



The Town of Barnstable

Office of Town Manager

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February 10, 2026

To: Barnstable Town Councilors

From: M. Andrew Clyburn, Assistant Town Manager

RE: Town Manager update for January 28, 2026, through February 10, 2026

1. The Town Manager, in coordination with the Finance Department, continues to follow the budget action calendar for FY 2027. Town Council is planning to conduct a second workshop on Fiscal Policy and Revenue Strategy at their February 26, 2026, meeting. For information on our fiscal year budgets, please view the Town's Open Budget website at <http://budget.townofbarnstable.us>.
2. On February 4, 2026, S&P Global Ratings issued its credit rating for the Town of Barnstable's \$26.3 million series 2026 general obligation municipal-purpose bonds. S&P assigned a AAA rating to this issue and affirmed all existing debt as AAA and issued an accompanying stable outlook. Credit highlights include a long history of surplus financial results (more than a decade), which has resulted in increases to reserves. Available reserves have reached new highs, both on a nominal and percentage basis, above the median AAA-rated communities in the Commonwealth. Barnstable is also considered to have an affluent residential economic base, a comprehensive set of formalized policies and practices regarding reserves, debt and investments, and a manageable debt burden and contingent liability profile especially when measured against revenue and as a percentage of total market value. The full report is attached. Congratulations to Mark Milne and his team on their continued excellence!
3. The Town was notified on February 3, 2026 by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) that it has been awarded the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. This is the 25th consecutive year the Town has received the award. I would like to recognize Gareth Markwell's work in achieving this award, as he is actively managing the Town's continued efforts to comply with the ever-changing program requirements, and his major role in the development of the annual 5-year Capital Improvement Projects and Operating Budgets.

4. The Town of Barnstable Board of Health will be holding a Public Hearing regarding Proposed Tobacco and Nicotine Control Regulations on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 3:00 PM at Barnstable Town Hall. The proposed changes to the regulations are attached with the media release.
5. The Town of Barnstable Board of Health will be holding a Special Workshop on Monday, March 16, 2026, at 3:00 PM at Barnstable Town Hall. This workshop pertains to a proposal from the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) Ad Hoc Committee requesting that the Board of Health require the installation of best available innovative alternative (I/A) sewage disposal technology at properties located within 1,000 feet of nitrogen sensitive area waterbodies and within 1,000 feet of surface waters that feed into nitrogen sensitive areas (other than at locations identified within Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the CWMP). This proposal also requires the installation of best available innovative alternative sewage disposal technology at properties located at Little Island, Osterville and at Grand Island, Osterville. The media release including map is attached.
6. The Cape Light Compact has announced that the Compact Governing Board has selected Margaret Song to serve as its next Chief Administrative Officer starting in late March. Song will be assuming the leadership role from Maggie Downey who is retiring after 29 years of service as the organization's first and only administrator. Song currently serves as the Compact's Evaluation, Strategy and Policy Manager and has worked at the Compact since 2003. Downey has led Cape Light Compact since its creation in 1997 and she helped oversee the Compact's formation as the first municipal aggregator in the country. David Anthony, the Town of Barnstable's Director of Asset Management, is the Current chair of Cape Light Compact's Governing Board, which has representatives from all of the towns on the Cape and Islands. The Cape Light Compact is an important regional partner with the Town, providing energy efficiency investment and power supply to its residents, businesses and local government.
7. Cape Cod Gateway Airport is beginning the process of transitioning from Aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF), which is firefighting foam that contains PFAS, to BIOEX Fluorine-Free Foam (F3) firefighting foam that contains no PFAS. The goal is to complete the transition as soon as possible but no later than the end of FY27.