



To: Town Council  
Fr: Paul Bockelman  
Town Manager  
Dt: January 22, 2020  
Re: Town Manager Report for January 27, 2020

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### **Town Manager Update:**

- Outreach:
  - Coffee with Town Manager: The last coffee was on January 10<sup>th</sup> at Cushman Market with Planning Director Christine Brestrup. The next will be on February 14<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. with the Town’s new Principal Assessor, Elizabeth (Liz) Duffy at Bruegger’s Bagels.
  - I continue my Meet-Up with the Manager meetings with Town employees. These are meetings where each department is asked to send an employee to an open discussion about anything they want with me. I provide the cookies! They bring their opinions, suggestions, and criticisms. I find them very valuable in hearing from new and seasoned employees. A new twist is that, to change it up a bit, I have been holding them in locations other than Town Hall. So far, I have held them at the North Fire Station, Department of Public Works, Police Department, and Jones Library. I thank all of the employees who have taken time out to meet with me.
- Appointments:
  - I have referred appointments for the Council on Aging, Cultural Council, and Participatory Budgeting Commission to the Town Council
  - I am seeking and interviewing applicants for several committees including the Conservation Commission, Energy and Climate Action Committee, Public Art Commission, Redevelopment Authority, and Board of License Commissioners.
- Massachusetts Municipal Association:
  - Town staff will again be serving on workshop panels at the conference including the Human Resources Director on “Strategies for Recruiting Awesome Employees” and Town Manager for “Fostering Connections between the Community and Town Hall”.
- Outreach and Community Participation Officers (CPOs):
  - The CPOs have partnered with the School District to seek funding for a Civics Teaching and Learning Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Education. We identified the new interest in Town government as a result of the new form of government as one of the strengths of our proposal.
  - Black History Month:
    - There will be a celebration of Black History Month on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Bangs Community Center.

- There will be food, entertainment, and outreach to encourage people to register to vote and complete the U.S. Census.
    - This year the theme is “African Americans and the Vote”. 2020 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the Fifteenth Amendment which secured the right of Black men to vote and it also marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the culmination of the women’s suffrage movement which resulted in the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment which secured the right for women to vote.
    - This event will be organized in cooperation with the Senior Center and the Town Clerk’s office. CPOs will work with local businesses, the Business Improvement District, and Chamber to display material celebrating the month.
  - The UMass School of Public Policy’s “Future of Government” visited Town Hall to discuss the implications of digitized society and public service.
    - They met with fellow SPP graduate student Brianna Sunryd. Sunryd is also the founder and president of the International City/County Management Association’s UMass Amherst student chapter, which is housed in the School of Public Policy.
    - The course is taught by Jane Fountain, Distinguished University Professor of public policy and political science and founder and director of the National Center for Digital Government.
    - Professor Fountain noted, “The visit demonstrated more dramatically than I ever could that an effective public manager has to be able to introduce new ideas—many technological in nature—build support for them, and manage a complex process of listening to citizens and implementing innovations under political and economic constraints. Amherst is a terrific example of how even small towns are innovating.”
    - Despite its relatively small size and limited resources, Amherst is recognized as a leader in municipal technology; Sunryd and a group of her colleagues recently received Excellence in Technology Award at the 2019 Massachusetts Digital Government Summit.
    - Sunryd also spoke to students about the rewards of working in municipal government, noting the many opportunities she’s had to stretch and develop new skills in her career.
- Regionalization:
  - There will be a Four Towns Meeting February 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Amherst Regional Middle School library
  - Staff have been working on a regional services agreement with the South Deerfield Water District. This will come to the Town Council at a future meeting.
  - Staff have been working with representatives from the Town of Hadley to explore ways we can work together on water and sewer issues. Currently, we are focused on a “mutual aid agreement” that would provide redundancy and back-up for both communities. Any inter-municipal agreement will require the approval of the Town Council.
- Town-Gown:
  - Strategic Partnership Agreement: Staff are meeting regularly with representatives of the University on a renewal of the Strategic Partnership Agreement. The School Superintendent and Fire/EMS leaders have participated to document the services that the Fire Department delivers to the University on a regular basis. Discussions have revolved around four basic areas: Town services (schools, public safety, etc.), communication, economic development, and one-time benefits.

- Kanegasaki Sister City: Fourteen students and three chaperones from the Town's sister city in Kanegasaki, Japan will be visiting the Town from March 18-22. There will be a modest welcoming reception on March 18th at a time to be determined. All Town Councilors are invited to attend this reception. We are still seeking host families for the families and would welcome any involvement from Town Councilors who would like to host the chaperones for activities.
- Presidential Executive Order: I submitted a letter to Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo stating that the Town consents to refugee resettlements in compliance with Executive Order 13888: On Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Resettlement. On January 15<sup>th</sup>, this Presidential Order was blocked by a Federal judge.

## Departments:

- Community Services:
  - Senior Center:
    - The Director of Senior Services will become a host agency under the Senior Community Service Employment Program which provides a qualified, paid staff person to the Center for reception duties.
  - Veterans Services: The Director of Veterans Services, prompted by a lead provided by State Representative Domb, is working with the Massachusetts Military Support Foundation to distribute donations of winter coats and more to local veterans in need.
  - Health Department:
    - The issue of the application of glysohphate (Round-Up) on fields at the University has been raised as an issue.
    - The University has stated that the campus no longer uses glyphosate at the ACL Center Field. The University stated that pesticides used on site will be minimal and products used will be certified organic.
    - The Town does not have any rules or regulations about Round-Up or the ingredients in Round-Up. This is an issue that has been brought forward to the Board of Health and the Board is currently researching it.
    - There is also state legislation pending on this issue.
  - Leisure Services:
    - The first public forum for the Kendrick Park playground was held on **January 9<sup>th</sup>**. The meeting was hosted by the LSSE Commission and moderated by Planning and LSSE Departments staff.
    - LSSE's production of Matilda has been playing to near sold-out crowds. It is an excellent production, as usual, and I recommend making time to see it!
    - WinterFest: An extensive schedule of events (attached) is planned for the week-long event that starts February 1<sup>st</sup> and ends February 8<sup>th</sup>. The key dates are the opening Luminaria on the Town Common from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. on February 1<sup>st</sup> and the Grand Finale from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Cherry Hill Golf Course.
    - Cherry Hill Golf Course continues to be a popular spot for cross country skiing for members of the community.
    - The Amherst Youth Basketball League has 345 participants this winter.
    - Amherst Youth Lacrosse is in discussions with LSSE staff to transition the program's operation to LSSE this spring.
    - Strategic Plan:
      - The strategic plan for LSSE continues after two public information sessions. 300 surveys were returned to the Donahue Institute, the firm conducting the study.

- Phase 3 and 4 will develop a vision and mission and identify possible future directions for LSSE and the LSSE Commission.
  - Phase 5 will establish strategic goals and objectives.
  - The final phase will be the presentation of the consultant’s final report and draft plan.
- Conservation and Development:
  - There was a community discussion of the process and impacts of smart growth planning for Amherst's downtown on Thursday, December 19th at 6:45 PM in the Town Room in the Amherst Town Hall. The meeting was very well attended with the room filled to capacity. There was a presentation on 40R zoning—denser development with affordable housing—in downtown.
  - The State Department of Housing & Community Development is reviewing the Chapter 40B Subsidized Housing Inventory and Town staff are reviewing the data. The Town is at 11.24% of the Town’s housing stock.
  - Valley Community Development Corporation submitted its request for a Project Eligibility Letter for 132 Northampton Road to the State today. Once the State reviews it and sends us a letter, the 30-day comment period begins. This is when members of the community can reach out to offer comments to the State on the proposal. We will follow the same format the Select Board established for the North Square at the Mill District project by establishing a project web site under the Planning Department project page and posting all comments. The comments will then be summarized and all comments plus the summary will be submitted to the State at the end of the 30-day comment period. I emphasize, while we have received a copy of the submission to the State, the comment period does not commence until the State reviews it and asks us for our comments.
- Economic Development:
  - The Town’s Economic Development Director tendered his resignation to become the Town Administrator for the Town of Sunderland. His last day in Amherst will be January 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - The Economic Development Director wrote in support of House2810, an act to promote green infrastructure and reduce carbon emissions. The bill proposes a carbon-pricing model aimed at shifting consumer behavior and realigning the Massachusetts economy in a more sustainable manner.
- Town Hall:
  - Town Hall Doors: The front doors and wooden surrounds of Town Hall were removed this week and a temporary door was installed. The entire structure was taken to the contractor’s workshop to be rehabilitated. This work is scheduled to take several months. In the meantime, a basic wooden replacement structure will remain in place and the front entrance will continue to be available for use. Access for the disabled will continue to be available at the Main Street entrance.
  - Town Hall Security: We are installing keyless, card readers to entry office doors in Town Hall. This is to provide better security and monitoring of the premises.
  - Ranked Choice Voting: The Ranked Choice Voting Commission continues its work. I have attached a progress report on their work to this Town Manager Report.
  - Human Rights Commission:
    - The Commission organized an event on January 15<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the birth of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. There was a reading of the Town Council proclamation by members of the Town Council followed by a march through

- Town and reception and speakers at the Jones Library. This is an exciting, new event that will complement the annual breakfast that is organized independently.
- The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee of Amherst, Inc. held its 36<sup>th</sup> annual breakfast honoring Dr. King on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. It was very well attended with many Town Councilors and Town department heads in attendance.
  - Nuisance House/Rental Registration: Due to several inquiries from Town Councilors, I will be working with the President to arrange an information/Q&A session with all relevant Town staff regarding nuisance houses and the rental registration bylaw. This will likely happen in January. If enough members of the Town Council are interested, we can post it as a special meeting of the Town Council.
  - The Town continues to work to ensure full participation in the 2020 U.S. Census. The Census is very important to the Town for state and Federal funding.
    - We are considered one of the hardest to count communities in the State due to the demographics of our participation, so a concerted effort to engage residents and help them return census forms is a priority for Town staff.
    - There will be a press conference on Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Town Room to further promote efforts to encourage members of the community to participate in the census. All members of the Town Council are invited to attend. It is being organized by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.
  - Public Safety:
    - The Police Chief wrote in support of House 3012/Senate 206, the Work and Family Mobility Act, which would enable qualified Massachusetts drivers, regardless of immigration status, to apply for and receive a Massachusetts driver's license.
    - The Police and Fire Departments have worked with the Library Department to make naloxone (Narcan) available in the Jones Library and Town staff conducted a training of all Library employees interested in learning how to utilize this important tool to combat overdoses.
    - The Police Chief has requested the opportunity to extend his employment contract with the Town, which he and I will discuss.
    - The Fire Chief has requested the opportunity to extend his employment contract with the Town, which he and I will discuss.
    - Work is underway to prepare for the potential spring events at the University. We project that this event will occur on March 7<sup>th</sup> this year.
  - Human Resources:
    - Elizabeth A. Duffy began her duties as the Town's new Principal Assessor. She replaces long-time Principal Assessor David Burgess, who retired on July 12, 2019. David has continued to consult with the Town on a part-time basis during the transition. Ms. Duffy brings a distinguished career as an assessor in Connecticut to the Town. She has been the Assessor for the Town of Windsor Locks, Connecticut since 2014. Prior to that she has served as the Assessor in the Towns of Monroe, Middlebury, and Ellington – all in Connecticut – and chaired the Board of Assessors in the Town of Branford, Connecticut. She has been a member of the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers since 2011. Ms. Duffy has served as an expert witness in the field of real estate and business appraisal and assessment for the Superior Court and Tax and Administrative Appeals Court in Connecticut. Her first day on the job was January 21<sup>st</sup>.
    - Economic Development Director Geoff Kravitz tendered his resignation on January 17<sup>th</sup> to become the new Town Administrator for the Town of Sunderland. Geoff's last day will

be January 31<sup>st</sup>. We will be consulting with key stakeholders about the future direction of the position and begin recruiting in the very near future.

- MIIA Wellness Award:
  - I am very pleased that the Town has been awarded the 2020 MIIA Health Benefits Trust Wellness Program award for “Most Innovation in Wellness!” This award will be presented during the MIIA Annual Business Meeting in Boston on Saturday. I hope you will join us in celebrating this award.
  - The award states: “You have built an extremely robust and successful wellness program in a very short time. Much of the success can be attributed to your support, the guidance, expertise and leadership efforts of the Amherst Wellness Ambassadors Joanne Misiaszek, Brianna Sunryd, and Ella Stocker, and the innovation they have used to promote and implement the program.”
  - Efforts included:
    - A needs and interest survey distributed to guide program planning efforts
    - E-fliers sent to Department Heads that are not able to attend committee meetings
    - A Quarterly Outlook promo piece emailed to all employees at the beginning of each quarter summarizing what is to come and remind folks of the ongoing services and resources
    - Promo posters posted in town, school, fire, police, and DPW building breakrooms
    - Unique users tracked - to date 386 unique participants completed at least half of the program duration
    - A wellness intranet which added a tab on the Town’s public site that is private and only accessible to employees. This showcases all current and upcoming programs, self-directed challenges, newsletters, links to EAP and [emiia.org](http://emiia.org) and more!
    - Cross promotion- promo fliers and information for programs available at other programs (i.e. Quizzify and OmPractice fliers at health fairs)
    - Offering a wide variety of programs such as Meal Planning 101, Snow Plow Driver Fatigue Training for DPW, Foods and Moods, Kick Start to a Healthier You and MORE, and in a variety of locations such as town hall, library, DPW, community center etc. to ensure accessibility to all employees.
- Public Works:
  - The Town received an additional \$83,898 in Chapter 90 State funds which brings the total Chapter 90 funds for FY20 to \$922,883. These funds may be used for the maintenance, modernization, and resiliency of local roads.
  - The Town will be seeking to reallocate funds that were not utilized for the Station Road Bridge to take on other projects including the installation of a temporary smart traffic light at the Bridge/Meadow/North Pleasant Streets intersection.
  - The Town is reviewing a request from the owner of the property that houses the offices of the Business Improvement District and Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce to construct a permanent ramp to make the office accessible to all people, regardless of ability. There is a temporary ramp at the location now. The proposed ramp would need to be permitted by the Town, receive approval from the Massachusetts Commission on Disability. It will

- also require approval from the Town Council to place a permanent structure in the public way.
  - The Town received a \$140,438 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) as part of the Volkswagen emissions settlement funds.
    - With roughly \$50 million remaining in the settlement funds being overseen by the DEP, the town will likely apply to the next round of these grants.
    - We will respond when the solicitation for proposals becomes available and we will craft our request in response to the solicitation to ensure we have the strongest application possible.
- Finance:
  - Planning for the installation of the new I-Net – a condition of the contract with Comcast – is well underway. We are working with all departments to ensure all locations are connected, if they make economic sense. We are including costs to extend the I-Net to other Town facilities, such as the wastewater treatment plant and a radio tower in Pelham. These will require funds, but will be offset by the reduction in monthly costs for telephone lines that we are paying now. I anticipate that work will be done this spring.
  - Work continues on both the operating and capital budgets with a second round of internal staff reviews scheduled during February.
  - We anticipate that the Joint Capital Planning Committee will initiate its work on February 10<sup>th</sup>. We will share the schedule, once it is reviewed by the Chair of the Committee.
  - I am reviewing the fees we charge for our ambulance service and anticipate that we will be increasing them in the near future. Our rates have not been changed for many years and are substantially below the fees charged by other communities. This has adversely impacted our ambulance fund.
- Sustainability:
  - I expect to have good news to report soon on new efforts we will be taking to develop a comprehensive plan on reducing carbon and increasing public engagement.
  - The Town is exploring the addition of two more Valley BikeShare locations to expand the network. While the bikes and equipment will be provided, there will be a request for Town funds to prepare the space and bring electricity to the locations. There will also be an ongoing fee for operations that I am reviewing for inclusion in the budget.

**Delegated Authority** (as previously reported):

- Short-Term Event Uses of Town Commons:
- Short-Term Parking Requests:
- Short-Term Road or Sidewalk Closures:

**Major Capital Projects:**

- Listening Sessions: The report from the Listening Sessions has been submitted and posted on the Town’s website. All members of the Town Council have received a copy, as well.
- North Common Restoration/Main Street Parking Lot: We will present a “First Look” at this project at your meeting on Monday. This project has been many years in the making. Funds were appropriated but, when it came time to give the go ahead late in the Fall of 2018, the Select Board determined that it would be best for the incoming Town Council to be the body that would approve or disapprove the proposal. So, one year later, we are prepared to bring this back with an introductory presentation to the Town Council.

- Groff Park: Work has concluded for the winter. We are now looking forward to opening the park by Memorial Day in 2020.
- DPW/Fire: The Town continues to explore and be open to other sites that might meet the needs and requirements of a location for DPW.
- Schools:
  - The Crocker Farm School study RFP had two responses. The evaluators – Maria Kopicki, Rupert Roy-Clark, and Derek Shea - unanimously recommended TSKP Studio for its strong proposal, which included specific project ideas and a timeline, and for its experience. I selected TSKP Studio as recommended. TSKP subsequently submitted its total fee for all tasks to be \$40,000. This amount is within the Town’s budget for the project. We have sent a draft contract to TKSP and we await the firm’s review and signature on the contract.
- Library: The Library is seeking cost estimates of the work that would need to be done to the building if the renovation is not approved. This will provide a firm cost estimate so the Town Council and Board of Library Trustees can make a more informed decision.

### **Project Update:**

- Kendrick Park Playground: There was a public meeting on the playground on **January 9<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 p.m. in the Bangs Community Center. The meeting was hosted by the LSSE Commission and sought input from the community on types of equipment and design standards the community would like to see at Kendrick Park.
- Hickory Ridge: As reported at the Town Council December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- East Street School: We issued an RFP for development of the school and adjacent property for affordable and market housing. We received one response from Valley CDC. Three evaluators – John Hornik, Connie Kruger, and Nate Malloy – reviewed the response and, after careful review and consideration, decided not to recommend awarding a contract under this procurement. I agreed with this recommendation and will not award a contract. We met to discuss the next steps. The Town will be doing additional due diligence to gather additional information on stormwater, wetlands, and the condition of the existing building. Once this work is completed, we will reevaluate the RFP.
- North Amherst Library:
  - The architects have developed estimates for two phases of improvements to the North Amherst Library.
  - The first would make the building accessible, construct new rest rooms for the public, and address some need structural and HVAC issues. The second would create a public meeting space. The estimates for the first phase are around \$750,000 and the estimates for the second phase are around \$200,000.
  - We have dedicated time to develop these estimates because there is interest in private fundraising to make these improvements to this iconic building. I have stressed that this is not as high a priority for capital funds as other Town needs and that, if this project were to move forward, it had to move forward at minimal or no cost to the Town.
  - An anonymous donor has stepped forward and offered to initiate this project with a significant donation that would allow us to begin the planning and public engagement process. These funds would be placed in an account at the Western Massachusetts Community Foundation and only the Town could authorize payments from the fund for the specified purpose.



- A group of residents submitted a Community Preservation Act application to the CPA Committee. I have not supported this application.
- **Solar on the Landfill:**
  - The State has included this project in a Transmission Study which may further delay this project. I wrote to the State Department of Public Utilities and Eversource to express concern and ask that they – and our State legislators – do everything in their power to either exempt this project from the study or expedite its review as part of the modified study. If part of a modified study, the delay will not have as serious an impact. If we aren't, it will be a serious impediment to success.
  - I noted that this is a project with broad public support and has been fully approved by the Town. It has significant public benefits above and beyond what is generally expected from solar. Annual economic returns to the Town from this project are projected at ~\$100K. The project is being built on a decommissioned landfill, which is exactly the type of project the State has prioritized and the Town has worked to get done for years, overcoming numerous obstacles.
  - After additional correspondence and calls with Eversource and the Department of Public Utilities, they have determined that the project will enter the modified study. We will know more about potential timing of an Interconnection Agreement and potential system impacts following the results of that study which are expected in the next three months.

#### **Upcoming Meetings and Events:**

- February 1<sup>st</sup> – Four Towns Meeting
- February 10<sup>th</sup> – Town Council meeting
- February 17<sup>th</sup> – Presidents Day Holiday
- February 24<sup>th</sup> – Town Council meeting
- March 9<sup>th</sup> – Town Council meeting
- March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Town Council meeting

#### **Other events:**

- February 1<sup>st</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> – WinterFest
- February 7<sup>th</sup> – Complete Count Press Conference
- February 8<sup>th</sup> – Black History Month celebration
- February 14<sup>th</sup> – Cuppa Joe with Paul
- March 13<sup>th</sup> – Cuppa Joe with Paul
- March 18<sup>th</sup> – Kanegasaki Sister City Welcoming Reception

## Progress of the Ranked Choice Voting Commission up through January 10, 2020

The committee first met on July 9, 2019, and has met 14 times so far, with a main focus on learning the necessary background on ranked choice voting, developing an implementation plan, and identifying issues of concern. Here is a summary of what we have accomplished in the past six months:

- We have gathered extensive information via the web, with each member assigned to research a different place currently using RCV.
- We carried out outreach activities to educate Amherst voters about the anticipated change to RCV by holding two candy votes, at the Amherst First Day Celebration in August and at the Amherst Block Party in September.
- We met with Town Attorney Lauren Goldberg to gain a better sense of the scope of our committee's mission and the issues in getting RCV approved by the State. In particular, we need to draft a Special Act to be approved by the legislature and our plan also needs to satisfy the State Elections Division.
- We have talked on the phone with officials in several towns, including Minneapolis, San Francisco, Cambridge, Takoma Park, MD, Telluride, CO, state of Maine and Portland, ME. We also video-conferenced with Aaron Grossman, an elections official from Minneapolis, who demonstrated how their RCV calculations are carried out. Note that Minneapolis is one of the rare places in the US that uses multi-winner RCV, as Amherst would need to do. We also plan to contact at least one city (like Cary, NC) that decided to discontinue RCV, to learn of potential downsides and consider how we might mitigate them.
- We met with representatives of Voter Choice MA, including someone closely involved with Easthampton's RCV effort, and attended an info session run by that group.
- We talked with local experts on historical and political aspects of RCV, Dan Ordorica and Ray LaRaja.
- We have learned about issues surrounding voting machines and the specifics of the two voting machines available to us. We met with the ES&S rep, and have been in communication with the LSH rep to soon meet with him.
- We have also learned about software options for tabulating ballots and calculating the results, and it is clear that we need to carefully evaluate both hardware and software options. Important details of election law, such as not allowing digital scans while requiring all write-in candidates to be fully considered complicate how feasible various options will be. Furthermore, we have learned about choices that need to be made in designing a ranked choice ballot and in interpreting the will of the voter when ballots are improperly filled out (undervotes, overvotes, and skipped rankings).
- We are in the process of more deeply understanding the available methods for calculating results of multi-winner contents. Feasibility of hand recounts is a serious issue to consider when

choosing a method, as is whether the method can be explained sufficiently clearly to voters to build trust in the results.

- We have identified some logistical concerns: length of the ballot which requires either a very long ballot or two ballots, slowness of scanning ballots at polling places, how to enter write-in candidates to the Cast Vote Record, and how to carry out hand recounts.

We drafted a timeline for what the committee needs to produce to fulfill its mission:

- Special Act
  - Complete draft by early February
  - Work with the town attorney to iron out statutory language and address issues like how a recount under multi-winner RCV rules could satisfy state law
  - Get feedback by the State Elections Office in March
- Committee's Report to the Town Council
  - Report will explain in detail our recommendations with explanations concerning all important aspects of RCV for Amherst elections
  - Draft by mid-April
  - Public comment session first week of May (allowing 2 week buffer between draft release and session)
  - Final version by June 1

Please let us know of any questions or concerns you have about our projected timeline or activities.

Respectfully submitted by Tanya Leise, chair of the RCVC

## WinterFest Amherst 2020

### **Sat Feb 1, 2020**

#### 9am - 4pm Mini Golf Classic

Where: Jones Library, 43 Amity St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description:

The Friends of the Jones Library is having our 2nd annual Mini Golf Classic sponsored by UMASS Five College Federal Credit Union on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 9:00-4:00 at the Jones Library. All are welcome, \$5/person. THEN, we've got Wine and Nine putt from 6:00-7:30 PM that evening. This is Adults Only, putting through nine holes with a glass of wine or a craft beer for \$10/person.

#### 10am - 2pm Amherst Winter Farmers Market

Where: Hampshire Mall, 367 Russell St, Hadley, MA 01035, USA

#### 10am - 11am Greenhouse Tour and Food Tasting

Where: Simple Gifts Farm, 1089 N Pleasant St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

#### 10am - 12pm My Neighbor Totoro

Where: Amherst Cinema, 28 Amity St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: <https://amherstcinema.org/films-and-events/my-neighbor-totoro>

#### 2pm - 4:30pm WinterFest Polar Bear Splash

Where: Amherst Regional Middle School, 170 Chestnut St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: This event is FREE!

#### 5pm - 8pm Luminaria

Where: Amherst Common (N), Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: The kick-off to WinterFest features thousands of glowing candles transforming the Town Commons into a magical spot with live music from The Amherst College DQ and Cajordion, live ice sculpting, food trucks like Holyoke Hummus Company, special food and drink outside on the patio at 30Boltwood, face painting and more. Stay tuned for more information and updates. This event is FREE!

#### 8pm - 9pm ARHS Boys Varsity Hockey vs. Ludlow High School

Where: Orr Rink, 300 S Pleasant St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: This event is FREE!

### **Sun Feb 2, 2020**

#### 10am - 11am Amherst Nordic Ski Association - Free Nordic Instruction

Where: Cherry Hill Golf Course, 323 Montague Rd, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: This event is FREE!

#### 11am - 1pm Jazz Brunch

Where: Cushman Market & Cafe, 491 Pine St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

#### 12pm - 1pm Notch Trail Hike

Where: Notch Visitor Center, 1500 West St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: This event is FREE!

#### 12pm - 3pm Pre-Super bowl Sledding

Where: Cherry Hill Golf Course, 323 Montague Rd, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: This event is FREE!

#### 1:30pm - 2:30pm Public Ice Skating

Where: Mullins Center Community Ice Rink, 200 Commonwealth Ave, Amherst, MA 01003, USA

Description: This event is FREE!

#### 2pm - 3pm Chocolate Sunday

Where: Amherst Woman's Club, 35 Triangle St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

4pm - 5pm Living Building Tour

Where: Hitchcock Center for the Environment, 845 West St, Amherst, MA 01002,

**Tue Feb 4, 2020**

11am - 12pm International Ice Cream for Breakfast

Where: Flavors of Cook Farm, 129 S Maple St, Hadley, MA 01035, USA

4pm - 5pm Clothespin Snowman and Teddy Bear Give

Where: Amherst Boys & Girls Club, 29 A Cottage St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: Clothespin Snowman, Teddy Bear Give away, Hot Chocolate and cookies

7pm - 8pm ARHS Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Chicopee High School

Where: Amherst-Pelham Regional High School, 21 Matoon St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: This event is FREE!

**Wed Feb 5, 2020**

3:45pm - 4:45pm Animal Adventures Free Animal Show

Where: Crocker Farm Elementary School, 280 West St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: Join us at Crocker Farm Elementary School to meet some furry friends! This event is FREE!

3:45pm - 4:45pm Winter Crafts Fun for Kids

Where: Crocker Farm Elementary School, 280 West St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: This event is FREE!

4pm - 5:20pm Public Ice Skating

Where: Mullins Center Community Ice Rink, 200 Commonwealth Ave, Amherst, MA 01003, USA

6pm - 7:20pm WinterFest Challenge Cup Hockey

Where: Mullins Center, 200 Commonwealth Ave, Amherst, MA 01003, USA

Description: Cheer us on as the WinterFest All-Stars take on the Franklin County Sheriff's Department at the Mullins Center! This event is Free, however donations are encouraged.

6:30pm - 8:30pm WinterFest Wine and Painting

Where: AmherstWorks, 11 Amity St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: "Snow at Louveciennes". There are blues, lavenders and pinks that glimmer in the snow, and we will use some opalescent paints to explore that! The cost is \$30 per person for a canvas.

Additional \$12 for tote bags and additional \$14 for aprons.

7:30pm - 10:30pm WinterFest Amherst Contradance

Where: Pacific Lodge, 99 Main St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

**Thu Feb 6, 2020**

4pm - 9pm Irish Seisiun at the Harp

Where: The Harp Irish Pub, 163 Sunderland Rd, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

4pm - 5pm Snow "Slime" and Teddy Bear Giveaway

Where: Amherst Boys & Girls Club, 29 A Cottage St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: This event is FREE! Snow Slime, Teddy Bear Give away, Hot Chocolate and cookies

4:45pm - 5:45pm Candlelight & Cocoa

Where: Emily Dickinson Museum, 280 Main St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

7pm - 8pm ARHS Boys Varsity Basketball vs. Pope Francis Prep School

Where: Amherst-Pelham Regional High School, 21 Matoon St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: This event is FREE!

**Fri Feb 7, 2020**

**8:30am - 9:30am WinterFest Cribbage Tournament**

Where: Bangs Community Center, 70 Boltwood Walk, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: This event is FREE!

**3:30pm - 4:30pm National Bubble Gum Day & Bubble Blowing Contest**

Where: Amherst Leisure Services Department, 170 Chestnut St #1, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: This event is FREE!

**7pm - 8pm ARHS Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Monson High School**

Where: Amherst-Pelham Regional High School, 21 Matoon St, Amherst, MA 01002 USA

Description: This event is FREE!

**Sat Feb 8, 2020**

**10am - 12pm My Neighbor Totoro**

Where: Amherst Cinema, 28 Amity St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: <https://amherstcinema.org/films-and-events/my-neighbor-totoro>

**10:30am - 11:30am WinterFest Storytime with the Jones Library**

Where: Jones Library, 43 Amity St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

**1pm - 5pm WinterFest Grand Finale Event**

Where: Cherry Hill Golf Course, 323 Montague Rd, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: Our Grand Finale of WinterFest 2020 at Cherry Hill Golf Course will feature family fun events, music, food contests and more! This event is FREE!

**7:30pm - 8:30pm ARHS Boys Varsity Hockey vs. Drury High School**

Where: Orr Rink, 300 S Pleasant St, Amherst, MA 01002, USA

Description: This event is FREE!

# Executive Order on Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Refugee Resettlement

Issued on: September 26, 2019

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Purpose. In resettling refugees into American communities, it is the policy of the United States to cooperate and consult with State and local governments, to take into account the preferences of State governments, and to provide a pathway for refugees to become self-sufficient. These policies support each other. Close cooperation with State and local governments ensures that refugees are resettled in communities that are eager and equipped to support their successful integration into American society and the labor force.

The Federal Government consults with State and local governments not only to identify the best environments for refugees, but also to be respectful of those communities that may not be able to accommodate refugee resettlement. State and local governments are best positioned to know the resources and capacities they may or may not have available to devote to sustainable resettlement, which maximizes the likelihood refugees placed in the area will become self-sufficient and free from long-term dependence on public assistance. Some States and localities, however, have viewed existing consultation as insufficient, and there is a need for closer coordination and a more clearly defined role for State and local governments in the refugee resettlement process. My Administration seeks to enhance these consultations.

Section 6(d) of Executive Order 13780 of March 6, 2017 (Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States), directed the Secretary of State to determine the extent to which, consistent with applicable law, State and local jurisdictions could have greater involvement in the process of determining the placement or resettlement of refugees in their jurisdictions, and to devise a proposal to promote such involvement.

I have consulted with the Secretary of State and determined that, with limited exceptions, the Federal Government, as an exercise of its broad discretion concerning refugee placement accorded to it by the Constitution and the Immigration and Nationality Act, should resettle refugees only in those jurisdictions in which both the State and local governments have consented to receive refugees under the Department of State's Reception and Placement Program (Program).

Sec. 2. Consent of States and Localities to the Placement of Refugees. (a) Within 90 days of the date of this order, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall develop and implement a process to determine whether the State and locality both consent, in writing, to the resettlement of refugees within the State and locality, before refugees are resettled within that State and locality under the Program. The Secretary of State shall publicly release any written consents of States and localities to resettlement of refugees.

(b) Within 90 days of the date of this order, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall develop and implement a process by which, consistent with 8 U.S.C.

1522(a)(2)(D), the State and the locality's consent to the resettlement of refugees under the Program is taken into account to the maximum extent consistent with law. In particular, that process shall provide that, if either a State or locality has not provided consent to receive refugees under the Program, then refugees should not be resettled within that State or locality unless the Secretary of State concludes, following consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Homeland Security, that failing to resettle refugees within that State or locality would be inconsistent with the policies and strategies established under 8 U.S.C. 1522(a)(2)(B) and (C) or other applicable law. If the Secretary of State intends to provide for the resettlement of refugees in a State or locality that has not provided consent, then the Secretary shall notify the President of such decision, along with the reasons for the decision, before proceeding.

(c) Subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to the resettlement of a refugee's spouse or child following to join that refugee pursuant to 8 U.S.C. 1157(c)(2)(A).

Sec. 3. General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

DONALD J. TRUMP

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
September 26, 2019.