

Town of Hanover

Monthly Update

June 2020

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<http://www.hanover-ma.gov/communications>

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The Town of Hanover communicates with residents and the public through various social media channels. Explore our social media accounts to stay up-to-date and receive the latest news and alerts from our Town departments. Visit <http://hanover-ma.gov/followus> to view our town and school channels.

Information Requests

For information requests and help with notifications, please send an email to communications@hanover-ma.gov.

COVID-19 Updates

www.hanover-ma.gov/covid-19

On February 1, 2020, the first Massachusetts case of 2019 novel coronavirus was confirmed. On February 11, 2020 the World Health Organization announced an official name for the disease that is causing the 2019 novel coronavirus outbreak, COVID-19. COVID-19 is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation. Updates, news and announcements, statistics, and all coronavirus-related information may be found on our [COVID-19 Information and Updates](#) page.

As of June 30, 2020, there were 76 confirmed cases in Hanover.

Upcoming Events

www.hanover-ma.gov/calendar

View upcoming events on the [Town of Hanover Calendar](#).

- [Upcoming Public Meeting Schedule](#)
- [John Curtis Free Library Events Calendar](#)

Town Manager's Office and Board of Selectmen

www.hanover-ma.gov/board-of-selectmen

Fiscal Year 2021 Budget – FY2021's budget, as recommended by the Advisory Committee, Board of Selectmen, School Committee, and school and town administration, was adopted during [Annual Town Meeting](#) on June 29, 2020. View all [Annual Budget](#) documents for additional information.

	FY2020	FY2021
General Government:		
Salaries	\$294,885	\$298,606
Expenses	\$215,900	\$180,900
Finance Department:		
Salaries	\$897,976	\$896,924
Expenses	\$204,362	\$214,294
Community Development and Municipal Inspections:		
Salaries	\$686,781	\$549,077
Expenses	\$43,400	\$29,850
Community Services:		
Salaries	\$423,536	\$303,461
Expenses	\$179,910	\$202,080
Library:		
Salaries	\$440,643	\$374,196
Expenses	\$165,800	\$167,800
Police:		
Salaries	\$3,968,190	\$4,130,908
Expenses	\$264,869	\$286,158
Fire:		
Salaries	\$3,083,741	\$3,299,603
Expenses	\$276,686	\$315,650
Hanover Public Schools	\$29,218,627	\$29,816,940
South Shore Vocational High School	\$750,000	\$728,050
Public Works:		
Salaries	\$3,441,471	\$3,452,212
Expenses	\$3,013,896	\$3,124,491
Snow & Ice	\$550,000	\$500,000
Debt	\$6,199,544	\$5,817,057
Town Wide Expenses	\$8,492,259	\$8,965,828
Transfers	\$227,700	\$125,000
TOTAL GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET	\$63,040,176	\$63,779,085
Certified Free Cash	\$750,000	\$1,548,000
Cemetery Graves & Foundations	\$65,000	\$65,000
Sale of Cemetery Lots	\$10,000	\$10,000
Title V Receipts Reserved Account	\$22,029	\$22,029
Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund	\$0	
Ambulance Receipts Reserved Account	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
Less Total Transfers	\$2,047,029	\$2,845,029
To be raised by the Fiscal Year 2021 Tax Levy and other sources	\$60,993,147	\$60,934,056

Transfer Station – The Board of Selectmen adopted a comprehensive set of policies for the Transfer Station. Operationally we’re placing a much higher priority on enforcement. Over the next few months we will be making capital improvements within the transfer station to further advance the Board of Selectmen’s aims. Additionally, it is anticipated that the Board of Selectmen will commence discussions on whether construction and demolition debris (C&D) will be allowed to resume as a town service (as of July 1, 2020 we are no longer accepting C&D per the Board of Selectmen policy).

Expanded Outdoor Dining – The Board of Selectmen adopted a permitting process to allow for expanded outdoor drinking and dining opportunities for our restaurants in order to assist their ability to safely reopen to the public and provide a safe environment. The permits approved thus far are good until November 1, 2020.

Build the Boards – Work will commence shortly on the installation of the roller hockey rink (aka Build the Boards) at the B. Everett Field this summer. Final approval for this work was granted by voters at the Annual Town Meeting on Monday, June 29th (see Article 24).

Special Town Meeting (Fall 2020) – It is anticipated that the Board of Selectmen will approve a warrant for a Special Town Meeting sometime this fall. Topics of interest likely to be considered: capital requests, transfer station fees (for C&D).

Upcoming Board of Selectmen Meetings

- July 10, 2020 – Public Hearing for the placement of a utility pole
- July 20, 2020 – Board of Selectmen reorganizational meeting, etc.
- September 14, 2020 – It is anticipated the Board of Selectmen will take a break from meetings during the month of August and come back after Labor Day.

Community Development and Municipal Inspections (CDMI)

www.hanover-ma.gov/community-development-municipal-inspections

Board of Health

COVID-19 Cases - 10 new confirmed cases for month of June, 1 probable case all of June.

Public Pools - Nancy Funder, Public Health Nurse inspected the Pool at Cardinal Cushing School, Sconset Landing, and 3 Outdoor pools at the YMCA.

Camps – Nancy Funder, Public Health Nurse, and Derek Vozzella inspected the YMCA summer camp in anticipation of opening June 29th.

Restaurants - The Board of Health has been working to assist restaurants with all reopening guidance for both outdoor and indoor dining. The Board has provided all restaurants with self-certification protocol from the Massachusetts Governor. The Public Health Nurse has inspected several restaurants for reopening safety protocol. We had 5 outdoor dining applications; Brothers, Crossroads, Starland, Mamma Mia’s, Jersey Mikes.

Building / Zoning

1775 Washington Street (Hanover Crossing) - All demo permit information has been received and the permits have been released. Phases 1, 2, and 3 are complete and currently working on the cleanup and all sections of the mall slated for demo have been razed.

2053 Washington Street (Merchants Row) - Currently 12 certificates of occupancy issued. Two new restaurants currently under construction. Alba unit 100 approx. 8000 sq. ft. and Flanders field also approx. 8000 sq. ft. Both expecting to open mid to late summer.

175 Winter Street - The Building Department has conducted 8 inspections since the fire on January 24, 2020. Joe Stack has issued unsafe structure orders on the fire remains and a free-standing firewall that an engineer has deemed unsafe. The order forbids any and all occupancy of surrounding structures within 40 ft. of the firewall. I am in the process of issuing a demo permit for the firewall.

283 Columbia Road - Prevites is under way. The concrete footings and foundations have been poured and the original building has been relocated to its final location. Currently the builder is waiting on the steel to be delivered to begin construction. The elevator shafts have been constructed.

1835 Washington Street (Chick-fil-A) - The new business is open, up and running. They have a full occupancy permit.

The Building Department has issued 62 permits to date, completed 68 inspections and has collected \$55,018.33 in fees. Plumbing and Gas has issued 67 permits to date, completed 54 inspections, and has collected \$6827.00 in fees. Electrical has issued 32 permits to date, completed 57 inspections, and has collected 3425.00 in fees. Mechanical has issued 8 permits to date, completed 4 inspections, and has collected \$1325.00 in fees. The office has fielded 469 phone calls and met with 8 people, by appointment. The counter has been closed to the public since March 16, 2020. CDMI has been working with local restaurants to help them open quickly with safe outdoor seating.

Conservation

The Conservation Commission held three public Conservation meetings with remote attendance: April 22, May 20, and June 24, 2020. (Preparation for a 4th meeting to be held on June 24 was also completed). All 3 virtual meetings held during that time period were successful with full attendance of our Commission, applicants, engineers, and a few abutters.

Major projects that were reviewed and inspected include (but are not limited to) the Fireworks Site, Target, Hanover Crossing main site and their proposed new wastewater treatment facility location rear of the South Shore YMCA, the former Merchants Row, Starland, the new Prevites site, the former Friendly's site for a new Cumberland Farms gas station and convenience store, and the Peterson Pond Dam removal project.

Additional work included the review and reconciliation of Gatehouse statements and payment for CDMI and Bylaw Review Committee legal ads, updates to the website for changes to Conservation application process due to COVID-19 health crisis.

Community Services

www.hanover-ma.gov/community-services

Council on Aging

The Council on Aging has been closed to the public but semi- open since March 13th. Although we have not been able to gather, we have continued to give rides, deliver meals (both Meals on Wheels and special meals), made phone calls to check in and inform. provided exercise classes and programming via Hanover Community Television and Facebook, provided a conference call line for socialization, continued to perform services such as SNAP, medical, housing applications, food shopping, and food deliveries. Year-end numbers will be posted on the Council on Aging website.

The Council on Aging has also been the home base of the Mobile Integrated Health Nurses Call Center, the visiting nurses, school nurses, and town volunteers have staffed that line assisting with check in phone calls and bringing attention to those with needs in the community.

The Community Services Director has been working very closely and collaboratively with the Food Pantry and the School to be sure those in need are being provided with emergency food and resources to continue to have nutritious meals and other necessities in their households.

Veteran Services

The Veteran Service Officer has been in the office providing his regular application services, phone check ins, as well as continuing to drive veterans to medical appointments etc.

Hanover Community Television

Hanover Community Television has been very busy setting up Zoom meetings, broadcasting shows, and all other things requested of them such as assisting with phone coverage at the Council on Aging.

Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department has been busy analyzing what programming we could offer thought out this time. The team has been planning virtual and in person programming, in the event they can implement any by family. Team members have also been assisting in the Council on Aging office.

Department of Public Works

www.hanover-ma.gov/dpw

Annual Roadway Rehabilitation – Paving Projects are nearing completion. Roads that were cold planed and resurfaced include: Webster Street (100' West of Washington Street to Norwell Town Line), Main Street (Grove Street to Plain Street), Myrtle Street (Center Street to Cross Street), Cross Street, Broadway (300' West of Cross Street to 300' East of Cross Street), Elm Street, and Riverside Drive. Pavement Markings are scheduled to be completed in Early July to complete these projects.

Building Improvements – In response to COVID-19, modifications were completed on various municipal buildings to safeguard the public, staff, and provide for better remote meeting capabilities. These improvements will outlast the

COVID-18 pandemic. Over the next month or so, much of the focus will be on improvements that might be required, which include the Public Work's disinfection byproduct project, summer paving, and Transfer Station upgrades. Information about our upcoming projects may be found by going to hanover-ma.gov/dpw.

Finance Department

www.hanover-ma.gov/finance

CARES Act Funding – Through the end of June the Town has submitted reimbursement requests totaling \$378,708.85 for federal CARES Act funding through Plymouth County for direct expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Over this summer, the Finance Director will be working closely with the School Superintendent and DPW Director on improvements and expenses required to ensure school reopening.

Fiscal Year 2019 – The Town's independent auditors will present the 2019 audit to the Board of Selectmen (and public) during the July 20th Selectmen's meeting. By all accounts, the town's finances are strong, well-managed, and it is anticipated the public presentation of this document will provide the public with those assurances.

Fiscal Year 2020 – FY2020 just ended (June 30, 2020). It appears the town closed the year comfortably; as in past years, the town continues to bring in more revenue than spends.

Fiscal Year 2021 – After extensive and detailed discussions by the Board of Selectmen, Advisory Committee, and School Committee, all three boards endorsed a budget proposal which limits the increase to the average real estate tax while still having a reasonable level of confidence that the Town will continue to be able to provide residents with the same level of services provided in Fiscal Year 2020. This budget proposal was adopted by Annual Town Meeting on June 29.

Fiscal Year 2022 – Finance Department personnel are beginning their work on the budget voters will look at 10 months from now at the Annual Town Meeting in May 2021.

Upcoming Elections – The Town Clerk's Office and the Board of Registrars are preparing for the September state primary and November general election as well as a potential Special Town Meeting this fall.

Hanover Fire Department

www.hanover-ma.gov/fire

The Hanover Fire Department answered 233 calls for service during the month of June and conducted 46 inspections. Members observed a socially distanced Annual Firefighter Sunday Observance on June 14th where firefighters who served the community and have since passed away are remembered. Our traditional breakfast and Firefighter of the Year Award were postponed to a later date. Crews responded to the Town of Needham as part of a Plymouth County Ambulance Task Force to assist with the evacuation of Norwood Hospital after flooding closed the facility. This response highlights the depth of the statewide fire mobilization plan that is activated when a community requires significant assistance to mitigate an incident. The Fire Department continues to work in collaboration with several other agencies in the community to

deliver our Mobile Integrated Health Program. This program provides in-home assessment and COVID-19 testing by Firefighter/Paramedics for residents of Hanover with follow-up phone assessment by volunteer nurses staffing the Nurse Call Center at the Hanover Council on Aging. This initiative was made possible by an emergency waiver obtained through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and in conjunction with South Shore Hospital. The Hanover Fire Department is the only fire department in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to take advantage of this Waiver and implement such a Program.

Hanover Police Department

www.hanover-ma.gov/police

Firearms Licensing Update - The Hanover Police Department will begin processing new LTC/FID applications the week of July 6, 2020. Please send an email to firearms@hanover-ma.gov to schedule an appointment.

All new LTC/FID appointments will be scheduled via email. When an applicant arrives at HPD, they will call dispatch at 781-826-3131 to say they have arrived for their scheduled LTC/FID appointment. An officer will meet the applicant in the parking lot where the applicant will provide their application as well as proof of licensing fee payment. The applicant will be escorted to the garage bay area where there will be a temperature check and a PPE check prior to entering the station. If all is satisfactory, the applicant will be escorted into the booking area where fingerprinting will be conducted. After the fingerprinting process, the applicant will immediately return to their vehicle.

If you have already been in contact with us about your NEW LTC/FID application we will be contacting YOU via email. We encourage all RENEWAL applicants to please mail/drop off your applications and proof of payment.

Hanover Public Schools

www.hanoverschools.org

End of school year 2019-2020 - The last day of school was June 19, 2020. The last week of school was busy for all schools as they coordinated activities as well as times for students to pick up their personal belongings they might have left in March. Many teachers made sure to come by for materials pick up for a chance to say goodbye (from a distance) to their students.

DESE Return to School Guidelines - On Monday, June 22, 2020, the DESE released it's first round of guidelines for reopening schools in September. Districts will be asked to prepare 3 plans; One for in person learning, one for a Hybrid learning situation and one for remote learning. Superintendent Ferron and the administration team will be forming working groups to help guide the process throughout the summer. They will also be surveying families to get feedback that will help guide decisions.

Mr. Don Ronchetti - On June 22nd, the Hanover Middle School lost one of it's own. Mr. Donald Ronchetti passed away after several years of illness. Mr. Ronchetti taught social studies at Hanover Middle School for 16 years and had an

impact on thousands of Hanover students throughout those years. Despite numerous health challenges, he was a strong, resilient, and talented educator whose passion for teaching and love for his students inspired him to come to work each day. Mr. Ronchetti positively impacted so many students and colleagues, and he will be remembered always.

John Curtis Free Library

www.hanover-ma.gov/library

June brought the opening of the book drop, and grateful patrons have been dropping off library materials that have been checked out since March! There were more than 3,500 items from Hanover checked out over the three-month period, and people are excited to be getting back to their lives, albeit slowly. June also brought the Library's first attempt at virtual programming, with the introduction of Book Alike, a reader's advisory service where patrons write in with their favorite titles/authors, and we suggest what they might like to read next. The video summary of this is posted weekly on [John Curtis Free Library Facebook](#) and the Library's new YouTube channel