=30175) through a collaboration with the Park and Recreation Department. If you are interested in child care for the first night of Town Meeting, please see the flyer in this newsletter or register on the website (http://www.sudburyrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=30175).

The [Town Forum](#) is being held on March 3rd at 10 AM at Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School. The topic is the new Marijuana law and is sure to be informative. I hope to see you there!

Best,
Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues. Esq., Town Manager



*Fire Chief John Whalen was sworn in on Wednesday, January 31, 2018
by Town Clerk Rosemary Harvell.*

From the Selectmen's Office

January 9

The Board discussed a draft report from GeoInsight regarding conditions at the Melone Property. [GeoInsight's final report](#) is now available. The Board received an update on 3 affordable housing single family homes on Maynard Road that have been successfully completed and sold. The Board also discussed the work being done by the School District Administrative and Structural Options Subcommittee.

January 16

The School District Administrative and Structural Options Subcommittee met to discuss the possible exploration of changes to the school district structure.

January 18

The Board met in Executive Session to discuss the proposed [Sudbury Station](#) development as well as the lease of the Frost Farm residence and potential litigation regarding Lincoln Lane.

January 23

The Board continued a Dog Hearing, having received the information that the dog has relocated out of Sudbury. The Board voted to sign a letter of support for the Coolidge at Sudbury Phase 2 project. The Town Manager and LSRHS Superintendent presented their FY19 Budgets. The [Preliminary FY19 Town](#)

[Budget and Presentation](#) can be viewed [here](#). The [LSRHS presentation](#) is included in the supporting materials for the meeting agenda.

January 24 & 29

The School District Administrative and Structural Options Subcommittee met to discuss the possible exploration of changes to the school district structure.

February 1

PROs Consulting presented their report on Future Recommendations for the Fairbank Community Center. The Final [Fairbank Feasibility Report](#) can be found [here](#).

February 6

The Board discussed potential updates to user fees for athletic fields at LSRHS. The Board further discussed [Melone](#) and decided to move forward with issuing an RFP for the property. They heard a presentation on the progress of the Fairbank Community Center Task Force. The Board voted to accept the articles submitted for May 2018 [Annual Town Meeting](#).

Please note: The above description reflects some of the agenda items discussed at recent Board meetings. For further meeting details, please go to [SudburyTV.org](https://www.sudburytv.org) to replay the meeting or view the Board of Selectmen meeting minutes, found at: <https://www.sudbury.ma.us/boardofselectmen/meetings/>



Town staff showing their Patriots Pride on Thursday, February 1, 2018.

Assessing Department

Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

By the end of February, Sudbury will have issued over 15,000 bills in our first commitment of calendar year 2018 motor vehicle excise.

Chapter 60A of Massachusetts General Laws imposes an excise on the privilege of registering a motor vehicle or a trailer in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The excise is levied annually in lieu of a tangible personal property tax.

The excise is levied by the city or town where the vehicle is principally garaged and the revenue becomes part of the local community treasury. Please read on for information related to excise tax.

Where does billing data come from?

The Registry of Motor Vehicles prepares data for excise bills according to the information on the motor vehicle registration and sends it to city or town assessors. Cities and towns then prepare bills based on excise data sent by the Registry in conformity with Department of Revenue requirements.

How is the excise determined?

Valuation figures are the manufacturers' list prices for vehicles in their year of manufacture. Present market value, price paid, or condition are not considered for excise tax purposes. The excise tax law (M.G.L. c.60A, s.1) establishes the formula for valuation for state tax purposes whereby only the manufacturer's list price and the age of the motor vehicle are considered. Various percentages of the manufacturer's list price are applied. The percentages are as follows:

- In the year preceding the designated year of manufacture (brand new car released before model year) - 50%
- In the designated year of manufacture- 90%
- In the second year - 60%
- In the third year - 40%

- In the fourth year - 25%
- In the fifth and succeeding years -10%

How is the excise tax calculated?

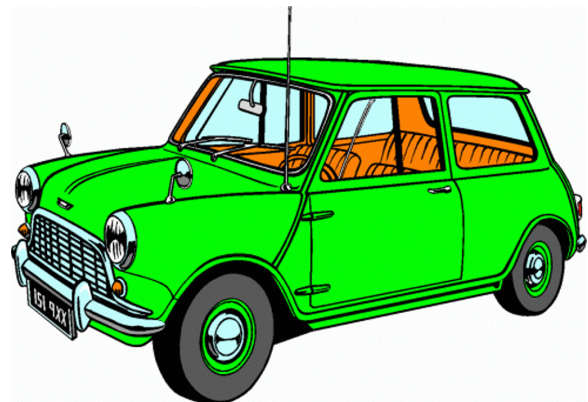
Once the value of the vehicle is determined, an excise rate of \$25.00 per thousand is applied to the valuation. Excise tax is assessed annually, on a calendar year basis, by the assessors of the city or town in which the vehicle is garaged.

If the motor vehicle is registered after January 31, it is taxed for the period extending from the first day of the month in which it is registered to the end of the calendar year. For example, if a vehicle is registered on April 30, it will be taxable as of April 1, for the nine months of the year (April through December) and the excise due, therefore, will be 9/12 of the full excise. In no event shall the excise be assessed for less than \$5.00, nor shall an abatement or refund under Section 1 of Chapter 60A reduce an excise to less than \$5.00.

Who collects the motor vehicle excise?

Local tax collectors are responsible for collecting the motor vehicle and trailer excise. Generally, tax collectors and deputy tax collectors do not accept partial payment of an Excise bill.

Taxpayers should be prepared to pay the full amount due. There are no special considerations for financial hardship.



Requirements for abatement

A motor vehicle excise abatement might be warranted:

- If there is an error in the valuation (based on the above-mentioned MSRP).
- If the vehicle was traded, and the registration has been transferred to the new vehicle, (or cancelled).
- If the vehicle was stolen and the appropriate cancellations and forms have been filed with the Police and Registry of Motor Vehicles.
- If the vehicle was sold during the year in which it is being taxed and the registration was properly cancelled, or transferred to a subsequent vehicle.
- If the owner moved from the Town of Sudbury to another Massachusetts city or town, before January 1. There is no provision for abatement when moving from one municipality to another during the course of the calendar year. Excise is generally only paid to one Massachusetts municipality per year and it is where the vehicle is garaged and registered from January 1st of the calendar year. Unlike other fees and charges, base excise amounts do not vary from municipality to municipality. Vehicle owners pay the same base excise regardless of which municipality is handling the billing.
- If the owner moved to another state and cancelled the registration in Massachusetts. In order to meet the criteria for abatement, the MA registration must be cancelled and the vehicle must be registered in the subsequent state. Moving out of state is not in itself a reason for abatement.

NOTE: It is important to remember that the bill for a vehicle that is no longer registered in the state of Massachusetts should not be ignored. On unpaid excise tax bills, an owner risks incurring

late fees and penalties if an abatement is not granted.

How do I change my address for Excise Tax?

Contact the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles.

When an abatement is granted, excise bills are prorated by the month, thus the owner is responsible for the excise accrued through the month in which the car was last registered to him/her.

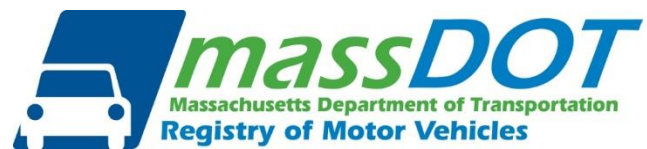
To file for **abatement**, please use the Motor Vehicle Abatement Application:
<https://sudbury.ma.us/assessors/?p=215>

For questions regarding abatements:

Assessors Office
(978) 639-3393
278 Old Sudbury Rd.
Sudbury, MA. 01776
assessors@sudbury.ma.us

For questions regarding **payments**:

Treasurer/Collector Office
(978) 639-3376
278 Old Sudbury Rd.
Sudbury, MA. 01776
treasurer@sudbury.ma.us



To **cancel registration**, change address etc:
Registry of Motor Vehicles:
<http://www.massrmv.com/>

Submitted by: Cynthia Gerry, Director of Assessing

Building Department

Meadow Walk Update

Winter has not slowed the construction down at the Raytheon redevelopment project. There is lots of activity from all of the developers. Meadow walk is really starting to take shape.

Avalon Bay, The Bridges and Highcrest are hoping to start occupying this summer. National Development retail village is starting to lease out space, as we have issued the first permit for a tenant fit up for the Oak Barrel Tavern in building four.



Work progressing at Avalon Bay in spite of a snowy winter.

New Construction

We have received a few demolition applications for existing homes to make way for new housing. There is also activity on a few lots throughout town. Several are in planning and engineering stages and soon hope to be under construction. The Northwood Drive condominiums have started construction with the newly designed units. The first building has been framed and a permit application for a second has been submitted to the Building Department.



Three-Unit Condominium under construction at Northwoods.



National Development's retail village starting to take shape.

We have had many inquiries about the old restaurant on North Road and hopefully it will see a new life soon.

Safety Tip

The New Year is underway and if you have not replaced your batteries and tested your smoke, carbon monoxide and heat detectors, please do so.

Submitted by: Mark Herweck, Building Inspector

Goodnow Library

Reimagining the Second Floor

Exciting things are happening at the Goodnow Library! After months of construction, the Sara Sherman NOW Lab is nearing completion, and the rest of the Re-imagining the 2nd Floor project will be underway.

In order to complete all these changes, we will need to *close the 2nd floor from March 12-April 1*.

- The non-fiction, DVD, CD and Audiobook, Magazine and Historical collections will be unavailable. We will be happy to help you request these items from other libraries for pick up here.

- Study rooms will be unavailable.
- The computer and printers on the second floor will also be unavailable.
- Museum Passes, Newspapers and Tax Forms will be moved to the first floor.
- The copier and fax machine will be temporarily relocated to the first floor.
- There will be a reference librarian located on the first floor to assist you.

We hope that when you see the NEW second floor, you will agree that these temporary inconveniences were worth it!

The NOW Lab • View from the NOW Lab towards new teen area



Tax Forms

We have received Massachusetts tax forms, the 1040 Instructions, 1040 and 1040EZ forms. We are expecting more forms to arrive shortly.

For more updates on paper forms, or for links to forms, publications, assistance, etc., please visit our [Tax Forms page](#).



Federal:

Many of you have asked about the availability of IRS tax forms. We recently received the following notice from the IRS:

On January 4, the IRS announced that the 2018 tax filing season would begin on January 29. The IRS set the opening date to ensure the security and readiness of key tax processing systems in advance of the opening and to assess the potential impact of recent tax legislation on 2017 tax returns.

We are currently working to finalize the forms and instructions to reflect the legislation that passed in late December. As a result, some shipments may come later than normal.

While most IRS tax forms, instructions and publications will be available electronically on IRS.gov by the beginning of the filing season (Jan. 29), the printing and distribution process for printed products takes longer to complete.

To summarize, tax forms will be available online at <https://www.irs.gov/> by January 29. Printing and shipping will take longer.

Massachusetts:

Massachusetts Form 1: Both resident and non-resident/partial year resident forms are currently available at the library.

Children's News

The Goodnow Library Children's Department started out the New Year with new partnerships. The Wayland Library, Goodnow Library, and Russell's in Wayland worked together to bring storytimes to the Wayland Winter Farmer's Market. The Goodnow staff had a great time seeing regular patrons at the market and meeting some new people as well! Storytimes continue into March; you can attend storytimes at 11 AM at the Farmer's Market February 17th and March 10th.



Join the Goodnow Library Children's Department for fun activities during **February vacation week!**

Tuesday 2/20: Special Lego and STEAM Activities

Wednesday 2/21: Birds of Prey Live Animal Show

Thursday 2/22: Lego Ninjago Movie + Free Popcorn!

Friday 2/23: Drop-in Craft



These programs are for elementary-aged children. The Children's Department will hold all of their regular weekly programs for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers in addition to these special programs. For a full list of events, visit our calendar at

<https://goodnowlibrary.org/calendar/>.

Tuesday Tech Help

Meet up with one of our librarians for help with your technology or library questions. Get answers to "How do I":

- Download ebooks, audiobooks or music with Libby or Hoopla
- Add the Minuteman mobile app on my phone
- Search Consumer Reports and other databases

- Renew or request a book, CD, or DVD, or reserve a museum pass
- Create a user name for my library card, or reset your library card password
- or any other tech/library question

Appointments available every Tuesday between 3 PM - 4 PM

Email jadamowicz@minlib.net to schedule a one-on-one appointment. Please include the topic you're interested in and what device you are using.

Bring your device and account passwords. Wi-Fi is available throughout the library. Please note that hardware repair is not offered.

Submitted by: Esmé Green, Library Director



Board of Health

Holiday Gift & Donation Program

The holiday season and start to the new year has been a very busy time of year for the Board of Health Social Workers. This year, Social Worker Bethany Hadvab, and Master's level social work intern, Van Tsui, partnered with Jenn Vlacovsky, Social Worker for Sudbury Public Schools and Tim Choate, Captain in the Sudbury Fire Department, to develop the Holiday Gift and Donation Program. This program matched families in need in Sudbury with donors in the



The Holiday Gift Program served over 100 Sudbury Resident this past December.

community. Community members donated gifts, gift cards and their time, serving over 100 residents this holiday season!

The team is already thinking ahead to the 2018 holiday season. Applications for the 2018 Holiday Gift and Donation Program will be available in late Summer/early Fall and must be submitted by early October. Anyone interested in applying for the program or donating items is encouraged to reach out to the town social worker early this fall.

New Program for Single Mothers

In January, the social work team welcomed Laura Michelson, Master's level social work intern from Boston College. Laura brings a great deal of enthusiasm and expertise to the team. Laura and Van have helped to develop a program aimed at supporting a group of single mothers. The interns built on a Sudbury resident's idea to sponsor families throughout the year and not just during the holidays. Support is given to low-income single mothers who are returning to school or obtaining advanced credentials, as part of the process of improving their families' financial and overall well-being. Each quarter, community members will donate needed items that each mother feels will help them in successfully completing their schooling or education programs by lifting a financial weight from their shoulders. In addition, Laura and Van will provide ongoing case management, including financial literacy support to each family. In speaking with program participants, their strength and determination to create a more stable and secure future for their families is evident and beautiful to witness. For more information, please call the social work office at 978-440-5476.

On-Line Resources

The social work department continues to devote time to creating a comprehensive website that is

updated weekly with resources, information, and upcoming events. Please visit <https://sudbury.ma.us/socialworker/>. Recent articles include information on:

- Free tax preparation for households making less than \$54,000.

For more information, please call the Marlborough Community Development Corporation at 508-658-0882

- Free prom dresses and accessories for low-income teens. Please visit:

<http://www.mwprincessboutique.com/> for information on making a donation or accessing these services

- Transition Planning Workshop for Young Adults with Special Needs April 7, 2018. Please see

<https://sudbury.ma.us/socialworker/> for additional information.

- Comprehensive lists of local volunteer and donation opportunities. Please see <https://sudbury.ma.us/socialworker/>.

Submitted by: Bethany Hadvab, LICSW, Social Worker

FLU FACTS: What you Need to Know

This year there is widespread flu (H3N2 strain) across Massachusetts and the United States. There is also an increase in morbidity from the Flu. Reported influenza illness continues to rise. There could be several more weeks to go before we see the end of the flu season. It's never too late to be vaccinated. Remember your best protection is an annual flu vaccination. Protect yourself by:

- Getting Vaccinated



- Cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough
- Wash your hands often with soap and water or hand gel
- Stay home if you are sick to prevent spreading to others

The Sudbury Board of Health still has *flu shots available*. Please call the Health Department at 978-440-5477 for an appointment to get vaccinated today. For more information about the Flu, please visit

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/flu-information-for-the-general-public>

Submitted by: Phyllis Schilp, Board of Health Nurse



Board of Health Nurse Phyllis Schilp administering a flu shot to Health Director Bill Murphy – evidence that she’s had lots of practice!

Police Department

Jail Diversion Program

Advocates, a provider of services to individuals facing life challenges, will now offer their pre-arrest, co-responder Jail Diversion Program in Sudbury and Hudson.

The program provides a full-time clinician to respond alongside police officers to calls involving individuals who are experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis. The clinician will be able to facilitate arrest diversions on the scene through treatment-based alternatives with the aim of reducing costly and unnecessary referrals to hospital emergency departments.

“A master’s level clinician who is embedded with police can respond in tandem with law enforcement to crisis situations and provide much-needed services including de-escalation, crisis stabilization, mental health assessment, and coordination with families, as well as on-



the-job training for officers,” said Diane Gould, president and CEO of Advocates. “Since its launch 15 years ago, our co-responder model has been extremely effective in supporting police departments that typically have limited resources and training.”

Advocates started the Jail Diversion Program in 2003 at the Framingham Police Department, and replicated the model five years later in Marlborough. The model expanded to

Watertown in 2011 and on a regional basis in Ashland, Holliston, Hopkinton and Sherborn in 2015. The clinician for Hudson and Sudbury has been hired and the program is scheduled to launch in late February 2018.

“This Jail Diversion Program clinician will be a vital resource in continuing to improve the way we respond to mental health and substance abuse cases,” said Sudbury Police Chief Scott Nix. “The court system and/or incarceration are not the appropriate solution for everyone, and our goal is to connect those who need support with the necessary and relevant treatment programs, rather than introducing them to the criminal justice system. We are excited to bring the program to Sudbury, greatly enhancing our ability to serve our residents in a time of crisis.”

The launch of the program in Hudson and Sudbury is being funded in part through a \$57,365 grant from the Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts. The Sudbury Foundation, Our Lady of Fatima Community

Outreach Ministry, Intel Corp., Unitarian Church of Marlborough and Hudson, and 577 Main Street LLC also support the program.

Since 2003, the Jail Diversion Program has diverted more than 4,000 individuals from arrest or emergency hospitalization, resulting in a total cost savings of over \$11 million, according to a formula developed by the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health.

“This is the only model operating in the Commonwealth that facilities dual diversions – away from arrest and from emergency departments – and we are pleased to bring it to the communities of Hudson and Sudbury,” said Sarah Abbott, Ph.D., director of the Jail Diversion Program at Advocates. “There is a broad benefit to society as the program is able to free up resources for both police and the health care system, while delivering the right kind of response and care to individuals in crisis.”

Submitted by: Police Chief Scott Nix

The Sudbury Board of Selectmen invites you to participate in the...

2018 TOWN FORUM: MARIJUANA



Saturday, March 3, 2018
LSRHS Auditorium
10:00 am – 12:30 pm

Learn about the new Massachusetts marijuana law from a panel of experts:

Ann Eden Evins, MD, Director, Center for Addictive Medicine, MGH
Barbara St. Andre, Town Counsel
Scott Nix, Chief of Police

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

Town Clerk's Office

Town Census

The Annual Town Census has been mailed to all households. Residents should verify or correct all information, sign, date and return the census for processing by the Town Clerk's Office. The data is used to compile the Sudbury voter list, Sudbury school planning, and other reports required by Massachusetts General Law, therefore all members of the household, aged three years and older, should be included. If a resident needs a replacement census form, or has any questions, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 978-639-3351 or clerk@sudbury.ma.us.

A completed census can be returned by mail or hand-delivered to drop-off boxes located outside the Town Clerk's Office (322 Concord Road) and the Flynn Building (278 Old Sudbury Road).

Dog Licensing

Dogs aged six months or older must be licensed each year. Licensing applications can be found on our website, inside the census packet and at the Town Clerk's Office. The licensing period extends from January 1 through March 31 each year. Because March 31 falls on a Saturday this year, the Town Clerk's Office will remain open on the following Monday, April 2, until 8 pm for dog licensing without a late fee. Beginning April 3, the late fee of \$25 will apply for each unlicensed dog in addition to the regular licensing fee (Town Bylaw Article V, Section 3A.)

Annual Town Election, Monday, March 26, 2018

The 2018 Annual Town Election will be held Monday, March 26, 2018. Please note that the last day to register to vote in order to be eligible to vote at Annual Town Election is Tuesday,

March 6, 2018. The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is Friday, March 23, at 5:00 p.m. More information can be found online: Absentee Ballot Information.

The following positions will be included on the ballot:

- 1 Moderator (3 Year Term)
- 2 members of the Board of Selectmen (3 Year Terms)
- 1 member of the Board of Assessors (3 Year Term)
- 2 members of the Goodnow Library Trustees (3 Year Terms)
- 1 member of the Board of Health (3 Year Term)
- 1 member of the Sudbury Housing Authority (5 Year Term)
- 2 members of the Park and Recreation Commission (3 Year Terms)
- 2 members of the Planning Board (3 Year Terms)
- 1 member of the Planning Board (1 Year Term)
- 2 members of the Sudbury School Committee (3 Year Terms)
- 2 members of the Lincoln Sudbury Regional School Committee (3 Year Terms)



Submitted by: Rose M. Miranda, Asst. Town Clerk



Sudbury Parks & Recreation will be offering
Babysitting during **Annual Town Meeting**

Monday, May 7, 2018

7PM - 11PM

(Town Meeting begins at 7:30PM in High School Auditorium)

Gym 3 at Lincoln Sudbury Reg. High School

\$10 each

Grades: PreK (potty trained) – 8

☆Gym Games☆ ☆Arts & Crafts☆ ☆Popcorn & Movie☆

A peanut-free snack will be provided!

Park & Recreation staff will provide a variety of enriching activities for the kids so parents can attend the first night of Town Meeting.

Register at http://www.sudburyrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=30175

Deadline to register is April 30, 2018

Questions? Contact Park & Recreation at 978-639-3242 or
recreation@sudbury.ma.us