



TOWN OF TYNGSBOROUGH

Office of the Town Manager

Town Offices

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August 12, 2024

Town Manager's Report

Dear Board Members:

I am pleased to report the following updates from Town Hall and throughout Town:

- I'm thrilled to share that we've enrolled 10 residents into the Civic Leadership Academy which will start next Wednesday and run through October Special Town Meeting. All of the folks who were admitted are Tyngsborough residents who have never served on a board or committee and who have expressed a desire to learn more and get involved. We'll use this initial cohort to develop feedback for how to improve the program moving forward.
- I wanted to extend a big thanks to Senator Ed Kennedy who was able to secure \$75,000 in local action funding through the recently signed Fy25 state budget for the construction of our new DPW building. This will be added on top of the \$450k approved by Town Meeting through Capital in Fy24's capital budget and on top of the funding that the Sewer Commission will contribute based on the IMA with them signed last fall. Additionally, State Rep Colleen Garry was able to secure \$50,000 in local action funding for safety equipment for the Tyngsborough Fire Department so a big thanks to her as well.
- Last week, Chief Russell coordinated an advance emergency planning and preparedness meeting ahead of the August 24, 2024 Annual Party by the Bridge. We had a very productive conversation with key leaders and event organizers to ensure that we are prepared should a natural disaster, severe weather event, or other man-made crisis take place during the event. As a reminder, the event begins at 11 AM on Saturday, August 24th in the Town Center and ends at dark with fireworks over the Merrimack River. Motorists are advised there will be road closures along Kendall and Winslow and a lane closure on Middlesex Road. Further, the Tyngsborough Bridge will be shut down during the firework display.
- The Affordable Housing Trust will have a table at the Block Party on August 24th to solicit feedback from residents on what they want to see included in our updated Housing Production Plan. There will be several other Town sponsored tables including one for voter registration with the Town Clerks' Office, one for the Tyngsborough Police Department, the Board of Health, and more!
- The Tyngsborough Board of Health will host a free blood pressure clinic on August 22, 2024 from 9 to 11 AM at Town Hall. They are also currently distributing Narcan rescue kits at no charge. The kits are funded by the opioid settlement funding that Tyngsborough received as a part of the national opioid settlement. The kits are available at Town Hall during normal business hours.
- We're excited to be moving on to the construction document phase of the design of the new DPW building. The plans received approval from the Sewer Commission at their meeting





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on Thursday and Superintendent of Public Works Jake Zwicker has spent the last few weeks working with DPW staff to ensure that the plan as presented is sufficient for not just our needs today but for the future needs of the DPW. With our current schedule, we'll release bids by the third week of September and if all goes according to plan, we'd see construction start in October. As a reminder, we're working on the shell of the pre-engineered building at this phase and will look to complete the inside at a later date due to funding. However, with the additional \$100k this fiscal year to cover the design and the \$75k earmark I mentioned earlier, we might be able to tackle both. The garage will be roughly 7000 square feet of garage space and when built out will feature 2400 square feet of office/bathroom/locker room space. The construction funding is \$450,000 in ARPA approved by a prior capital budget, \$75,000 earmark, and up to \$300,000 from the Sewer Commission.

- The Attorney General's Office has notified the Town that all of the zoning amendments from the May 2024 Annual Town Meeting have been approved with the exception of Article 21 which reaffirmed the Town's prohibition of solid waste uses in the industrial district. We have agreed to the AG's request for an extension on that review and they have committed to reviewing and issuing a determination by September 26. The approval included the two articles relative to the MBTA Communities Act and we are awaiting a final compliance determination from the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities.
- We're in the planning stages of a public farewell celebration for Chief Howe to celebrate his 29 years of service to the Town of Tyngsborough. The event will take place at the Old Town Hall from 4 pm to 6 pm on **Wednesday, September 25, 2024**. We'll have a formal announcement later this week so stay tuned for more information.

Regards,

Colin Loiselle
Town Manager

