



The Town of Barnstable

Office of Town Manager

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Mark S. Ells, Town Manager

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M. Andy Clyburn, Assistant Town Manager

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June 3, 2021

To: Barnstable Town Councilors

From: Mark S. Ells, Town Manager

RE: Town Manager update for period May 21, 2021 thru June 3, 2021

1. Andy Clyburn, Assistant Town Manager, will provide an update on our continued support efforts during the State of Emergency.
2. Andy Clyburn, Assistant Town Manager, will provide an update regarding public access to municipal facilities and some of the operational changes moving back to in person delivery of municipal services.
3. Andy Clyburn, Assistant Town Manager, will provide an update regarding the lifting of the State of Emergency on June 15, 2021 and how that effects certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law.
4. The Town of Barnstable will celebrate Independence Day with fireworks (weather permitting with an alternate date of Labor Day) and a day-long celebration on Hyannis Main Street. Barnstable is working in collaboration with community partners to host a celebration on Sunday, July 4th on the Village Green, Main Street, and Hyannis Harbor. There will be family-oriented entertainment all day including entertainers, the roaming railroad, DJs, bands and other live music. We are not planning on a Main Street parade. I will provide you and our community with more details as they become available.
5. The lifting of the State of Emergency on June 15, 2021 raises the question of outdoor business spaces permitted for use on Main Street Hyannis this summer. Many people are asking if the Town plans on keeping the concrete barriers in place. The outdoor spaces are permitted by the Town through August 15 and we intend to leave the blocks in place through that date. We have received a petition from businesses on the west end of Main Street from Bassett Lane to Sea Street to remove the barriers. We do have a business that is permitted for outdoor space along that section of Main Street. We will honor that permitted obligation and also look act safe and functional modification to barriers along that section of Main Street. I will keep you advised of any further changes regarding this issue.
6. We are proceeding with the tasks in the budget action calendar for FY 2022 as scheduled. We distributed hardcopies of the FY 2022 proposed operating budget

to the Town Council on Monday, May 10th and posted the electronic version of the document to the website on May 10th. We submitted the recommended FY 2022 Operating Budget to the Town Council for a first reading on May 20, 2021. We will proceed with the second reading and the budget hearing later this evening. I want to thank Director Milne and our staff for the preparation and submittal of the Proposed FY 2022 Operating Budget. I would also like to thank the Comprehensive Financial Advisory Committee for their review and favorable recommendation of the proposed operating budget that was forwarded to Town Council on May 25, 2021.

7. On May 20, 2021 the Town Council held the public hearing on a proposed Sewer Assessment Ordinance as part of the fiscal policy under consideration by Town Council to establish how to equitably distribute the remaining cost of the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan. A reviewed proposed Sewer Assessment Ordinance reflecting the amendments as approved by Town Council will be posted on the Town Website and made available to Town Council by June 17, 2021 in anticipation of the next scheduled hearing regarding this proposed ordinance on July 1, 2021. The Town Manager's proposal to Town Council regarding fiscal proposed fiscal policy involved a two-step approach:
 - First, review and approve the proposed Sewer Assessment Ordinance which includes a sewer assessment to each individual property receiving the planned sewer; and
 - Second discuss the use of general funds to pay for the remaining portion of cost associated with proceeding with the CWMP.

After discussions with Town Council leadership I am requesting a workshop with Town Council in August 2021 to discuss the second fiscal policy discussion which focuses on use of general funds to address any remaining costs beyond those covers by existing revenue sources.

8. Relative to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds being distributed in Massachusetts, I was asked by the Lieutenant Governor and participated in (June 2, 2021) a working group to determine how ARPA funds will be distributed in the Commonwealth to best leverage local and state efforts. I expect that we may have subsequent discussion specifically regarding how best to maximize the use of these funds to reach long term goals of the Commonwealth and our communities. There are four major categories of eligible expenditure for these ARPA funds: (1) direct expenses related to COVID response; (2) revenue lost as a result of COVID; (3) costs associated with first responder expenses; and (4) infrastructure projects specifically water, wastewater and broadband. There are other categories of eligible expense reimbursement and further clarification is forthcoming. I will keep you advised as we progress on this matter.
9. We continue to have regular conversations with Vineyard Wind (VW) regarding the status of the Phase I and Phase II projects. Vineyard Wind continues to work with Barnstable staff regarding both Phases of the project. They anticipate commencing construction on Phase I in 2021 and are proceeding with permitting on Phase II.

We have continued our discussion with Vineyard Wind regarding an update to the Host Agreement for Phase II and a Host Agreement for a potential Phase III. I offer the following itemized update from Vineyard Wind regarding their ongoing efforts:

- This spring VW conducted some brief survey work nearshore and onshore for Phase I and Phase II, and they seek to minimize any disturbance during the summer season. VW began prep work at the substation site in Independence Park.
- VW has begun permitting for Vineyard Wind Phase II and they anticipate the permitting processes to continue for about two years.
- The Federal process happens somewhat independent of the State process, the latter involve Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office (MEPA) and Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB) separately and concurrently.
- The State's MEPA process must be completed before the project seeks state and local permits.
- Vineyard Wind has submitted its permitting using the envelope approach that was used with Vineyard Wind 1 - with preliminary permitting capturing a wide range of options, and narrowing that set of options (the "envelope") based on technical, community, regulator and stakeholder input.
- The Federal permitting process includes evaluation of a Phase III landing in Barnstable. State permitting has not begun yet for Phase III.
- Phase III is likely to be in the vicinity of Craigville Beach or west, due to the location of the substation they need to connect to. Vineyard Wind anticipates discussions regarding potentially feasible options with the town in the coming months, as well as to continue the dialogue with town staff to maximize coordination with town infrastructure, to minimize community disturbance, etc.

I will keep you advised of our progress on this matter.