

## **Weekly Video Update March 4, 2024**

### **Maura Curran, Select Board Chair**

Tomorrow, March 5<sup>th</sup>, is our presidential primary election. Polls open from 7 AM – 8 PM at the SHS gym. Absentee can be accepted today, by noon. Mail in ballots have to be into Town Hall by Tuesday night at 8 PM. You cannot bring to the High School. Please get out and vote!

Meetings this week:

Monday, Conservation at 6 PM

Tuesday, Capital Planning at 6 PM

Wednesday, Recreation and Waterways

Check the website for locations/times <https://www.scituatema.gov/calendar/month/2024-03>

Also, on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, there's another public forum on the Cushing Hatherly School project which will be at the Library at 6:30 PM. Learn about the project, see the plans and the financing for the project.

As a reminder, this Sunday is daylight savings time so don't forget to change your clocks forward and enjoy an extra hour of sunshine.

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

1. The North Scituate/Minot Beach nourishment project will commence tomorrow as the contractor begins bring the material in and placing it on the beach. The contractor will begin staging at the site today.

The material to be placed on North Scituate Beach will be brought to Town from different sources. A sample of this material is available for viewing at the Scituate Library. The material will be mixed off Union Street and delivered to North Scituate Beach to be spread. The project hours will be from 7 AM to 5 PM and is expected to last 8-10 weeks. Glades Road will be placed into the one-way operation during the project period. The material will be brought to North Scituate Beach by tractor-trailer and spread with heavy equipment. We urge residents to avoid the area during work hours to allow the trucks to safely access and egress the site. Roadways will be open to local traffic only. The Town of Scituate, along with our contractors and the Scituate Police, will enforce traffic control measures for the project's duration. We appreciate your patience during this process. Questions? Contact Sean McCarthy at [smcarthy@scituatema.gov](mailto:smcarthy@scituatema.gov) or Corey Miles at [cmiles@scituatema.gov](mailto:cmiles@scituatema.gov).

2. The Presidential Primary will be held on tomorrow, Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at the SHS gym from 7AM- 8PM. If you have received a ballot in the mail, please return it promptly. Mailed ballots cannot be brought to the polls on election day, they must be dropped off at the Town Clerk's Office by 8:00 pm on election day (tomorrow). Ballots received after 8:00 pm will not be counted.

In person “Early Voting” has ended. If a voter is going away during the Presidential Primary tomorrow, voters may vote absentee in the Town Clerk’s Office until Noon today.

The Town Clerk’s Office will be closed to the public on Wednesday, March 6 until 1:00 pm as the staff process the election results and the required paperwork.

3. Staying with the Town Clerk nomination papers are available for the 2024 Town Election, which will be held on May 18, 2024 at the Scituate High School gymnasium. Offices available are as follows:

- One Year Term
  - Moderator
- Three Year Term
  - Select Board
  - Assessor
  - Town Clerk
  - School Committee
  - Planning Board
  - Board of Library Trustees (2)
- To Fill a Vacancy for the Remainder of a Term
  - Planning Board - Position 2
  - Planning Board Alternate
- For Five Years
  - Housing Authority

If you are interested in taking out nomination papers, please call the Town Clerk’s office at 781-545-8743.

The deadline to submit at least 100 signatures of registered voters of the town for certification (100 required) is Friday, March 29, 2024 by 5PM in the Town Clerk’s office.

4. The Assessors office will be hosting a property tax exemption workshop, tomorrow, March 5 at 5:00 pm at the Senior Center. They will be discussing Senior exemptions as well as Veterans, Surviving Spouses, Blind CPA and Tax Deferral Exemptions. This is an opportunity for taxpayers who qualify for these exemptions to reduce their real estate taxes. FY24 Exemptions are due Monday, April 1, 2024

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 went 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).

6. The Commission on Disabilities will be hosting an Accessibility Awareness Event to promote accessible services and resources for Scituate residents, caregivers, families and friends on Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-1.00pm at the Scituate High School Gymnasium.
7. The Water Resources Committee is hosting their annual rain barrel sale for people wanting a rain barrel. Orders must be placed by midnight on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. Barrels can be ordered on-line from the Great American Rain Barrel web site, <https://www.greatamericanrainbarrel.com/community/>. Select Massachusetts, then Scituate from the drop-down menus on the left- hand side. The barrels are normally \$119 or more, but are discounted for this program. You can choose Painted (gray, green or brown) for \$89, Unpainted (black) for \$84 and Terra Cotta for \$80. Barrels will be available for pick-up at the Transfer Station on Saturday, April 6 from 11:00am-3:00 pm. Note: If you are planning on connecting your barrel to a downspout, you will need to purchase a flexible downspout elbow or a rain diverter.
8. 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.

Scituate Sister Cities will be hosting their annual 2024 Sister City Film Festival at the Reel Harbor Theater on March 5.

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 Town has added a link to the Town web site for information on the proposed Cushing and Hatherly MSBA project. Residents seeking information about the proposal for a new elementary school here in Scituate can go to [scituatema.gov](http://scituatema.gov) and you will see the red banner with the link. Click and it will take you the link for the school page with information about the project.
- 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.

Cranberry Juice	Quick Bread Mixes
Canned Mixed Vegetables	Canned White Beans
Baked Beans	Canned White Tuna
Canned Mixed Fruit	Boxed Flavored Oatmeal
Cream of Mushroom Soup	Hand Soap

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-ConCom
  - Tuesday-Capital Planning

Wednesday-Recreation Commission, Waterways, Cushing and Hatherly MSBA  
Project Public Forum  
Thursday-Advisory Committee

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.