

IG Shapiro met with Hampshire County municipal leaders

BELCHERTOWN – Inspector General Jeffrey S. Shapiro recently met with municipal leaders in Belchertown and Williamsburg as part of an ongoing municipal listening tour around the Commonwealth.

“As the only statewide inspector general with municipal oversight, I have made it a priority to meet with leaders in their communities to encourage a candid dialogue,” IG Shapiro said. “I want to make government work better tomorrow than it did today. To best do that, I need to hear from the people who are doing the day-to-day business of governing to understand what works and what doesn’t work.”

On September 30, 2025, IG Shapiro met with Belchertown Town Administrator Steve Williams and Town Accountant Jill Rossi; and Williamsburg Town



Belchertown TA Steve Williams and Town Accountant Jill Rossi.

Manager Nick Caccamo.

“I am especially grateful for the Inspector General’s commitment to having a greater presence in western Massachusetts. This is a testament of his dedication to the duties of his office,” Williams said. “We dis-

cussed the unique challenges that small towns confront when procuring goods and services as well as the need for training opportunities for our staff.”

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is an independent, non-parti-

san oversight agency mandated to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse of public resources at the state and municipal level across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The benefits of leaving the leaves

Submitted by the Belchertown Energy and Sustainability Committee

BELCHERTOWN – Every fall, many homeowners and business owners spend a substantial amount of time, money, and resources cleaning up leaves that fall from their nearby trees. In addition to all of this effort and cost, this leaf removal can have a significant negative impact on the local ecosystem by removing habitat for beneficial native insects that use the leaves to stay safe until they are ready to emerge the following spring. These beneficial insects play an important role in pollinating plants, as well as providing a key source of food for native songbirds. Leaves are also full of nutrients that are gradually released as they break down, meaning that the more leaves that are kept, the less fertil-

izers need to be used. Rather than hauling away those natural nutrients and then bringing in synthetic ones to replace them in the form of fertilizers, keeping your leaves on site can make life much simpler.

This does not necessarily have to mean leaving your leaves exactly where they fall and not touching them; removing them from walkways and other high-traffic areas is important to prevent slipping hazards. But rather than completely removing these leaves and sending them to a landfill or other location, consider creating a compost pile out of them or using them to cover a garden bed or other natural areas. This will help to strike a balance between supporting the local ecosystem, cutting down on effort required, and saving on the money and resources that are normally involved in removing leaves.

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CLUES ACROSS
1. Remark
5. Upper body part
8. Expression of dismissiveness
12. Alternate name
14. Popular beverage
15. Swiss river
16. Step-shaped recess
18. Rocker Stewart
19. Bright shade of color
20. Popular “street”
21. Wrath
22. Heat units
23. Nocturnal omnivorous mammals
26. Fall back into
30. Remove from the record
31. Sound a splash made

32. Popular Dodge pickup model
33. Jamaican river
34. Notable event in Texas history
39. Cool!
42. Subset of Judaism
44. Newly entered cadet
46. Duct in urinary system
47. Exterminator
49. Snatch quickly
50. Have already done
51. Less healthy
56. Therefore
57. What couples say on the altar
58. Mysteriously
59. Look angry or sullen
60. Bird’s beak
61. Taco ingredient
62. Square measures

CLUES DOWN
1. Pubs
2. Wings
3. Popular BBQ dish
4. Small sponge cake
5. Open-roofed entrance halls
6. Organize anew
7. Type of wine
8. Forums
9. North Atlantic islands (alt. sp.)
10. Pond dwellers
11. Large integers
13. Signaled
17. Brief
24. Type of student
25. Tibetan monasteries
26. Revolutions per minute

27. NY Giants great Manning
28. Local area network
29. Residue from burning
35. Illuminated
36. Vasopressin
37. Notable space station
38. Wood sorrel
40. Adhering to laws
41. Chose
42. Hovel
43. Stood up
44. European city
45. Works ceaselessly
47. Mistake
48. Sun-dried brick
49. Sicilian city
52. A steep rugged rock or cliff
53. Murder
54. Other
55. “Deadpool” actor Reynolds

PUBLIC NOTICES

**LEGAL NOTICE
PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN OF GRANBY**

The Select Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, November 3, 2025, at 5:30 PM or as soon thereafter as the agenda permits, at the **Senior Center Building located at 10-B West State Street, Granby, MA to grant permission to Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a NATIONAL GRID to relocate existing Stub Pole # 28-84 approximately 15' west to facilitate Pole line relocation at 17 New Ludlow Rd, Granby.

and across the following public way:

New Ludlow Rd - Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid to Relocate 1 SO Pole on New Ludlow Rd beginning at a point approximately 990 feet west of the centerline of the intersection of Morgan St and continuing approximately 15 feet in a west direction. National Grid to Relocate existing Stub Pole # 28-84 approximately 15' west to facilitate Pole line relocation at 17 New Ludlow Rd, Granby.

Wherefore it prays that after

due notice and hearing as provided by law, it be granted a location for and permission to erect and maintain poles and wires, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as it may find necessary, said poles to be erected substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked - New Ludlow Rd -Granby - Massachusetts.

Also for permission to lay and maintain underground laterals, cables, and wires in the above or intersecting public ways for the purpose of making connections with such poles and buildings as each of said petitioners may desire for distributing purposes.

Your petitioner agrees to reserve space for one cross-arm at a suitable point on each of said poles for the fire, police, telephone, and telegraph signal wires belonging to the municipality and used by it exclusively for municipal purposes.

Copies of proposed Plans-#31005920-are available in the Board of Selectmen’s Office 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. – 12 noon on Friday located at 10-B West State Street, Senior Center Building, 2nd Floor.

Granby Selectboard
10/23/2025

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