

## **Weekly Video Update, February 6, 2023**

### **Maura Curran, Select Board Clerk**

Upcoming Meetings this week:

Monday: Conservation

Tuesday: Select Board meeting which includes a presentation on Beach nourishment and review of school budget.

Wednesday: Scituate Harbor Cultural District, Beach Commission and Commission on Disabilities

Thursday: Planning Board and Advisory Committee

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

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

1. Water update. We are at +1.75", last week we were at +7". Tack Factory Pond is also at +5 down from +6". Average daily demand was at 1.194 MGD up from last week's 1.022 MGD. Rainfall over the last 7 days was .12" 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.

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 781-545-9743 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. We are also planning two public information sessions that will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup> 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 take action by **February 21, 2023**.

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

The Town will provide extensive information on our website as well as through our broker, Good Energy. Website is [electricity.scituatema.gov](http://electricity.scituatema.gov) or call 833-828-3222

Two Information sessions were held on February 2 at 2:00 pm at the Senior Center and 6:00 pm at the Library in the Community Room. I know that the one at the library was very well attended. These meetings were video-taped and are available on SCTV's YouTube channel. There is a video interview with Lisa Bertola, the Chair of the Committee, on the Town web site.

5. Please be advised that per the Division of Marine Fisheries, the Clam Flats are closed indefinitely due to a sewer overflow at the Rockland wastewater treatment plant. You can check the web page for the Division of Marine Fisheries or the page for the Scituate Town Clerk for updates.
6. GATRA will be establishing new transit services starting Feb 1, 2023. The new service will be GATRA on Demand SeaCoast. Rather than the current service of a bus route with set times, On Demand SeaCoast will function more like Uber or Lyft, where residents in the service area will be able to make an appointment to get picked up at the residence and taken to their destination in the service area. So, you will no longer have to get yourself to the bus stop and wait for the bus nor will you have to get dropped off at a stop and walk to your designation. You can download the app, search GATRA GO on your mobile device. You can then use the app or call 800-698-7676 to arrange for your ride. Rides will be free for the month of February, then will be \$2.00 after that. Children under 6 are free.
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.

8. Widows Walk is now open to walkers. While you enjoy walking the course, we ask that you stay off the greens and keep your pets off the greens also. Greens are expensive and easily damaged so please help us and keep off the greens. We also ask that you pick up after your dogs and do not leave the waste on the course. Barrels will be available for disposal. The Drift In remains open, so after your walk or sledding, stop in for lunch or dinner.
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. Starting this week, the contractor will be fencing off a portion of the Parkway near the bandstand to stage equipment and materials for the project, similar to what was done when we did the piling project. A plan showing the areas of work will be posted on the town web site. All work is scheduled to be completed by the start of the boating season. 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. The Superintendent and I had received several calls and emails relative to the condition of the large flag on the pole at the stadium field at the High school. The mechanism for raising and lowering the flag was not working so we had not been able to remove or lower the flag. We are pleased to let people know that we were able to remove the flag and the broken mechanism. They have ordered new parts to repair the mechanism and will be returning to make repairs when those are available and the weather permits. Our plan is to leave the flag off the pole for the time being and replace it in the spring at the start of the spring sport season. This will save wear and tear on the flag during a period of time when the facility is not in use.
11. Just a heads up that Beach Stickers will go on sale on 2/13 at 8:30 am. Non-resident and Humarock only stickers will be for sale on-line only! The sale goes live at 8:30. You will not get an email that the stickers are on sale. If you are looking for a non-resident sticker remember that they sold out in 7 minutes last year so be ready!
  - a. Non-Resident sticker is \$300
  - b. Non-Resident Humarock only is \$100
  - c. Resident stickers are \$35

12. Finally, on a sad note for us, but a happy one for her, Maura Glancy, our fabulous Recreation Director has announced her retirement effective February 28, 2023. Maura has done a great job for the Town and she will be missed.

**Bill Burkhead, Superintendent of Schools**

## SPS Superintendent Spotlight: 2.6.23

Time Take (TT)

338 WORDS	2 MINUTES TO READ
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### **@ This Week's Top 2: Community Voice**

- Strategic Plan
- School Committee Budget Hearing

#### **Why it Matters:**

- **Strategic Plan**  
Community opportunity to get involved mapping the future vision of the SPS
- **School Committee Budget Hearing**  
To learn more about the school districts FY 24' budget you may attend the following meetings:
  - School Committee Budget Hearing **2.6.23 at 6pm SHS library**
  - School Budget Presentation at Select Board Meeting **2.7.23 at 6:30pm Town Administration Building**

### DEEPER DIVE

#### **● Strategic Plan: Community Opportunities**

This year, SPS will be mapping out what will drive our students' experiences for the next five years. Through the strategic planning process the district intends to:

- Engage the Public;
- Create a Clear Mission, Core Values, and a Vision for Our Schools;
- Establish Action Plans with strategic objectives and initiatives to realize the Mission and Vision; and
- Focus on Continuous Improvement and Systemic Renewal.

## **Community Opportunities to Get Involved**

To complete our Strategic Plan the district has partnered with the Teaching and Learning Alliance, Inc. (TLA) to facilitate our process. The first phase of this plan will involve a series of Focus Sessions, facilitated by TLA Consultants, in which participants will be given the opportunity to identify our strengths, challenges, and opportunities for our community, our schools, and our students. The quality of our Strategic Plan will be directly related to the quality of feedback and participation in these Focus Sessions and in the community survey.

### **Here are the ways community members can get involved:**

- Participate in our Focus Session with TLA Consultants to share your views and experiences. See date/time/location below
- Volunteer to be a part of the Strategic Planning Committee to work alongside staff during a series of work sessions to complete our Strategic Plan. **If interested please email Kim Peters at [kpeters@scit.org](mailto:kpeters@scit.org)**
- Complete the TLA Community Survey (forthcoming) to share your views and experiences.

Scituate Parent/Caregiver and Community Member Open Focus Session\_- All are welcome!

**Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2023**

**Time: 6pm - 7:30pm**

**Location: Gates Dining Commons**