

At the Regular 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 14th day of April, 2025 at the Town Hall Council Chambers, 80 Boston Neck Road, at 7:00 p.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
Nicholas Solitro, Town Solicitor

An audio recording and video recording of this meeting was made to supplement the written record.

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown held on April 14, 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.

4. Public Comment

Rickey Thompson, 194 Plain Road, asked the Council if the safety complex meetings are open to the public. He also asked if the Town has to buy the land that the safety complex is going on. He stated that if the school has open meetings regarding the school bond project, why is the Town not doing it with the safety complex.

Curt Fisher, 104 Phillips Street, stated that the Water Department needs to be careful not to over pump in the summer as it could cause an issue. If we have a dry summer, we can't afford to bail out Jamestown with their water supply issues.

Richard Welch, 8 Arrow Lane, stated that he went to the School Committee building meeting and couldn't hear the meeting because they didn't have microphones. He wondered why the head of the School Committee was not there. He stated that he received a call this afternoon from someone who said they were from Verizon who was trying to sell him electricity and, in the mail, he received something that offered to give him a \$100.00 Visa Card. He asked if this is the new energy company the Town has hired.

Frank Sullivan, 43 Firwood Drive, stated that he is trying to get more transparency on what's going on. He is part of the lawsuit against the Planning Commission's decisions for the solar panels over in the Davisville area.

Mary Ellen Madsen, 67 Eastwick Road, stated that she is co-chair of the Memorial Day and Veterans Day Parades Committee. She asked the Council for a donation to help pay for the band for the Memorial Day Parade as the price of the band has increased and there is not enough money in the Parade budget to pay for it. She will send a formal letter to the Council.

Joe Teixeira, 200 Delano Drive, stated that he agrees with Richard Welch about needing microphones at the School Department subcommittee building meetings. He also stated that he had some concerns, and he agrees with RIDE that we need a new plan, maybe a smaller footprint of the building. He suggested that Mr. Duva needs to work with RIDE and get a new design.

John Fitzgerald, 170 Beach Street, stated that he supports the Parade Committee, and they do a great job with the parades on a very small budget. He also asked if the Town could put a cross-walk in front of the Town Hall over to Memorial Park. He also stated that he doesn't think that the rotary is a good idea.

Bill Pennoyer, 180 Lewis Farm Road, East Greenwich, stated that he likes the idea of having co-chairs on the Parade Committee, and it would be great if the Town could provide the money to help pay for the band. He asked the Council if they would represent the American Legion again in the Providence Police Parade. Since he doesn't live in Town, he asked if he could borrow the 911 guidon.

Councilor Hill Ross stated that she has 85 more signatures against the roundabout.

I. SPECIAL BUSINESS

5. Advise and Consent – Appointment of Building Official

Town Manager Mollis stated that in accordance with the Charter, he is requesting the advise and consent of the Council on his appointment of Matthew Souza as Building Official. He further stated that he would like to take a brief moment to recognize and thank the dedication and self-sacrifice of our current Building Official Don Peck. Certified Building Officials are extremely difficult to find, Don approached him a few months ago asking what his thoughts were if the position were to become vacant. Mr. Mollis stated that he felt we had a great succession plan as Matt Souza holds the certification of Building Official. Mr. Peck realizing that it was only a matter of time that another municipality would offer Matt a position, that he anticipates retiring in a few years and after speaking with his family, Don asked if it would be possible to vacate his position with the hope that Matt would be appointed, and he would become the assistant. Mr. Peck's willingness to sacrifice is commendable.

Mr. Mollis further stated that Matt Souza will serve as the third Building Official since he became Town Manager. Matt is a North Kingstown High School graduate. Matt attended both the Bay State School of Technology and CCRI where he majored in engineering. Matt worked 7 years in the construction and trades industry before working for the Town in June 2008. Matt has been in the Building and Code Enforcement Department since April 2018 working as Zoning, Housing and Building Inspection before becoming a certified Building Official and our Assistant Building Official in January 2021. Matt serves on several local and regional boards.

Mr. Mollis again thanked Mr. Peck for his dedication and requested the Council give their advise and consent of this appointment.

Motion by Councilor McCoy, seconded by Councilor Page and unanimously

VOTED: In accordance with Section 510 of the North Kingstown Charter, the Town Council hereby gives their advise and consent of the Town Manager's appointment of Matthew Souza to the position of Building Official.

The Council thanked Mr. Peck for his dedicated years of service and congratulated Mr. Souza on this appointment.

6. Update – School Bond Projects

President Mancini stated that he had asked Councilor Page to provide an update on the School Bond Projects as well as invited School Committee Chair Earle and Dr. Duva to attend tonight's meeting. However, they both had conflicts.

Councilor Page stated that she had provided the Council with a written report regarding the March 26th meeting with RIDE. RIDE's concern is that they would like a bigger building to serve more students, and the building be more compact. RIDE reminds us that part of getting the maximum reimbursement is that they want to see enrollment projections, additional programming, and to make sure that we are fully utilizing the space. At the School Facilities Subcommittee Meeting last week, Dr. Duva presented us with three scenarios, all which would meet the classification that would result in the maximum reimbursement. The three scenarios are:

- Move the Pre-K into the Wickford Middle School with approximately 14 classrooms. The potential benefit of this scenario would improve the efficiency of the space, increase enrollment, and also open up the reimbursement. This would also allow middle school students to help with Pre-K students.
- Move fifth grades to Davisville Middle School and Wickford Middle School which would increase enrollment at the middle schools and decrease enrollment at elementary schools which would help with areas that are overcrowded.
- Have the new middle school building for Grades 6 through 8 only and make it bigger with three floors with each grade occupying a floor. It would be such that Wickford Middle School would be bigger than Davisville Middle School. Again, they would have to redraw boundaries for some of the elementary schools in terms of who would go where. The concerns for Davisville Middle would be the impact of course programming, athletics, and some other things.

This isn't going to be an easy decision, and no decisions have been made at this point. This is a complicated issue as we want to ensure that we serve the citizens of North Kingstown and obtain maximum reimbursement from RIDE. RIDE has guidelines for us to get that maximum reimbursement. She further stated that the architects said they already have a preliminary drawing of the Pre-K model and gave a basic layout for being able to separate Pre-K and the middle school students.

Councilor Page stated that she wants to assure people that the building subcommittee is working with RIDE to come up with a proposal that will have as much reimbursement as we can get. We are really trying to make that happen and at the next meeting there will be more discussion of which model we can move on with.

President Mancini asked if the committee is discussing a third floor. Councilor Page stated yes. President Mancini stated that he would encourage having a three-story building. He further stated that he was present at the meeting with RIDE, and his takeaway from the meeting was that a three-story building would be a less square footage cost.

President Mancini thanked Councilor Page for her report.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To approve Consent Agenda Item Numbers 7 through 28 as presented with the exception of Agenda Item Numbers 7, 8, and 12.

7. Approval of Minutes

Councilor Hill Ross stated that she would like to amend the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 24th, Item Number 27 (Appointment of a Second Alternate to the Zoning Board of Review) to reflect that it was not a unanimous vote as she did not vote. She further stated that she felt that Rickey Thompson, a resident of over 30 years who has regularly attended meetings for more than 15 years, who filed his application two weeks before the other candidates, should have been appointed. Town Clerk Alyward stated that she did not hear Councilor Hill Ross vote no, or state that she was abstaining from the vote, or that she made a motion to appoint Mr. Thompson. Councilor Hill Ross stated that she understands but wants to put this on record.

Motion by Councilor Hill Ross, seconded by Councilor Page and unanimously

VOTED: To amend the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 24, 2025, Item Number 27 (Appointment of a Second Alternate to the Zoning Board of Review) to reflect that Councilor Hill Ross did not vote.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 10, 2025 and the minutes of the Work Session/Special Meeting of March 18, 2025 as submitted by the Office of the Town Clerk.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 24, 2025 as amended.

8. Receipt of Donation

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: To accept with gratitude the following donation in the amount of \$5,000.00:

| | | |
|-------|------------------------------------|------------|
| For: | Beechwood Senior Center | |
| | To be used for the Faith Fund | |
| From: | North Kingstown Senior Association | \$5,000.00 |

9. Award of Contract

VOTED: To award the contract for the Finance Department for Professional Auditing Services, Agreed-Upon Procedures Services to CBIZ (formerly Marcum, LLP), 155 South Main Street, Suite 101, Providence, RI 02930, as follows:

- FY2025: Audit Services \$99,000.00
- FY2026: Audit Services \$102,000.00
- FY2027: Audit Services \$105,000.00

Funding is from the General Fund/Auditing Account #00105010-530607.

10. Award of Contract

VOTED: To award a contract for the Department of Water Supply for Engineering Services for the Post Road Water Main Replacement Project to Pare Corporation, 8 Blackstone Valley Place, Lincoln, RI 02865, in the amount of \$210,700.00.

Funding for this project is from Water Department - Architecture & Engineering Services - Account #44040010 530601.

11. Award of Contract

VOTED: To award a contract for the Department of Water Supply for Engineering Services for the Poplar Point Water Main Replacement Project to Tighe & Bond, 1 Cedar Street, Suite 300, Providence, RI 02903, in the amount of \$196,600.00.

Funding for this project is from Water Department - Architecture & Engineering Services - Account #44040010 530601.

12. Award of Sole Source Contract

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To award the sole source contract for the Water Department for the Clean Water Infrastructure Replacement Project Report (CWIRP) to Wright-Pierce, 40 Westminster Street, Suite 950, Providence, RI 02903, in the amount of \$37,000.00.

Funding is from FY2025 Budget - Water Department - Architecture & Engineering Services - Account #44040010 530601.

13. Award of Bid

VOTED: To award the bid for the Water Department for the purchase and installation of an insertion valve on the Post Road Water Main near the hydrant bordering Richard Smith Drive to D'Ambra Construction Co., 80 Centre of New England Boulevard, Coventry, RI 02816, in the amount of \$55,000.00.

Funding is from FY2025 Budget - Water Department - Contractual Services Account #44040010 531206.

14. Award of Bid

VOTED: To award the bid for the Department of Water Supply to purchase a Cargo Trailer to Advantage Trailer, 110 E North Avenue, Carol Stream, IL 60188, in the amount of \$17,889.00.

Funding for this purchase is from Water Department - Water Repair Supplies Account #44040030 540513.

15. Class F Alcoholic Beverage License

VOTED: To approve the application for a Class F Alcoholic Beverage License by the North Kingstown Senior Association, dba Friends of Beechwood, 44 Beach Street, to hold their Annual Meeting at Beechwood Senior Center, 44 Beach Street, on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., subject to taxes and water paid to date.

16. Ratification of Town Clerk's approval of an Exhibition License (no vendors) (new)

VOTED: To ratify the Town Clerk's approval of an Exhibition License with no vendors by The Wickford Village Association, 17 Brown Street, for Daffodil Days which were held on Thursday, April 10 - Sunday, April 13, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., on Brown Street, West Main Street, Updike Park, and the Municipal Parking Lot, subject to taxes and water paid to date and compliance with the recommendations of the Fire Department and the Police Department.

17. Exhibition License (no vendors)

VOTED: To approve the application for an Exhibition License with no vendors by RI Elder Info, 70 Romano Vineyard Way, Suite 111, to hold the 6th Annual Calling All Veterans Day - a Veteran and Community Senior Resource Fair, at the Seabee Museum Park, 21 Iafrate Way, on August 16, 2025 (rain date August 24, 2025), from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., subject to taxes and water paid to date and compliance with the recommendations of the Fire Department and the Police Department.

18. Exhibition License (no vendors) (annual)

VOTED: To approve the application for an Exhibition License with no vendors by The Wickford Village Association, 17 Brown Street, to hold various events on various dates on Brown Street, West Main Street, Updike Park, and the Municipal Parking Lot, from 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., subject to taxes and water paid to date and compliance with the recommendations of the Fire Department and the Police Department.

19. Exhibition License (21-30 vendors)

VOTED: To approve the application for an Exhibition License with 21-30 vendors by the North Kingstown Arts Council/Nancy Sherman, 64 Pleasant Street, to hold an open studios tour at the Shady Lea Mill, 215 Shady Lea Road, on Saturday, June 7, 2025 and Sunday, June 8, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., subject to taxes and water paid to date and compliance with the recommendations of the Fire Department, the Police Department, the Building Official, and the Planning Department.

20. Farmers Market Permit (new)

VOTED: To approve the application for a Farmers Market Permit by Historic New England/Casey Farm, 2325 Boston Neck Road, Saunderstown 02874, to operate a Farmers Market from May 10, 2025 to November 22, 2025 at Casey Farm, 2325 Boston Neck Road, Saunderstown 02874, subject to taxes and water paid to date; receipt of a current list of participants (which shall include their name, location of land, Tax ID Number, and evidence of Department of Health approval if required); receipt of a Show Promoter's Permit; receipt of a copy of the market's rules; and compliance with the recommendations of the Fire Department, the Police Department, the Building Official, and the Planning Department.

21. Fireworks Permit

VOTED: To approve the application for a Fireworks Permit by the Town of North Kingstown, 100 Fairway Drive, to have a Fireworks Display at the Town Beach on Thursday, July 3, 2025 (rain date Monday, July 7, 2025), at 9:00 p.m., subject to taxes and water paid to date, compliance with the recommendations of the Fire Department and the Police Department, and compliance with the State inspection of the vehicle transporting the fireworks.

22. Junkyard License Renewals

VOTED: To approve to May 1, 2026 the following list of Junkyard License Renewals subject to taxes and water paid to date and compliance with the recommendations of the Public Works Director and the Building Official:

JY-1 Frank W. Cole & Margaret I. Cole
dba Cole's Auto Salvage & Cole's Salvage Yard
915 Tower Hill Road

JY-2 Belleville Auto Repair, Inc.
315 Oak Hill Road

JY-3 Automotive Enterprises of RI, LLC
dba Kingstown Auto Recycling
381 Oak Hill Road

23. Peddler License (new)

VOTED: To approve to February 1, 2026 the application for a Peddler License by Alan Kinsley, dba Lazy K Ranch, 10 East Killingly Road, Foster, RI 02825, subject to taxes and water paid to date and receipt of the following:

1. RI Retail Sales Tax Permit
2. Rhode Island Department of Health Certificate (if necessary)
3. Litter Tax Permit (if necessary)
4. Letter of consent from the property owner where vending (if stationary)
5. Motor Vehicle Registration (if necessary)

24. Victualling License (new)

VOTED: To approve to December 1, 2025 the application for a Victualling License by KJ Gourmet, Inc., dba Seven Moons, 6657 Post Road, subject to taxes and water paid to date; receipt of a certificate from the RI Department of Health; receipt of a copy of their Rhode Island Retail Sales Tax Permit; and compliance with the recommendations of the Fire Marshall, the Police Department, the Planning Department, and the Building Official.

25. Disposition of Surplus State Land

VOTED: In accordance with Title 37, Chapter 7, Section 3 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956, as amended, the Town of North Kingstown chooses not to exercise its second pre-emptive right to purchase the property located at 7769 Post Road, Plat 135, Lot 006.

26. First Bond Reduction

VOTED: To approve the request by M.L. Hawk Real Estate I, LLC and M.L. Hawk Real Estate II, LLC for a first bond reduction on Preserve at Rolling Greens Development from \$5,279,602.43 to \$2,347,360.67, in the amount of \$2,932,241.76.

27. First Reading – Amendment to Chapter 9, Article XVII, Section 9-403

VOTED: That this shall constitute the First Reading of an Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 9 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of North Kingstown, entitled, "Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations" by amending Article XVII, entitled, "Mobile Food Establishments", Section 9-403, entitled, "Number of Permits Granted", and that this be advertised and referred to the Regular Town Council Meeting of April 28, 2025 for Second Reading and Consideration of Adoption.

28. Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, nationally one in three women and one in four men will experience some form of sexual assault in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month draws attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and has implications for every community member; and

WHEREAS, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing sexual violence through prevention education, increased awareness, and holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence responsible for their actions; and

WHEREAS, we must work together to educate our community about what can be done to prevent sexual assault and how to support survivors; and

WHEREAS, everyone should be a leader in preventing and ending sexual violence. As employers, educators, parents, and friends, we all have an obligation to uphold the basic principle that every individual should be free from violence and fear; and

WHEREAS, we encourage every person to start conversations about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it, and how to help survivors connect with services, and to speak out against harmful attitudes and actions.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Town of North Kingstown does hereby proclaim April 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in our community and we urge all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all our citizens by

starting a conversation about what is sexual violence, how to prevent it, and how to help survivors connect with services.

III. REPORTS

29. Report by the Town Manager

Town Manager Mollis gave the following report:



School Department Capital Projects

Regular Update:

- My thanks to Councilperson Kim Page for the thorough update on the School Department Bond Project and this past week’s meeting of the Building Advisory Committee. As was mentioned, the priorities at this point are sending in a revised Stage II Application to RIDE, maximizing reimbursement and getting the Requests for a new Owner’s Project Management Firm and Architecture & Engineering Firm advertised.
 - The next meeting of the Building Advisory Committee will be April 24th. Councilperson Page and/or I will provide a new update during the April 28th Town Council Meeting.
 - Until then, as I’ve mentioned before, all Bond expenditures will need Town Council or Town Manager approval so the public can expect to be made aware of all public expenditures via public meetings.
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- My thanks to Councilperson Kim Page for the thorough update on the School Department Bond Project and this past week’s meeting of the Building Advisory Committee. As was mentioned, the priorities at this point are sending in a revised Stage II Application to RIDE, maximizing reimbursement and getting the Requests for a new Owner’s Project Management Firm and Architecture & Engineering Firm advertised. The next meeting of the Building Advisory Committee will be April 24th so Council Person Page and/or I will provide a new update during the April 28th Town Council Meeting.

Until then, and as I've mentioned before, all Bond expenditures will need Town Council or Town Manager approval so the public can expect to be made aware of all public expenditures via public meetings.

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Public Safety Complex Project

Regular Update:

- As mentioned previously and due to time constraints, we have increased the frequency of our meetings to now occur weekly. Our meetings continue to focus on finalizing a footprint for both the new Complex and Station One, as well as to find cost savings within our initiatives and site designs.
 - We will continue to evaluate the Quonset site with the hope of appearing before the Town Council soon on the land purchase & sale. We've provided a 15-mo. cash flow to assist with the timing and format of financing.

We do have a tentative timeline:

- ❑ Complete the design & bid for the new Public Safety Complex at the end of this year. Bid project Feb/Mar 2026.
- ❑ Begin construction June 2026, with completion date of December 2027 and move-in/out date of Jan/Feb 2028.
- ❑ Accomplish 75% design of Station One by the end of this year, then pause to construct the new Public Safety Complex.
- ❑ Resume Station One work in Aug 2027, with bid complete and awarded by Dec 2027.
- ❑ Begin Station One construction Feb 2028, with May 2029 completion date and July 2029 move-in date.

- In regard to the Public Safety Complex Bond Project, as I mentioned, due to time constraints, we have now increased the frequency of our meetings to weekly. Our meetings continue to focus on finalizing a footprint for both the new Complex and new Station One as well as finding cost savings within our initiatives and site designs. We continue to evaluate the Quonset Site with the hope of appearing before the Town Council soon on the land purchase & sale. We've provided a 15-month cash flow in order to assist with the timing and format of financing. We have a tentative timeline of:
 - Complete the design and bid for the new Public Safety Complex at the end of this year.
 - Bid project February/March 2026.
 - Begin construction June 2026 with a completion date of December, 2027 and a move-in/move-out date of January/February 2028.
 - Accomplish 75% design of new Station One by the end of this year. Then pause all Station One work as we construct a new Public Safety Complex.
 - Restart Station One work in August 2027 with bid complete and awarded by December 2027.
 - Begin Station One construction February 2028 with a completion date of May 2029 and a move-in date of July 2029.

Regular Update:
Offshore Wind Farm



- We had our regular bi-weekly meeting with Revolution Wind regarding their **Offshore Wind Farm** Project in Quonset Business Park.
 - There haven't been any significant changes since my last update.
 - Work is ongoing with over 200 people working during the daytime shift there each day. All major deliveries have taken place, and they continue to provide outreach notifications and response to any concerns.
 - As we did with Town Council, I am working with Revolution Wind to put together a small tour for employees who participate in our bi-weekly meetings, sometime in May.
- As always, anyone with questions and /or concerns is encouraged to contact Revolution Wind directly, at (401) 251-2207 or info@revolution-wind.com. They provide us with regular reports on all constituent concerns that they receive, and how they are resolved.

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- We also had our regular bi-weekly meeting with Revolution Wind regarding their Offshore Wind Farm Project taking place within Quonset Business Park. There haven't been any significant changes since my last update. Work is ongoing with over 200 people working during the daytime shift each day, all major deliveries have taken place, and they continue to provide outreach notifications and response to any concerns. As we did with the Town Council, I am working with Revolution Wind to put together a small tour for employees that participate in our bi-weekly meetings, sometime in May.

As always, I continue to encourage anyone having any questions or concerns to contact Revolution Wind at (401) 251-2207 or email them at info@revolution-wind.com. They provide us with regular reports on all constituent concerns they receive and how they resolve them.

Projects/Initiatives



Wickford Waterfront Project

- A limited update on this project: the bonding insurance company is soliciting bids to complete the work. They hosted, and we attended, what appeared to be a successful pre-bid site meeting. All bidding companies have a list of local events that they will have to work around. Our Solicitor is actively involved in all aspects of the project at this time.
- We won't know completion dates until we have a new contractor on board, however, once the wall is complete, the steel pilings and portions of fencing can be removed.



FY2026 Budget
Public Hearings

- As I've mentioned in the past, a reminder that the Public Hearings for the Budget will be held a week from today, on Monday, April 21st, starting at 6:30 p.m. here in Town Council Chambers.
- The night will begin with a hearing on the town-portion of the budget, followed by a hearing on the School Department Budget. This hearing is scheduled to answer any questions the public may have.

- A limited update on the Wickford Waterfront Project...the Bonding Insurance Company is soliciting bids to complete the work. They hosted, and we attended, what appeared to be a successful pre-bid site meeting. All bidding companies have a list of local events they will have to work around. Our Solicitor is actively involved in all aspects of this project. We won't know completion dates until we have a new contractor on board,

however, once the wall is complete the steel pilings and portions of the fencing can be removed to aesthetically improve the area and project.

- As I've mentioned in the past, a reminder that the Public Hearings for the Budget will be held a week from today, on Monday, April 21st, at 6:30 p.m. here in the Town Council Chambers. The night will begin with a hearing on the town-portion of the budget followed by a hearing on the School Department Budget. This Hearing is scheduled to answer any questions the public may have.

Updates

North Kingstown Animal Shelter



- During Budget Meetings with our Town Council, questions came up as to the status of the new arrangement with our Animal Shelter. Captain MacCoy of the North Kingstown Police Department has since provided a report to the Council highlighting the successes experienced leading up to what is the first anniversary of the restructuring of our partnership with the North Kingstown Animal Shelter Support Foundation.
- The North Kingstown Animal Shelter Support Foundation has overachieved in their commitment to assume operational responsibility of the town's Animal Shelter. Their volunteer base has increased to 25 members who go above and beyond in their care of the animals and dedication to increasing adoption rates.
- The outstanding leadership by **Foundation President Joe Dedy** and **Vice-President Kate Maloney** has been instrumental in the daily operations and optimal care of the animals.
- Captain MacCoy has been very pleased with how this has turned out and looks to formally recognize the Foundation for their unwavering dedication and support.
- **My thanks to Captain MacCoy for his work in this endeavor and for this update.**

- During the Budget Meetings with the Town Council, questions came up as to the status of the new arrangement with our Animal Shelter. Captain MacCoy of the North Kingstown Police Department has since provided a report to the Town Council highlighting the successes leading up to what is the first anniversary of the restructuring.

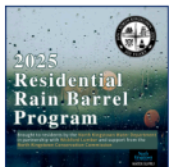
The North Kingstown Animal Shelter Support Foundation has overachieved in their commitment to assume operational responsibility of the town's Animal Shelter. Their volunteer base has increased to 25 members who go above and beyond in their care of the animals and dedication towards adoption rates. The outstanding leadership by Foundation President Joe Dedy and Vice President Kate Maloney has been instrumental in the daily operations and optimal care of the animals. And Captain MacCoy has been very pleased with how this has turned out and looks to formally recognize this foundation for their unwavering dedication and support. My thanks to Captain MacCoy for his work in this endeavor and for this update.

250th Committee



- We have established a committee to work with the State to commemorate our nation's 250th anniversary next year. This Committee, led by **Kate Glass** of my office, **Councilperson Matt McCoy**, **North Kingstown Chamber of Commerce Director, Maria Masse**, **HistWick President, Randy Wietman**, and active resident, **Michael Donohue**, will create events, partnerships, sponsorships and collaborations to celebrate this historic anniversary and join municipalities from around Rhode Island in the RI250 campaign.
- To become a sponsor or get more information, please visit our website: <https://www.northkingstownri.gov/1091/RI250-America250>

Water Department
Residential Rain Barrel Program



- Due to its success last year, we are re-establishing the Residential Rain Barrel Program through a partnership with Wickford Lumber with the support of the Conservation Commission.
- The Water Department will provide a discount on a rain barrel at Wickford Lumber; proof of residency is required and is limited to one per address on a first-come, first-served basis.
- For details, contact our Water Department at 268-1523, or visit Wickford Lumber on Tower Hill Road.

- We have established a committee to work with the State to commemorate our nation's 250th Anniversary next year. This Committee, led by Kate Glass of my office, Councilperson Matt McCoy, Chamber of Commerce Director Maria Masse, Histwick President Randy Wietman, and active resident Michael Donohue will create events, partnerships, sponsorships, and collaborations to celebrate this historic anniversary and join municipalities from around Rhode Island in the RI250 Campaign. To sponsor or get more information, please visit our website and the RI250-America 250 link.

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- Due to its success last year, we are reestablishing another Residential Rain Barrel Program. Through a partnership with Wickford Lumber and with the support of the Conservation Commission, the Water Department will provide a discount on Rain Barrels at Wickford Lumber. Proof of residency is required and is limited to one per residential address on a first come first served basis. For details, contact our Water Department at 268-1523 or visit Wickford Lumber on Tower Hill Road.

Updates



Department of Public Works

- As what is (hopefully) a sure sign of Spring, our Public Works Department has commenced our Street Sweeping Program throughout town.



Earth Day (April 22, 2025)

- Our town employees will be commemorating Earth Day with clean-ups during lunch breaks next week. We are providing trash pickers and bags, and those who choose to participate either solo or with colleagues, trash will be collected from roadways, sidewalks, and other public areas around workplaces, homes, or other places of their choosing.



Rhode Island City and Town Manager's Association

- As Treasurer of the RI City and Town Manager's Association, I will be hosting the group's upcoming quarterly meeting next week at the Quonset Tavern by the Green.



Post Road Business Alliance

- Following up on my update at the last Council Meeting, the Post Road Business Alliance is hosting their first, and soon to be annual, **Post Road Cleanup**. It will be Sunday, April 27th from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
- To sign up or get additional details, contact PRBA at postroadnk@gmail.com or **Ben Mandel** in our Planning Department: bmandel@northkingstownri.gov

- As what is a sure sign of Spring (hopefully), our Public Works Department has commenced our Street Sweeping Program throughout the town.
- Our town employees will be participating in Earth Day with clean-ups. We will be providing trash pickers and bags to borrow for anyone who is interested in taking the initiative either alone or with colleagues to collect any trash they can where they work, where they live, or wherever they would like to initiate.

- And, as Treasurer of the RI City and Town Manager’s Association, I will be hosting the upcoming quarterly meeting of the City and Town Managers Association next week at the Quonset Tavern by the Green.
- To follow up on my update at the last Council Meeting, the Post Road Business Alliance is hosting their first ever annual Post Road Cleanup on Sunday, April 27th from 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. To sign up or for further details, please contact the Alliance at postroadnk@gmail.com or Ben Mandel in our Planning Department at Bmandel@northkingstownri.gov.

Updates



Recreation Department

- I attended the Luncheon of the RI Recreation and Parks Association’s Annual Conference at the Quonset O Club in which they gave out four statewide awards.
- North Kingstown Recreation Department was honored with the “Distinguished Department of the Year” Award
 - Recognizing an outstanding RI Parks and Recreation Department for its exceptional concern for, and dedication to, enhancing community life celebrating significant achievements in programming, facility management and maintenance, and community involvement that positively impact the community.
- The “John ‘Jack’ Cronin Award” was given to our Director, **Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs**.
 - Honoring individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field to celebrate those who emulate Jack Cronin’s dedication and impact while recognizing an individual’s exceptional service, demonstrated leadership, upholding of ethical standards, and a commitment to enhancing the recreation program and park services in their community.

Congratulations to Chelsey and all Recreation Department Staff for these two awards, this outstanding recognition, and for setting the standards high here in North Kingstown.

- I attended the Luncheon of the RI Recreation and Parks Association’s Annual Conference at the Quonset O Club in which they gave out 4 Statewide Awards. I was pleased to be there as they awarded the North Kingstown Parks and Recreation Department with the “Distinguished Department of the Year Award” and the “John ‘Jack’ Cronin Award” to Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs.

The Distinguished Department of the Year Award recognizes an “outstanding Parks and Recreation Department in Rhode Island for its exceptional concern for and dedication to enhancing community life. It honors departments that have demonstrated significant achievements over the past year in areas such as programming, facility management and maintenance, and community involvement, along with accomplishments that have positively impacted their community. They recognize setting exemplary standards,

promoting parks and recreation through innovative programming or significant projects and advancing the cause within their community”.

The John ‘Jack’ Cronin Award honors “individuals in the professional-community recreation sector who have made outstanding contributions to the field. It celebrates those who emulate Jack Cronin’s dedication and impact while recognizing individuals for their exceptional service within public or private recreation and/or park agencies, demonstrating leadership, ethical standards and a commitment to enhancing the recreation program and park services. Special consideration is given to those who have notably advanced the recreation and/or park movement at various levels”.

Congratulations to Chelsey and her entire Department for these two awards, outstanding recognition, and for setting the standard here in North Kingstown.

Updates

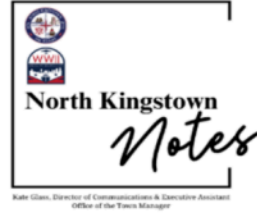


RI Public Transit Authority
Proposed Route Changes

- RIPTA is proposing changes to their **Quonset Express Route** to provide greater access from and to Northern Rhode Island and better align this route with the Electric Boat shift schedules.
 - They are holding two Public Hearings this week. Complete information on these changes can be found on RIPTA's website, or by reaching out to them directly: <https://www.ripta.com/publichearings/> or (401) 781-9400.
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- The RI Public Transit Authority is proposing changes to their Quonset Express Route in order to provide greater access from and to Northern Rhode Island and better align this route with the Electric Boat Shift Schedules. They are holding two public hearings this week, and information on these changes can be found on RIPTA’s website or by reaching out to them directly.



Thank You



April 14, 2025
A. Ralph Mollis, Town Manager

The Council thanked Mr. Mollis for his report.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

30. Request for Class B-Full Alcoholic Beverage License Limits Increase

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To receive and file the request by Huy Nga, Inc., dba Saigon Hot Pot, 6900 Post Road, to increase the Class B-Full Alcoholic Beverage License Limits from 28 to 29; and it was

FURTHER VOTED: To advertise an available Class B-Full Alcoholic Beverage License.

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31. Correspondence

3/27/2025 – Peter Lussier – Middle School Project – Serious concerns about the Wickford Middle School Project.

3/31/2025 – Brian O’Dell, 151 Salisbury Avenue – School Bond and More - Sent the Town Council an email that he sent to Dr. Duva asking the School Department to pause on the projects under the school bond, the redistricting, and the preschool move to Davisville Academy. Also asked for more communication with the public.

3/31/2025 – Kara Martone, 73 Woodridge Drive – School Bond and More - Thinks the bond project should stop and until that is resolved, redistricting and preschool move to Davisville should be paused.

3/31/2025 – Ed Renehan – School Bond and More - Asked for a town hall meeting regarding the school projects and for a pause on redistricting.

4/2/2025 – TANK – Pride Parade - Email from TANK inviting the Town Council to participate in the NK Pride Parade.

4/3/2025 – Chamber of Commerce – New Business Opening - Two new businesses are having grand openings on 4/19/2025.

4/3/2025 – Climate Conversations – May Lecture - May lecture for Climate Conversations is on climate change and insurance.

4/8/2025 – Megan Reilly – Sexual Assault Awareness - Asking for recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

4/11/2025 – Christopher Holroyd – Asphalt Plant - Lives off Devils Foot Road and fumes from the plant are causing health issues for his children.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Jeannette Alyward
Town Clerk