



TOWN OF EAST LONGMEADOW

Town Manager's Report

October 8, 2024

Good evening:

I want to start by thanking our legislators for taking time out of their schedule to come speak with us this evening. We all know how hard they work for us and how demanding their job is and that testament is proven by their presence. Thank you on behalf of a grateful community.

Attached please find project reports for the weeks of September 16th and September 23rd for the construction of the new high school. You'll note on the last page of the report for the week of the 23rd, the crushed stone is being laid for the footing of our new high school. The very foundation of a historic moment in the history of our community.

The COA celebrated National Senior Month in September. Take some time to view testimonials on the ELCAT channel of why people love their Senior Center. The COA also learned that they will be receiving a Ford E350 Paratransit Van through a Community Transit Grant. Another huge step in updating a very aging, well-travelled fleet of vehicles that make up the Tri-Town Trolley. We expect delivery this summer. Finally, and it should come as no surprise, our COA Director, Erin Koebler, has received a Community Impact Award from the Greater Springfield Senior Services at their annual meeting. You've heard me say it before, but I really can't say enough about Erin and everyone that works in that building, and how much they do for our community. Congrats Erin!

We are finally at full staff in the HR Department with the addition of HR Assistant, Heather Wilson. I want to thank the community for your patience as this has been a grind for the last 6 months, or so. Thank you to Senior HR Generalist, Mariola Rivera and Megan Emrick-Laskow for an admirable job in ushering us through. We are excited about the professional service this group is going to bring to our employees and our community in the future.

Attached you will find the Strategic Plan for the Library for FY25-FY29. We all know what an amazing space our Library is and how many visitors it gets on any given day. The satisfaction of those patrons does not happen by accident. It comes from the passion and hard work of a whole host of folks. From our Library Director, Katie McGonigle and her staff, the Board of Library Trustees, The Friends of the ELPL, volunteers, programmers and strategic planning like this. This collaborative effort will ensure the Library remains one of our most important assets for years to come. Thanks to all who contributed to this effort!

Upcoming Events: Rotary Club's Celebrate EL – October 12th 11am-4pm at Center Field
Oktoberfest – October 19th 12pm-4pm at Brown Farm
Center Town District – October 21st 6pm – 8pm at COA
Election Day – November 5th at Birchland Park Middle School
Coffee with the Town Manager – November 6th 10:30am at COA
Veteran's Day Ceremony – November 11th 10am at Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas D. Christensen
Town Manager