

Weekly Video Update, February 21, 2023

Jim Boudreau, Town Administrator

1. Water update. We are at +2", last week we were even. Tack Factory Pond is also at +2 down from +2.55". Average daily demand was at 1,047,403 MGD up from last week's 987,000 TGD.

Rainfall over the last 7 days was .15" measured at the Plant.

As has been discussed at prior meetings of the Select Board, the Department continues to work on getting a full-scale pilot program up and running at the treatment for removal of iron and manganese from the water in the reservoir. A contract has been awarded to Tighe and Bond and we expect to have the system on line for the summer months when water use is heaviest.

Bids are out for the water main project on 3A and are due back next week. This is the installation of a raw water line from Old Oaken Bucket to the site of the new water treatment plant. It also entails the replacement of the service line on 3A that supplies water to the residents of 3A.

2. The Annual Town Election will be held of May 20, 2023 at Scituate High School. Nomination papers are available in the Town Clerk's Office for any registered voter interested in running for an elected position. Please call the Town Clerk's office at 781-545-8743 if you are interested in taking out nomination papers. Papers must be returned with at least 100 signatures of registered voters for certification by the Town Clerk by 5:00pm on March 31, 2023
3. The Town is seeking community feedback on concept designs for a new park being planned at the old Pier 44. All the feedback we receive from this survey will help guide the park design which includes demolishing the existing building and replacing it with parkland and a pavilion. It is an online survey and you can find the link on the Town News page on Coastal Management web page. The survey will be open for the rest of February so please take a few minutes to provide your comments. The first survey we did asked residents what they wanted to see at the site and the response was heavily in favor of some type of park. This survey will guide us towards the type of park that people are looking for. We are also planning two public information sessions that will be held on March 7th at the library. The first session will be at 11:00 am and the second will be at 7:00 pm.
4. The Town of Scituate is launching Scituate Community Choice Electricity in March 2023, an electricity supply bulk-purchasing program that leverages the buying power of Scituate's residents and businesses to provide competitively priced electricity options, longer term price stability, and 10% more renewable electricity than required by the Commonwealth.

Resident letters have been mailed and residents will be automatically enrolled, however participation is voluntary and you may opt out or choose to switch to a different option with more or less renewable energy content. To opt out, you must act by today, **February 21, 2023.**

Your service does not change with National Grid (or Eversource).

5. The Scituate Sister City project invites everyone to the 2023 Winter Film Festival at the Scituate Senior Center next Tuesday, February 28th. Doors open at 6:00 and the film starts at 6:30. The Film being shown will be “Belfast” the winner of the People’s Choice Award at the Toronto Film Festival. Tickets are \$10 with students getting in free.
6. Please be advised that per the Division of Marine Fisheries, the Clam Flats have been re-opened. They have been closed due to a sewer overflow at the Rockland Wastewater Treatment Plant.
7. We reviewed the consultant’s report on the lighthouse. The team is moving ahead with replacing the current 1930’s lantern room with a new lantern room of the same design. After review, the top four feet of brick work will also be removed and replaced. The consultant will now prepare bid documents in preparation for getting the project out to bid by the end of this month and the repairs underway. The base of the lantern’s iron frame, which was severely corroded, was removed to lift off the lantern from the tower. We hoped that the remaining iron frame in the lantern was sufficiently free from corrosion to repair and graft a new base onto it, but close inspection shows that much of the remaining iron frame columns are corroded and unsalvageable. To selectively replace the corroded iron would effectively mean building much of a new frame entirely. Not to mention the woodwork and copper cladding, which requires almost complete replacement. By the time all the iron, wood, and copper work are repaired/replaced, we would effectively be looking at a new lantern anyways. Fabricating a new replica lantern with a modern frame, woodwork, and copperwork is the most prudent solution. And, allowing the contractor to take ownership of the existing lantern to use as a “template” in fabrication of a new one. This project is being funded with monies from the Community Preservation Fund for Historical Preservation. The CPC and Town Meeting allotted \$2 million from the fund for this project. Filed sub bids are due Thursday, 2/9 with the general bids due 2/23.
8. The Scituate Fire Department is conducting a “Fill a Fire Truck” food drive to help those in need and support the Scituate Food Pantry. During the month of February donations can be dropped off at any fire station. The always needed list includes canned fish, hot and cold health cereals, beef stew, canned ham, spam and hash, boxed rice or pasta, personal toiletries, cookies, crackers and granola bars and canned vegetables .
9. If you are down in Cole Parkway you will see a Conex trailer parked in the spaces for the harbormaster. This is the beginning of the new dock project that will be on-going this winter. The contractor will be removing the electrical boxes from the docks in preparation for removing the old docks. The docks have been arriving (more were being

delivered this morning) and the new traffic pattern established. Please be aware of this when driving through Cole Parkway. This project is being funded through grants from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Town's Waterways Fund. The waterways fund is funded with user fees from boaters using moorings and slips in the harbor and for using the waterways in general.

10. Just a heads up that Beach Stickers went on sale last Monday. Non-resident and Humarock were on-line only. The non-resident stickers sold out in just over 2 minutes and Humarock in 11. Resident stickers are always available.

11. Meetings

- a. Tuesday-Traffic Rules, Cole Parkway Redevelopment and Water Resources
 - b. Thursday-Planning Board and Advisory Board.
- All Agendas can be found on the town website: <https://www.scituatema.gov/>