

JANUARY 2026



TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER

TOWN MANAGER'S OPERATIONAL REPORT

Welcome to January's Town Manager's Operational Report, providing an update on key projects, upcoming initiatives, and important community news. Inside, you'll find detailed progress on infrastructure improvements, budget highlights, and opportunities for resident engagement.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Town Manager's Office Page 3

Human Resources Page 8

Finance Department Page 13

Fire Department Page 15

Police Department Page 17

Public Works Department Page 18

Health Department Page 20

Building Department Page 21

Elder Affairs Page 22

Community & Economic Development Page 24

Bridgewater Public Library Page 25



TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0919
townmanager@bridgewaterma.org

Message from the Town Manager

In December, we had another busy month as we prepared to enter the New Year. The following are some of the community events that I attended during this month:

- Verizon Wireless Bridgewater ribbon cutting; I was pleased to join the Metro South Chamber of Commerce for the Verizon Wireless Bridgewater ribbon cutting, celebrating the opening of the new store at the Roche Brothers Plaza.
- Bridgewater State University (BSU) Holiday Extravaganza; The BSU Holiday Extravaganza was a festive celebration showcasing performances by the B-S-Ukers, a ukulele class from BSU Senior College, and talented students from the Bridgewater State School of Music. Events like this highlight the strong partnership between the Town of Bridgewater and Bridgewater State University, and I look forward to continuing and expanding our collaboration with BSU in the year ahead.
- Senior Center Holiday Party; as usual, COA Director Courtney Riley, along with her dedicated team, volunteers from our community, and members of our community, held a wonderful holiday party. During the event, I had the pleasure of congratulating Kenneth Pimental, a dedicated driver for the Senior Center for over 20 years, on his upcoming retirement. It was a pleasure to acknowledge his many years of service to the Town.
- Christmas in the Common; I had the pleasure of attending the 32nd Annual Christmas on the Common event, a festive holiday event featuring local vendors and food trucks. Thank you to the Bridgewater Business Association for organizing such a fun event that welcomed our community into the 2025 holiday season.
- Ask the Town Manager Meeting; this is my fifth open meeting with the public to discuss wide-ranging issues, and I appreciate the residents who join us at these meetings. I'll be hosting open office hours in January. Water Superintendent Bill Young joined me for a portion of this meeting to address questions regarding our water infrastructure.

As always, it is great to interact with the community and residents in different mediums than usual. I want to thank our staff and the volunteers who were critical to these community events. Their willingness to roll up their sleeves, coordinate, and make these events happen is very much appreciated.

At Town Council meetings in December, staff addressed water quality concerns, addressed funding needs regarding Fire Department staffing, allocated general fund free allocation transfers, submitted our annual capital plan funding for school and town-related capital projects, addressed MBTA compliance requirements, approved the FY27 budget resolution, which will guide our budgeting priorities for the fiscal year 2027 budget, amongst a variety of other issues. As can be seen, December was an extremely busy and productive month for the Town in terms of annual operations. In January, we will continue to address water quality and capacity issues, finalize capital appropriations, and focus on preparing and beginning the work required to submit the FY27 budget.

TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

Ask the Town Manager

How does Bridgewater propose to pay Middleborough plus hookup costs for the emergency interconnection? Will this come from increased water rates, tax increases, or other sources?

Water delivery within the Town is managed through an enterprise fund, which essentially ensures that users pay for the service provided. Enterprise fund revenue is raised through water rates. If expenses increase, the water rate would have to increase. In this case, regarding additional costs associated with the purchase of water from Middleborough, while the Town was working to reach an agreement on a water interconnection with Middleborough along with other water solutions to address our water quality and capacity needs, we advocated to the state and our community stakeholders, including Rep. Gallagher and Senator Driscoll, for additional funding to help the Town address its water issues.

I spoke with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Commissioner in December and was informed of a \$2 million grant opportunity for the Town. We are preparing that grant submission and ultimately will utilize those grant funds to pay for the procurement of water, along with the construction work associated with this water interconnection. Thus, there will be no financial impact on water users, assuming the Town receives the grant. We will also use those funds to cover costs associated with exploring additional work, including an additional Blue Drop machine to provide an additional site for PFAS-free water. As well as a treatment trailer that will allow us to use wells 10A and 10B and ensure they are treated appropriately before introducing that water source into our distribution system. This will significantly increase our water capacity and our ability to meet water demand within the town. Specifically, for the costs associated with procuring water in Middleborough under this short-term interconnection, there will be no direct cost to water users this fiscal year.

Questions that wish to be considered as part of the Ask the Town Manager portion of this update can be sent to the following email: townmanager@bridgewaterma.org

Water Infrastructure Update

The Town has made progress on the short-term actions identified in the Water Emergency Memo I prepared for the Council, which can be viewed [HERE](#). I anticipate that in early January, the Town will complete its interconnection with the Town of Middleborough. Our water engineering team continues to work on an interim treatment trailer that is being designed to allow us to utilize the water resources available to us at wells 10A/10B and ensure proper treatment before introducing it into our water system. Most importantly, while the team focuses on short-term and intermediate solutions to addressing water quality and capacity issues in town. We are simultaneously identifying opportunities to address long-term solutions, including PFAS remediation and alternative water sources, for example. In addition, we are advocating for additional support and financial resources from all stakeholders to finance the work associated with those solutions. This has been a priority for me, and it will remain so until we address these issues. I will continue to provide updates on our work at Town Council meetings and will then schedule a forum focused on water infrastructure to keep the community apprised.

Water documents/presentations previously linked to in previous updates:

[Water Master Plan](#); [October Water Update](#)

TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

Grants

While the Town does not have a dedicated official or department tasked solely with procuring and applying for grants. However, the team has been active in applying for and advocating for grant funding to augment the Town's operational and capital funds. Some of the grants that our office has been involved in this month include:

Mass Cultural Council Systems Replacement Plan Grant – this grant provides funding to allow for a third-party consultant to survey the building envelope (roof, walls, and entry systems) and the mechanical systems (heating, cooling, ventilation, plumbing, and pool filtration). The survey will provide the estimated usable life expectancy and/or projected replacement costs for the building systems. The Town applied for this grant to fund an assessment of the Old Town Hall.

Taunton River Stewardship Council Grant – to do work associated with applying for a Mass Trails Grant, which will allow the Town to move forward with Phase IV of the Old State Farm Trail, which is the final phase of this multi-phase trail process. This work was conducted in collaboration with the Natural Resources Trust of Bridgewater and builds on prior efforts with Bridgewater State University, and many engaged volunteers on this project. We expect to apply for this grant in early January.

DEP Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities Grant – this is a grant associated with funding the work associated with addressing water quality and capacity issues within the Town. Funds would be used for work associated with the water interconnection and the purchase of water from the Town of Middleborough, as well as for other water projects, to ensure the delivery of clean, quality water to the community. We expect the Town to complete this application in January.

Assistant Town Manager

As highlighted in the November Operational Update, in recognition of how critical this position is to the organization. Interviews for this position in the Town Manager's office commenced in December, although no decision regarding the hiring of a new Assistant Town Manager has been made. The expectation is that this position will be filled sometime after February. This position was frozen through December as part of the post-supplement budget adjustments that were made for this fiscal year.

Communications

I had the pleasure of joining Jabbar Al-Obaidi on his public-access show, "InFocus," where we discussed a range of topics and my time here in Bridgewater so far. I appreciate his invitation and BCTV for facilitating this taping. The video of that conversation is available [HERE](#). Furthermore, I joined Councilors McGrath and Murphy on their podcast "Moments with Mary." The recording is available [HERE](#). I am committed to communicating with the community as effectively as possible to provide updates on our work and the challenges we face. The Town does not have a Public Information position within the organization, so we utilize these mediums to support us in those efforts.

TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

Resident Satisfaction Survey

As outlined in the Town Manager's Goals, which can be viewed [HERE](#). My office has developed a resident satisfaction survey to receive baseline opinions from residents on key town services, projects, and communication. A draft was submitted to councilors for feedback on the survey. Feedback received so far has been incorporated into the final version, and we are prepared to proceed with submitting it to the public.

Town Website

At previous Council meetings, I have highlighted that the Town is currently working on a revamped Town website. Before my arrival, the Town decided to transition from its current vendor to a new vendor to realize savings on website-related expenses and must complete that work by December 31st. The Town's current contract expires in December; therefore, the Town is focusing on preparing the new website for launch and allocating limited resources to the current website, as support for that platform ends at the end of December. The Town is aware of concerns regarding the website, and departments are working collaboratively with the IT Department to transition to the new site, which we hope users will find easier to navigate once the rollout is complete. In December, the IT Department continued work on rolling out the new website. The new website will be operational in January, and updates and ongoing rollout work will continue throughout the month. Website mapping will be required as we transition from our previous vendor. The IT Department will work to ensure we address any issues related to the website rollout over the forthcoming month.

Municipal Electricity Aggregation

The Bridgewater Municipal Aggregation Program will become active in December. As a refresher, this program leverages the Town's collective purchasing power to secure a competitively priced, fixed-rate electricity supply for residents and small businesses while maintaining the same utility delivery service you already receive from National Grid. Participation is based on an opt-out program; however, customers may opt in or out at any time with no fees or penalties. Beginning in December 2025, the Town's standard default supply rate is \$0.14123 per kilowatt-hour, which will remain fixed for 35 months through November 2028. For comparison, National Grid's Basic Service rate is \$0.15484 per kilowatt-hour through January 31, 2026. While residents will see initial savings at program launch, it is important to note that National Grid's Basic Service rates change twice annually. Although the Town's fixed aggregation rate is lower at the outset of the program, it may not always be the lowest available at any given time. The Colonial Power Group, the Town's aggregation consultants, hosted an additional informational meeting at the Cole Yeaton Senior Center on November 5th. For any further questions or assistance, please contact Colonial Power Group directly at www.colonialpowergroup.com/bridgewater or (866) 485-5858 ext. 1.

Board/Committee Vacancies

We want to remind residents that there are numerous vacancies across our 29 boards, commissions, and committees, to which the Town appoints volunteers to serve, contributing their time and expertise to various Town functions and priorities. More details regarding vacancies and the mission of each committee can be found on the Town's website at: <https://www.bridgewaterma.org/198/Boards-Committees-Commissions>

TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

Residents who wish to apply for appointment consideration may complete the online application at:

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/FormCenter/Citizens-Advisory-Committee-9/BoardCommitteeCommission-Application-57>

The committee we will highlight this month is the **Open Space Committee**, which has 2 vacancies. The Open Space Committee evaluates opportunities for the acquisition and protection of open space parcels against a number of criteria, including whether the Town's acquisition of the parcel would help preserve Bridgewater's character, protect Bridgewater's water resources, abut or conjoin existing conservation lands, provide public access for walking, biking or other passive recreation, preserve or enhance distinctive streetscapes, views or vistas, or preserve important wildlife and/or vegetation habitat. To this end, the Committee works with Town residents, local officials, state and federal agencies, and private nonprofit land conservation organizations to further these open space objectives.



HUMAN RESOURCES

66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

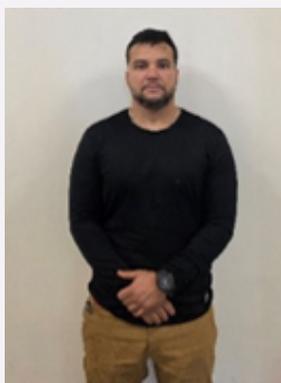
508-697-0971
HR@bridgewaterma.org

This month was a busy and rewarding one for the HR Department as we connected with employees, supported Town initiatives, and engaged with the broader Bridgewater community. From welcoming new faces and recognizing employee achievements to collaborating across departments and investing in professional development, our work reflected the many ways HR supports the Town each day.

Whether behind the scenes or front and center at Town events, our goal remains the same: to create a positive, inclusive workplace where employees feel informed, appreciated, and empowered to do their best work for the Bridgewater community.

Carolyn Wood, Human Resources Director
Marisa Kurey, Human Resources Generalist

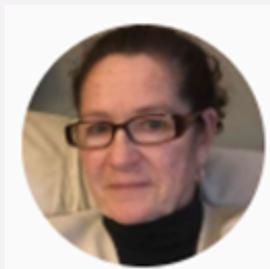
Welcoming New Team Members:



Thiago Cavalcante Do Nascimento – Light Equipment Operator

Please join us in welcoming Thiago to the Water Department! In this role, he will support the maintenance and operation of the Town's water system by assisting with pipe work, water services, equipment operation, leak repairs, and emergency response. We're excited to have him on board and look forward to the important work he'll do to help the department.

Farewells:



Julianna Curry – Executive Assistant

We want to thank Julianna for her time within the Department of Public Works. She has been a part of the team for four years and we wish her the best!

Dawn Menard – Business Unit Analyst

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks and best wishes to Dawn as she moves on to another municipality. We are grateful for her dedication and contributions, and we wish her continued success and happiness in her next chapter!



HUMAN RESOURCES

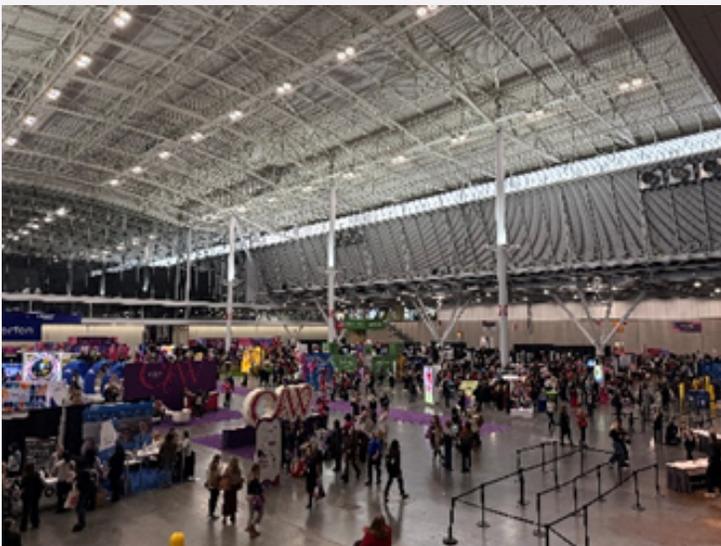


Katelyn Putt – Conservation Agent

Please join us in wishing Katelyn all the best as she departs from the Town. Her service and commitment are truly appreciated, and we wish her success in her future endeavors.

Professional Development:

This month, we got to attend the Conference for Women in Boston! This was an inspiring event focused on leadership, growth, and empowerment. The conference featured engaging speakers, meaningful conversations, and valuable insights on professional development, resilience, and work-life balance. Attending this event provided a chance to connect with other professionals, gain fresh perspectives, and bring back ideas that support both personal and professional growth.



HUMAN RESOURCES

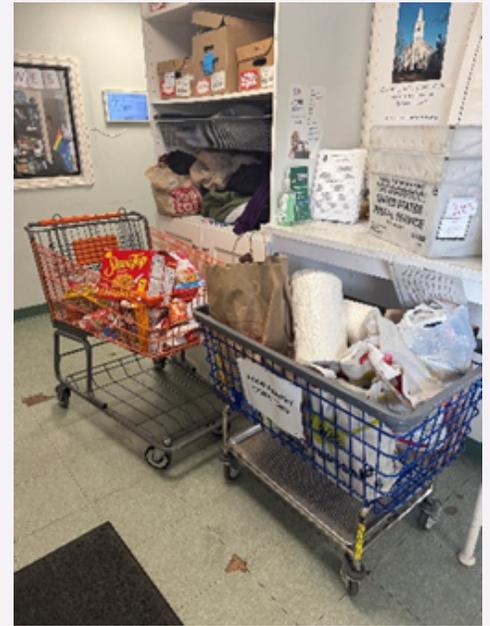
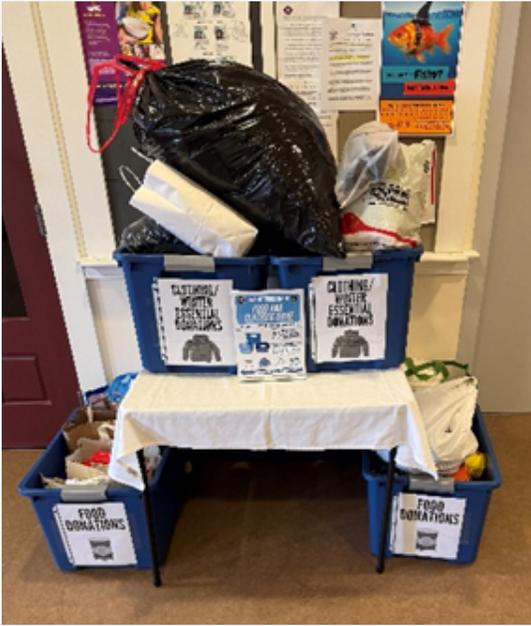
Community Engagement:

Food and Clothing/Winter Essentials Drive:

Thank you to everyone who participated in and supported our Food and Clothing Drive this holiday season!

We are truly grateful for the generosity shown by our community. Thanks to your kindness, we were able to collect new and gently used clothing, winter essentials, and non-perishable food items that will directly benefit Bridgewater families in need. All donations were shared with the Bridgewater Food Pantry and Central Square Congregational Church, ensuring your contributions went right back to supporting our own residents.

Every donation helped brighten the season for local families. Thank you for coming together to make a meaningful difference in our community.



Employee Engagement:

Flannel All the Way – Holiday Party

The holiday spirit was in full swing at our Flannel All the Way Holiday Party! Employees gathered in the Council Chambers dressed in their coziest flannel to enjoy an afternoon filled with delicious food, festive fun, and great company.



HUMAN RESOURCES

The event featured a potluck-style meal with a variety of appetizers, main entrées, and desserts, along with a holiday-themed photo booth 📸 that brought plenty of smiles and laughter. These moments gave everyone a chance to step away from the workday, connect with colleagues across departments, and celebrate the season together.

Events like this highlight the strong sense of community within our workplace. We are grateful to everyone who participated, contributed a dish, and helped make the celebration such a success. It was a joyful reminder of how meaningful it is to come together, relax, and enjoy time with one another during the holiday season.



HUMAN RESOURCES

Garden of Gratitude

During this time of year, we invited all our employees to visit our “Garden of Gratitude” display on the first floor of Town Hall. They could select a leaf, flower, butterfly, or bee and write something they are grateful for. Once added to the display, every message helped our garden grow and reminded us of the many good things within our community.

Together, we can spread kindness and connection across all departments and make this season a little brighter for everyone.



S.A.V.E. and Veteran Program:

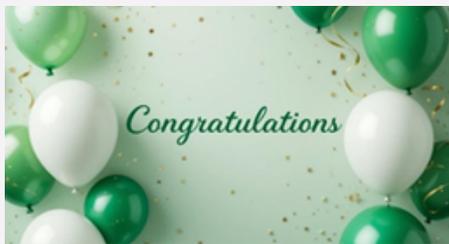


We are proud to wrap up another successful year of the S.A.V.E./Veteran Program. This program continues to provide meaningful opportunities for veterans while supporting Town departments and strengthening our community. The dedication, professionalism, and contributions of our participants made a positive impact throughout the year.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our volunteers and to the departments that supported the program's success. We are excited for the upcoming year of the S.A.V.E./Veteran Program and look forward to building on this momentum in the years ahead.

Celebrations and Appreciation:

Please join us in wishing a very Happy Birthday to all of our employees celebrating this month. We're so glad to celebrate you! Thomas R., Kathleen H., Theodore S., Grace S., Michael M., Mark K., Michael C., Christopher H., Katelyn O., Robert G., Thomas N., David S., Vanessa E., Kevin C., Michelle B., Cori H., and Arthur W.



A big congratulations to our employees marking work anniversaries this month! We appreciate your dedication and the impact you make every day. Thank you for your continued commitment to the Town of Bridgewater. Claudette P., Amy G., Thomas L., Billy L., Joshua S., Christopher D., David F., James C., Edward D., Rick C., James C., Scott K., Vanessa E., Jeffrey D., Michelle B., and Jed P.

Should you have any questions or require assistance with any HR-related matters, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at HR@bridgewaterma.org. Thank you for your continued dedication and support to this Town!



FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Accounting | Assessing | Revenue Collection | Treasury

66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0926

Finance Departments Update – Laurie Guerrini/Finance Director

Accounting Operational Update

In December, the Accounting Department focuses on completing calendar year-end financial tasks while continuing regular operations for the current fiscal.

This includes final payroll processing, distributing tax forms such as W-2s and 1099s, and working with Human Resources to ensure employee records are accurate. The department also continues reviewing and reconciling financial accounts to confirm balances are correct.

Staff review grant activity to ensure funds are used properly and that required reports and reimbursement requests are submitted on time. Ongoing support is provided to departments for budget questions, purchasing, and contract processing.

Accounting also continues to track capital projects, process vendor invoices, and monitor spending to help ensure funds are used responsibly as departments plan for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Beginning early planning for the FY27 budget. This work includes reviewing current spending, updating financial forecasts, and identifying future service and project needs. The formal budget process will continue over the coming months, with department requests and financial reviews .

FY2026 Financial Reporting for November can be found on the town website:

[FY2026 Financial Reporting - November 2025](#)

Assessing Operational Update

The Board of Assessors determined the assessed value of all taxable real and personal property as of January 1, 2025, as required by G.L. c. 59, § 38 and was certified on November 3, 2025. Once a community is certified as assessing property at full and fair cash value, local officials are required to determine for the fiscal year of certification, and the fiscal years that follow until the next scheduled certification, the percentages of the tax levy to be borne by each class of real property: residential, open space, commercial and industrial, and by personal property for that year. This decision is to be made after holding a public hearing. Bridgewater's classification hearing was held on December 2, 2025.

At the public hearing, the assessors provided all information and data relevant to decide on adopting a residential factor and determining the percentages of local tax levy to be borne by each class of real property, including the fiscal effect of the available alternatives. Since the assessors received the Commissioner's certifications before the public hearing was held and all applicable Open Meeting Law and local requirements had been met, the town council was able to vote on allocating the tax levy or adopting any other options under property tax classification. For the Town council to decide the percentages of the tax levy each class of real property and personal property will bear each year. a residential factor is adopted.

The Town Council voted to a adopt residential factor of "1" which resulted in the taxation of all property at the same rate for all classes of \$12.03. This rate is determined by dividing the tax levy by the total value of all taxable property in Bridgewater and then multiplying that result by one thousand.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Levy: \$64,227,244/Value: \$5,338,923,040= (0.01203) x 1000 = Tax Rate \$12.03

The average single-family home value for fiscal year 2026 is \$593,992 which yields a tax bill of \$7,420. This is a value increase of \$22,777 from fiscal year 2025 which yielded a tax bill of \$7,027, for a total tax increase of \$393.00 from year to year. The total number of single-family dwellings increased by thirty-one from the previous year. The new growth attributed from single-family property class is \$247,893 and for the total residential class is \$316,483. Total commercial new growth value of \$1,274,700 contributed \$15,080, industrial new growth value of \$579,400 contributed \$6,854. The personal property class value of \$ 15,448,910 contributed \$182,761 for a total new growth amount for fiscal year 2026 of \$521,178.

Fiscal Year, 3rd & 4th quarter tax bills were issued on schedule with due dates of February 2 and May 4, respectively.

Please note that abatement applications are due on the same day as the third quarter real estate taxes are due.

If you haven't submitted your exemption application please do so by April 1, 2026.

The Town offers in-person payment at the Collector office and online option for payment

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/310/Online-Payment-Center>

THANK YOU to residents, staff, and the Council for staying engaged and supporting the Town's financial health.

Finance Contact Information

Assessing

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/161/Assessing>

Phone: 508-697-0928

Accounting

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/160/Accounting>

Phone: 508-697-0926

Treasurer/Revenue Collecting

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/1483/TreasurerRevenue-Collecting>

Phone: 508-697-0923



FIRE DEPARTMENT

1185 Pleasant St.
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0900
bridgewaterfire.org

Fire Department – Objectives and Updates

December 26, 2025

New Fire Station – The administrative team moved into the new station as of December 15th. The firefighters and apparatus are planning to move to the new station in January. Stay tuned for an announcement about a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony & Open House at the end of January.

Operation Santa – We want to thank everyone that makes Operation Santa possible! Thank you to the businesses & residents who made generous donations to this amazing program to help Bridgewater families! Thank you to Bren Ladino, Ursula Garfield & Anne Swarce for running this program & the countless hours that they have put in for so many years! Thank you to our Firefighters for volunteering their time to deliver the toys to families!

Training:

- Active Shooter/Hostile Event Response (ASHER) Training (12/4-12/9/25) - The Bridgewater Fire and Police Departments participated in our annual joint training on responding to hostile threats and active shooters. The training was held in partnership with the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District and was conducted with the help of some volunteers from the Bridgewater-Raynham Criminal Justice Club and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Police Officers and Firefighter/Paramedics practiced tactics for moving in a hostile environment to quickly and safely evacuate victims.
- Mandatory OSD Training Session (12/8/25) – The Chief, Deputy Chief and our administrative staff attended the Introduction to OSD, State Contracts and COMMBUYS online training session.

Community Engagement/Events:

- Massachusetts Conference for Women (12/3/25) – Renee Rushton attended the Massachusetts Conference for Women in Boston. Several town employees attended the conference, which was a great experience.
- Southern New England Fire Chiefs Presentation (12/5/25) – Chief Schlatz & Deputy Chief Grafton attended the Southern New England Fire Chiefs Presentation on December 5th that was held at Gillette Stadium. Thank you SERVPRO for sponsoring this event!
- East Bridgewater Christmas Parade (12/6/25) – Thank you to FF Kevin Gunnarson for volunteering his time to drive our engine in the East Bridgewater Christmas Parade!
- Annual BR Alumni Game (12/10/25) – Lt. Casey Florence and FF Ryan Connolly participated in the BR Alumni hockey game that was held at the Bridgewater Ice Arena.
- Santa Riding around Town in the Fire Engine (12/13 & 12/14/25) – Thank you to Firefighters: Josh Anacki, Andrew Daigle, Ryan Forant, Kevin Gunnarson, Chris Hamilton, Cori Handorff, Ryan Malone, Andrew Perez and Ryan Young for volunteering to escort Santa through the streets of Bridgewater! This is always such a fund tradition for us. We hope the residents enjoyed it as much as we did!
- Flannel All the Way Holiday Party (12/11/25) – Deputy Grafton, Lt. Thomas Luckman III, Lt. Sean Peters and Renee Rushton attended the Flannel Holiday Party for Town employees. Thanks to our HR Department for putting together this event!



FIRE DEPARTMENT



Upcoming Events:

- 3rd Annual Staff Wellness Fair at BRRSD (1/28/26)
- Open House at the New Fire Station, 1185 Pleasant St. (TBD)

Calls for January - November of 2025:

	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	YTD Totals
Fire	7	6	14	13	6	8	5	7	8	9	6	89
EMS	314	299	291	278	346	316	285	287	311	308	298	3333
False Alarm	46	45	46	55	63	80	83	61	85	88	57	709
Other	54	41	72	57	45	52	50	43	49	59	43	565
Totals:	421	391	423	403	460	456	423	398	453	464	404	4696



POLICE DEPARTMENT

220 Pleasant St.
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-6118
bridgewaterpolice.org

Operational Update for the Police Department:

- On Wednesday, December 3, we participated in a meeting of the Town Transportation Committee.
- On Thursday, December 4, we attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly renovated McDonald's at Campus Plaza.
- On Thursday, December 4, officers attended mandatory active threat training exercises with Fire/EMS at our local school.
- On Tuesday, December 16, we held the graduation ceremony for our 28th Citizens Police Academy class at the Senior Center. Sgt. Ryan O'Connell and Ofcr. Chris Paze coordinate this well-received 12-week community education program on police operations. Approximately 20 local residents graduated this year.
- On Tuesday, December 23, we participated in a meeting to finalize our department website upgrade with John Guilfoil Public Relations web development team.





PUBLIC WORKS

25 South St.
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0932

Department of Public Works Operational Report Summary and Highlights for December 2025

In addition to the reporting that follows, there are many ongoing projects at various stages that the Department of Public Works is involved with, which are too numerous to detail herein. We are happy to provide further information on request.

Executive Summary - Azu Etoniru, P.E., P.L.S., Director

The Department of Public Works (DPW) and its Divisions (Administration, Engineering, Highway, Sewer, Water, and Facilities) continue to deliver engineering, highway, sewer, water infrastructure development and management services, public buildings and facilities operations maintenance and management, **with the health, safety, and welfare of the public always held paramount above all else.**

During the **month of December**, the DPW continued with the various work activities and projects that have been on-going across all the DPW Divisions, focusing on public safety related maintenance work on the town's roads, water supply, sanitary wastewater collection and treatment (*including the upgrade work that continues at the Morris Ave Wastewater Treatment Plant for Nitrogen Treatment; and AECOM the firm that we selected to assist the town with the Phase II Design work at the Wastewater Treatment Plant for phosphorous removal/treatment has fully mobilized and initiated work on the pilot test program*), repairs and replacement of water main and service line breaks at several locations, including Plymouth Street.

DPW Main Projects Overview:

Ramco Construction Company of West Bridgewater completed its contract work on the drainage system replacement and upgrade project on High Street between Wall Street and Main Street, more than two weeks ahead of schedule; kudos to our team leaders who led the effort on behalf of the town: Paul DeCosta, the Highway Superintendent, and Greg Tansey, the Town Engineer. We have now transitioned Ramco Construction Company to a second section of High Street from the train bridge to Oak Street area to work on drainage system replacement and upgrade work. We extend our thanks to Laurie Guerrini, the Finance Director and her team for securing the grant funding that has facilitated the drainage work on High Street.

The Engineering Division has been working with both the Highway Division, in cooperation with the Finance Department on getting Winter Street road improvement work (Bedford Street to Conant Street) out to bid so that we could secure the services of a construction company to perform the work during spring/summer of 2026. It should be noted that the in-house surveying and engineering design work on the Winter Street project by the Engineering Division saved the town more than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) in design fees the town would have incurred, had the town contracted with an outside engineering firm to perform the work, as evidenced by actual figures the town incurred on prior road projects. We appreciate the professional work done by Greg Tansey, the Town Engineer, and Yamaris Terrero Martinez, the Assistant Town Engineer.

PUBLIC WORKS

The Highway Division was very busy during the month of December 2025 with snow and ice removal and treatment, and keeping the roads safe for road users.

The **Facilities Division** has been very busy during the month with numerous maintenance and service work management across several public buildings.

We continue to aggressively explore opportunities to secure stable and sustainable water supply with reliable quality for the town's residents. In December, under the incredible and laser-focused leadership and mandate by the Town Manager, the Water Division secured an inter-community agreement with the Town of Middleborough for the later to provide water to Bridgewater in order to help stabilize our water supply and allow us to keep well 10 offline until we achieve a permanent solution for adequately treating the manganese and iron in the well. In addition, we are also exploring several other options (including activating the Vernon Street wells) to stabilize the town's water supply.

Under the able leadership of our new Water Superintendent, William Young, the Water Division has aggressively been reviewing and identifying numerous locations where water losses have been occurring due to leakage, and notifying businesses and residents where the losses occurred, thereby mitigating the losses. We encourage residents to sign up for free water scope which allows for preemptive identification and control of water leaks. The Division has also initiated and continued sanitary and cross-connection inspections at various facilities to protect the quality of our water supply.



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0921

Health Department Operational Report: 12/1 - 12/24

Septic:

Plan Review – 390 Conant St.
 Plan Review- 50 Heather Hills
 Final Review- 50 Oliver Place
 Plan Review- 41 Marianne Dr.
 Bottom hole/final- 335 Grange Park
 Bottom hole inspection- 200 Grange Park
 Bottom hole/final- 41 Marianne Dr.
 Percolation test- 54 Marianne Dr.
 Percolation test- 1529 Plymouth St.
 Bottom hole/final- 11 Haiwatha
 Plan Review- 0 Winter St. /Lot #1
 Percolation test- 159 Walnut St.
 Percolation test- 35 Nelson Dr.
 Percolation test- 12 Prospect
 Percolation test- 57 Carver
 Percolation test- 948 Pleasant St.
 Final review- 259 Cherry St.
 Final Review- 557 Old Forest St.

Well Reviews:

1692 Plymouth St.
 117 Oak Ridge

Housing:

Aldrich Place inspection (complaint)
 Section 8 inspection 3405 Summit (inspection of habitability)
 South Street (Hoarding complaint)
 Grove Street (Trash complaint)

Food inspections:

Gonzalez Commissary
 Residential Bakery
 BridgeMart
 Go Gas
 Bridgewater Gas
 Papa Gino's
 7-11
 Nick & Angelo's
 Honey Dew
 Mobile Gas RTE 24N&S
 Dunkin Donuts RE 24N&S



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0904

The Building Department
Monthly Statistics
December 1, 2025, through December 25, 2025

From December 1, 2025, through December 25, 2025, the Building Department saw a total of \$269,654.22 in revenue associated with the following:

Building Permits reviewed and issued – 83
Building Inspections performed – 103

Electrical Permits reviewed and issued – 51
Electrical Inspections performed – 183

Gas Permits reviewed and issued – 21
Gas Inspections performed – 20

Plumbing Permits reviewed and issued – 19
Plumbing Inspections performed – 33

	Permits	Inspections	Fees
Building	83	103	\$254,037.22
Electrical	51	183	11,532.00
Gas	21	20	1,715.00
Plumbing	19	33	2,370.00



ELDER AFFAIRS

10 Wally Krueger Way
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0929

Bridgewater Senior Center Monthly Report December Highlights & January Preview

DECEMBER IN REVIEW

December was a highly successful and meaningful month at the Bridgewater Center, characterized by strong program participation, seasonal celebrations, and a continued sense of community and appreciation among members.

A key highlight was the Winter/New Year's Eve Celebration, which welcomed more than 90 seniors to the Center. The event featured live music that created an engaging and festive atmosphere, encouraging social interaction and participation. Attendees were also served a home-cooked spoon roast meal, which was well received and contributed to the overall success of the celebration.

Throughout the month, numerous program groups held individual holiday gatherings, demonstrating high levels of engagement and reinforcing the strong sense of belonging within the Center. These celebrations added to the warmth and positive energy felt throughout the facility during the holiday season.

December also marked an important transition as the Center formally recognized and said farewell to Ken Pimental, who served as a driver for the Bridgewater Center for over 20 years. Ken's long-standing dedication, reliability, and compassionate service had a significant impact on the daily operations of the Center and on the lives of its members. His contributions are deeply appreciated, and his presence will be sincerely missed.

Overall, December reflected the Bridgewater Center's continued commitment to providing a welcoming, supportive, and engaging environment for seniors. The month concluded with a strong sense of gratitude and accomplishment, setting a positive foundation for the year ahead.



ELDER AFFAIRS

LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY

As January begins, the Bridgewater Senior Center looks ahead to a month focused on education, wellness, and community engagement. The Center will offer a variety of programs designed to support active aging, learning, and social connection.

On January 7th at 10:30 a.m., members are invited to attend Life's Third Act, a presentation focused on redefining life's next chapter. This session will explore ways to cultivate purpose, passion, and renewed energy while planning for the future with intention and clarity. The program will be presented by BSU Intern Madison.

On January 21st at 10:30 a.m., the Center will host Blue Zones, an educational program examining the habits of the world's longest-living communities. Participants will learn practical, evidence-based strategies that support longevity and improved quality of life. This presentation will also be led by BSU Intern Madison.

Throughout January, Tuesdays at the Center will feature Lunch and a Movie, providing a relaxed and consistent opportunity for social engagement.

January also marks the arrival of an additional intern joining the Bridgewater Senior Center team. Daniel Yost, a Bridgewater State University Public Health major and Licensed Practical Nurse at the VA in Brockton, will be interning at the Center throughout the spring. He will support senior wellness initiatives, relationship-building, and Aging in Place projects that promote independence and quality of life.

Members are encouraged to attend a Meet & Greet on January 28th at 10:30 a.m. to welcome Daniel and learn more about his role at the Center.

Save the Date

Please mark your calendars for the Valentine's Party on February 4th, to be held at the Bridgewater Senior Center. Additional details will be provided closer to the event.



COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Conservation | Planning | Zoning | Stormwater | Health

66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-0950

December Operational Update

Staff Activities:

- Summer St Gas station kick off meeting with Landscape Architect and attended on site meeting with prospective contractors
- Open Space a Recreation Plan (OSRP) - kick off meeting with Beals & Thomas
- Participated in a Small Business webinar - through SBA
- BAT meeting - updated micro transit services being provided to Bridgewater - assisting in outreach
- Social Medica trends Webinar - through Civic plus
- Meeting with Metro South Chamber – Planning for April event in Bridgewater
- Submitted Shared Streets Grant in partnership with BSU
- Transportation Committee Meeting
- Downtown Revitalization Committee Meeting

Conservation Commission

- 674 Summer St - modification approval
- 674 Summer St - issued Certificate of Compliance
- 34 Beninati Rd - issued Certificate of Compliance
- 48 Concetta Dr - issued Order of Conditions
- 343 Cherry St - issued negative determination
- 170 Boxwood Ln - issued negative determination

Kately Putt resigned her position as Conservation Agent after accepting a similar position in another community.



BRIDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY

115 South St.
Bridgewater, MA 02324

508-697-3331
bridgewaterpubliclibrary.org

Monthly Statistics - November 2025

Category	Count
Visitors	5,003
Website Visitors	9,852
Computer Users	363 sessions / 181 hours 12 minutes
Adult Programs	43
Adult Attendance	1118
Youth Programs	10
Youth Attendance	170
Total Programs	53
Total Attendance	1288