



The Town of Barnstable

Office of Town Manager

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June 25, 2024

To: Barnstable Town Councilors

From: Andy Clyburn, Assistant Town Manager

RE: Town Manager update for June 5 through June 25, 2024

1. The Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Plan for Fiscal Year 2025 have been approved by the Town Council. The new fiscal year begins on July 1st. A budget calendar for the Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Plan will be prepared and issued by the end of August. Focus for the next couple of months will be on the closing of Fiscal Year 2024 operating budgets.
2. Sean O'Brien, Town Treasurer, and his staff have been testing the preliminary tax bill file for the Fiscal Year 2025 preliminary tax bills. The preliminary tax bills have been tested twice and both times the bill file processed correctly indicating that the town's software vendor has corrected their tax bill software error. The preliminary tax bills will be issued by the end of June and they should equal one-half of the fiscal year 2024 total tax bill amount. Due dates on the preliminary tax bills are August 1, 2024 and November 1, 2024.
3. Work is ongoing by Town staff to pull together the body of information that will be connected to a QR code or link on the signs installed in May at Covell's Beach. People will be able to find more detailed information about the cables, the project and links to magnetic frequency information in the very near future. This QR code or link will be added when we have a block of information ready. It is Town controlled and we will determine what is made available to the public at this site. After completing the baseline magnetic frequency measurements when the wind farm was off-line on May 24, 2024, Avangrid took magnetic frequency readings on June 14, 2024. Chris Long from the company Gradient, did the testing for Avangrid. Officials from the Town, Massachusetts Department of Public Health and Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities were there to observe the process. According to Avangrid, three wind turbines were spinning offshore producing close to 35 Megawatts of electricity during the test period. They will post the data report on their website when it is available to them. Future plans for testing include repeating this monitoring as they reach 25% installation, 50% installation, 75% installation, and full installation of the Vineyard

Wind project. If there are indications that the testing needs to be more frequent based on actual measurements, we will discuss a different plan with Avangrid. Avangrid plans to have 50% of the wind turbines up in early fall and full installation in early 2025. As noted previously, the Town of Barnstable has retained a third-party independent expert (Elexana of New York) to verify readings and data if and when needed. We will continue to keep you informed of the progress on this matter.

4. Park City Wind, LLC (“PCW”) filed a petition with the Department of Public Utilities (“DPU”) regarding 6 Shootflying Hill Road (Assessor Parcels 235001W00 and 235001B00). On Friday, May 17, 2024, the DPU posted this notice on the docket for DPU 24-48. Under the petition, PCW seeks approval of zoning exemptions to allow for the construction and operation of a driveway/road across the land at 6 Shootflying Hill Road to reach the adjacent property at 8 Shootflying Hill Road on which the proposed substation would be located. The DPU proceeding is limited solely to the driveway/access proposed for 6 Shootflying Hill Road and does not cover any part of the PCW project approved by the EFSB in its December 15, 2023, decision. PCW’s related filings in DPU 24-48 made last month can be accessed here: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber/24-48> The DPU conducted a public hearing with both in-person and remote participation options at 6:30 PM, on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at Barnstable High School – Performing Arts Center, 744 West Main Street, Hyannis, MA. 02601.
5. On Saturday, June 22nd, the Town of Barnstable beaches and ponds began the summer season. Beaches will be open seven days a week through Labor Day and all beaches will be open daily from 9:00 AM through 9:00 PM. Similar to last season, we are experiencing lifeguard shortages this summer which will impact our ability to provide lifeguard coverage at all 13 locations. 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. We have full staffing, including lifeguards, at the following beaches: Craigville Beach, Dowses Beach, Covell’s Beach, Kalmus Beach, Veteran’s Beach, and Loop Beach. To assist the public with their summer plans, we will continue to communicate our staffing operations as they develop or change. The Town has issued over 21,000 beach parking permits to date, and beaches will have gate staff on site to ensure users have their annual parking permit or applicable receipt (that includes vehicle registration number) to control equitable access. Beach raking operations have been approved at most saltwater beaches and are scheduled bi-weekly. Please help us keep our beaches clean, pack in / pack out or use proper receptacles.
6. Superintendent Sara Ahern and Director of Food Services Dave Badot are pleased to announce that Barnstable Public Schools will once again be providing remote meal service through the State's Summer Eats program. The program is offered Monday

through Friday throughout the summer from July 1 to Aug. 23. Children 18 years old and younger are eligible to receive meals. All serving locations will be open from 8:30-9:30 a.m. for breakfast and 11 a.m.-12 p.m. for lunch. Residents will be able to pick up meals at the following locations:

- **July 1 through Aug. 16 at Barnstable High School, 744 W Main St, Hyannis**
- **July 1 through Aug. 23 at Barnstable West Barnstable Elementary School, 2463 Main St, West Barnstable; Barnstable Intermediate School, 895 Falmouth Road, Hyannis; and Barnstable United Elementary School, 730 Osterville - West Barnstable Road, Marstons Mills**

More information is available through Barnstable Public Schools.

7. We encourage residents and visitors to download the MyBarnstable app from the Apple or Google Play store. The app provides updates on a wide range of information in Town including traffic advisories, beach updates, Sandy Neck off-road availability, and more.
8. The Town of Barnstable [Homeowner's Sewer Connection Guide](#) is now available. Developed by the Barnstable Department of Public Works, this 30-page guide aims to help homeowners prepare for connection to the Town's newly expanded municipal sewer system. The Homeowner's Sewer Connection Guide walks property owners through the step-by-step process for connecting to sewer, including important considerations, and financial responsibility. Enclosed within the guide property owners will also find information related to financing sewer connection costs through Barnstable County's Cape Cod Aquifund and important details regarding eligibility requirements for the Massachusetts State Tax Credit. To download a copy of the Homeowner's Sewer Connection Guide, please visit the [Reports and Documents](#) page on [BarnstableWaterResources.com](#)
9. Kelly Collopy, Communications Manager for the Public Works Department, will provide an update on Water Resource Management planning including the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan.