



The Town of Barnstable

Office of Town Manager

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May 14, 2024

To: Barnstable Town Councilors

From: Mark S. Ells, Town Manager

RE: Town Manager update for May 1 through May 14, 2024

1. We are proceeding with the budget action calendar for FY2025. The Operating Budget for FY2025 has been submitted to the Town Council and public hearings are scheduled to begin on June 6, 2024. Mark Milne, Director of Finance, will provide a summary of the FY2025 Operating Budget at the upcoming Town Council meeting. For information on our fiscal year budgets please view the Town's Open Budget website at <http://budget.townofbarnstable.us>.
2. As previously reported and in response to requests by Town Council and the public regarding monitoring the activation of the Vineyard Wind cable landing at Covell's Beach, the Town continues discussions with Vineyard Wind regarding regular communication with the Town of Barnstable on safe and compliant operation of their system. My staff has had several meetings and reviewed proposed signage for the site. The goal remains a Vineyard Wind installation of signage prior to the summer season. Vineyard Wind is doing on site testing to verify safety and compliance. It is my understanding that the Mass Department of Public Health will be involved relative to safety information. The Town of Barnstable has retained a third party independent expert to verify readings and data if and when needed. We will keep you informed of the progress on this matter.
3. The Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB) opened the evidentiary hearing on Monday, May 13, 2024 regarding the Mid Cape Reliability project change. The hearing was held by Zoom. The public could watch separately via Zoom, but they could not participate and did not appear within the hearing. The standard order of the hearing involved the EFSB (including Department of Public Utilities (DPU)) staff getting to ask questions of Eversource, including their consultants and attorneys. The EFSB took the entire day. When the EFSB eventually finishes, then the Town through its Legal Department and the other intervenors are allowed to ask questions. The second day of hearings is scheduled on Wednesday May 15, 2024 at 10:00 AM.
4. The Town of Barnstable recently secured a permit through the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. This permit will allow for limited beach raking at Dowses and Kalmus beaches in addition to other beach activities such as events. To protect nesting endangered shorebirds, the permit places several

constraints on the raking. Specifically, raking is prohibited in May and June and can occur twice a month in July and August. However, there is the opportunity to remove excessive seaweed (or wrack) for human health and safety reasons with no time of year restrictions. The permit was required under the Endangered Species Act and will be valid for 5 years. In 2023, the Town secured a similar permit for Craigville and Covell's Beaches.

5. The Barnstable Youth Commission is hosting their 10th annual Youth Summit for Barnstable Intermediate School (BIS) Students on Thursday, May 23rd. The event features speakers Kevin Rosario of Addiction, Consulting and Educational Services and Robert Hackenson of Dynamic Influence. The speakers will help educate students about making good choices as they enter high school and educate them about the impacts/effects of drugs and alcohol. The Summit will also feature Barnstable High School students mentoring BIS students on what to expect as they transition to high school. A vendor fair will take place at BIS for students to pass through and gather information from various school clubs and organizations.
6. The Recreation Division has processed over thirteen thousand 2024 Resident Parking Permits to date. We estimate an additional eight thousand applications will be received prior to the start of the season and encourage all residents to apply as soon as they can to avoid delays. Beach Parking Permit Applications can be filled out: online, mailed in, or dropped off at the Hyannis Youth and Community Center, 141 Bassett Lane, Hyannis. If you need assistance, please contact the Parking Permit Hotline at 508-790-6345 x145. Town of Barnstable staff will begin verifying permits on beaches starting Saturday, May 25th.
7. Beginning Saturday, June 22nd, Town of Barnstable beaches, ponds, and lake will be open seven days a week through Labor Day. All beaches will be open daily from 9AM through 9PM. The ongoing nationwide lifeguard shortage is affecting us again this summer. This will impact our ability to have lifeguard coverage at all 13 locations. Currently, we anticipate having full staff, including lifeguards, at the following beaches: Craigville, Dowses, Covell's, Kalmus, and Veteran's. We are hopeful to potentially provide lifeguard staffing at additional locations. To assist the public with their summer plans, we will continue to communicate our staffing operations as we approach June 22nd so the public is aware which sites have lifeguard coverage. We encourage the public to download the MyBarnstable app to help them stay informed. Ensuring public safety is our top priority. The Recreation Division is working to provide lifeguard staff at as many sites as possible. However, we advise the public that due to limited staffing, some sites may not have lifeguard coverage and swimmers will do so at their own risk.
8. The Town is hosting a second public meeting to present preliminary concepts for additional use of the land around the Barnstable Adult Community Center (BACC). This meeting is a follow-up to the February 1st listening session, where ideas for recreation and housing were discussed. Please join us on Wednesday, May 22nd at 1:00 PM at the BACC for a presentation of concepts, along with refreshments and continued discussion about the potential for the site. For more information, visit the [BACC Master Plan Project Website](#), which can be accessed from the Planning &

Development homepage. For any questions, please contact the Planning & Development Department.

9. The Town of Barnstable will host a public workshop for the Marstons Mills Former School Site Master Plan on Wednesday, May 29th at 6:00 PM Liberty Hall, 2150 Main Street, Marstons Mills. The intent of the public workshop is to continue to garner community input as to the future redevelopment of this site. This is the third public listening session hosted by the Planning and Development Department. The Town of Barnstable is seeking to create a Master Site Development Plan for the 14.2-acre parcel formerly the site of the Marstons Mills Elementary School and public input is critical to successfully establish site-specific land use goals which will inform the Master Plan. All residents are welcome to attend. For any questions regarding the meeting or this project, please contact James Kupfer, Assistant Director of Planning & Development, at james.kupfer@town.barnstable.ma.us or 508-862-4784.
10. MassDOT will be hosting a Hybrid Design Public Hearing (Virtual and In-Person) will be held to present the design for the proposed Park and Ride Expansion and Improvements at The Route 132 Park and Ride project in Barnstable, MA.
VIRTUAL on Tuesday, May 28, 2024 @ 6:00 PM
WHERE: <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events>.
IN-PERSON on Wednesday, May 29, 2024 @ 7:00 PM
WHERE: Barnstable County Complex, Mary Pat Flynn Conference Room
3195 Main Street (Route 6A), Barnstable, MA 02630
PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Park & Ride Expansion and Improvements at The Route 132 Park & Ride project. All views and comments submitted in response to the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.
11. The Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce has requested that the Barnstable Town Manager serve as a member of the newly formed Cape & Islands Bridges Coalition (CIBC). The first meeting of the CIBC was held on Tuesday, May 7th at the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce. The Cape & Islands Bridges Coalition (CIBC) is a regional group of businesses from Greater Cape Cod, the Islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, and Southeastern Massachusetts, advocating for the full funding and replacement of the Sagamore and Bourne Bridges. As efforts to replace the bridges move forward, the CIBC is unified in its mission to safeguard the economic viability of the region and preserve the needs of the Cape and Islands community for generations to come. I will keep you advised on the progress of this effort.
12. Kelly Collopy, Communications Manager for the Public Works Department, will provide an update on Water Resource Management planning including the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan.
13. Chris Gonnella, Director of Community Services, will provide an update on the Centerville Playground.