# Town of Wrentham



# 2020 Annual Report

#### **TOWN OF WRENTHAM**



FOUNDED IN 1660 - INCORPORATED 1673

2019 CENSUS - POPULATION – 11,726 (as of 6/30/20) Voters – 8,758 (as of 06/30/20)

#### TOWN OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 07-01-19 THROUGH 06-30-20

#### **Board of Selectmen**

STEPHEN J. LANGLEY, CHAIRMAN (Term Expires 2022)

JOSEPH F. BOTAISH II, VICE-CHAIRMAN (Term Expires 2022)

JEROME P. MCGOVERN, CLERK (Term Expires 2021)

> JAMES E. ANDERSON (Term Expires 2021)

CHARLES R. KENNEDY (Term Expires 2023)

KEVIN A SWEET, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR STEPHANIE DUQUETTE, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT AMANDA VASAPOLLO, BOARD SECRETARY/LICENSING CLERK

> Moderator EDWARD GODDARD (Term Expires 2021)

Town Clerk CYNTHIA L. THOMPSON, CMC/CMMC Assistant Town Clerk ELLEN C. WOJCIK, CMC

#### POLITICAL REPRESENTATION

#### **SENATORS IN CONGRESS**

Honorable Elizabeth A. Warren Honorable Edward J. Markey

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT – 4th Honorable Joseph P. Kennedy III

STATE SENATORIAL DISTRICT NORFOLK, BRISTOL & MIDDLESEX Rebecca L. Rausch of Needham

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT

9th Norfolk Shawn C. Dooley of Norfolk

## **COUNTY SEAT - NORFOLK COUNTY, DEDHAM**

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Joseph P. Shea, Quincy Francis W. O'Brien, Dedham Peter H. Collins, Milton

REGISTER OF DEEDS William P. O'Donnell

COUNTY ENGINEER Joseph McNichols

COUNTY TREASURER James E. Timilty

DISTRICT ATTORNEY Michael Morrissey

SHERIFF Jerome P. McDermott

# **Table of Contents**

Table of Contents	3
Births, Marriages, and Deaths Recorded in the Town of Wrentham	4
Minutes of the November 4, 2019 Special (Fall) Town Meeting	5
Minutes of the June 22, 2020 Annual Town Meeting	14
Minutes of the June 29, 2020 Annual Town Election	18
Report of the Town Accountant	22
Report of the Finance Director	24
Report of the Treasurer/Collector	25
Report of the Finance Committee	26
Report of the Board of Assessors	28
Report of the Board of Health	29
Report of the Board of Selectmen	31
Report of the Building Commissioner	32
Report of the Conservation Commission	33
Report of the Council on Aging	34
Report of the Cultural Council	36
Report of the Fire Department	37
Report of the Fiske Public Library	42
Report of the Historical Commission	43
Report of the Wrentham Housing Authority	44
Report of the Information Technology Department	45
Report of the Metacomet Emergency Communications Center (MECC)	47
Report of the Norfolk County Mosquito Control	48
Report of the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds	49
Report of the Planning Board	53
Report of the Police Department	55
Report of the Public Health Nurses	59
Report of the Public Works Department	65
Report of the Recreation Department	67
Report of the Southeastern Regional Services Group (SERSG)	69
Report of the Wrentham Public Schools' Superintendent	70
Report of the Wrentham Public Schools' Principals	71
Report of the Wrentham School Committee	74
Report of the King Philip Regional High School	75
Report of the Zoning Board of Appeals	81

# Births, Marriages, and Deaths Recorded in the Town of Wrentham, Massachusetts

	Fiscal Year 19	Fiscal Year 20
Births	103	86
Marriages	61	40
Deaths	172	216

# Minutes of the November 4, 2019 Special (Fall) Town Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Edward Goddard at 7:45 PM at the King Philip High School auditorium. There were 326 voters in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Moderator Goddard.

Selectmen Langley made a motion to waive the reading of the warrant. *Motion passed unanimously*. Tellers appointed were Leo Immonen, Stephanie Duquette and Mike Maguire.

The Moderator reviewed the outline and agenda of the town meeting and verified with the Town Clerk that the warrant was posted properly and warrant articles were submitted on time. All non-registered voters were seated in the first ten rows on the left side of the auditorium and wore "non-registered voter" stickers.

The Moderator recognized Mr. Kelly Williams who resigned from the Finance Committee after 15 years. A moment of silence was held for long time School Committee/Historical Commission member C. Gordon (Gog) Woodhams.

#### TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

<u>Article 1</u> – Selectmen Nolan and Selectmen McGovern recognized Mrs. Patricia Fogg as the Town of Wrentham 2019 Volunteer of the Year.

<u>Article 2</u> – Move that the Town appropriates \$3,418,000 to pay costs of updating/repairing the Madison Street water main, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, §8(5), or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount. This vote supersedes the vote approved at the June 3, 2019 ATM, Article 11.

The Moderator received unanimous consent to suspend the vote by secret ballot (General Bylaws, Article 2.20, Section 4, paragraph D.

Motion passed by a 2/3 vote.

<u>Article 3</u> – Move that the Town appropriates \$634,804 to pay costs of acquiring an equipped class "A" pumper for the use of the Fire Department, and that to meet this appropriation, the Town Administrator, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to obtain said amount through a lease purchase financing agreement as permitted in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, §21C, or any other enabling authority; the term of such lease purchase agreement not to exceed the useful life of the fire engine as determined by the Town Administrator; that the Town Administrator, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to execute and deliver such lease-purchase agreement and any and all other related documents which shall contain such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall approve.

#### Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 4</u> – Move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$180,000 to pay costs of various capital equipment and projects as described below:

Capital Project/Item	Amount
HVAC System Delaney School	\$30,000
Renovations to Station 2	\$150,000

#### Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 5</u> – Move that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer the sum of \$90,000 to supplement the current Fiscal Year 2020 operating budgets and to be sourced and distributed as follows:

Ambulance Receipts Reserve to Fire Personnel	\$90,000
--	----------

Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 6</u> – Move that the town vote to appropriate by transfer from unexpended funds in the Treasury the sum of \$58,500 to fund the Wrentham Police Union Contract allocated to Police Personnel.

#### Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 21</u> – MOVE that the Town appropriate \$445,315 to pay costs of funding the construction of a playground at the Rice Recreation Area, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. 44B, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. Any borrowing pursuant to M.G.L. 44B, shall be paid, in the first instance from the Open Space and Recreation Reserve account and/or the Undesignated Fund Balance and/or the Budgeted Reserve account of the Community Preservation Fund. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of

issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Motion withdrawn.

<u>Article 21</u> – MOVE that the Town appropriate \$445,315 to pay costs of funding the construction of a playground at the Rice Recreation Area, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44B, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. Any borrowing pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44B, shall be paid, in the first instance from the Open Space and Recreation Reserve account and, in the absence of a sufficient balance in said account, from the Undesignated Fund Balance account of the Community Preservation Fund. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Motion passed yes – 225, no – 67.

<u>Article 22</u> – MOVE that the Town appropriate the sum of \$9,900.00 from the Historic Preservation Reserve account of the Community Preservation Fund for the purpose of funding the cleaning, restoration and preservation of nine historic paintings by Wrentham artist Joseph Cowell.

#### Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 23</u> – MOVE that the Town appropriate the sum of \$6,500.00 from the Open Space and Recreation Reserve account of the Community Preservation Fund for the purpose of funding the updating of the Town of Wrentham's Open Space and Recreation Plan.

#### Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 24</u> – MOVE that the Town appropriate the sum of \$16,000.00 from the Community Housing Reserve account of the Community Preservation Fund for the purpose of funding the replacement of fencing at Bennett Gardens and at New Emerald Lane, and to appropriate the sum of \$1,000 from the Open Space and Recreation Reserve account of the Community Preservation Fund for the purpose of funding basketball hoops at New Emerald Lane.

#### Motion passed majority.

<u>Article 25</u> – MOVE that the Town appropriate the sum of \$45,000.00 from the Open Space and Recreation Reserve account and/or the Undesignated Fund Balance and/or the Budgeted Reserve account of the Community Preservation Fund, for the purpose of funding the purchase and installation of benthic barriers for the control of invasive Brazilian waterweed in Lake Archer, and for the implementation of suction harvesting to mitigate its propagation. Motion passed majority.

<u>Article 26</u> – MOVE that the Town appropriate the sum of \$23,000.00 from the Open Space and Recreation Reserve account and/or the Undesignated Fund Balance and/or the Budgeted Reserve account of the Community Preservation Fund, for the purpose of funding a stormwater study to determine the source of pollutants into Mirror Lake and create a plan for their control, and for the continued treatment of invasive bladderwort and water lily in Mirror Lake.

#### Motion passed majority.

<u>Article 27</u> – MOVE that the Town appropriate the sum of \$83,000.00 from the Open Space and Recreation Reserve account and/or the Undesignated Fund Balance and/or the Budgeted Reserve account of the Community Preservation Fund, for the purpose of purchasing and operating a mechanical aquatic weed harvester and trailer, and for the disposal of harvested material.

#### Motion passed majority.

<u>Article 7</u> – MOVE that the Town accept as public ways the streets identified as Badus Brook Road and High Meadow Road as printed in the warrant for this Town Meeting and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire the land within the layout of those ways by voluntary conveyance.

#### Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 8</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws as printed under Article 8 in the warrant for this Town Meeting, except that the word "Community" in the phrase "Community, Recreation, SCHOOL and PARK District" in Sections 19.2.a.3, 19.5.a., and 19.5.b.3 should be changed to the word "Conservation".

#### Motion passed majority (2/3 vote).

<u>Article 9</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws by updating subsection 3.2, Zoning Map, to reflect the revisions to the Route 1 District boundaries, as printed under Article 9 in the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

#### Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 10</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws as printed under Article 10 in the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

#### Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 11</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend the various sections of the Zoning By-Laws as printed under Article 11 of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 12</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws as printed under Article 12 of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 13</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend Article 2.40, Section 1, paragraph B of the General Bylaws by deleting:

ii – Capital Budget Planning Committee
iv – Technical Review Committee
viii – Host Community Committee
xi – Personnel Board
xii – Energy Resources Commission
xiv – Committee for an Attractive Wrentham
xv – Dam Committee

and renumber the remaining list of Standing Committees accordingly. And further, amend the newly numbered xiii. Recreation Committee to read: xiii. Recreation Commission.

And further, delete in their entirety Article 4.70 – Capital Budget Planning Committee, Article 7.80 – Technical Review Committee, Article 7.100 – Host Community Committee, Article 3.80 - Personnel Board, Article 6.80 – Dam Committee and Article 6.90 - Energy Resources Commission and renumber all remaining sections respectively.

Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 14</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend Article 2.40, Section 3, paragraph C of the General Bylaws as follows:

C. An appointee removed under Paragraph B. above may appeal his/her removal within five (5) days of receipt of such notification by requesting a hearing in writing to the appointing authority who shall notify the appointee of the hearing date, time and location within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the written appeal hearing request. The appeal hearing shall take place within thirty (30) days of the written request. The appeal shall be held in Executive Session only upon request from the appointee and a secretary shall be present to take minutes. The ruling rendered shall be final and made within fourteen (14) days of the hearing. Written notice of the ruling shall be given to the appointee, appointing authority, Town Clerk and said *committee*.

Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 15</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend the General Bylaws by adding a new Section 4 – Non-Substantive Renumbering to Article 3.50, Town Clerk as follows:

#### ART. 3.50, SECTION 4. Non-Substantive Renumbering

The Town Clerk is authorized to assign appropriate numbers or letters to bylaw sections, subsections, paragraphs and subparagraphs where none are approved at Town Meeting; and if such number or lettering is approved by Town Meeting, to make non-substantive editorial revisions to the same to ensure consistent and appropriate sequencing and numbering; and to make non-substantive editorial revisions to references regarding such numbering or lettering as contained within the bylaws to ensure accuracy and conformity.

#### Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 16</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend Article 7.70, Section 4 – Reduction of Single-Use Plastic Bags by replacing in its entirety with the re-codified version as printed in the November 4, 2019 warrant.

And further, amend Article 4.10, Section 7, paragraph B by adding:

- xii.Violation of Single-Use Plastic Bags (ART 7.70, SECTION 4)**1.** First violationWritten Warning
  - 2. Second violation (if occurs within one year after warning notice issued)

\$50.00

**3.** Third and subsequent violations \$100.00

and renumber the remaining **B. Fines** section respectively.

#### Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 17</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend Article 5.10, Section 8, paragraph A of the General Bylaws as follows:

No person shall drink any alcoholic beverages as defined by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 138, Section 1, while on, in or upon any public way or way to which the public has access; any public park, playground or conservation area without the permission of the local licensing authority; or upon any private land or place without the consent of the owner or person in control thereof. A violation on this bylaw shall be deemed to be a breach of the peace.

#### Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 18</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend Article 6.50, Section 1, paragraph E of the General Bylaws as follows:

Every residential owner/tenant shall place a recycling bin at the curb for collection. Yard waste may be brought to the DPW yard.

#### Motion withdrawn.

Move that the Town vote to amend Article 6.50, Section 1, paragraph E of the General Bylaws as follows:

Every residential owner/tenant shall place a town provided or approved recycling bin at the curb for collection. Yard waste may be brought to the DPW yard.

#### Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Article 19</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend the General Bylaws by adding a new Article 6.80 – Prohibitation of Illicit Discharges to the Stormwater Drain System, the text of which is printed in the November 4, 2019 warrant.

#### Motion passed majority (2/3 vote).

<u>Article 20</u> – Move that the Town vote to amend Article 7.100, Section 2, paragraph A of the General Bylaws as follows:

• one member of the Recreation Commission established under Article 8.30 of these bylaws, as designated by that committee

Motion passed unanimously.

Selectmen Langley made a motion to adjourn sine die at 10:15 PM. *Motion passed*.

A True Copy, Attest:

Cynthia L. Thompson, Town Clerk, CMC/CMMC

# Minutes of the June 22, 2020 Annual Town Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Edward Goddard at 7:30 PM at the King Philip Regional High School Auditorium. As of June 22, 2020 there were 8,786 registered voters of which 39 were in attendance.

This Town Meeting had been postponed from the original date of June 1, 2019, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Extra precautions were taken for the safety of the town meeting workers, staff and everyone who attended. Some of which included plexiglass sneeze guards at check-in and face covering were worn by all. The auditorium was clearly marked to encourage social distancing so everyone could be seated 6 ft. apart. The warrant was limited to fix (6) financial articles only.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Moderator Goddard. Tellers appointed were Jeffrey Hall and Leo Immonen.

The warrant was properly posted and all motions were received in a timely fashion. Selectmen, Stephen Langley motioned to waive the reading of the Town Meeting Warrant.

The Moderator introduced the newest member of the Finance Committee, Christopher Pflum who was appointed for a 3-year term.

#### **TOWN MEETING ARTICLES**

<u>Article 1</u> – Move that the Town vote to fix the salary and the compensation of elected officials as provided Chapter 41, Section 108, of the Massachusetts General Laws:

Town Clerk	\$72,002.00
All Other Elected Officials	\$0.00

Passed unanimously.

<u>Article 2</u> – Move that the Town vote to approve the Town of Wrentham's Water Enterprise Fiscal Year 2021 for the sum of \$2,363,950 as shown in the Wrentham Finance Committee's Recommendations under Table B-1.

The appropriation will be allocated as follows:

To direct expenses the sum of	\$1,855,785
By transfer to the general fund for indirect expenses the sum of	\$508,165
Said sum is to be sourced as follows:	
From Water Enterprise Fund Revenue the sum of	\$2,288,950
By transfer from the Water Enterprise Retained Earnings to the	\$75,000
Water Enterprise Operating Capital Budget the sum of	

Passed unanimously.

<u>Article 3</u> – Move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$45,802,380 to fund the Town's Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021) to be expended as follows:

General Government	\$3,394,868
Public Safety	\$6,105,427
Public Works	\$2,120,743
Human Services	\$503,652
Culture & Recreation	\$522,847
Education – Wrentham	\$12,548,697
Education – King Phillip Regional	\$11,245,600
Education – Tri-County, Norfolk Agricultural	\$958,428
Debt Service	\$667,971
Insurances & Employee Benefits	\$7,734,147

#### Total General Fund Expenses

\$45,802,380

And that the foregoing appropriation be sourced as follows:

Raise and Appropriate the sum of	\$43,174,21
	5
Appropriate by transfer from the Ambulance Receipts Reserve Account to the Fire Department's Salary Accounts the sum of	\$580,000
Appropriate by transfer from the Cemetery Receipts Reserve Account the sum of	\$20,000
Appropriate by transfer from the Septic Loan Program the sum of	\$20,000
Appropriate by transfer from the Water Enterprise Fund the sum of	\$508,165
Appropriate by transfer from unappropriated funds in the treasury the sum of	\$1,500,000

Town Administrator Sweet gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on the FY21 budget.

Passed unanimously.

<u>Article 4</u> - Move that the Town vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$139,025 for the following capital items:

Department	Equipment	Cost
Public Safety-Fire	Engine 2 (Lease)	\$83,632
Public Safety-Fire	SCBA Replacement (Lease)	\$55,393

Passed unanimously.

<u>Article 5</u> – Move that the Town vote to authorize the total expenditures for the following revolving funds pursuant to MGL c. 44, Section 53E  $\frac{1}{2}$  for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 to be expended in accordance with the bylaws heretofore approved.

Fund	Approved Total Expenditures
Police Equipment	\$50,000
Recycling and Solid Waste	\$50,000
Firearms Licenses	\$30,000
Wrentham Cultural Council	\$10,000
Communications	\$20,000

#### Passed unanimously.

<u>Article 6</u> – Move that the Town vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for administrative expenses, committee preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2021:

#### **Appropriations:**

From FY2021 estimated revenues for committee administrative expenses:	\$14,000
rioni rizozi estinated revendes for committee administrative expenses.	$\psi_{1-},000$

#### **Reserves:**

From FY2021 estimated revenues for Historic Preservation Reserve:	\$30,000
From FY2021 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve:	\$30,000
From FY2021 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve:	\$30,000
From FY2021 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve:	\$182,000

#### Passed unanimously.

The Moderator asked for a moment of silence and thoughts and prayers for everyone who is going through these difficult times.

Town Administrator Sweet recognized new staff members Chad Lovett, Facilities Director and Christine Dupras, Town Accountant as well as Marina Malamud who was appointed as the Town's new Treasurer/Collector.

Motion by Selectmen Anderson to adjourn sin die at 7;56 p.m. Motion carries.

A True Copy, Attest: \_

Cynthia L. Thompson, Town Clerk, CMC/CMMC

#### Minutes of the June 29, 2020 Annual Town Election

This election was postponed from the first Monday in April (April 6, 2020) as required by the Town's Bylaws due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Polling hours were from 12:00 noon through 5:00 p.m. The Warrant was properly posted and amended to reflect the new Election date and polling hours.

This election was the first Local Election to encourage Early Voting by mail. Because this was a first for all communities throughout the state, the Secretary of State's office clarified state laws of what could/couldn't be done and also offered advice on making changes to the process, reducing polling places and hours, requesting waivers on poll workers and polling place conduct.

Appropriate safety precautions were in place to ensure social distancing and to provide a clean, safe environment for all workers and voters.

The polls were declared open at 12:00 p.m. by Warden Mary Geromini. There were five (5) voters standing in line to cast their ballot. The Sample Ballot, Instructions to Voters, Voters Bill of Rights, and Zero Tabulations from Precinct 1, Precinct 2 and Precinct 3 were posted. The AutoMark handicap voting machine was turned on.

Election workers were as follows:

Precinct 1 Clerk – Kendra Farling Precinct 1 Check- In – Carolyn Collins and Ann Fiske Precinct 1 Check- Out – Judith Simonds and Marguerite Pennini Precinct 2 Clerk – Leo Immonen Precinct 2 Check-In – Joe Cormier and Keith Langer Precinct 2 Check-Out – Donna Martin and Mary Geromini Precinct 3 Clerk – Lynn Hallion Precinct 3 Check-In – Mary Carlson and Marsha Bogdanchik Precinct 3 Check-Out - Karen Suchy and Patricia Sluss

Special thanks to the Elementary School custodian staff and the Town's facilities department to make sure that personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies were readily available as well as sneeze guards placed on every table throughout the polling location. Also to the Wrentham Police Department for working the detail (Officer Peter Preston and Officer Patrick Griffin) and extra thanks to Patrolman Jonathan King who was learning the ropes of being in charge of the delivery and safety of the ballots and voting equipment for the first time.

The ballot boxes were opened by Officer King with Deputy Warden, Bill Jones and Town Clerk, Cynthia Thompson observing. The ballot boxes proved to be empty and the zero tabulation tapes were run and posted. The keys were handed over to Officer King. The turnout was very slow throughout the day. At the time of this Annual Town Election, there were a total of 8,786 registered voters in Wrentham. There were 288 in-person voters and Early Voting was successful with a total of 474 ballot requests. There were 50 Absentee ballot requests. This election presented a 7% total turnout.

The Early Ballots and Absentee Ballots were processed by the Precinct Clerks during the day. There were a couple of jams with the folded ballots in the ImageCast tabulators, which Officer King cleared. No voters took advantage of the Automark machine.

At 5:00 p.m. Warden, Geromini closed the polls. The voting machines were programmed for tabulation and two sets of tapes were run. Tellers reconciled their books and write-in votes were recorded. Results were ready by 6:00 p.m.

There were zero (0) provisional ballots, one EV spoiled ballot, one in-person spoiled ballot and several affirmations.

All materials were returned to Town Hall by 7:00 p.m. and official results were posted on the Town's website on Tuesday, June 30th.

The Town Clerk would like to thank all the staff members who worked at this election, especially in this unique situation to make the day run smoothly.

Attest:

Cynthia L. Thompson, Town Clerk, CMC/CMMC

Results of the election are as follows:

# Annual Town Election - June 29, 2020 - Tally Sheet - Official Results

	 ,	 	_		
	Precinct 1	Precinct 2		Precinct 3	Official
Board of Assessors (1) - 2 years					
Write-Ins	20	23		25	68
Blanks	175	230		199	604
Total	195	253		224	672
Board of Assessors (1) - 3 years					
Jonathan T. Marinelli	148	203		191	542
Write-Ins	1	1		0	2
Blanks	46	49		33	128
Total	195	253		224	672
Board of Health (1) - 3 years					
George R. Smith, Jr.	141	190		180	511
Blanks	52	61		43	156

Write-Ins	2	2	1	5
Total	195	253	224	672
Board of Selectmen (1) - 3 years				
Charles R. Kennedy	101	132	117	350
Robert B. Morrison	82	108	102	292
Blanks	12	12	5	29
Write-Ins	0	1	0	1
Total	195	253	224	672
Fiske Public Library Trustee (2) -				
3 years				
Robert K. Casavant, Jr.	164	207	189	560
Diane G. Rook	159	207	185	551
Blanks	67	92	74	233
Write-Ins	0	0	0	0
Total	390	506	448	1344
King Philip School Committee (1) - 3 years				
Trevor G. Knott	152	202	189	543
Blanks	42	50	33	125
Write-Ins	1	1	2	4
Total	195	253	224	672

Annual Town Election - Jun	e	29, 2020 - 1	Гal	ly Sheet -	Of	ficial Resu	lts	
		Precinct 1		Precinct 2		Precinct 3		Official
Moderator (1) - 1 year								
Edward J. Goddard		161		217		193		571
Blanks		33		34		31		98
Write-Ins		1		2		0		3
Total		195		253		224		672
Planning Board (2) - 3 years								
Stephen C. Schwarm		145		200		184		529
Charles G. Woodhams, Jr.		159		206		184		549
Blanks		81		99		80		260
Write-Ins		5		1		0		6
Total		390		506		448		1344
Wrentham Housing Authority (1) - 5 years								
Alan A. Richard		80		112		100		292
Ann Smith		85		102		90		277
Blanks		29		39		34		102
Write-Ins		1		0		0		1
Total		195		253		224		672
Wrentham School Committee (2) - 3 years								
Veronica M. Gonzalez		148		200		187		535
Blanks		210		256		214		680
Write-Ins		32		50		47		129
Total		390		506		448		1344
Bold Italics - Winner								

# **Report of the Town Accountant**

In accordance with Chapter 41, section 61, of the Massachusetts General Laws, I hereby submit the Annual Report of the Town Accountant for the fiscal year July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

All invoices and payrolls presented during the fiscal year by the various departments were examined for accuracy and legal compliance prior to submission to the Town Administrator for approval and the Treasurer for disbursement of funds.

The Treasurer's cash was examined and found to be in order. Notices of the condition of appropriations and accounts were furnished, written and verbal, to the various departments and boards each month during the fiscal year.

A Combined Balance Sheet was submitted to the Department of Revenue's Division of Local Services/Bureau of Accounts for review. In accordance with Chapter 59, Section 23 of the Massachusetts General Laws, "Free Cash" as of July 1, 2020 was certified at \$2,386,997; and the Water Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings as of July 1, 2020 was certified at \$2,018,242.

The accounting records of the Town are maintained under the Uniform Municipal Accounting System as promulgated by the Director of Accounts. In an effort to convey the budgetary conditions and financial health of the Town, UMAS defined financial statements follow this narrative. Several special revenue summary sheets are included to highlight the activity of funds outside the Town's omnibus budget. In accordance with Chapter 44, Section 53G a report of special accounts held for the employment of outside consultants follows.

An audit of FY2020 activity has been performed by the firm Roselli, Clark & Associates, CPA. Please contact the office to request any additional information.

I would like to express thanks to all Town officials and department staff for the continued cooperation they have extended to the department. In addition, I would like thank our payroll specialist, Marina Malamud and our payables clerk, Annemarie Foley for their continued dedication to the department and the Town of Wrentham. I look forward to another successful year ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Dupras Town Accountant

		TOWI	TOWN OF WRENTHAM	IAM				
	COMBINED B	ALANCE SHEET	- ALL FUND TYI June 30, 2020	COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP June 30, 2020	T GROUP			noisian chino
	Govern	Governmental Fund Types	sed	Enterprise Fund Types	nd Types	Fiduciary Fund Types	Account Group	
Assets and Other Debits	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Capital Projects	Water Fund	Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Obligations	TOTAL (Memo Only)
Cash and cash equivalents Investments	7,372,515	4,868,679	282,548	2,797,705	3, 195, 259	3,315,771 40,476		21,832,477 40,476
Receivables: Property taxes Tax Deferratis and Tax Liens Motor vehicle excise Boat Excise Other Intergovernmental Charges for services and other	801,357 681,360 276,183 3,125 25,100	190,763 1,588,174	¥.		441,435			801, 357 684, 360 276, 183 3, 125 215, 863 2, 029,609
Total receivables	1,790,125	1,778,937			441,435	•		4,010,497
Due from other funds Other assets Amounts to be provided for the retirement of general long-term obligations	243,510				2,508,825		21,136,465	- 243,510 23,645,290
T otal assets	9,406,150	6,647,616	282,548	2, 797, 705	6,145,519	3,356,247	21, 136,465	49,772,250
Liabilities, Equity and Other Credits								
Warrants Payable Accounts Payable	1,202,510 61,361	360,518 -	r.		417,548 16,709	44,838		2,025,414 78,070
Accrued liabilities: Accrued Compensation Payable Compensated absences payable	1,044,316				15,439		294,051	1,044,316 309,490
OPEB Obligations payable Other Ductors chroated		499,712				21,848	18,045,528	18,045,528 521,560
Gue to outer joints General obligation bonds and notes payable Deferred revents house	2,098,836	1,588,797			2,493,386 441,435		2,796,886	5,290,272 4,129,068
Total liabilities	4,407,023	2,449,027			3,384,517	66,686	21,136,465	31,443,718
Retained earnings Fund balances: Reserved for: Encumbrances and continuing appropriations Innexed.	343,946							- 343,946
Nonexemption trust endowment Designated for subsequent year expenditures	1,946,501	1,171,237	a13 cac	207 705 C	742,760	307,063		307,063 3,860,498 6,077 506
Designated for paperses Designated for appropriation deficit Designated for appropriation deficit	200 (58,681)	100 <sup>1</sup>	010101	001/101/1				(58,681)
Undesignated Total equity and other credits	2,767,161 4,999,127	30,098 4,198,588	282,548	2,797,705	2,018,242 2,761,002	2,982,498 3,289,561	2	7,797,999 18,328,531
Contingencies Total liabilities, equity and other credits	9,406,150	6,647,616	282,548	2,797,705	6,145,519	3,356,247	21,136,465	49,772,249
		,			,		,	

# **Report of the Finance Director**

		Fiscal 2021	Fiscal 2020			Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2018			Fiscal 2017
Gross Amount to be Raised										
Appropriations	\$	48,714,521	\$	49,178,437	\$	46,385,246	\$	44,850,840	\$	42,989,128
Other Local Expenditures		79,790		29,312		19,494		32,725		61,758
State & County Charges		1,152,267		1,091,015		708,171		553,963		592,762
Overlay Reserve		332,406		100,000		35,775		5,316		192,523
Total Gross Amount to be Raised		50,278,984		50,398,764		47,148,686		45,442,844		43,836,171
Less Estimated Receipts & Other Revenue:										
Estimated Receipts from State		5,091,332		5,105,880		5,200,915		5,109,510		5,138,277
Estimated Receipts - Local		6,072,500		6,443,196		5,979,889		5,617,981		5,122,569
Available Funds Appropriated:										
Free Cash		1,924,599		2,778,774		1,897,921		1,939,422		1,322,584
Other Available Funds		677,257		1,262,221		925,725		863,319		1,506,829
Free Cash & Other Revenue Used										
To Reduce Tax Rate		-		-		-		-		-
Total Estimated Receipts & Revenue		13,765,688		15,590,071		14,004,450		13,530,232		13,090,259
Net Amount to be Raised (Tax Levy)	_	\$36,513,295	_	\$34,808,693	_	\$33,144,236		31,912,611	_	30,745,912
Property Valuation	\$	2,477,708,478	\$	2,313,060,629	\$	2,221,323,306	\$	2,121,275,220	\$	2,026,124,500

#### TAX LEVY COMPUTATION

SOURCE: Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

# **Report of the Treasurer/Collector**

#### COLLECTOR'S RECEIPTS JULY 1 ,2019 - JUNE 30, 2020

Description	<u>Amount</u>
2020 Personal Property Taxes Including Interest and Fees	1,184,783.81
2019 Personal Property Taxes Including Interest and Fees	8,228.04
2020 Real Estate Taxes Including Interest and Fees	32,976,875.27
2020 CPA Including Interest and Fees	274,370.79
2019 Real Estate Taxes Including Interest and Fees	530,872.54
2019 CPA Including Interest and Fees	4,104.77
In Lieu of Taxes	4,992.88
Roll Back Taxes	13,955.31
2020 Scholarship Contribution	301.00
2020 Education Contribution	351.00
2020 Senior/Disabled Contribution	391.00
2020 R.E. Septic Betterment - Principal Including Interest and Fees	39,268.16
2020 R.E. Septic Betterment - Committed Interest	5,470.40
Septic Betterment Payoff - Principal	5,840.00
Septic Betterment Payoff - Interest	83.20
2020 Motor Vehicle Excise Including Interest and Fees	1,814,297.64
2019 Motor Vehicle Excise Including Interest and Fees	427,245.21
2018 Motor Vehicle Excise Including Interest and Fees	39,028.21
2017 Motor Vehicle Excise Including Interest and Fees	5,323.88
2016 Motor Vehicle Excise Including Interest and Fees	3,317.67
2015 Motor Vehicle Excise Including Interest and Fees	1,680.21
2014 Motor Vehicle Excise Including Interest and Fees	849.48
2013 Motor Vehicle Excise Including Interest and Fees	319.03
2012 Motor Vehicle Excise Including Interest and Fees	0.00
2011 and Prior Years Motor Vehicle Excise Including Interest and Fees	577.54
2020 Boat Excise Including Interest and Fees	7,312.05
2019 Boat Excise Including Interest and Fees	205.14
2018 Boat Excise Including Interest and Fees	178.23
2017 Boat Excise Including Interest and Fees	0.00
2020 Water Charges Including Interest and Fees	2,036,969.32
2019 Water Charges Including Interest and Fees	211,975.92
2020 Water Liens Including Interest	114,313.07
2019 Water Liens Including Interest	12,591.91
Municipal Lien Certificates	17,525.00
τοτλ	AL \$39,743,597.68

25

## **Report of the Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee (FINCOM) is responsible for considering all articles on the Town Meeting Warrant, to make a written report including recommendations regarding the warrant articles and to move all articles of a financial nature. FINCOM acts as an advisory committee to the town and seeks to consider the operating needs of the entire town for people of all ages. Primary in consideration is Public Safety (police, fire, roads and water), education, and state and federal regulatory requirements while maintaining adequate monetary reserves for unexpected critical events and favorable bond ratings to minimize interest expense for borrowings.

The town's fiscal year (FY) begins on July 1 and ends on June 30th. Wrentham held two town meetings during FY 2020. The fall 2019 meeting addressed supplemental spending to the previously passed FY 2020 budget and the spring 2020 meeting passed the FY 2021 budget. Supplemental items are additions to the budget that were unknown or unforeseen at the time of the annual town meeting.

At the November 2019 town meeting, FINCOM supported and the meeting approved an additional \$30,000 to fully complete repairs and improvements to the Delaney School HVAC system. This work will contribute to system efficiency and help to control utility cost. Also approved was \$150,000 for basic repair and maintenance to Station 2 (commonly referred to as the Sheldonville Station). This will support implementation of two ambulance crews per shift and will make the facility ready for personnel to occupy the station on a more regular basis. The Finance Committee supported, and Town Meeting approved an article enabling the town to enter into the borrowing for the full amount (\$634,804) of the seven-year lease purchase arrangement for a fire department Class A Pumper.

The Finance Committee recommended, and Town Meeting approved a transfer of \$90,000 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserve for Appropriation Account to Fire Personnel. The Fire Department applied for and received a \$1,003,828 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The monies will be used to hire and retain six new firefighters and enable the department to run a second ambulance crew on their shifts. As part of the grant agreement, the town must cover a portion of the total incremental cost over the three-year life of the grant. The grant pays 75% in the first year. The \$90,000 is the town's first portion of this responsibility.

The Finance Committee requested and received financial models showing the financial viability of acceptance of this grant particularly in the third year when the grant covers only 35% of incremental costs and then the fourth year and beyond when the grant ends. The most conservative assumption models were enough for the committee to believe this can be sustained once the grant period has passed.

At the spring 2020 Town Meeting, FINCOM recommended a FY 2020 operating budget of \$45,802,380 and a water enterprise budget of \$2,363,950. Education continues to constitute most budget dollars at 52% followed by Insurance and Benefits and Public

Safety at 17% and 13% respectively. The Operating Budget increased \$1,464,896 (3.3%) over FY19.

FINCOM recommended and Town Meeting approved \$139,025 in capital spending. This is significantly less than what has been usually funded for capital acquisitions in a given year. Given the uncertainties associated with the ongoing COVID pandemic, the strategy was to fund only imminent financial obligations. This year's capital spending was confined to lease purchase installments contractual agreements.

FINCOM also reviewed all the articles proposed by the Community Preservation Committee. We met with representatives of the committee, reviewed the balances in the accounts, posed many questions and had a significant discussion before voting to support each of the articles.

As part of decision making, FINCOM continues to anticipate the imminent need to fund a new DPW garage and looming Tri County Regional Vocational building renovations. Maintaining adequate stabilization account balances and ratios are always important in order to obtain the most favorable borrowing terms and bond ratings and thus minimize interest expense.

Thanks go to the great group of people who serve with me on the Finance Committee. The group continues to work collaboratively and strives to make considered and objective recommendations to meet the immediate as well as the longer-term best interests of all Wrentham residents.

**Respectively Submitted** 

Andrea J. Sweed, Chairman

Marjorie Immonen, Secretary

Dwayne Hancock, Fran Manchuso, Paul Malagrifa, William Harrington, Christopher

Pflum Members

### **Report of the Board of Assessors**

The Board of Assessors was organized a Jonathan Marinelli Irene Levesque Thomas DiPlacido	s follows: Chairperson Vice Chairperson Member of the Board
Our Staff: Ann MacCarthy M.A.A Robert Scotton Claire F. Copeland	Principal Assessor Data Collector Principal Clerk
Total Number of Parcels Single Family Dwellings Condominiums Residential Vacant Land Commercial & Industrial Mixed Use Chapter 61, 61A, & 61B Misc. & Others Personal Property Value of Real and Personal Property Split Tax Rate - Residential Tax Rate - Commercial Tax Rate - Personal Property Rate	te \$18.36

January 1, 2019 was the effective date of assessment for Fiscal Year 2020 which began on July 1, 2019. The valuations for Fiscal Year 2020 were based on qualified arms-length sales in calendar year 2018.

At the Tax Classification Hearing held on December 8, 2020, the Board of Selectmen voted to continue a split residential/commercial tax rate for Fiscal Year 2021, in order to make any tax increase more equitable between the two classes of property. The Board of Selectmen also voted to adopt a Small Commercial Exemption of 10%.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Marinelli	Chairperson
Irene Levesque	Vice Chairperson
Thomas DiPlacido	Member of the Board

# Report of the Board of Health

Organization: During FY 2020, the Board of Health structure was: George Smith Chairperson, Dr. Brian Kelly Vice-Chairperson and Dr. Peter Roman Clerk.

Appointments:

Brian Kelly, MD	Milk Collector and Inspector
George Smith	Milk Collector and Inspector
Peter Roman, MD	Milk Collector and Inspector
Wade Saucier, Dave Sanderson and	Consulting Engineer/Agent/Septic
Tom Houston	Inspector
Rob Casper	Agent/Sanitarian/Housing Inspector
Chris Wider	Inspector of Animals
Cindy Thompson	Burial Agent
Ellen Wojcik	Burial Agent
Richard Ross, Funeral Director	Burial Agent
Robert Morrill	Burial Agent
Elizabeth Bugbee	Betterment Loan Coordinator

<u>Title 5 Loan Program</u>: Since1997, the Board of Health has assisted homeowners with loans to repair failed septic systems. Funds for these loans come from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust. In FY2020, \$91,379.80 was distributed.

**<u>Rabies</u>**: The Board of Health conducted a rabies clinic on February 15, 2020 where 31 animals were inoculated for rabies. Dr. Richard Crowell of Medfield Veterinary Clinic administered the vaccine. The clinic was held in a garage bay at the Public Safety Building, this allowed residents to drive through with their animals. Thank you to the Fire Department for their assistance in setting up the space. Thank you to Cindy Thompson, the Wrentham Town Clerk for being at the clinic to assist residents in licensing their dogs. And thank you to our volunteers for assisting with the paperwork. Finally, a huge thank you to Dr. Crowell for the donation of his services.

<u>Permits and Licenses</u>: The statistics below refer to permits/licenses issued for FY2019.

Disposal Works	74	Septic Installers	45	Campgrounds & Motels	2
Construction Permits					
Percolation Tests	88	Private Wells	14	Food Service	42
				Establishments	
Retail Establishments	26	Mobile Food Service	35	One Day/temp Food Permits	26
Septage Handlers	20	Offal,	2	Public Swimming	5
		garbage/rubbish		Pools/beach	

Priv. Swimming Pools	22	Tobacco	9	Frozen Dessert	2
Catering	4	Funeral Director	1	Rec Camps -children	1

**Sanitary Inspections**: In compliance with the provisions of Title VIII of the State Sanitary Code, opening inspections were conducted by a Registered Sanitarian at all the public and semi-public beaches and pools. Inspections were also conducted at all seasonal recreation camps. Routine, comprehensive and follow up inspections, as applicable, were conducted at all schools, nursing homes, retail and food service establishments, mobile food operations, motels, campgrounds, and temporary food facilities.

**<u>Complaints</u>**: Numerous complaints about environmental, nuisance, noise and odor, housing and sanitary issues were addressed by the Board of Health. As in previous years, the Board has continued its policy of investigating or addressing all complaints, regardless of whether they are made orally, or in writing, with or without the complainant's name being given.

<u>Animal Inspections</u>: The Animal Inspector responded to several dog bite reports and inspected farms.

**Summary**: The Board strongly believes that its mission is to serve public health and the environment while fulfilling its statutory responsibilities under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It greatly appreciates the expertise and services of its agents and extends its sincere thanks to Wade Saucier and Rob Casper, who have served the public in good stead.

## Report of the Board of Selectmen

Between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 (FY2020), the Board of Selectmen met twenty-four times to vote on policy, make committee and board appointments, approve alcohol, common victualler, and Class I,II,III auto license applications/renewals and hear other matters brought before them.

Their additional responsibilities include approving the budget and town meeting warrants for the annual and special town meetings held each year in accordance with the Town Charter. With support of the Town Administrator and his staff, the Board is able to review and vote on items pertaining to the operation of the Town at all levels.

Licenses issued by the Board of Selectmen in FY2020: 23 Liquor Licenses; 31 Common Victualler Licenses; 15 Entertainment Licenses; 3 Automatic Amusement Licenses; 9 Special Licenses; and 9 Class I, II, or III Licenses.

Some other highlights of the Board of Selectmen actions during FY2020: The Board of Selectmen said good-bye to Administrative Assistant, Lisa Pacella, who resigned as of November 27, 2019 to accept a position elsewhere. In February 2020, Amanda Vasapollo began as the new Administrative Assistant/Licensing Specialist to the Board.

On March 10, 2020 there was a Declaration of State of Emergency by Governor Charlie Baker due to the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). On March 15, 2020, Kevin Sweet, Emergency Management Director and Town Administrator, notified Selectmen and all Town employees that all Town buildings would be closed to the public until further notice. Service would continue to be provided by telephone, email, and online. Use of the stainless steel drop box in the Town Hall driveway was pivotal in allowing residents to drop off payments.

On March 16, 2020, Chairman of the Board, Joseph F. Botaish, II signed a Local Emergency Declaration for the state of emergency created by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. From that date forward all meetings by the Board of Selectmen were held in virtual format via Zoom, the cloud-based software platform.

In an abundance of caution, and following guidance from Governor Charlie Baker, the Board of Selectmen voted to postpone the annual Town Election from April 6, 2020 to June 29, 2020 and the Annual Town Meeting was postponed from June 1, 2020 to June 22, 2020. Selectman Gerard Nolan, not planning to seek re-election, continued to serve until the election could be held on June 29, 2020. Selectman Charles Kennedy was then re-elected to the Board after taking a few years off from public service.

Town buildings were opened to the public once again in July 2020.

# **Report of the Building Commissioner**

I am pleased to submit the fiscal year 2020 Annual Report of the Building Commissioner.

Thank you to Kevin Sweet, Town Administrator, the Building Department staff, Lee Ann Tavares, Administrative Assistant, Donald Jordan, Local Building Inspector and Mechanical Inspector, William Cooke, Wiring Inspector, Shawn Wills, Assistant Wiring Inspector, Gerald Smolinsky, Plumbing and Gas Inspector, Walter Burlingame, Assistant Plumbing and Gas Inspector, for all of their support and efforts with the operation of this department.

Also, thank you to Fire Chief Anthony Marino and Deputy Fire Chief Robert Maduskuie for all of their collective assistance and support with the administration of our joint jurisdictional matters and for all of their cooperative efforts.

We are committed to ensuring a safe building environment, while providing excellent customer service and I thank you for the opportunity to serve the Wrentham community.

The following is an accounting of permit and inspection activity for the 2020 fiscal year, in addition to annual permit revenue:

Building/Mechanical Inspections	\$381,877
Wiring	\$89,446
Plumbing	\$ 38,295
Gas	\$ 17,845
Certificate of Insp.	<u>\$ 2,000</u>
TOTAL	\$529,463

The following is an accounting of Permits and Inspections:

New Dwellings	53	Building Permits	646	Demolition	8
Solar	46	Plumbing	221	Foundations	18
Commercial	39	Gas	203	Occupancy	63
Signs	45	Wiring	520	Pools	25
<b>Total Permits Issued</b>		1574			

Building/Mechanical Inspections	604
Plumbing Inspections	166
Gas Inspections	127
Wiring Inspections	791
Certificate of Inspections	32
Total Inspections 1720	

Respectfully submitted,

John G. Naff, CBO Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer

## **Report of the Conservation Commission**

During Fiscal Year 2020, the Conservation Commission held 18 regular meetings and 6 remote meetings using Zoom. There were 15 public hearings for Notices of Intent and 4 meetings for a Request for Determination of Applicability and 2 Abbreviated Notice of Resource Delineation. Orders of Conditions were issued to 11 applicants. There was 1 Order of Conditions that was Extended. The Agent issued 2 Enforcement Orders and was involved with several problem areas focusing on the Commission's efforts to resolve problems constructively. In addition, 4 Determination of Applicability and 23 Certificates of Compliance were issued. The Agent and/or Commissioners made over 100 site visits during the year to evaluate on-going or proposed work as well as to advise or assist residents regarding issues ranging from beavers to trees. The Agent also worked with Town officials in support of the Town's Illegal Discharge, Detection, and Elimination Bylaw.

Members of the Commission took classes and attended training seminars offered by the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC) and Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Members were trained in the basics of everything from effective meeting skills to the science and policy of wetlands protection and open space management. Both Mr. Luce and Ms. Ledbetter also pursued Conservation Commission educational opportunities through the MACC and the DEP.

The Commission continues to maintain a focus on stewardship of the properties under its care. Volunteers have helped in maintaining the Town's open spaces. The Agent, Darryl Luce with assistance from a King Philip student completed an update of the Town's Guide to Open Spaces which was available in 2020. The Guide has been made available at two elections and on a table outside the Commission office in Town Hall.

The Commission continued treatments at Birchwold and Crocker Pond to control the invasive plants: black swallowwort, Japanese knotweed and oriental bittersweet. Early detection, repeated monitoring, and active intervention seems to have brought the outbreak in Birchwold under control.

The Commission thanks David and Patricia Fogg who have kept the trails and fields open at Birchwold for years. They cleared trails and land around the parking areas and removed invasive plants. The Commission welcomed Mr. Frank Munro to the Birchwold volunteer team to help maintain and monitor this Conservation Area.

Respectfully submitted,

Leo Immonen Chair, Conservation Commission

# **Report of the Council on Aging**

The Council on Aging is pleased to submit the following report for FY2021 to the Selectmen and Citizens of Wrentham. The Council is the officially designated agency to evaluate, promote and encourage new and existing services and activities for residents of Wrentham who are age 60 or older. When assistance is required to help seniors obtain services to which they are entitled, the Council becomes the link between the senior's needs and the services that are available. Our goal is to establish and monitor programs to ensure continuity and growth in needed services and activities for seniors.

**SUPPORT SERVICES:** Outreach to Wrentham seniors is a major part of the work we do here at the Center. Our Outreach Coordinator, Frances Padula, coordinates and conducts such programs as fuel assistance, food stamp applications (SNAP), protective services and friendly visits to Wrentham seniors either in their homes or at the Senior Center. There were no home visits or visits to the Senior Center beginning in March, but our Outreach Worker did help seniors via the phone. Our SHINE (Serving Health Information Needs of Elders) volunteer counselor is an important part of the support services offered at the Center, but all SHINE appointments had to be done via telephone for the last 4 months of the fiscal year. A podiatrist has office hours at the Senior Center one day a month, those appointments were suspended for the remainder of FY2021 beginning in March.

**ACTIVITIES:** We have a wide range of continual activities here at the Center, many focused on both physical and mental well being. Aerobic exercise classes, sit & stretch, Qi Gong, Yoga class, line dancing, manicures and pedicures as well as educational forums and varied speakers assist with this important focus. We have continued with our Minds in Motion classes for brain health. We have a painting class, knitting/crochet class, movies, book group and scrabble; all focused on social interaction and general well-being. We also offer various day trips and some overnight trips for interested seniors. Unfortunately, all these activities were suspended on March 13 for the remainder of FY21.

**VOLUNTEERS:** We have more than 28 volunteers who put in 1,221 hours of volunteer service but were unfortunately unable to come to the Center for the last 4 months of the fiscal year.

**LUNCH PROGRAM AND SENIOR VAN:** The senior lunch program, serving over 1,474 meals at the Center was suspended in March. The home delivered meals continued to be a very important part of the services we offered here at the Senior Center and were not suspended throughout the shut down period. Meals were delivered by volunteers, delivering over 4,216 meals. HESSCO Elder Services runs the program in conjunction with the Council. The GATRA van transports seniors and/or the disabled to the Center, grocery shopping, errands, and for local medical and dental appointments, our van continued to operate during the entire shut down.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Angelico, Director of the Senior Center, for the Wrentham Council on Aging: Kendra Farling (Chair), James Palmer (Vice Chair), Emily Todd, John Carey, Nancy Mure, Ann Smith and Linda Williams.

# Report of the Cultural Council

The goal of the Wrentham Cultural Council is to enhance the vitality of the Wrentham community by engaging residents in the Arts, Humanities, and Interpretive Sciences. This is usually accomplished through three primary activities: Grant awards, the Arts on the Common event, and functions in the Old Fiske Museum. The year 2020 has been exception to the norm because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### Cultural Grant Program

The Wrentham Cultural Council awards grants to help fund local cultural events and artists on an annual basis. This is largely made possible through funding provided to local cultural councils by the state of Massachusetts through its Arts and Humanities fund. Because Covid-19 made planned, in-person programs nearly impossible, we extended the deadline for all granted programs for one year. The deadline for programs awarded grants for 2020 has been extended to Jan. 2021. The grant application deadline for 2021 grants was pushed from October 15, 2020 to December 15, 2020. The Council will be awarding our allocation of \$6100.00 for 2021. The new list of grantees will be published in February 2021.

#### Arts On the Common

With regret, the Arts on the Common Festival for 2020 was cancelled.

#### Old Fiske Museum

The Wrentham Cultural Council, in conjunction with the Wrentham Historical Commission, usually holds open houses at the Old Fiske Museum (55 South St.) on the first Sunday of each month during the year. The Cultural Council Gallery displays works of art by local Wrentham artists as well as special exhibits. This year the museum was closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. A physically distanced Poetry Night was held on the side lawn of the museum in September. The format was open mic, and ten readers read up to three poems each, either original poems or the work of a favorite poet.

#### Members

We thank outgoing members Jean Matilla, Laurie Sammons, and Ruth Bokulic for their service, and welcome returning member and former council chair Don Smith, and new member Betsy Connors to the group.

Please contact the Wrentham Cultural Council (<u>contactwcc@wrentham.ma.us</u>) if you would like to join the council, would like more information, or have an interest in being added to our mailing list.

Submitted by the Wrentham Cultural Council:

Evelyn Zepf – Chair, Nicola Alexander – Secretary, members, Karen Becker, Diane McKenna, Don Smith, and Betsy Connors

# **Report of the Fire Department**

Wrentham Board of Selectmen,

It is with great pride and distinct honor to serve as the Fire Chief of Wrentham. During the past year the leadership and support of the Board, Mr. Sweet, and his entire staff has been amazing.

I am fortunate to lead a such a courageous, dedicated, and highly skilled staff. They have fought through every adversity the pandemic has thrown at them. Members continue to treat the sick without hesitation and are still battling the virus on the front lines. Several of them literally battled the virus as they contracted it during their normal duties of treating the sick and injured. I can not be prouder of our department and the charge they lead.

Please accept the annual report for the Fire Department activities and status of our Fire Department from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020.

#### Fire Department response overview last three years activity levels: Call volume

Summary	2020	2019	2018
Fire - NFIRS Series 100	26	25	23
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire) - NFIRS Series 200	6	6	1
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident - NFIRS Series 300	1539	1563	1422
Hazardous Condition (No Fire) - NFIRS Series 400	97	86	138
Service Call - NFIRS Series 500	222	261	291
Good Intent Call - NFIRS Series 600	172	182	125
False Alarm & Falls Call - NFIRS Series 700	246	260	178
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster - NFIRS Series 800	1	2	1
Special Incident Type - NFIRS Series 900	140	538	718
Total	2449	2923	2897

# Fire

гие			
How many responses per year per category?	202	20 2019	2018
"Structure Fire" (Of the NFIRS Series 100 calls, NFIRS Codes 111-120)	24	15	8
"Vehicle Fire" (Of the NFIRS Series 100 calls, NFIRS Codes 130-138)	5	6	9
"Vegetation Fire" (Of the NFIRS Series 100 calls, NFIRS Codes 140-143)	7	4	2
Total	36	25	19
Total acreage per year	202	20 2019	2018
Total acreage of all vegetation fires	6	18	12
Rescue and emergency medical service incidents			
How many responses per year per category?	2020	2019	2018
"Motor Vehicle Accidents" (Of the NFIRS Series 300 calls, NFIRS Codes 322-324)	643	767	438
"Extrications from Vehicles" (Of the NFIRS Series 300 calls, NFIRS Code 352)	38	36	42
"Rescues" (Of the NFIRS Series 300 calls, NFIRS Code 300, 351, 353-381)	0	0	0
EMS-BLS Response Calls	394	449	214
EMS-ALS Response Calls	870	830	890
EMS-BLS Scheduled Transports	0	0	0
EMS-ALS Scheduled Transports	0	0	0
Community Paramedic Response Calls	0	0	0
Total	1945	2082	1584

#### Mutual and automatic aid

How many responses per year per category?	2020	2019	2018
Amount of times the organization received Mutual Aid	234	211	216
Amount of times the organization received Automatic Aid	25	24	22
Amount of times the organization provided Mutual Aid	79	62	52
Amount of times the organization provided Automatic Aid	5	7	17
Of the Mutual and Automatic Aid responses, amount that were structure fires	24	26	20
Total	367	330	327

Equipment and Apparatus:

The department currently maintains three class "A" pumpers, a heavy-duty ladder truck, 2,500 gal tanker/pumper, two ambulances, two brush trucks and three support vehicles. The condition of the fleet has been improved significantly with the addition of a new Class "A" pumper and a new Ambulance. Costly repairs and the age of the fleet will remain a focus as we explore replacement strategies either through capital or grant alternatives.

Vehicle		<b>Condition</b>
Car 1	2019 Chevy Traverse	Excellent
Car 2	2019 Chevy Traverse	Excellent
Car 3	2012 Ford Explorer	Good
Engine 1	2013 Class A pumper	Good(Frame Rot Concerns)
Engine 2	2020 Class A pumper	Excellent
Engine 3	1994 Class A pumper	Fair
Ladder 1	1997 Aerial Ladder	Good
Tanker 1	2,500 gal. Tanker	Fair
A1	2017 Ambulance	Excellent
A2	2019 Ambulance	Excellent
Squad 1	2001 F450	Good
Squad 2	1994 F350	Poor
Squad 3	2013 F350	Excellent

### Promotion(s):

Firefighter/Medic(s) Devan Cornetta, Matthew Levine, Jeremy Prairie were promoted to Full-time Permanent Status after successfully completing their Probationary Firefighter Requirements.

Firefighter/ EMT(s) Michael Bourque, Alex Acorroni, John Doherty, Paul Dwelly, Tyler Gover, and Peter Rowe were all hired as part of the "adequate staffing SAFER Grant and all successfully passed the Massachusetts Fire Academy Firefighter I/II program.

Firefighter/Medic Renae Mansfield was hired to replace Firefighter/Medic Joseph Cuddihy.

### Transfers(s):

Firefighter/Medic Joseph Cuddihy transferred to another fire department. He spent almost ten years serving the community and will be sorely missed. We wish him well in all his future endeavors. His new community is getting a solid Firefighter/Medic and his new department is getting a solid addition to their team.

#### Fire Department Staffing (March 10,2021)

Chief of Department Antonio R. Marino

**Deputy Fire Chief** Robert A. Maduskuie

## Administrative Captain(s)

Captain Kenneth Jefferson

### Fire Prevention & Training

Captain Michael Wainwright

EMS Coordination & Education Educator	Administrative As	sistant	Fire & Life Safety
Capt./Medic Joseph Padykula FF/Medic Matthew Levine	Laurie Brown		Patrick J. McMorrow

### Shift Staffing

<u>Group 1</u>	<u>Group 2</u>	<u>Group 3</u>	Group 4
Captain R. Holst FF/EMT N. Gray FF/Medic DuVarney FF/Medic P. McMorrow FF/Medic M. Herrick FF/EMT T.Gover	Captain J. Padykula FF/Medic R. Kirby FF/Medic T. DeCosta FF/Medic T. Cornetta FF/Medic M. Levin FF/EMT A. Acorroni	Captain R. Harrison FF/Medic M. Galasso FF/Medic P. Connolly FF/Medic R. Healy FF/EMT M. Bourque FF/EMT P. Row	Captain Donovan FF/Medic R. Juergens FF/Medic M.Sabourin FF/Medic J. Prairie FF/EMT P. Dwelly FF/Medic R. Mansfield
Call Members			
FF/Medic D. True	Paramedic J	. Monbouquette	Paramedic B. McNiff
Photographer J. Gianni			

Thank you to the members of the Wrentham Fire Department for their commitment and hard work. Their dedication and loyalty to duty are in the highest regard to public safety.

I would also like to thank the community for their continued commitment to us as a department. We are committed to providing the highest level of service to protect you, your families, and your property.

Respectfully submitted,

Antonio R. Marino Chief of Department

## **Report of the Fiske Public Library**

Fiscal Year 2020 has been a challenge for Fiske staff and Wrentham residents and we appreciate the patience of our loyal patrons who have not been in the building for many months. We have offered curbside pickup, craft handouts, many remote programs and databases, e-books, audiobooks, online movies and magazines, and research websites that have helped our patrons' recreational and informational needs. We do appreciative the support of our Trustees; Friends of the Fiske, Wrentham Cultural Council, wonderful volunteers and the service provided by our SAILS network. Our staff has risen to the challenge as well.

We miss our wonderful patrons and look forward to the end of quarantining, hopefully soon.

<u>3141131103</u>	
PATRON REGISTRATIONS	6,645
BOOK CIRCULATION	57,551
TOTAL AUDIO	3,397
TOTAL VIDEO	5,303
TOTAL E-BOOK	65,098
TOTAL DOWNLOADABLE AUDIO	7,931
TOTAL DOWNLOADABLE VIDEO	10,526
LOANS TO OTHER LIBRARIES	11,542
CIRC. TO RESIDENTS OF OTHER TOWNS	38,541

**STATISTICS** 

Respectfully submitted, MARY TOBICHUK, DIRECTOR

## **Report of the Historical Commission**

The Wrentham Historical Commission is responsible for collecting, preserving and maintaining Town history. The main activities of the Commission in FY2020 involved:

<u>Old Fiske Museum</u> - The Old Fiske Museum is open the first Sunday of each month from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. as well as additional openings on Memorial Day, Wrentham Day and the December Holiday Open House. The museum has provided much enjoyment to many visitors throughout the year as well as being a resource for historical and genealogical information. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the open houses were put on pause in March 2020. The Historical Commission looks forward to reopening when it is safe to do so. In FY 2020, Trefler & Sons of Needham MA continued their work restoring two more of the Cowell paintings depicting Wrentham churches using Community Preservation Act funds.

<u>Donations and Archives</u> - The Commission continued to accept a variety of Wrenthamrelated objects and memorabilia from various sources, including Wrentham residents and their relatives. The generosity of the many individuals who have donated items pertaining to Wrentham's history or provided financial support is greatly appreciated.

<u>Wampum House</u> - Since the summer of 2013, this historic home has undergone several improvements which included replacement of the sills, some exterior & interior repairs, interior painting as well as electrical work. During Fiscal 2020, repairs were made to stairs in the building. In the past, the Wampum House was one of the historic sites in town that the Wrentham Elementary School children would visit as part of their Wrentham history project.

<u>Demolition Permits</u> - Two demolition permit requests for structures older than fifty years were received, reviewed and approved.

<u>Public Education & Resources</u> - The Commission provides assistance to the public with many areas of research involving matters of Wrentham history as well as family genealogy. Through the Commission, historic plaques are available for residents with older homes. Mounted on the outside of the home, they identify original owners and the date the home was built. Three new plaques were provided this year. Information on how to obtain a plaque is available on the Commission website as well as a Facebook link to provide more communication options for any information needed.

Respectfully Submitted, Kim Shipala, Secretary W.H.C.

# **Report of the Wrentham Housing Authority**

The Wrentham Housing Authority (WHA) is comprised of 66 one-bedroom apartments dedicated to senior/disabled individuals on Garden Lane as well a mix of 15 two-, three, and four-bedroom apartments for families on New Emerald Lane. Veterans, Wrentham residents and those that work in Wrentham receive a preference when applying for housing.

The Wrentham Housing Authority's administrative staff includes Ashley Vincent (Executive Director), Debra Belanger (Program Coordinator) and Susan Jacobson (Resident Services Coordinator). The maintenance department includes Kendel Joyce and Wayne Burt.

In FY2020, the WHA housed three tenants in senior/disabled housing at Garden Lane and two families at New Emerald Lane.

Capital Improvement Projects that were completed in FY2020 included a septic system engineering study at Garden Lane and Phase I kitchen cabinet replacement at New Emerald Lane. Also, a grant was received for Phase II of exterior door replacement at Garden Lane. The WHA received \$106,629 in capital improvement funds from the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) in FY2020.

The WHA received a grant of \$675,000 from DHCD to convert four units at Garden Lane into ADA units. The WHA does not currently have any ADA compliant units at Garden Lane (there is one two-bedroom adaptable unit at New Emerald Lane). The WHA received a \$75,000 grant from DHCD for creative place-making at New Emerald Lane. The Community Preservation Committee awarded the WHA \$54,200 for Bulkhead and Storm Door Replacements at New Emerald Lane. These projects are all anticipated to be completed in 2021.

The Board of Commissioners meet the second Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. for their monthly meeting that is open to the public. The board consists of the following members:

William Conrad, Chairman Carol Mollica Christine Heffernan, Tenant Board Member Eliot Jamgochian Alan Richard

# **Report of the Information Technology Department**

We are pleased to submit the fiscal year 2020 annual report of the Information Technology Department.

The Information Technology Department continues to provided progressive support for; Public Safety (Police and Fire), Town Hall, DPW, Building, Senior Center and Library facilities and departments, (excluding Schools). IT is on plan to address and implement long range technology updates, upgrades and new technologies to support residents and personnel alike well into the next decade.

In summary; Fiscal 2020 efforts include:

Public Safety Building: Continued replacement and upgrade of Aged Servers, Operating Systems, and Network Infrastructure and the installation of a new Telecommunications system, replacing the failing 15-year-old legacy telephone system. IT began the replacement of (aging, out of warranty, end of support) desktop hardware with new hardware running the latest industry MS operating system Windows 10 Pro, & MS-Office 2019 professional.

IT continued the replacement of fire apparatus hardware with new windows-based tablet & laptop and a large status monitor installed in the Fire bay to provide updates to fire personnel.

Town Hall Server Operating System upgrades:

All Town Hall Server Operating Systems (OS) and the Exchange servers have been upgraded to the latest industry versions and will accommodate the Town Hall well into the next decade.

Digital Signage at Town Hall & Beyond:

IT has collaborated with a digital signage vendor to install media rich digital information boards at each of the Town Hall's main entrances in a continued effort to increase and improve communication to the public and residents by displaying town department locations, functions, public meetings, and similar media content. Other locations will follow in 2021.Additionally, IT has installed audio/video devices (TV/monitors) in Town Hall meeting rooms to aid in the viewing of presentations, town maps including assessors, planning, zoning, and conservations

Fiske Library infrastructure upgrade:

The installation of a new, state-of-the-art network switch has replaced the aged, out of warranty switch and will serve the Library's public workstations well into the next decade.

Town Building-wide Hardware Asset refresh (desktop, laptop, peripherals): IT continues to replace aged, end-of-life, out of warranty, desktop, laptops and peripherals at Town Hall, Public Safety, Building Department, DPW, COA and Fiske Library based on a 5-year replacement, rotation schedule. Equipment taken out of production is either redeployed where possible based on actual computing demand, otherwise the hard drive is removed or scrubbed clean to industry standards before donating or recycling. Microsoft has announced the end of support of "Windows 7" operating system in January of 2020. Many desktops, laptops and tablets deployed in FY'19 include Microsoft's latest version of Windows 10 Professional and other devices deployed [in FY'19] running Windows 7 operating system will be upgraded to Windows 10 operating system starting in FY '20.

Cloud Based Software installation and support.

IT worked with the Assessors, Accounting, Building Inspection, DPW and Public Safety departments to implement vendor accessed cloud-based application software for their respective software application needs.

Covid19 Remote access initiative:

A significant effort was expended through the back half of FY'20 to upgrade internal technical infrastructures in hardware and software, procure mobile computing hardware, implement security measures, test, and provide 24X7 support for remote access connectivity allowing town employees to work remotely to continue to provide the best service possible to town residents and public alike.

Information Technology's mission and vision is to *drive for a common purpose, improve communications and collaboration, provide process improvement, and create and streamline bi-directional communication* among and between residents and town personnel.

Information Technology continues to collaborate with town officials and departments to integrate and align technology with plan objectives to ensure the efficient and effective implementation of the Town's initiatives. Information Technology will provide, maintain, and sustain the infrastructure, systems, security, and operational support services to support on-going business needs of the Town departments to best serve its residents.

Information Technology is committed to deliver Town employees and residents with the highest and most cost-effective level of public service possible.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve the Wrentham community.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck DiPirro Information Technology, Director

# **Report of the Metacomet Emergency Communications Center (MECC)**

The MECC celebrated our one year anniversary of operations on May 6, 2020. During this time period our staff processed:

60,872 911-Calls 49, 797 Business Line Calls 12, 364 Fire CAD Incidents 73,330 Police CAD Incidents

Our goals are to dispatch appropriate police, fire, ambulance, and rescue services in accordance with established protocols with the least possible delay after a request is received or requirement is known to exist. To provide consistent, quality service with constant regard to safety of the public and responding public safety personnel.

The MECC staffs highly skilled, trained, professional tele-communicators ready to assist, day or night. Rest assured we stand ready to help you in your time of need.

Respectfully,

Gary M Premo, ENP Executive Director

# **Report of the Norfolk County Mosquito Control**

Norfolk County Mosquito Control District (NCMCD) operations apply an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to mosquito control that is rational, environmentally sensitive, and cost effective.

#### Surveillance

NCMCD is engaged in an intensive monitoring process through weekly field collections and data analysis in collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) to detect for disease-vectoring mosquitoes. Virus isolations assist us in focusing our surveillance to hot zones thereby allowing us to alert nearby towns of a potential epidemic. Public requests for service alert us to high numbers of nuisance mosquitoes.

Virus Isolations in the town:	11 samples submitted, no isolations in 2020
Requests for service:	167

#### Water Management

Communication with residents and town/state/federal officials, site visits, monitoring, wildlife management, and land surveys while maintaining regulatory compliance is integral to the management of waterways that may contribute to mosquito breeding. Pre- to post-management documentation allows us to assess the efficacy of our work. Tire collections remove a common breeding site of mosquitoes.

Culverts cleared	6 culverts
Drainage ditches checked/hand cleaned	15,855 feet
Intensive hand clean/brushing*	700 feet
Brushing for WM access	0 feet
Mechanical water management	0 feet
Tires collected	20

\* Combination of brush cutting and clearing of severely degraded drainage systems or streams by hand.

#### Larval Control

When mosquito larval habitat management is not possible, larval mosquito abatement is the most environmentally friendly and effective method of mosquito control. An intensive monitoring program, aides in our decision to effectively target culprit locations.

Spring aerial larvicide applications (April)	232.3 acres
Larval control - briquette & granular applications by hand	12.7 acres
Abandoned/unopened pool or other manmade structures treated	0

#### Adult Control

Adult mosquito control is necessary when public health and/or quality of life is threatened either by disease agents, overwhelming populations, or both. Our surveillance program, along with service request data and state-of-the-art GPS and computer equipment, allows us to focus our treatments to targeted areas.

Adult aerosol ultra-low volume (ULV) applications from trucks	3,717 acres
Barrier applications on municipal property	0 applications

Respectfully submitted, David A. Lawson, Director

# Report of the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds

2020 was an extraordinary year in all our lives. The COVID-19 pandemic impacted all of us. Certainly, some were impacted worse than others. Lives were disrupted with some losing loved ones, small businesses scaled back or in worse case scenarios closed for good. While many sectors of our economy were impacted by the pandemic, I am pleased to report the Norfolk County real estate economy was able to remain viable following the COVID-19 state of emergency declared by Governor Baker on March 10, 2020.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, I am proud to report the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds was able to remain open operationally for the recording of land documents. While the Registry of Deeds building was closed to the general public, Registry personnel were able to continue recording land documents. We utilized social distancing, split work shifts, remote access, and used our disaster recovery site to record documents. We also utilized electronic recording for our institutional users such as banks, law firms and title companies. In addition to electronic recording, users had the option to submit documents via regular mail, Federal Express or placing documents in our drop-off box located just outside our main entrance at 649 High Street, Dedham, MA.

The results of these efforts were a viable Norfolk County real estate market benefitting sellers and buyers of real estate, lending institutions, the real estate legal community and all others with a vested interest in the local real estate economy. By keeping the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds open, recording fees collected were forwarded to the state and county helping to pay for important public initiatives including education, health care, and police and fire expenses. We are so thankful to our partners in the real estate community and most importantly the citizens of Norfolk County. Their patience with us has been critical to the Registry of Deeds being able to continue its core mission of recording land documents in a safe and secure environment.

The Registry of Deeds is the principal office for real property records in Norfolk County. Its mission is to maintain and provide for accurate, reliable and accessible land records to all residents and businesses of Norfolk County. The Registry receives and records hundreds of thousands of documents annually. It houses more than 8.5 million land documents dating back to 1793 when George Washington was President. The Registry is a primary and indispensable resource for title examiners, mortgage lenders, municipal officials, homeowners, title examiners, real estate attorneys, genealogists and others with a need for land record information.

The Registry operates under the supervision of the elected Register, William P. O'Donnell, who has held the position since 2002.

### 2020 Registry Achievements

The Registry of Deeds Customer Service and Copy Center continues to provide residents and businesses with quality service. These requests included the filing of Homesteads, accessing deeds, verifying recorded property documents and assisting those in need of obtaining a mortgage discharge notice. Customers can contact the Customer Service and Copy Center at 781-461-6101, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30AM to 4:30PM.

In calendar year 2020, the Registry collected approximately \$60 million in revenue.

The Registry of Deeds continues to address legislative issues to benefit consumers. In 2021, we will again file legislation to advocate for mortgage transparency by requiring mortgage assignments be recorded at the appropriate Registry of Deeds.

This year saw a record number of electronic recording filers, <u>approximately 2,150.</u> The Registry is approaching 75% of its recorded land recordings being done electronically.

Norfolk Registry of Deeds was the first registry in Massachusetts to record electronically registered land documents. This started in the Land Court section of the Registry of Deeds in 2017 and was crucial in remaining operational during the Covid-19 pandemic. At the onset of the pandemic, 25% of the registered land documents recorded were done via electronic recording which has grown now to 60%.

In 2020 we hit a record high of recording our <u>38,221 Registry of Deeds book</u>. For the sake of security and redundancy, we store our documents 3 different ways: hard copy, electronically and by microfiche.

In calendar year 2020, the Registry processed <u>10,970 Homestead applications.</u> The law Chapter 188 (M.G.L.) provides limited protection of one's primary residence against unsecured creditor claims.

The internet library of images, accessible to the public through the Registry of Deeds' online research system at <u>www.norfolkdeeds.org</u> continues to expand. Today, all documents dating back to the first ones recorded in 1793 are available for viewing.

Our website includes a genealogy page and a section highlighting land records of notable people – United States Presidents, military heroes, noted authors and leaders in their fields of education, environment and the law

The Registry's website <u>www.norfolkdeeds.org</u> routinely updates the public on such news as real estate statistics, answers to frequently asked questions, along with detailing of our consumer programs. Additionally, we also write a monthly column for various Norfolk County newspapers and their online websites. We also distribute a weekly press release to alert residents of the latest happenings as well as to remind them of our consumer services. The Registry's free Consumer Notification Service allows any county resident to opt in to this free notification service and be alerted when any land document – fraudulent or otherwise – is recorded against their name. For more information, please see our website at: <u>www.norfolkdeeds.org</u>. Currently, over 1,380 Norfolk County residents are signed up for this program.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Registry was forced to suspend its community outreach programs. We are hopeful that in 2021 we will be able to visit each of the Norfolk County communities for office hours and renew our partnerships with Interfaith Social Services of Quincy, Father Bill's and MainSpring of Quincy, the VA Boston Healthcare System, Voluntary Service Program and InnerCity Weightlifting on our 'Suits for Success' program, and New Life Furniture Bank of MA in Walpole to assist those who are in need of household items. We also look forward to renewing our Annual Holiday Food Drive and Toys for Tots campaigns in 2021.

#### Wrentham Real Estate Activity Report January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

During 2020, Wrentham real estate activity saw increases in both total sales volume and average sales price.

There was a 30% increase in documents recorded at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds for Wrentham in 2020, resulting in an increase of 879 documents from 2,890 to 3,769.

The total volume of real estate sales in Wrentham during 2020 was \$222,677,598, an 82% increase from 2019. Also, the average sale price of homes and commercial property was up 73% in Wrentham. The average sale was \$897,893. These numbers were impacted by an \$84.5 million commercial sale recorded on 12/2/2020.

The number of mortgages recorded (1,041) on Wrentham properties in 2020 was up 66% from the previous year. Also, total mortgage indebtedness increased 43% to \$354,995,241 during the same period.

There was 1 foreclosure deed filed in Wrentham during 2020, representing an 80% decrease from the previous year when there were 5 foreclosure deeds filed.

Homestead activity increased 7% in Wrentham during 2020 with 267 homesteads filed compared to 250 in 2019.

Finally, our objective at the Registry will always be to maintain, secure, accurate and accessible land records for the residents and businesses of Norfolk County. It is a privilege to serve you.

Respectfully submitted by,

William P. O'Donnell Norfolk County Register of Deeds

# Report of the Planning Board

The Planning Board consists of seven (7) elected members:

Michael McKnight, Chairman James Lawrence, Clerk Stephen Schwarm Thomas Wrynn Charles Woodhams, Jr., Vice Chair Everett Skinner, Jr. Robert Cass

The Planning Board holds its regular meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Meeting Room of Town Hall and all meetings are open to the public. After March 2020 the meetings were held virtually using Zoom as permitted by the Governor's March 10, 2020 Emergency Order to Suspend Certain Provision of the Open Meeting Law.

One of the Planning Board's major roles is to review the Zoning By-Laws periodically and research and prepare amendments, as necessary. The Planning Board is also responsible for holding public hearings for ALL proposed amendments to the Zoning By-Laws. The following Zoning By-Law amendments were processed through the Planning Board and were adopted by a minimum two-thirds vote of Town Meeting:

#### November 4, 2019 Town Meeting

Warrant Article 8: Deletion of Article 19 (Highway Commercial DISTRICT) and inserting in place thereof new article 19, Route 1 DISTRICT.

Warrant Article 9: Amend the Zoning By-Laws by updating subsection 3.2, Zoning Map, to reflect the revisions to the Route 1 DISTRICT boundaries.

Warrant Article 10: Amend the Zoning By-Laws by inserting to Article 2, "Definitions" new definitions for "Brew Pub", "Brewery", "Microbrewery", and "Nanobrewery". By inserting to subsection 4.2, "Use Regulation Schedule" the Commercial use designation of "Brew Pub", "Brewery", "Microbrewery", and "Nanobrewery".

Warrant Article 11: Amend the various sections of the Zoning By-Law with deletions and new language for Section 3.1, Section 6.1, and Section 7.6.

Warrant Article 12: Amend Zoning By-Laws by inserting to Article 2, "Definitions" new definitions for "Accessory Dwelling Unit", inserting to subsection 4.2 Use Regulation Schedule the Residential use designation of "Accessory Dwelling Unit", creating new subsection 4.11 entitled "Accessory Dwelling Unit".

#### June 3, 2019 Town Meeting

Due to COVID-19 there were no Planning Board articles submitted for this Town Meeting.

Another major role of the Planning Board is to review and render decisions on applications for Site Plan Approval, Special Permits and applications for modifications to properties on scenic roads. The following were the approvals issued by the Planning Board for such projects:

- 2667 West St. (Bill Nicolos) Approval Not Required
- 685 South Street (685 South St. Realty Trust) Minor Modification Earth Removal permit
- 88 Wampum St. (Greg Andrews) Scenic Road Permit
- Eagle Brook Estates Killdeer Dr., Lots 147A & 148A Approval Not Required
- 1060 South St. (Simon Premium Outlets) Minor Modification change/Special Permit
- 1048 South St. (Simon Premium Outlets) Minor Modification Special Permit/Site Plan Approval
- 110 Reed Fulton Ave. & 230 Lafayette Ave. (Philip & Janet Wood & Park Place LLC) Approval Not Required
- 400 Madison St. (CGW Nominee Trust) Approval Not Required
- 113 Winter St. (Carlos Ferreira) Special Permit
- 760 West St. (Loel Raymond) Approval Not Required
- 863 East St., (Frank & Helen Snow & Heldon Realty Trust) Approval Not Required
- 201 Wampum St. (Ramben, LLC) Definitive Subdivision Plan- Withdrawn
- 443 Taunton St. (David Rome) Approval Not Required
- 431 South St. (Ataraxia Realty Trust) Approval Not Required
- Rochambeau Ave Lots 43 & 44 (Park Place Wrentham LLC) Approval Not Required
- 977 & 987 East St. (William Harfst 977), (Stanley Benjamin 987) Approval Not Required
- 650 South St. (Cumberland Farms) Special Permit review hours of operation
- 500 Thurston St. (Thurston Street LLC) Land Owner Petition for Zoning Amendment
- 500 Thurston St. (Thurston Street LLC) Approval Not Required/Special Permit
- 1230 South St. (Greg Wiens) Special Permit Commercial Kennel

The Board welcomes public comments, participation, and recommendations concerning the Board's activities. For information regarding meeting agendas or other questions, please call the Planning Office at 508 384-5441. Please also check our website at www.wrentham.ma.us.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Benson, Director of Planning & Economic Development Wrentham Planning Board

# **Report of the Police Department**

A Message from Police Chief Bill McGrath:

### 2020 YEAR OF THE PANDEMIC

The pandemic, Covid-19 plaqued 2020 with unprecedented challenges for everyone in Public Safety, and WPD was no exception. Across Massachusetts and the U.S.A., too many Police Officers and Firefighters lost their lives after contracting this dreaded disease while performing their duties. As sad and tragic as every death was, not a whisper of hesitation to be heard from the police officers and firefighters who were left to carry on. The quiet conversations and concerns from within the police station and firehouse were all about everyone else sacrificing, suffering and dying in the battle against COVID-19. Hearing firefighters and police officers heap praise of heroism upon grocery store clerks, food delivery drivers and everyday people who stepped up to the plate at their own risk was a humbling experience, reminding me why they call these jobs "a calling". As for themselves, as for the risk they were taking, police officers and firefighters did what they always do. They humbly accepted the risk as "part of the job", shunned the spotlight and marched on. Impressed and proud I was on so many occasions when one of them was being praised by an admiring civilian, only to hear them quickly divert the compliment to nurses, doctors, hospital workers, all of whom bravely share the front line. And then to hear them continue channeling the praise for workers who never signed up for a risky profession, but in the midst of a pandemic found their routine job was now essential for untold thousands of anxious people sheltering at home. So, on behalf of all of us on the red and blue teams, a huge thank you to all of you who thanked us; who sent a card; dropped off food or simply, quietly thought about us when passing lights and sirens caught your attention. Thank you to so many unsung heroes who left the comfort of their homes every day, headed to work at the hospital, the pharmacy and last but not least, the rest of you who never signed up for this but still answered a special calling in a special time. Thank you.

DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY ALL THOSE WE LOST AND PRAYERS NO MORE WILL BE.

### Our Mission, Protect & Serve

Simply put, police officers take the job to help people. Protect and Serve. Wrentham police officers do this every day. With dedicated police officers like we have, the Mission to Protect & Serve is made easier, but it's never easy. Wrentham officers get the job done with compassion, fairness, empathy, kindness and respect. They don't learn these traits in the training academy. They arrive this way, products of quality upbringing and we build on that foundation to make great police officers.

Wrentham officers respond quickly and do their best to fix what's wrong regardless of how dangerous, how traumatic, how emotional, and how sad. They save lives more than ever, with CPR, Narcan and AED's. They train in verbal de-escalation techniques, use of less-lethal weapons so they can bring someone into custody humanely, with little or no injury.

When not answering calls, Wrentham police officers are ambassadors of goodwill. It's called Community Policing. In between responding to calls, they visit our schools, shoot hoop with the kids, read a book with kindergartners, drop in on a class, and make an appearance at recess. They stop by the Senior Center for coffee, share breakfast with the folks at the Nursing Home, volunteer for Special Olympics, support the Food Pantry, donate to Project Mittens, walk, run, dance, play softball, play basketball to raise money for charities, change flat tires for people who can't or don't know how and the list goes on. Wrentham Police officers do this every day.

When you're sleeping, we're awake. Patrolling your neighborhoods and businesses, checking things out, seeing what's out of place. When you wake up, we're still here for you. Here to handle anything and everything we're called for and rest assured, we see it all and handle it all. So don't hesitate to call us regardless of how little or big the problem is. We'll show up and do our best to fix it.

### Official Roster:

Chief of Police Bill McGrath Deputy Police Chief George C. Labonte Lieutenant Mike Robillard

Sergeant Detective Jim Barrett Sergeant Rick Mayhew Sergeant Jeff Smith Sergeant Barry McGrath Sergeant Dan Morris

Patrolman Detective Bob O'Connell Patrolman Steve Hearon Patrolman School Resource Officer Todd Schwalbe Patrolman Scott Ellis Patrolman Jon Coliflores Patrolman Dave Halloway Patrolman Derick Cassidy Patrolman Pete Lown Patrolman Steve Eaton Patrolman Steve Eaton Patrolman Riley McGrath Patrolman Mark Miscavage Patrolman Matthew Smith Patrolman Michael Flinn Patrolman Jacob Halloway Community Resource Dog "Cruiser"

#### Part Time Officers

Paul Schwalbe, Retired Police Chief Dick Gillespie, Retired Acting Police Chief Chris Cowley, Retired Police Officer Ed Fitzgerald, Special Officer Pete Preston, Special Officer Jonathan King, Special Officer Pat Griffin, Special Officer Peter Littlefield, Special Officer

Joe Collamati, Retired Police Chief Jim Anderson, Retired Police Chief Bob Casavant, Retired Police Officer Patrick Norton, Intermittent Officer Bill Leary, Special Officer Fred True, Special Officer Bob Forsythe, Special Officer

Administrative Assistant, Grace Conforti

#### Report of Incidents for FY20: July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

The following is a small sample of incidents types handled:

Arrests: Animal Complaints Assault & Battery: Alarm Calls: Ambulance Calls: Assist Fire Department: Assist Motorist Breaking & Entering Building Checks Breaking & Entering Motor Vehicle: Child Pornography Civil Complaints Criminal Complaints Issued: Custody Dispute Disturbances: Disabled Motor Vehicle Domestic Disturbances Document Service Drug Overdoses: Erratic Operation MV Fireworks Complaints	$\begin{array}{c} 63\\ 50\\ 33\\ 612\\ 884\\ 367\\ 465\\ 7\\ 2833\\ 3\\ 1\\ 19\\ 205\\ 1\\ 89\\ 200\\ 53\\ 32\\ 22\\ 154\\ 18\end{array}$
•	-

# Follow Wrentham Police Department on Facebook

### **Report of the Public Health Nurses**

The nurses visited Sweatt Beach in July to disseminate informative materials as well as free samples of sunscreen, UV identifying bracelets and lip protectant to raise awareness of melanoma. The sunscreen dispensers were restored to working order and refilled. Large first aid kits were stocked and supplied to Sweatt Beach and to Sweatt Field staff for counselors to address any minor injuries that may occur.

In August, we, along with the Massachusetts Reserve Corporation (MRC) hosted a "Stop the Bleed" course at the Public Safety Building for town employees and volunteers at no cost. "Stop the Bleed" treatment kits and control stations were obtained through a grant. One unit was placed at town hall and the second unit was placed at the library.

Monthly BOH meetings were attended and plans to have a segment on different pertinent health issues monthly have begun. All refrigerator logs, MAVEN cases and daily paperwork were computerized to decrease paper usage/carbon footprint.

The *Country Gazette*, Cable 8 and *Wrentham-Norfolk Times* were contacted for advertising, promotion and recruiting. A Facebook page was initiated to enhance communication between the Public Health Nurses (PHN) and residents. Ongoing updates to the PHN page of the Town website offer residents an additional channel of communication and allows us to get information out to the public on pertinent subjects, such as the coronavirus, flu, vaping, etc.

Considerable outreach was conducted with area businesses and services by joining a local outreach group called Bristol Norfolk Networking Group (BNNG). Blair House in Milford was visited and Brightstar Home Care visited the PHN office. Brochures were left at the Village at Pond Meadows and will be placed in admission packets to new members who re-locate there to ensure they are aware of the services offered by the town Public Health Nurses.

As members of the MAPHN (Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses), we once again joined forces with other chapters and collected foot care supplies for the annual 'Stand Down' event, held on Boston Common in September. This event assists veterans in need by collecting and distributing foot care products. The Wrentham Public Safety Departments assisted in donating approximately 50 pairs of boots!

Throughout September to November, fourteen public and private flu clinics were held, including one at Ledgeview apartments. We hosted numerous visits to our office clinic and visited several Wrentham businesses to administer flu shots to community members. This year we also offered the 'high dose' flu vaccine for residents over 65 years of age. For members who were unable to attend flu clinics or come to our office, we offered home visits for vaccinations. A total of 740 flu shots were given and compensation will exceed \$20,000 (well above last year).

Outreach was conducted with King Philip High School Nurses Kathy Puzas and Cheryl Rowe for a group called KP Cares, which is high school club that brings students together through community service with the common goal for spreading kindness throughout the school and the King Philip Community.

During the holiday season, the nurses hosted a giving tree just outside the clinic office in town hall. Paper tags were placed on the branches with requests of items community members might need. Town Hall employees, as well as volunteers generously purchased those items to distribute to our residents. We thank everyone for their donations. We also had several very generous donators who sponsored anonymous families for Christmas: buying presents and gift cards for families and children of the town who were in need this season. The Lions Club and St Mary's Church also contributed gift cards for us to administer to those individuals in need. The nurses visited some of our regular residents at local nursing homes to deliver gift items.

Coordination was initiated in January with the Town of Plainville to handle their Communicable disease surveillance via the Statewide system MAVEN (Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network).

Collaboration was accomplished with PT and Sports Rehabilitation in Wrentham where a public service announcement was made and uploaded to their Facebook page. Through BNNG, collaboration was achieved with local senior counselors, Christine Sinacola and Bill Cleary, who assist residents and families in need of making the difficult decision to seek alternate housing for aging residents. Connection was also made with counselor, Chaya Mossefsky, whose specialty is in-home counseling for the elderly to help them in dealing with many losses: loved ones, homes, independence, to name a few. A visit was made to us by Daniela Masters, an aging advocate that also may benefit some of our residents in need. An end of life 'doula' provided us with information in the event any residents or family members require this type of service.

A new service called "Nurse Connect" was initiated in January 2020. This program enables residents to have a face-to-face discussion with a nurse regarding any medical issues that they wish to discuss. With the onset of the pandemic, we were unable to continue this initiative but hope to do so very soon.

In February, Narcan Training in Boston was attended in the event this service might be needed in our community and a PHEP/CHA Coalition Meeting was also attended. A visit was made to Blair House for marketing and outreach.

After the Biogen conference at the end of February in Boston, local jurisdictions began to see cases of the Novel Coronavirus called COVID-19 (Sars CoV-2). There were many meetings and webinars with local, state and government agencies to discuss pandemic education and how to handle the numerous situations that started to arise regarding individuals, local facilities (outbreaks and clusters) and area businesses.

There was considerable communication with agencies such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses (MAPHN), our local Emergency Management System (EMS), MEMA, FEMA the Mass Department of Health, the White House, area nursing facilities, local school administrators and business owners.

Information was disseminated to the public by the nurses via public service announcements (PSA) on Cable 8, the Country Gazette, Norfolk Wrentham times, the Town website and the Public Health Nurses Facebook page.

By mid-March 2020, the senior center had closed, the library and all Wrentham recreation programs ceased normal operations, followed by Wrentham Town Hall, the schools and eventually all non-essential businesses closed. Most home visits by the nurses ceased. A State of Emergency was declared and a stay-at-home advisory was put in place by the governor. We all became well-versed in Zoom, Google meets, Webex and other various remote meeting platforms.

The next few months saw a whirlwind of calls and remote meetings regarding everchanging guidance and protocols. We received countless phone calls from residents, local medical facilities and area businesses. Intense COVID-19 interviewing and education for Wrentham and Plainville began for those residents who were confirmed to have COVID-19. Primary to this investigation process is "contact tracing".

In public health, "contact tracing is the process of identification of persons who may have come into contact with an infected person and subsequent collection of further information about these contacts." Every individual with a confirmed and probable case of coronavirus was contacted to review and confirm correct contact information, especially their address, in order to alert the MECC (police and fire dispatch) of the location of known positives. Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) was also initiated through a grant between Plainville EMS and Sturdy Memorial Hospital. This program would enable EMS employees to visit specific COVID-19 individuals identified by the Public Health Nurse through the interview process as possible high-risk candidates. A visit/s would be made with a simultaneous facetime video call with Dr. Thornton from the hospital, to intervene prior to medical decompensation in hopes to prevent it. Other information collected during these interviews from the individuals included occupation, employer, last date physically at work, race, symptoms, symptom onset date and if there was a known prior exposure. Any other individuals identified that the confirmed case had come in contact with during the prior two weeks were notified and the above information obtained from them as well. There was considerable education on isolation and quarantine guidelines as well as symptom management. Follow up emails were sent with isolation and guarantine guidelines attached as well as a timeline for the isolation and/or guarantine period. In some cases, employers were notified to contact trace within the workplace, while maintaining confidentiality.

Site visits were made to local businesses and facilities to ensure proper pandemic protocol was being followed. We assisted and directed many residents in obtaining COVID-19 tests at different facilities. Many complaints were received from residents and employees regarding local businesses and some were delegated to the Board of Health Agent, Rob Casper, for assistance and intervention. Thank you, Rob.

In May, Healthy KP Substance Use Prevention Coalition, also known simply as Healthy KP approached us and we accepted the role of Health Care representatives. Their mission is to: empower the KP community to live a healthy, substance free life through youth leadership, education, training, policy, and support.

Throughout the year, ongoing updates were completed to the PHN page of the Town website as well as our Facebook page to offer residents a channel of communication and enabled the nurses to broadcast information out to the public on pertinent subjects, such as flu, vaping and of course, COVID-19. Public service announcements were made via Cable 8 to try to keep residents informed of the pandemic and disseminate updated information regarding COVID-19.

As community advocates, we are constantly networking to find out what is available to assist the members of our community. We were regularly attending Bristol Norfolk Networking Group (BNNG) meetings to learn about local resources available so we can pass this on to our residents as a referral source.

Three blood pressure clinics were held per month until the state-mandated shutdown. After that, several socially distanced and outdoor blood pressure clinics were conducted.

The nurses continue to manage the needle disposal program (also known as the Sharp's Kiosk) on a weekly basis thanks to a grant from Sturdy Memorial Hospital. This disposal site allows residents to properly discard needles and syringes at no cost.

The Sweatt Fund was generous again this year in supplying us with the funds to obtain Ensure, a dietary supplement. This supplement is costly and it enabled us to administer it to those residents with nutritional deficits who may not be able to afford the high cost of this nutritious drink.

A portable generator and four large tents for use at future vaccination clinics were acquired via grant funds. Another separate grant allocated funds for cell phone use throughout the year. In preparation for vaccine storage, a dry ice cooler and freezer were purchased with grant money to enable storage of both Pfizer and Moderna vaccine that were offered by the state.

Communicable disease surveillance and reporting is ongoing through MAVEN (Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network). See charts below for Wrentham (July 2019-June 2020) and Plainville (January 2020-July 2020). We have begun a

regionalization process with Plainville. This collaboration will hopefully open more opportunities for grant funding through the State of Massachusetts.

Public Health Nurses Lauren Hewitt and Jeanine Murphy want to once again thank all of our regular volunteers, including nine new participants, who donated their time to us and to all the other residents, town employees and partners who reached out to check on our well-being during this pandemic.

The latter part of this fiscal year proved to be very challenging for all of us, including us in the nurse's office. The focus of the Public Health Nurses changed dramatically: from outreach, support, education and referral services for our older residents in town, to facing a global pandemic. We have much more knowledge now with regard to COVID-19 and hope that we can return to normal soon. In the meantime, we will continue to be advocates for our town residents and answer their calls and questions as best we can to be a support system for them. We hear many times, "I feel so much better after talking with you". Knowledge is a powerful thing and as we gain more knowledge regarding this virus, we can hopefully eradicate it and return to our previous way of living.

Stay safe,

Lauren and Jeanine

LBOH Count - Events Per Disease and		
Classification in Jurisdiction		
Classification: confirmed, probable		
Event Dates from 07/01/2019 to 06/30/2020		
Jurisdiction(s) selected: WRENTHAM		
Jurisdiction(s) used for report: WRENTHAM		
The report contains confidential information.		
The data are current as of 03/04/2021 and are		
subject to change.		
		Num of
Disease	Status	Cases
Babesiosis	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	2
Calicivirus/Norovirus	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	1
Campylobacteriosis	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	1
Giardiasis	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	1
Haemophilus influenzae	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	1
Hepatitis B	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	1
Hepatitis B	DISEASE_STATUS_PROBABLE	1
Hepatitis C	DISEASE_STATUS_PROBABLE	1

Influenza	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	25
Meningococcal Disease	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	1
Novel Coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc)	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	206
Novel Coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc)	DISEASE_STATUS_PROBABLE	13
Salmonellosis	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	2
Streptococcus pneumoniae	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	1
Tuberculosis	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	4
Vibrio sp.	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	1
LBOH Count - Events Per Disease and		
Classification in Jurisdiction		
Classification: confirmed, probable		
Event Dates from 01/01/2020 to 06/30/2020		
Jurisdiction(s) selected: PLAINVILLE		
Jurisdiction(s) used for report: PLAINVILLE		
The report contains confidential information.		
The data are current as of 03/04/2021 and are		
subject to change.		
		Num of
Disease	Status	Cases
Calicivirus/Norovirus	DISEASE STATUS CONFIRMED	1
Cryptosporidiosis	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	1
Hepatitis C	DISEASE STATUS PROBABLE	1
Influenza	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	14
Novel Coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc)	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	66
Novel Coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc)	DISEASE_STATUS_PROBABLE	9
Tuberculosis	DISEASE_STATUS_CONFIRMED	1
Varicella	DISEASE_STATUS_PROBABLE	1

### **Report of the Public Works Department**

The Department of Public Works is responsible for maintaining the Town's roughly 140 single lane miles of all public roadways; sidewalks; storm water drainage system; the Town common and public parks; grounds maintenance for public buildings; Town owned cemeteries; Crocker Pond area; Trout Pond area; solid waste and recycling contracting and management; public shade trees; the Yard Waste Drop-off; Public Works and other Town departments vehicle maintenance; maintaining the fuel storage and delivery system for all Town vehicles; snow and ice control; and the Municipal Public Drinking water system; providing safe quality drinking water and fire protection. The Public Works department supports multiple other Town departments in the accomplishment of their missions.

The Highway Division actively saves the town money by keeping most requests for service in house. Work such as failing catch basins, arborist work, burials, signs, small drainage repair problems, removing beaver obstructions, roadside mowing, annual cross walk painting, patching pot holes and trenches as well as most other kinds of road repairs are all done with the divisional staff. The Highway Division also supports the Water Division performing the necessary paving required after water leaks, repairs and support during the actual repairs. During the snow and ice operations and water main repairs, the divisions routinely work in excess of 24 hours straight.

This year the department has initiated an update to the Water System Capital Efficiency Plan. The last plan was well over a decade old. This is a long-term planning document used to identify and prioritize our needs. It highlights the most effective use of funding by prioritizing required system upgrades. One facet of this plan was the creation of a town wide hydraulic model. This modeling is used to gauge water system capacity based on current and future demands. It allows for an assurance with new development projects, the system will have the proper capacity to provide both fire protection and potable water. It will ensure existing customers are not negatively affected by a proposed development.

We continue to suffer with many roads in a serious state of disrepair due to a prolonged lack of funding to properly maintain them. We currently need over 16 million dollars to repair our roads. Then it is estimated, that close to 3 million dollars per year will be needed to continue to maintain them in their present state. We currently have just over 1.2 million dollars in available State Aid. Annually, we receive anywhere from 250 thousand to 450 thousand dollars in State Aid. This is far from meeting our required needs and has created a situation where we have many roads in complete failure. This year the department oversaw the complete reconstruction of Thurston Street from Route 1 to the Foxborough line. We also made repairs to drainage issues on West Street and Chestnut Street. We performed two weeks of crack sealing. The entire Town portion of West Street was Rubber Chip-sealed. This surface treatment will substantially increase the useful life of this roadway for far less cost than complete

restoration. This continues our approach to preservation versus restoration. We are utilizing our limited funding as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Public Works continued to take a leading role in keeping the Town compliant with our Environmental Protection Agency Federal Storm Water Permitting. We have worked closely with the Facilities and Planning Department collaborating to meet permit goals. In addition to the routine cleaning of our catch basins and street sweeping, this year we identified priority out-falls. Once identified, dry weather testing was conducted to identify any potential illicit connections. No illicit connections were discovered as part of this process. Local funding of the storm water program compliance is becoming a major impediment toward our ongoing compliance.

The long-awaited Madison Street water main and restoration project has neared completion. This was almost a 5 million-dollar project. This project required an extensive amount of oversight from both the Highway and Water Divisions. The completed watermain will allow for greater fire protection and system reliability for a major section of our Town. The project will greatly aid in the economic development of Route 1. Final paving will commence this spring to complete this project.

# Report of the Recreation Department

The Recreation Director is reporting that our department were able to perform recreation programs and maintain three facilities during the summer, fall & winter of 2019.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic in late winter of 2020, Department of Recreation had a very unusual conditions to end the fiscal year.

<u>Director of Recreation & Facilities:</u> Jeffrey H. Plympton <u>Assistant Director:</u> Donna Burt <u>Secretary:</u> Sharon Eagan

Recreation Commission

- 1. Ray Palmer Chair
- 2. Lynne Adams
- 3. Mark Cuddy
- 4. Jane D'Amico
- 5. Chris Kantlehner
- 6. Tim Leavitt
- 7. Adam Moon
- 8. Steve Signes
- 9. John Jackson Associate Member
- 10. Chuck Adelsberger Associate Member

In Town User Group Presidents

- 1. WYBSA: Brad MacDonald
- 2. WYS: Charlie Weiblan
- 3. KPYLA: Chuck Boothe

Facilities managed and maintained by Recreation Commission include:

- 1. Seasonal part-time employees perform all maintenance at all facilities listed.
- 2. Sweatt Field Complex
- 3. Sweatt Beach Facility
- 4. William A. Rice Recreation Complex

Programs and Events managed by Recreation Commission include:

- 1. Norfolk / Wrentham Youth Basketball Winter 2020
- 2. Wrentham Flag Football Fall 2019
- 3. Wrentham Rugby Spring thru Fall
- 4. Concert on the Common Summer 2019
- 5. Wrentham Day September 2019
- 6. Wrentham Wroad Wrace 5K Fall 2019
- 7. Playground Camp Summer Summer 2019
- 8. Senior Citizen and Town Employee Cookout (Sponsored by Eaglebrooke Saloon)

- 9. Aerobics
- 10. Sweatt Beach (open daily June thru August)
- 11. Swimming Lessons at Sweatt Beach
- 12. Kayaking Canoeing Paddle Boarding (Eastern Mountain Sports)
- 13. Lacrosse & Softball Tournaments
- 14. Bushwacker 5K Summer 2019
- 15. Turkeywacker 5K Thanksgiving Fall 2019
- 16. Volleyball Clinics Summer
- 17. Events at Sweatt Beach that include Girl & Boy Scouts
- 18. DARE Camps Summer 2019
- 19. Sports Camps

Organizations involved @ facilities include: Users groups pay \$70/\$80 per player fee

- 1. Wrentham Youth Baseball and Softball Association
- 2. Wrentham Youth Soccer Association
- 3. King Philip Youth Lacrosse Association
- 4. King Philip Regional High School Athletic Teams
- 5. Wrentham Elementary Schools
- 6. Wrentham Men's Softball League
- 7. Lotti Softball Tournaments
- 8. Lacrosse & Soccer Tournaments
- 9. Outside User Groups Travel Teams
- 10. Crush Baseball
- 11. Piatelli Lacrosse
- 12. Brand New Ballgame Clinics

### Financial Accounts:

- 1. Lifeguards: \$22,000 General Fund
- 2. 30 PT seasonal employees from March thru November \$38,000 General Fund
- 3. Town Budget Vehicle & Equipment: \$11,500 General Fund
- 4. Revolving Account: supported by In/Out Town User Fee & Recreation programs

### William Rice Recreation Complex:

Recreation Commission continues to make progress completing the town recreation complex. Currently Rice Complex is at 80% completion. Our new building Recreation Directors office space, conference room and bathroom are now complete. The concession stand at Rice Complex should be ready for service in spring 2021.

One additional baseball field, a 2-mile walking path, 3 synthetic multi-purpose fields, additional parking and roadway, additional bathrooms and irrigation will complete our goal to have the best recreation complex in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Plympton, Recreation & Facilities Director

# Report of the Southeastern Regional Services Group (SERSG)

The Town of Wrentham receives procurement and other services from the Southeastern Regional Services Group (SERSG) and has since the organization's inception in 1993. Twenty-four member municipalities are served by one Regional Administrator for annual member dues of \$4,100. This expense was saved directly by using the contracts secured, and indirectly by devoting fewer resources to procurement and contract documents. Although state contracts are also available, SERSG contract pricing is generally lower and requires much less administrative time.

Wrentham used SERSG contracts for many purchases, utilized subsidized trainings, and participated in 4 bids between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Those bids resulted in contracts for DPW Services, DPW Supplies, Paper, and Water and Sewer Treatment Chemicals.

- New DPW Service contracts were bid for in November 2019 and took effect on 2/1/20. The Town requested contracts for 9 services in its planning of road and other public works with an estimated value of \$786,641.
- In the spring of 2020, contracts were secured with 5 DPW Supply vendors for 9 products, and 2 Water Treatment Chemical vendors for 2 products. The estimated value of these combined supplies is \$222,628. Wrentham saved money by using SERSG contracts as compared to using state contracts. The SERSG price for diesel fuel is \$0.07 less per gallon and \$0.05 less per gallon for gasoline; savings from these two items was \$3,255.
- The Town pay competitive fixed prices for Paper using a SERSG contract. By the end of this period, Wrentham had spent \$11,498 under this contract.
- A two-year Office Supply contract now in effect provides a 61.6% discount off list price (for non-excluded items using a standard wholesaler's catalog), while ink and toner cartridges were discounted at a rate of 36.6%. During the period covered Wrentham spent \$13,042 on office supplies, while saving \$19,541 off list price.
- SERSG applied for and received a \$56,500. MassDEP grant in November 2019. This award funded stormwater compliance workshops, for which Wrentham staff registered.

Favorable pricing for routinely used supplies and services is the primary benefit of SERSG membership. Each community also saves hours of skilled staff time and hundreds of dollars in bid-advertising for every bid used. The subsidized trainings offered by SERSG support both public works and administration. Finally, monthly meetings support municipal administration and public works staff.

Moira Rouse, Regional Administrator

# **Report of the Wrentham Public Schools' Superintendent**

Wrentham Public Schools had a positive, yet unprecedented, school year in 2019-2020. The district shifted from in-person learning to remote learning on March 13, 2020, due to the spread of the novel coronavirus that caused the COVID-19 pandemic. Rather than attending school at Delaney School and Roderick School, the students used computers to complete lessons from home. The administrators, teachers, nurses, mental health providers, paraprofessionals, custodians, food service workers, and all my colleagues worked tireless to support the students, their families, and each other. They created an online platform for students to learn key concepts and skills, developed strategies for teaching students and supporting their mental health needs remotely, and provided technological resources, nutrition assistance, and medical advice to students and their families. I am honored to lead and work with such dedicated, generous, and committed people.

The district made progress with our strategic objectives despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. We fostered a culture of continuous growth and learning by providing professional development on inquiry-based instruction, distance learning, and the use of technology in teaching and learning. We strengthened families and community partnerships by connecting with students' families in a variety of in-person and electronic formats, creating a Justice Committee to ensure all members of our community are welcomed and included, reducing full-day kindergarten tuition, and eliminating the bus fee. Finally, we ensured the schools were safe and conducive to learning by installing an active intruder alert system throughout the schools, installing new visitor check-in and background check systems in the offices, and raising money for a new playground at Roderick School.

Wrentham Public Schools is an exceptional elementary school district. Our students learn the academic and social skills they need to be positive and productive members of their local, national, and global communities. We had a successful school year thanks to hard work of the students and staff members and the support of the School Committee, students' families, and residents and business owners of Wrentham. Thank you for your support of public education.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan Cameron, Ph.D. Superintendent of Wrentham Public Schools Delaney School and Roderick School

# **Report of the Wrentham Public Schools' Principals**

We are pleased to submit our annual report which includes information about the School Council and School Improvement Plan, enrollment, and programs implemented at Wrentham Public Schools during the 2019-2020 school year.

### School Council and School Improvement Plan

The Wrentham Public Schools' School Council was comprised of the following members during 2019-2020: Kathleen Maloney, Principal; Kevin Martes, Principal; Robert Worth, Vice Principal, Jen Jones, Teacher; Kathy Ahern, Teacher; Lynda Hall, Teacher; Jennifer Cotter, Teacher; Marguerite Fifolt, Parent; David Gresham, Parent; Joanne Berthiaume, Parent; Denise Ritchie, Parent; and Jeffrey Schweitzer, Parent.

Throughout the 2019-2020 school year, the School Council identified indicators of progress in each goal in the School Improvement Plan for 2019-2021.

### I School Climate

- Goal: During the 2019-2021 school years, physical and emotional safety will be addressed for students and staff.
- II Communication
  - Goal: During the 2019-2021 school years, effective modes of communication will be explored and implemented within the school community, between schools and families, and between schools and the community at large.

### III Learning Environment

 Goal: During the 2019-2021 school years, the learning environment within the Delaney and Roderick will continue to improve to foster 21<sup>st</sup> century learning opportunities.

### IV Curriculum and Instruction

• Goal: During the 2019-2021 school years, the learning opportunities in all subject areas will be enhanced to promote student progress and high levels of academic achievement as measured by local and state student assessments and future surveys.

### V School Administration

• Goal: During the 2019-2021 school years, processes and procedures will be improved to ensure the safety and security of the buildings to foster a positive learning environment for students.

VI Buildings and Facilities

• Goal: During the 2019-2021 school years, the building structure and facilities will be updated and maintained to provide a clean, safe, and aesthetically pleasing environment that is conducive to learning.

#### Enrollment

Delaney School started the 2019-2020 school year with 554 students in preschool through grade 3, divided into 34 classes. Roderick School started the school year with 401 in grade 4 through 6, divided into 20 classes.

#### **Professional Development**

The district offered Professional Development to all staff on *Developing Math Ideas* to improve inquiry-based math instruction. Wrentham teachers also participated in a technology professional development day with teachers from the Norfolk Public Schools and Plainville Public Schools in February 2020.

#### **Social Emotional Learning Committee**

The WPS Social Emotional Learning Committee had a successful year with teachers, paraprofessionals, and support staff who are implementing a district framework to promote social, emotional, and behavioral competence for all students. The work of this committee over the last four years has helped many students have a better connection to school, improved self-esteem, and decreased emotional stress.

### **Roderick Playground Committee**

The Roderick Playground Committee focused on fundraising for the new Roderick Elementary School Playground. At the end of the 2019-2020 school year, fundraising efforts totaled \$88,000 with a mix of large and small donations. The Committee reviewed plans for the new playground and developed a timeline for construction in the spring of 2021.

### Wrentham Public Schools – PTO

Our PTO was extremely active, providing several events such as the Halloween Dance, 4th and 5th Grade Hoedown, and Boosterthon Fun Run. The Wrentham PTO President, Katelyn Clough, and the rest of the PTO Board have been very supportive and generous to the Wrentham Public Schools throughout the 2019-2020 school year.

#### Math Curriculum Review Committee

The Wrentham Math Curriculum Review Committee piloted and analyzed three math programs of Ready Math, Bridges, and Illustrative Math throughout the 2019-2020 school year. Teachers provided feedback to the Wrentham Leadership Team for adoption of Bridges in the Delaney School and Illustrative Math at the Roderick School.

#### **Remote Learning (March- June)**

After the COVID-19 pandemic closed school in March, teachers and students switched to online learning for the remainder of the school year. Students worked from a weekly lesson calendar with teacher meetings over Google Meets embedded throughout the

week. Overall, students, families and WPS staff responded positively throughout the spring to these unprecedented circumstances.

#### Conclusion

Our quest for excellence at the Wrentham Public Schools could only be realized through the collaborative efforts of our many contributors. We were fortunate to receive unwavering support from the Wrentham School Committee, our colleagues, and the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Maloney, Delaney School Principal Kevin Martes, Roderick School Principal

## **Report of the Wrentham School Committee**

The Wrentham School Committee is comprised of five members who are elected for three-year terms. From July 2019 through the town election on April 6, 2020, the School Committee members were Tracey Murphy, Chair; Danielle Schmitz, Vice Chair; Kristi Brunick, Secretary; Erin DeStefano; and Katelyn Clough. After the election, the School Committee members were Tracey Murphy, Chair; Erin DeStefano, Vice Chair; Grey Almeida, Secretary; Katelyn Clough; and Veronica Gonzales.

The School Committee established educational goals and policies for Wrentham Public Schools that aligned with the legal requirements, statewide goals, and standards established by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Massachusetts Board of Education. The district's budget priorities for the 2019-2020 school year were increasing math instructional support for students, providing teachers and paraprofessionals with professional development for math instruction, eliminating bus fees, and reducing full-day kindergarten tuition. The district made effective progress with these goals; however, the district's priorities shifted on March 13, 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic forced the closure of schools.

The superintendent, administrators, teachers, and staff members responded quickly, effectively, and thoughtfully to the unique challenges presented by the pandemic. They communicated frequently with the school community about the rapidly changing situation. They developed a robust and engaging online learning grid for the students and learned how to teach students remotely. Thanks to their efforts, and the hard work of the students and the unwavering support of the students' families, Wrentham public school students had a positive school year.

The School Committee is grateful for the support of the local government leaders, business owners, and residents of Wrentham. We thank them, the district employees, and the students' families for their hard work during this historically challenging school year. We will continue to advocate for policies and priorities that support Wrentham Public Schools in a fiscally responsible manner.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Murphy, Chair Erin DeStefano, Vice Chair Grey Almeida, Secretary Katelyn Clough Veronica Gonzales

## Report of the King Philip Regional High School

#### School Year 2019-2020

The King Philip Regional School District vision "to inspire students to develop their passions and prepare them to succeed in a world of rapid and constant change" took on new meaning this past year as our world encountered the challenges brought on by the Coronavirus pandemic, the first pandemic in a hundred years. While we opened on September 4, 2019, with great excitement and welcomed almost two thousand students in grades 7-12 for daily traditional classroom instruction, the King Philip Regional School District was in the unprecedented position where it became necessary to move school online from mid-March through the end of the 2020 school year to respond to the world health crisis. Whether we operated in person or virtually, our mission continued to be one where we strove to foster a climate of respect, individual and collective responsibility, creativity, and enthusiasm for learning within our students. As a school district, our 2019-2024 strategic plan focused on teaching, learning, budgeting, and developing community. Technology became a necessary part of all elements of this plan. We continue to appreciate all of those who supported the King Philip Regional District efforts to educate all of our students. Providing a world class education for all the students who attend the King Philip Regional Schools is our highest priority.

The King Philip Regional School Committee, which is essential to the functioning of the school district, is comprised of nine members, with three members from each of the towns of Norfolk, Plainville, and Wrentham. Six members are elected, with 2 from each of the respective towns with staggered three-year terms. The other three members are appointed by their respective town school committees. The committee, when in person, generally meets twice a month at the King Philip Regional High School in the Library to conduct business. These meetings are open to the public. The emergence of the pandemic, where size of gatherings and social distancing was mandated by state, necessitated virtual committee meetings that were live streamed to allow public attendance. Dates, times, and links to these meetings are posted on the school district's website at www.kingphilip.org and also posted in the Superintendent's Office.

In addition to the bi-monthly meetings, members of the school committee also serve on subcommittees that meet on an as needed basis throughout the year. Those subcommittees include a Budget & Finance Subcommittee, Policy Subcommittee, Collective Bargaining Negotiations Subcommittees for Unit A (Teachers); Unit B (Custodians); Unit C (Secretaries); Unit D (Teacher Assistants); and, KP Cafeteria Association. School Committee members also serve as representatives to Sick Bank and the Health & Welfare Trust Subcommittee. The work of each of these subcommittees varies depending on the needs of the district.

The Budget & Finance Subcommittee worked with the Superintendent of Schools and Director of Finance & Operations in the preparation of a budget request which would be presented to the residents at each communities' annual town meeting. The subcommittee and the full school committee spent much of their meeting time during the

winter and spring months working with the superintendent and administration to develop an operational budget request for the school department. At the annual spring town meetings, the requested budget was approved.

The district was very pleased to have been the recipient of a multi-year grant from Governor Baker's Office which supported the four schools with a wellness director, a full-time social worker beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, and cultural competency training for the administrators of the four districts. Through a Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child lens, the regional wellness director has focused on identifying resources and partnerships to support the behavioral and mental health of students, and addressing wellness needs for students and staff across the four districts. To support families, five spring 2020 parent wellness education events, meal distribution during school closure, and wellness and food access information were provided. Just after the close of the year, we were awarded a second year of the grant for FY 21 to continue wellness efforts, and continue funding a family support social worker and the wellness director.

Thanks to the continued support of our towns' budgets, our administrative, custodial and grounds staff, worked diligently to maintain the status of the facilities with regular maintenance, and periodic improvement projects. A thirty-year capital replacement plan was established along with significant upgrades to both buildings to aid in the safety during the pandemic as well as improved cleaning and disinfecting practices.

With the uncertainty about holding a large graduation due to the pandemic restrictions, on June 6th high school seniors were honored with the first ever parade for the graduating seniors. Cars of all shapes, sizes, decorations, began at each town elementary school and paraded through the streets of Norfolk, Plainville, and Wrentham. Applause and cheers for the seniors in family cars culminating with a group of cheering KP staff at the high school were appreciated by our seniors. While senior year spring sports, senior prom, senior events, and a traditional graduation were not able to happen, this parade was an event this year's KP seniors will never forget.

More than one month from the day of the Senior car parade, on Friday July 24th, KP High Seniors had a non-traditional graduation ceremony to honor our class of 2020. Socially distanced, entering the football field with face masks, parents/guardians and seniors took their seats to begin the graduation ceremony. As the sun set, Dr. Lisa Mobley, High School Principal, had seniors walk up to the podium, one by one with their family, to receive their degrees alongside their family. Pictures were taken commemorating a very different but memorable senior year for this talented group. The class of 2020 will forever hold the noted distinction of being the first pandemic graduating class within this century.

Mr. Michael Gee served as the Chairperson for the King Philip Regional School Committee from April 2018 through the 2020 school year with Mr. Samad Khan serving as Vice-chair. The King Philip Regional School Committee would like to express its gratitude to senior, Marion Linde, the student representative to the school committee, for her input at meetings. The committee would also like to recognize the work of Mrs. Elisa B. Witkus who serves as Secretary to the School Committee.

During the month of September, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts released the results of the 2019 Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). The analysis of these scores by department-based data teams in each building drives curriculum decisions and instructional and assessment practices. Overall, past data regarding King Philip growth and achievement has been extremely positive. Throughout the district we are demonstrating that our students are achieving at high levels in ELA, mathematics, and science, well above the state levels. During the spring of 2020, the Next Generation online MCAS testing, which is usually administered for students in grades 7, 8, and 10 was suspended due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

High numbers of our students in junior and senior years of high school are taking advanced courses. Eighty percent of our students taking Advanced Placement exams do so in mathematics with thirty-five students taking ELA and thirty two percent taking History. The King Philip Regional School District has been recognized on the AP Honor Roll for the large numbers of our students taking AP exams with 81% of our students earning strong scores of 3 or better. As a district, we continue to refine our instructional approaches and outcomes guided by data analysis and reflection on best practice.

The accomplishments of the King Philip Regional School District do not end in the classroom. This year's athletes brought great pride to the district as teams and as individuals. Warrior pride is more than just a score at a game. The students who attend King Philip Regional Schools exemplify good sportsmanship and team spirit at every event. The district is very proud of every player and coach and commends them for a job well done.

In March of 2020, a public forum on the FY2020 school department budget was held. The purpose of the public forum on the budget was to provide the community with detailed information about the school committee's budget request that ultimately came before the voters at the respective town meetings in June.

Due to the hard work of a strong administrative team, numerous accomplishments were realized during the 2019-2020 school year. Our professional development has been aligned with state directions and initiatives. The Middle School completed preparation to launch the Grade 8 Civics curriculum for the fall of 2020. A competitive \$26,328 STEM grant was directed towards teacher training/ resources that will lead toward more comprehensive alignment with MA Digital Literacies Frameworks. The STEM Scopes program was implemented at the middle school level to increase student engagement, rigor, and raise student achievement. Longitudinal alignment between HS Physical science curriculum, MS Science, and the 2016 MA Science Frameworks was the result of several years of collaboration. Updates are reflected in the district's <u>curriculum online</u> view designed to support parent access to curriculum maps, unit designs, and essential understandings.

The district continued the work begun in the tri-town to cultivate a school environment that fosters equity, access, and opportunity for all students. As part of this approach, the district integrated approaches such as teaming and co-teaching to increase instructional engagement. All tri-town administrators were also trained by Dr. Darnisa Amante (racial equity strategist) and Gene Grove Thompson (School Reform Initiative) on the topics of educational equity and social justice. Extended training continued in these areas through book study by administrators and teachers. King Philip also supported a partnership with Lesley University to support the Arts Team in their integration of culturally responsive teaching through the newly released 2019 MA Arts Frameworks. The district continued to support diversity and LGBTQ student clubs. Aligned with our district's strategic plan, we are working on the development and implementation of systems, protocols, and services designed to meet the diverse needs of all learners.

Middle School academics are strong, and we have students excelling in the region and in the state. In the New England Mathematics competition, we were pleased that King Philip Middle School students were recognized as top scorers. In Norfolk County, our 7th grade students finished in 2nd place while our 8th grade finished first overall. When compared with 58 New England schools, our 7th grade finished in 11th place while our 8th grade finished in 6th place. Four students qualified to advance to the statewide MATHCOUNTS competition after participating in a local MATHCOUNTS competition.

King Philip Middle School Student Ambassadors continued their involvement in Project 351, a statewide program that empowers teens to make change and progress within their community. Annually, we have ambassadors that are selected to represent the communities of Norfolk, Plainville, and Wrentham.

Deepening student learning experiences by connecting with experts in various disciplines has also been important. In addition, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students deepened their understanding of the literary works of Edgar Allan Poe through a visit from Poe expert, Campbell Harmon. Middle School Athletics continued to offer opportunities for intramurals such as cross country, basketball, volleyball, and track and field.

We continue to celebrate the success of our teachers. Congratulations to MS Teacher, Mrs. Susan Hall, STEM Teacher, for being awarded National Certification in STEM Education for learning, building scientific understanding, and engaging students in best practice.

KP Middle School continues to teach our students to care. Through our Amazing Race, our students learned about kindness and supported local families that were in need as well as bringing several tons of food to our local food pantries. A group of 7th graders visited the State House in January after writing letters to local representatives on how climate change affects the King Philip community as part of a science unit.

With the support of World Language teachers, middle school students sponsored a Peace Corps Partnership Project. The World Language Department has incorporated lessons on global poverty into our curriculum in French and Spanish. This year we chose a middle school partnership to address projects that would help to clean water in Africa and provide for eco stoves in Panama. Through the project our students learned about worldwide leadership and humanitarian efforts.

Our Arts program continues to be a source of more KP Pride. Shining through our performance ensembles and theater programming. The 7th and 8th Grade Bands and Combined Chorus were preparing for their Spring Concerts and MICCA performances before school was shut down due to the Covid-19 virus. Our music faculty created an online curriculum for the students involved in the performing ensembles. In the spring of 2020, a talented KPMS Cast and Crew were just about to start tech week in preparation for their performance of *The Wizard of Oz.* Unfortunately, the performances were cancelled due to the school shut down.

King Philip Regional High School students demonstrated success in all aspects of high school life. There were 95 students in the Class of 2020 that were the recipients of John and Abigail Adams scholarships where students receive tuition credit for up to eight semesters at a MA state college or university. Seven of our high school students received a high school diploma with distinction for four students in STEM and three students in Humanities. Two of our students received distinction for successful completion of the Advanced Placement Capstone program of the College Board with twenty of our students being recognized as AP Scholars. Eighty one percent of the 657 students taking Advanced Placement exams in May received grades of 3-5 that can be used to help students receive college credit.

At the high school, the KP's Pride and Passion Marching Band earned their 34th consecutive Gold Medal at the MICCA State Finals. First place in Division V open at NESBA Finals and placed 2nd in Division IV open at the US Bands National Championships held at Metlife Stadium in East Rutherford, NJ. The high school jazz ensemble earned a Gold Medal at MAJE State finals just before schools transitioned to virtual learning. The high school Bands and Chorus had a wonderful fall performance and were gearing up for their Spring Concerts and MICCA festival before the events were cancelled due to the pandemic. Our music faculty created an online curriculum for the students involved in the performing ensembles. A number of clinicians came to work with the Concert and Symphony Bands. The Symphony Band was preparing for a World Premiere of the piece Allamand, by composer and KP alum Benjamin Webster. This was cancelled due to the pandemic, but we hope to perform the World Premiere in the future. KP High School students were well represented at both the Southeast Senior District Festival and All-State Music Festival. The KP High School Drama Program produced the 2019 Fall Musical You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown. All performances were a success. The Drama Program was in the process of preparing their Spring Performance of the play Almost Maine before being shut down due to the pandemic.

In past years, students have had the opportunity to participate in International Exchanges such as the one with Lycee St. Exupery in Montigny-le Brentonneux, France where students lived with students, attended classes, and took field trips to Versailles and Paris. Although 2019-2020 was a year where no spring international travel occurred, students continued their language studies. This year, in the first year of the

Seal of Biliteracy program, three King Philip seniors received this distinctive seal in Spanish/English on their diplomas which reflects proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation. This recognition may be presented to colleges and future employers.

DECA, Distributive Education Clubs of America, is a career and technical student organization with more than 225,000 members in all 50 U.S. states in which our King Philip students participate. This past year, the district celebrated the success of DECA students where 98 students competed in the MA state competition with 52 students being recommended for the International Career Development DECA competition.

King Philip Regional High School students have access to comprehensive athletic programs where students compete at the freshman, Junior Varsity, and Varsity levels. The Lady Warrior Soccer Team qualified for the MIAA South Sectional Championship Game. Field Hockey, Girls Volleyball, Boys Soccer, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Boys Ice Hockey and Football all made it into the early rounds of the state tournament. In addition, KP has many successful individual student athletes compete in MIAA State Tournaments. KP Warrior Football won the Thanksgiving game. Several students were acknowledged in the Boston Herald All-Decade Selections for basketball, cross-country, football, softball, soccer, and swimming.

As we work with our tri-town community to provide our students with a first-rate education, we are excited by student successes. We look forward to inspiring future classes of King Philip students and preparing our students for life-long involvement in our global society!

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A. Zinni, C.A.G.S. Superintendent of Schools

# Report of the Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals consists of five (5) appointed members and two (2) Associate members:

Keith Langer, Chairman Walter Pelrine, Clerk/Secretary John Redman, Member Jennifer Savickis, Associate Member William Casbarra, Vice Chair Shawn Gough, Member William Burns, Associate Member

The Zoning Board holds its regular meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Meeting Room of Town Hall and all meetings are open to the public. After March 2020 the meetings were held virtually using Zoom as permitted by the Governor's March 10, 2020 Emergency Order to Suspend Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

The Zoning Board of Appeals held public hearings and acted on the following applications for the Period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020:

- 2545 West St., Paul Vallera Special Permit Approved
- 115 Foxboro Rd., Kimberly Cohn Special Permit Home Occupation Approved
- 201 Wampum St., Ramben LLC Variance Withdrawn
- 500 West St., Kelly Williams Special Permit Approved
- 28 Park St., Matthew Law Variance Approved
- 21 East St., Anshuman Singh Rawat, DMD Special Permit Approved
- 420 Eastside Rd., Mary Foley Special Permit/Variance Extension Approved
- 224 Forest Grove Ave., Joseph Mazzotta Special Permit Extension Approved
- 263 Shears St., Steven Krawchuk Special Permit Withdrawn
- 137 Gilmore Rd., Carol Felix Special Permit Approved
- 325 Thurston St., Joseph Vozzella Special Permit Application Determined Incomplete
- 1576 West St., Jason Lawton Special Permit Approved
- 149 Lakeside Ave., Eamonn Lynch Special Permit Approved
- 325 Thurston St., Joseph Vozzella Special Permit Approved
- 20 Wamsutta Way, Pamela Ouimet, Andrew Evan & Erin McCoy Special Permit Accessory Dwelling Unit Approved
- 60 Heather Lane, Stephen & Marguerite Mariconti Special Permit Approved
- 95 Warren Dr., Bryan Aaron/Mountain Dog Dev. Special Permit/ADU Withdrawn
- 25 Lafayette Ave., Meridian Custom Homes, Inc. Special Permit/ADU Approved

The Board welcomes public comments, participation, and recommendations concerning the Board's activities. For information regarding meeting agendas or other questions,

please call the Planning Office at 508 384-5441. Please also check our website at www.wrentham.ma.us.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Benson, Director of Planning & Economic Development Wrentham Zoning Board of Appeals