



The Town of Barnstable

Office of Town Manager

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Mark S. Ells, Town Manager

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October 8, 2024

To: Barnstable Town Councilors

From: Mark S. Ells, Town Manager

RE: Town Manager update for September 18 through October 8, 2024

1. Registering to vote is at the Town Clerk's office, 367 Main Street, and the In-Person Early Voting is at 200 Main Street.

General (Presidential) Election

Last day to register to vote is Saturday, October 26, 2024 8:30 AM-5:00 PM
367 Main Street, Hyannis

Last day to apply for an Absentee or Early Vote Ballot BY MAIL before the General (Presidential) Election is Tuesday, October 29, 2024 5:00 PM

Last Day to apply IN PERSON for an Absentee Ballot before the General Election is on Monday, November 4, 2024 closes at 12:00 PM at 367 Main Street, Hyannis

Vote Early in Person

Early Voting in person will be available for the 2024 elections.
An application is not required to vote early in person...just show up and vote!

Presidential Election Early Voting In-Person

Period: October 19th – November 1st

Location: 200 Main Street, Hyannis, MA 02601

Day	Date	Hours
Saturday	10/19	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Sunday	10/20	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Monday	10/21	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Tuesday	10/22	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Wednesday	10/23	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Thursday	10/24	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Friday	10/25	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Saturday	10/26	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Sunday	10/27	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Monday	10/28	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Tuesday	10/29	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Wednesday	10/30	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Thursday	10/31	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Friday	11/1	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

- An updated budget calendar for the Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Plan is attached. We have begun our Capital and Operating Budget preparation with budget instruction scheduled issued to staff in September. Town Council is scheduled to conduct a joint meeting with the School Committee on October 24, 2024 in accordance with the Town Charter to review financial conditions and financial policies of the Town.
- In order to set the Town's FY25 tax rate, we are expecting to bring forward the fiscal year 2025 tax classification votes at the November 21st Town Council meeting. A presentation on the impacts of the various tax classification options is expected to be presented to the Town Council at the November 7th meeting to provide Councilors time to review the options before the votes take place on November 21st. The FY25 proposed assessed values are currently under development and we expect to submit them to the State for their review before the end of this month. The State must approve the values before the Town Council can vote on the 21st of November. We are expecting the State to issue their approval in time for the Council to act.
- In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44, §31D I have authorization the Department of Public Works to deficit spend for snow and ice removal in Fiscal Year 2025. Past years' snow and ice removal costs have totaled the following:

FY 2024	\$138,473
FY 2023	\$0
FY 2022	\$1,909,821
FY 2021	\$1,306,955
FY 2020	\$432,077
FY 2019	\$1,075,144
FY 2018	\$1,896,720
FY 2017	\$2,056,214
FY 2016	\$2,100,049
FY 2015	\$3,201,786.

The budget for snow and ice removal in Fiscal Year 2025 is \$975,000; the same amount budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024.

- On September 10, 2024, I sent two letters regarding the recent Vineyard Wind turbine blade failure. One letter was sent to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) expressing concern about the impacts of the turbine failure on the marine environment and the lack of information provided to date on the impacts by regulatory agencies overseeing the project (attached). The other letter was sent to the

Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) asking questions regarding many areas of concerns including state jurisdiction on the matter to public safety risk on our beaches. On September 25, 2024, I met with the Chief of Staff, Coastal Zone Management Director, Assistant Secretary for Government Affairs for the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and the Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner. We discussed my letter referenced above and more broadly future efforts regarding offshore wind that may affect Barnstable and Cape Cod. We agreed to continue communication and coordination on both the recent incident and more broadly offshore wind projects. I am also coordinating a future meeting with the Chief of Staff from the Executive Office of Energy and Environment and the Energy Facilities Siting Board. I will keep you advised as this matter progresses.

6. On September 26, 2024, Town Council Vice President Craig Tamash and Director of Public Works Dan Santos and I met with representatives from Avangrid (Ken Kimmell and Pat Johnson). The meeting was requested by Avangrid and was an update on the Vineyard Wind blade failure incident and the Connector 1 project (Park City Wind). Avangrid requested that we commence monthly meetings with Town Council leadership and Town staff so they can provide updates as they progress with their offshore wind projects. We do not have a subsequent meeting scheduled at this time and we will keep you advise as this matter progresses.
7. As reported in my last Town Manager communication, I serve on the Cape & Islands Bridges Coalition (CIBC). The CIBC held its 2nd quarterly meeting on September 10, 2024. The Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce provided a summary of its efforts which included updates on federal, state, and local engagement, current timelines, estimated cost and funding for bridge replacement. Cape Cod Commission staff provided an economic impact of the canal bridges projects (attached). The Massachusetts Director of Federal Funds & Infrastructure Quentin Palfrey was the guest speaker for this meeting. Quentin and his team have been instrumental in securing crucial federal funds toward construction of the Sagamore and Bourne Bridges and provided an update on their most recent federal funding requests (attached). I will keep you advised as this important effort continues.
8. Kate Maldonado, Senior Planner of Planning and Development, provided the following update on the Local Comprehensive Plan.

The Local Comprehensive Planning Committee (LCPC) is conducting an exercise to update the Town's Future Land Use Map with proposed land use study areas that will guide Barnstable's future over the next 10 years. The Committee is seeking feedback regarding the proposed land use study areas: should any of the study areas be amended, are there additional study areas that should be identified? The public comment period for the Draft Future Land Use Map is open through close of business Wednesday, October 23rd.

The Draft Future Land Use Map is accessible for review from the Town's Local Comprehensive Plan website BarnstableLCP.com via the "Future Land Use Map" tab. The webpage includes an image of the map with the proposed study areas and provides access to an interactive version of the map with the ability to submit comments live on the map.

Comments can be submitted online via the interactive map, by email to BarnstableLCP@town.barnstable.ma.us or dropped off in person or via mail to: Planning & Development, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA 02601. Hard copies of the Draft Future Land Use Map are accessible at each of the Town's libraries and the Barnstable Adult Community Center.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact Kate Maldonado, Senior Planner, by email at Kaitlyn.maldonado@town.barnstable.ma.us or by phone at 508-862-4791. To stay up to date on upcoming meetings and events, and to learn more about how to get involved, please visit BarnstableLCP.com.