

Wrentham

IN TOWN NEWS

JANUARY 13, 2025



Michael J. King, MPA
Interim Town Manager

Thank you for your interest in the latest edition of In Town News. This is my first newsletter as Interim Town Manager. For the past several years I have been serving as the Town Finance Director, and I appreciate the opportunity to serve the community in an enhanced capacity during this transition period as Wrentham searches for a new Town Manager. Communication and resident engagement are important to building strong communities, and I encourage you to reach out if there is information you would like to see in a future issue. Enjoy!



From the desk of Mike King

Community Electricity Program Update:

Currently, we're expecting the Department of Public Utilities to approve Wrentham's plan in February, following their 120-day review timeline. Once the Town receives approval, we'll have the option to go out to bid and select a supplier for the program. Once the bid process has concluded, the Town will begin planning the launch and program outreach, which will take about 2-3 months. Be on the look out for more information including public information sessions. More information can be found at: www.wrenthamcommunityelectricity.com

MSBA/Roderick School Update:

The Wrentham Elementary School Building Committee has hired an Owner's Project Manager, Vertex, and Designer, TSKP, for the project. Next steps are to work with these firms to develop educational programming and design plans.

December 16, 2024 Special Town Meeting

Article 1 involved a Water System Land Purchase to authorize the Select Board to take the necessary action to acquire property at 20 Hancock St. for the purpose of permitting a new well in West Wrentham.

Residents voted in favor, 436 to 164, and the article passed.

Article 2 concerned a Zoning Bylaw amendment for the MBTA Communities Multi-family Overlay District (MCMOD).

The MBTA article was defeated by a vote of 53 to 542.

The Town is required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40A, Section 3A to add zoning that would allow multi-family housing by right. Guidelines associated with the law issued by the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities were recently determined to be legally ineffective by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. The guidelines must now be repromulgated with new compliance deadlines.

From the desk of Mike King

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Chapter 318 of the Acts of 2024 was signed by Governor Maura Healey on January 3, 2025. This grants the Town 7 additional on-premises all alcohol licenses to establishments located within in Village Zone A, Village Zone B, and Stonewall Blvd Development. Having these additional licenses available can be appealing from an economic development standpoint for businesses to operate in Wrentham.

Chapter 267 of the Acts of 2024 was signed by Governor Maura Healey on December 19, 2024. This amended Wrentham's Charter to change the term for the Moderator from 1 year to 3 years.

H.4237 - An act approving the town of Wrentham Home Rule Charter as Amended, was recently signed into law by the Governor, this included changing the name of Town Administrator to Town Manager, Superintendent of Public Works to Director of Public Works and Town Planner to Director of Planning & Economic Development.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THERE?

715, 721, 775 South Street, also know as a the former Marra Property, was granted a special permit and site plan approval for Earth Removal from the Planning Board on September 4, 2024. The gravel operation is expected to last 3 years.

31 Nickerson Lane, the Planning Board granted a Special Permit (SP2024-11) & Site Plan Approval for construction of a new 8,744 gross square foot single-story metal frame building with office space and associated site improvements.

IMPORTANT DATES

JANUARY - FEBRUARY

**JAN
20**

Municipal Offices Closed
In observance of MLK Day

**FEB
03**

**Real Estate & Personal Property
Taxes Due**

**FEB
17**

Municipal Offices Closed
In observance of President's Day

**FEB
18**

**Deadline to submit nomination papers
for the Annual Town Election**
Papers must be submitted to the Town Clerk

**FEB
28**

Deadline to License Dogs
Available through the Town Clerk

**STAY
UP
TO DATE**

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE
THE FULL CALENDAR OR VISIT
OUR WEBSITE FOR MEETINGS,
EVENTS, AND MORE!



PUBLIC SAFETY

SWEARING IN & PINNING CEREMONIES



The Select Board & Interim Town Manager, Michael King, participated in the Swearing in and Pinning ceremony of Deputy Police Chief Derick Cassidy and Officer Brendan Meehan on December 17th.

The Select Board and Interim Town manager, Mike King, also participated in the Swearing in and Pinning Ceremony of Sergeants Jon Coliflores and Dave Halloway on January 9th.



PUBLIC WORKS

Road Project Updates:

Route 1A to 495 - Slip Ramp Construction

MassDOT will start this construction project beginning in January with land clearing on rights of way and easements.

The **Park Street Bridge** has been closed until further notice, per the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. MassDOT has implemented detours to route around the bridge.

A damaged culvert has forced the closure of **Myrtle Street**, with no access to Route 1.

WINTER PARKING BAN REMINDER

There is no parking allowed on public streets during the hours of 6PM and 6AM through April 1, 2025. Vehicles which are found to interfere with snow operations may be towed to a storage area at the expense of the owner.

NO
PARKING



WRENTHAM DPW
508-384-5477
NATIONAL GRID
1-800-465-1212

Shovel Early & Often: Snow is easier to remove when it's fresh. Shovel periodically during heavy snowfalls to prevent buildup.

Don't Block the Street: Avoid pushing snow into the street when clearing driveways and sidewalks. This can create hazards for drivers and additional work for plows.

Mark Driveways: Use stakes or reflective markers to indicate the edges of your driveway to prevent plows from damaging your property.

Report Issues: Notify DPW of blocked storm drains, downed tree branches, or hazardous road conditions. Notify National Grid for power outages.

DEVELOPMENTS

Projects in the Permitting Phase (with Planning Board)

Beach Street and Taunton Street, Residential Subdivision, Edgewood

Application Request: Request for a Definitive Plan and a Stormwater Permit for a sixteen-lot residential subdivision including two roadways and associated site utilities on the site.

Location: 256 Beach St, 516, 521 & 584 Taunton St

Applicant/Owner: Edgewood Development

Status: Public Hearing Continued to January 15, 2025

Beach St and Taunton St, Senior Living Community, Edgewood

Application Request: Request for a Special Permit/Site Plan Approval and Stormwater Permit for a 66 unit senior living community and associated site work and utilities.

Location: 256 Beach St, 584 Taunton St

Applicant/Owner: Edgewood Development

Status: Public Hearing continued to January 15, 2025

275 Green St Major Mod Warehouse Facility, Simeone

Application Request: Request for a major modification of the previously approved special permits, site plan approval, and stormwater permit for a warehouse facility.

Location: 275 Green Street

Applicant/Owner: Simeone Associates

Status: Public Hearing Continued to January 15, 2025

**See Projects Under Review
& Decisions Rendered
on the Planning
Board webpage**



STAFF SPOTLIGHTS



Ashley McCullen started as the Assistant Town Accountant



Christian Rodriguez and Brayden Thompson graduated from the MA Fire Academy in December!



Officer Brendan Meehan joined the Wrentham Police Department in September



Jason Fortier joined the Department of Public Works as an Equipment Operator

COMMUNITY

The Select Board with the American Legion joined Veterans and members of the community for the Annual Veteran's Day Observance on the Common.



RECREATION

The Annual Turkey-Wacker held on November 28th was a very successful event, with over 600 participants!



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

AEROBIC DANCE WITH CAROLYN TRIPP

A high-energy class that's all about getting fit, having fun, and feeling fabulous!

PICKLEBALL - INDOOR OPEN PLAY

Thursdays at the Wrentham Elementary School

SIGN UP FOR PROGRAMS AT:

wrenthamma.myrec.com/info/default.aspx

OR SCAN THE QR CODE

RICE RECREATION COMPLEX

54 EMERALD STREET

RECREATION@WRENTHAM.GOV

508-384-2101



TOWN CLERK

2025 DOG LICENSES



Dogs must have updated rabies information.

Dog licenses are issued for a calendar year.

Dog licenses obtained after the last day in February are subject to a late fine of \$50 per dog (per Mass. General Law, Chapter 140, Section 141).

All dogs six months or older, moving to Wrentham, must be licensed within 60 days of arrival to Wrentham.

APRIL 7, 2025 ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

The Election will be held at Delaney Elementary, 120 Taunton Street, with polling hours from 7AM to 8PM

Nomination papers are available for the below listed elected positions and due back February 18, 2025,

Board of Assessors (1)

Board of Health (1)

Constable (3)

Fiske Public Library Trustee (2)

Moderator (1)

Planning Board (2)

Select Board (2)

Town Clerk (1)

Wrentham Housing Authority (1)

Wrentham Elementary School (1)



Last day to obtain papers: February 13, 2025

Last day to submit papers: February 18, 2025

Want to know who has pulled nomination papers?

Visit: www.wrentham.gov/263/Town-Clerk/Elections



TOWNCLERK@WRENTHAM.GOV

508-384-5415

www.wrentham.gov/257/Town-Clerk

SENIOR CENTER

THE MAGIC OF ILLUSIONIST LYN DILLIES

Wednesday, January 22 at 1:30PM

Lyn Dillies is the most highly acclaimed female illusionist in America. She delivers a dazzling display of spectacular magic for audiences!

Call to sign up.

MEET THE AUTHOR - CLAIRE MAURO

Wednesday, February 12 at 1PM

Claire Mauro will give a presentation of her co-authored book, of For Grief's Sake: The Resilient Caregiver Caring and Coping Well

Call to sign up.

Reminder!

If you have signed up for a class, trip or activity and are unable to come, please let us know!

COUNCIL ON AGING -
LOOKING AHEAD
JANUARY



WRENTHAM SENIOR CENTER



400 Taunton Street

Mon - Thurs: 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Fri: 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM



508-384-5425

FISKE LIBRARY

Artificial Intelligence and ChatGPT

Thursday, January 30, 6:30 p.m.

Virtual Reality. Chatbots. Deep Fakes. Do you sometimes feel like the technological world is moving too fast? Take a breath and enjoy an in-person, real presentation on artificial intelligence. Bring your opinions and questions! Great for beginners, skeptics, and anyone worried about the fate of humanity. Registration is recommended.

MISSION: EARTH & SPACE

Wednesday, February 5, 6:00 p.m.

Uncover mysteries of the grandest science of them all through hands-on experiments and demonstrations with the ecotarium.

Register at fiskelib.org

Read to Sophie, the Therapy Dog

Saturday, February 8, 1:00 p.m.

Kids age 5-10 are invited to come read to Sophie, a therapy dog from Dog B.O.N.E.S of MA. Register at fiskelib.org

The Fiske Public Library is hosting **Free IT Help Office Hours** with IT expert Ben Elliot who will be available to help with personal technology related issues in an informal setting. Ben is available at the Fiske Public Library on a first come, first serve basis. **TUESDAYS, 5:00PM – 7:45PM**

LIBRARY SURVEY

The Fiske Public Library will be conducting a survey in January 2025 to help us better serve our community. It will be available both online and in print. What do you like about the Library? What can we do to improve? Let us know!



MON: 10AM - 5PM

TUES, WED, THURS: 10AM - 8PM

FRI: 10AM - 5PM

SAT: 10AM - 4PM

Telephone: **508-384-5440**

Fax: **508-384-5443**

FISKEPL@SAILSINC.ORG

VOLUNTEER



Looking to make a difference in Wrentham?
Consider joining one of the Town's boards, committees, or
commissions!

Fill out the Volunteer Application!

Applications are forwarded to the applicable
board/committee/commission for review and then applicants are
scheduled to attend a Select Board meeting for an
interview/appointment.

VACANCIES

Economic Development Commission - (1) Vacancy

Open Space Committee - (1) Vacancy

Cultural Council - (2) Vacancies

GET INVOLVED!

Check out the Volunteer Opportunities on our
wrentham.gov/520/Volunteer-Opportunities
or scan the QR Code!



FOLLOW US



WRENTHAMMASS



WRENTHAM_MA



TOWN OF WRENTHAM



TOWN OF WRENTHAM



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.WRENTHAM.GOV**

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Email: TMOffice@wrentham.gov**