

# Stoughton Town Crier

TOWN OF STOUGHTON UPDATED MARCH 6, 2023 ROBERTA HARBACK



All information taken from various Town of Stoughton pages



# Selectboard Agenda

## Tuesday March 7, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.

### Stoughton Public Library

### 84 Park St • Conference Rm 2nd fl

The meeting will be recorded by SMAC cable television. 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. Times are approximate and items may be taken out of order at the Chair's discretion.

1. 7:00 p.m. **OPEN SESSION - Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**
2. 7:05 p.m. Select Board Comments
3. 7:15 p.m. Town Manager Comments
4. 7:25 p.m. Citizen Comments
5. 7:35 p.m. **Consent Agenda:**
  - a. Warrant for Annual Town Meeting Election
  - b. MWRA I/I Local Financial Assistance Program
  - c. Recreation FY23 Revolving Fund Increase

Stephanie Carrara  
Town Clerk

Paula Nute  
Town Treasurer

Matt Cauchon  
Recreation  
Director
6. 7:45 p.m. Application for One-day Alcoholic Beverage License - March 18, 2023  
Ahavath Torah Congregation Synagogue
7. 7:55 p.m. Code of Conduct - votes may be taken

Arthur Mallock

Tom Calter  
Town Manager

**AGENDA**  
**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**Monday - March 6, 2023 at 7:00PM**  
**STOUGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**84 PARK STREET, TRAINING ROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**  
**STOUGHTON, MA 02072**

**~ PUBLIC HEARING ~**

**In Person and Virtual Meeting (Online)**

A Public Hearing will be held by the Intergovernmental Relations Committee on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 7:00PM to discuss the Annual Town Meeting Articles listed below.

In accordance with Governor Baker's declaration of June 16<sup>th</sup>, 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.

The meeting may be recorded and may be broadcast live over SMAC ([www.stoughtontv.org](http://www.stoughtontv.org)) and/or recorded for later broadcast and internet access.

To participate in the Public Hearing with Google Meets: [meet.google.com/xsb-dbge-mgx](https://meet.google.com/xsb-dbge-mgx)

To join the Public Hearing By Phone: (US) +1 513-816-0362      PIN: 440 746 221#

Agenda items may be taken out of order at Chairperson's discretion. Votes may be taken on Recommending Articles(s) to the Annual Town Meeting.

1. Meeting Called To Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Determination of Quorum (50% +1)
4. Review and Approve Draft Meeting Minutes from Prior Meeting
5. Motion To Open Public Hearing
6. Articles to be Heard and Discussed At Public Hearing

Article 3 - Accept and Contract Funds for Town Roads

Article 4 - Apply for and Accept Federal/State Funding

Article 27 - Community Preservation Committee FY2024 Budget/Report

Article 45 - Roadway Resurfacing

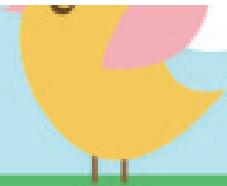
Article 59 - Tosca Drive, Central Street and Canton Street Intersection Improvements

Article 67 - Fund Feasibility Study of South Elementary School

Article 71 - Climate Action Plan Committee

7. Motion to Continue Public Hearing or Close Public Hearing
8. Discussion of Articles from Public Hearing. Votes may be taken on recommending Articles to Town Meeting
9. Motion to Adjourn Meeting

This Public Hearing may be shown live on the local broadcast channel by SMAC and recorded for later broadcast and internet access.



## SPRING EVENTS FOR KIDS



### Drop in Chess For ages 5-12 and their Caregivers

Join our volunteers for some chess in the children's room. Children should already have a basic grasp on the game but some instruction is available. Caregiver supervision is required.

Every Wednesday  
at 5:00 pm.



### Little Lego Club for ages 2-5

Free play Lego fun with Duplos and other age appropriate building toys for ages 2-6 and their caregivers. Registration Required. Little Lego Club meets monthly.

Monday, March 6th  
at 10 am.

### March Events



### Purim Storytime

Join Rabbi Fineberg of Temple Israel of Sharon as he teaches us all about the celebration of Purim! We'll read stories, sing songs, and do a craft as we learn about the holiday.

Wednesday March 1st  
at 10:00 am.



### Circus Science & Silliness For ages 7-12

Join us at a fun, interactive circus style show that demonstrates to children how the science they learn about in school is the same science used every day to perform amazing circus tricks.

For ages 7-12. Registration is required and space is limited.

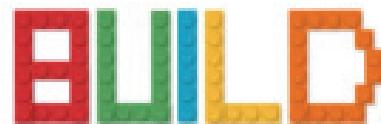
Thursday March 16th  
at 3:30 pm.



### Little Women A Storytime with the Massasoit Theater Company

Join the cast of the Massasoit Theatre Student Ensemble as they read the picture book version of Little Women and introduce us to the characters and their world. A great introduction to the theatre arts.

Saturday March 4th  
at 12:30 pm



### Lego Club for ages 5-12

Free play Lego fun for ages 5-12 and their caregivers. Registration Required. Lego Club meets monthly.

Monday, March 27th  
at 3:30 pm.

# AGENDA

# Committee on Finance and Taxation

Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 7PM

## School Committee Conference Rm

at Stoughton Public Schools District Office • 31 Pierce St

# PUBLIC HEARING

**A Public Hearing will be held by the Committee on Finance and Taxation on March 8, 2023 to discuss the FY24 Town Budget and Annual Town Meeting Articles.**

to discuss the FY24 Town Budget and Annual Town Meeting Articles. Agenda items may be taken out of order at the Chairman's discretion.

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Motion to Open Public Hearing
  
4. TOWN BUDGET – CABLE PUBLIC ACCESS BUDGET (FY24)
5. Article 12 – Cable Public Access Enterprise Fund - Appropriate for FY24 Cable Costs
4. ARTICLE 26 GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET (FY24)
  - a. Town Accountant
  - b. Engineering
  - c. Building and Code Enforcement
  - d. Board of Health
  - e. Planning Department
  - f. Economic Development
  - g. Moderator
  - h. Finance Committee
  
5. Article 22 – Unpaid Bills
6. Article 23 – Rescind Unissued Borrowing Authorizations
7. Article 24 - Establish 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Fund
8. Article 25 – Deposit to the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Account
9. Article 56 – Town Lake Management Program
10. Article 57 – Town Hall Parking and Landscape Improvements
11. Article 58 – Landscape Improvements at Lucius Clapp Property
12. Article 59 – Tosca Drive, Central St. and Canton St. Intersection Improvements
13. Article 60 – Pine St. and Pleasant St. Intersection Improvements Design
14. Article 62 – Electronic Permitting Software
  
16. Any other matters relating to FY24 or FY23 Budget and Town Meeting Warrant Articles
17. Motion to Continue Public Hearing
18. Adjourn

-Votes may be taken-

**This meeting may be shown live on the local broadcast channel by SMAC and recorded for internet access.**

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# AGENDA

Committee on Finance and Taxation

Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 7PM

School Committee Conference Rm

at Stoughton Public Schools District Office • 31 Pierce St

## PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held by the Committee on Finance and Taxation on March 9, 2023 to discuss the FY24 Town Budget and Annual Town Meeting Articles.

Agenda items may be taken out of order at the Chairman's discretion

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Motion to Open Public Hearing
4. TOWN BUDGET (FY24) SEWER DEPARTMENT
5. ARTICLE 9 – Sewer Department Enterprise Fund Budget
6. ARTICLE 55 – Sewer Capital Inflow and Infiltration
7. ARTICLE 61 – Acceptance of Kelsey Drive Sewer Pump Station as Public
8. TOWN BUDGET (FY24) WATER DEPARTMENT
9. ARTICLE 10 – Water Department Enterprise Fund Budget
10. ARTICLE 52 – Residential Meters
11. ARTICLE 53 – Pratts Court Water Treatment Plant Upgrades
12. ARTICLE 54 – Phase 5 Water Main Upgrades and Improvements
13. TOWN BUDGET (FY24) CEDAR HILL
14. ARTICLE 7 - Cedar Hill Enterprise Budget
15. ARTICLE 50 – Multiple Small Equipment and Maintenance Purchases for Cedar Hill
16. Any other matters relating to FY24 or FY23 Budget and Town Meeting Warrant Articles
17. Motion to Continue Public Hearing
18. Adjourn

-Votes may be taken-

2023 MAR -2 P 5:18  
RECEIVED  
STOUGHTON  
CITY CLERK  
2023 MAR -2 P 5:18

This meeting may be shown live on the local broadcast channel by SMAC and recorded for internet access.

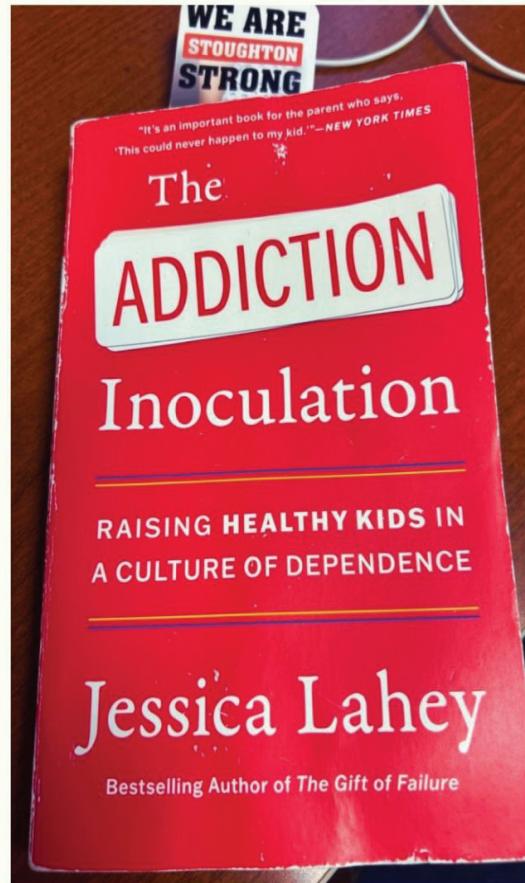
# From OASIS & Stoughton Public Library

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Thursday, March 9  
7pm

Rec Dept. (15 Pleasant)  
or ZOOM

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## BOOK DISCUSSION: Raising Healthy Teens in a Culture of Dependence

Interested but haven't read the book? NO PROBLEM!

Everyone is welcome!



REGISTER  
HERE



**AGENDA**  
**MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**Monday – March 13, 2023 at 7:00PM**  
**STOUGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**84 PARK STREET, TRAINING ROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**  
**STOUGHTON, MA 02072**

**~ PUBLIC HEARING ~**

**In Person and Virtual Meeting (Online)**

**A Public Hearing will be held by the Municipal Operations Committee on Monday, March 13, 2023 at 7:00PM to discuss the Annual Town Meeting Articles listed below.**

**In accordance with Governor Baker's declaration of June 16<sup>th</sup>, 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 (online) via Google Meets.**

**The meeting may be recorded and may be broadcasted live over SMAC ([www.stoughtontv.org](http://www.stoughtontv.org)) and/or recorded for later broadcast and internet access.**

**To participate in the Public Hearing with Google Meets: <https://meet.google.com/kkx-soav-udw>**

**To join the Public Hearing By Phone: (US): +1 413-779-5349                    PIN: 787 076 710#**

**Agenda items may be taken out of order at Chairperson's discretion. Votes may be taken on Recommending Articles(s) to the Annual Town Meeting.**

- 1. Meeting Called To Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Determination of Quorum (50% +1)**
- 4. Review and Approve Draft Meeting Minutes from Prior Meetings**
- 5. Motion To Open Public Hearing**
- 6. Articles to be Heard and Discussed at Public Hearing:**

**Article 28 – Capen Reynolds Dog Park and Community Gardens**

**Article 33 – Preservation of Town of Stoughton Vital Records**

**Article 34 - Cedar Hill Golf Course Renovations**

**Article 36 - Parking and Trailhead Construction At Atkinson Ave Ext.**

**Article 42 –Public Works Capital Equipment Purchases**

**Article 43 – Town Buildings and Facilities Maintenance and Upgrades**

**Article 44 - Police Station Locker Room Upgrades**

**Article 45 - Roadway Resurfacing**

**Article 46 – Extraordinary Repairs to Fleet**

**Article 47 - Datacenter Infrastructure Upgrade Project**

**Article 48 - Police Capital**

**Article 49 - Fire Capital**

**Article 50 - Municipal Small Equipment and Maintenance Purchases for Cedar Hill**

**Article 51 - New Voting Machines**

**Article 52 – Residential Meters**

**Article 53 - Pratts Court Water Treatment Upgrades**

**Article 54 - Phase 5 Water Main Upgrades and Improvements**

**Article 55 - Sewer Capital – Inflow and Infiltration**

**Article 56 – Town Lake Management Program**

**Article 59 – Tosca Drive, Central Street and Canton Street Intersection Improvements**

**Article 61 – Acceptance of Kelsey Drive Sewer Pump Station as Public**

**Article 62 - Electronic Permitting Software**

- 7. Motion to Continue Public Hearing or Close Public Hearing**
- 8. Discussion of Articles from Public Hearing. Votes may be taken on Recommending Articles to Town Meeting**
- 9. Motion to Adjourn Meeting**

**This Public Hearing may be shown live on the local broadcast channel by SMAC and recorded for later broadcast and internet access.**

A Celtic Celebration:  
Songs and Stories for the  
season with Storyteller

Davis Bates

Wednesday, March 15,

12:30 P.M.



*The Stoughton Council on Aging will celebrate St. Patrick's Day and the impending arrival of spring by presenting a performance by Parents' Choice Award winning performing Davis Bates, Entitled A Celtic Celebration.*

*The program will involve the audience in a variety of cultural traditions. It will include traditional songs and tales from Ireland, Scotland and Wales, sea songs and chanteys, ghost stories and family tales. There will also be plenty of sing-alongs, a short lesson in how to play music with spoons from a kitchen drawer, and an appearance by an Irish dancing wooden dog named Bingo.*

*The performance will take place at 12:30 pm, following light refreshments at noon, at the Stoughton Senior Center on Wednesday, March 15. For more information & lunch reservation please call (781) 341-8882. This performance is funded by a grant from the Stoughton Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass. Cultural Council.*

**Stoughton Council on Aging**

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# ONLINE PARENT SURVEY

**PARENTS**, your feedback is  
**VALUABLE** and **EFFECTIVE** in  
preventing youth substance use.

The OASIS Coalition has developed a survey to understand what resources would be most helpful to Stoughton parents and caregivers (like you) so that you can continue to support Stoughton youth in making healthy decisions.

This survey should only take about 5 minutes. Every question in the survey is optional and your participation is completely voluntary. All surveys are anonymous.



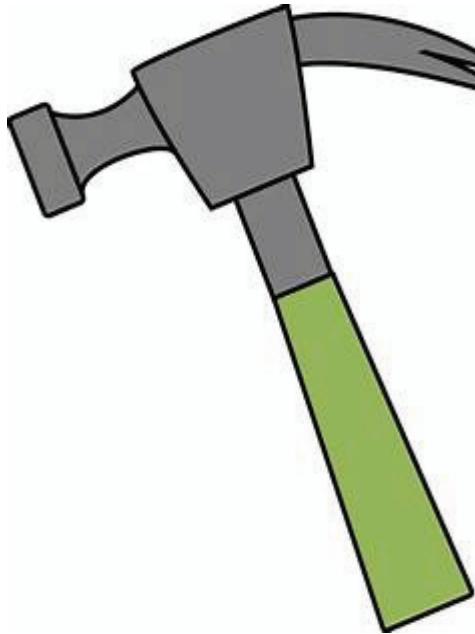
**Thank you for your help!**



For more information  
visit Stoughton OASIS:  
[www.stoughtonoasis.org](http://www.stoughtonoasis.org)  
Facebook :STOUGHTONOASIS

**SCAN the CODE  
or visit:**

**<https://tinyurl.com/4puxycc5>**



# Welcome to the Stoughton Building Department.

We are happy to provide information about our department's role and our services. The Building Department oversees the construction, alteration, repair and demolition of structures throughout the town. We enforce bylaws and regulations related to zoning, building, plumbing, gas-fitting, electrical, fire safety and demolition.

## MISSION:

It is the mission of the Building Department to ensure the quality of life of those who live, work and visit Stoughton by promoting safety in the construction, use and occupancy of buildings throughout town.

You may come into the office anytime we are open or contact us at  
781-344-6070

email at [BUILDING@STOUGHTON-MA.GOV](mailto:BUILDING@STOUGHTON-MA.GOV) OR  
email [JERICKSON@STOUGHTON-MA.GOV](mailto:JERICKSON@STOUGHTON-MA.GOV)

For Electrical Inspections  
Please Call • 781-232-9239  
email [gilacqua@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:gilacqua@stoughton-ma.gov)

For Plumbing/Gas Inspections  
Please Call • 781-408-1482

**AGENDA**  
**MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**Monday – March 20, 2023 at 7:00PM**  
**STOUGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**84 PARK STREET, TRAINING ROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**  
**STOUGHTON, MA 02072**

**~ PUBLIC HEARING ~**

**In Person and Virtual Meeting (Online)**

**A Public Hearing will be held by the Municipal Regulations Committee on Monday, March 20, 2023 at 7:00PM to discuss the Annual Town Meeting Articles listed below.**

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**To join the Public Hearing By Phone: (US) : +1 336-790-8464      PIN: 173 070 119#**

**Agenda items may be taken out of order at Chairperson's discretion. Votes may be taken on Recommending Articles(s) to the 2023 Annual Town Meeting.**

- 1. Meeting Called To Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Determination of Quorum (50% +1)**
- 4. Review and Approve Draft Meeting Minutes from Prior Meeting**
- 5. Motion To Open Public Hearing**
- 6. Articles to be Heard and Discussed at Public Hearing:**

**Article 13 – Reauthorization of Revolving Funds**

**Article 37 – Acquisition of Property off Benson Road**

**Article 39 – Consolidate Personnel By-Law**

**Article 40 – Charter Amendment**

**Article 41 – Accept Chapter 59 Section 5 Clause Twenty-second G (Veterans Tax Exemptions)**

**Article 59 – Tosca Drive, Central St and Canton St Intersection Improvements**

**Article 70 – Funding Approval Sunset**

**Article 71 – Climate Action Plan Committee**

**Article 72 – Speed Limit Change to 25mph**

**Article 73 – Charter Change**

**Article 74 – Adopt Financial Policy Change**

- 7. Motion to Continue Public Hearing or Close Public Hearing**
- 8. Discussion of Articles from Public Hearing. Votes may be taken on Recommending Articles to Town Meeting**
- 9. Motion to Adjourn Meeting**

**This Public Hearing may be shown live on the local broadcast channel by SMAC and recorded for later broadcast and internet access.**

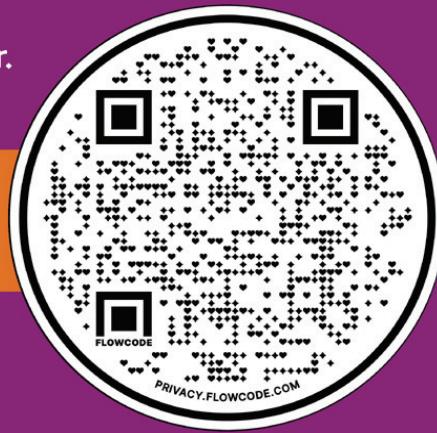
Free Program, Open to the Public Community

# TEENS LET'S QUIT VAPING & SMOKING

Are you a teenager & looking to quit vaping or smoking? Let's quit & learn N-O-T together.

Scan QR Code To Learn How!

Program participants are eligible for a complimentary Old Colony YMCA membership. \*See staff for full details.



Brought to you by the following partnerships:



OLD COLONY YMCA



# **Wooden Sign Project**

## **OH FOR PEEP SAKE**

with Karen Shore of Life Expressions Décor

**Thursday, March 23, 4P.M.**



**Stoughton Council on Aging**

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## Mass Audubon Owl Prowls

### Adult Owl Prowl

Tuesday, March 7th, 5:30-7:00pm

### Family Owl Prowl

Wednesday, April 5th, 5:30-7:00pm



Learn about our native New England owls, including what makes them unique nighttime hunters. A short Introduction to Owls of New England will be followed by a walk on nearby trails to listen and look for local owls, including barred and great horned owls. Come away with a deeper knowledge of these amazing birds and the skills to look for them on your own. This program will be held outdoors, with moderate walking at dusk.

Program takes place at Bradley Lessa Memorial Playground  
West St, Stoughton, MA



Mass Audubon



# *Greetings Citizens of Stoughton*

March 5, 2023

With every new challenge comes an opportunity. With multiple challenges occurring at the same time, there is an opportunity to experience and appreciate the extraordinary value and commitment of ones' team. As I approach the end of my 3rd month as your Town Manager, I have been surprised at the number of challenges we face and completely edified by my teams' response to those challenges. Among those challenges include the near term insolvency of the employee health insurance program, structural deficits in several of the towns enterprise funds, a 7,000-gallon flood in Town Hall and a Management crisis in our Assessing department which resulted in inaccurate bills sent to the citizens of Stoughton. Most painfully, we stopped and paused as we grieved the sudden passing of Officer Christopher Davis. We were incredibly proud of the manner in which the members of our Police Department honored Chris. We continue to remember Chris and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

Unforeseen challenges will always be part of municipal government Management. However, our ongoing priority is to improve the level of communication and transparency with the Citizens of Stoughton. Each of those issues will be favorably resolved in the in the days and months ahead. In support of our commitment to openness and transparency regarding the issues facing our Town, I am hosting public information sessions which will include presentations by experts and will allow unlimited time for questions and answers from the public. Among topics to be covered in the near future are the structural deficits that exist within our water and sewer enterprise funds, the subsidies needed to cover deficits in our solid waste budget, the construction of the new Fire Station, the potential for joining regional 911 and the condition of our aging infrastructure, which includes water and sewer lines, buildings and town roads. We are going to address the status of town owned buildings and their use. We are going to address our Economic Development and Redevelopment strategy. Most importantly, we are scheduling a post Labor Day weekend Financial Summit, which will include my Senior Staff, the Select Board, School and Finance Committees. The purpose of that summit is to build consensus on a long term financial plan which will strengthen the Town's balance sheet, address the Town's infrastructure needs and place great emphasis on the tax burden facing the citizens of Stoughton. I am confident that with all of that brain power focused on a common purpose, we will emerge with a long term plan which will be communicated to the citizens of Stoughton.

I would like to report that I have found your Town Government to be strong. Each individual that I have had the pleasure of working with is both passionate and laser focused on the needs of the community. I am certain that with our renewed commitment to constituent communication and full transparency, confidence in your government will be strengthened!

All of the challenges raised above are being addressed. You can be confident that the Town of Stoughton is moving in the right direction. I thank those citizens who have reached out to offer their support and input. I ask that those who have questions feel free to call or visit me at Town Hall. I'm always happy to pour you a cup of coffee and to chat about our Town.



**Tom Calter**  
Town Manager