

At the Budget Work Session Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown, County of Washington, and State of Rhode Island, held in and for said Town, County, and State this 18th day of March, 2025 at the Municipal Office Court/Meeting Room, 100 Fairway Drive, at 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT WERE: Gregory A. Mancini, President  
Linnea M. Drew  
Elizabeth Hill Ross  
Matthew B. McCoy  
Dr. Kimberly Ann Page

ALSO PRESENT: A. Ralph Mollis, Town Manager  
Jeannette Alyward, Town Clerk  
Susan A. Murray, Deputy Town Clerk  
Debra Bridgham, Finance Director

An audio recording and video recording of this meeting was made to supplement the written record. Please go to the time stamps indicated on each department's budget discussion by accessing the video/audio located at:

[https://northkingstown.granicus.com/player/clip/1465?view\\_id=3&redirect=true](https://northkingstown.granicus.com/player/clip/1465?view_id=3&redirect=true)

1. Call to Order

The Budget Work Session Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown held on March 18, 2025 was called to order by President Mancini.

2. Notice of Meeting being posted

Pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-6(c), notice of this meeting has been posted on the Secretary of State's Website.

3. Salute to Flag

President Mancini led those in attendance in a salute to the flag.

**I. WORK SESSION**

President Mancini stated that the purpose of this discussion is to allow the Council to meet with the department heads to discuss their budget submittals. The public hearing for the residents will be held on Monday, April 21st with the adoption of the budget on April 28, 2025.

4. Town Manager's Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026

Clerk's note: A copy of the Town Manager's Preliminary Budget is filed with the back-up materials for this meeting.

Town Manager's overview of the FY2025/2026 Preliminary Budget. (4:54)

Mr. Mollis reviewed the Town Manager's Budget (Page 44), Town Council's Budget (Page 43), Legal Budget (Page 50), Civic Contributions Budget (Page 83), and QDC-Municipal Services Agreement Budget (Page 84). (28:58)

The Council recessed the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

The Council reconvened the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

Police Chief Urban reviewed the Police Department Budget (Page 69), Animal Control Budget (Page 72), and Harbormaster's Budget (Page 73) with the Council. (1:15:35)

Director of Planning and Development Nicole LaFontaine reviewed the Planning Department Budget (Page 57) with the Council. (1:41:48)

Interim Fire Chief Linacre reviewed the Fire Department Budget (Page 67) and Dispatch/Communications Budget (Page 66) with the Council. (1:49:58)

Library Director Megan Weeden reviewed the North Kingstown Free Library Budget (Page 88) with the Council. (2:16:31)

Director of Senior Services Marie Marcotte reviewed the Senior and Human Services Budget (Page 61) with the Council. (2:31:57)

Personnel Director Haley Wicker reviewed the Personnel/HR Budget (Page 46) with the Council. (2:45:04)

The Council recessed the meeting at 11:52 p.m.

The Council reconvened the meeting at 1:32 p.m.

Building Official Donald Peck reviewed the Code Enforcement Budget (Page 59) with the Council. (2:54:28)

Tax Assessor Deb Garneau reviewed the Tax Assessor's Budget (Page 53) with the Council. (3:01:50)

Public Works Director Adam White reviewed the Public Works Budget (Page 74), Sewer Budget (Page 98), and Transfer Station Budget (Page 100) with the Council. (3:08:22)

Recreation Director Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs reviewed the Recreation Budget (Page 63), Golf Course Budget (Page 92), and Allen Harbor Budget (Page 96) with the Council. (3:47:17)

Michael Forlingieri, Manager of Information Systems reviewed the IT/Technology Budget (Page 55) with the Council. (4:25:56)

The Council recessed the meeting at 3:04 p.m.

The Council reconvened the meeting at 3:14 p.m.

Director of Water Supply Alan Austin reviewed the Water Department Budget (Page 102) with the Council. (4:42:41)

Town Clerk Jeannette Alyward reviewed the Town Clerk's Budget (Page 47), Board of Canvassers Budget (Page 49), and Municipal Court Budget (Page 97) with the Council. (5:05:53)

Superintendent Duva and School Committee Chair Erin Earle thanked the Council for the opportunity to present the School Department's Budget which was approved by the School Committee. Dr. Duva provided copies of the School Department's Budget and gave an overview of the School Committee's approved budget (Page 90). (5:20:16)

Clerk's note: A copy of the School Department's FY2025/2026 budget as submitted to the Town Manager is filed with the back-up materials for this meeting.

The Council recessed the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

The Council reconvened the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

Finance Director Deb Bridgham reviewed the Finance Budget (Page 51), Debt Service (Page 85), and Utilities Budget (Page 82) with the Council. (6:28:56)

## **II. NEW BUSINESS**

### **5. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **6. Adoption of Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026**

After a brief discussion, a motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the General Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$41,034,127.00.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the Debt Service Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$5,849,317.00.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the Allen Harbor Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$450,273.00.

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Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the Golf Course Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$1,691,932.00.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the Water Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$5,524,994.00.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the Municipal Court Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$301,363.00.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the Sewer Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$2,280,198.00.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the Transfer Station Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$1,385,636.00.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the Town Appropriation for the Library Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$1,463,235.00.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts State Aid for the Library Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$297,906.00.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and it was

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the Town Appropriation for the School Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$63,504,153.00.

Councilor Hill Ross voted in the negative.

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Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the Unrestricted Aid for the School Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$13,424,235.00.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the Restricted Aid for the School Fund for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$38,220.00.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown hereby adopts the Total Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$137,245,589.00.

Councilor Hill Ross voted in the negative.

President Mancini thanked Mr. Mollis and Staff for their hard work in preparing and presenting the budget.

#### 7. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:33 P.M.

Jeannette Alyward  
Town Clerk