



The Town of Barnstable

Office of Town Manager

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November 18, 2025

To: Barnstable Town Councilors

From: Mark S. Ells, Town Manager

RE: Town Manager update for November 4, 2025, through November 18, 2025

1. The Town Manager in coordination with the Finance Department continues to follow the budget action calendar for FY 2027 operating and capital budgets. The Town Manager Calendar Year Fee Hearing was held on November 13, 2025. The proposed fees have been taken under advisement for 30 days during which time additional public comments will be accepted for consideration. Deadline for Public Comments is 4:00 PM on Monday, December 15, 2025. For information on our fiscal year budgets, please view the Town's Open Budget website at <http://budget.townofbarnstable.us>.
2. On November 18, 2025, I received a copy of a report submitted to Town Council by Susanne Conley, Chair of Save Greater Dowses Beach, regarding a Save Greater Dowses Beach EMF monitoring project. The report is under review by staff. The report has been emailed to Vineyard Wind and Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Rebecca Tepper for review and appropriate action. Additionally, our Legal Department is preparing a letter to the Energy Facilities Siting Board regarding the report. We will keep you advised of any additional information resulting from the referenced report.
3. The Town of Barnstable is currently updating its Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) which is a tool through which a community plans for the future of its conservation and recreation resources. The OSRP will provide a blueprint to guide the Town's plans, investments, policies and regulations in support of protecting and enhancing open space and recreation resources. The Draft Open Space and Recreation Plan is available for public review and comment. The Plan is accessible from the Town's website. Hard copies are available at each of the Town's libraries, the Barnstable Adult Community Center, the Hyannis Youth & Community Center and the Planning & Development office located at Town Hall. A community meeting will be held Wednesday, November 19th at 6:00 PM in person at Town Hall, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, within the Hearing Room located on the 2nd floor. The objective of

the meeting is to provide an overview of the draft Open Space and Recreation Plan and to obtain public comment as the Town progresses towards finalizing the Plan. Live Portuguese and Spanish interpretation will be available.

4. In accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 55C, paragraph (b), the Town of Barnstable's Town Manager is seeking Town of Barnstable resident applicants to serve a 2-year term on the Town of Barnstable's Affordable Housing Growth & Development Trust (BAHGDT). The BAHGDT is a 5-member municipal Trust, created in 2007 *"to provide for the preservation and creation of affordable housing in the Town of Barnstable for the benefit of those low- and moderate-income households and for the funding of community housing, as defined in and in accordance with the provisions of G.L. chapter 44B...the Trust shall promote sound and prudent economic development. To achieve these purposes, the Trustees are hereby authorized, in accordance with the procedures set forth herein, to acquire by gift, purchase or otherwise real estate and personal property, both tangible and intangible, of every sort and description; to use such property, both real and personal, in such manner as the Trustees shall deem most appropriate to carry out such purpose, provided however, that the Trustees shall segregate the funds and property received for and dedicated to the preservation and creation of affordable housing from the funds and property received for and dedicated to the promotion of sound and prudent economic development, and all property and funds so segregated and held by the Trust and the net earnings thereof shall be used for the respective purposes for which this Trust was formed and for which the funds were so segregated. Should funds or property be received without a designated purpose, they shall be held by the Trust and used for either affordable housing or economic development purposes at the discretion of the Board."* The Trust receives the majority of its funding through Town Council allocations of Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds and the use of those funds are dictated by that Act. The Trust may receive other funds and allocated fees or fines as well as tax deductible gifts and donations of land and property. The Trust has had stable and consistent tenure for over 10 years. Board meetings are currently held remotely (via Zoom) once or twice a month, typically on the second Friday of the month at 9:00 AM. Trust members are unpaid volunteers, subject to all Conflict of Interest and Open Meeting Laws of the State of Massachusetts and to the Town's conduct rules for Committee members. Interested Barnstable citizens, particularly those with in-depth knowledge of municipal law, public housing, housing development and/or economic development are encouraged to apply to the Town Manager's Office (townmanager@town.barnstable.ma.us) before 4:00 PM on Friday, December 5, 2025. Please include a resume or summary of your relevant experience and a letter of interest.
5. The Barnstable Youth Commission is hosting their 12th Annual Community

Substance Abuse Prevention Forum on Wednesday, December 3rd at the Barnstable Adult Community Center from 6:00-8:00 PM. This year, speaker Kevin Rosario will be teaching parents how to effectively communicate with their children. The Barnstable Police Department will have their “Hidden in Plain Sight” mobile mock bedroom available and will discuss vaping and tobacco use. They will also discuss which drugs and alcohol are most prevalent and ways to identify their use and concealment. All are welcome to attend and thank you Barnstable Youth Commission.

6. Kelly Collopy, Communications Manager for the Public Works Department, will provide an update on Water Resource Management planning including the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan.