

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

APRIL 25, 2023

1. DENNIS FIRE CHIEF ROBERT BROWN RETIRES –

Earlier this year Dennis Fire Chief Robert Brown announced his intent to retire after nearly 47 dedicated years of service to the Town of Dennis. His last day of employment will be April 28th.

Chief Brown started as a Call firefighter right out of high school in 1976 and continued to educate, train and advance to the highest level as Chief of Department.

Chief Browns' efforts over the years included securing \$2.7 million in government grants. \$451,000 dollars and growing yearly from Certified Ambulance Reimbursements Program into the ambulance fund, \$46,000 in state equipment grants, \$67,000 in Emergency Dispatch Monies (EMD) and procuring \$1.2 million in government surplus equipment. Chief Brown stated *“my biggest accomplishment has been to hire and promote some of the finest firefighters to serve this town for years to come. And to leave the department in better shape than when I took over.”*

Congratulations to Chief Brown for his incredible public service career, I know we are all wishing you well as you plan on spending more time with family! Thank you for all your tireless and diligent service to the Town of Dennis!!

2. WELCOME TO OUR NEW TOWN PLANNER!!! –

I am excited to share with the Community the Town Planner/Director of Planning recruitment has been completed.

The candidate brought forward is Paul Foley. Paul is currently serving in a similar capacity as the Director of Planning & Economic Development for the Town of Fairhaven, and he has over 20 years of service in the public sector in municipal and regional planning. Paul's professional experience and educational credentials have enabled him to make positive contributions to the communities he has served.

At this time, I am thrilled to share with you, the recruitment process for the position is complete. Paul is an impressive candidate who is more than qualified and ready to assume the Town Planner responsibilities. He is thorough, demonstrates attention to detail, is committed to working collaboratively, and has extensive experience in planning department operations, reporting, budgeting, regulations, current practices, project review, writing decisions, bylaw development, public speaking and presentation. In his current role as Planning Director for the Town of Fairhaven he works closely with and provide technical support to a variety of municipal staff, elected officials, lawyers, engineers, developers, the public and the press on a daily basis and has for years. His strong familiarity with the municipal planning tasks at hand and ability to hit the ground running are extremely beneficial for the Town.

I am very pleased he applied for the position and am certain he will be a valuable member of the senior management team. Paul is an experienced professional with over 20 years of municipal experience, and has had experience in serving both the Martha's Vineyard Planning Commission as well as Fairhaven and New Bedford.

Paul is an AICP (American Institute of Certified Planners) certified Planning Director, and has extensive experience in planning department operations. He is strategic thinker with vision, able to coordinate people and projects and communicate with municipal boards, staff and officials, residents, the media and various stakeholders on a wide variety of issues. Problem solver.

He has managed hundreds of projects paying careful attention to critical town issues such as wastewater and nitrogen loading, storm water runoff, landscaping, streetscape, lighting, traffic impacts, affordable housing, economic development, character and impacts on services. This will be an asset for our organization.

In speaking with several references, Paul comes very highly recommended. I believe with his experience and qualifications and his drive to serve on the Cape he will make a significant contribution to the Town as the next leader our planning Department.

Paul will be joining the Town of Dennis effective on Monday May 1, 2023.

3. ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Town leaders, board and committee members and Town employees are preparing for the **Annual Town Meeting**, which is next week. You can find more information including the [warrant](#), supplemental information for Warrant Articles and more by visiting the Town's [Town Meeting webpage](#).

Town Meeting is scheduled for:

Annual Town Meeting – Tuesday May 2nd @ 7:00PM

Nathaniel H. Wixon Innovation School

901 Route 134 South Dennis, MA 02660

4. TOWN OF DENNIS - 2023 VOTING INFORMATION



Annual Town Election – Tuesday, May 9th Polls are open: 7:00AM – 8:00PM

Where to Vote:

The five voting precincts in the Town of Dennis are:

Precinct 1: Carleton Hall, 1006 Old Bass River Road, Dennis, MA 02638

Precinct 2: Dennis Senior Center - 1045 Route 134, East Dennis MA 02641

Precinct 3: Dennis Public Library, 5 Hall Street, Dennisport, MA 02639

Precinct 4: West Dennis Graded School, 67 School Street, West Dennis, MA 02670

Precinct 5: Dennis Police Station, 90 Bob Crowell Rd, South Dennis, MA 02660

On Election Day the Polls will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm

If you are unsure of where you vote on Election Day you can visit the Secretary of Commonwealth's website [Where Do I Vote?](#), view your precinct by using our reprecincting map below, or call the Town Clerk's Office at 508-760-6112.

5. MAY DAY AT THE DENNIS CENTER FOR ACTIVE LIVING –

Dennis, MA – The Dennis Center for Active Living (DCAL) will launch Older Americans Month 2023 Aging Unbound! – with a celebration on May 1st from Noon to 2:00PM at the DCAL. The celebration will include a career fair for workers of all ages with recruiters from the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority, Elder Services, and others. John Terrio, Dennis Select Board liaison to the Dennis Council on Aging, will read the proclamation at the event, recognizing Older Americans Month 2023. Attendees will be able view the

completed DCAL Community Patio funded by a 2022 AARP Community Challenge Grant and learn about opportunities for engagement.

In November 2022, the Town of Dennis became a member of the AARP Network of Age and Dementia Friendly Communities. For more information about Age and Dementia Friendly development work, please email bvazquez@town.dennis.ma.us.

6. CAPE COD REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY CCRTA –

Free Fare Wednesdays! Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority is offering free bus rides* for ages 60 and up on fixed bus routes covering all 15 towns on Cape Cod. Just show your photo ID or Senior Charlie Card to the driver. For more information visit capecodrta.org or call 800-352-7155 *not including DART service

For more information on Dennis Center for Active Living services and upcoming activities check out the latest edition of the Cranberry Scoop here [scoop_may23_web.pdf \(dennis.ma.us\)](#)

7. CAPE LIGHT COMPACT 4TH Q REPORT –

Cape Light Compact (CLC) has released its latest quarterly Energy Efficiency Report for Dennis. In the 4th quarter of 2022 655 residents and businesses participated in CLC's Energy Efficiency program and \$838,776 in incentives were distributed resulting in 528,533 kWh of energy saved and 238 short tons of CO2 emissions prevented.

Now is a great time to schedule your home or business energy assessment and take advantage of incentives and available rebates before the summer heat drives your energy bills higher. [Visit Cape Light Compact's website for more information](#) or call 1-800-797-6699 to sign up.

8. JOIN THE TEAM!

Town of Dennis is Hiring for year-round and summer seasonal positions, including; Lifeguards, Police Community Service Officers, Natural Resource Monitors, Golf Rangers and Laborers, Beach Attendants, and Recreation Counselors and Instructors. Applications are open for the 2022 Summer Season.

We also have many year-round full and part-time openings as well.

Apply and [View current job openings here.](#)

Have a great week everyone!

Respectfully,

Elizabeth C. Sullivan
Town Administrator