

Plumouth ON THE MOVE

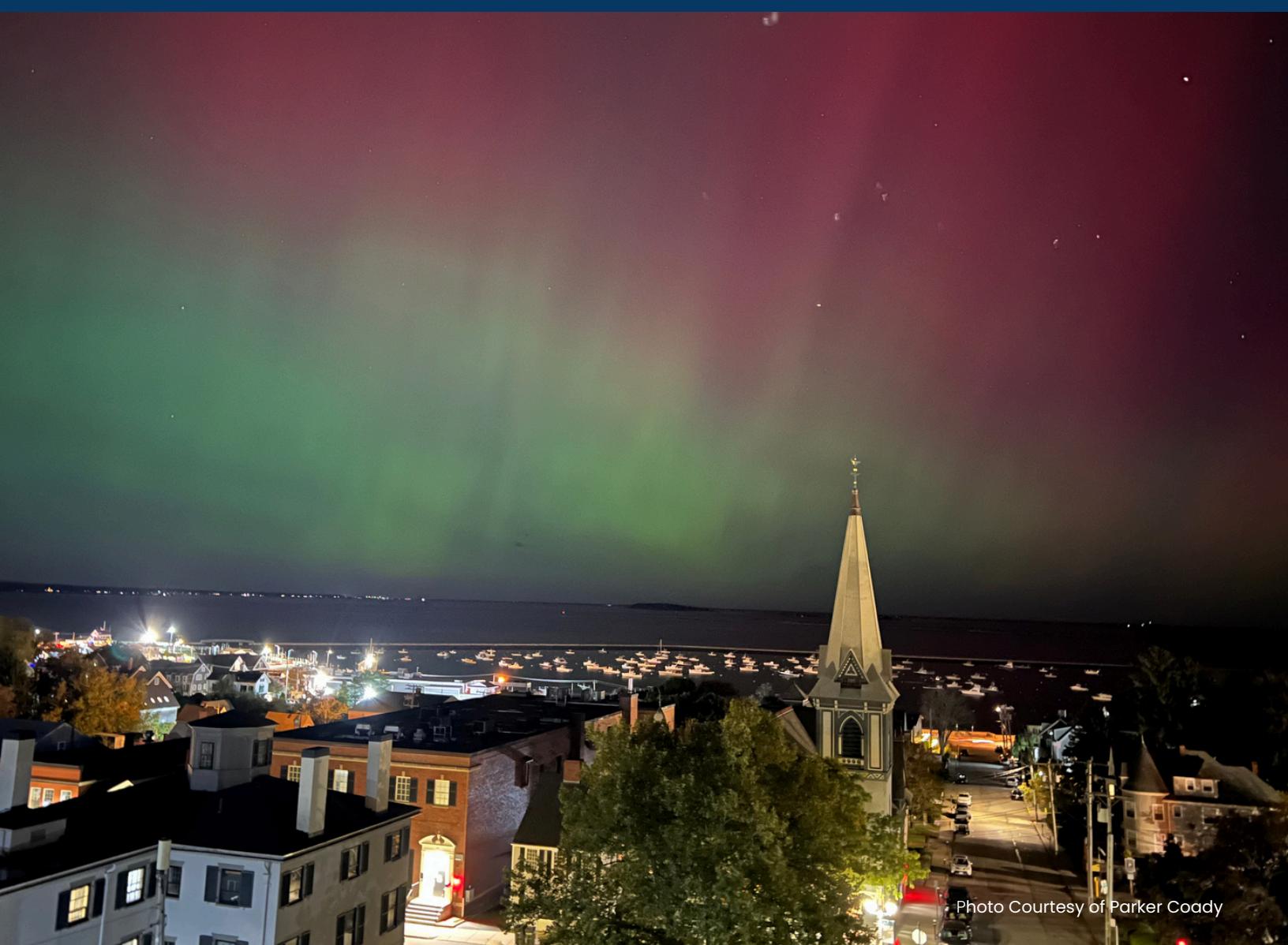


Photo Courtesy of Parker Coady



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2025 SELECT BOARD GOALS & PRIORITIES

The Town of Plymouth Select Board consists of five members elected for three-year overlapping terms. The Select Board is the chief executive body of the Town. Moving into 2025, the Select Board has worked together to create annual goals and priorities broken down into sections. Below is a list of several of the Select Board's initiatives:

Ensure a Safe & Healthy Community

- Conduct a Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan
- Develop a Park Management Plan
- Develop Open Space and Recreation Program
- Develop a Police Body Worn Camera Program

Protect the Environment

- Creation of Groundwater Discharge Committee
- Dredge Jenny Pond and improve infrastructure
- Initiate design and engineering of Town Wharf Way
- Initiate design and engineering of Downtown Resiliency Project

Commit to Long-Term Financial Planning

- Reserve additional Funds in the Nuclear Mitigation Stabilization Fund
- Reserve additional funds in the Facility Maintenance Stabilization Fund
- Increase Pavement Management Program Funding in Capital

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The Board remains dedicated to advancing the Plymouth community and looks forward to achieving our Goals and Priorities in 2025. From fostering a vibrant economic sector to protecting our environment through impactful initiatives—such as completing the dredging of Jenney Pond and advancing the engineering and design for the Downtown Resiliency Project—we are confident that 2025 will be a year of meaningful progress.

- SELECT BOARD CHAIR, DICK QUINTAL



To view the full list of the 2025 Goals and Priorities and to learn more about the Select Board, visit <https://www.plymouth-ma.gov/789>Select-Board> or scan the QR code above.



Happy New Year! I hope you enjoyed a restful and wonderful holiday season with family and friends.

In this quarter's edition of *Plymouth: On the Move*, you'll find updates from our departments and committees on the many projects, strategic plans and events underway. You will also have the opportunity to review the FY 2026 Operating Budget detailed on pages 12 and 13 that was proposed to the Select Board in December.

Working closely with the School Superintendent and both of our finance teams, I believe we have succeeded in continuing to provide strong municipal and educational services while stabilizing taxes. Please be on the lookout for the many upcoming public meetings to review this budget prior to April's Annual Town Meeting.

For future issues of the Quarterly Magazine delivered straight to your inbox, subscribe today via the QR code or the following link: <https://www.plymouth-ma.gov/list.aspx>



SELECT BOARD SPOTLIGHT

THE MARKET STREET BRIDGE MURAL

PNHS - ART & THE COMMUNITY CLASS



This year, the Plymouth North High School Art & the Community Class undertook the project of repainting the Market Street Bridge Mural!

Senior Michael Pisano won the in-class contest with his mural concept, "Many Polaroids of Different Plymouth Things." Between October 31st and November 1st, the students completed the repainting of the mural in full.

The students presented their finished project to the Select Board on December 3rd and were congratulated with Certificates of Appreciation for their contribution to the Community. Thank you to Art & the Community teacher Ms. Jezierski, to the Visitor Services Board for funding the project, the Select Board for their support, and of course, the students who gave back to their community in a beautiful way!



TOWN CLERK

WELCOME 2025!

The Clerk's Office is busy ushering in the new year with dog licensing and the annual town census/street listing.

Dog Licenses

Dog licenses are available for dogs six months and older. Be sure to bring your pup's valid rabies certificate when registering in person. You can also order online at <https://www.plymouth-ma.gov/741/Dog-Licenses-Kennel-Permits> (for renewal registrations only).

Licenses for spayed or neutered dogs cost \$15 each and licenses for unaltered dogs cost \$25 each. Be sure to complete renewal registrations by March 31, 2025 to avoid the \$15 late fee. This year's dog tag is a blue flower design.

Annual Census/Street Listing

The annual census/street listing keeps Plymouth's census records accurate and up-to-date. All residents, not just voters, should complete and return the form mailed to them each year.

The information provided assists with the following:

- Public safety and emergency response work
- Calculating State and Federal aid
- Projecting future school enrollment
- Updating the voter list and also serving as proof of residency

Please complete the street listing document by adding any new individuals living in your household and informing us if you no longer reside in Plymouth.

BOARDS & COMMITTEES: CURRENT OPENINGS

If you are interested in serving on one of the Boards or Committees in Town, please complete the [Volunteer for Boards and Committees Application online](#) or scan the QR code below. To learn more about our Boards and Committees, visit their [web pages](#).



2024 ELECTION RECAP

Turnout for the November 2024 State Election was astronomical - 77% of eligible voters participated.

Plymouth residents continue to demonstrate their appreciation for early voting as 57% voted either early in-person or by mail. Official election results are available online as always.

Interested in running for local office?

Nomination forms to run for Select Board, Planning Board, School Committee, Housing Authority, Redevelopment Authority, and Town Meeting will be available for pickup beginning January 2nd, 2025. The 2025 Political calendar is available at www.plymouth-ma.gov/elections.

Town Clerk Trivia: Where would you find your marriage certificate?

Answer: The Massachusetts community where the couple files their marriage license paperwork keeps the marriage certificate on file (not the town or city where the marriage ceremony takes place).

TOWN FOREST NEW ENGLAND COTTONTAIL RESTORATION

The restoration will include:

- 30-acres of select-harvest tree thinning to open the tree canopy and promote pitch pine (*Pinus rigida*) growth.
- Encourage shrubland vegetative species growth to provide habitat for the New England Cottontail (*Sylvilagus transitionalis*), a protected species in decline.
- Conduct prescribed burns of the cutting area every 2-4 years to reduce wildfire fuel load and promote native pine barren species growth.



- Continue a multi-year comprehensive monitoring plan for vegetative diversity, richness and recovery, bird presence, and secondary protected animal species recovery.
- Learn from data collection and analysis to make informed decisions about future town-wide pine barren management in response to climate change.

Health & Human Services

VETERANS SERVICES DIVISION

Under Plymouth HHS, the Division of Veterans Services supports local veterans and their families by assisting with Federal and State benefits and serving as a resource hub for Plymouth service members.

Led by Veterans Services Officer (VSO) Roxanne Whitbeck, a U.S. Navy veteran, and Administrative Assistant Joanne Ewers, the Division had a busy November celebrating veterans.

Highlights included:

- Attending the Medic Now Foundation's *Salute to Service* event at Memorial Hall.
- Meeting "veteran" students at Quincy College over lunch from Mama Mia's.
- Launching the Army Kettle Kick-Off with the Salvation Army.
- Connecting with a West Elementary student during a veterans-themed interview.
- Participating in ceremonies and assemblies at Plymouth North and South schools.
- Joining the Pine Hills Veterans Group, which donated \$3,500 to the Veterans Gift Account.



VSO Whitbeck is honored to engage with the community in recognizing veterans' service.

The Veterans Services Division hosted the annual Veterans Day Ceremony at Memorial Hall, featuring a moving rededication of the newly renovated Hall of Flags. The updated space honors Plymouth veterans' service to our community and country.

Memorial Hall Director Joe Goldberg, who collaborated with Veterans Services and Town colleagues to complete the renovations, shared his thoughts:

"The Hall of Flags project held significant personal importance for me, as it serves to honor the veterans of Plymouth who made the ultimate sacrifice. With the assistance of Tiffany Park, we obtained a state matching grant and with the help of Karl Anderson who assisted in contributing a portion of the funding, we were able to renovate the ceilings, columns, walls, floors, and to replace the carpeting. Additionally, we upgraded the older video displays to larger, more modern versions and installed new DVD players. Collaborating with The Local Seen, we introduced QR codes dedicated to some of our fallen heroes, which link to two-minute videos featuring their families sharing insights about the veterans' lives, their motivations for service, and the lasting impact of their sacrifices."

The Veterans Services Division collaborates with partners to support and honor Plymouth veterans. This year, they coordinated 60 Thanksgiving meal donations from the IBEW and Quintal Brothers Produce. In partnership with the Plymouth Police Department, they also distributed 30 buckets of winter coats and supplies, provided annually by Gillette Stadium, to families in need.

To close a busy fall, VSO Whitbeck served on the Thanksgiving Military Committee, coordinating the U.S. Navy Band Northeast and USS Constitution crew to help make the Thanksgiving Day Parade a success.

TREASURER/COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

- The Motor Vehicle Excise Tax main commitment has an anticipated issue date for the end of February and will be due 30 days from the date of issuance.
- Approximately 70,000 bills will be issued in this commitment.
- Motor Vehicle Excise Tax bills that remain unpaid after the due date will be demanded and will incur interest charges and demand fees; Demand bills are due 14 days from the date of issuance.
- Demand bills that are unpaid will go on warrant with the Deputy Tax Collector, Hobin & Hobin and will incur warrant fees and additional charges.

Real Estate & Personal Property

- Actual Bills for Real Estate & Personal Property will be mailed by December 31, 2024.
- 3rd Quarter installment is due by February 03, 2025.
- 4th Quarter installment is due by May 01, 2025.
- Exemptions are due and must be received by the Assessor's Office by April 1, 2025.
- Additional information regarding abatements and property exemptions and applications can be found by scanning the QR code or visiting <https://www.plymouth-ma.gov/166/Assessors-Office>.
- Moving forward, the Treasurer/Collector's Office will be working with the School Department to expand online payment options via the Invoice Cloud online payment platform.



Pay-by-phone is now available for taxes and utilities by calling 844-460-0514 (additional fees apply).

Water Bills & Beach Stickers

- Third quarter water bills are anticipated to be issued at the end of January and will be due 30 days from the date of issuance.
- Beach stickers will be available online for purchase for the 2025 season soon – check the Town website after January 1st for more information.

For more information on tax bills, please visit the bill information page by scanning the QR code or visit the following link: <https://www.plymouth-ma.gov/1244/Bill-Information>.



FEATURED FUNDING: GRANT DOLLARS AT WORK

Plymouth's departments and divisions are actively pursuing state and federal grant opportunities to advance capital projects and launch new programs. Securing grants involves extensive effort, from planning and developing applications, to managing award requirements and ensuring compliance post-award. Whether for large-scale projects or smaller initiatives, grants often determine whether a crucial project moves forward or is deferred.

Highlighted here are just a few examples of the millions in grant funding Town staff secures annually to benefit the community.

MassEEA Cranberry Bog Acquisition for Restoration: Future Cotton Brook Preserve

Plymouth's Department of Energy and Environment (DEE) recently secured a grant for the Town in the amount of \$1,035,000 for the purchase of soon-to-be-retired cranberry bogs off Black Cat Road.

The Town was one of only four state-wide applicants that received funding through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' Cranberry Bog Acquisition for Restoration program, which provides funding to municipalities, registered non-profits, and other qualified conservation organizations for the purchase or conservation restriction of retired (or soon to be retired) cranberry bogs. The intent of the program is to return the land to natural wetland habitat, restoring its ecological function and allowing the land to provide increased ecosystem services.

With this funding (representing 90% of the total purchase price), the Town will acquire just over 90 acres off Black Cat Road, at the headwaters of Town Brook. Located just south of Billington Sea, the Project Site is situated immediately adjacent to several parcels of existing open space, including an existing 49.6-acre parcel of Town-owned conservation land. This purchase will initiate the decommissioning and restoration of currently operating cranberry bogs, thereby reducing nutrient loading, improving water quality, enhancing storm attenuation, and providing improved habitat for fish and wildlife throughout the Town Brook watershed. Following restoration, the Town will open the preserve—to be named after the adjacent Cotton Brook—to passive recreation for residents and visitors.



Workplace Safety and Risk Management

During 2024, Plymouth earned a total of \$71,357 in funding for workplace safety and risk management initiatives through three grant programs:

- \$59,053 through the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association's Flex Grant Program for facility repairs, cybersecurity protection, work zone safety equipment, AEDs, marine safety gear, and personal protective equipment.
- \$6,879 through the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association's Risk Management Grant Program for work zone safety signs, eye protection, bucket evacuation kits, and manhole lift assemblies.
- \$5,425 through the Massachusetts Department of Industrial Accidents' Workplace Safety Grant Program for Snow & Ice Removal training and CPR/AED classes for employees.

FEATURED FUNDING: GRANT DOLLARS AT WORK CONT.

MassDOT Shared Streets and Spaces – Crosswalk Improvements and Speed Management

Residents may have noticed recent improvements to the intersection of Alden St and Standish Ave, as well as the crosswalk at the Town's Training Green on Sandwich St. These improvements were funded by a grant that the Department of Public Works (DPW) obtained through the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Shared Streets & Spaces Program.

MassDOT's 100%-funded program (i.e. no local match funds are required) supports a wide array of roadway and pedestrian connectivity improvements that reduce speeding and promote safety. The DPW applied its \$273,840 award to address pedestrian safety at two school-based locations, namely Standish St. at Alden St. (Cold Spring Elementary School) and Sandwich St. at the Training Green (Nathaniel Morton Elementary School). The projects at these locations included the expansion of curbing and the installation of signage, to realign the roadway, reduce crosswalk lengths, and improve crosswalk visibility. These "roadway diet" initiatives are also known to reduce speeding, by narrowing the width of the travel lane.

This grant from MassDOT will also fund the purchase and installation of crosswalk beacon equipment and several sets of fixed and portable radar feedback signs, each capable of collecting speed and volume data that DPW staff can use to evaluate problem areas. As the year progresses, residents will see these signs installed at various locations throughout town, where speeding concerns have been raised.

MassEEA Dam, Levee, and Seawall: Plymouth Beach Seawall Repair (Phase 2)

The Department of Energy & Environment (DEE) recently received another grant through Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs' Dam, Levee & Seawall Repair & Removal Program, to support the design services required for the repair of the Plymouth Beach Seawall.

The purpose of MassEEA's Dam, Levee & Seawall program is to "enhance, preserve, and protect the natural resources and scenic, historic and aesthetic qualities of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts while ensuring a clean energy and resilient future for the state's residents." The program provides financial assistance to plan and implement projects that will repair dams, seawalls, or levees that provide storm damage protection and/or flood and erosion control.

Plymouth will apply its \$111,712 award to fund the design and permitting of the second phase of the Plymouth Beach Seawall Replacement Project. This next phase of the seawall project will address a 340-foot segment of the structure that falls between the portion that was recently reconstructed in 2020 and the area just south of the concession and rest rooms facilities. These southernmost sections of the seawall protect a narrow segment of the beach, where the Eel River flows less than 100 feet away. Repair of the seawall in this area is therefore vital to the protection of roadway access, public parking, and Eel River against storm surges that threaten to overtop the beach.

TO READ MORE ABOUT GRANT DOLLARS AT WORK VISIT:

<https://www.plymouth-ma.gov/1362/Grants>
or Scan the QR Code



Public Works

PARKS AND FORESTRY DIVISION

The Plymouth Christmas tree lighting has been a cherished tradition for the Town since the late 1970s and with each passing year, the event has continued to grow bigger and better.

This year, the Town is embraced a new direction—one that has never been done before in Plymouth—by introducing an artificial Christmas tree. But this is no ordinary tree. Standing at an impressive 32 feet tall, the Majestic Pine features stunning, oversized ornaments and thousands of vibrant LED lights, creating a spectacular display for all to enjoy.



The purchase of this new tree was made possible by the Plymouth Visitor Services Board (VSB), which uses funds generated from local hotel room taxes to support projects that enhance the quality of Plymouth's tourism industry for the benefit of residents and visitors alike.

While the transition to an artificial tree may come as a surprise to some, this decision was made after years of thoughtful consideration. Each holiday season, the DPW's Forestry Division would spend considerable time and effort scouting for suitable trees to feature at the lighting ceremony. Other departments, such as Human Resources, would engage the community via social media to help locate potential tree donations.

Despite the generosity of Plymouth's residents, it became increasingly difficult to find suitable trees. Additionally, the process of cutting down a large, mature tree for temporary use and then disposing of it was both unsustainable and resource intensive.



After thorough research and discussions with other municipalities that have adopted similar trees, the decision was made to invest in the Majestic Pine. This new tree is a long-term solution that eliminates the need to cut down live trees while reducing the strain on Town resources. The Majestic Pine will serve as a centerpiece of Plymouth's holiday celebrations for years to come, preserving the magic of this beloved tradition for future generations.

HIGHWAY DIVISION

Snow and Ice Operations

Whether on the front lines, driving a plow route, or working behind the scenes in fleet maintenance, employees involved in snow and ice operations are part of a critical DPW team dedicated to keeping our roads clear and safe during winter weather.

DPW employees are behind the wheel throughout their shifts, ensuring snow operations are carried out safely and efficiently. The Town prioritizes equipping its employees with the knowledge and skills necessary to prevent accidents, injuries, and potential risks—both on and off the job. To support this goal, the DPW provided employees with comprehensive Snow & Ice Operations training, presented by the UMASS Transportation Center/Baystate Roads.

The training covered essential topics to ensure plowing is done safely and effectively and included:

- Proper use of salt and liquid anti-icers and their environmental impacts
- Pre-wetting and pre-treating techniques
- Anti-icing vs. de-icing methods
- Use of sand and its environmental effects
- Equipment calibration, usage specifications, and emerging technology
- Snow and ice policies for public review
- Cost-benefit analysis of salt versus sand

This training provided DPW plow drivers with the tools and expertise needed to combat snow and ice effectively on Town roads. With this knowledge, employees are better prepared to address varying winter weather conditions—whether it's raining in Cedarville or snowing in West Plymouth—and ensure that roads receive the appropriate treatment to keep residents safe.



FY 2026 BUDGET

2026 Town Manager Recommended Budget – General & Enterprise Funds

| Budget Item: | Final Fiscal 2025 Budget | Town Manager 2026 | Dollar Change over Prior Year | % Change over Prior Year |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Town Departments | 65,724,826 | 68,544,730 | 2,819,904 | 4.29% |
| School Department | 121,365,299 | 127,229,274 | 5,863,975 | 4.83% |
| Fixed Costs | 75,931,248 | 77,354,035 | 1,422,787 | 1.87% |
| Debt Service | 18,209,291 | 18,209,291 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Total GF Budget for Town Meeting Action | 281,230,664 | 291,337,330 | 10,106,666 | 3.59% |
| <i>Off-Budget Expenditures (Non-Town Meeting):</i> | | | | |
| Cherry Sheet Assessments & Offsets | 10,559,946 | 11,079,852 | 519,906 | 4.92% |
| Allowance for Abatements & Exemptions (AAE) | 1,330,608 | 1,575,440 | 244,832 | 18.40% |
| Total Off Budget | 11,890,554 | 12,655,292 | 764,738 | 6.43% |
| Total General Fund | 293,121,218 | 303,992,622 | 10,871,404 | 3.71% |
| <i>Enterprise Funds:</i> | | | | |
| Sewer Enterprise Fund | 8,590,035 | 8,977,272 | 387,237 | 4.51% |
| Water Enterprise Fund | 6,406,848 | 6,346,287 | (60,561) | -0.95% |
| Solid Waste Enterprise Fund | 919,621 | 958,417 | 38,796 | 4.22% |
| Airport Enterprise Fund | 3,747,358 | 3,802,724 | 55,366 | 1.48% |
| Cable Access Enterprise Fund | 1,545,000 | 1,545,000 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Total Enterprise Funds | 21,208,862 | 21,629,700 | 420,838 | 1.98% |
| Total Budget | 314,330,080 | 325,622,322 | 11,292,242 | 3.59% |

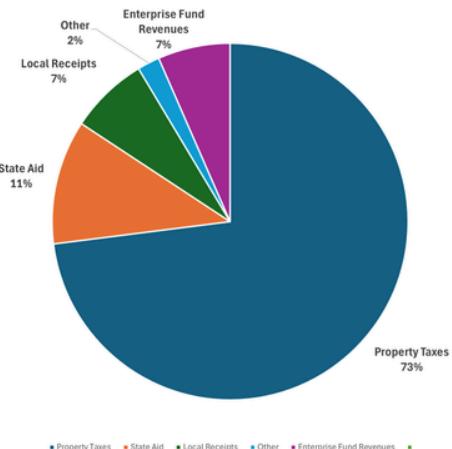
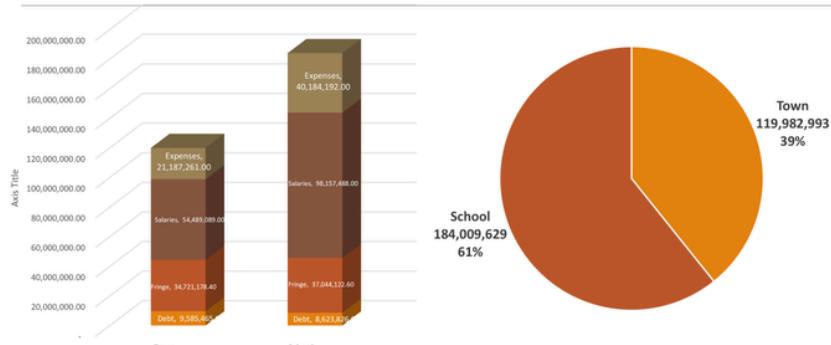
Budget Highlights:

The FY26 Budget Accomplishes the Following:

- Maintains core municipal services and education programs
- Strives to achieve the Select Board's Annual Goals and Priorities
- Continues heavy investment of the Road Improvement Program
- Continues investment in facilities stabilization and nuclear stabilization accounts
- Provides for long term succession planning within critical positions
- Fully funds year 2 of Collective Bargaining Agreements for all but one union
- Implements Year 3 of the PEC Agreement with a net savings of \$1.5 million
- Continues commitment to reducing OPEB liability (liability is now \$567M vs. \$941M in 2022)
- Continues to invest in the Town's Financial Plan by strengthening the General Stabilization Account to reach a goal of 5% of the operating budget

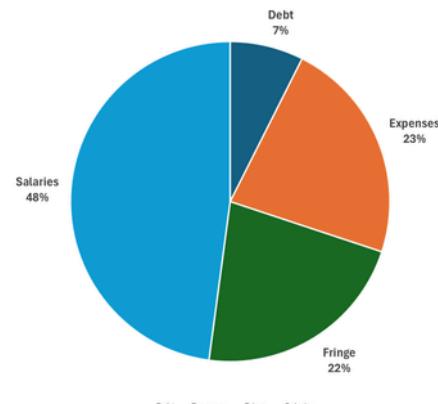
FY 2026 BUDGET CONT.

Town & School General Fund Expenses Breakdown



FY 26 Revenues – General & Enterprise Funds

PLYMOUTH BUDGET DRIVERS – ALL FUNDS



GET TO KNOW



Municipal Archivist: Connor Anderson

Connor Anderson serves as the Town of Plymouth's Municipal Archivist and Records Access Officer. In this role, he manages records requests for a variety of documents including plot plans, building permits, septic plans, and more.

Mr. Anderson earned his Bachelor's degree in History from Assumption College before completing his Master's degree at UMASS Boston in 2017. Shortly after graduate school, Connor began his career with the Town of Plymouth, initially working part-time. By 2018, his dedication and passion for history earned him a promotion to the role of full-time Municipal Archivist.

Growing up with a strong appreciation for history, inspired by his mother's career as the State Archivist, Connor had a clear vision for his own path. Even in high school, he pursued this passion by digitizing historical transcripts, setting the stage for his future in archival work.

Handling an average of 3,300 record requests annually—approximately 14 per day—Connor manages a wide range of documents, including building permits, Title V records, and the Town's historical records, which date back to 1637. Since joining the Town of Plymouth in 2017, one of his primary goals has been to digitize the Town's records. With secured capital funding, he implemented the content management software, *Laserfiche* in October 2023.

What Does the Future Hold?

To date, over 50,000 building permits and 30,000 sets of meeting minutes have been digitized using this system. Connor's five-year plan aims to transition away from paper records, starting with the digitization of documents from Planning and Development, the Fire Department, Assessing, and Engineering departments.

FUN FACT

- Donated a kidney in 2022
- Ran the Boston Marathon in April 2024 in honor of National Donate Life Month
- Favorite Local Restaurant: Mamma Mia's

HUMAN RESOURCES

Plymouth Retiree Assistance Fund (PRAF)

We are excited to announce the upcoming launch of a new program designed to support our valued Town of Plymouth Retirees. On May 14, 2024, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the Plymouth Retiree Assistance Fund (PRAF) presented by Town Manager, Derek Brindisi and PRAF Committee Members, Susan Page, Tom Pinto, and Dale Webber.

PRAF was established to provide financial assistance to help reduce the out-of-pocket costs of medical expenses to eligible retirees of the Town of Plymouth and Plymouth Public Schools who are facing a financial hardship.

The assistance provided by this fund will help cover costs for retirees medical expenses to include co-pays, prescriptions, and other out-of-pocket expenses. This program is funded solely by voluntary Town employee and retiree donations.

Eligible Town and Plymouth Public Schools Retirees, please stay tuned for more information that will be available on the Town of Plymouth, Plymouth Public Schools, and Plymouth Retirement Board websites as we get closer to the launch date.

Applications will be available beginning July 1, 2025.



Senior/Veteran Property Tax Relief Lottery

The Human Resources Department held its first ever live Senior/Veteran Tax Credit Lottery at the November 12th Select Board meeting. Thirty applicants were assigned numbers and with the assistance of Chair Dick Quintal, were selected at random.

It proved to be a fun and interactive way for seniors to participate in the selection process. We are excited to continue the Senior Tax Credit Lottery for years to come.

The following selected applicants will be contacted by the Human Resources Department:

Veterans

3, 37, 40, 76, 89, 119, 204, 205, 206, 210

Seniors

7, 9, 21, 49, 65, 67, 69, 77, 79, 80, 105, 108, 122, 132, 134, 171, 186, 189, 203, 214

Alternates

25, 31, 100, 101, 208

HUMAN RESOURCES CONT.

The Employee Engagement Committee in conjunction with Human Resources organized two successful Holiday donation events this year!



Non-perishable foods were collected for a local Food Drive in November.



In December, we held a Toy Drive with the Plymouth Family Resource Center.

"Hall-A-Day Stroll"



On December 18th, Town Hall invited the public to visit from 2-4pm for the first annual "Hall-A-Day Stroll."

The community came together for family friendly festivities including holiday decorations, an elf scavenger hunt, and hot cocoa & cookies. There was even a surprise visit from Santa!

We invite you to join us again for the holiday festivities next year!

Congratulations & Thank You For Your Service!

Director of Assessing Anne Dunn



Town Manager Derek Brindisi and Select Board Chair, Dick Quintal present Anne Dunn with a Certificate of Appreciation for her 36 years of invaluable service.

Deputy Chief - Plymouth Fire Department Gregory Kane



Assistant Town Manager Silvio Genao presents Deputy Chief Kane with a Certificate of Appreciation for his 28 years of dedicated service to the Plymouth Fire Department and community.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Director of Assessing
- Administrative Secretary – Treasury
- Town Engineer
- Transportation Engineer
- Civil Engineer Technician
- Maintenance Worker – Highway
- Motor Equipment Operator
- Heavy Motor Equipment Operator
- Assistant DPW Director
- HVAC Technician
- Building Custodian (Town Hall)
- Building Custodian (Police)
- Master Mechanic
- Airport Operations (PT)



To learn more about current opportunities or to apply, visit

<https://plymouthma.munissselfservice.com/employmentopportunities/default.aspx> or scan the QR code above.

Join Us In Welcoming...

- Derek George- Patrolman, Police
- Steven Rose- Apparatus Mechanic, Fire
- Teresa Egerton- Administrative Secretary, Assessing
- Willa Poepsel- Librarian
- Erin Foley- Library Technician
- Dawn Mackiewicz- Adult Ed Instructor, Library
- Matthew Basler- Firefighter, Fire Department
- Joshua Batres- Firefighter, Fire Department
- Gareth Brown- Firefighter, Fire Department
- Anthony Depasquale - Firefighter, Fire Department
- Kevin Disher- Firefighter, Fire Department
- Jonathan License- Firefighter, Fire Department
- Joseph Pravati- Firefighter, Fire Department
- Andrew Smith- Firefighter, Fire Department
- Kristin Ford- COPC/CPC Coordinator, Finance Department

Thank You For Your Service!

Retirements:

- Timothy Balboni – Highway Manager, DPW Highway Division
- Daniel “Butch” Machado – Special Heavy Motor Equipment Operator, DPW Highway Division
- Margaret Martin – Administration Assistant, Center for Active Living (CAL)
- Gregory Kane – Deputy Fire Chief, Plymouth Fire Department
- Anne Dunn – Director of Assessing, Assessing Division

Employee Accomplishments:

Promotions:

- Seth Johnson-Sergeant, Police Department
- Robert Ferguson- Lieutenant, Police Department
- Gregory LaPollo- Firefighter, Fire Department
- Kyle Anderson- Lieutenant, Fire Department
- Jeffrey LaChance- Lieutenant, Fire Department
- Edward Gellar- Lieutenant, Fire Department
- David Wylie- Lieutenant, Fire Department
- James Kneeland- Lieutenant, Fire Department
- Patrick Malone- Captain, Fire Department
- Samuel Palagi- Captain, Fire Department
- Carl Santino- Captain, Fire Department
- Brian Cusack- Battalion Chief, Fire Department
- David Malaguti- Deputy Chief, Fire Department
- Tony Lopes- Highway Manager, DPW
- Larry Murphy- Service Tech, DPW
- Thomas Barrett- Airport Operations
- Kari Anderson- Administrative Secretary, Center for Active Living
- Catherine Calabro- Recreation Office Manager
- Leona Cleveland- (transfer) DPW Highway Administrative Assistant

Planning & Development

Flood Hazard Information

Protect Your Family & Home

People and their homes in coastal communities like Plymouth are regularly threatened by winter weather and natural hazards including blizzards and nor'easters that have caused millions of dollars in damages to our residents. Although not all of our homes are in designated High Hazard Areas, your home may still be at risk due to erosion, localized flooding and sea level rise.

In 2016, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) paid one-third of its claims to homes in low-risk communities.

Before The Storm

Understand Your Flooding Risk - Currently, state and local regulations use the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) to depict the estimated extent of flooding during hypothetical storms. This storm is called the "100 Year Storm" and it has an estimated 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded during any given year. Over the time of a 30-year mortgage, a storm of this magnitude has a 25% chance of happening.

Homeowners are encouraged to find out if their home is in a FEMA flood zone. The FIRM maps along with additional information can be found at Town Hall in the Planning Department or at the [FEMA website: www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).

During The Storm

For more detailed information on this subject please refer to the MEMA website or to the NFIP website at <https://www.floodsmart.gov/first-prepare-flooding>.

After The Storm

- Avoid flood waters; water may be contaminated with sewage and hazardous materials
- Clean any flood damaged goods
- Check for structural damage before reentering your home
- Contact the Conservation Office for disposal options
- When making repairs make sure to flood proof your home



For further information including flood warnings and how to prevent losses, please refer to <https://www.plymouth-ma.gov/482/Federal-Flood-Insurance-Map-Information>.

Planning & Development



Master Plan Public Listening Sessions

Plymouth's Master Plan Committee continues their listening session series in January! Listening sessions are being held in various village locations to meet people where they are and gather perspectives from different areas of Plymouth. Please join us for one of the following sessions - all sessions are held in-person from 6:00-7:30pm:

- **Session 5** - Monday, January 6, 2025 at the Cedarville Fire Station
- **Session 6** - Thursday, January 16, 2025 at Manomet Elementary School
- **Session 7** - Wednesday, January 29, 2025 in the Great Room at Redbrook



Unable to attend in-person? Share your feedback via the online surveys available on the project website: tinyurl.com/PlymouthMasterPlan or by scanning the QR code above.



RIGHT TO FARM:

The Right to Farm Bylaw encourages the pursuit of agriculture, promotes agricultural-based economic opportunities, and protects farming in the Town of Plymouth by allowing agricultural uses and related activities to function in minimal conflict with abutters and town agencies. The Bylaw shall apply to all jurisdictional areas within the Town. The benefits and protections of this Bylaw are intended to apply exclusively to those agricultural operations and activities conducted in accordance with generally accepted agricultural practices.



For More Information
<https://plymouth-ma.gov/581/agricultural-commission>

Contact:
Richard Vacca
Conservation Planner
(508-322-3323)



Visitor Services Board Event Information

- Polar Plunge - Saturday, March 1st
10am – 11am
Nelson Park - 235 Water St
- Local Eats Week - March 7th to March 14th
Various restaurants throughout the Town of Plymouth
- Mayflower St. Pats 5K - Sunday, March 23rd
9:30am – 10:30am
Mayflower Brewing, 12 Resnik Rd
- Pickleball Tournament - Sunday, April 6th
11am – 4pm
Forges Field top courts and parking lot
- Plymouth Herring Run Festival - Saturday, April 19th
10am – 3pm
Plimoth Grist Mill & Jenney Pond Park - 6 Spring Ln
- Run Through the Pines 5K & 1/2 Marathon
Sunday, April 20th
8am – 11am
DCR Myles Standish State Forest

Police & Fire

APCO AWARD – 911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER



The Plymouth County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) new 911 Emergency Communications Center, in collaboration with the Plymouth Police and Fire Departments was awarded the 2024 *Team/Group of the Year* at the annual Association of Public Safety Communication Officials (APCO) International conference in Portland, Maine.

In the past, the Plymouth Fire and Police Departments had their own 911 dispatch, but with the inception of the new Communications Center, the Town now has a centralized dispatch center.

Launched in July 2023, the centralized dispatch center has significantly improved emergency response times in Plymouth, cutting medical call processing from 2 minutes and 20 seconds to just 68 seconds. "Seconds count," stated Plymouth Fire Chief Neil Foley and anyone who has ever had an emergency and called 911 knows the reality of this statement. The Chiefs credit this improvement to having the professional dispatchers together in one call center.

"It is common for our cruiser to arrive on the scene while the caller is on the line with the 911 Dispatchers," said Police Chief Flynn. "Plymouth is a big town, and the travel time is a factor that can't be changed. But what we could do is enhance our response, through our dispatchers, from the time the call is received."

"There was a time when 911 dispatchers were characterized as merely call takers," said Chief Flynn. "Dispatching is a profession with complex training. 911 Dispatchers have mandated training and are highly skilled. Police, Fire, and EMS were your public safety professionals, but now it is Police, Fire, EMS, and Communications."



APCO recognized our Officer's "outstanding collaboration, dedication, and excellence in public safety communications." The Plymouth County Sheriff's Office has had a Communication and Dispatch Division since 1991 and the Sheriff along with the Chiefs agree that consolidating and working together will have a continuous positive impact on Plymouth. Congratulations to the team for their excellence in public safety communications!

HOME BASE NO SHAVE NOVEMBER

The Plymouth Police Department exemplified the spirit of giving this holiday season with their participation in Home Base's 9th Annual No Shave November. The Police Department raised an impressive \$5,200 in November for the campaign which "raises awareness and funds for the critical, life-saving care that Home Base provides to Veterans and their Families to heal from the invisible wounds, such as post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury."

In December, they shifted their focus locally, allowing officers to participate by donating \$50. The contributions were donated to the Plymouth Area Coalition to assist Plymouth families in need, ensuring enjoyed a brighter and more joyous holiday season with much-needed gifts.

The program will continue into January with a \$25 donation option with proceeds going to Plymouth's Council on Aging to provide fuel assistance to those in need. This campaign is currently set to wrap up by March and the ongoing effort reflects the generosity and compassion of everyone involved at the Plymouth Police Department.



SCAMS PSA: DEALS, DEALS, AND MORE SCAMS!

All year long, but especially during the holiday season, fraudsters will look to take advantage.

Some common scams include the following:

- Online Shopping Scams
- Puppy Scams
- Phishing Attempts
- Gift Card Scams
- Missed Delivery Scams
- Grandparent Scams
- Temporary Holiday Jobs
- Charity Scams

You've missed our delivery, for the redelivery of your parcel please visit: <https://my.parcels-ups.com> and confirm the settlement of (1.45).

Missed Delivery Scam Example

Examples:

Phishing Attempts: Scammers will send emails impersonating legitimate companies (Amazon, Apple) offering “giveaways” or warning accounts (company, bank) are being comprised. “Free Gift Cards” in exchange for information is another tactic. Treat these emails with caution. Do not click any strange links or websites as they can contain malware. Look for clues that the emails are fake: spelling mistakes, grammar, formatting errors.

Missed Delivery Scams: Fraudsters will send phishing texts or emails informing customers that a delivery could not be completed and to follow a link or to call a phone number. Like phishing emails, these should be treated with caution. No links should be clicked. Delivery companies (FedEx, UPS, USPS, Amazon) will never ask for social security numbers or credit card numbers for delivery purposes.

Reporting Scams

- Local Police Departments
- Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at <https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/>
- FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) at <https://www.ic3.gov/>
- If the scammers obtained your Social Security number, go to IdentityTheft.gov to see what steps to take including how to monitor your credit



For more detailed information on types of scams to be on the lookout for, scan the QR code or visit [A Public Service Announcement from Information Technology](#).

DID YOU KNOW?

New Guinea Settlement at Parting Ways

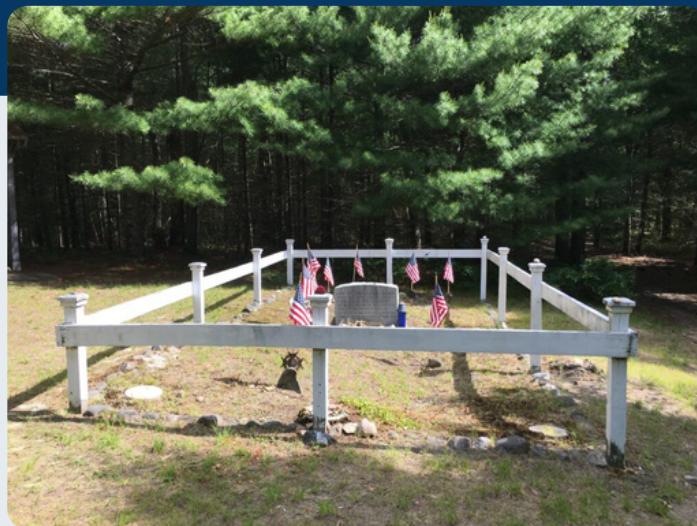
The Parting Ways Cemetery on Route 80 once served as a significant African American settlement of freedmen. Also known as the Parting Ways Archeological District and the New Guinea Settlement, it was established on 94 acres by four formerly enslaved African American soldiers who served in the Revolutionary War.

Cato Howe, Prince Goodwin, Plato Turner, and Quamony Quash, along with their families, settled the land in 1792 after the Town of Plymouth offered the land under an agreement stipulating that anyone who could clear it would gain ownership.

In the mid-1970s, Dr. James Deetz, an Anthropology Professor at Brown University and Assistant Director at Plimoth Pawtuxet, led an archaeological excavation of the area, uncovering vital insights into this community's history. Artifacts from this excavation can be found on display at the 1749 Courthouse and Museum in Town Square.



Today, Parting Ways is recognized for its historical significance, with part of the site added to the National Register of Historic Places on April 19, 1979. The site includes a cemetery, trash middens, and the foundations of the families' homes, which reflect the lives of those who built the settlement.



Recent Events

WEST PLYMOUTH VILLAGE FIRE STATION OPEN HOUSE/RIBBON CUTTING

November 7, 2024 | West Plymouth Village Fire Station

On November 7th, the community came together to celebrate the official opening of the West Plymouth Village Fire Station also known as Station 2! The two-phase project began in August 2022 and was completed in July 2024 and is expected to serve the community for the next 30+ years.



(L-R): Town Manager Derek Brindisi, Former Fire Chief Thomas Fugazzi, Selectman Charlie Bletzer, State Rep Kathleen LaNatra, State Rep Mathew Muratore, Select Board Chair Dick Quintal, Former Fire Chief Ed Bradley, Fire Chief Neil Foley, Architect Mark Saccoccio, OPM Rick Pomroy, Building Committee Chair David Peck, and Select Board Vice Chair Kevin Carty participate in Station 2's Ribbon Cutting ceremony.



(L-R): Former Fire Chief Thomas Fugazzi, Fire Chief Neil Foley, and Former Fire Chief Ed Bradley pose for a photo.



Fire Safety Day at Plymouth Public Library!

October 26, 2024



Thank you to everyone who joined us for Fire Safety Day at the Library. We hope to see you next year for more fire safety education and story time on the front lawn of the library!



Recent Events Cont.

JENNEY GRIST MILL GROUNDBREAKING

December 4, 2024 | Jenney Pond Park, 17 Spring Lane

On December 4th the Town held a Groundbreaking Ceremony for the first phase of the Jenney Grist Mill Nature-Like Fishway Bypass project: dredging.

This project has been in the works since 2016 and will be composed of two phases; the second phase will include dam repairs, trail improvements, and the creation of a nature-like fish bypass.

Dating back to 1636, the dam at the Jenney Grist Mill is one of the oldest - if not the single oldest - dam in the country. The site also has an operational mill, which provides historic and recreational value to tourists and residents. For these reasons, we elected to circumvent the dam rather than removing it as we have with others in the past.



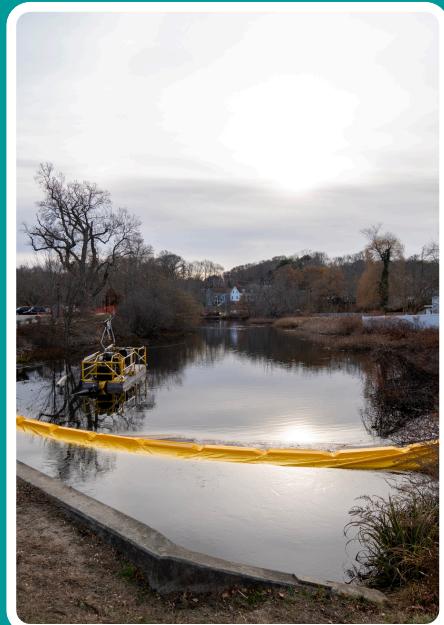
(L-R): Climate Resiliency & Sustainability Planner, Mike Cahill; Director of DEE, David Gould; Selectman David Golden & daughter; State Rep Mathew Muratore; CANZ Committee volunteer Elaine Abrams; State Rep Kathleen LaNatra; CANZ Chair Dale Bryan; Select Board Vice Chair Kevin Carty; District Director, Office of Congressman Keating, Mike Jackman; Selectman Charlie Bletzer; and Town Manager Derek Brindisi, attend the Jenney Grist Mill Groundbreaking event.



Town Manager Derek Brindisi introduces the speakers.



Climate Resiliency & Sustainability Planner, Mike Cahill explains the history of and plans for Jenney Pond Park.



Day 1 of the dredging of Jenney Pond.

Recent Events Cont.

HALL OF FLAGS RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

December 11, 2024 | Plymouth Memorial Hall, 83 Court St.



(L-R): Chief of Staff for the Office of State Rep Kathleen LaNatra, Christopher Jean; Administrative Assistant of Veterans Services Joanne Ewers; Commissioner of Health & Human Services Michelle Bratti; Director of Veterans Services Roxanne Whitbeck; State Rep Mathew Muratore; State Senator Dylan Fernandes; Select Board Chair Dick Quintal; District Director for the Office of Congressman Keating, Mike Jackman; Selectman Charlie Bletzer; Town Manager Derek Brindisi; Selectman David Golden; Facility/Event Director of Memorial Hall Joe Goldberg; and Assistant Town Manager Silvio Genao take place in the Hall of Flags ribbon cutting ceremony.



Located at Memorial Hall, the Hall of Flags is Plymouth's tribute to its veterans. The Hall of Flags has undergone a stunning renovation and on December 11th, the Town celebrated with a rededication and ribbon cutting ceremony!

Thanks to a \$15,000 Grant from the MA Secretary of State's Veterans Heritage Grant Program, the Hall of Flags now includes modernized display cases with shatter-resistant glass, humidity control, LED lighting, & UV protection; restored plaster, columns, & freshly painted woodwork; and Digital enhancements including QR code enabled stories & virtual tours.

Stop by to experience the upgraded exhibit and discover the incredible stories of our Hometown Heroes!

Recent Events Cont.



HALLOWEEN ON MAIN



October 31st



On October 31st, Town employees joined the community for the annual Downtown event, Halloween on Main!

Activities included Trick or Treating, a virtual costume contest for children & dogs, face painting, and pumpkin decorating.

We hope to see you all again next year!



The Department of Energy and Environment won the internal Halloween Decoration Contest with their PIRATE themed costumes & office décor! Congratulations, DEE!



Recent Events Cont.

LIGHT UP THE SEASON

December 6, 2024 | Town Hall Green

On December 6th we kicked off the Holiday season with family-friendly festivities downtown!

The Town's annual *Light Up the Season* Holiday Celebration on the Town Hall Green commenced with the tree and Menorah lighting, a visit from Santa, and live music! Attendees ended the night at the Spire Center for Performing Arts visiting Santa and drinking hot cocoa.



Thank you to all who helped make this event successful and filled with cheer: Kevin Walsh, Dave Badot, State Rep Mathew Muratore, Director of Parks & Forestry Nick Faiella, Human Resources Director Jaclyn Gurney, and musical performers The Road Back Home, Plymouth Public Schools, and Cara Brindisi.



Musical performers (L-R): The Road Back Home, Plymouth Public Schools, and Cara Brindisi of NBC's "The Voice."



Santa leads the crowd in a countdown for the tree & Menorah lighting.



Children visit with Santa Claus at the Spire Center for Performing Arts.



TOWN SOCIAL MEDIA



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