

Weekly Video Update, May 15, 2023

Tony Vegnani, Select Board Chair

Mr. Vegnani wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day. He acknowledged the beautiful flowers on display at Lucky Finn. EmpowerHER luminaria event on Friday was a great turnout and an incredible event.

Jim Boudreau, Town Administrator

1. Water update. We are at +1.5", last week we were +3". Tack Factory Pond is at +1.5" down from +3". Average daily demand was at 1.493 MGD up from last week's 1.209 MGD.

Rainfall over the last 7 days was .0" measured at the Plant.

The water department has finished the annual spring flushing of the water mains. More than 50% of the system was flushed. Flushing will resume in the fall, dependent on water supply levels.

The Town is currently under our annual water conservation measures. These started May 1. Between May 1-September 30 all outdoor watering must occur before 9 AM and after 5 PM. Automatic irrigation systems may be used one day per week based on voting precincts. This is a ban imposed by the state based on water usage in the aquifer region that Scituate belongs to. Go to the water department web page for information on when your precinct may use irrigation systems.

2. I'd like to provide an update on the progress of the Water Treatment Plant.

We recently submitted what's called an Environmental Notification Form to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office

- The permit provides preliminary information on stormwater, site layouts, traffic impacts and climate resiliency.
- The MEPA office will use the information in the permit to determine the potential environmental impacts of the building and operation of the plant.

Anyone who is interested can read the permit online and provide comments, but I will summarize some key issues we have been working on and are included in the permit:

- Various aspects of the project design were incorporated to bolster resiliency and climate change adaptation.
- The project will not result in any changes to topography in the floodplain.
- The project will still involve Planning Board and Conservation Commission review which will be another opportunity for public review.

We are continuing to edit our design as we work on the project.

- We have our sights set on minimizing the impact to the abutters.
- Our goal is to minimize our development footprint.

- And I'm proud to say that we have reduced the building footprint by several thousand square feet than we had in the preliminary design.

We expect MEPA to review the permit for 30 days.

In the meantime, we will keep you aware of additional opportunities for public input.

3. The Cole Parkway Marina project is substantially complete. The staging area has been reduced to 4 parking spaces. The Contractor is in the process of completing a small punch list of items, but the Harbormaster has received a temporary CO pending completion of the punch list. The marina will be opening as scheduled today, 5/15. It is always good to see the boats back and the harbor filling with people, so I hope everyone enjoys the upgraded facility.
4. The contractor for the lighthouse project, Campbell Construction, will begin mobilizing on the site this week. Fencing should arrive by the end of this week, with installation of the fencing commencing next Monday. The contractor will then begin remediation work on the glazing compound of the lantern room windows. When this is completed the lantern room will be prepared for transportation off site to the contractor's facility where it will serve as a template for the new lantern room. Work on the actual light house tower is tentatively scheduled to begin by the end of next week. The lighthouse restoration is being paid through the Town's Community Preservation fund and various grants.
5. The Annual Town Election will be held on May 20th at the SHS Gym.
Poll hours are 8AM-6PM.
May 10th-The deadline to register to vote (if you are not already registered in Scituate). Absentee ballots will be available to vote in person at the Town Clerk's office the first week in May. The deadline to absentee vote in person is noon on May 19th.
Vote by Mail Applications and a "Sample" ballot can be found on the Town Clerk's page of the Town Web site at www.scituatema.gov, click on Government, then click on Town Clerk, and click on the red banner at the top of the page and you will see the attachments at the bottom. Print, fill out and submit the "Vote by Mail" form to the Town clerk's office only if you would like a ballot mailed.
The deadline to request a mailed ballot is today, May 15th.
Mailed ballots must be returned to the Clerk's office or Town Hall drop box prior to the close of the polls (6PM) on election day. They should not be brought to the polls on election day.
Please remember to sign your early ballot envelope. In addition, the Town Clerk wants to remind voters that you need to fill in the oval for the person of your choice, not check marks or "x". Failure to complete the ballot properly slows down the counting process.
6. The sewer department will be replacing a manhole cover on New Driftway by the Rotary this evening starting at 8:00pm. Residents should expect delays if you are traveling in that area. The repair will take several hours to complete.

7. South Shore Recycling Cooperative will be having a curbside mattress pick-up for Scituate Residents on May 23. Reservations are required and it cost \$50 a unit (mattress and box spring are 2 units). Call 617-378-7619 or visit their web site, ssrcoop.info and there is a QR code that you can scan. They will also be hosting the annual Household Hazardous waste days on 6/10, 6/17 and 6/24. The 6/24 event will be at the Scituate Highway Department facility on Captain Pierce from 9am-1pm. Pre-registration is also required for these events.
8. The Town of Scituate and the Veteran Services Department extends an invitation to participate in our Annual Memorial Day Parade and Ceremonies to be held on Monday, May 29, 2023.

The Ceremonies will begin at 8am with the flotilla underway leaving from the Harbormaster's Office for the throwing of wreath to honor those "lost at Sea" any questions please contact Commander@scituatepost144.org Participants in the parade will form between 10:00 -10:30 AM at the Scituate Town Hall, 600 Chief Justice Cushing Highway. The parade will step off at 10:30 AM sharp and proceed down First Parish Road to Lawson Common. The Lawson Common Ceremony will begin at @ 11:15am. In the event of inclement weather only the ceremony will be held at the Senior Center at 11am. The G.A.R. Hall has limited capacity. There will be handicap parking at the east end of the Common and also, a handicap porta-potty on site.

9. Fencing is up on Central Field as we begin the project to add a new softball diamond and repair and existing baseball diamond. This is a CPC funded project that will continue until late spring/early summer.
10. Meetings
 - a. Monday-Con Com, Water Resources
 - b. Tuesday-Harbor Cultural District, Traffic Rules, Coastal Advisory, DEI Committee
 - c. Wednesday-Affordable Housing Trust
 - d. Thursday-Cape Verde Sister City, ZBA

Tony Vegnani, Select Board Chair

Mr. Vegnani noted that Scituate High School Graduation is June 2nd. Also, we will be holding our Annual Memorial Day events on Monday, May 29th. The Annual Town Election is this Saturday, May 20th. Today is the last day to request a mail in ballot.

Mr. Vegnani noted this will be his last update as a member of the Select Board. He thanked Jim Boudreau and the entire community – it has been an honor to serve over the last 21 years and we will see you around town!

THANK YOU TONY!