



The Town of Barnstable

Office of Town Manager

367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA 02601

Office: 508.862.4610

Fax: 508.790.6226

www.townofbarnstable.us

Citizens' Resource Line: 508.862.4925



Mark S. Ells, Town Manager

mark.ells@town.barnstable.ma.us

M. Andy Clyburn, Assistant Town Manager

andy.clyburn@town.barnstable.ma.us

April 1, 2021

To: Barnstable Town Councilors

From: Mark S. Ells, Town Manager

RE: Town Manager update for period March 18, 2021 thru April 1, 2021

1. Andy Clyburn, Assistant Town Manager, will provide an update relative to COVID vaccination efforts in Barnstable.
2. Andy Clyburn, Assistant Town Manager, will provide an update relative to the rental property database implementation project.
3. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. On Monday, March 29th, the Cape Cod Vet Center hosted the Vietnam Veterans Recognition Ceremony in the parking lot at the Barnstable Adult Community Center. Due to the ongoing public health emergency, the event was held as a drive-through. Cape Cod Vet Center Director Dr. Jocelyn Howard and her staff were joined by State Representatives Kip Diggs, Tim Whelan and Steve Xiarhos, Town Council President Matt Levesque and members of the public came to honor and salute our region's Vietnam Vets and thank them for their service and sacrifice.
4. We are proceeding with the tasks in the budget action calendar for FY 2022 as scheduled. We commence public hearings on the proposed FY 2022 Capital Improvement Program this evening. We are completed final internal review of the proposed FY 2022 Operating Budget. On Tuesday March 30, 2021 at 10:00 am the Town Manager held the fiscal year fee hearing for FY 2022. The proposed fee changes are for Water Supply, Water Pollution Control, and Solid Waste. The Town Manager fee hearing has been closed and proposed fee changes taken under advisement. We are planning to present a level service budget in FY 2022 including restoration of resources that we reduced in FY 2021. The proposed FY 2022 Operating Budget shall be provided to Town Council on May 11, 2021 with a first read of appropriation orders on May 20, 2021 and public hearings commencing on June 3, 2021. The School Committee will be voting on the Barnstable Public Schools (BPS) FY 2022 Operating Budget on Wednesday April 7, 2021. Upon approval the BPS budget will be submitted to the Town Manager for inclusion in the proposed municipal operating budget. For information on our fiscal year budgets please view the Town's Open Budget website at <http://budget.townofbarnstable.us>.

5. The Town of Barnstable has led the region's efforts to protect and preserve our water resources. With the recent state approval of our Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP), a 30-year plan focused on protecting the health of coastal, inland and drinking water quality, we embark on perhaps the most aggressive infrastructure and resource protection plan in the history of our community. We engaged our community in the next phase of the plan involving the review of fiscal policy to support the implementation of the approved CWMP. The fiscal policy under consideration would establish how to equitably distribute the remaining cost of the CWMP. The Town Manager's proposal to Town Council includes the following:

- 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.

The Town has stressed the importance of community engagement in the development and implementation of the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP), including the proposed Sewer Assessment Ordinance. Public engagement sessions to discuss the proposed Sewer Assessment Ordinance were held on February 25th at 10 am, 2 pm and 7 pm and March 25th at 2 pm and 7 pm. The sessions were publicized in the local media, via social media, by email and e-newsletters sent directly to civic associations and other community groups and individuals, and on Channel 18. The virtual engagement sessions were conducted via Zoom as a webinar and streamed live on Facebook and aired live on Channel 18 and streamed live on the Town's website. We had hundreds of citizens participated in the live sessions via Zoom and Facebook, and many others viewed live on Channel 18. The sessions were recorded and posted to the website, and to date there have been thousands of viewings of the five presentations. We have compiled all questions and comments. We have responded to all questions received and are in the final stages of preparing a Frequently Asked Question update reflecting those commonly asked questions and the respective responses that we will share with Town Council and post on the website. We are awaiting some additional input from our business community on the proposed sewer assessment method of calculating a business unit. Therefore, I have delayed submittal of a final proposed Sewer Assessment Ordinance for a first read until April 15, 2021. Town Council leadership has scheduled a workshop at a Special Town Council Meeting on April 29, 2021 commencing at 6:00 pm to review and discuss the proposed Sewer Assessment Ordinance.

Barnstable Water Resources website: www.barntablewaterresources.com, provides access to current news and information about the CWMP and implementation efforts. As a reminder, property owners can use the site's "property look-up" tool to find out if their property is included in one of the three sewer expansion phases. An introductory video has been added to the home page to introduce users to the site and explain where they can find information. The site

- provides access to primary documents such as the CWMP, and the draft ordinance, as well as summaries of these and other materials. Site visitors are encouraged to sign up for the new *Community Currents* e-newsletter which will be distributed electronically to provide regular updates on the CWMP, construction schedules, Town Council meetings and hearings, and other pertinent news. We will keep you advised of our progress on this important effort.
6. The Planning and Development (P&D) Department, in collaboration with the Department of Public Works, is pursuing the opportunity to become a Complete Streets community. The National Complete Streets Coalition was launched in 2004 and Massachusetts Department of Transportation established funding for Complete Streets in 2014. Complete Streets projects improve the quality of life for a community by providing safe and accessible options for all travel modes including walking, biking, transit and vehicles for people of all ages and all abilities. A draft Complete Streets Policy has been prepared and is under internal review. The Policy reflects Barnstable's commitment to incorporate Complete Streets design principles, whenever feasible, based on factors such as cost, current and future need, and proximity to scenic, historic and/or environmental features. We plan to bring the Complete Streets Policy to the Town Council for approval. Once approved by Town Council and MassDOT, the Town can apply for a Technical Assistance Grant. The Town can receive up to \$400,000 annually for construction funding once all approvals are received. This is a great opportunity to continue to prioritize and enhance safety, comfort, accessibility and sustainability within our community. I want to thank Kate Maldonado, Senior Planner P&D, Griffin Beaudoin, Town Engineer, and Paul Graves, Senior Project Manager, for their efforts on this Complete Streets Program. We will keep the Council and the public informed as this effort progresses.
 7. We continue with regular conversations with Vineyard Wind 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 anticipate going out to bid for sewer construction in April 2021 with construction commencing in the fall of 2021. We have continued our discussion with Vineyard Wind regarding a Host Agreement for a potential Phase III. We will keep you advised as this project progresses.
 8. At the annual Massachusetts Recreation and Parks Association conference last week, Assistant Recreation Director John Gleason was presented with the "Community Professional of the Year" award in recognition of his commitment to improving our community and dedication to enhancing recreational programming to find new opportunities to engage our youth. We congratulate John on this well-deserved honor. During the conference's keynote address, Kristine Stratton, President of the National Recreation and Parks Association, gave special mention to the Barnstable Recreation Division for their ongoing efforts to ensure our youth continue to have access to safe and quality programming during the public health crisis and highlighted some noteworthy accomplishments, including utilizing program staff as beach safety officers last summer to ensure a safe environment for

beachgoers, the development of the remote learning program to support local families and for their assistance with the Family Table Collaborative's weekly food distribution at the HYCC (Hyannis Youth & Community Center).

9. Meg Mayo-Brown, Superintendent of Schools, will provide an update on Barnstable Public Schools.