



# TOWN OF TYNGSBOROUGH

Office of the Town Manager

Town Offices

25 Bryants Lane

Tyngsborough, MA 01879

Tel: (978) 649-2314 | Fax: (978) 649-2320

November 4, 2024

## Town Manager's Report

Dear Board Members:

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

- Fire Chief Russell issued a reminder to the community today that we're still dealing with an elevated fire risk due to low humidity and moderate drought conditions. We've issued on [tyngsboroughma.gov](https://tyngsboroughma.gov) a list of tips and things to avoid. The bottom line is that residents should avoid all outdoor burning for at least the next week. The Fire Department will provide updates as necessary.
- Not that anyone needs this reminder, but tomorrow is of course the presidential election. Although thousands of Tyngsborough residents have already cast their vote either by mail or early voting, we are expecting a large turn out tomorrow. I want to just take a minute to remind everyone that the people you see working at the polls are your neighbors. Please treat them with respect, follow the rules that apply evenly to everyone, and be patient. We undoubtedly all have differences in opinions but one thing that makes Tyngsborough so unique is our deep sense of community. I want to just remind folks to treat each other with kindness regardless of how tomorrow night ends. I also want to give a huge shout out to our new Town Clerk Jessica Brunelle who has spent the last few months working hand in hand with our Board of Registrars and the Town Democratic and Town Republican Committee to ensure that the election is transparent and smooth. I also want to thank our poll workers who have signed up for long hours doing a job many of us aren't willing to do.
- I am excited to welcome Guy Bastien to our Facilities Division within the Department of Public Works. Guy started last week in our part-time custodial position that supports the Center for Active Living and the Police Department. This position had been vacant for some time so we're thrilled to have Guy on board.
- The Town Center Digital Sign was installed and at the end of the week last week was fully connected. We'll begin using the sign this week to share important information about town programs and events. As a reminder, this sign will be restricted to government messaging only.
- We'll be hosting our second annual all-staff training on Wednesday, December 18th. In order to accommodate this and to allow all staff to attend, Town Hall will have a delayed opening with Town Offices opening at 11 AM. This will not impact the Center for Active Living. I expect that this will impact the Tyngsborough Public Library but that decision has to be made by the Board of Library Trustees at their next meeting.
- I am excited to share a great lineup of events honoring our Veterans this year. As you know, the American Legion has finally reopened following a devastating fire. They will





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host a traditional Veterans Day Event on November 11th at 11 AM at the Legion. There is an admission fee and that ticket price includes a buffet. They wanted to host a bigger event than normal to show off their new space. Similarly, the Town will participate in Wreaths Across America on December 14th. More information forthcoming on the Town's website.

- Work to extend the fiber over the bridge to the Norris Road campus and the new clubhouse on the Sherburne Ave parcel is underway. Chances are by now you've seen them in action along Kendall Road and Frost Road. A reminder that this work is funded by a nearly \$200,000 grant from the Commonwealth.
- Work on the 2024 Roads Program Phase II is wrapping up. Final paving on Oregon and Nevada took place last week.
- Work is continuing and nearly complete on the Scribner Road Culvert Replacement project. This will address a serious flooding problem caused by a failed culvert running under Scribner Road.
- The Engineering Department received a \$370,000 grant from the Commonwealth to complete the final design of two culvert replacements. The culverts in question are for Bridge Meadow Brook in two places along Dunstable Road and Redgate Road. I want to give our DPW Superintendent Jacob Zwicker a huge shoutout on this front. We've received a substantial amount of state funding over the last few years, in excess of \$1M to design and replace failed culverts which is an area we neglected for many years prior to bringing Mr. Zwicker on board.
- Our Economic Development Director/Town Planner Ben McClure is hard at work, working to ensure that we're a competitive place to open and maintain a business. He's worked with local businesses to develop interest in a potential Economic Development Advisory Council, is working with our IT Department and website vendor to develop a comprehensive one stop page on [tyngsboroughma.gov](http://tyngsboroughma.gov) to help people navigate opening a business in Tyngsborough.
- National Grid has implemented a rate increase for their distribution rates. According to National Grid, this is the first distribution rate increase since 2019 (note that this is separate from the supply rate which many residents are not subject to thanks to Energy Aggregation). The rate increase is approximately 2.8% which they say results in an average monthly impact on residential users of just about \$6 per month. A copy of a letter we received highlighting this was included in the Board's correspondence.
- Finally, as we head into the holiday season I want to take a minute to point out two minor scheduling changes:
  - Town Offices will close at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, November 27, 2024.
  - Town Offices, the DPW, and the Center for Active Living will close at 2:00 PM on Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24, 2024.

Assistant Town Manager's Report





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- The Tyngsborough Board of Health hosted a “Rolling into Recovery” event on September 24th. Approximately 50 students attended to celebrate those in recovery and their supporters. A big thanks to our Regional Public Health Specialist, Siobhan LaFreniere, for her coordination and Roller Kingdom for their generous donation!
- The Opioid Task Force met last week to discuss additional opportunities to use the opioid abatement funds from the State’s settlement. The Task Force is preparing a community survey and forum to gain insight and feedback from the community to help guide future initiatives.

Regards,

Colin F. Loiselle  
Town Manager

Katharine Foster  
Assistant Town Manager

