

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

NOVEMBER 1, 2022

1. SPECIAL TOWN MEETING RESULTS

The Dennis Special Town Meeting was held on Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 7:00PM in the Nathaniel H. Wixon Innovation School Auditorium. Thank you to everyone who came out! Please see the results from all the actions taken below.

Town of Dennis October 25, 2022 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING RESULTS ATTENDANCE: 217, REGISTERED VOTERS 12,997		
ARTICLE NO.	ARTICLE DESCRIPTIONS	QUANTUM OF VOTES
1	SHORT TERM INTEREST	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
2	REVOLVING ACCOUNTS	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
3	TRANSFER TO FINANCE COMMITTEE RESERVE FUND	Article was indefinitely postponed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
4	BY-LAW AMENDMENT – CABLE REVOLVING FUND	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
5	CABLE RELATED EXPENDITURES	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
6	CAPE MEDIA CENTER PEG ACCESS FUNDING	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
7	CABLE CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
8	Transfer to Capital Improvement Stabilization Fund	Article was indefinitely postponed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
9	Golf Capital Improvement	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
10	BY-LAW AMENDMENT – GOLF REVOLVING FUND	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator

11	BY-LAW AMENDMENT – MEMBERSHIP FEES ALLOCATION TO GOLF IMPROVEMENT FUND	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
12	AMEND BY-LAW – WATERWAYS COMMISSION, 5-5(b)	Article passed by a Majority Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
13	ELDERLY EXEMPTION, AMEND MGL CHAPTER 59, SECTION 5, CLAUSE 41C	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
14	BUDGET TRANSFER – FIRE DEPARTMENT	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
15	Budget Transfer – Non Union and Seasonal Salaries	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
16	AMBULANCE PURCHASE	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
17	BUDGET INCREASE FOR MOWING SERVICES	Article passed by a Majority Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
18	Budget Increase for Building Maintenance	Article passed by a Majority Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
19	Classification & Compensation Study – AFSCME, MLDC & CM	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
20	Labor Union Agreement – Police Patrol Officers	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
21	Labor Union Agreement – Police Sergeants	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
22	Wastewater Superintendent	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator

23	Media and Communications Specialist	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
24	CPC Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) Paydown – Jericho/Captain Baker House	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
25	CPC Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) Paydown – West Schoolhouse	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
26	CPC Grant#1 Natural Resources/Conservation	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
27	CPC Grant #2 Johnny Kelly Park Restoration	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
28	CPC Grant #3 Playground Upgrades – West Dennis Graded School and Johnny Kelly Park	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
29	CPC Grant #4 Jericho Historical Center Barn Exterior Restoration	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
30	CPC Grant #5 Setucket Road Community Housing	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
31	CPC Grant #6 FORWARD at the Rock, Phase II	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
32	CPC Grant #7 Dennis Rental Assistance Program	Article passed by a Unanimous Vote in Favor declared by the Moderator
33	Accessory Dwelling Unit Bylaw	Article passed by a hand count, 194 yes to 5 no, in Favor declared by the Moderator

You can watch the video of Town Meeting on the Dennis Channel 18 here: <https://reflect-dennis.cablecast.tv/vod/1947-2022STM1025-v1/vod.mp4>

2. STATE ELECTION INFORMATION – ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 8, 2022

Today was the last day to apply for an Early or Absentee Vote-by-Mail ballot. In-Person Early Voting will continue through Friday, November 4th during normal business hours, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. As a reminder, on Tuesday, November 8th is the State Election Day. The Polls will open at 7:00 am and close at 8:00 pm at the 5 regular Polling Locations. - [Vote-by-Mail, Early Voting & Election Day | Dennis MA](#)

If you are unsure as to where to Vote or if you have any questions, please contact the Town Clerk’s Office at (508) 760-6112.

3. MASSDEP NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 5 REGULATIONS - 310 CMR 15.000 AND NEW REGULATIONS AT 314 CMR 21.00 WATERSHED PERMIT REGULATIONS

Dear Municipal Official,

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is proposing to amend the Title 5 regulations, 310 CMR 15.000, to enhance protection of embayments and estuaries—particularly on Cape Cod, the Islands and Southeastern Massachusetts—from nitrogen pollution originating primarily from wastewater. The proposed amendments will add nitrogen reduction provisions within natural resource areas for Title 5 systems. MassDEP is also proposing new related regulations at 314 CMR 21.00 to provide a voluntary watershed permitting approach to control nitrogen and other pollutants from entering the embayments and estuaries.

The draft regulations will be published on the MassDEP website at: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massdep-public-hearings-comment-opportunities>. **Public hearings will be held under the provisions of M.G.L Chapter 30A on November 30, 2022 at 6:00 pm, December 1, 2022 at 1:00 pm, and December 5, 2022 at 6:00 pm. In addition MassDEP is planning on conducting two public information sessions. More details about the public hearings and public information sessions can be found on the MassDEP website.**

If you have any questions or would like to request a copy of the proposed amendments, please contact Marybeth Chubb by email at marybeth.chubb@mass.gov.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Title 5 and Watershed Permit Regulations

This Public Hearing Notice is available in alternative languages (Español -- Tiếng Việt -- Chinese -- Kreyòl Ayisyen -- Português -- Khmer) on MassDEP's website at: <https://www.mass.gov/servicedetails/massdep-public-hearings-comment-opportunities>

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is proposing to amend the State Environmental Code, Title 5, 310 CMR 15.000, and promulgate new regulations, titled Watershed Permit Regulations, at 314 CMR 21.00, pursuant to its authority at M.G.L. c. 21A § 13, G.L. c. 21 § 27, and Section 2A of Chapter 259 of the Acts of 2014. MassDEP is proposing to amend the Title 5 regulations to enhance protection of embayments and estuaries—particularly on Cape Cod, the Islands and Southeastern Massachusetts—from nitrogen pollution originating primarily from wastewater. MassDEP's proposed regulations at 314 CMR 21.00 provide a watershed permitting approach to control nitrogen and other pollutants from entering the embayments and estuaries. The proposed amendments and regulations are available on MassDEP's website at: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massdep-public-hearings-comment-opportunities>

Public Comments and Hearings MassDEP will conduct three public hearings. In-person & Remote, MassDEP, 20 Riverside Dr., Lakeville, MA, November 30, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. Register for remote session in advance at: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_oay0_6bGTjeEUzevfxm7Jg

Remote Only, December 1, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

Register in advance at: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BTOR_A3oSI6EZm56mYdoRw

In-person & Remote, Barnstable Town Hall, 367 Main St., Hyannis, MA, December 5, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Register for remote session in advance at:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_f_YXLbaZRRyJsmDYrtDjNQ

After registering for remote sessions, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. You do not need to register in advance to attend either of the hearings in-person. Comments on the proposed revisions may be presented orally at the public hearing.

Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on December 16, 2022. All comments submitted must include the name and contact information of the person providing the comments. Please submit comment by e-mail to dep.talks@mass.gov and include Title 5 & Watershed Permit in the subject line.

Written comments may also be submitted by mail and should be sent to MassDEP, Bureau of Water Resources – Division of Watershed Management, One Winter Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02108, Attention: Title 5 & Watershed Permit.

For special accommodations for these hearings, please call the MassDEP Diversity Office at 617-348- 4040. TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370. This information is available in alternate format upon request. MassDEP provides language access interpreter/translation services to limited English proficient individuals free of charge.

If you need an interpreter to participate in this meeting, translation services can be found at the following link: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massdep-language-translation> assistance. MassDEP intends to provide Spanish and Portuguese translation at the public hearings. Please provide 72 hours advance notice if additional translation services are requested.

By Order of the Department of Environmental Protection

Martin Suuberg, Commissioner

4. BUDGET BUILDING AND SCHEDULE FOR FY24

As you know, the FY2024 Budget planning process commenced in early October this year. The Finance Director and I met with the Chairs of both the Select Board and Finance Committee in late September. Budget guidelines were distributed on October 6, 2022, for departments to begin building their budgets. At this time, with many unknowns on utilities, insurance, fringe benefits, all town departments were asked to prepare level funded budgets with the exception of increases in contractual and other fixed costs. Direction was given for budgets to be re-allocated to reflect actual spending, with the three previous years of actuals provided. Next week, I will meet with Department Heads from each department to review their budgets. In addition, I will be meeting with the School Superintendent, together with the Finance Director, as soon as any financial information from the school becomes available it will be shared with you immediately.

In keeping with the overall budget schedule, the Select Board will review my TA Budget Message on November 29th and review departmental budgets during the month of December. In January, the Finance Committee will begin their review of the FY2024 Budget.

Capital

I am reviewing the existing 2024 departmental Capital Outlay and there are many requests that are of a significant priority and many that have been deferred from previous years. Materials were forwarded to the Capital Outlay Committee in October for the Committees review. The Capital Outlay Committee kicked off their schedule with their first meeting last week. They will be meeting weekly for the next month or so. In the coming months the Capital Outlay Committee will present their recommended plan to the Select Board.

5. JOIN THE TEAM – THE TOWN OF DENNIS IS HIRING!!

Do you know of someone looking for work? The Town of Dennis is hiring Full and part time positions available. View current job openings here - [Employment Opportunities | Dennis MA](#)

6. DENNIS TOWN OFFICES - VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCE –

All Town offices will be closed on Friday, November 11, 2022 in observance of the Veterans Day Federal Holiday.

The Dennis Transfer Station will be closed on Friday, November 11, 2022.

The Dennis Pines and Highlands Golf Courses will be open regular hours of 8 AM to 4 Friday, November 11, 2022. The Dennis Pines Golf Course remains closed until further notice. Please visit <https://www.dennisgolf.com/> for more information.

The Dennis Library will be closed on Friday, November 11, 2022.

Thank you everyone, have a great week!

Respectfully,

Elizabeth C. Sullivan
Town Administrator