

January 27, 2025

Manager's Report

A. Ralph Mollis, Town Manager



Projects/Initiatives



Revolution Wind Offshore Wind Farm

- Meetings with Revolution Wind regarding their **Offshore Wind Farm Project** continue.
- Construction is progressing without any local issues, and with significant community outreach.
- Anyone with questions or concerns is encouraged to contact Revolution Wind directly: (401) 255-2207 or info@revolution-wind.com – we receive weekly reports on how any concerns are resolved.



North Kingstown Police Department Flock Cameras

- The Flock Cameras previously discussed and approved at a Town Council meeting have been installed. There is a link on the North Kingstown Police Department website with more information on this technology:
<https://transparency.flocksafety.com/north-kingstown-ri-pd>
- These cameras are used solely to enhance public safety by helping law enforcement locate stolen vehicles and suspects involved in crimes, and with investigation support. They are not used for real-time surveillance of vehicles or individuals and are in compliance with all privacy laws and have been strategically placed to ensure legal requirements and privacy considerations are accounted for.



Proposed Developments Wickford Jxn & Post Rd

- The proposed development of a residential complex in line with our development plan and a vision set forth years ago when the Train Station was developed, has obtained consensus regarding preliminary approval from the Planning Commission.
- It is on their 2/18 Agenda for Final Review and approval.
- The long-awaited redevelopment of the commercial space on Post Road colloquially known as the Tarbox Lot, was reviewed by the Planning Commission and has been continued for further discussion and review to concerns with the queuing of traffic and revision of plantings and greenery.

Wickford Village: Projects Update

55 Brown Street



- The individual purchasing 55 Brown Street, the Old Library, has an exciting vision and places for the building that was revealed to me in our recent meeting, that are sure to further enhance Wickford Village.
- They were in the process of closing at the time of our meeting and will keep in touch with us regarding their plans and the many steps that will be required to accomplish them.

Wickford Elementary



- At our meeting last week, the developer hopes to receive approval next week from the Historical Preservation Commission with the reduced project scope.
- *We will assist with CRMC approval as this project is of significant municipal importance.*
- *We are working with them to finalize development of public access path to the water and library, and on the removal of oil tanks on the property.*
- *They have hopes we can find allowable, alternative methods to address the affordable housing requirement.*



Wickford Village: Projects Update

Municipal Parking Lot Brown Street



- We had an internal meeting with staff and our Engineering Consultant regarding the ongoing work in the Municipal Parking Lot on Brown Street in Wickford Village.
 - As reported last month, work continues on the construction of the retaining wall which must be completed before work can begin in other areas of this important project.
 - We are working to address some frustrating challenges, and I hope to have another update for you at the next Council Meeting.

Projects/Initiatives

FY26 Budget Update



- Finance Director **Deb Bridgham** and I attended and presented at the most recent meeting of the Asset Management Commission.
 - They were very complimentary on the thoroughness of Staff presentations this year, and were equally appreciative.
 - It was a very productive recap and meeting.
- I want to thank the members of this Commission for their work. We look forward to receiving their report as it is a valuable tool as I compile the upcoming FY26 Budget.



- Deb and I continue our work in making what is a very challenging FY26 Budget.
 - I will be presenting the budget at your March 10th meeting, followed by budget sessions with Department Heads and myself the following week, and then Public Hearings on April 21st.

Projects/Initiatives

Recreation Department Town Beach Update



P/T & F/T Lifeguard(s) RECREATION DEPARTMENT TOWN OF NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI

RESPONSIBILITIES: Full and part-time summer positions for lifeguards at Town Beach are required to have and maintain all current RI certifications as required by the State of RI, including Non-Surf Beach Credential, First Aid, CPR and AED certifications. Will be required to work weekends and holidays from Memorial Day through Labor Day and be aware of schedule conflicts in advance of commitment to summer season.

Complete details are online: <https://bit.ly/northkingstownnowhiring>

NOTE: Beach is open weekends-only in June, then 7 days/wk until Labor Day. Operating hours: 9 AM - 5 PM. Must be at least 17 years of age.



SALARY: \$18.00 - \$24/hr; retention bonus and certification reimbursements possible.

TO APPLY: Submit online application or email cdumas@northkingstownri.gov

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED UNTIL POSITIONS ARE FILLED.

- As I've mentioned in prior Manager's Reports, this is the first of many years we are moving forward with Town Beach operations without the assistance or partnership of the Greater Providence YMCA.
 - This is a challenge, and I'd like to reiterate my desire to reach anyone who would like to be considered for a Lifeguard position here in North Kingstown.
 - Please visit our website, Social Media platforms, or reach out directly to our Recreation Department for complete details: <https://www.northkingstownri.gov/jobs.aspx>

Other News

Wickford Harbor Seal Tours



- Annual Seal Tours from Wickford Village are returning this year.
 - The Coastal Queen takes visitors to nearby areas to view seals from a safe distance while providing bar service, warm indoor seating, and an approximately 75-min. cruise round trip from the Municipal Dock in the parking lot at the end of Main Street.
 - For more information, visit their website:
<https://www.cruiseri.com/tours-from-wickford>

Employee Spotlight Christian Ellerbe & Dave Creta



- I would like to thank and recognize **Christian Ellerbe & Dave Creta** of our Parks Department for their winter work to personally build 10 new picnic tables and refurbish 2 existing picnic tables that will be added to Wilson Park, our Town Beach, and Rosehill this spring and summer.
 - Without question, these efforts will improve visitors' and residents' experiences at some of our most popular recreation areas.

RI League of Cities and Towns Municipal Leadership Academy Kate Glass



- Congratulations to **Kate Glass** of my office for being selected to participate in the Rhode Island Cities and Towns Municipal Leadership Academy class beginning on January 31st.
 - Kate was chosen from a substantial number of applicants across the state.
 - I've had the privilege of speaking to previous classes and know they are fortunate to have someone of her experience and work ethic join them.

Projects/Initiatives

NOTE: This slide was added after the Council meeting as the information here was not known at the time the original presentation was created.

Recreation Department

Notification of Grant Award

- Congratulations to **Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs**, Recreation Director, on the exciting news received just this evening that our application to RI Commerce Corporations's RI Rebounds Phase II grant program to bring internationally renown Danish recycle artist, Thomas Danbo, to North Kingstown for the installation of one of his famous giant trolls received \$107,500 in funding alongside the South County Tourism Council that also received a grant for this initiative.
 - We will have more details for Council and the community as this project unfolds, as official grant information is announced later this week, and as Chelsey works to advance this exciting project with [South County Tourism](#).



For example: A Thomas Danbo Giant Troll installation in Jackson, WY.

Thank You



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