



**TOWN MANAGER'S
OPERATIONAL REPORT
MAY 2ND, 2025**



Succession Planning

The Town Council has executed a contract with Mr. Justin Casanova-Davis who will begin his duties on July 1, 2025. Per my contract with the Town, my last day as Town Manager will be June 30, 2025. On behalf of the staff, we look forward to his arrival and I will be ready to assist him with whatever he needs as he transitions into this role.

June 21st Election for an Override

The Town Council has voted to put an override question on a ballot for voters decide upon which is scheduled for Saturday, June 21st. The voters are being asked to authorize an additional \$8,008,272.33 above the Proposition 2 ½ amount the Town can raise to fund various expenses that could not be funded in the FY2026 budget, which goes before the Town Council at their May 6th meeting. We are in the process of developing a page on the website to provide residents with information about the override and also plan to schedule some public meetings to review the details and answer questions. Those dates will be announced as soon as the schedule is finalized. The bulk of the override question will provide the Bridgewater-Raynham school district with the amount of funds that the Town is not able to cover in its FY2026 budget (\$6,034,614.95) which was certified by the School Committee. The balance of funds will be utilized by the Town to restore Town positions and expenses cut from the FY2026 budget, provide \$500,000 to increase repair of Town roads, and fund the addition of various positions that the Town has not been able to afford to add to the organization, primarily in fire, police and the Library.

Council on Aging

I am very pleased that our new Director, Ms. Courtney Riley began her role as Council on Aging Director on Monday, April 28th. Ms. Riley brings a wealth of knowledge to Bridgewater, having served as the Director for the Town of Medway for nine years. Many thanks go out to Ann Holmberg and the rest of the team at the COA for making sure the experience and opportunities for our seniors at the Center carried on over the last few weeks – they did a fabulous job!

ADA Plan

All communities are required to have an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-evaluation and transition plan. This plan reviews identifies all barriers to accessibility to public buildings for people with disabilities and identifies the changes that need to be made to eliminate these barriers. It is also a requirement to be in place to be eligible for various grant opportunities. The Town has selected Bureau Veritas from the proposals submitted by six firms, and they will begin their work shortly. The first phase of the project will be to investigate



and identify any barriers in all our public buildings and develop the plan, which should take approximately 90 days. A second phase will review the Town's policies and website for any barriers that may be present in these, which will happen at some point in FY2026.

Hanson's Farm

We are in the final stages of approving the conservation restriction which is necessary to acquire the development rights to this farm. The Conservation Commission has approved the conservation restriction, and the Town Council will also vote on it at their May 6th meeting. The project will be paid for by a \$3 million State Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) grant awarded to the Town for this purpose, to be matched with \$32,138 in CPA funds on the property which is a requirement of using community preservation act (CPA) funds for the acquisition. The project will wrap up by June 30, 2025.

Library Building Assessment

The Town awarded a contract to Drummey Rosane Anderson, Inc. (DRA) for this project, and that work is underway, with the draft report due shortly for the Town's review. The project is designed to take a comprehensive look at the required upgrades and improvements to the library building, including site review, drainage, parking, building envelope, windows and doors, roofing, HVAC systems, electric and plumbing, water and sewer service, and energy. The assessment will provide a comprehensive roadmap for a robust improvement plan. The Town Manager and Library Director have already worked with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners to formulate a strategy for future grant funding, and the assessment will be the first step in a year's long effort to improve the Bridgewater Public Library.

Municipal Electricity Aggregation

The Town's application to the State to approve our plan to go out to bid on behalf of all electricity users in Bridgewater to obtain more competitive pricing for electricity was approved late last year. We have selected three different options to offer more competitive pricing than National Grid currently offers for its "basic service rate", as well as two other options that have a higher amount of energy derived from renewable sources, should residents opt to choose them. We have sought pricing on several occasions, but it has not been as competitive as we expected. Once bids are received and we determine that for at least the basic service rate, all rate payers would pay less than they are paying today, and we will contract with that new supplier. All electricity account holders will be automatically "opted in" to the program unless they have previously chosen another supplier on their own. If a user wants to opt into the options with more renewable energy, they will have the ability to do so. Once the program is ready to launch every account holder will receive a mailing about the options, and we will have public information sessions as well to help answer questions. In all cases, National Grid will still be responsible for maintaining the distribution system, and in the event of a power outage,



they will still be responsible for restoration, regardless of what company supplies the power. The goal is to save our residents money at no cost by the Town to do so. It is anticipated that we will need to wait until later in 2025 to obtain competitive pricing.

Town River Landing

The Town has had as a goal the erection of a pavilion on this property to provide a space for various community events. The structure would be based on an existing bandstand structure in Abington. The Town had received a generous donation by MacDonald Industries of \$20,000 for which the design was completed and Conservation Commission approval secured. Town staff has been working to obtain quotes to have the concrete pad for the structure installed and a trench dug to bring electrical service to the site. Unfortunately, the cost of this work far exceeds available funds, and due to that we have decided to put this project on hold until we can determine a path forward. Fundraising and/or additional town funds will need to be identified to pay for the concrete pad and obtain the materials for the pavilion structure. Once we do the plan is to work with Bristol Plymouth Regional Technical School to construct the multi-use pavilion structure on the concrete pad. B-P students will learn to read plans, how to plan a project, what the building process entails, and how to construct. They will have access to the BTV building for bathrooms and a place to have brief learning sessions while on site.

Parthenon Friezes

The focus of this project is to hang the restored friezes (plaster castings of Parthenon scenes) in the Academy building. The walls where the friezes are intended to be hung is not designed to hold the weight of the pieces and must be rebuilt to accommodate them safely. DPW and Engineering worked with a consulting engineer to finalizing the contractor's work specifications and obtained a proposal for \$4,600 to make improvements which was approved. When this work is done, the restoration company can return to properly hang them in their new location.

Stiles & Hart Renovation Project

The Stiles and Hart project is nearing completion. Two parking lots have been created, trails have been improved, wetland crossings constructed, and accessible fishing platforms installed. The Town Council appropriated \$1.3 million of CPA funds to complete the project, and that will be offset by a federal National Park Service grant of \$480,000. Some work remains to complete guard rail and sidewalk improvements along Broad Street. While the project was scheduled to be completed by the end of the year, the owner of a landlocked piece of property has balked at the town's use of the sewer easement over the property as a trail. The Town has obtained an appraisal of the value of this parcel and has offered to purchase the property at the assessed or appraised value or consider taking the property by eminent domain. Next steps include resolving the trail routing around the landlocked parcel to keep the project progressing, as well as finalizing a conservation restriction on the Broad Street parcel where one of the parking lots



is located. Our ability or inability to resolve that issue is in no way delaying completion of the project to meet our grant requirements.

Summer Street Park

The Town appropriated funds the eminent domain taking of the property at 46 Summer Street (aka the old Mobil Station, Summer Street Park) which was accomplished in February 2023, after which the town engaged a landscape architect, to develop a site plan sufficient to apply for state PARC grant funding. The town was awarded \$500,000 from this grant to fund the completion of design and renovation of the property into a park. We have retained the architect to finalize a design and generate precise cost estimates, which need to be completed later this spring. BSU's financial commitment also needs to be documented. Ideally, no additional funds will be needed from the town's capital plan or additional Community Preservation funds, and we will work to determine that in the coming months.

Old State Farm Trail

Both the Town and the Natural Resources Trust of Bridgewater (NRTB) applied for and received funding last year to develop a 1.8-mile trail along the Taunton River on land currently owned by the State Dept. of Corrections. After a long process, the easement to allow the trail and parking lots to be installed and was accepted by the Town Council and recorded at the Registry of Deeds. The Town had received a \$50,000 grant to pay for a portion of the work in 2023, that required a \$12,500 town match. The project has evolved in the last two years and fundraising by NRTB for some aspects of the work have resulted in the Town needing an amendment to how the state grant is utilized for the project. That amendment has been filed, and we are awaiting approval. Once received the contractor we have identified will be able to move forward with construction of the parking lots, and an engineer will proceed with the conservation filings needed for the trail work. The NRTB has done excellent work to complete preliminary planning and involving BSU students in the process.

High Street Dam & Bridge Project

This multi-year project to remove the dam and replace the Bridge on High Street is largely complete with a few minor tasks such as loam & seeding that are being wrapped up. The Town has identified some further drainage improvements adjacent to the project on High Street that became apparent when the initially planned work was taking place. One of the federal grants has been extended to cover the cost of that work which will be scheduled for 2025, well ahead of the grant deadline of February 2026. The Town was also awarded an \$11,000 grant from the State Dept. of Ecological Restoration to retain a firm to remove invasive plant species from the Town River in the area of High Street which will be completed by June 30, 2025. This will help ensure the health of the waterway into the future.



Board/Committee Vacancies

We would like to remind residents that at present the Town has 29 different boards and committees to which it appoints volunteers to serve to contribute their time and expertise to various functions and priorities of the Town. Included with this report is a list of all the committees which have openings, which at present number 23. More details on the mission of each committee can be found on the Town's website

at: <https://www.bridgewaterma.org/198/Boards-Committees-Commissions>

and residents who would like to apply to be considered for appointment may fill out the online application at: <https://www.bridgewaterma.org/FormCenter/Citizens-Advisory-Committee-9/BoardCommitteeCommission-Application-57>.



Spring has officially sprung—and so has the HR team!

While the flowers are blooming, we've been busy juggling contract negotiations, confidential employee matters, ramping up recruitment, and sprinkling a little extra employee engagement wherever we can. From policy updates to behind-the-scenes support, we've been keeping things growing, blooming, and (mostly) organized. Here's a peek at what we've been up to this April!

Welcoming New Team Members:



Courtney Riley has joined the team as our new Director of Elder Affairs!

She's bringing energy, compassion, and a whole lot of heart to the role. We know our seniors are in great hands, and we're thrilled to welcome her to the crew. Let's give Courtney a warm welcome!

Transfers:



A big congratulations to Amy Barrett on her new role!

Amy is making the move from Administrative Assistant in the Health Department to Finance Specialist—Collections in the Treasurer/Collector's Office. We're excited to see her take on this new challenge and know she'll bring the same dedication and energy to her new role. Best of luck, Amy—you're going to do great!

Farewells:

Wishing David Melo all the best on his next adventure!

David, who joined us in 2023 as one of our Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators, is moving on to new opportunities. We're grateful for his hard work and dedication (and for everything he kept flowing smoothly behind the scenes!). Best of luck, David—you'll be missed!



Bridgewater
Massachusetts

Human Resources

66 Central Square
508-697-0971 / HR@bridgewaterma.org

Employee Engagement



A big thank you to everyone who made our Health & Benefits Fair a success! We're so grateful to all the vendors who participated, as well as our community partners—Bridgewater State University, the Bridgewater Public Library, and the Bridgewater Fire Department, who provided free blood pressure checks and helpful health resources.



A special shoutout to Julie Lavoie, our Payroll & Benefits Specialist, and Marisa Kurey, HR Generalist, for all their hard work in organizing and pulling the event together—it wouldn't have happened without them!

Just a reminder: Open Enrollment ends on May 15th. If you'd like to make any changes to your benefits, please reach out to Human Resources—we're here to help!



Get ready to stretch, breathe, and recharge!

We're excited to offer **free yoga classes** for employees starting in **May**, thanks to our partnership with **Maha Yoga**. Whether you're a seasoned yogi or just looking to unwind after a busy day, these classes are a perfect way to take care of your mind and body. We hope to see you on the mat!

MONDAYS

5/5, 5/12, 5/19, 6/2,
and 6/9

4:30 P.M.

COUNCIL
CHAMBERS



Celebrations and Appreciation:



We would like to extend our warmest birthday wishes to team members celebrating their special day in April. Happy Birthday to:

Brian M., Julie L., Ryan C., Julia M., Ashley P., Connor C., Adam M., Shane O., Kevin G., Apryl E., James B., Jacob P., John B., Nicholas C., and Gino S.

We would also like to extend our congratulations to those marking work anniversaries this month. Thank you for your dedication and hard work, your commitment is truly appreciated! *Jacob P., Adam M., Judith L., Daniel G., Joseph S., George R., Nicole S., Ryan S., Kenneth P., Jeffrey G., John C., Madison J., Theodore S., Thomas L., Shane O., John H., Scott H., John H., Sean P., Daniel W., Connor C., Benjamin G., Brandon J.,*

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.



Accounting Operational Update

We are now in the 4th quarter of the fiscal year. The accounting team is working vigorously with each department in managing their budgets effectively. The team continues the Capital Improvement Plan, outlining planned infrastructure, road repairs and other improvements ensuring alignment with long-term financial objectives.

Keeping the residents' informed, the monthly financials for General Operating and Enterprise Funds are posted on the website, providing stakeholders with easy access to the town's financial status. The March reporting can be found on the Town's website located on the Accounting page under Annual Town Budget Information.

The accounting team provides support to all departments, not only in financial matters but also in areas such as grants, contracts, and procurement. These functions are interconnected, and the team ensures seamless coordination to address the needs of each department.



Assessing Operational Update

All real estate exemption applications received by April 1, 2025, have now been processed by the assessor's department. The chart below shows the number of exemptions granted, tax dollars abated and the max state reimbursement, approved by DLS on 4/23/2025.

Clause	Type	Number of Exemptions Granted	Tax Dollars Abated on Exemptions	Max State Reimbursement
17	Surviving Spouses, minors or persons 70 years or over	0	0.00	0.00
17C	Surviving Spouses, minors or persons 70 years or over	0	0.00	0.00
17C 1/2	Surviving Spouses, minors or persons 70 years or over	0	0.00	0.00
17D	Surviving Spouses, minors or persons 70 years or over	60	10,500.00	875.00
18	Hardship	0	0.00	0.00
18A	Deferred taxes	0	0.00	0.00
22(a-f)	Veterans	99	39,600.00	22,275.00
Para	Paraplegics & surviving spouses of paraplegics (G.L. 59 §5 cl.22F)	0	0.00	0.00
22A	Veterans & surviving spouses	0	0.00	0.00
22B	Veterans & surviving spouses	0	0.00	0.00
22C	Veterans & surviving spouses	1	1,500.00	1,325.00
22D	Surviving spouse	9	59,655.14	59,655.14
22E	Veterans & surviving spouses	58	58,000.00	47,850.00
37	Blind	0	0.00	0.00
37A	Blind	5	2,500.00	437.50
41	Certain elderly persons 70 years of age or over	0	0.00	0.00
41B	Certain elderly persons 70 years of age or over	0	0.00	0.00
41C	Certain elderly persons 70 years of age or over	4	2,000.00	2,008.00
41C 1/2	Certain elderly persons 70 years of age or over	0	0.00	0.00
41A	Deferred taxes -- persons 65 years or over	3	14,675.36	0.00
42	Surv. spouses of police officers/firefighters killed in the line of duty	0	0.00	0.00
43	Surv. minors of police officers/firefighters killed in the line of duty	0	0.00	0.00
50	Elderly housing (G.L. 59 §5)	0	0.00	0.00
52	Elderly persons water/sewer debt shift (G.L. 59 §5)	0	0.00	0.00
53	Septic system/cesspool (G.L. 59 §5)	0	0.00	0.00
56	Guardsmen and Reservists Deployed	0	0.00	0.00
57	Optional Senior Exemption	0	0.00	0.00
	Total	239	188,430.50	134,425.64
	Chapter 73, §4, Acts of 1986, percentage adopted		0.00	

* Clauses are not reimbursed by the Commonwealth.

In other news the assessing department will be mailing out Fiscal Year 2026 confidential information request under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59 S. 38D which is due within sixty (60) days of postmarked date.

When determining commercial and industrial property values, the Board must weigh financial as well as physical attributes. Completing and returning the form will help insure the development of a sound basis to estimate the Income Approach to value. Please be aware this



information will be used only to generate “market” income and expense levels for commercial and industrial properties. INCOME AND EXPENSE INFORMATION IS NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC INSPECTION and the office staff will take every precaution to prevent its disclosure.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 508-659-1272 or 1273.

Treasurer/Revenue Collecting Operational Update

Real Estate and Personal Property taxes are due May 1st.

Water/Sewer Utility Bills are due May 22nd and May 29th.

Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Commitment #2 are due May 1st.

Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Commitment #1 Demands are due May 15th.

The Town continues to offer in-person payment and an online option for payment which can be accessed with the following link: <https://www.bridgewaterma.org/310/Online-Payment-Center>

Our Finance team operates quietly and professionally behind the scenes each and every day, often without the recognition they truly deserve. I am especially proud of the strong work ethic and the collaborative, team-oriented environment that thrives within our Finance department.

This dedicated group of professionals remains highly motivated and committed to continually enhancing their skills and expanding their knowledge in municipal finance. Their efforts go far beyond spreadsheets and budgets—they interact daily with residents, vendors, banks, agencies, volunteers, and anyone who walks through the doors of our Town Municipal Offices.

Their dedication ensures the financial stability and operational efficiency of our town, and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and sincerely thank them for their unwavering hard work, professionalism, and service to our community.



Bridgewater
Massachusetts

Bridgewater Fire Department

22 School Street

508-697-0900 www.bridgewaterfire.org

Grants

FY25 SAFE & Senior SAFE Grant Award - We received notification from Governor Maura Healey & Fire Marshal Jon Davine that we were awarded the FY25 SAFE and Senior SAFE Program. We received \$5,700.00 for the Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) Program and \$2,400.00 for the Senior SAFE Program.

Round 2 – FY25 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Award – We received notification from Governor Maura Healey & Fire Marshal John Davine that we were awarded the FY25 Round 2 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant. We were awarded \$9,195.50 which will be utilized to purchase Personal Protective Equipment for our firefighters.

Training

Primary Search Training - During the month of April, the Bridgewater Firefighter's had the opportunity to train in a vacant house. The ability to train in unfamiliar structures is paramount in keeping our skill set sharp. With the use of training mannikins and smoke machines, Firefighters were able to simulate a structure fire with missing persons. In teams of two or three, based on their apparatus assignment, crews entered the structure with the assignment to conduct a "Primary Search". The Primary Search is a rapid deployment throughout a structure under fire conditions to locate and extricate civilian victims who were unable to exit the building on their own. Thank you to the property management group for allowing us to use this building for this very important training!

Forestry 1 Operations - Further training is still underway with our newest firefighting apparatus. Last month all groups trained on troubleshooting pump issues with Forestry 1. This

month the crews met behind Station 2 to review in detail the different hose layouts and pumping capabilities of Forestry 1. One of the unique features of this truck compared to the rest of the fleet is the "Pump and Roll" capability. While most fire engines use the transmission to run either the pump or the wheels, Forestry 1 has its own small engine dedicated to the pump itself, allowing the vehicle to travel while pumping water. This allows firefighters to cover more ground while extinguishing grass and wildfires.

Community Engagement/Events:

MEGA Job & Internship Fair at Bridgewater State University, Tinsley Athletic Center Gym (4/3/25) –
Firefighter/Paramedics Mike Murano, Cori Handorff &





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Bridgewater Fire Department

22 School Street

508-697-0900 www.bridgewaterfire.org

Jason Akstin participated in BSU's MEGA Job & Internship Fair. Over 750 students attended. We were able to interact with many college students & provide them with information on how to become a Firefighter. Thank you to the Career Services & Internships Office at BSU for including us!

Town of Bridgewater Employee Benefits Fair (4/15/25) – FF Michael Farias was at the Town's Benefits Fair. He provided blood pressure checks for any employees that were interested. He also had information available on: Cooking Fire & Burn Safety, Open Burning Season Safety Tips and Preventing Electrical Fires. Thanks to the Human Resources Department for inviting us to participate!

Girl Scout Troop #77300 Station Tour (4/23/25) – Girl Scout Troop #77300 stopped by for a Station Tour. Firefighter Billy Lieb and Captain Paul Chuilli showed them the engine, an ambulance, went over when to call 911 & demonstrated what a Firefighter looks like in full gear. We really enjoyed their visit & wanted to say thanks for the delicious cookies!

Babysitter Bootcamp (4/25/25) – Lt. Thomas Luckman, III spoke at the Babysitter Bootcamp. He went over smoke & carbon monoxide alarms, when to call 911, how to use a fire extinguisher, & cooking safety tips. It was great to see so many students invested in becoming responsible babysitters!

Upcoming Events:

3rd Annual Bridgewater First Responder Day 2025
(May or June)

Touch A Truck Event – Bridgewater Raynham
Educational Foundation Corporation (5/17/25)

Touch A Truck Event – Easter Sales (5/17/25)

2nd Annual BFFA Local 2611 Bridgewater Fire Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser (6/28/25)





Bridgewater
Massachusetts

Bridgewater Police Department

220 Pleasant Street
508-697-6118 www.bridgewaterpolice.org

Events and Public Outreach



- With the generous assistance of two local donations, department members participated in our annual health screening for officers. The year the program was focused on early detection cancer screening and was organized by Sgt. Ryan O'Connell.
- On April 1, we attended the Bridgewater Business Association annual Community Appreciation Night at the Senior Center. The BBA has been a strong supporter of our community and public services for many years.
- On April 3, we participated in the BSU Career Fair at the Tinsley Center. Lt. Jack Hennessey and Cadet Ryan Conboy were on hand for questions.
- On April 8, we participated in the monthly Bridging Lives meeting at B-R High School. Bridging Lives is a

local substance abuse prevention coalition partnering our school youth with public safety.

- On April 16, we attended the Southeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council meeting.
- On April 22, Lt. Scott Hile was recognized by the Town Council for graduating from the FBI National Academy on March 13, 2025.
- On April 24, State Representative Dennis Gallagher also recognized Lt. Hile with a proclamation at the station.
- On April 25, we attended a meeting of the Plymouth County Outreach organization of which we are a participating agency. Plymouth County Outreach is a substance abuse and mental health collaborative of the 28 cities and towns in Plymouth County and focuses on prevention strategies and follow-up visits.





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- On April 26, we hosted the bi-annual DEA National Drug Take Back at our station. Det. Jake Poulin and Court Prosecutor James Coyle coordinate the event to accept unwanted unused drugs in our community. Although this is a planned event, we have a permanent drug take back box located in our station lobby.
- During the week of April 24, we coordinated with BSUPD and other local public safety agencies in preparation for annual Springfest events in and around BSU.
- During the week of April 24, we coordinated with several organizations on their parade and public events including Bridgewater Little League, Bridgewater Softball, and other local road races.



Public Works

Engineering | Roadways 151 High Street
Water | Sewer 25 South Street
Transfer Station 1200 Bedford Street

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.

The month of April continued with the upward trend in the weather, which was ushered in during the month of March. The DPW's Divisions continued with their engagement in several projects with the singular goal of advancing and promoting the welfare of the residents of Bridgewater and improving the quality of life in our great town. As noted in our operations update for the month of March, water shortage and winter drought conditions continue to prove challenging to our water supply and delivery system. We truly appreciate the cooperation of the town's residents in managing their water consumption/use, as together, we will preserve and stabilize our fragile natural resources. As we endeavor to maintain safe water levels in the water towers at Great Hill and Sprague Hill to ensure that firefighting capability of the Fire Department is ensured, we have had to turn well 10 on; however, this has had the unintended consequence of introducing water discoloration at several residences in the East Street, High Street, and Plymouth Street area because well 10 output goes into the distribution system directly without the benefit of filtration; but plans are underway for the design and connection of the raw water from wells 10A and 10B to the new treatment plant on High Street for filtration and chemical treatment, which would address the discoloration issue associated with the direct introduction of water from these wells into the distribution system. However, the completion of the work to connect the water from these two wells to the treatment plant is not expected until the fall of 2026. One little bit of good news is that we are in the process of completing two new wells (replacement wells 5R and 9R) that will replace two existing wells that are, for all intents and purposes, no longer functionally operational. Work on the replacement wells is ahead of schedule and we are expecting the replacement wells to be online by the middle of May 2025, and that should help in stabilizing our water supply, thereby allow us to turn off wells 10A and 10B with the discoloration issue, with the expectation that the DEP will move expeditiously in issuing its permit for the replacement wells to go online. The Division performed repairs on numerous water service and main lines, as well as hydrant repairs; inspected water tapping and sewer tapping work by private contractors; and responded to emergency calls, including a 4 inch main repair work at central square, and work at Old Willis Farm Road. The PFAS-free Blue Drop dispensary at the Highway Division facility continues to be a source of clean potable water for town residents, albeit the dispensary was taken offline last week for maintenance service. As we endeavor to maintain safe water levels, we are aware of the fact that we must lead by example by conserving water as we advocate for our residents to conserve water. Therefore, the water fountain in front of the Academy Building will remain closed. One good news this month is that the valves replacement/upgrade work for the filters at the Carver's Pond Treatment Plant has been completed!

Construction work continues with the phase I improvement works at the Morris Ave wastewater treatment plant for nitrogen treatment and removal. The planning is underway for the phase II work associated with phosphorous treatment and removal. The generator power supply and testing has successfully passed!



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Public Works

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Engineering

On an on-going basis, the Engineering Division continued with its technical reviews of site plans and subdivision plans for the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission. The staff continues to develop digital record as-built plans for the town's infrastructure, including stormwater conduits, sanitary sewer, and water conduits with their appurtenant structures; continues to participate in the OCPC water infrastructure meetings, as well as the transit and bike path discussion meetings; continues to coordinate the compilation of drainage infrastructure for digital as-built data that would augment the requisite GIS database for EPA's MS4 compliance submission and monitoring; reviewing and coordinating dam safety inspections for compliance with the requirements of the DCR Office of Dam Safety; and completed several surveys and engineering design for the reconstruction of roadways and drainage culverts on town roads. Currently, in conjunction with the Highway Division, the staff is overseeing the replacement of the deteriorated drainage pipes and catch basins and manholes that are in disrepair on Flagg Street, which is aimed at addressing several sinkhole outbreaks on the road over the past year or so; the Flagg Street work is slated for completion this summer. Participation in technical training, which allows the staff to sharpen their skills and stay current with advancements in application software for the design of public infrastructure works has been and continues to be a hallmark of the professional development activities of the DPW staff, including continuing education for professional licenses renewals.

Highway

The Highway Division has continued to perform numerous road and sidewalk damage repair work that resulted from snow and ice damage during the cold winter. Several fallen trees and tree branches were removed from the roads, and the Division continues to work with National Grid to manage additional tree removal along several roads. The newly acquired road sweeper and the existing road sweeper that has been repaired have been mobilized for the sweeping of our roads, and they are doing a great job. The Division is gearing up for several road rehabilitation and resurfacing work on a few number of roads, including Winter Street (from Bedford Street to Conant Street); the entire length of Flagg Street; South Street (including sidewalks on both sides from Central Square to Pleasant Street); and a few other roads, as the

budget may allow. The Division also performed emergency repair and replacement work at several catch basins and drainpipe locations that collapsed as a result of aging infrastructure and the frigid winter conditions.

The Facilities Division performed and/or oversaw numerous repair work at public buildings and working with a vendor to address ADA compliance issues at several public buildings where the ADA access and ramps are not in compliance. The Division is also working with various Town Departments on sorting through their files at the old town hall and providing storage at the Memorial Building on South Street. Two major maintenance service activities underway include the roof top HVAC unit replacement at the Police Station, and the heating/cooling system at the Academy Building.

The DPW continues to highlight the importance of safety and wellness to its staff. During the month of April, the DPW personnel were engaged in budget forecasts and preparation for fiscal 26, and has kicked off a new round of water and sewer rate studies. Several of the DPW staff successfully completed their cyber security training and conflict of interest training.



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A little bit of professional news: The DPW Director has been elected as the Northeast Zone Vice President and a member of the nine-member Board of Directors of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), the National organization that provides licensure examinations and candidates evaluations for the Engineering and Land Surveying Licensing Boards of the fifty states and the US Virgin Islands.



The Building Department
Monthly Statistics
March 29, 2025, through April 25, 2025

From March 29, 2025, through April 25, 2025, the Building Department saw a total of **\$72,871.24** in revenue associated with the following:

Building Permits reviewed and issued – 132

Building Inspections performed – 94

Electrical Permits reviewed and issued – 72

Electrical Inspections performed – 193

Gas Permits reviewed and issued – 17

Gas Inspections performed – 37

Plumbing Permits reviewed and issued – 31

Plumbing Inspections performed – 61

	Permits	Inspections	Fees
Building	132	94	\$48,365.24
Electrical	72	193	\$18,791.00
Gas	17	37	\$1,065.00
Plumbing	31	61	\$4,650.00



April Operational Update

Work on the new Fire Headquarters continues to proceed ahead of schedule and within the approved budget, substantial completion of the project is expected in the 4th Quarter of 2025.

Conservation Agent

- BRS site visits- April 2nd and April 30th
- Hiawatha Trail - replication area site visits- April 2nd and April 18th
- 70 Riverview Drive site visit -April 8th
- 1016 South Street - erosion control inspection- April 14th
- Strengthening Stormwater Rules for Climate Resilient Communities Zoom Meeting- April 15th
- Environmental Law Update: Need to Know Developments 2024-2025 Zoom Meeting - April 16th
- 0 Hillside Lane site visit - April 18th
- 70-86 Broad Street site visit - April 18th

Planning

- Development Plan Review for 60-88 Broad St initiated
- Attended Regional Water Plan meeting – April 17th
- Planning Board meeting – April 2, 2025
- Approved modification plans for 20 Central Square – new Chase Bank
- Planning Board meeting April 16, 2025
- Approved modification plans for 630 Elm St – Devaney Energy propane tank
- Staff attended OCPC EDC Meeting
- Staff met with Neighbor Works on Small Business Assistance and Senior/Veterans Financial Services
- Staff completed Complete Streets reimbursement (\$400,000) for the Main Street sidewalk improvement project



Health Department: 4/1-4/30/25

Septic:

Percolation test- 1529 Plymouth Street
Percolation test- 905 Vernon Street
Percolation test- 437 North Street
Percolation test- (full day) 884 South Street
Percolation test- (full day) 0 Plain Street
Percolation test- 60 Lyman Place
Percolation test- 140 Grange Park

Septic Plan Reviews/Inspections:

Bottom hole/final-1016 South Street
D-Box replacement- 5 Terry Lane
Plan Review- 905 Vernon Street
Plan Review- 437 North Street
Plan Review- 60 Paddock Road
Bottom hole/final- 60 Paddock Road
Plan Review- 501 North Street
Plan Review- 1529 Plymouth Street
Final Review- 45,47,50,52 Oak Meadow Place Well Review- 215, 225 Whitman Street Bottom
hole inspection- 23 Magnolia Way

Completed Food Inspections:

GNC
King Garden
Cape Cod Cafe



Bridgewater Public Library

15 South Street

508-697-3331 www.bridgewaterpubliclibrary.org

**BRIDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY
MONTHLY STATISTICS SUMMARY
April 2025**

New Library Card Registrations: 77

New items added to the collection & available to borrow: 757

Physical Item Check-Outs: 7855

Digital Item Check-Outs: 3650

Museum Passes Borrowed: 59

Visitors: 6454

Website Visitors: 9006

Computer Users: 373 sessions/229 hours

Library Programs/Attendance

Adult Programs: 50

Adult Attendance: 1361

Youth Programs: 20

Youth Attendance: 300



Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department has been working with the various leagues (Little League, Youth Basketball, Girls Softball and Men's Softball) to finalize spring field/court reservations. The Pickleball Association has also been processing applications for the 2025 season.

Lots of work at Legion Field has been completed in preparation for Opening Day. The Little League fields and dugouts were supplied with mulch and fertilizer as appropriate. The Parks and Recreation team worked with the Little League volunteers and other volunteers to clean up the fields, power wash the Snack Shack and install the new scoreboards.

The Parks and Recreation Department has received several field reservation requests from several groups (baseball, football, basketball and softball). The Bridgewater Pickleball Association is getting ready for their second season. Membership applications have started to arrive and are being processed by the Pickleball Association.

A new storage container has been ordered to temporarily replace the Lazaro building near Senior Field. Park and Recreation equipment and supplies as well as Baseball and Football equipment/supplies are currently stored at the Lazaro building and will be moved to the new storage container. The Lazaro building repair/reconstruction is a project that has been submitted as one of the Parks and Recreation Capital Projects.

The community will have lots of field/courts activity in the upcoming months. We look forward to a successful spring season.