



From all of us at Barnstable Town Hall, we wish you a happy and healthy holiday!

Photo Courtesy of Chris Ledda, Channel 18 Video Specialist

Notice of Town Office Closures for the Holidays

Town offices close at noon Tuesday, December 24th for the Christmas Holiday. Offices will be closed Wednesday, December 25th for the observance of Christmas Day and Wednesday, January 1st for the observance of New Year's Day.

Barnstable Public Schools Holiday Recess is December 23, 2019-January 3, 2020

Please be mindful and use caution when driving at this busy time of year when children are more likely to be out and about.

Town Council Meeting – Thursday, December 19th

Last night's Town Council Meeting began with Town Council President Paul Hebert presiding over the meeting which began with the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence. Councilors Paul Neary and Matthew Levesque next recognized the [18-U Tier II National Bound Massachusetts State Hockey 2019 Champions](#). **Agenda Item 2020-029** Amendment of the Zoning map of the Town of Barnstable, MA to amend and expand the Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Overlay District to include Parcels 013004, 013005, and 013052 was withdrawn. Town Manager Mark Ells provided updates on the following items for the period December 6-19, 2019 during [Town Manager Communications](#):

1. Dan Santos, Director of Public Works provided an update on the Comprehensive Water Management Plan.
2. Ann Quirk, Town Clerk provided an update on Town Census.

3. We are proceeding with the tasks in the budget action calendar for FY 2021 as scheduled. For information on our fiscal year budgets please view the Town's Open Budget website at <http://budget.townofbarnstable.us>.
4. Our Department of Public Works continue their efforts of public water supply well rehabilitation at the Mary Dunn #4 well site and installation of test wells on numerous sites across Barnstable including the Fish & Wildlife property immediately abutting the Hyannis Water System. We plan to complete these efforts by the spring of 2020. We shall continue to report our progress and findings relative to these efforts.
5. We are working with Senator Cyr's office, The Massachusetts Clean Water Trust, and the Department of Environmental Protection to secure any funding recently made available by the state to assist the Hyannis Water systems operating and capital costs associated with removal of emerging contaminants. (PFAS) <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/191/H4246> Specifically, DEP Line Item 2250-2002 for the testing of potential per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination of water supplies and for grants to support treatment and design of affected drinking water systems; provided, that nothing in this item shall preclude PFAS impacted communities from seeking reimbursement for costs and expenses already incurred for testing potentially contaminated water supplies and the treatment and design of affected drinking water systems related to PFAS contamination; and provided further, that any unexpended funds in this item shall not revert but shall be made available for the purpose of this item until June 30, 2021 (\$4,200,000), and the Clean Water Trust Line Item 1595-1200 for an operating transfer to the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust to support drinking water programs to remediate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination of public water supplies, including, but not limited to, no-interest loans (\$10,650,000). We will keep you advised of our progress on this matter.
6. Massachusetts General Laws [Chapter 16, Section 21](#), requires the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) to develop and maintain a comprehensive statewide master plan for solid waste management, which the agency updates on a ten-year planning cycle. On September 27, 2019, MassDEP issued its Draft 2030 Solid Waste Master Plan for public comment which can be found here: www.mass.gov/files/documents/2019/10/18/2030swmp-pcdraft.pdf. MassDEP accepted public comment through Friday, December 6, 2019. Our staff attended the MassDEP Southeast Regional Office public hearing on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 and submitted comments on the draft Plan on December 6, 2019.
7. In response to our continued need to improve communications and in coordination with my senior staff, Mr. Ells plans to move forward during the first quarter of 2020 with the internal reorganization of my existing work force to create a Director of Communications position and supporting staff under the direct oversight of the Town Manager's office. The primary role of this position includes being responsible for managing and directing our organizations internal and external communications efforts. This position in coordination with the Town Manager will supervise public relations, create communication strategies, and may serve as a key media contact for the organization when appropriate. Mr. Ells does not anticipate any supplemental budget requests or action by Town Council at this time. We will keep you advised as we progress on this effort.
8. On December 4, 2019, Mr. Ells received communication from our Legal Department that the School Committee voted to declare that the former Cotuit Elementary School (140 Old Oyster Rd, Cotuit) is no longer being used for educational purposes and shall revert back to the custody and control of the Town. Department of Public Works has commenced an investigation as to the status of the building and secured the building as it is now a municipal asset. We are

conducting a preliminary assessment of the facility and plan to bring forward recommendations on next steps at this facility which will include close coordination with the Town Council and the Village of Cotuit to ensure appropriate use of the asset. Mr. Ells does anticipate bringing forward a supplemental appropriation request for the DPW FY2020 operating budget for utilities, maintenance, and security at the facility.

9. In May 2019 the Town of Barnstable, as a municipal partner with the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce, had been awarded and the Town Council accepted a \$1,000,000 grant in support of the *Expedition: Blue!* project from the Commonwealth's Seaport Economic Council grant program. These funds will be used to create a regional maritime heritage experience trail. Wendy Northcross, CEO of the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce provided an update.

NEW BUSINESS

[Agenda Item 2020-068](#) Appropriation and Transfer Order in the amount of \$2.5 million in Community Preservation Funds to increase the number and availability of community housing units in the Town of Barnstable was referred to a Public Hearing on January 23, 2020. Conservation Administrator Darcy Karle, along with Conservation Agent Edwin Hoopes who wrote the grant, presented [Agenda Item 2020-069](#) Authorization to accept, contract for and expend a grant in the amount of \$23,570.00 from MassWildlife's Habitat Management Grant Program which was accepted. DPW Director Dan Santos, with Solid Waste Division Supervisor P.J. Kelliher, presented [Agenda Item 2020-070](#) Authorization to accept, contract for and expend a grant in the amount of \$14,300 from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for the purpose of enhancing Waste Reduction Programs was accepted. Community Services Director Lynne Poyant presented [Agenda Item 2020-071](#) Authorization to accept, contract for and expend a grant in the amount of **\$154,140** to the Barnstable Council on Aging Division from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to support staff salaries and programs of the Barnstable Adult Community Center which was accepted. Barnstable Police Chief Matthew Sonnabend presented **Agenda Item 2020-072** Authorization to accept, contract for and expend a Fiscal Year 2020 Traffic Enforcement Grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Office of Grant and Research, Highway Safety Division in the amount of **\$16,000** for the purpose of conducting specific types of traffic enforcement mobilizations which was accepted. **Agenda Item 2020-073** Appointments to a Board/Committee/Commission was bifurcated and the Town Council rules suspended to allow for the appointment Recreation Commission appointment of Nickolas Atsalis which was approved. The remaining items for Appointments to a Board/Committee/Commission: **Airport Commission; Land Acquisition and Preservation Committee; and Planning Board** received a first reading and was referred to the January 9, 2020 Town Council meeting. The Town Council approved the 2020 Town Council Calendar of Meetings. Town Council Vice President Jessica Rapp Grassetti acknowledged that this was the last Town Council meeting for retiring Town Attorney Ruth Weil who received a standing ovation for her years of service. The next Town Council meeting will be held on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 7:00 PM in Barnstable Town Hall, James H. Crocker Jr. Hearing Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis.



Pictured: Coach Chris Fredo, Coach Michael Pasic, Coach Justin Jones, Keith Huska (#2), Dillon Huntington (#3), Jack Conway (#4), Chris Thorne (#6), Riley McDonald (#7), William Martone (#8), Jack Duguay (#9), Brian Friehe (#10), Will Cogswell (#12), Christopher Cordeiro (#14), Cooper O'Neil (#15), Benjamin Baxter (#16), Sean Roycroft (#17), Jack Scipione (#18), Kevin Monahan (#19), Jack Needham (#20), Jack Longueil (#99), and Goalies Ezra Leary (#1) and Conor Higgins (#30).

High School Sports Action at the HYCC This Weekend

Winter is buzzing with excitement at the HYCC! All of the winter high school sports teams that call the Hyannis Youth & Community Center home are competing this weekend! Come and watch the action!

FRIDAY 12/20

Sturgis East vs. West Basketball in the Gymnasium - Girls Game: 5:30 PM. Boys Game: 7:00 PM

SATURDAY 12/21

St. John Paul II vs. Mashpee/Monomoy Boys Hockey - Kennedy Rink 5:40 PM

Barnstable High School vs. Taunton Boys Hockey - Kennedy Rink 7:50 PM

Visit the HYCC During the Holiday Break

Barnstable Recreation Division will be offering extended public skating and open gym time at the Hyannis Youth & Community Center during school vacation! Check out the times for each day on the web site www.townofbarnstable.us/hycc

Wondering What Can Be Recycled During the Holidays?

Channel 18 staff created a great [video resource](#) for what can and can't be recycled during the holiday season. You can also visit <https://recyclesmartma.org/> and use the "Recyclopedia: Can I Recycle This?" search box.

DPW's 2019 Snow & Ice Brochure

The 2019 Department of Public Works Snow and Ice Brochure is out. You can view the brochure [here](#).

Barnstable Elderly & Disabled Taxation Aid Fund

Background

The Barnstable Town Council has accepted Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 60, Section 3D which allows the Town to establish a fund to defray the real estate taxes of low income elderly and disabled persons. Taxpayers contribute to the fund through a voluntary check off on their real estate tax bills. The funds collected are distributed to needy individuals through an annual award process. To be considered for this annual award, potential recipients need to meet the following eligibility requirements and complete and submit the attached application form.

Eligibility

- **65 years or older** on July 01, 2019

OR

- **Disabled-** Applicant must be receiving benefits from a State or Federal recognized disability entity. (example: Social Security Administration, Veterans Administration)
- **Total gross household** income shall not exceed **\$35,000 single**, or **\$40,000 married**. **Other assets must be less than \$40,000**. Other Assets are the value of personal property and other real estate excluding domicile. This includes cars, boats, savings and checking accounts.

Gross household income is income earned in the calendar year ending 12/31/2018 and should include all income received from all sources by the applicant as well as any additional residents in the household. Please be advised that we refer to the official Town Census Listing to confirm household residents.

- Applicant(s) must be the titled owner of the property or hold a life estate in the property on July 01, 2018. If Title is held by a Trust, **the applicant must be both a trustee and at least a 50% beneficiary of the trust in order to qualify. The property must be the applicant's primary residence.**
- Please provide proof of income by attaching copies of all the following that apply:

Social Security Benefits Award letter	Bank/Investment Account Statements
IRS Form W-2	IRS Form 1099
Pay Stubs	IRS Form 1040

Timeline

Applications will be accepted through **January 15, 2020**. Awards will be announced by January 30, 2020 and will be applied directly to the applicant's residential tax bill.

Applications are available at the Barnstable Adult Community Center, on the Town of Barnstable Website, or by calling the Town of Barnstable Treasurer's office at 508-862-4656.

Massachusetts Military Support Foundation Spreads Holiday Cheer at BACC

There was a tangible holiday spirit at the Barnstable Adult Community Center on Wednesday afternoon as the Massachusetts Military Support Foundation inaugurated its new Mobile Empowerment Center truck. The pantry unit on wheels delivers winter clothing, food and other necessities to veterans. Volunteers visited the BACC and other COAs throughout the Cape to deliver Coats4Vets from Ocean State Job Lot, Home Depot, and other businesses in appreciation for their military service. "It's a way for the community to take all the good that's out there and pull it together into a thank you for vets and their families," explained MMSF board member and recently retired Deputy Chief of the Yarmouth Police Department, Steve Xiarhos, "That's what Americans do."



The Barnstable Youth Commission is hosting its 3rd Annual Youth Job Fair!

The Ready, Set, Work! Youth Job Fair is back again this coming year on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 from 2:30-4:30 PM at the HYCC. If you are looking to hire summer employees between the ages of 14 and 18, we welcome you to come join the fair this coming year. Please contact Amy Harwood at 508-862-4638 or Amy.Harwood@town.barnstable.ma.us if you are interested.

What To Do If You Find A Cold-Stunned Turtle

It is very important to recover these stranded turtles as quickly as possible. Do not assume a turtle is dead—turtles that appear lifeless are often still alive. If you come across a stranded sea turtle on the beach, please follow these simple steps:

1. Move the turtle above the high tide line. Never grab or hold the turtle by the head or flippers.
2. Cover it with dry seaweed or wrack.
3. Mark it with an obvious piece of debris—buoys, driftwood, or branches.
4. Call the Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary hotline at 508-349-2615 x6104.

Sea turtles are federally protected under the Endangered Species Act; as such, it is illegal to harass sea turtles or transport them without a permit.



Update on Water Quality Resource Management Efforts in Barnstable

Barnstable's Channel 18 has prepared a [YouTube playlist](#) of segments they have created on Water Quality Resource Efforts in the Town of Barnstable. The informative pieces include Town Manager Mark Ellis talking about Water Quality Planning, Herring Run 2019, Cotuit Bay Dredging, Barnstable at Work – Hyannis Water Supply Division, Water Quality Testing in the Three Bays and more. At the January 3, 2019 Town Council meeting, DPW Director Dan Santos presented an [Update on Wastewater Management Efforts in Barnstable](#). We thought we would share this important information again in this week's eNews. Mr. Santos' presentation can be viewed [here](#). Additional updates have been provided at the [February 28, 2019 Town Council Meeting](#), [March 21, 2019 Town Council Meeting](#), [June 20, 2019 Town Council Meeting](#), [August 15, 2019 Town Council Meeting](#), as well as the [September 19, 2019 Town Council Meeting](#). Here is the [link](#) for Finance Director Mark Milne's presentation to the Town Council at their October 3, 2019 meeting. DPW Director Dan Santos, joined by Assistant DPW Director Rob Steen and Town Engineer Griffin Beaudoin, presented the [Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan](#) (CWMP) at the October 10, 2019 Town Council meeting. DPW Director Dan Santos provided an update on the CWMP during Town Manager Communications at the [November 21, 2019 Town Council meeting](#) and the [December 19, 2019 Town Council meeting](#).

ROAD WORK UPDATES

As always please slow down and use extreme caution when traveling through the road construction areas and follow posted safety and detour signs.

***CONTINUES* MassDOT Schedules Intersection**

Improvements at Falmouth Road (Route 28) at Osterville West Barnstable Road

Construction operations began on September 5, 2019, and will continue through to April 2021

MassDOT has commenced work on the intersection at Falmouth Road (Route 28) at Osterville West Barnstable Road. The road has been redesigned to include exclusive left turn lanes and improve bicycle and pedestrian accommodation as part of the proposed safety improvement work. The work to be done consists of furnishing and installing of new traffic signal equipment at the intersection including emergency vehicle pre-emption system, bicycle and vehicles loop detectors, construction of ADA compliant wheelchair ramps, sidewalks, and driveways, box widening, pavement milling and resurfacing, new pavement markings and signs, drainage improvements, water distribution modifications, existing utility pole relocations, installation of granite curbing, loam and seeding.

Hours of Operation (Day/Night): Monday through Friday 7:00 AM-3:30 PM. The initial work shall be done in four phases to allow access to local businesses for both vehicles and pedestrians. Traffic control will include all required signage, channeling devices for lane shifts and alternating one-way traffic as required. Police details/ flaggers will be used as needed.

For more information on traffic conditions travelers are encouraged to:

- Dial 511 and select a route to hear real-time conditions.
- Visit www.mass511.com, a website which provides real-time traffic and incident advisory information, and allows users to subscribe to text and email alerts for traffic conditions.
- Follow MassDOT on Twitter @MassDOT to receive regular updates on road and traffic conditions.

Download MassDOT's GoTime mobile app and view real-time traffic conditions before setting out on the road.



***CONTINUES* National Grid Service Road**

Construction began on November 12, 2019; National Grid will be installing a new gas main on Service Road in Sandwich and Barnstable. Work is anticipated to begin at the Barnstable/Sandwich town line on Service Road and continue westerly along Service Road into Sandwich. Work will be performed at night, Monday through Friday from 6:00 PM to 6:00 AM. Service Road will be closed during those times and only accessible for abutters and emergency vehicles. The project is scheduled to be completed in November, 2020.

***CONTINUES* Main Street (Route 6A) and Mill Way in Barnstable Village**

Construction is scheduled to continue through May 2020. Normal work hours will be 6:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. The project area is Main Street (Route 6A) from Rendezvous Lane to Mill Way, and Mill Way from Main Street to Barnstable Harbor Marina. The project objectives are to improve pedestrian access and overall traffic safety, rehabilitate aging infrastructure, and enhance the streetscape. The project scope includes new/improved sidewalks, landscaping, decorative street lighting in the village center, drainage, pavement, crosswalks, median islands, and traffic signals. Traffic will be maintained on these roads throughout construction. During active construction in the roadway, there will be lane closures with police details to direct traffic. Traffic delays may occur during lane closures. When required, detours will be posted and communicated with local businesses and residents. As always, please slow down and use extreme caution when traveling through the road construction areas, and follow posted safety and detour signs.

***CONTINUES* Sea Street, South Street, and Ocean Avenue in Hyannis**

Construction is scheduled to continue into Spring 2020. Normal work hours will be 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM, Monday through Friday. The project area is Sea Street from Main Street to Ocean Avenue, Ocean Avenue from Sea Street to Keyes Memorial Beach, and the intersection of Sea Street & South Street. Remaining work includes relocating overhead utility lines and removing obsolete utility poles – for which Eversource, Comcast, and Verizon are responsible; traffic signal adjustments and sidewalk work at the intersection of Sea Street & South Street; remaining work at the beach parking driveway; sidewalk reconstruction and street lights installation on the east side of Sea Street between Main Street and South Street, and on the west side of Sea Street between South Street and Ocean Avenue; placing the top layer of asphalt on the roads and remaining driveway aprons; permanent pavement markings; and various punch list items. Traffic will be maintained on these roads throughout construction. During active construction in the roadway, there will be lane closures with police details to direct traffic. Traffic delays may occur during lane closures. When required, detours will be posted and communicated with local businesses and residents. As always, please slow down and use extreme caution when traveling through the road construction areas, and follow posted safety and detour signs.

***CONTINUES* Route 149, Main Street, and River Road in Marstons Mills**

Construction is scheduled to continue into Spring 2020. Normal work hours will be from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM, Monday through Friday. The project area is Route 149 from Mill Pond to Lovell's Lane, Main Street from Route 149 to the former elementary school, and River Road from Route 149 to the post office drive. Remaining work includes relocating overhead utility lines and removing obsolete utility poles – for which Comm-Tract, OpenCape, Comcast, and Verizon are responsible; installing colored stamped asphalt crosswalk surfaces; installing fencing uphill from the new stone retaining wall; and various punch list items. Traffic will be maintained on these roads throughout construction. During active construction in the roadway, there will be lane closures with police details to direct traffic. Traffic delays may occur during lane closures. When required, detours will be posted and communicated with local businesses and residents. As always, please slow down and use extreme caution when traveling through the road construction areas, and follow posted safety and detour signs.

***UPDATED* Phase 2 of Dredging of Cotuit Bay Entrance Channel and Western Tip of Sampson's Island**

The Department of Public Works, in collaboration with Barnstable Clean Water Coalition, Massachusetts Audubon Society, and Barnstable County, has begun operations for Phase 2 of the dredging of the Cotuit Bay Entrance Channel and the western tip of Sampson's Island. Dredging is complete. Beach nourishment will be on-going until late December. The project is anticipated to be complete by the January 1, 2020.

There's lots going on at the Village Libraries of Barnstable

Barnstable Libraries' Corner

Visit a Town of Barnstable Library today!

Sturgis Library in Barnstable Village

www.sturgislibrary.org

Centerville Public Library

www.centervillelibrary.org

Cotuit Library

www.cotuitlibrary.org

Hyannis Public Library

www.hyannislibrary.org

Marstons Mills Public Library

www.mmpl.org

Osterville Village Library

www.ostervillagelibrary.org

Whelden Memorial Library in West Barnstable

www.wheldenlibrary.org

Town Calendar

Official Agendas

Barnstable Residents – become involved in your town's government, apply for a position on a board, committee or commission

The Town of Barnstable has over 40 boards, committees, and commissions with approximately 291 seats. Our citizen participation is exemplary and the Town Council appreciates each and every member who serves. If you are a resident of Barnstable and are interested, please consider submitting an application. The appointments committee consists of five Town Councilors who interview applicants and make recommendations to the Town Council. All Councilors then vote to appoint members at the Town Council meetings. If you are a resident and registered to vote in the Town of Barnstable and are interested in serving on a board or committee, please visit our web page linked from the Town [website](#) and fill out the application. For a more detailed description and responsibilities of the committees listed, please contact the Town Council office: council@town.barnstable.ma.us or phone 508-862-4738.

Looking for a Job? The Town of Barnstable is a Great Place to Work.

To see what positions are currently available, click [here](#). Apply online by clicking on the job title you are interested in and click the “Apply” link. If this is the first time you are applying using the online job application, you need to create an account and select a username and password. After your account has been established, you can build an application by clicking on the “Build Job Application” link. This application can be saved and used to apply for more than one job opening.

Are you interested in the Bids and Request for Proposals (RFPs) the Town of Barnstable puts out?

Find all the Invitations for Bid and RFPs for the Town that are currently available to the public [here](#).



e-News TRIVIA

Last Week's Question: Just for fun, we ask: How many sizes did the Grinch's heart grow when the true meaning of Christmas came through? Evan Nicholas was the first with the correct answer: the Grinch's heart grew three times its size!

This Week's Question: No question this week. Enjoy your holidays! Please email your answer [here](#).

Thank you for receiving and reading e-news each week!

