

Stoughton Town Crier

TOWN OF STOUGHTON UPDATED FEBRUARY 6, 2023 ROBERTA HARBACK



All information taken from various Town of Stoughton pages



Selectboard Agenda

Tuesday February 7, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.

Great Hall Town Hall

10 Pearl Street 3rd floor

and virtually with Google Meets

In accordance with Governor Healey's declaration of June 16th, 2021 granting certain pandemic-related authorizations related to public board and town meetings and recently extended until March 31, 2023, this meeting will be conducted both in person and virtually via Google Meets.

To Join via Google Meets: meet.google.com/mwv-mmha-vby

PHONE: 929-324-6508

PIN: 492 970 892#

The meeting may 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 live broadcast or livestreaming is unsuccessful. Times are approximate and items may be taken out of order at the Chair's discretion.

1. 6:00 p.m. **OPEN SESSION - Call to Order
& Pledge of Allegiance**
2. 6:05 p.m. Election to engage in the process to change health insurance benefits under M.G.L. c. 32B, §§ 21 through 23
- Gallagher Insurance Presentation for the Town of Stoughton
Tom Calter,
Town Manager
3. 7:25 p.m. Discussion and Vote to Implement Health Insurance Opt -Out Plan for Town Employees (payment in lieu of receiving insurance)
- Public Hearing**
4. 7:55 p.m. Application for Change of Ownership
Andrade Liquors - 280 Washington Street
Bipinkumar Patel
Atty. Arthur
Pearlman

5. 8:10 p.m. Change of Manager Application
Barbeque Integrated, Inc.,dba Smokey Bones
301 Technology Center
James Dorsey
6. 8:20 p.m. Community Preservation Committee - Letter of Support *Mark Zamanian,*
Chair CPC and
RDA
7. 8:30 p.m. Annual Town Meeting 2023
A. Insert the article - votes may be taken
B. Close the Warrant -votes may be taken
8. 9:15 p.m. Layout Alteration for Tosca Drive, Canton Street and
Central Street Intersection Project *Mark Tisdell,*
Dir. of Dev.
Services/Town
Engineer



Selectboard Agenda
Tuesday February 7, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.
Great Hall Town Hall
10 Pearl Street 3rd floor
and virtually with Google Meets



Town of Stoughton

OFFICE OF THE TOWN TREASURER

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

Paula Nute, the Treasurer/Collector would like the taxpayers to know that the corrected **FY23 3rd and 4th quarter real estate tax bills will be mailed Friday, February 3, 2023.**

Payments received and posted to your tax bill before January 31, 2023, will be reflected on the corrected bill.

There will be two remit slips in the envelope marked as Quarter 3 and Quarter 4.

Both quarters are due on May 1, 2023, and interest will not be added to the payment that was due on February 1, 2023.

An insert will also be in the envelope explaining why the taxpayer is receiving a corrected bill. The real estate tax bills may be paid online at stoughton.org.

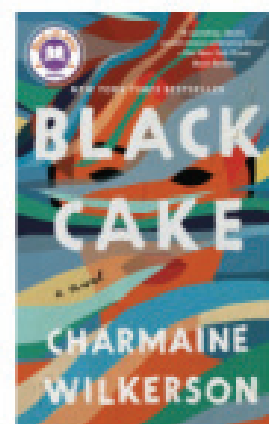
Book Club

Adults • Open to everyone 18+

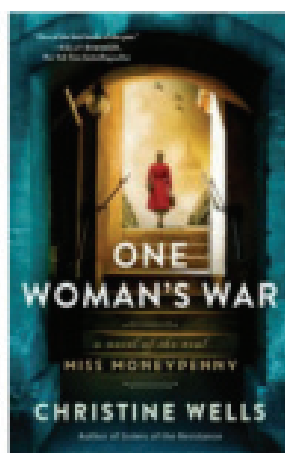
These are live Zoom events and registration is required.
The Zoom link will be emailed to the address provided one day prior to the program.

Wednesday, February 8th
7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

The February selection is *Black Cake* by Charmaine Wilkerson. The book is available at the library, through the Old Colony Library Network as well as electronically on the library's free Libby App. It is also on the library's circulating Kindles that are available for check out.



For those who like to plan ahead, here's what's coming up:



Wednesday, March 8th
7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

March's selection is *One Woman's War* by Christine Wells. The book is available at the library as well as through the Old Colony Library Network as well as electronically on the library's free Libby App. It is also on the library's circulating Kindles that are available for check out.



Stoughton Public Library

84 Park St.
Stoughton, Massachusetts 02072 | 781-344-2711
www.stoughton.org/library-0



Information on Town Meeting Representatives

***There is still time to run for a seat for Town Meeting Representative
in your Precinct.***

*Town Meeting is scheduled to begin on Monday, May 1 in person
at Stoughton High School.*

*It is as easy as 1-2-3 to get your name on the ballot for the
April Town Election as a candidate for Town Meeting Representative.*

- 1. Go to the Town Clerks Office by February 10th and ask for
Nomination Papers for Town Meeting Rep***
- 2. Gather at least 15 signatures from registered voters in your Precinct***
- 3. Return your Nomination Papers to the Town Clerk's by
February 14th.***

*For further information please contact Town Clerk, Stephanie Carrara
at 781-341-1300, x 9103, 9215 or 9224.*

*You can also email the Town Moderator, Bob Mullen at
bmullen@stoughton-ma.gov*

Stoughton Veterans' Services

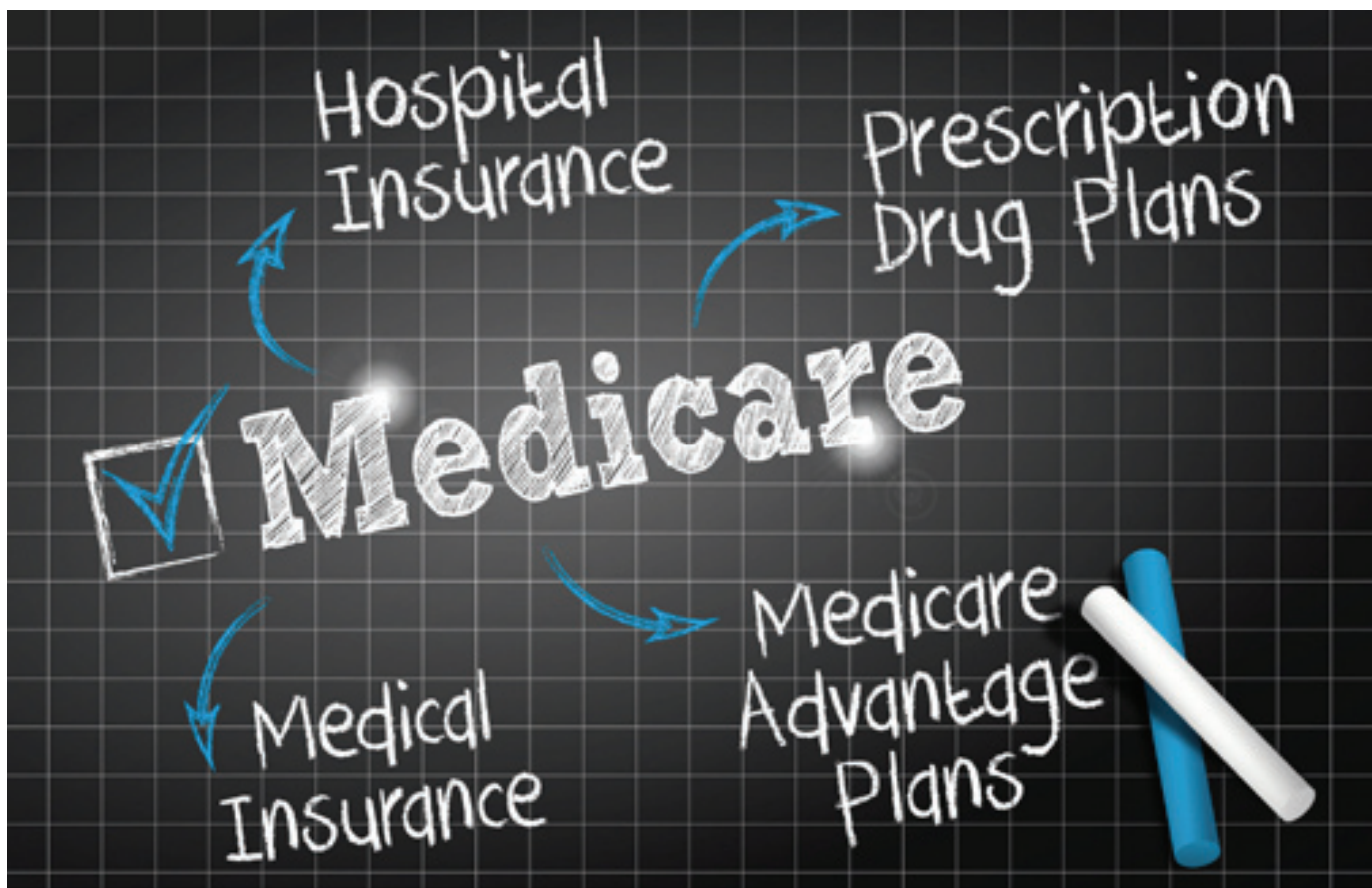
February 3 at 5:11 PM ·



This past Thursday, Stoughton Selectboard Chairperson Debra Roberts, our Town Manager Thomas Calter, and Veteran Service Officer Sean Butrica had the honor of presenting Walter Randolph with a Shovel Town Flag Company flag.

Walter is an excellent example of someone who really cares about veterans and shows this with his many actions in direct support of them.

We want to send a massive thank you to the Shovel Town Flag Company for donating this incredible Flag and making this possible.



Planning For Medicare-
Presentation for those
approaching Medicare Eligibility
Thursday, February 9, 5:30 P.M.

Join us for a presentation and discussion led by a Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts representative that is geared towards individuals approaching Medicare Eligibility. Topics to be covered will include health insurance information outside of employer-sponsored coverage, such as explanation of Medicare, the Medicare enrollment timeline, Medigap and Medicare Advantage plans and programs available to early retirees, and COBRA. This is a great presentation if you are still working but thinking about the future and your healthcare.

Thursday, February 9 at 5:30 P.M.

This is a free program. Please call 781-344-8882
for more information and to pre-register.
Pre-registration is required.

Municipal Leaders Elected to Serve as 2023 Officers of MMA Member Groups

Contact: Candace Pierce, MMA Senior Executive and Director of Communications & Membership, 774-571-9299, cpierce@mma.org

Jan. 27, 2023

BOSTON - Member group representing the state's select board members elected their 2023 officers at their annual business meetings held during the recent Massachusetts Municipal Association's (MMA) Annual Meeting & Trade Show in Boston.

The MMA is a private, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization serving cities and towns across Massachusetts. Its mission is to improve the effectiveness of local government in the Commonwealth through public policy advocacy, membership education, intergovernmental relations, services to cities and towns, increasing public awareness, and fostering unity.

MMA's member groups provide programming, networking and sharing of best practices to help public officials in their daily work supporting their communities.

The following were elected as officers to the Massachusetts Municipal Association's (MMA) Massachusetts Select Board Association (MSA):

Massachusetts Select Board Association

President: Andrew Hogeland, Williamstown

First vice president: Debra Roberts, Stoughton

'I am humbled and honored to be elected as First Vice President of the MMA's Massachusetts Select Board Association (MSA) I have already hit the ground running to work collaboratively with our President and members. Looking forward to what comes next.'

Second vice president: Peter Spellios, Swampscott

Secretary: Jennifer Glass, Lincoln

District 1: Christine Hoyt, Adams

District 2: Jill Hai, Lexington

District 3: Steven Cavey, Stoughton

District 4: Irwin Nesoff, Hull

District 5: Colleen Roy, Grafton



**The Singing
Grandpops
Musical
Performance
and
Luncheon
Thursday,
February 23, 2023
11:30A.M.**

This fun musical group from the Retired Men's Club of Arlington will perform after a light luncheon.

Menu includes choice of two-Chicken Salad, Egg Salad or Tuna Salad Finger Sandwiches and includes chips, dessert and beverages.

Lunch is at 11:30 A.M. Show starts at 12:30 P.M.

All are welcome! Tickets are \$5.

Pre-registration and payment is required at sign up.

Stoughton Council on Aging

Save the Date

COMMUNITY FORUMS

January 24th @ 7pm (virtual)

February 1st @ 6pm (Wilkins Elementary)

February 9th @ 7pm (virtual)

We will be announcing more community forums soon...

The South Elementary School Feasibility Study

HOSTED BY:

The South Elementary School Building Committee
in conjunction with

Vertex Project Management & DRA Architects

ZOOM LINK FOR THE VIRTUAL FORUMS:

Join Meeting:

bit.ly/SouthBuildingVirtualForum

Meeting ID: 869 9068 8789

Passcode: 276973

Check out Facebook & stoughtonschools.org for project updates!



VERTEX®



Planning
Architecture
Interior Design

Looking to get outside & explore the great outdoors this season?

This rental pass provides visitors unlimited day-use parking access to state park facilities within the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation that charge a parking fee. Visit www.mass.gov/DCR/Parkpass.html for a list of participating parks and parking fees. The pass is available to Stoughton Residents and must be picked up and returned back to the Stoughton Recreation Department. Rental of this pass is FREE for one week! If you do not return the pass in the agreed upon time frame you will be charged. To obtain this pass please come by the Recreation office or give us a call 781-341-1300 x9244

MASS DCR PARKS PASS



Looking to get outside and explore the great outdoors this season? This rental pass provides visitors unlimited day-use parking access to state park facilities within the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation that charge a parking fee. Visit www.mass.gov/DCR/Parkpass.html for a list of participating parks and parking fees. The pass is available to Stoughton Residents and must be picked up and returned back to the Stoughton Recreation Department. Rental of this pass is FREE for one week! If you do not return the pass in the agreed upon time frame you will be charged. To obtain this pass please come by the Recreation office or give us a call 781-341-1300 x9244

WWW.STOUGHTONREC.ORG





proudly presents a Zoom Series:

Civics for Adults

With Donna L. Cohen, M.L.I.S, M.Ed, www.civicthinker.info

Moderated by Joseph Feaster, Jr., Esq., SMAC Community Forum Host

Free, but pre-registration required.
Register at: <https://bit.ly/civicsadults3>



**Feb 15, 2023
7 pm**

**Workshop 3:
Beyond Voting:
Elections and
Campaign Financing**



Topics to be discussed

- Right to vote?
- Voter suppression / election subversion
- Election 2024 issues
- Redistricting / gerrymandering
- Alternative voting systems
- Campaign financing / contribution tracking



Sponsored by



**The Sharon
Public
Library**

**The Stoughton
Public
Library**



SOLA
SUPPORT OUR LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION, INC.

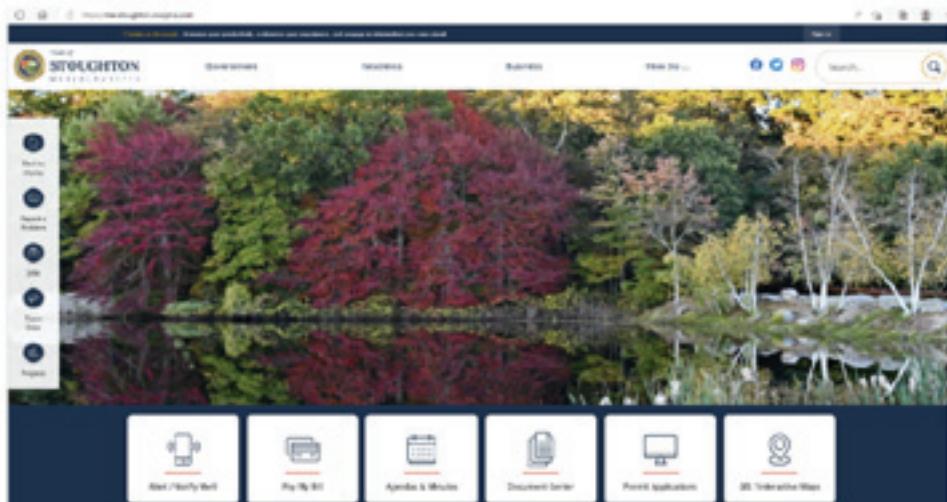


photo courtesy Donna Parshley

The Town of Stoughton is preparing to launch a new and improved municipal website during the month of February. Users will see not only a familiar, but improved website after going through a redesign and upgrade process with CivicPlus (a leading government website provider).

Some new features we feel you will be excited about are:

- Service-based navigation with an emphasis on service delivery and ease of use (along with a new clean design that is both visually appealing and functional)
- Calendar functionality which allows citizens to stay informed about the scheduling of important local events, including public meetings, classes, activities, community events, and other valuable opportunities for engagement
- Embedded Social Media (Facebook) – located on our front page for those who do not have Facebook accounts
- Online Job Application functionality
- Dedicated landing pages for Police, Fire, DPW, Library and Recreation
- An online “Report a Problem” form that allows users to report service requests, such as a pothole, streetlight outage, sewer issue, and more...
- Alert Center – this functionality allows us to alert citizens with time sensitive information and instructions using multiple channels, including the website homepage, social media and email
- Enhanced search functionality site-wide that allows staff to review what users are searching for and revise the site structure to continually improve the user experience
- News and page subscription options for residents to stay informed of all municipal updates
- Document Center – This will serve as a single, conveniently accessible repository for all forms, documents, and files citizens routinely require so they can self-service many of their municipal requests (without the need to walk into an office or place a phone call)
- The Agenda Center allows for the storing, sharing, and searching of public meetings and agendas and enables citizens to remain informed and engaged in public policy and local issues



Stoughton Council on Aging

Taste of Israel -

Experience The Middle East

Monday, February 27, 2023 12:30 P.M.

You read about Israel in the news all the time, but what is it really like to be there? Find out about the history and culture of the Holy Land through a special one hour tour of the land, people and food. Enjoy a sampling of authentic Israeli food, beverages will be provided. Class facilitated by Therapy Gardens.

Tickets are \$3 • Space is limited.

Pre-registration is necessary and payment is due at time of sign up.

Welcome to the Town Manager's Office!

On December 12, 2022 I was honored to begin my career in Stoughton. After enjoying a successful career in business, as a State Legislator and as a Town Administrator, I've taken on this challenge with eyes wide open. From a career of professional experiences, successes and mistakes, I join the Town well prepared to meet the challenges, and leverage the opportunities before us. It's hard to believe that almost 3 months have already passed. I apologize for not reaching out sooner. I want you to know that I am true and committed to several core values.

First, you can always expect transactional honesty from me. I will respectfully say what I mean and mean what I say. Second, I am committed to openness and full transparency. Secrets, hidden agendas and old grievances will not play any part in my decision making process nor, will they eat up the valuable time needed to do this job properly. Third, you can always expect me to use prudent fiscal judgement. We have real financial challenges and clear solutions which will require your understanding and support. I am not promising a "Rose Garden". I am promising however, that within three years, the Town of Stoughton will stand on a strong financial footing.

We have some challenges that are among my top priorities. As Stoughton looks forward to its 300th Anniversary, it's important to understand that our infrastructure is old and has been neglected for decades. We seldom appreciate the value of clean running water and efficient waste management until those services are interrupted or lost. We all share 112 miles of Stoughton roads. Only 24.1 miles require minimal or no maintenance. As we develop a long-term infrastructure plan, we need to coordinate the replacement of 100 year old water and waste water distribution lines with the pavement of those roads. We need to replace water meters that are not properly recording water consumption. This may appear to be getting into the weeds. However, the condition of our water and sewer lines, town buildings, and town roads is beneath the standard you deserve. Meeting those challenges is among my top priorities. Meeting you and hearing your views will be among my greatest joys!

In closing, I want you to know that openness, transparency and constituent service are among my core values. Those values served me well as a business executive, business owner, legislator and municipal leader. Your confidence in Stoughton town government is needed in order for us to move our common agenda forward. I ask that you stay in touch, stay involved, share your thoughts and make your voice heard.

Respectfully,

Thomas J. Calter

