

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 July, 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
James M. Callaghan, 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 July 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.

President Mancini led those in attendance in a moment of silence in memory of Robert Lamothe who was involved in a single bicycle accident at the intersection of Potter Road and Essex Road.

I. PUBLIC HEARING

4. Class C Alcoholic Beverage License and Victualling License (expansion of premises)

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To open the Public Hearing.

There was no public comment.

Motion by Councilor McCoy, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To close the Public Hearing.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To approve the request by Wickford Wine Company, dba Gooseneck Vineyards, 1340 Tower Hill Road, that the premises covered by their Class C Alcoholic Beverage License and Victualling License, which expire on December 1, 2025, be expanded to include the outdoor seating as indicated on the diagram filed in the Town Clerk's Office, 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.

5. Second Reading – Amendment to Section 2-1

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: To open the Public Hearing.

There was no public comment.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: To close the Public Hearing.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To adopt an Ordinance in Amendment of Section 2-1 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of North Kingstown, entitled, "Competitive Bidding Required", (1)a and b, entitled, "Quotations" and (2), entitled, "Sealed Bidding", and that this shall constitute the Second Reading thereof.

6. Public Comment

Richard Welch, 8 Arrow Lane, stated that the Town lost a great resident this week in the passing of David Caldwell, Sr. He stated that he couldn't say enough good things about him, and he will be sorely missed. He also commented on the employees at the transfer station and stated that they are very friendly and helpful. He asked why it took two weeks for the post office to deliver the tax bills? He then thanked the businesses and residents in town for their donations both financially and time spent helping this community. He stated that this is the best community in the State of Rhode Island, and he can't say enough to thank these people and the people who volunteer on the town's boards and commissions.

Tom Quinn, 146 Steamboat Avenue, stated that he is concerned about the "Suitable" fence and right of way that needs to be replaced at the town beach per the deed on the property given to the Poplar Point residents by Mr. Wright in 1965. He asked why this is coming up now after so many years? He asked if we could replace it with boulders instead of a chain link fence. He wanted to know who is in charge of maintaining the 10-foot width in the right of way which is in the second deed from 1972.

Ted Garrahy, 99 Wright Lane, stated that he wanted to thank the Council for their honesty regarding the discussion on the fence issue in the Poplar Point area.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To approve Consent Agenda Item Numbers 7 through 22 as presented with the exception of Agenda Item Numbers 7, 9 10, 12, and 13.

7. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 9, 2025 as submitted by the Office of the Town Clerk.

Motion by Councilor McCoy, seconded by Councilor Drew and was

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 23, 2025 as submitted by the Office of the Town Clerk.

Councilor Page abstained from this vote as she was not present at that meeting.

8. Receipt of Donations

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

For: Beechwood Senior Center

To be used to purchase new furniture for the Library area

From: North Kingstown Senior Association \$4,000.00

For: Beechwood Senior Center

From: Bruce and Jill Mulford \$1,000.00

9. Award of Bid

Motion by Councilor Drew, seconded by Councilor Page and unanimously

VOTED: To award the bid for the Golf Course for the purchase of two (2) Yamaha Utility Golf Carts to New England Golf Carts, 62 Industrial Way, Seekonk, MA 02771, in the amount of \$21,700.00.

Funding is from FY2026 Budget - Golf Course - Equipment - Account Number 43321010 550100.

10. Approval of Change Order

Motion by Councilor Drew, seconded by Councilor Page and unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Change Order for Professional Architectural Consulting Services for Renovations at the Municipal Office Building to Aharonian & Associates, Inc., 310 George Washington Highway, Suite 100, Smithfield, RI 02917, in the amount of \$39,750.00.

Funding for this change order is from ARPA Funds.

11. Award of Extension of Contract

VOTED: To award the extension of the Annual Paving Contract for the Department of Public Works to Vinagro Materials LLC, 400 Lincoln Avenue, Warwick, RI 02888, for the 2025/2026 fiscal year.

Funding is from:

- \$750,000.00 - FY2025 Budget - Highway Overlay Services Account Number 00110020-531111
- \$750,000.00 - FY2026 Budget - Highway Overlay Services Account Number 00110020-531111.
- \$410,516.00 – Rhode Island Municipal Road Program

Clerk's note: The accounts were provided by the Finance Director after the vote.

12. Resolution Awarding Bid for Golf Carts

A motion was made by President Mancini, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Recreation Director proposes that the Town award a bid to New England Golf Carts, Inc. for seventy-five (75) 2026 Yamaha Drive 2-Quietech Golf Carts for \$6,350.00 each for a total of \$476,250.00 with trade-in of the current seventy-five (75) 2018 Yamaha Quiet Tec EFI Golf Carts – for the value of \$2,500.00 each for a total credit of \$187,500.00; for a net purchase price of \$288,750.00; and for two (2) utility golf carts (2026 Yamaha UMAX2) in the amount of \$21,700.00; and

WHEREAS, the funding of said golf carts is to be provided through a tax-exempt lease purchase financing of such vehicles net of such trade-in; and

WHEREAS, the purchasing agent has informed the Town Council that he has complied with all applicable bidding requirements for such purchase and lease financing and has selected Municipal Leasing Consultants and/or its affiliates or assigns (“Lessor”) to provide such lease financing, subject to this Town Council approval; and

WHEREAS, all payments due under the lease for the golf carts in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, if any, shall be paid from the FY2026 Budget – Lease Payment - Account Number 43321010 550126.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Town hereby declares that it reasonably expects to reimburse the expenditures authorized in this Resolution with proceeds of debt to be issued by the Town. This Resolution is a declaration of official intent under Treasury Regulation 1.150-2.

SECTION 2. The Finance Director/Treasurer and the Town Manager and each of them acting singly is authorized to affix her or his signature to a master lease purchase agreement and such schedules and other agreements and instruments in such form as may be acceptable to her or him executing same for said golf carts and other equipment to be leased thereunder; the total amount financed on this schedule to the master lease shall not exceed \$310,450.00 without further action by the Town Council. It is a condition of this Resolution that Town Manager or Finance Director shall execute and cause to be filed Form 8038 G with the Internal Revenue Service in such form as shall be approved by the Town’s Bond Counsel. It shall be noted that such lease shall be NOT designated a “qualified tax-exempt obligation” under Section 265 (b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as the Town reasonably expects to issue in excess of \$10,000,000 of tax-exempt obligations in calendar year 2025.

SECTION 3. The Town hereby awards a bid to New England Golf Carts, Inc. for the purchase of seventy-five (75) 2026 Yamaha Drive 2-Quietech Golf Carts for \$6,350.00 each for a total of \$476,250.00 with trade-in of the current seventy-five (75) 2018 Yamaha Quiet Tec EFI Golf Carts – for the value of \$2,500.00 each for a total credit of \$187,500.00 for a net purchase price of \$288,750.00; and for two (2) utility golf carts (2026 Yamaha UMAX2) in the amount of \$21,700.00; all to be financed under the master lease purchase referenced in Section 2 of this Resolution.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

13. Resolution authorizing the Finance Director to execute a Tax-exempt Master Lease Purchase Agreement

A motion was made by President Mancini, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously voted to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town awarded a bid on May 12, 2025 for the purchase of four (4) Dodge Durango SUV vehicles for \$170,422.00 with upgrades for an additional \$60,920.00 for the Police Department in Resolution 2025-14 for a total acquisition cost of \$232,342.00; and

WHEREAS, such resolution provided for the funding of vehicles through a tax-exempt lease purchase financing of such vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Director has advanced the purchase price of such vehicles which is to be reimbursed from the lease financing proceeds; and

WHEREAS, the purchasing agent has informed the Town Council that he has complied with all applicable bidding requirements and has selected Municipal Leasing Consultants and/or its affiliates or assigns (“Lessor”) to provide such lease financing, subject to this Town Council approval; and

WHEREAS, all payments due under the lease for the police vehicles in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, if any, shall be paid from the FY2026 Budget – Vehicle Lease Payments – Account Number 00108010-550126.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Town hereby declares and confirms that it reasonably expects to reimburse the expenditures authorized in Resolution 2025-14 and this Resolution with proceeds of debt to be issued by the Town. This Resolution is a declaration of official intent under Treasury Regulation 1.150-2.

SECTION 2. The Finance Director/Treasurer and the Town Manager and each of them acting singly is authorized to affix her or his signature to a master lease purchase agreement and such schedules and other agreements and instruments in such form as may be acceptable to her or him executing same for said police vehicles and other equipment to be leased thereunder; the total amount financed on this schedule to the master lease shall not exceed \$232,342.00 without further action by the Town Council. It is a condition of this Resolution that the Town Manager or Finance Director shall execute and cause to be filed Form 8038 G with the Internal Revenue Service in such form as shall be approved by the Town's Bond Counsel. It shall be noted that such lease shall be NOT designated a "qualified tax-exempt obligation" under Section 265 (b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as the Town reasonably expects to issue in excess of \$10,000,000 of tax-exempt obligations in calendar year 2025.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

14. Letter of Resignation

VOTED: To accept the letter of resignation from Joseph Donohoe, resigning from the Zoning Board of Review, and that the Town Council President send a letter of appreciation to him for the dedicated service he gave to the Town of North Kingstown; and it was

FURTHER VOTED: To appoint Richard Welch, 8 Arrow Lane, to a full member from First Alternate to the Zoning Board of Review to July 1, 2027, to fill the unexpired term of Joseph Donohoe; and it was

FURTHER VOTED: To appoint Max Reynolds, 179 Vista Circle, as First Alternate from Second Alternate to the Zoning Board of Review to July 1, 2026; and it was

FURTHER VOTED: To advertise the vacancy for one (1) Second Alternate to the Zoning Board of Review to July 1, 2027.

15. Entertainment License (new)

VOTED: To approve the application for an Entertainment License by Ocean State Pops Orchestra, PO Box 41357, Providence, to hold live music for a free concert, on the grounds of the Town Beach Campus Bandshell, on August 9, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (rain date August 10, 2025), 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.

16. Entertainment License (new) (annual)

VOTED: To approve to December 1, 2025 the application for an annual Entertainment License by Craft Cafe LLC, 25 West Main Street, to have art/craft classes and events at various times on various days throughout the week, 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.

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

VOTED: To ratify the Town Clerk's approval of the application for an Exhibition License with no vendors by ECO-Land Art Project, 106 Duck Cove Road, for a fashion show which was held at the Spiral in Wickford Village on Sunday, June 29, 2025 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., subject to taxes and water paid to date and compliance with the recommendations of the Fire Department, the Police Department, the Planning Department, and the Building Official.

18. Ratification of Town Clerk's approval of a Fireworks Permit

VOTED: To ratify the Town Clerk's approval of a Fireworks Permit by Quidnessett Country Club Inc., 950 North Quidnessett Road, for a Fireworks Display which was held on Friday, July 4, 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.

19. Holiday Sales License (new)

VOTED: To approve to July 1, 2026 the application for a Holiday Sales License by ICASE Depot LLC, 1031 Ten Rod Road, subject to taxes and water paid to date and receipt of a Rhode Island Retail Sales Tax Permit.

20. Holiday Sales License Renewals

VOTED: To approve to July 1, 2026 the following list of Holiday Sales License Renewals subject to taxes and water paid to date:

HOLIDAY SALES
TC MEETING ~~7/13~~ 7/14

Business Name	DBA	Location of Business	Mailing Address (if different)	Phone	Hours
Quaker Lane Bait & Tackle, Ltd		4019 Quaker Lane	4019 Quaker Lane	294-9642	4:00 AM-9:00 PM

All taxes/water assessments have been paid to date DOB Collection Dept.
Date 7/17/25

21. Resolution amending the Personnel Rules & Regulations

A resolution was passed as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town of North Kingstown has Personnel Rules & Regulations dating back to the 1960's or earlier; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the Personnel Rules & Regulations affect a small percentage of employees due to Collective Bargaining Agreements, State Regulations, and Federal Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Rules & Regulations have been amended from time to time during its existence, with the most recent amendment occurring in June 2019; and

WHEREAS, Section 14-7 of the Ordinances specify that the Personnel Rules & Regulations can be amended and revised by the Town Manager or submitted to the Town Manager, and once approved by the Town Manager, shall be submitted for adoption by resolution of the Town Council; and

WHEREAS, any such change to the Personnel Rules & Regulations are subject to state and federal laws and Collective Bargaining Agreements and "no change shall divest any employee of the right accrued under these policies at the time of such change".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That Chapter IV, Section 5 shall be amended by deleting the "longevity schedule" which followed Paragraph 3 and replacing it with language to state:

"In addition, a scale of meritorious increases (longevity) shall be payable to applicable employees who have completed a set number of years of unbroken service with applicable scale being in accordance with and in unison to the Collective Bargaining Agreement of the bargaining unit they supervise or are employed within. This will not apply to any employees employed under a separate Employment Agreement which states something different"; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That Chapter V, Section 5 shall be amended by removing the first sentence and the list of holidays that follows and replace it with language to state:

“Employees shall enjoy the holiday schedule associated with and outlined within the Collective Bargaining Agreement of the bargaining unit they supervise or are employed within”; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That Chapter V, Section 6 (Vacations) shall be amended by rewriting the first paragraph and Section A in its entirety to read:

“Vacation leave shall be allowed and considered earned by the employees as follows:

First Year of Employment: One (1) week upfront upon hiring and the remainder of the first year accumulated on the basis of 5/6 of one day for each month’s service. This totals fifteen (15) working days for the first year. Accumulated vacation leave shall begin at the beginning of the second month of employment unless the employee’s first day is the first of the month.

After the first year of employment, and through the fifth year (years 1 – 5), vacation accumulation shall continue on the basis of 1 ¼ days for each month of service, totaling fifteen (15) working days per year for the first five (5) years.

Years six (6) through ten (10): vacation accumulation shall be increased to 1 2/3 days for each month of service, totaling twenty (20) working days per year for years 6 – 10.

Years eleven (11) through fifteen (15): vacation accumulation shall be increased to 2.08 days for each month of service, totaling twenty-five (25) working days per year for years 11 – 15.

Years 16+: vacation accumulation shall be increased to 2.5 days for each month of service, totaling thirty (30) working days per year.

Regular part-time employees shall accumulate vacation service on the basis of 5/6 of one day for each month of service with the day being calculated by the average hours of work per week divided by five (5). Employees must work at least 17 hours per week for 52 weeks per year to be eligible to accumulate vacation”; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That Section 22 shall be added to Chapter IV, outlining a Cell Phone Policy for all employees to read:

“The following list of guidelines shall be in place as a model for personal cell phone use and restrictions:

- Personal cell phones need to be set to silent or vibrate on town time.
- Personal cell phone/mobile device usage, including but not limited to calls, text messages, internet browsing, social media browsing, etc. should be limited to lunch and breaks.
- Personal cell phone calls, text messages, emails, etc. should be taken outside of the office and not within the presence of residents/taxpayers/visitors/another employee.
- Personal calls on cell phones should be limited to breaks and lunch unless absolutely necessary and/or emergency.”

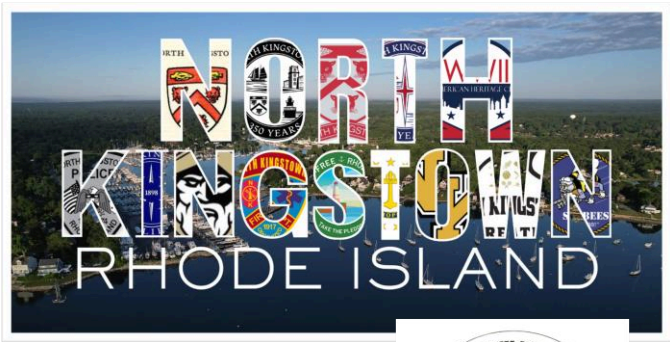
22. Authorization for Town Manager/Staff to work with the Wickford Art Association

VOTED: To authorize the Town Manager/staff to work with the Wickford Art Association on its efforts to install a shed upon leased town property at 36 Beach Street.

III. REPORTS

23. Report by the Town Manager

Town Manager Mollis gave the following report:



July 14, 2025

A. Ralph Mollis, Town Manager



Manager’s Report



School Department Capital Bond Projects & Public Safety Complex Bond Projects

- No significant updates to report on either project at this time.
 - This week’s School Building Advisory Committee meeting was rescheduled to Wednesday, July 16th.
 - I am aware the School Department is in regular conversations with the RI Department of Education as they work towards a Stage II submission by September 15th and towards a scenario where the School Department will receive as much of the 35% applicable reimbursement as possible.
 - We will have an internal working group meeting again this week to continue discussions on Public Safety Complex Bond Projects, with floor plans, renderings, site plans, and procurement requirements for technology design and construction all expected to be discussed.
 - We remain on track to hold a public meeting regarding the Public Safety Complex projects, and based on resident availability/convenience, it will most likely be after Labor Day. Stay tuned for a date – we will widely share it once available, on our website, in our newsletter, and on our social media channels.
-
- There aren’t any significant updates to report on either the School Bond Projects or the Public Safety Complex Bond Project.

We have a School Building Advisory Committee Meeting this Wednesday night with a very busy Agenda. I am also aware that the School Department is in regular conversations with the R.I. Department of Education as they work towards a Stage II submission by September 15th and towards a scenario where the School Department will receive as much of the 35% applicable reimbursement as possible. I will include an update on the July 16th meeting as well as any updated information concerning RIDE in my next Manager’s Report.

We have an internal working meeting this Wednesday morning to continue discussions on our Public Safety Complex Bond Projects. We expect to discuss floor plans for the Police Station, updated renderings for the Fire Station, site plan for both projects and reviewing procurement requirements related to technology design and construction. We are still on track for an upcoming public meeting. Based on convenience for those residents who are interested, I am leaning towards a meeting after Labor Day.



Wickford Waterfront Municipal Parking Lot Project

- This project continues on schedule: Phase I has a binder course in place, with work being done on Phases II and III.
- Contractors are working around all of the local summer events in Wickford Village, including the popular Wickford Harbor Fire evenings, and we remain in regular contact with BETA and RICON, our Consultant and Contractor, respectively.

- The Wickford Waterfront Municipal Parking Lot Project continues to move along on schedule. Phase I has a binder course placed and they are working on Phases II and III. They are also working around all of the local summer events being held in Wickford, including our popular Harbor Fire. We are in regular contact with our Consultant (BETA) and the Contractor (RICON).

Updates:

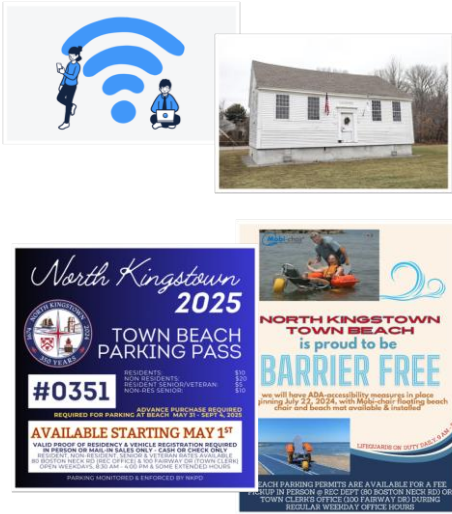
- **Safe Streets For All:** Endorsed by the Town Council, and following an external and detailed analysis, we've recently been notified that we are one of the communities that has been selected for a Road Safety Assessment on Annaquatucket Road and the intersection of Stony Lane and Old Baptist.
 - The aim of the study is to analyze what elements of the road present a safety concern, to what extent and to which road users, and under what circumstances, as well as provide opportunities to eliminate or mitigate the identified safety concerns.
 - The Road Safety Audit (Assessment) identifies road safety issues at targeted locations and opportunities for improvement; these professionals will work closely with representatives from our Planning, Public Works, Police and Fire departments from July through September.
 - I will update the Council once we have a final report.



- Some good news regarding our Safe Streets For All Project which was endorsed by the Town Council. After a detailed analysis conducted externally, we've been notified that we're one of the fortunate communities that have been awarded the opportunity to have a Road Safety Assessment performed on two of our roads. Bowman Consulting Group will be conducting a Road Safety Assessment on Annaquatucket Road and the intersection of Stony Lane and Old Baptist. The aim of the study is to analyze what elements of the road present a safety concern, to what extent, to which road users and under what circumstances as well as provide opportunities to eliminate or mitigate the identified safety concerns. This Road Safety Audit, or Road Safety Assessment, identifies road safety issues at targeted locations and opportunities for improvement. They will work closely with representatives from Planning, Public Works, Police and Fire. The timeline is from July through September. I will report back to the Council once we have a final report.

Updates:

- **Senator Reed’s Office** updated me earlier this month to confirm he has submitted a \$625,000 FY26 Appropriation Request for a Broadband and Camera System, as well as a \$250,000 Appropriation Request for the renovation and rehabilitation of the Old Town Meeting House.
 - We were reminded this funding process is lengthy, and may stretch into the next calendar year, but his office will keep us updated.
- The Town issued a Press Release earlier this month detailing parking pass requirements at our Town Beach: **parking without a valid parking permit from Memorial Day through Labor Day, or in areas not allowed for beachgoers (such as Senior Center or Community Center parking lots), may result in fines and/or towing per North Kingstown Police Department.**
 - Certified lifeguards and a gate guard are stationed at our Town Beach daily in the summer season.
 - We are proud to be an ADA accessible beach, with a sand mat to allow for mobility through the sand and a water chair available while lifeguards are on duty.
 - For questions, please contact the Department of Recreation: 401-268-1540.



- Senator Reed’s Office reached out to me earlier this month to confirm that he has submitted a \$625,000 Appropriation Request for a Broadband and Camera System as well as a \$250,000 Appropriation Request for the renovation and rehabilitation of our Old Town Meeting House. He stated it will be a lengthy process which may stretch into next year and he will keep us posted.
- The Town issued a Press Release earlier this month detailing the Parking Pass requirements at our Town Beach and explaining that parking without a Parking Pass, or in areas not allowed for Beach Parking such as our Senior Center Parking, could result in fines and/or towing. Parking at the Senior Center or Community Center Lots are for individuals participating in events within those locations.

Now that we’re in the month of July, certified lifeguards and our gate guard are in place from 9am until 5pm seven days a week. We also have the ADA sand and water features available for the summer season. If anyone has any questions, they can feel free to call our Department of Recreation at 401-268-1540.

Updates:

- **North Kingstown Police Department** was recently recognized by RI Interlocal Trust for their reaffirmed Accreditation Status.
 - Accreditation is a voluntary process undertaken by NKPD that benefits the department by establishing set standards and practices which are continually reviewed and updated, as a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism in law enforcement.
 - Accreditation of the department results in significantly lower insurance premiums for North Kingstown.
- Our first installment in the 3M Class Action Lawsuit regarding PFAS contamination, of \$522,114, is being disbursed. This is the first of what is expected to be a series of payments totaling approximately \$3.5 million, prior to costs and fees.
 - This does not include any disbursements we will receive separately from the DuPont Settlement or the TYCO/BASF Settlement.
 - You may recall this came about through an introduction I had with a client of a former colleague in government that was coordinating the Class Action Suit. With approval from Town Council and guidance from the Town Solicitor, we proceeded to become a plaintiff in the suit and will result in significant funds which I will refer to as the **PFAS action** in future updates.
 - Expenditure of these funds will require Town Council approval. I hope the majority will be used towards PFAS decontamination efforts as well as costs associated with well replacement from wells we voluntarily closed due to PFAS. I further hope to use some funds to purchase PFAS-Free gear for our Firefighters.



- The North Kingstown Police Department was recently recognized by the RI Interlocal Trust for their reaffirmed Accreditation Status. This is a voluntary action by the North Kingstown Police Department that benefits the department by establishing set standards and practices which are continually reviewed and updated, is a means of maintaining the highest of standards of professionalism in law enforcement, and will result in significantly lower Insurance Premiums as compared to non-accredited departments.

We received notification that our first installment relative to the 3M Class Action suit settlement regarding PFAS contamination is being disbursed. Our first payment will be \$552,114 and is the first of what is expected to be a series of payments totaling approximately \$3.5 million, prior to costs and fees. This does not include any settlement disbursements we will receive from the DuPont Settlement or the TYCO/BASF Settlement. As you recall, someone I had worked with previously in government reached out to me a few years ago to introduce me to one of his clients who was coordinating this Class Action Suit. Through the introduction, and with the approval of the Town Council and guidance from our Town Solicitor, we proceeded to become a Plaintiff within this Suit. It appears this meeting and following actions will result in significant funds from what I'll refer to as the PFAS action. While all expenditures will require Town Council approval, I am hoping that the majority of the funds will be used towards decontamination efforts of PFAS as well as the costs associated with Well Replacements due to any of our Wells we decided to voluntarily close due to PFAS. I am also hoping to use some of the funds to purchase PFAS-Free Gear for our Firefighters.

Updates:

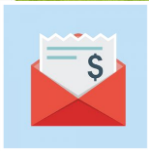
- We've been working with the Governor's Office to host a Community Education Roundtable with Governor McKee, that will take place from 4 – 5:00 PM on Thursday, July 17th in the North Kingstown Free Library. As done and planned for other LEARN365RI grant communities, the meeting is for parents of (rising or completed) 3rd grade students who have participated in a LEARN365RI program in North Kingstown to discuss out of school learning programs and education.
 - To register, email kglass@northkingstownri.gov
- Please mark your calendars for September 6th – for our **2nd Annual Family Day** at Wilson Park from Noon until 5:00 PM.
 - This is a no-cost family-friendly event featuring live music, activities for family members of all ages, and games. Family Day was well received during our 350th Anniversary celebrations in 2024, and resulted in staff members stepping up to volunteer to plan another event. My thanks to those making this event possible again.



- We've been working with the Governor's Office and Governor McKee will be visiting town on Thursday, July 17th to host a Community Education Roundtable with a group of parents of 3rd grade students who participated in our LEARN365RI Program to discuss education and out of school learning programs. Our Recreation Department has provided Camp Counselors available to supervise the children while the parents participate in the meeting. Details are still being worked out and I will update the Town Council as we finalize this event with the Governor.
- Please put September 6th in your calendar as it will be our 2nd Annual Family Day at Wilson Park, from noon till 5pm. The free family event will include live music, family activities, and family games. This event was well received during our celebration of our 350th anniversary which resulted in staff members stepping up to volunteer to host a 2nd Annual Family Day --- and my thanks to those who stepped up. There will be more information announced as the event gets closer, but I wanted to make mention of this event being that our next Council Meeting is in mid-August.

Updates:

- Recreation Director Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs is hard at work coordinating the August visit of Dutch recycle artist Thomas Dambo and his team as they begin work on the **Troll** that will be constructed for North Kingstown. We hope to have a significant update at the August Town Council meeting with details and a public announcement regarding Chelsey's fundraising efforts to cover the cost differential between the grant and actual cost of the art installation.
 - *The picture shown at the right is of Dambo's #74 "Little Lisa" Troll installation, commissioned by Edelwies Natur und Freizeitpark (Germany).*
- The Town recently posted on Social Media regarding **Tax Bills** that were mailed on time, on July 1st, as we were notified many taxpayers had not yet received their Tax Bills almost 10 days later.
- We've reached out to the United States Postal Service for more information about our mailing but haven't received much input back at this time, other than bulk mail is taking more time than usual right now.
- To speak with our Finance Department regarding your bill, please call 401-268-1528.



- A brief update that Rec Director Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs is hard at work coordinating the August visit of Thomas Dambo and his team as they begin work on the Troll that will be constructed for North Kingstown. We hope to have a significant update at your August Town Council Meeting with details and public announcements as well as Chelsey's efforts to find sponsorships to make up for the cost differential between the grant and the actual cost. Chelsey and her team are excited about what this will mean for North Kingstown and I look forward to having more information in August as work begins.
- As you know, the Town put out a Social Media Post regarding the Tax Bills having been mailed, on time, on July 1st. The reason for this Post was us being aware that many taxpayers had not received their bills almost 10 days after them being mailed. We've reached out to the U.S. Postal Service but haven't had much luck in receiving answers other than bulk mail taking more time than usual. We will be following up mid-week this week.



Town of
North Kingstown
RHODE ISLAND'S ONLY & OFFICIAL
AMERICAN WWII HERITAGE CITY

Thank you.

A. Ralph Mollis,
Town Manager

July 14, 2025



President Mancini stated that we approved Item Number 21 which is an amendment to the Personnel Rules and Regulations and on June 9th we passed a resolution for Pride Month at which time School Committee Member Jennifer Lima requested that we (the Town) consider enacting policies that explicitly prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. President Mancini further stated that he would like to request that the Manager draft an amendment to the Personnel Rules and Regulations to enact such a policy for the Council to consider.

The Council thanked Mr. Mollis for his thorough report.

24. Report by the Finance Director

Finance Director Deb Bridgham gave the following report:

The format of the financial report for June 2025 has been modified to provide more detail. This is based on revenues and expenditures recorded through June 30, 2025, by department/category. The report also includes anticipated revenues and expenditures to be recorded in July and August.

North Kingstown
General Fund: Revenues
FY 2025 Preliminary Year-End Report

	FY 2025					BUDGET VARIANCE
	ADOPTED BUDGET	REVISED BUDGET	YTD June	PERCENTAGE YTD/BUDGET	PROJECTION	
TAXES						
Real Estate - Residential	67,755,133	67,755,133	68,008,228	100.4%	68,008,228	253,095
Real Estate - Commercial	14,776,961	14,776,961	14,639,857	99.1%	14,639,857	(137,104)
Tangible Property	3,728,637	3,728,637	3,890,590	104.3%	3,890,590	161,953
Motor Vehicle	-	-	-			-
	86,260,731	86,260,731	86,538,675	100.3%	86,538,675	277,944
PILOT	5,649,927	5,649,927	5,588,629	98.9%	5,959,745	309,818
Prior Year	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,070,000	107.0%	1,070,000	70,000
Int & Penalties	275,000	275,000	332,163	120.8%	335,000	60,000
	93,185,658	93,185,658	93,529,467	100.4%	93,903,420	717,762
STATE & FEDERAL AID						
School Aid	13,257,645	13,448,841	13,448,841	101.4%	13,448,841	-
Restricted School Aid		45,954	45,954		45,954	
School Housing Aid	1,491,166	1,491,166	1,568,034	105.2%	1,568,034	76,868
Hotel Tax Revenue	145,104	145,104	117,978	81.3%	145,104	-
Meal and Beverage Tax Revenue	907,093	907,093	796,691	87.8%	885,000	(22,093)
Cannabis Excise Tax	-	-	152	0.0%	152	152
Tangible Tax Reimb	-	-	329,980	0.0%	329,980	329,980
MV Excise	5,186,229	5,186,229	5,186,427	100.0%	5,186,229	-
MV Phase Out	192,589	192,589	189,022	98.1%	189,022	(3,567)
Pub Service Corp	367,064	367,064	392,206	106.8%	392,206	25,142
PILOT	100	100	50	49.9%	50	(50)
Airport	60,000	60,000	-	0.0%	46,365	(13,635)
SAFER Grant	-	-	-	0.0%		-
Library	314,881	325,575	325,575	103.4%	325,575	-
Interest Savings (RIHEBC)	-	-	-	0.0%		-
Covid Aid	-	-	-	0.0%		-
	21,921,871	22,169,715	22,400,911	102.2%	22,562,512	392,797
DEPT REVENUES	4,271,855	4,271,855	5,321,260	124.6%	5,495,446	1,223,591
OTHER INCOME						
Enterprise Fund	604,779	604,779	604,779	100.0%	604,779	-
Transfers In	262,500	262,500	275,148	104.8%	275,148	12,648
Use of Fund Balance	-	-	-	0.0%		-
Gains/Losses	300,000	300,000	-	0.0%	-	(300,000)
Cell Tower	425,000	425,000	532,027	125.2%	535,000	110,000
Cyber Insurance Reimbursement	-	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Net Metering Credit	400,000	400,000	238,145	59.5%	500,000	100,000
Interest Finance	884,337	884,337	2,033,955	230.0%	2,034,000	1,149,663
Misc Income	8,500	8,500	2,498	29.4%	2,500	(6,000)
	2,885,116	2,885,116	3,686,552	127.8%	3,951,427	1,066,311
Total GF Revenue	122,264,500	122,512,344	124,938,189	102.2%	125,912,805	3,400,461

North Kingstown
General Fund: Revenues
FY 2025 Preliminary Year-End Report

DEPT REVENUES	FY 2025					
	ADOPTED BUDGET	REVISED BUDGET	YTD JUNE	YTD ACTUAL % OF BUDGET	PROJECTION	BUDGET VARIANCE
Town Clerk						
Liquor Licenses	62,500	62,500	69,965	111.9%	70,000	7,500
Marriage Licenses	1,200	1,200	1,024	85.3%	1,125	(75)
Dog Licenses	14,500	14,500	12,168	83.9%	12,500	(2,000)
Other Licenses	29,970	29,970	37,000	123.5%	37,000	7,030
Recording	297,000	297,000	187,965	63.3%	200,000	(97,000)
Transfer Fees	676,000	676,000	635,158	94.0%	636,000	(40,000)
Copies	12,500	12,500	6,107	48.9%	6,200	(6,300)
Misc	28,000	28,000	29,059	103.8%	30,000	2,000
	1,121,670	1,121,670	978,446	87.2%	992,825	(128,845)
Public Safety						
Police						
Licenses	3,800	3,800	4,490	118.2%	4,500	700
Fines & Fees	25,635	25,635	13,943	54.4%	14,000	(11,635)
Animal Control	-	-	451	0.0%	451	451
Police Detail	1,184,500	1,184,500	2,256,760	190.5%	2,260,000	1,075,500
	1,213,935	1,213,935	2,275,644	187.5%	2,278,951	1,065,016
Fire						
Ambulance	600,000	600,000	450,000	75.0%	600,000	-
Courts						
Probate	50,000	50,000	52,985	106.0%	53,000	3,000
Public Works						
PW- Other	10,000	10,000	6,029	60.3%	6,030	(3,970)
	10,000	10,000	6,029	60.3%	6,030	(3,970)
Harbor						
Wickford Harbor Fees	4,750	4,750	2,876	60.5%	3,600	(1,150)
Moorings	115,000	115,000	108,464	94.3%	110,000	(5,000)
Dock	17,000	17,000	26,039	153.2%	26,040	9,040
	136,750	136,750	137,379	100.5%	139,640	2,890
Finance	45,000	45,000	20,090	44.6%	22,000	(23,000)
Recreation	414,000	414,000	554,522	133.9%	556,000	142,000
Assessment	-	-	-	0.0%	-	-
Planning	73,000	73,000	169,890	232.7%	170,000	97,000
Building Dept	607,500	607,500	676,274	111.3%	677,000	69,500
Total Dept Rev	4,271,855	4,271,855	5,321,260	124.6%	5,495,446	1,223,591

North Kingstown
General Fund: Expenditures
FY 2025 Preliminary Year-End Report

EXPENDITURES	FY 2025					
	ADOPTED BUDGET	REVISED BUDGET	YTD JUNE	YTD ACTUAL % OF BUDGET	PROJECTION	BUDGET VARIANCE
Town Council	70,964	70,964	44,776	63.1%	65,964	(5,000)
Legal	180,000	180,000	165,681	92.0%	170,000	(10,000)
Town Manager	326,873	326,873	339,585	103.9%	345,120	18,247
Human Resources - Personnel	1,370,120	1,370,120	1,151,060	84.0%	1,491,265	121,145
Town Clerk	514,923	514,923	484,097	94.0%	491,000	(23,923)
Canvassing	165,607	165,607	141,355	85.4%	144,316	(21,291)
Finance	1,956,670	1,956,670	1,939,411	99.1%	1,959,150	2,480
Technology	1,022,059	1,022,059	991,144	96.9%	1,016,449	(5,610)
Assessment	375,373	375,373	296,667	79.0%	300,350	(75,023)
Police	10,437,387	10,437,387	10,922,196	104.6%	11,240,000	802,613
Animal Control	139,301	139,301	150,052	107.7%	155,000	15,699
Harbor Mgmt	147,528	147,528	130,158	88.2%	134,000	(13,528)
Consolidated Communications	832,655	832,655	855,816	102.8%	885,590	52,935
Fire	11,667,804	11,667,804	11,492,522	98.5%	11,721,137	53,333
Public Works*	5,565,987	5,565,987	3,929,588	70.6%	5,750,000	184,013
Utilities	1,519,374	1,519,374	1,430,161	94.1%	1,578,961	59,587
Planning	845,366	845,366	790,643	93.5%	853,650	8,284
Code Enforce	635,297	635,297	569,970	89.7%	645,000	9,703
Senior	662,434	662,434	578,357	87.3%	590,000	(72,434)
Recreation	1,220,253	1,220,253	1,283,455	105.2%	1,343,000	122,747
Civic	243,877	245,720	422,470	171.9%	423,095	177,375
Other**	50,000	50,000	38,800	77.6%	50,000	-
QDC	691,015	691,015	687,324	99.5%	691,015	-
	40,640,868	40,642,711	38,835,287	95.6%	42,044,062	1,401,351

* Includes Public Works, Public Facilities, Highways, Trees, & Engineering
** Includes Solid Waste Landfill

North Kingstown
Budget Report: General Fund: Expenditures
Preliminary FY 2025 Year-End

Transfers	FY 2025					
	ADOPTED BUDGET	REVISED BUDGET	YTD JUNE	YTD ACTUAL % OF BUDGET	PROJECTION	BUDGET VARIANCE
Debt Service	5,258,038	5,258,038	5,258,038	100.0%	5,258,038	-
Library	1,691,940	1,700,791	1,700,791	100.5%	1,700,791	-
School						-
Town	61,416,009	61,416,009	61,416,009	100.0%	61,416,009	-
Town - Covid Aid			-	0.0%		-
State Aid	13,257,645	13,448,841	13,448,841	101.4%	13,448,841	-
Capital	-	45,954	45,954	0.0%	45,954	-
	81,623,632	81,869,633	81,869,633	100.3%	81,869,633	
	122,264,500	122,512,344	120,704,920	98.7%	123,913,695	1,401,351

On the April 2025 financial report, the anticipated surplus was \$1,181,299. The current projection is \$1,999,110. This is approximately 1.6% of the Town’s \$122,512,344 annual budget.

The additional surplus is due to unanticipated revenues in May and June. The financial institutes provided us with a higher interest rate on our operating accounts than originally used in the projections. Unscheduled requests for police details contributed to the additional revenues along with departmental revenues, which had a positive impact. Tax collection was also strong in May and June, this included tax sale revenues, prior year taxes, penalties and interest. With the exception of short-term investments, these revenues are more difficult to project each month.

The Council thanked Ms. Bridgham for her report and stated that they like this version as it provides more information.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

25. Board of Canvassers - Appointment

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Kenneth Morse, 101 Lantern Lane, Alternate Member to the Board of Canvassers to March 1, 2027, to fill the unexpired term of J. Kent Dresser.

26. Correspondence

6/26/2025 – Rebekah Seeger – E-mailed about a harassment claim, NKPD issue.

6/28/2025 – Bob Vanderslice – E-mailed for two reasons: to describe very positive actions of the town (Public Works presumably) and NKFD in response to a downed tree that caused damage to personal property and power lines; also to express that there may be gaps in hazard preparedness based on their experience.

7/1/2025 – Jennifer Lima, TANK - Request to revisit immigrant protection ordinance.

7/2/2025 - Kahlia Shmerer - Request to revisit immigrant protection ordinance.

7/8/2025 – Greg Coppa, Steven Lord, Richard Fryburg - Concerned about Town's plan for a fence along the Wright Lane right-of-way to the Town Beach; Ralph explained the situation.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Jeannette Alyward
Town Clerk