

JULY 15, 2024

Manager's Report

A. Ralph Mollis, Town Manager



Projects

Revolution Wind Offshore Wind Farm



- Regular meetings continue
- Pipe pile driving & duct-bank work continues with pile driving 90% complete; end of month completion date is expected (ahead of schedule).
- QDC Technical Review Committee approved use of heavy machinery, trucks, loaders, etc. until 11 PM, Mon – Sat.

Water Bottle Fillers Water Department



- Seven of eight have been installed and are operational.
- At Wilson Park alone, the counter within the water filler shows that more than 1,100 water bottle fillings have occurred since installation on June 12th.

Rain Barrel Program Water Department



- The Rain Barrel program has been fully subscribed since its announcement on May 21.
- Another 50 rain barrels will be added as a result.
- The program provides residents discounts at Wickford Lumber on select rain barrels, known to decrease stormwater pollution and preserve our water resources.

Municipal Parking Lot Streetscape Improvement Planning Department



- Staging has begun; crane in place on Wednesday & work starting next week.
- Beta Engineering will have a representative on-site for the duration to ensure resident and business concerns are addressed directly and as they occur
- Striping in Wharf Lot and additional signage is happening to help visitors to be aware of additional parking options nearby.

Initiatives



ADA Beach Access

- Two ADA Beach Wheelchairs and an ADA Beach Mat/Walkway for our Town Beach will be delivered and in place soon.

Hearing Loop

- Installs in Conference Meeting Room and NK Free Library following successes in Council Chambers.

Post Road

- We are working with Town Solicitor to aggressively pursue options to address unsightly and/or unsafe conditions on the abandoned “Kwik Mart” property.

Cyber Security

- We are actively and aggressively pursuing an internal 100% participation rate in monthly training from the RI State Police.

Tax Exemptions

- Preliminary review has begun with presentation in October as goal for review and recommendations by Council prior to December 1st.

LEARN365RI

- We have been awarded \$189,124.06 in the 2025/26 expanded RIDE grant program to continue some existing out of school time student programming to increase school attendance, academic achievement, and FAFSA completions. Final programming details include partnerships with community partners, NKSD’s Office of Family Learning, & our Recreation Department.



Update: North Kingstown Police Department

Sergeant Tim Daly: Life Saving Award

On July 2, NKPD and NKFD responded to a house fire on Fletcher Road. A construction worker told them he heard someone towards the back of the house. The home was engulfed in thick black smoke. Sgt Daly used only his flashlight to locate a 78-year-old wheelchair bound resident and extricate her to safety with the help of other officers.





Traffic Enforcement & Calming Measures Update

PER COUNCIL REQUEST/JUNE 2024

With the latest budget cycle, we have accomplished an initiative that has been a priority of mine since beginning as Town Manager in January 2017: increased staffing of patrol officers.

- Each dayshift now has 8 officers and nightshifts have 7 officers on one shift, with 8 on another.
- Additionally, Chief Urban initiated a full-time dedicated Traffic Officer for 42 hours/week.

PROGRAMS

The Department actively participates in Federal, State, and Local traffic enforcement campaigns, including but not limited to:

- Click-It or Ticket
- Distracted Driving
- Speed Enforcement
- In-Service Traffic Posts

EQUIPMENT

We are one of nine departments to receive, at no cost, a DUI car from RIDOT for our work related to DUI enforcement.

- 2 LTI Lasers, 4 handheld radar units; 17 dash-mounted radar units (in all patrol cruisers)
- Signboard and speed trailer; 2 portable data collectors with forensic and 3D mapping for traffic studies, and more.



Traffic Enforcement & Calming Measures Update

UPDATE PER JUNE 2024
COUNCIL REQUEST

TRAINING

All officers receive required training and certifications to operate Radar, Lasers, Portable Breath Tests, and Intoxilizer Machines. Special certification is also acquired by some officers for Drug Recognition Expertise, Traffic Stop Instructors, Crash Reconstruction, Child Safety Seat Installation, Advanced Roadside Impaired Driver Enforcement, and Commercial Enforcement.

TRAFFIC UNITS

Commercial Enforcement Division: 7 Officers to actively enforce statutes and bridge related weight restrictions

Crash Reconstruction Unit: 4 Officers tasked with work associated with reconstruction of serious crashes

Newly created traffic unit will be rolled out soon to address resident concerns regarding traffic safety.

- Our traffic stops are up 20% since 2020.
- Commercial Enforcement Unit stops are up over 50% since 2020.

Update: 55 Brown Street

FORMER TOWN HALL ANNEX BUILDING

At our June meeting, Council voted to defer the decision to have the Town send a notice of intent to repurchase 55 Brown Street, with the understanding that we can exercise that intent at any time prior to September 30th, and after September 30th, still retain the First Right of Refusal on any sale.

Council asked me to meet with Town Solicitor and owner of 55 Brown Street to relay this news and to assist with her efforts to potentially market the property in a manner that would be beneficial to Wickford Village and the Town of North Kingstown.

James Callaghan, Town Solicitor, and I met with Eve Clulow on July 10, in a very cordial and productive meeting ending in a mutual understanding of the next deadline (September 30th) and other understandings.

We will keep the Council and public informed on this matter as updates are available.

