

**TOWN MANAGER'S  
OPERATIONAL REPORT  
APRIL 4TH, 2025**



### **Succession Planning**

The Town Council interviewed two candidates for the Town Manager position on March 11<sup>th</sup> and selected Justin Casanova-Davis at their following meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>. They are currently in contract negotiations and will take up approval of the contract at their first meeting in April.

### **Council on Aging**

Although we were saddened to say goodbye to Emily Williams, our fantastic Council on Aging Director, she stepped down in mid-March to assume a similar role with the Town of Brookline. As this is a critical position in our organization, we quickly began a search for her replacement, and I am very pleased that we have been able to attract an equally qualified candidate who would come to us with a wealth of experience from the community she currently serves. 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 carry on business as usual.

### **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 issued a request for proposals, received proposals from six firms and after qualifying them, chose three firms that we interviewed this week. We intend to select a firm, negotiate a contract and begin work this spring.

### **Hanson's Farm**

A purchase and sale agreement to acquire the development rights to this farm has been executed by the Town and the owners. The owners and the Town have also reached an agreement on the conservation restriction on the property which is a requirement of using community preservation act (CPA) funds for the acquisition. We are finalizing the language with the State Department of Conservation Services, so that the Town Council and the Conservation Commission can begin their review and approval in April. The CPA Committee, met last month and has approved the acquisition and recommended approval for the expenditure of CPC funds to the Town Council. The bulk of the cost of the acquisition will be paid by a \$3 million State Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) grant awarded to the Town for this purpose, to be matched with \$32,000 in CPA funds.



### **Library Building Assessment**

The Town awarded a contract to Drummey Rosane Anderson, Inc. (DRA) for this project, and that work is underway. 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. After years of appropriating funds for ascetic improvements while having a pay as you go approach to major repairs, 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 are not designed to hold the weight of the pieces and must be rebuilt to accommodate them safely. DPW and Engineering have worked with a consulting engineer to finalizing the contractor's work specifications and obtained a proposal for \$4,600 to make improvements to the structure of the wall. The CPC and the Town Council have approved the request for additional funding, so the work can proceed to be scheduled. 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, we have reached agreement with the State on the easement to allow the trail and parking lots to be installed and was accepted by the Town Council. We are in the process of having the easement recorded at the Registry of Deeds after which work can commence. While we are awaiting this, we have re-assessed the details for the construction of the parking lots and will be seeking new proposals for this work since the work involved is beyond the scope of our Highway division to complete. That will enable Town staff and the NRTB to move forward to finalize the plans for the trail, parking lots and the two kiosks that will be installed along the trail. The NRTB has already 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 will happen in the spring. 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 the spring of 2025, well ahead of the grant deadline of February 2026. The Town was also just 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. 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 27. 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>



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## Various Projects and Town-Wide Initiatives

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>.



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## Human Resources

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

As we charge into spring (while still thawing out from winter), the HR team has been busy juggling contract negotiations, confidential employee matters, and the never-ending quest to keep everything running smoothly. From recruitment efforts to employee support and policy updates, we've been keeping the wheels turning behind the scenes. Here's a peek at what we've been up to this past month!

### Welcoming New Team Members:



#### **Marisa Kurey – Human Resources Generalist**

We're thrilled to welcome **Marisa Kurey** to the HR team! Marisa joins us from North Attleboro, where she served as an HR Generalist supporting both the school and the Town. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience, and we can't wait to see the impact she'll make. Welcome to the team, Marisa!

### Promotions:



We are thrilled to announce the well-earned promotion of **Kelli Chulli** to the rank of **Lieutenant** in the Bridgewater Police Department! Her dedication, leadership, and unwavering commitment to our community have truly set her apart.

Please join us in congratulating **Lt. Chulli** on this outstanding achievement!

### Farewells:



After five years of dedicated services the Director of Elder Affairs, **Emily Williams** has resigned from her position. Emily has been a compassionate advocate for our senior community, and her contributions have made a lasting impact. We thank her for her dedication and wish her all the best in her next chapter!



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### **Upcoming open Enrollment & Benefits Fair:**

As part of our commitment to employee well-being, we are preparing to host the Open Enrollment & Benefits Fair next month. This event gives employees the opportunity to review benefit options, ask questions, and connect with our benefits providers to ensure they are making the most of their available plans.

We encourage all employees to take advantage of this event to stay informed and make any necessary updates to their benefits. More details will be shared soon.

### **Celebrations and Appreciation:**



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

*Shelley M., Amy B., Joseph S., Steven S., Seven K., Brian L., Daniel G., Jaes S., Laurel C., Andrew P., and Troy A.*

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! *Neil H., Marc S., Daniel P., Jason R., Ryan T., Nicholas C., Jason A., Jason A., Christine N., James D., Christopher M., Aurthur W., Kevin C., Joseph P., and Brad D.*

*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](mailto:hr@bridgewaterma.org). Thank you for your continued dedication and support.*



### **Accounting**

The accounting team is in the final stages of preparing the recommended FY2026 Budget submission targeted for April 1, 2025. Simultaneously, the team is working on the Capital Improvement Plan, outlining planned infrastructure, road repairs and other improvements ensuring alignment with long-term financial objectives.

As we approach the end of the third quarter of FY2025, our focus is on closely monitoring both expenditure and revenue, while maintaining a conservative approach to ensure financial stability and supporting prudent decision-making moving forward, a clear picture of the town's financial health.

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 February 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**

The assessor's office has now conducted most residential and commercial permits that were issued in calendar year 2024 and incomplete prior year permits to determine new growth for fiscal year 2026.

The assessor's department committed motor vehicle excise 2025 commitment #2 to the collector on March 20, 2025, in the amount of \$ 620,951.03. Commitment #2 has an issue date of March 31, 2025 and a due date of May 1, 2025.

A quick reminder to please submit all real estate tax exemption applications by the due date of April 1, 2025. This deadline cannot be extended or waived by the assessors for any reason. If you have any questions, please contact us at 508-659-1272 or 1273.

Also, abatement applications were due February 3, 2025, to which the assessors have 3 months from the date your application is filed to act on it. The office will reach out if we need to inspect the property. You will be notified in writing whether an abatement has been granted or denied.



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## Finance

Accounting | Assessing | Revenue Collection | Treasury  
Municipal Office Building – 66 Central Square  
508-697-0926

### **Treasurer/Revenue Collecting Operational Update**

Approximately 19,700 payments have been received for 2025 Motor Vehicle Excise tax Commitment 1 totaling \$3.1 million.

- (48%) or approximately 9,500 payments were processed through the Town website.
- (29%) or approximately 5,700 payments were mailed to the Collector's P.O. Box.
- (23%) or approximately 4,500 payments were processed on site at Town Hall.

Our Finance team operates smoothly and professionally behind the scenes daily, often without recognition. I am especially proud of the work ethic and team-oriented environment that exists in our Finance departments. Our staff is highly motivated, as well as constantly striving to improve their skills, and municipal work education. They interact daily with residents, vendors, banks, agencies, volunteers, and whomever may enter the Town Municipal Offices. I would like to recognize and thank them for all their hard work.

**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>**



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## Bridgewater Fire Department

22 School Street

508-697-0900 [www.bridgewaterfire.org](http://www.bridgewaterfire.org)



**New Fire Station** – Check out some updated construction pictures of the new Fire Station at 1185 Pleasant Street. Thanks to Mike Peters for the drone pictures!

**CERT Basic Training** – The CERT Training class kicked off on March 13, 2025. The training is being held on Thursday evenings through the middle of May.

**St. Patrick's Day Party & Farewell to Emily Williams (3/19/25)** – We stopped by the Senior Center for their

St. Patrick's Day Party at the Senior Center and to wish Emily Williams the very best! We have truly enjoyed working with Emily over the past 6 years! Thank you for being so wonderful to the seniors in our community!

### Training:

- **Guest Instructor "The Chimney Chap"** - This month, the training division hosted a guest speaker: Scott Sarras, Owner and CEO of "The Chimney Chap". Chimney Specialists came to the station to provide education on building construction and firefighting techniques related to chimney fires. Chimney fires differ from regular firefighting operation because putting cold water on hot masonry can cause substantial damage to the structure. Mr. Sarras described the anatomy of a chimney, problem areas, and advised firefighters on the best practices to extinguish a fire, as well as instructions to give homeowners for what to do after the fire. Thank you, Scott!
- **Forestry Pump Operations** - Last year, the Bridgewater Fire Department took delivery of a new piece of apparatus for use in off-road applications. The truck, dubbed "Forestry 1" has already responded to many different incidents. With open burning season in full swing, and the increased risk to brush fires, all groups trained on troubleshooting Forestry 1's pump. Groups will continue to train on this truck and its capabilities throughout the spring.



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22 School Street

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- **New LIFEPAK 35 Monitor Training** - A representative from Stryker Medical Equipment has visited all four groups to train our Firefighter/Paramedics on the operation of the new LIFEPAK 35 Cardiac Monitor/Defibrillator. The LIFEPAK 35 will be placed into service shortly and will eventually move to the new ambulance that is on order. The LIFEPAK 35 represents the latest in cardiac monitoring technology. Not only is the monitor lighter and sleeker than the LIFEPAK 15 model the department currently uses, but its processing power and built-in algorithms will help to diagnose a multitude of cardiac problems that patients endure.
- **Paramedic Rounds with Doctor Muse (3/18/25)** - This month was our quarterly meeting with Dr. Dan Muse, our department's medical director. Paramedics all operate under the license of a medical doctor to practice medicine in the field. Dr. Muse comes to the station to meet with paramedic's face to face and discuss recent calls, upcoming changes and other topics that may arise.

### Community Engagement/Events:

- **St. Patrick's Day & Public Safety Mass (3/8/25)** – Lt. Peters, FF Bunker & FF Reidy attended the St. Patrick's Day & Public Safety Mass in Brockton. Thank you to the Brockton Firefighters Relief Association for hosting this event!
- **Strand Theatre Fire Remembrance Ceremony (3/10/25)** – The Brockton Firefighters Local 144 held a remembrance ceremony to honor the 13 firefighters who died in the Strand Theatre fire on March 10, 1941. Lt. Sean Peters attended the ceremony. Thank you to RSS Photography for the amazing photos as always!
- **Be in the Know Conference (3/13/25)** - The Be in the Know Youth Conference is an annual event that focuses on empowering young people by providing them with information and tools to make informed decisions. The conference is aimed at supporting youth in areas such as health, wellness, education, and personal development. Offering sessions on topics such as mental health, substance use prevention, leadership skills, and navigating the challenges of adolescence. The goal is to equip youth with knowledge and skills that will





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22 School Street

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help them make positive choices and become strong, informed leaders in their communities. Community Risk Reduction Coordinator Billy Lieb attended with community partners from Plymouth County DA, MA State Police, BSU PD, Plymouth County Comfort Dogs, and others working together with the Plymouth Area Prevention Collaborative.

- **College & Career Fair at BRRHS (3/26/25)** – Our Firefighter/Paramedics participated in the College & Career Fair held at Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School. We were able to provide Junior students with information on how to become a Firefighter. Thank you to B-R Guidance for inviting us to participate!

### **Upcoming Events:**

- Mega Job & Internship Fair at Bridgewater State University, Tinsley Athletic Center Gym (4/3/25)
- Town of Bridgewater Employee Benefits Fair (4/15/25)
- 3rd Annual Bridgewater First Responder Day 2025 (4/26/25)
- 2nd Annual BFFA Local 2611 Bridgewater Fire Cornhole Tournament Fundraiser (6/28/25)



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## Bridgewater Police Department

220 Pleasant Street  
508-697-6118 [www.bridgewaterpolice.org](http://www.bridgewaterpolice.org)

### **Events and Public Outreach**

- The command staff and professional staff participated in several meetings with town management regarding FY 26 budget preparations and plans.
- From March 9-12 Lt. Hennessey attended the annual FBI Regional Command College leadership training program in Chatham, MA. from March 9 – 12.
- On March 6, Sgt. Kelly Chuilli was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and administrative officer.
- On March 6, members of the command staff and union attended a presentation of upgraded detail tracking software.
- On March 13, Lt. Scott Hile graduated from the FBI National Academy, Session 293, in Quantico, VA. Lt. Hile is only the third BPD executive to be selected and graduate from this prestigious training in the past 20 years.
- On March 14, we met with local business owners and neighbors about local development concerns.
- On March 18, we met with members of the BRidging Lives substance abuse prevention coalition at the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School. We also discussed plans to host a police / fire summer camp for Bridgewater youth.
- On March 19, we presented former Elder Affairs Director Emily Williams with special recognition for her years of dedicated work on behalf of our seniors.
- On March 19, an outside firm came in to conduct our annual evidence and property audit. Det. Jake Poulin is our Evidence Officer responsible for all property tracking and destruction.
- On March 21, School Resource Officer John Pestana and the command staff attended the quarterly Safety and Security meeting at Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District.
- During the week of March 25, several members of the department attended the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission annual training conference in Falmouth, MA. Sgt. Matt MacFadzen and Ofcr. Ryan Thayer are preparing for our 3-year accreditation re-assessment site visit scheduled for early June, 2025. On March 10, Sgt. MacFadzen and Ofcr. Thayer coordinated a mock-assessment at our department in preparation for the formal one.



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- On March 26, Chief Delmonte was part of a Chiefs panel during the Leaders Helping Leaders Conference in Framingham, MA. The conference hosted over 275 police command staff officers from numerous police agencies in Massachusetts on a variety of contemporary topics including recruitment, retention, immigration, hate crimes, artificial intelligence, etc.
- On March 25 & 26, Confidential Executive Assistant Ann Marie Gill, Office Administrator Meredith Roselli, and Administrative Assistant Kelly Kurkul attended the Municipal Police Institute Agency Administrators Conference in Milford, MA.





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## 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 March has ushered in renewed hope and anticipation for the end of winter and the onset of the spring season when we can put away our road sanding/de-icing and plowing equipment/vehicles. 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. Water shortage and winter drought conditions continue to prove challenging to our water supply and delivery system. We appreciate the cooperation of the town's residents in managing their water consumption/use, as together, we preserve and stabilize our fragile natural resources. It is particularly encouraging for us when residents offer their unsolicited support for the efforts of our staff members; such was the case when a resident of 47 Fox Hill Drive contacted the office on March 27th to compliment the helpful, informative, pleasant & punctual response actions of our staff members who visited the residence on March 26th to replace a ball valve on their service line. Kudos to Joey and Tom for their diligence and awesome professionalism!

The water levels in the water tanks at Great Hill and Sprague Hill continue to be below normal levels, even during the winter months when the levels would otherwise be operationally stable. However, the Town is 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. The replacement wells are expected to be online by the end of May 2025, and that should help in stabilizing our water supply. It should be noted that plans are underway for the design and connection of the raw water from wells 10A and 10B (currently offline) 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. Therefore, we may have to turn on wells 10A and 10B during the spring and summer of this year to maintain safe firefighting water levels in the water tanks, with the obvious implication of discoloration issues.

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. The PFAS-free Blue Drop dispensary at the Highway Division facility continues to be a source of clean potable water for town residents. 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.



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## Public Works

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Water | Sewer 25 South Street  
Transfer Station 1200 Bedford Street

### 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. 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. The staff have completed existing conditions survey work for the engineering design of additional drainage system improvement work on High Street, outside the limits of the work associated with the bridge replacement and dam removal work. The Engineering Division is working with a procurement consultant to develop the RFP and contract award documents that would be used to engage a contractor to commence work on the reconstruction of Winter Street (from Bedford Street to Conant Street).

### Highway

The Highway Division has performed numerous road and sidewalk damage repair work that resulted from snow and ice damage from the cold winter. Several fallen trees and tree branches were removed from the roads, and the Division is working with National Grid to manage additional tree removal along several roads. It has repaired the road sweeper to get it ready for spring cleaning operations and is in the process of stowing winter operations equipment and vehicles. The Highway 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 collapsed catch basins and drainpipe locations. The Facilities Division processed over eighteen work orders for several buildings; oversaw weatherization work at several facilities; 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.



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## Health

Municipal Office Building – 66 Central Square  
508-697-0921

### **Health Department: 3/3-3/31/25**

#### **Septic:**

Percolation test- 70 Riverview Dr.

Percolation test- 501 North St.

Percolation test- 2 Plumfield Lane

#### **Septic Plan Reviews:**

2 Plumbfield Dr.

70 Riverview Dr.

23 Magnolia Way

#### **Completed Food Inspections:**

Walgreen's

CVS

Senior Center

College Pizza

Girls Softball Food

Advanced Auto Parts

Go Gas Convenience

Bridgewater Square Gas

#### **Food Truck:**

Mom on the Go

Lil Man Well Seasoned Cheesy Chicks

South Shore Smokehouse

Ellie's Treats

Gonzalez

Wicked Flavah

South Shore Taco Guy

KC's Curbside Bistro

Lolly Jolly Waffles



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## Health

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508-697-0921

Loco Larry's

Cheesy Chicks

Rockin Burger



Bridgewater  
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Building Department  
66 Central Square | 508-697-0904

**The Building Department**  
**Monthly Statistics**  
**March 1, 2025, through March 28, 2025**

From March 1, 2025, through March 28, 2025, the Building Department saw a total of **\$115,562.18** in revenue associated with the following:

Building Permits reviewed and issued – 120

Building Inspections performed – 54

Electrical Permits reviewed and issued – 64

Electrical Inspections performed – 158

Gas Permits reviewed and issued – 15

Gas Inspections performed – 44

Plumbing Permits reviewed and issued – 25

Plumbing Inspections performed – 20

	Permits	Inspections	Fees
<b>Building</b>	120	54	\$ 30,602.18
<b>Electrical</b>	64	158	\$ 80,815.00
<b>Gas</b>	15	44	\$ 1,320.00
<b>Plumbing</b>	25	20	\$ 2,825.00



**Bridgewater**  
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**Community & Economic Development**  
Conservation | Planning | Zoning | Stormwater | Health |  
Municipal Office Building – 66 Central Square  
508-697-0950

### **March Operational Update**

At the March 18th Town Council Meeting the CED Director gave a presentation on the Economic Impacts associated with new development resulting from the Vision to Reality Initiative.

The Town of Bridgewater hosted the 2025 Leadership Metro South cohort on March 19th, where the CED Director and representatives of Bridgewater State University gave presentations and had an opportunity to have meaningful dialogue and interaction with the participants.

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**

- Met with Wildlands Trust to discuss potential work on the trails by Magnolia Way.
- Met with River Hawk Environmental regarding the discarded tire issue on Water Street.
- Site visits for Forest Street (Map 99, Lots 24, 25, and 74), 680 Vernon Street, 1010 Elm Street, and 0 Pleasant Street (Enforcement Order)

#### **Planning**

- Took part in reviewing Request for Proposals for ADA Transition and Self Evaluation Plan
- Attended 2025 Housing Choice Designation Guidance Webinar
- Attended Old Colony Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting
- Planning Board met on March 19th, 2025 and approved modifications to Plans for 20 Central Square and Lot 105 Jasmine Way



Bridgewater  
Massachusetts

## Parks and Recreation 90 Cottage Street | 508-697-8020

### **Parks and Recreation**

The Parks and Recreation Department has been busy preparing for the Spring Season. The baseball fields at Legion Field have received sod and fertilizer. With the spring weather, the fields are filling in and changing to a nice green color. The batting cages have been prepped with stone dust and are ready for the teams to practice. There are two new sets of dugouts at Upper Stonedust and Big Diamond/Senior fields. The Men's Softball field on Prospect St has been grated and is ready to go.

The Little League volunteers also completed their spring clean-up of the baseball fields and are in the process of getting the Snack Shack and Restrooms ready for the baseball season. We look forward to Opening Day!

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.

The Parks and Recreation Department continues to work diligently to improve the fields and parks for the community. We have submitted several Capital Campaign requests to obtain new equipment, update the Lazaro building, pave several parking lots, replace fencing and remove/trim several trees at Legion Field.

We look forward to another successful spring season!





Bridgewater Public Library

15 South Street

508-697-3331 [www.bridgewaterpubliclibrary.org](http://www.bridgewaterpubliclibrary.org)

**BRIDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY  
MONTHLY STATISTICS SUMARY  
March 2025**

New Library Card Registrations: 82

New items added to the collection & available to borrow: 693

Physical Item Check-Outs: 6766

Digital Item Check-Outs: 3327

Museum Passes Borrowed: 64

Visitors: 4912

Website Visitors: 9241

Computer Users: 307 sessions/183 hours

**Library Programs/Attendance**

Adult Programs: 48

Adult Attendance: 887

Youth Programs: 15

Youth Attendance: 478



Bridgewater  
Massachusetts

## Veteran's Services

66 Central Square | 508-697-0908

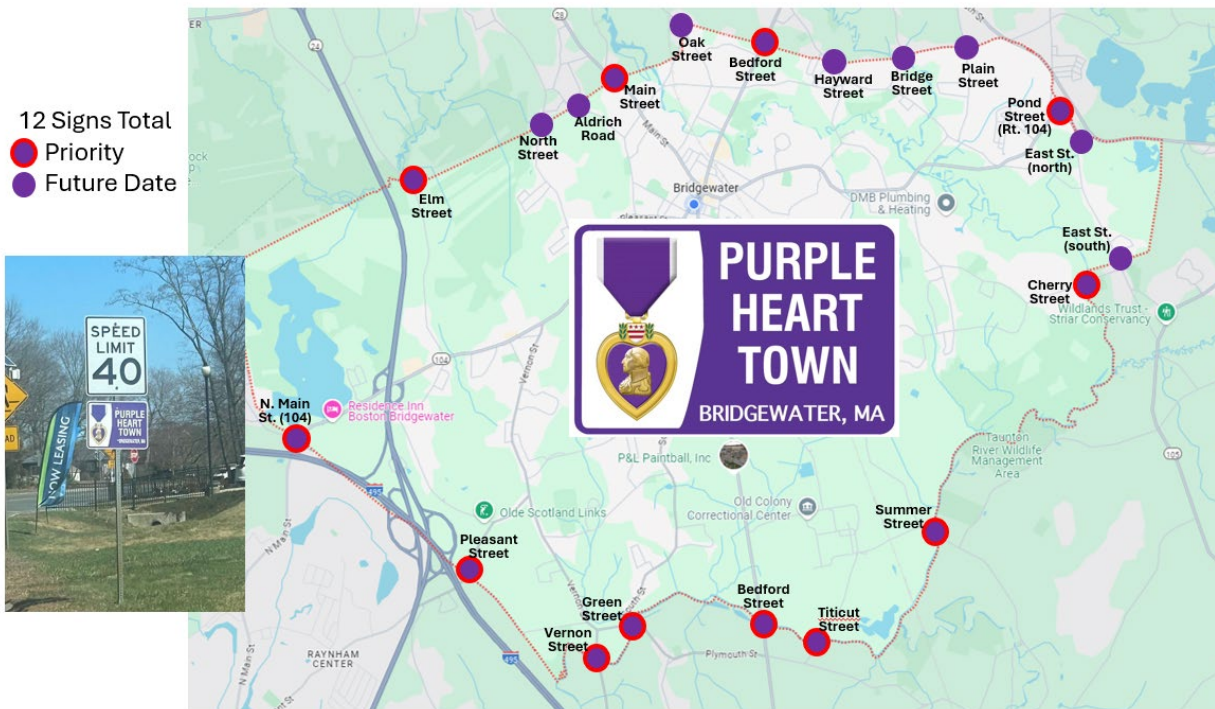
***Attention Bridgewater veterans, if you are facing financial difficulties, the Bridgewater Office of Veteran's Services may be able to help. Please call 508-697-0908 to discuss your circumstances and to get you aligned with the benefits and services you have earned.***

**Veteran's Coffee Hour & Future Events** – On April 30<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting an event at the Riviera Café. The event will kick off at 5:30pm and will go for about 2 hours. This will be a great opportunity for some of our veterans who work regular working hours. As much of a success as our coffee hour has been at Café Madeleine, we understand that this caters more toward our retired veteran community. It is our intention to host these monthly events with this in mind to attract and make contact with more of Bridgewater's veterans of all ages and demographics. Stay tuned for more details on this month's event and future events as well.

**Veteran's Tax Work-Off Program** – Our first veteran has been officially onboarded to participate in the Veteran's Tax Work-Off Program! This is a tremendous milestone and will help me tremendously in my mission to support our veterans and to promote patriotism and awareness of the sacrifices that our veterans have made for our community. Please reach out to the veteran's office if you are interested in this program as the positions are filling fast.

**Purple Heart Project** – Our town council has proclaimed the month of May 2025 as Purple Heart Month in the town of Bridgewater. This is just one component to this project which is intended to honor the citizens of Bridgewater both past and present who bear the honor of the Purple Heart. Beyond honoring and recognizing these brave service members, we intend to raise awareness in the community of what the Purple Heart is and the sacrifices that it represents. On May 1<sup>st</sup>, in a ceremony in front of the Academy Building, we will raise a Purple Heart flag which will fly for the whole month of May. In partnership with Bridgewater's DPW, we are also installing Purple Heart signs at all the major entry points into Bridgewater (12 in total), so keep an eye out for these new signs coming into town! Lastly, to raise money for this cause and other veteran's causes, we are selling Purple Heart yard signs that we would encourage our citizens to display proudly in their yards to show their support. All proceeds will go towards this project and other veteran causes.

## Town of Bridgewater – Purple Heart Sign Locations



*Most of the locations circled in red will have signs installed the first week of April. The sign on the left is at the entrance into town on Rt. 104 from Raynham.*

**Vietnam Veterans Memorial** – Some of you may have seen the article in the Buzz Around Bridgewater a few weeks back as well as a high rate of chatter on social media on this project. We have solved the mystery of the memorial at the old high school on Mount Prospect Street. This is, in fact, a memorial for the Bridgewater-Raynham students who fought and died in Vietnam as well as those who have since passed. In partnership with local building contractor, Stefano D’Emilia, Graziano Concrete and other Bridgewater business owners, we will be restoring this monument at no cost to the town. It will be a great honor to bring this memorial back to its former glory and to ensure that we never forget those who served and especially those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. Unfortunately, the existing structure is not salvageable, but not to worry, it will be a beautiful memorial that we will all be very proud of when it is completed. Stay tuned!



*The current Vietnam Veteran's Memorial site at the old high school on Mount Prospect Street. This structure will be replaced but the old plaque will still be the centerpiece on the new monument.*

**Memorial Bridge Signs Eagle Scout Project** – One of Bridgewater's finest young citizens, Mr. Benjamin Chase, has completed his Eagle Scout project, which was to honor and bring awareness to the various memorial sites around town. We haven't seen much press on this project yet but stay tuned for more information to really highlight the innovation and efforts of what this young man has done. Some of the bridge signs are being replaced with new and colorful signs that you will not miss coming into town. Take a look, in particular, on the south side of town at the Middleboro border coming over the Taunton River. New signs include the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge on Summer Street, The WW2 Veterans Memorial Bridge on Green Street, the WW1 Veterans Memorial Bridge on Vernon Street and the James Oliver VFW Post 2125 Bridge by the Home Depot going over Route 24. The DPW is also doing some general maintenance on other bridge signs that have developed a distinctive lean over the years. You may ask, "what is the nature of the Eagle Scout Project? Certainly, it's not just procuring signs and dispatching the DPW to install them!" Well, you are correct! Stay tuned for more details on this great project.



*James A. Oliver VFW Post 2125 Memorial Bridge on Route 106 at the Route 24 overpass. James Oliver was a Bridgewater resident killed in WW1 and is the namesake of our local VFW post.*

**Chapter 115 Benefits** – Chapter 115 under Mass General Law ensures that veterans across the commonwealth shall never be without basic life necessities. The role of the town’s Veterans’ Services Officer (VSO) is to ensure these benefits are processed in accordance with the law. All honorably discharged veterans and their surviving spouses and dependents are eligible for these benefits based on an asset and income test. The Bridgewater Veteran’s Office successfully processed all Chapter 115 cases in the month of March.

**Senior Center Hours** – The Bridgewater VSO has office hours at the Senior Center from 9am to 11am every other Monday. Please feel free to make an appointment or just drop in if you would prefer to meet at the Senior Center. The VSO can extend hours there on other days as needed.