

## **Weekly Video Update April 16, 2024**

### **Susan Harrison, Select Board Clerk**

Welcome back after the Patriot's Day holiday and Marathon Monday and congratulations to all the Scituate marathon runners.

It's school vacation week so a bit quieter. Meetings this week:

Tuesday:

Traffic Rules & Regs at 4:30 PM to update proposed crosswalk at Country Way across from GAR Hall.

Water Resources Commission at 6:30 PM

Select Board has an Executive Session at 6 PM

Mordecai Lincoln at 6:30 PM at the Senior Center

Wednesday:

Board of Assessors at 1 PM

Affordable Housing Trust at 6:30 PM

Historical Commission Meeting at 7:00 PM

Thursday:

ZBA at 7:00 PM

The Garden club is having an event at the Senior Center.

Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> is the Slo Roll event which requires advance registration.

Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, join the annual Commemoration of the Easter Rising. The celebration will be held at St. Mary's Parish Center.

Plan ahead, Ship Shape Day is May 4<sup>th</sup>, pickup supplies at Town Hall.

### **Jim Boudreau, Town Administrator**

1. Special Town Meeting is **Monday night, April 29 at 7:00pm at the High School Gym.** The only item on the warrant is the Cushing/Hatherly school project. There is a link on the Town's web page, red banner at the top that will bring you to information on the project.
2. The Annual Town Election is **Saturday, May 18, 2024 from 8am-8pm** at Scituate High School.
3. Smoke Test Alert: Starting Tuesday, April 16, 2024, the Town of Scituate, in collaboration with Environmental Partners & EST Associates Inc., will conduct smoke testing investigations at Gates Middle School, the High School, and Cushing School sewer mains during April vacation. Harmless, odorless smoke will be used. Smoke won't

enter buildings unless plumbing defects exist. Crews from the Town of Scituate, Environmental Partners & EST Associates Inc. will be on-site to observe the test. This helps identify sewer system issues for future repairs. Testing hours: 8 AM - 5 PM. The School Department, Fire & Police have been notified Contact EST at (781) 455-0003 for lung/respiratory questions or concerns. Questions? Call Sewer Division (781) 545-8736 or Public Works (781) 545-8732.

4. The Scituate and Cohasset Fire Departments, the Scituate and Cohasset Harbormasters offices and the Scituate Police Department, in conjunction with Mass DEP will be conducting an oil spill exercise in Scituate Harbor in the vicinity of the Jericho Boat Launch on April 25, 2024, from approximately 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. Containment boom will be deployed in the water and vessels with the Scituate and Cohasset Fire Departments and Harbormasters and Scituate Police will be operating in the area. Mariners are advised to use caution when transiting this area. Interested mariners may contact the Scituate Harbormaster or the U.S. Coast Guard by VHF radio.
5. The Town is conducting concrete testing on the Cedar Point Seawall. That work began last week and will continue for 2-3 weeks. The testing will take place on Turner Road and Lighthouse Road, south of the intersection with Jericho Road. Questions-contact the Engineering Department at 781-545-8732, ext. 5.
6. The Scituate Water Department will be flushing on Old Oaken Bucket and Maple St. This routine maintenance may cause temporary changes, including brown water in both the area of flushing and beyond. Keep an eye out for discoloration and double check before bathing or doing laundry. Questions-call the Water Department at (781) 545-8735.
7. Scituate Water Department wants to remind residents that annual water conservation measures go into effect May 1 and run through September 30. All outdoor watering must occur before 9 AM and after 5 PM.  
Between May 1 and September 30, automatic irrigation systems may be used one date per week, as designated by the Scituate Water Division according to precinct. See the Town web site for details.
  - a. Properties in Precinct 1 may irrigate lawns on Monday
  - b. Properties in Precinct 2 may irrigate lawns on Tuesday
  - c. Properties in Precinct 3 may irrigate lawns on Wednesday
  - d. Properties in Precinct 4 may irrigate lawns on Thursday
  - e. Properties in Precinct 5 may irrigate lawns on Friday

These restrictions are state restrictions and do not have anything to do with the amount of water in our reservoir or the amount of rainfall that we have experienced. It is imposed on the water basin that Scituate gets our water from.

When Scituate's Reservoir falls to a level of 36 feet (49% full), the Scituate Water Division has the standing authority to implement a total outdoor watering ban. As of May 26, 2015, no new in-ground systems may be connected to the town's drinking water

supply. Fines for violating this rule may be levied on the homeowner as well as the system installer.

Violation of these conservation measures may result in fines of up to \$300.00 per day (Scituate Code of General Bylaws, Section 30660).

8. The contractor for the Scituate Lighthouse project is scheduled to be back on-site Monday, April 22 to complete the remaining work on the Lighthouse. As residents may recall, we were forced to pause the project last year when the weather got too cold. The required grout work requires that the temperature remains over 40 degrees. Grouting, metal handrails outside the lighting room, some glass work and painting are the major remaining project items. The Historic Society has tentatively set **August 7, National Lighthouse Day**, as the date to celebrate the renovation of Scituate Light. Details to follow.
9. Mark your calendars for **2024 Ship Shape Day that will take on Star Wars Day, Saturday, May 4**. Supplies can be picked up at Town Hall from 8am-1pm. Clean-up can be done on Saturday and/or Sunday and residents can leave the special Ship Shape Day bags by the side of the road where they will be picked up by the DPW. Ship Shape Day is sponsored by the Beautification Committee and the Town of Scituate.
10. The Town Treasurer would like to remind residents that quarterly payments **for real estate and personal property taxes are due by Wednesday, May 1, 2024**. You can pay your taxes in person at the Treasurer's Office here at Town Hall or through the Town web site under "Online Services" on the Town's Home page and selecting "Pay Bills Online." For additional details you can visit the Treasurer's web page and select "Important Tax Information."
11. The Scituate Board of Health will be hosting a **Mosquito and Tick presentation on Monday April 29 from 3:30pm-5:00pm** at the Scituate Library in the Community Room. This presentation will be in collaboration with the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project and they will provide helpful tips on keeping you and your family safe from exposure to Mosquitos and Ticks.
12. The Scituate Health Department will also be hosting **the Dana-Farber Mammography Van on Thursday, May 2, 2024, from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM**. Women aged 40 and older interested in scheduling an appointment can reach out to the Mammography Van office at 617-632-1974.  
Dana-Farber will seamlessly obtain prior mammography films/images with permission, ensuring a user-friendly process.

The van will be stationed at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 465 First Parish Road, Scituate, conveniently located across from Town Hall at the corner of Route 3A and First Parish Road.

Special thanks to Reverend Natasha Stewart and St. Luke's Episcopal Church for graciously hosting the Mammography Van

The van is fully licensed and inspected by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Screening mammograms will be conducted by Dana-Farber's skilled technologists and interpreted by board-certified radiologists from Dana-Farber.

For any questions, please contact the Scituate Health Department at (781) 545-8725.

13. The Scituate Police Department will be hosting a blood drive with the Kraft Family Blood Donor Center to remember and honor all those fighting cancer. **The Drive will take place on Sunday, April 28, 2024 from 8:00am – 2:30pm at the Public Safety Complex, 800 Chief Justice Cushing Highway.** Appointments are recommended but walk-ins will be taken as time allows. A photo ID is required. As a special thank you, donors will receive a Kraft Family Blood Center \$10 Target Gift Card. For information call 617-632-3206.
14. The Recreation Department and the Scituate Bike Committee will be hosting a Pedal for the Planet **Slo Roll on Saturday, April 20, 2024.** Online registration is required before the event. Cost is \$5 per participant. Sign-ins start at 10:30am with the event kicking off at 11:00am. Please contact the Recreation Department for more information.
15. Burning Season ends May 1.

#### Burning Permit Regulations

Open burning is prohibited in the following areas: Minot, Humarock and any location EAST of Hatherly RD.

The Scituate Fire Department will strictly enforce the following State regulations. All permit holders must agree to abide by these rules, with the understanding that the Scituate Fire Department reserves the right to refuse or revoke any permit that does not conform to these rules.

- a. The open burning season for residential properties will be from January 15, 2024, through May 1, 2024
- b. Permit burning is only allowed between the daylight hours of 10:00am to 4:00pm and all fires must be started before noon and all fires must be completely extinguished by 4:00 pm
- c. Burning sites will be spot checked and permits for areas not meeting these requirements will be refused or revoked
- d. All fires must be at least 75 ft from any structure and you must have an available water supply, such as, a pressurized water pump, can, or hose and shovels or rakes for controlling the fire.
- e. **ONLY BRUSH MAY BE BURNED: LEAVES AND GRASS MAY NOT.** All fires must be tended to at all times. Piles of brush must be kept small and manageable. If fire extends beyond the initial area the permit may be revoked.

- f. If we receive a complaint that the fire is causing a smoke nuisance, the fire will have to be extinguished.
- g. You must check online each day to verify and request burning.  
Permission will be granted only on those days when winds, dryness of woods and atmospheric conditions warrant the issue of same.
- h. Increases in wind velocity, or change in other conditions, will be cause for the immediate extinguishments of fires by all permit holders.
- i. A fine of \$500.00 is applicable by Mass. Law for any illegal burning
- j. The Scituate Fire Department will immediately revoke the permit if the above rules and regulations are not strictly adhered to. There will be no refund of fees if the permit is revoked for cause.

16. The Scituate Food Pantry continues to see an increase in clients seeking assistance. The Food Pantry is deeply indebted and extremely grateful for the generosity of its donors. The pantry has a new list of most needed items as they are unable to get these items from the Greater Boston Food Bank.

- Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Low Sugar Cereal (Cheerios/Chex/ Rice Krispies, etc.)
- Boxed Oatmeal                      Juice Boxes
- Cranberry Juice                      Jell-O/Pudding Cups
- Canned White Tuna                      Canned Mixed Fruit
- Baked Beans                      Quick Bread Mix

Items can be dropped off at the Pantry during operating hours or in the bins behind the Old Gates School. The Scituate Library, Village Market and Shaw’s also collect items for the Pantry.

17. Stay informed about the North Scituate Beach Nourishment Project by checking out the Coastal Management and Flood Hazard Mitigation page on the Town of Scituate website. <https://www.scituatema.gov/coastal-management-and-flood-hazard-mitigation/pages/north-scituate-beach-nourishment>  
That project should be concluding shortly.

18. Meetings

- Tuesday-Select Board in Executive Session, Traffic Rules, Mordecai Lincoln, Water Resources
- Wednesday-Historic Commission, Assessors, and Affordable Housing Trust
- Thursday-Moderator’s Meeting and Planning Board

19. Make sure to check out the Scituate Community TV YouTube Channel for Town of Scituate updates on news, school events & sports, and community programs. Also, make sure you register for Town of Scituate emails by going to the web-site and clicking on “Subscribe to News”. Follow the Town on Facebook.