



MEMORANDUM

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To: Selectboard
From: Richard J. Waldo, Town Administrator
Cc: Rebekah Eldridge, Executive Assistant to Town Administrator
Subject: Department Update Report for the August 2, 2022 Select Board Meeting
Date: July 27, 2022

Administration

- Working with the financial team to close out the books for FY20, FY21, & FY22 with continued hope that we will have free cash certified by the end of August or beginning of September.
- I will be attending the OneCape 2022 Summit on August 1st & August 2nd. I have been asked to participate in a housing focus group on the second day of the event and I happily obliged. I look forward to networking and meeting colleagues as we collectively work to address housing, climate change, water quality, and economic challenges on Cape Cod.
- Working to finalize September Special Town Meeting Warrant. The warrant is scheduled to close on August 9th and will be distributed to residents soon thereafter.
- Working with Herring River Restoration Team to finalize construction documents to be in position to execute contracts once funding is secured from Federal and State agencies.
- Our first senior staff meeting will occur next week. The intent of the meeting is to discuss the previous night's selectboard meeting, hear challenges and opportunities facing each department, and keep the core department up-to-date on key objectives and initiatives the town is working on.
- The financial team will be discussing the Maurice Campground purchase and operation with our financial advisors and the Department of Revenue on August 3rd. The objective is to ensure that we are in a position to make a purchase and begin operations should the town body approve the acquisition.

Building

- Review Building Permit Applications, Issue Permits, Issue Certificates of Occupancy, Issue Certificates of Completion, Annual Inspections, Issue Certificate of Inspections, building site inspections, Respond to Complaints, Office Hours 8:00 – 10:30 a.m., (or by appointment) to address Building Code and Zoning questions with applicants and the public.
- 1065 State Highway Route 6 – Document activity and complaints.
- 1065 State Highway Route 6 – Compiling documents in accordance with Request for Production of Documents, to comply with the limited discovery request served upon the Town of Wellfleet by the attorney for Great White Realty.

Collector

- Linking the ability to purchase a beach sticker to overdue personal property tax is working out well. Getting a lot of personal property tax bills off the books, including prior years' tax. The staff of the sticker office has been very cooperative, we have a good communication line going.
- The Marina has a list of those who still owe boat tax and are letting the boat owners know they need to contact the Collector's office to clear up accounts.
- Mary McIsaac and I are meeting with a representative of Leader bank on Wednesday, to see about possible implementation procedures to streamline the collecting aspect of this office.
- Motor Vehicle and Boat bills for 2022 have been sent to Kelley & Ryan, our Deputy Collector, for warrant processing and demand billing. These bills were issued 7/26/22.

Community Services

Beach Program

- United Site Services - we are having challenges with this vendor and are communicating with them in an effort to correct the deficiencies
- The two real time receivers provided by Mass Fisheries under the supervision of Dr. Greg Skomal are in place at Newcomb Hollow and LeCount Hollow

Stickers	2021	\$\$\$	2022	\$\$\$
Combo 1	2584	\$ 141,535.00	2673	\$ 146,845.00
Combo 2	1096	\$ 43,680.00	1152	\$ 46,045.00
Combo 3	136	\$ 8,840.00	142	\$ 9,230.00
Resident Beach	1661	\$ 49,740.00	1565	\$ 46,440.00
One Week	1589	\$ 158,100.00	1475	\$ 145,700.00
Seasonal	175	\$ 56,875.00	157	\$ 51,025.00
Three Day	460	\$ 29,510.00	431	\$ 27,885.00
Two Week	367	\$ 68,590.00	290	\$ 55,100.00
White Crest	1073	\$ 32,190.00	1826	\$ 54,780.00
TOTAL		\$ 589,060.00		\$ 583,050.00

Council on Aging

- I am pleased to announce that Sally Largey, who has been with the Town for 18 years, is our new Outreach Coordinator. She was selected from the four candidates interviewed by a team that consisted of Rebecca Roughley Assistant Town Administrator, Wilson Sullivan the Chair of the COA Advisory Board, Terri Frazier, the Assistant COA Director.
- We will be advertising for Sally's replacement at the Front Desk where Sally supervised the Transportation program and the care and custody of our COA vehicles.

Harbormaster

- Grant award. We received a 2.5 million dollar grant award from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Housing and Economic Development for the purpose of dredging Area II. This is the second year in a row our application has received Max award.
- Fuel Tank Replacement. Thursday July 28th we will be opening bids for the replacement of the Marina fuel system. We are hoping to see some healthy competition based on the amount of interest that was shown in the bid package.
- Dredging bid. We have been analyzing the dredging bids for Area II with GEI Engineering as well as KP Law. We hope to have results back to the Town and Bidders by the end of the week.

Health/Conservation

- We are continuing to distribute covid antigen test kits to residents and employees of local businesses. This week we have 5 positives tests identified on our online reporting tool and 4 identified in the state reporting database (PCR Only)
- The Targeted Watershed Management Plan has been formally submitted to MA DEP and the CCC for concurrent review. Scott Horsley with MA DEP's support has begun to draft the Targeted Watershed Management Permit for their review. A discussion on SRF funding is scheduled for next week with MA DEP.
- Duck, Great, and Gull Pond have shown elevated cyanobacteria growth rates and we are continuing to monitor them weekly. We have no recreational beach advisories for these sites at this time.
- We created and printed bathing beach stickers for the beach signs to allow visitors and residents easy access to beach water quality results. The QR coded stickers should be arriving shortly.
- Updated Wellfleet Board of Health Emergency Operations Plan and will be reaching out to staff to follow up on NIMS/ICS trainings.
- Repaired stairs at Drummer Cove to improve accessibility to the marsh side of the trail system and to mitigate erosion issues. This project was a collaboration with Americorps, Health and Conservation, and DPW.
- Mosquitoes collected on Joint Base Cape Cod on 7/15/22 tested positive for West Nile Virus. Crews have been out treating catch basins across the Cape this week. This is the first mosquito sample collected in Barnstable County to test positive for arbovirus this year. The risk level for transmission of arbovirus remains low throughout Massachusetts.

Fire

- We have started the recruitment process for the two (2) new Firefighter-Paramedic/EMT positions and will begin application review in the next two weeks.
- We are completing the design and specifications for the new Engine 95 as approved at the Annual Town Meeting.
- Captain Joe Cappello is working with the Building Inspector in coordinating fire/life safety inspections on the numerous restaurants/eating establishments in the community.

Library

- The Board of Trustees have adopted an Anti-Hate Statement which is an initiative that is strongly encouraged by the American Library Association. I commend them for being leaders in this type of initiative, as no other libraries in the CLAMS network have yet to draft such a statement. Here is the text: The members of the Board of Trustees of the Wellfleet Public Library support the Director and Staff in all efforts to adhere to the principles of freedom of speech, intellectual freedom, and free library access while at the same time opposing hateful conduct, in accordance with Federal and state anti-hate laws and with policies of the American Library Association. These policies address a hate crime as a "criminal offense against a person or property motivated in whole or in part by an offender's bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or gender identity...and can also encompass a person's color or national origin, (and) overt acts that can include violence against a persons or property, violation of civil rights, conspiracy, certain 'true threats, and acts of intimidation." For further information please see <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/hatefulconduct> and <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/libraries-respond-hate-crimes-and-libraries>
- I have a forthcoming meeting with the Directors of the Truro and Provincetown libraries to brainstorm review cooperative grant opportunities. I hope this brings about the seeds of some exciting ideas for future collaborative ideas for funding and partnerships.
- On Thursday, August 4th, we are having a teen improv workshop with Jennifer Subrin of the Comedy School of Cape Cod. We held this program in July and it was wildly successful. Teens met each other prior to high school and will be entering drama club together! We hope even more teens will attend this time around!
- The Friends of the Library will be having their annual Distinguished Speaker fundraiser on August 8th by welcoming Congressman Jamie Raskin to the Congregational Church. Aside from the work he has done in Congress this year, he also published a book about his experience and the tragic death of his son. We will be selling the book for signing.
- On August 10th, local author Emily Bingham will be presenting her new book, My Old Kentucky Home. Emily is a Kentucky native and this is a history of the song and a look at its racist origins and how it is used as a state anthem today. Emily is an amazing writer and speaker and we are looking forward to having her back at the library.

Police

- The full-time members of the police department (police & dispatch) will be participating in an Active Shooter Training next month at Nauset Regional High School. There are six scheduled dates so the Nauset School District Police Departments can train all sworn and civilian staff. This fall members of our department will participate in lock drills at Wellfleet Elementary School to become familiar with the footprint of the building and assist school staff.
- The Chief was invited and attended the annual summer BBQ held at Harbor Side Village. It was a great event interacting with the village residents with tons of food and music!!

- The Chief received several thank you letters from community members on the department's two Community Service Officers Sam Bradshaw and Jack Richards. The first thank you was for Sam who helped someone not feeling well working inside townhall. "He offered to get her water, to stay with her until she felt OK, to call someone to come get her, and gave her his cell phone number to call if she needed help. This is EXACTLY what a CSO should be. He was so professional and caring. Congratulations on a great hire!". The second thank you was from a resident in Harbor Side Village who wanted the Chief to know that Sam and Jack were patrolling on their bikes when they stopped to help her husband carry in a heavy air conditioner. The resident stated that Sam and Jack were kind, helpful and a real asset to the Police Department.

Public Works

- Working with Town Administration to secure a tent for a possible outdoor Town Meeting event.
- DPW is busy working with the Herring River and Maurice Campground planning teams.
- DPW staff continues to assist other departments with their summer operations as well as maintaining roadside brushing and ground maintenance of our facilities.

Recreation

- The 48th Annual Wellfleet Road Race was a huge success. 175 runners in total participated in the 5-mile race and 1.2-mile children's fun run which was an increase from last year as participants return to road racing after the covid restrictions. Many thanks to the DPW, WPD and WFD for their support with this Wellfleet tradition.
- The Summer Rec program at Baker's Field and Gull Pond Swim Lessons are both very popular and currently at capacity. Summer Rec has 178 participants in morning rec and 68 that attend the extended rec program until 3:00 PM. There are 200 children enrolled in the Gull Pond Swim lessons. Sixty-nine of the rec campers also attend pre-rec swim lessons from 8:00-9:00 AM. The summer counselors and swim instructors are doing an exemplary job in to meeting the huge demand for these popular programs.
- The Bands performing at the Music at Mayo concert series have been very appreciative of the event quality stage recently funded by CPC grant and fully utilized by the eclectic mix of performers for the first time during the summer of 2022.

Shellfish Department

- Deputy Shellfish Constable Chris Manulla assisted the state and the FDA on an inspection, and two grant holders participated and made a great impression.
- Assistant Shellfish Constable Johnny Clam Mankevetch has been making use of his new bull rake and harvesting bushels and bushels of littlenecks that he is putting in the Indian Neck Recreational area to the delight of our recreational shellfishermen. There have been over 100 shellfishermen out there every tide of late! We have had quite a few confiscations of product from people harvesting in the closed area.
- The DPW came down to our offices and removed all of the wet and molding ceiling tiles and insulation! Step one in fixing our building. We owe them a big THANKS!

- We took the state out for water quality testing of the Herring River and collected sets of wild oyster samples for a vibrio study they are conducting.
- We submitted a letter to the Conservation Commission in favor of Michael DeVasto's grant extension, as they had already approved those for Pat Winslow and Shea Murphy.
- Deputy Shellfish Constable Jordan Halloran worked with the Mass. Oyster Project, Wellfleet SPAT and the Nauset Regional Middle School STEAM camp to host 60 campers at Jake Puffer's shellfish farm. They had fun activities for the kids to do while they earned about shellfish, aquaculture and the marine environment. Kudos to SPAT for its amazing curriculum – they really got the kids into it! It would not have been as good without them.
- Johnny Clam hosted 40 campers from the Chequessett Yacht and Country Club on our propagation bed and taught them to dig clams for us to bring to the recreational area on Indian Neck.
- Johnny Clam was featured on WCVB-TV's "Chronicle" and did a great job of promoting our wild oysters and our partnership with the Mass. Oyster Project on its restaurant shell recycling program. It is a four and a half minute piece that you can watch [here](#).
- And on another fun note, Nancy cooked a dinner for the Shellfish Dept. and Audrey Healey, the AmeriCorps member who served with us since last October, as a goodbye in her honor. She took on anything we threw her way and did it with precision and passion. She now takes all she learned with us to a job with Mook Sea Farms in Maine – a hatchery and oyster farm. We wish her the best!