

Stoughton Town Crier

TOWN OF STOUGHTON UPDATED JUNE 2, 2025 ROBERTA HARBACK



Latest
Announcements
for
Stoughton's
Town
& School
Departments

All information taken from various Town of Stoughton pages



Selectboard Agenda

Tuesday June 3, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Great Hall Town Hall 3rd floor

& virtually with Google Meets

In accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025, which extends the Governor's March 12, 2020 "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A § 20," until June 30, 2027, this meeting will be conducted both in person and virtually via Google Meets.

To Join via Google Meets: xpe-veea-vyj

PHONE: 530-494-9286

PIN: 137 417 595#

The meeting will be recorded by SMAC cable television and broadcast live and may be livestreamed at www.stoughtontv.org. A recording of the meeting, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceeding will be posted on the Town's website and/or SMAC as soon as possible after the meeting if the live broadcast or livestreaming is unsuccessful. Times are approximate and items may be taken out of order at the Chair's discretion.

1. 7:30 p.m. **OPEN SESSION**
Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

2. 7:35 p.m. **Citizens' Comments**

3. 7:40 p.m. **Select Board Comments**

4. 7:50 p.m. **Town Manager Comments**

Public Hearings:

5. 8:00 p.m. a. Pursuant MGL c. 140 §157 - to hear and consider a request dated May 7, 2025 for a dangerous dog hearing, filed by the Stoughton Animal Control Officer, concerning a dog owned by Joshua Hall and Davia Stickler
8:30 p.m. b. Application for a Class II License - Skyway Motor, 630 Park Street
c. Application for a Common Victualer License - North Canton Donuts, Inc. d/b/a Dunkin Donuts, 126 Sharon Street

Joshua Hall
Davia Stickler

Alex Binjour

Michael Cavallo

6. 8:55 p.m. **Consent Agenda:**
a. Approval of Open Session Minutes Meeting of May 20, 2025

7. 9:00 p.m. **Executive Session:**
a. Approval of Executive Session Minutes Meeting of May 6, 2025 and May 20, 2025
b. Executive Session pursuant to Open Meeting Law (Chapter 30A Section 21 (a)(6)) - To discuss strategy with respect to the potential purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board and the Chair so declares

Town of Stoughton



Donna M. McNamara
Chief of Police

Police Department

26 Rose Street
Stoughton, MA 02072

Tel: (781) 344-2424
Fax: (781) 341-8835

NOTICE OF INCREASED LIQUOR ENFORCEMENT

Date Distributed: May 28, 2025

Stoughton Licensed Premise Establishment,

As we approach prom season and the beginning of summer break, the Stoughton Police Department, in partnership with the Stoughton OASIS Coalition, would like to thank you for your continued commitment to responsible alcohol sales and your role in promoting public safety.

Preventing underage access to alcohol is a shared responsibility. Your strict adherence to ID verification laws is critical in protecting our youth and supporting the well-being of our entire community.

As part of our ongoing efforts, the Stoughton Police Department will be conducting increased enforcement and compliance checks throughout the coming weeks and months. These checks are intended to ensure both accountability and education.

Here are a few steps you can take to prepare:

- **Be vigilant and consistent in checking for proper ID.**
- **Consider a brief refresher training for staff.**
- **Never sell to a suspected minor or intoxicated person.**
- **When in doubt, refuse a sale.**

We are confident that you and your staff will continue to do your part in verifying identification and preventing illegal sales. Thank you for your cooperation, for being a trusted community partner, and for helping to keep Stoughton safe.

Respectfully,

Donna M. McNamara

Donna M. McNamara
Chief of Police

OPEN GAMING W/ VIRTUAL REALITY

FOR TEENS 12 & UP

THURSDAY 6/5 AT 1PM-4PM

STOUGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

84 PARK ST. " STOUGHTON, MA " 02072

781-344-2711



DIY FANCY BEADED LIZARD FOR TEENS

THURSDAY, JUNE 12
2:45-4:45PM



STOUGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
84 PARK STREET
STOUGHTON, MA 02072
781-344-2711





May they not be forgotten

*Brother when you weep for me Remember that it was meant to be
Lay me down and when you leave Remember I'll be at your sleeve
In every dark and choking hall I'll be there as you slowly crawl
On every roof in driving snow I'll hold your coat and you will know*

*In cellars hot with searing heat At windows where a gate you meet
In closets where young children hide You know I'll be there at your side
The house from which I now respond Is overstaffed with hero's gone
Men who answered one last bell Did the job and did it well*

*As firemen we understand that any card may be dealt in our hands
A card we hope we never play but one we hold there anyway
That card is something we ignore as we crawl across a weakened floor
For we know that we're the only prayer For anyone that might be there*

*So remember as you wipe your tears The joy I've know throughout the years
As I did the job I loved to do I pray that thought will see you through*

***Please Join the Stoughton Fire Department for
"Firefighters Sunday"***

***Sunday June 8th 2025
Service begins at 09:30 am***

***Stoughton Fire Department
400 Prospect St
Stoughton, MA 02072***



OPENING FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE STOUGHTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The Select Board and the Stoughton Redevelopment Authority invite applications for appointment on the Stoughton Redevelopment Authority that will expire in April 2026. An application or a statement of interest with qualifications may be submitted to the Office of the Select Board or by email to gpereira@stoughton-ma.gov by June 11, 2024 at noon. Applicants will be notified of an interview date.

Stephen M. Cavey, Chair
Select Board

Roberta Harback, Chair
Redevelopment Authority

STOUGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS:

Local Horror Author John Grover

Community Room



Saturday
June 14th
2:00pm



Stoughton Author John Grover will read from his horror series "The Lockwood Cryptid Chronicles" and discuss his love of the paranormal and Cryptozoology.



Mr. Grover has written and published numerous books in the horror, fantasy and sci-fi genres.

To register, please click on the date or title above, call 781-344-2711, visit the circulation desk or our [website](#).

Town of Stoughton

Community Preservation Committee



The Town of Stoughton Community Preservation Committee (CPC) will hold a public information hearing on **June 4, 2025 at 7:00 pm** in the **Great Hall of Stoughton Town Hall**, to solicit public input on the role of the CPC in the community, and on potential new projects for future consideration.

This hearing will also review the use of Stoughton's Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding for various projects in the community, and welcomes the public's questions regarding the CPA and the CPC.

Application for CPA funding is a two-step process. Please note the following deadlines for submission of applications to the CPC for funding at the next Annual Town Meeting in May of 2026:

Pre-Application Deadline:
August 15, 2025

Full Application Deadline:
September 15, 2025

Residents, organizations, and other interested parties are encouraged to pursue CPA funding for their projects. The CPA covers four categories: Open Space, Recreation, Housing and Historic Preservation, and projects must fit within those categories and meet certain other legal requirements.

For more information, or to ask a question, visit the CPC's website at
<https://www.stoughton.org/410/Community-Preservation-Committee-CPC>

TOWN OF STOUGHTON



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE ON TOWN BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Your town government depends on participation by citizens who serve on Boards and Committees. Applications for appointment to the following Boards/Commissions will be accepted at the Town Manager's Office, Town Hall, 10 Pearl Street, Stoughton, Massachusetts 02072 until Noon on Wednesday, June 4, 2025. Interviews for all positions that are appointed by the Select Board will be conducted at their Tuesday, June 17, 2025 meeting. They will be in person in the Great Hall, Town Hall, 10 Pearl Street, Stoughton, MA. Applications are available at the Town Manager's office or by following the link on the Town's website www.stoughton.org. Applications are under Town Manager Department, Boards/Commissions.

| <u>Select Board Appointments</u> | <u>Vacancies</u> | <u>Term</u> |
|---|------------------|-------------|
| Board of Assessors | One | Three Years |
| Board of Registrars | Two | Three Years |
| Brockton Area Transit | One | Three Years |
| Community Preservation Committee | Two | Three Years |
| Constables | Seven | Three Years |
| Council on Aging | Two | Three Years |
| Cultural Council | Five | Three Years |
| Energy Sustainability Committee | Three | Three Years |
| Library Trustees | Two | Three Years |
| MAPC | One | Three Years |
| Open Space Committee | Three | Three Years |
| Planning Board | One | Five Years |
| Zoning Board of Appeals | One | Five Years |
| Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate | Five | One Year |
| 300 th Anniversary Committee | Two | |

| <u>Town Manager Appointments</u> | <u>Vacancies</u> | <u>Term</u> |
|---|------------------|-------------|
| Board of Health | Three | Three Years |
| Cedar Hill Golf Course Operations Committee | One | Three Years |
| Conservation Commission | Three | Three Years |
| Youth Commission | One | Three Years |

Please forward all Applications for Town Manager appointments directly to Gilda at twnmgr@stoughton-ma.gov

Positions are voluntary. If you have any general questions, please contact Gilda at 781-341-1300 Ext. 9211 or by email at twnmgr@stoughton-ma.gov.

Stephen M. Cavey, Chair
Select Board

Thomas J. Calter, Town Manager



Town of Stoughton

OFFICE OF THE TOWN COLLECTOR

10 Pearl Street • Stoughton, MA 02072 • (781) 341-1300 • FAX (781) 341-1032

The Water, Sewer, Trash Department has issued the **Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) 4th quarter Water, Sewer, Trash bills** to the Town of Stoughton water, sewer, and trash customers. The 4th quarter Water, Sewer, Trash bills were mailed on **Tuesday, May 13, 2025**, and are due **Thursday, June 12, 2025**, and must be received in the Collector's Office or the PO Box in Medford on or before this date. A postmark date is not acceptable as payment made if the payment is not received in the Collector's Office or the PO Box in Medford by June 12, 2025.

When sending payment(s) to the Lockbox address in Medford, checks, AND water, sewer, trash remittances **MUST BE SENT. PLEASE do not mail checks only to the Medford address. If there is/are no remittance(s) with the check(s), the payment(s) cannot be processed and will be returned to Town Hall for processing. This will delay the payment(s) from being applied to your water, sewer, trash bill(s).**

When processing a payment online through your bank's Bill Pay, you **MUST include the bill number, and the year and type in the Memo field (for example, Bill #25, 2025 water, sewer, trash) so your payment will be properly applied. When paying multiple bills, you must include each bill number. If this information is not included on your check, your check may be returned to you, and interest/charges may accrue due to a late payment. **Online bank payment checks must be mailed to Town of Stoughton PO Box 9108 Stoughton MA 02072.****

The Water, Sewer, Trash bills may be paid online at [HTTPS://WWW.STOUGHTON.ORG/428/ONLINE-BILL-PAY](https://www.stoughton.org/428/online-bill-pay), at Town Hall with cash, checks and credit and debit card with a 3% fee and for your convenience, there is a secured payment drop box outside of Town Hall on Pearl St. The payment drop box is emptied two to three times a day, once in the morning and once in the afternoon, and if needed, once before leaving for the day.

All unpaid water, sewer, trash bills will accrue interest at 14% from their respective due dates, a \$15.00 demand fee will be added to the bill, the Senior Discount will be forfeited if this quarter's balance is not paid in full and a water, sewer, trash lien will be added to the 3rd quarter FY26 real estate tax bill.

The Collector staff members are available by phone Monday through Wednesday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Thursday from 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM, and Friday from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM. Please call 781-341-1300 X 9222 if you need your bill number(s) and or amount(s) due.

Come join us at this year's 2025 Juneteenth celebration.

This year's theme: A Day of Recognition: Forgotten Female Veterans!

Throughout the years women played a significant role in our country's defense. Listen to 'Courage Under Fire' by Brigadier General Andrea Gayle-Bennett DMSc, PA-C, Deputy Secretary of the Executive Office of Veterans' Service and hear the experiences of other female veterans who helped to shape America's future. We will pay tribute to our forgotten female WWII troop Six Triple Eight, the only U.S. Women's Army Corps unit of color, and their contributions to the United States.

Live performances include Stoughton High School's Jazz Combo, the Mean River Blues Band, and X-CLUSIVe Step Dancers.

Other activities include Youth Olympics for ages under 12, gaming for teens and tweens, and Mind, Body & Service breakout sessions by the Red Cross, professional massage therapist, a yoga instructor and more. Food and drinks will be offered through the services of food trucks and vendors.

Let's celebrate 2025 Juneteenth and honor those who sacrificed for us!

Regards,
SEOC Members and Juneteenth Committee Members



The Town of Stoughton Presents

JUNETEENTH 2025

A Day of Recognition: Forgotten Female Veterans

Courage Under Fire:

Andrea Gayle-Bennett DMSc, PA-C

Deputy Secretary of the Executive Office of Veterans' Services

Stoughton High School

232 Pearl St, Stoughton, MA 02072

June 19th, 2025 • 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Interactive programs:

- Mind, Body, and Service Sessions
- X-CLUSIVe Step Dancers
- Gaming for teens/tweens
- Youth Olympics
- Stoughton High School's Jazz Combo
- Brockton High School's JROTC Color Guard
- The Mean River Blues Band
- Local Vendors

Event attendance is **free** and all are welcome!

Presented by the Juneteenth Committee:

Debra Roberts, Chair • Bettye Sabree, Vice Chair

Christine Iacobucci • Janet Crimmins • Teresa Dolloff

Michael Hardman • Pat Yanikoski • Sharon Johnson • Brian Turner
Stoughton Equal Opportunity Committee Members (SEOC)



KNIT/CROCHET CIRCLE

FOR TEENS

TUES. 6/10

Starts at 2:45PM

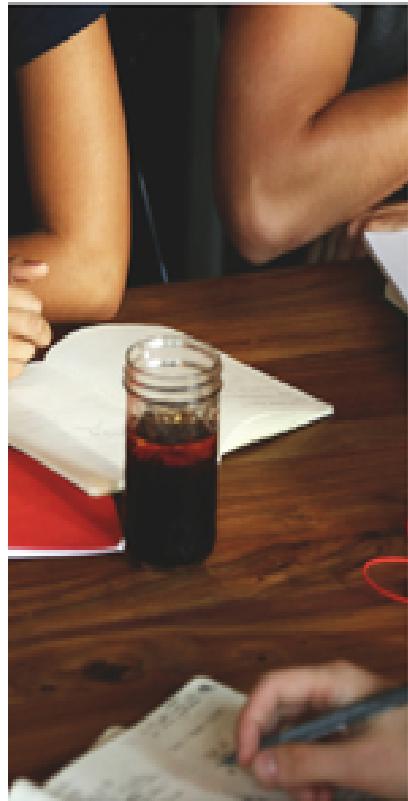


Join us for knitting or crocheting
w/ special pop up monthly!



STOUGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

84 Park Street • Stoughton, MA • 02072
781-344-2711



Stoughton Public Library
84 PARK STREET | STOUGHTON, MA



TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

BE A TEEN LEADER IN
THE LIBRARY!

CREATE AND RUN
EVENTS!

EARN COMMUNITY
SERVICE HOURS!

MONDAY, 6/16 AT 5:30PM





BACKYARD COMPOSTING IS A SIMPLE WAY TO...



Anime / Manga Club for Teens



SPLMATEENS



Enjoy manga, anime, and fun activities!



Wednesday, June 18 @ 3pm



Stoughton Public Library
184 Park Street!
Stoughton, MA

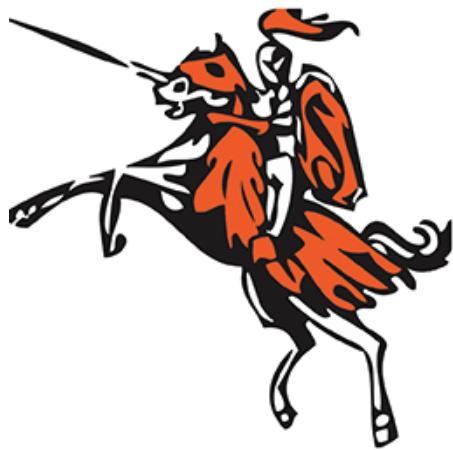
DIY RAINBOW BATH BOMBS FOR TEENS

TUESDAY, JUNE 17
3:00PM



STOUGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
84 PARK STREET
STOUGHTON, MA 02072
781-344-2711





Congratulations

CLASS OF 2025

“Believe you can and you’re halfway there”
Theodore Roosevelt

JULY 4TH PARADE 2025

FRIDAY, JULY 4TH AT 10:00 AM
EMCEE'D BY DAVID WASLH & CHRIS PATEL

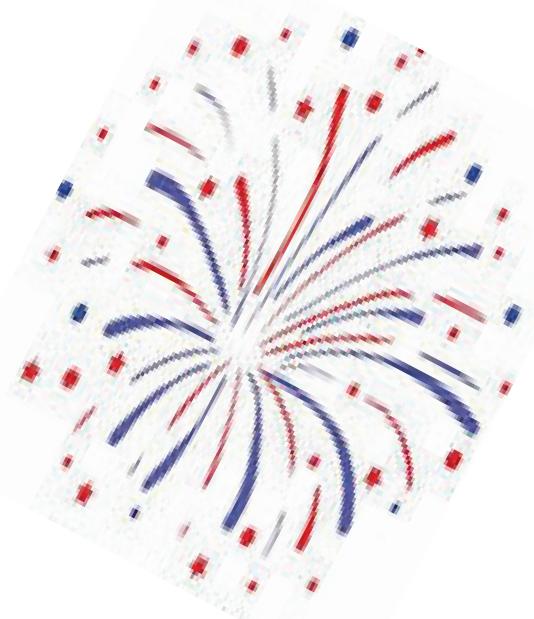
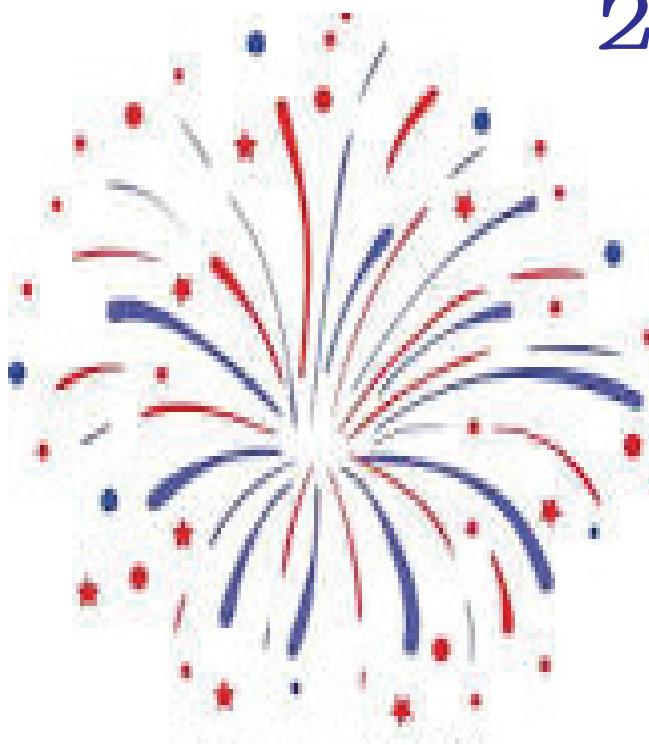


Tuesday
July 1
9PM



FIREFWORKS

211 Cushing St

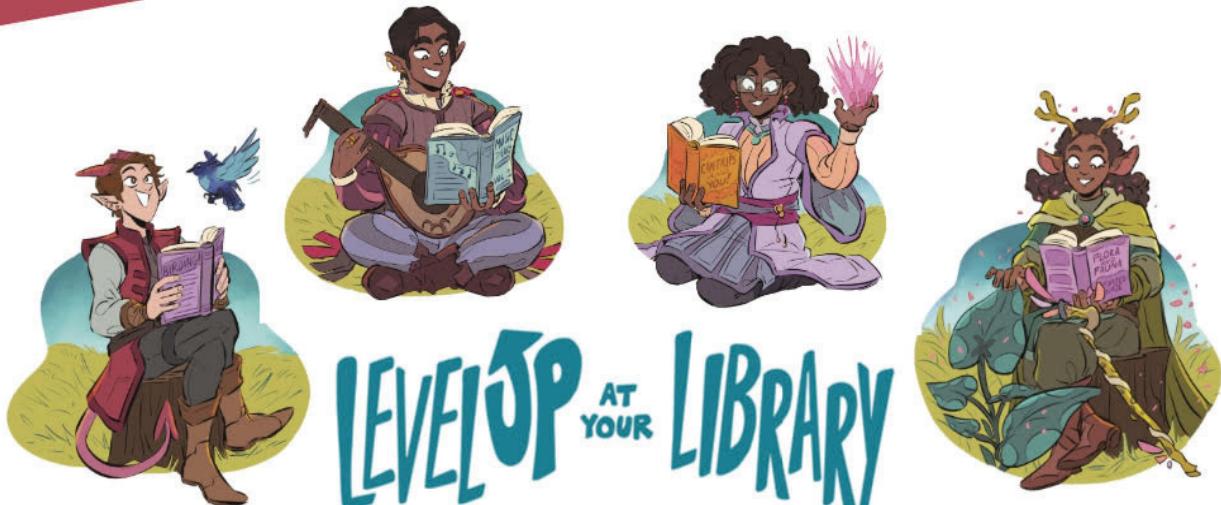


Stoughton Public Library 2025

TEEN

SUMMER READING

EVENTS &
GUIDELINES



LEVEL UP AT YOUR LIBRARY

JUNE 2 - AUGUST 15

- Event Guidelines -

All programs require registration. You can register on our website, or by calling the library at 781-344-2711. Registration will begin for all programs on June 2nd, 2025 at 9am, except for the Stand Alone D&D sessions which will begin on July 7th.

All of our programs are at the Stoughton Public Library unless otherwise noted.

- Program Guidelines -

Teen Summer Reading is available to those in grades 6-12. The minutes a teen reads will be entered into Beanstack, an online reading log accessible from the library website, which will allow participants to read and complete in challenges to earn raffle tickets for prizes. Books which are read for school can be counted both for the school and the public library summer reading program.

For students in the Stoughton schools who participate via Beanstack, we will share their name and grade with the School system to let them know they participated in the Summer Reading Program.

Sign up today!

<https://stoughtonlibrary.beanstack.org/reader365>



The Massachusetts Statewide Summer Library Program is funded by the Massachusetts Library System, the Boston Bruins, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, the Stoughton Public Library and SOLA.

A message from the Town Manager's Office!

Select Board FY26 Operating Budget • March 9, 2025

Greetings Town Meeting Representatives,

I am pleased to provide a report summarizing the condition of Stoughton's financial affairs. Following a six-month process in the FY26 Operating Budget's creation, I want to provide you with an executive summary. On May 5, 2025, we will present the proposed budget for Town Meeting consideration and vote. Should you have any questions regarding the FY26 Operating Budget, I invite you to contact me at 781 344 1300 ex. 9211.

The FY26 budget process began on October 15, 2024 with the budget committee's recommendation of guidelines to the Select Board. With the Select Board's input, Mr. Marc Tisdelle created a schedule from October 24, 2024 to the Annual Town Meeting. On December 30, 2024, in strict compliance with the Select Board's budget guidelines, the School Committee voted in a 3.8% budget increase for the School Department's FY26 operating budget. The Select Board also voted in a 3.37% budget increase for the municipal departments' operating budget. The total Select Board FY26 budget is \$139,956,816, which is a 3.59% increase over FY25. As required by Charter, the consolidated Town FY26 operating budget was transmitted to the Finance Committee on January 21, 2025. Since its submission, we have responded to many requests for information from Finance Committee members and Town Meeting Representatives. We appreciate the caliber of collaboration between all stakeholders.

I would like to share a few highlights from the FY26 operating budget.

- We had a 7-year plan to stop the use of free cash and one-time funds to balance our operating budget. Now, in year two of that 7-year plan, we balanced the budget without use of free cash or one-time funds. I am grateful to the Budget Team for their efforts toward resource consolidation and more effective technology use in our efforts to reduce expenses while maintaining services.
- In accordance with DOR guidelines, local receipts are conservatively estimated at 90% of FY24 actuals. The Moody's Bonding Agency commended the Town of Stoughton's conservative budgeting methods.
- The Department of Education, DESE, determined the Stoughton School Foundation budget to be \$65,412,011. Stoughton net school spending is \$22,756,152. Therefore, the Town's total financial support of its schools is \$88,168,163. This education investment represents 63% of the Town's total budget. We should all be proud of this commitment to our town's children and future.
- Through position consolidation and technology utilization, the Municipal Department's FY26 budget includes 4.47 fewer full-time-equivalent (FTE) employees than FY25 and 18.67 fewer FTE employees than FY24.
- As stated, there is no free cash used in the FY26 operating budget. On February 7, 2025 the Town of Stoughton's "free cash" of \$12,722,449 was certified by the Mass Department of Revenue's Division of Local Services.
- Cost of living adjustments of 3% were budgeted for employees not subject to collectively bargained agreements.
- The employee health insurance trust fund is solvent and budgeted at a 3.7% increase in FY26.
- General liability insurance is budgeted at a 10% increase.
- Merit increases are budgeted for employees who consistently exceed expectations. Market comparisons are provided in the budget book. I want to note that, on average, it is 10-20% more expensive to replace a high-performing employee than to increase their salary.
- Wages are adjusted for employees who consistently meet expectations but are paid below market or who are impacted by systemic pay parity inequities.
- Because of job consolidation and effective technology use, water and sewer rates are budgeted at FY25 rates.

- \$500,000 of rubbish and solid waste operational savings allowed us to maintain FY25 rates.
- The VNA Enterprise Fund's current operating structure is not financially sustainable. Strategic planning is necessary to determine its organizational viability. In the next sixth months we will seek public input on a new strategic approach to reduce costs, increase revenue, and elevate the level of service to Stoughton citizens.
- A budget account in our HR department was created to pay for a yet-to-be-ratified labor contract.
- The FY26 Operating Budget includes a fund balance of \$18,421,000 across five stabilization accounts, a balance never achieved in Stoughton's history. The decision to build our savings reserves is made in recognition of today's uncertain economic times. This is an achievement of which Stoughton residents should be proud. This level of financial stability differentiates our town from similar-sized municipalities across the Commonwealth.

In response to decades of challenges and deficiencies in the town's balance sheet, we completely restructured our Finance and Accounting Department. We recruited a seasoned Finance Manager with Forensic Accounting expertise, as well as two certified municipal accountants well versed in policy and procedure development. Their combined exemplary efforts cleaned up the past while preparing staff to work more effectively in the future. Though training is well underway, the Forensic Accounting project will require another 12 to 18 months to complete.

A considerable portion of the \$12.7 million in certified free cash was realized by closing old balance sheet accounts. Our Finance and Accounting staff's work, in collaboration with Assessing and Treasury, is truly remarkable. Under Elizabeth Zaleski's leadership, the town is compliant with municipal finance and taxation laws. Our entire accounting staff is on a first name basis with the Division of Local Services, the external support team of the Department of Revenue. We frequently interact, including a visit in February where they congratulated our team on a job well done.

I am extremely proud of this team and grateful for their achievements. Stoughton now stands on a strong financial footing. Impressive economic development, smart growth, and a conservative budgeting strategy combine to ensure a bright financial future.

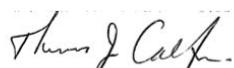
Town Meeting representatives will note several changes to the FY26 operating budget's structure. Under Mr. Tisdelle's leadership the format was simplified and enhanced. Our expectation is that with greater clarity and documentation budget examination will be more transparent, allowing for greater financial understanding and management control.

As the nation, Commonwealth, and municipalities face uncertain socioeconomic times, the Town of Stoughton is prepared for whatever may come. Every member of your town government is committed to our citizens' welfare.

On behalf of town employees, I pledge to you that we will always do what is best for the Town of Stoughton and its residents.

We are both honored and proud to contribute to this wonderful community.

Thank you,



Thomas J. Calter,
Town Manager

