

Weekly Video Update, February 5, 2024

Maura Curran, Select Board Chair

Good Morning Scituate! This week we have several meetings:

Tonight, Monday February 5th is Board of Health, By Law Review Committee
Wednesday, February 7th, Waterways, Commission on Disabilities

American Fiction is playing at The Reel this weekend. This is a great movie, up for several awards, and was filmed in Scituate. There is a panel discussion hosted by STRIDE after the film.

Agendas can be found on the town website: <https://www.scituatema.gov/calendar/month>

Jim Boudreau, Town Administrator

1. The water treatment plant is scheduled to begin a two-week closure starting today, Monday, February 5th, in order to improve water quality for local residents. New carbon will be installed, which is essential for maintaining water quality. Carbon filter media replacement is typically conducted every 3-4 years as routine maintenance. While the water treatment plant is offline, it is essential for residents to conserve water.

Throughout these two weeks, residents may notice fluctuations in water flow and occasional discoloration. It's important to note that these temporary changes will NOT compromise the safety or quality of drinking and bathing water.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Water Department at (781) 545-8735.

View additional details and information on the Water Treatment Plant Update on Scituate Community Television YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NB8TursefxI>

2. Geotechnical investigations will begin designing upgrades to reduce flooding and improve the parking lot next week (February 5-9). Soil borings will be located on the perimeter of the Parkway to limit disturbance to traffic flow and pavement, with potential additional locations within the parking lot area. Work hours are anticipated to be between 7-8 AM and 4-5 PM, subject to weather and traffic conditions. While Cole Parkway will remain open to traffic and pedestrians, please note that certain sections may be temporarily blocked off.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please don't hesitate to contact Corey Lynn Miles, CFM, Coastal Management Officer, at cmiles@scituatema.gov.

3. The Presidential Primary will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at the SHS gym from 7AM- 8PM. All voters should have received a 2024 Vote By Mail Form from the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Office. If not, the form is available on the Town Web Site under the Town Clerk's page. Only return the vote by mail form if in fact you would like your ballot mailed.

In person "Early Voting" will take place at the Town Hall, 600 Chief Justice Cushing Highway, beginning on Saturday, February 24 from 8am-2pm, and during normal Town Hall business hours from Monday February 26-March 1. If a voter is going away prior to February 24th and will be absent during the early voting period and the Presidential Primary on March 5th, voters may vote absentee in the Town Clerk's Office until Noon the day prior to the election (March 4th).

If a voter needs to make changes to their voter registration, they may do so in the Town Clerk's office or online at registertovotema.com. The deadline for the Presidential Primary is February 24th by 5PM.

All election information can be found on the Town website on the Town Clerk's page at www.scituatema.gov.

4. The Harbormaster was grateful to receive a grant in the amount of \$128,000 from the Seaport Economic Council for a feasibility study. The study will investigate renovations or replacement of the existing Harbormaster building. We know we need to look at accessibility to the building as well as upgrades to the bathroom facilities. The issue is that if any work being done exceeds 50% of the value of the building, then the building would need to come into compliance with applicable flood zone requirements that could include raising the building on pilings.
5. 2024 Transfer Station and Beach Stickers information is live on the website. Please visit the Treasurer's page and click on 2024 Transfer Station & Beach Stickers on the left-hand side.

Resident beach and transfer station stickers will go on sale on **February 12, 2024, at 8:30 am** (online, at the counter, and mail-in). Resident Beach Stickers never sell out. 2024 stickers are valid from date of purchase to March 31, 2025. The Town of Scituate Select Board has unanimously approved a resolution for 2024 beach stickers, making them mandatory from Memorial Day (5/27/24) to Labor Day (9/2/24).

2024 Non-Resident Beach Stickers. New rates and days of use have been implemented for the 2024 season. Non-resident All Beach and Humarock only stickers will go on sale **online only** on February 12 promptly at 8:30 am.

Non-Resident All Access Beach stickers are valid only Monday-Friday, no weekends or holidays, for \$350.00.

Non-Resident Humarock Only Beach stickers can only be purchased online, are valid Sunday-Saturday, and can be used at Humarock Beach only for \$100.00

Transfer and beach stickers are non-refundable and non-transferable.

6. Burning Season opens 1/15/2024

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.
 - a. 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.
7. There will be a limited movie screening of the film “American Fiction” at the Reel Harbor Theater in Scituate Harbor. You can see the movie of 2/2, 2/9 and 2/10 at 7:00 pm and on 2/11 at 11:30 am. Following the 2/9 showing there will be a panel discussion hosted by STRIDE. Dina Dray, jamel adams-DEI Director for the SPS and local actor Bates Wilder with support from SHS students will discuss race, identity and storytelling. American Fiction was partially filmed here in Scituate and has been nominated for 5 Academy Awards including best picture, best actor and best supporting actor. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased in advance at www.scituatetheater.com

8. Scituate Sister Cities will be hosting their annual 2024 Sister City Film Festival at the Reel Harbor Theater on February 13 and March 5.
Cape Verde Santa Catarina do Fogo will present *The Volcano's Last Wish* will now be on February 13, at 7:00 pm. This is a change from the original date of February 1.
Ireland West Cork will present *My Left Foot* on March 5 at 7pm.

Suggested donation is \$10 and attendees can enter a raffle valued from \$50-\$100.

9. The Recreation Department's Summer 2024 job applications are now available on the Recreation Department webpage on the Town website for volunteers, counselors, directors and lifeguards. Go to scituatema.gov, go to the Recreation page (scituatema.gov/scituate-recreation-department) and the applications are on the left side of the page.
10. 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.

De-Caf Coffee (canned and Instant)	
Hamburger Helper	Beef Soups
Cranberry Juice	KNorr's Rice and Pasta sides
Canned Mixed Vegetables	Canned White Beans
Baked Beans	White Tuna
Jell-O and Pudding	

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.

11. Meetings
 - Monday-Mordecai Lincoln Committee, BOH and By-Law Review
 - Wednesday-Waterways
 - Thursday-Planning and Mordecai Lincoln
12. 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.

Superintendent of Schools, Bill Burkhead

SPS Superintendent Spotlight: 2.5.24

Time Take (TT)

200 WORDS 2 MINUTES TO READ

This Week's Top :

- School Committee Budget Hearing
- Cushing/Hatherly Building Project Update
- Civic Award

School Committee Budget Hearing

- School Committee Meeting - **Monday**, February 5th at 6:00 p.m: SHS Library and via zoom

Cushing/Hatherly New School Public Forum

- For important new building project information please visit scit.org and click

on “MSBA Project” on home page

- Cushing/Hatherly new school project Building Committee Meeting - **Tuesday**, February 6, 2024 at 5:30 p.m: SHS Harbor Conference Room (in the library)

- Cushing/Hatherly new school project Public Meeting - **Wednesday**, February 7, 2024 at Hatherly Elementary School with tours of school.

- **Agenda** for Public Meeting (2/7/24):

- ❖ Review Schematic Design (SD) documents with updated exterior materials & finishes

- ❖ Site plan, Floor plans, Elevations, Building Sections, 3-D Images, Interior Design

- ❖ Review Project Budget

- ❖ Next Steps

- ❖ **OPTIONAL TOUR** of the Hatherly School building

Civics Superstar!

Congratulations to SHS wrestling senior captain **David Murphy** for securing 1st place at the Massachusetts VFW "Voice of Democracy" speech competition! David will proudly represent MA in our nation's capital in a few weeks.