

2023

Hingham Town Report

Hingham Town Report 2023

The Town continues to invest in the resiliency of Hingham Harbor to address safety issues and threats posed by climate change. The Town's long-range plan includes reconstructing and elevating wharf walls to protect Hingham's shoreline and infrastructure. By prioritizing these resiliency measures, Hingham is preserving its natural beauty, maintaining public access to the water, and protecting our waterfront infrastructure for future generations.

Annual Report



Town of Hingham
2023

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FINANCES

Town Accountant	219
Treasurer/Collector	225
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Report compiled and edited by Sharon Perfetti
Cover design by Kate Richardsson, IT

This is Your Town



www.hingham-ma.gov

Area	22.59 Square Miles
Shore Line	21 Miles
Population	23,314
Registered Voters	19,421
Dem. 4,478; Rep. 2,564; Un-enrolled, 12,215; Other, 164	
Number of Houses, including Condos	7,604
Assessed Value	
Real Property	\$9,048,855,688
Personal Property	\$135,486,730
Tax Rate	\$10.85
Schools	6
Public School Children, K-12	3,713
Professional Staff	423
Support Staff	351
Total FY2024 Total Town Budget (includes Capital)	\$151,566,264
Total FY2024 School Dept. Budget (includes Capital)	\$66,972,347
State Senator	State Representative
Norfolk-Plymouth	Third Plymouth District
Patrick O'Connor	Joan Meschino
State House, Room 419	State House, Room 162
Boston, MA 02133	Boston, MA 02133
617-722-1646	617-722-2092



Joseph Fisher; Elizabeth Klein, Chair; William Ramsey

Select Board

The Select Board ("Board") held 54 meetings in calendar year 2023, focusing on capital improvements, achieving a sustainable budget, expanding tax relief programs, and executing on climate action goals.

The Board spent the second half of 2023 setting a number of goals for Fiscal Year 2024 ("FY24") that focused on five areas: 1) building the team and filling key vacancies, 2) driving process improvement in areas such as technology and communications, 3) identifying revenue opportunities by pursuing economic development and recommendations from the Sustainable Budget Task Force, 4) implementing the Master Plan with a focus on climate resiliency and mental health and wellness, and 5) managing the large capital projects within Hingham.

Budget

As signaled by the Board and the Advisory Committee at Annual Town Meetings 2021 and 2022, an override would be needed for FY24 to maintain services. The Board and Advisory Committee unanimously voted to support a \$7.89M override which was subsequently approved at Annual Town Meeting and at the ballot in April 2023. The Board wishes to thank

the citizens of Hingham for supporting this critical investment in our Town's people and infrastructure.

At the center of the Select Board and Advisory Committee recommendations to support the override was the FY24-28 Financial Management Plan that ensured ongoing fiscal responsibility by controlling budget growth for the municipal and school budgets at 3.5% through FY28. The Select Board continues to seek additional revenue sources, including exploring commercial and residential development opportunities and expanding private/public partnerships as a strategic component to support future large capital projects. We will continue to work to structure a budget where recurring expenditures such as wages and salaries are supported by recurring sources of matching revenue.

Major Capital Improvements

The Board wishes to thank the dedicated work of the School Building Committee and School Committee for all their efforts as we work collectively towards an on-time and on-budget opening of the new elementary school in September 2024.

The Board also wishes to thank the Public Safety Facility Building Committee for its diligence as we look forward to opening the new public safety facility on Route 3A in the spring of 2025.

The Board now turns its focus to the development of a new Center for Active Living (formerly known as the Senior Center). The Board unanimously voted in 2023 to ask the Center for Active Living Building Committee to look at additional locations for a new Center while also exploring the potential to expand the existing Center at Town Hall. The Board wishes to thank the Building Committee for its commitment to this project as they select an architect and evaluate Town Hall and Bare Cove Park as the two proposed sites. As we look to 2024 and beyond, the Board remains committed to developing a state-of-the-art Center for Active Living. In the meantime, the Board has supported more personnel and resources for expanded programming. In 2023, the Center for Active Living served 1,148 members at 2,475 programs.

The Weir River Water System invested \$2.9M at the Water Treatment Facility (WTF) and the installation on new water mains. We replaced approximately 5,100 LF of water main and added 8 additional fire hydrants. At the WTF we replaced the underdrain on Filter #2, installed an upgraded polymer system, repaired centrifuge #1 and replaced centrifuge #2. Finally, the Unaccounted Water (UAW) was reduced by another 0.8% to 17.2%.

DPW reconstructed or resurfaced 6.9 miles of roadway, including all or portions of 24 Town roads, while responding to 78 pothole service requests throughout the year.

Environment and Sustainability

The Town continued to work towards achieving its environmental goals. The Board wishes to thank the Climate Action Committee on the completion of a thorough and innovative Climate Action Plan. We have included funding in the FY25 budget to hire a full-time Sustainability Coordinator that will help the Town execute the Climate Action Plan and to combat changes in the environment threatened by the continued release of carbon and other climate changing gases.

Tax Relief Programs

The Town of Hingham offers a number of different property tax relief programs for residents based on age, income, and veteran or disability status. In the past year, the Board and Town Meeting voted to expand existing programs, doubling the tax benefit, and offered residents the maximum amounts possible under state law. The Board also worked with the Board of Assessors to increase publicity of existing programs and saw applications grow significantly as a result of an increased awareness campaign. Current programs include a Hingham-specific Senior Means-Tested Tax Exemption, exemptions for residents who experience financial hardship who are over 65 years old, surviving spouses or persons over 70, an Elderly and Disabled Taxation Aid Fund, as well as programs for disabled veterans and Gold Star Families. The Board reaffirms its commitment to ensuring residents are able to benefit from all existing tax relief programs available to Massachusetts residents.

Future Goals

The Board is committed to achieving a sustainable budget and holding growth at 3.5%. We will continue to work to structure a budget where recurring expenditures such as wages and salaries are supported by recurring sources of matching revenue. Equally as important, we must continue to strive to keep Hingham affordable for all residents and grow our stock of affordable housing. Promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within the Town remains a major priority.

The Select Board wishes to thank all the tremendous residents who assist us in carrying out our mission. We also want to acknowledge and thank all the members of our volunteer boards and committees, and Town employees. We are honored to serve with you.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth F. Klein, Joseph M. Fisher, William C. Ramsey

Town Administrator

I am pleased to submit my annual report to the citizens of the Town of Hingham.

As the Town emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic, we looked to return fully to pre-pandemic levels of service. Our team of Town officials has been successful in this effort and in some ways the lessons learned during the pandemic have informed more efficient ways of delivering government services. As an example, we will continue to provide hybrid meeting capabilities thereby greatly increasing the public's access to their local government. As always, we will continue to find the best, most efficient and productive ways to serve the public.

2023 saw the culmination of many years of effort and planning across multiple branches of Hingham's local government. The Foster Elementary School, Public Safety Facility, and operational override were all front and center of our efforts throughout the year. Having received approval at a Special Town Meeting in November of 2022 for both the Foster School and the Public Safety Facility, the Town began construction efforts in earnest in 2023. Site work and building construction have commenced on both projects and are anticipated for completion in 2024 and 2025, respectively.



Structural steel erected for the new Public Safety Facility on Route 3A

As discussed at each of the past two Town Meetings, the Town put a \$7.9M property tax operational override question before Town Meeting in April of 2023. The measure passed at Town Meeting and at the ballot as required by State law. As part of the public discussion regarding the override, the Select Board, School Committee, Advisory Committee, School Superintendent, and myself all signed a commitment to adhere to an annual 3.5% spending cap on the municipal and school budgets through FY27 (with a carve out allowance for unanticipated out-of-district special education costs that the School Department may face). This creative solution resulted in the approval of the revenue increase needed to maintain services while ensuring fiscally responsible budgeting going forward.

As we work towards a balanced budget for FY25, we will continue to use the Sustainable Budget Task Force's report and recommendations towards identifying new revenue while now also budgeting to within 3.5% of the prior year budget. This is a new approach for us and one that I believe will result in a streamlined and efficient operation. As I said in last year's report, necessity is the mother of invention.

Some other notable initiatives in 2023 include construction of the new maintenance facility at the South Shore Country Club; installation of new electric vehicle charging stations at Lynch Field, Station Street Parking Lot, and Town Hall; acquisition of the 30 Summer Street property along the waterfront; rollout of a new customer relations app called MyHingham; implementation of a new budgeting software tool; continued economic development outreach and planning initiatives; and exploration of siting options for a potential new Center for Active Living (Senior Center).

One of my proudest moments of the year was when I was invited to attend an awards ceremony where Governor Healey recognized members of the Hingham Fire Department as "Firefighters of the Year" for their heroic efforts during the Apple Store tragedy in South Hingham last year. As the Governor noted, their actions that day saved countless lives. Thank you to all of our first responders for all you do to keep us safe.

Hingham's citizen participation in local government has once again set us apart. Every year I am awed by the participation of our citizenry and pure sense of civic duty that permeates all aspects of the Town. In 2023, over 350 people volunteered across nearly 70 boards and committees. This is in addition to the countless hours given by our residents to the Town in so many other ways including youth sports, civic functions, PTOs and so much more. The collective sense of caring and support from the residents is the

reason this Town is so great and from a purely operational standpoint, we simply couldn't do it without you.

The Select Board's policy agenda continues to be the focus for our office. This includes the daily activities of meeting agendas, addressing citizen concerns, personnel management, budget and Town Meeting Warrant preparation. This year the Board identified five categories of goals including Building the Team, Driving Process Improvement, Identifying Revenue Opportunities, Implementing the Master Plan, and Managing Large Capital Projects.

As I continue in my role as your Town Administrator, I do so as part of a team. I want to thank the Select Board for their continued support and guidance. I would also like to thank the department heads and all Town employees and volunteers for their hard work and dedication to the Town of Hingham. Specifically, I would like to thank our dedicated and highly professional staff in the Select Board's office consisting of Michelle Monsegur, Arthur Robert, Sharon Perfetti, Heidi Gaul, and Kathy Reilly. I want to thank each of them for their ongoing commitment to the success of the entire organization. We have a great team in the Select Board's office and I look forward to the many important initiatives we will undertake on behalf of the Hingham taxpayers in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Mayo
Town Administrator

Town Clerk

Town Meeting and the Town Election were highlights for our department in 2023. We had a great turnout for both events which saw an override question put before the voters of Hingham for the first time in over 10 years.

Our day-to-day operations, in addition to Town Meeting and the Town Election, included:

- Distribution and tallying of 10,992 annual street listing census forms;
- Issuance of 863 original birth, marriage and death certificates;
- Posting of 875 meeting agendas in compliance with OML;
- Registration of over 300 new voters;
- Issuance of over 1200 dog licenses;
- Receipt and oversight of 156 public record requests; and
- Issuance of 169 business licenses.

Please visit our website at <https://www.hingham-ma.gov/409/Town-Clerk> to learn more about the many services we provide to the Town:

- Election & Voter Information
- Licenses & Permits
- Records
- Services
- Town By-laws
- Payments & Fees

Many thanks to my hard-working team: Jennifer Donnelly, Mary Kelley, Laura Donnelly, Angela Kelly, Eileen McCracken, and a corps of devoted election workers.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol M. Falvey, Town Clerk



The Town Clerk's team hard at work

2023 Elected Town Officers

	Term Expires
MODERATOR (1 Year Term)	
Michael J. Puzo	2024
Select Board (3 Year Term)	
Elizabeth F. Klein	2024
Joseph M. Fisher	2025
William C. Ramsey	2026
TOWN CLERK (3 Year Term)	
Carol M. Falvey	2024
BOARD OF ASSESSORS (3 Year Term)	
Joshua M. Ross	2024
Christine M. Roberts	2025
Randall M. Winters	2026
BOARD OF HEALTH (3 Year Term)	
Peter B. Bickford	2024
Rosemary D. Byrne	2025
Elizabeth A. Eldredge	2026
MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD (3 Year Term)	
Laura M. Burns	2024
Michael D. Reive	2025
Tyler R. Herrald (unexpired term)	2026
HOUSING AUTHORITY (5 Year Term)	
Janine A. Suchecki	2024
Megan M. Buhr	2025
Michelle A. Larned	2027
Ruth T. Bennett (Tenant Appointment)	2023
Irma H. Lauter (State Appointment)	2025
SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3 Year Term)	
Kerry J. Ni	2024
Timothy Miller Dempsey	2024
Alyson B. Anderson	2025
Matthew J. Cosman	2025
Nancy Nes Correnti	2025
Michelle Ayer	2026
Jennifer A. Benham	2026

PLANNING BOARD (5 Year Term)

Kevin M. Ellis	2024
Rita S. DaSilva	2025
Gary S. Tondorf-Dick	2026
Gordon M. Carr	2027
Tracy K. Shriver	2028

SEWER COMMISSION (3 Year Term)

Clark Frazier	2024
Kirk J. Shilts	2025
James Henry Byrne II	2026

RECREATION COMMISSION (5 Year Term)

Ryan J. Lynch	2024
Adrienne S. Ramsey	2025
Matthew LeBretton	2026
Stephen P. Buckley	2027
Vicki Donlan	2028

**COMMITTEE TO HAVE CHARGE OF THE INCOME OF
THE HANNAH LINCOLN WHITING FUND (3 Year Term)**

Karen Sadlon	2023
Laurel H. Cosman	2024
Laura Boyle	2026

**TRUSTEES OF THE BATHING BEACH
(Elected at ATM, CH75, Acts of 1934)**

Edward Johnson
Alan Perrault
Adrienne Ramsey

2023 Appointees

Term Expires

ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT STUDY COMMITTEE

Gerry Allen	Diane DiNapoli
Matt Curran	Robyn Maguire
Jenifer Gay Smith, Chair	Tracy Shriver
Beth Roleau	

ADA COORDINATOR (Appt. by Select Board)

Arthur Robert

ADVISORY COMMITTEE (Appt. by Moderator ART 13, 1924)

Nancy MacDonald, Chair	2024
Tina Sherwood, Vice Chair	2024
Brian Stack	2024
Kevin Freytag	2024
Sarah Melia	2024
Jason Price	2025
Brenda Black	2025
Kathleen Curley	2025
Joseph Griffin	2025
Jason Price	2025
Carol Tully	2026
Alan Macdonald	2026
Steven Pohl	2026
Caitlyn Kirk	2026
Judd Caplain	2026

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST (Appt. By Select Board, ART 21 ATM 2007) 2 Year Term

Gregory Waxman	2024
Liz Cullen	2024
John Falvey, Chair	2025
Brigid Ryan	2025
Pamela Bates	2025
Mike Sutton	2025
Liz Klein (Select Board Rep)	

**APPEALS, ZONING BOARD OF
(Appt. By Select Board)**

Robyn S. Maguire, Chair	2024
Paul Healey	2025
Joseph Ruccio	2026

Associate Members (one-year term)

Lauren Galvin	2024
Michael Mercurio	2024
Mario Romania, Jr.	2024
David Ullrich	2024

**AUDIT COMMITTEE
(ART 26, ATM 2010)**

Kathryn Gosselin (Moderator Appt.)	2024
Judd Caplain (Select Board Appt.)	2024
Doug Farrington (Select Board Appt.), Chair	2025
Andrew Sanders (Moderator Appt.)	2025
Wilson Kistler (Moderator Appt.)	2026
Thomas Mayo, Town Administrator, ex-officio	
Susan Nickerson, Town Accountant, ex-officio	

**BARE COVE PARK COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Select Board)**

Edward Matthews	2024
Lauren Murphy	2025
Ray O'Neill, Chair	2025
Michael Cioffi	2026
Claudia Eaton	2026
Katie Puzo	2026

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION
(Appt. By Select Board, 6/15/04)**

Patricia Bray	2025
Margaret Coleman	2025
Patricia Collins	2025
Laura Spaziani, Chair	2025
Carolyn Aliski	2026
Henry Buckley	2026
Carol Waite	2026
Cheryl Russo	2026

BOARD OF HEALTH MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Elizabeth Eldredge, MD

**BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

(Appt. By Select Board)

William Reardon
Chris Daly

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

**(Appt. by Town Administrator under MA State Bldg. Code
780 CMR 5105.1 (for ensuing year))**

Michael Clancy, Building Commissioner
Jerry O'Neill, Local Building Inspector
Robert Egan, Local Building Inspector
Tom McGrath, Local Building Inspector
David Comoletti, Inspector of Wires
David Bennett, Ass't. Inspector of Wires
Anthony Stamatorous, Ass't. Inspector of Wires
Jay Yetman, Plumbing & Gas Inspector
Scott Wilson, Ass't. Plumbing & Gas Inspector

CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Select Board)

John Lawler	2025
David Jones, Chair	2025
Michael Leary	2025
Michael Wilmot	2025
Michelle Balconi (Harbor Media)	
Margaret Adams (School Rep)	

CAPITAL OUTLAY COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Moderator, ART 32 ATM 1956, By-Law 14)

Michael Donovan	2024
Kevin Flaherty	2025
Lyndsey Kruzer	2026

Appt. By Advisory Committee Chair

Carol Tully	2024
Judd Caplain	2024
Lori-Ann Magner, Treasurer/Collector, ex-officio	

CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION

Matthew Curran (Appointed by Moderator)
Vincent Moran (Appointed by Moderator)
Jo-An Helleman (Appointed by Select Board)
Elliot Place (Appointed by Select Board)
Brad Moyer (Member of Energy Action Committee)

Maria Zade (Member of Cleaner Greener Hingham)
 Gary Tondorf-Dick (Member of Planning Board)
 Henry (Bob) Hidell (Member of Conservation Commission)
 Nancy Wiley (Member of Development & Industrial Commission)
 Alyson Anderson (Appointed by School Committee)
 Thomas Morahan (Member of Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant)

CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Carlos DaSilva (Appointed by Moderator)
 Beth Porter (Appointed by Moderator)
 Katharine Reardon (Appointed by Select Board)
 Elliot Place (Appointed by Select Board)
 Brad Moyer (Member of Energy Action Committee)
 Maria Zade (Member of Cleaner Greener Hingham)
 Thomas Morahan (Member of Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant)
 Gary Tondorf-Dick (Member of Planning Board)
 Nancy Freeman (Member of Conservation Commission)
 Nancy Wiley (Member of Development & Industrial Commission)

**COMMISSION ON DISABILITY
 (MGL C40, S8J, ATM 1989, ART. 50)**

Sharon Allen	2024
Megan Baker	2025
Jane McGrath	2025
Stephanie Gertz, Chair	2026
Nicole Nihan	2026
Arthur Robert (appointed Town Official)	2024

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
 (ART38 ATM 2001)**

Julie Strehle (Moderator Appt.), Chair	2025
Kristen Moore (Moderator Appt.)	2026
Eryn Kelley (Select Board Appt.)	2025
David Ellison (Select Board Appt.)	2026
Laurie Freeman (Conservation Comm. Rep.)	
Elizabeth Dings (Historical Comm. Rep.)	
Rita DaSilva (Planning Board. Rep.)	
Meghan Burr (Housing Authority Rep.)	
Vicki Donlan (Recreation Commission Rep.)	

**COMPRESSOR STATION TASK FORCE
 (Appt. by Select Board)**

Turner Bledsoe	Richard Norman
Kristin Casey	Joshua Ross
Mary Farrington	

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
(MGL, C40 S8C, ART 1 STM 1959)**

Caroline Neilsen	2024
Nina Villanova	2024
Crystal Kelly, Chair	2025
Laurie Freeman	2025
Thomas Roby	2026
Henry Hidell	2026
Robert Mosher	2026

**CONSTABLE
(Appt. By Select Board, ART 64 ATM 1991)**

Horatio Hemmings	2024
Kathleen Peloquin	2024

**CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT BOARD
(MGL, C32 S20 4B)**

David Jones	2024
Charlie Cristello (Appointed by Retirement Board)	2024
Eileen A. McCracken (Appointed by Select Board)	2024
Jean Montgomery	2025
Ann MacNaughton, Town Accountant, ex-officio	

**COUNCIL ON AGING
(Appt. By Select Board, ART 13, 17 ATM 1970)**

Karen Johnson	2024
Joshua Ross	2024
Joseph Nevins	2024
David Alschuler, Chair	2025
Warren Millburg	2025
Lucinda King-Frode	2026
Sara Smithson	2026
Leon Merian	2026
Ethel Franks	2026
Elaine Ward	2026
Jean Silverio	2026

**COUNTRY CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Select Board, ATM 1993 By-law 37)**

John J. Bailey	2024
Christine Smith, Chair	2024
Susan Sullivan	2026
George Kay	2026
Stephan White	2025

COURT PROSECUTORS HINGHAM DISTRICT COURT

Hanover Police Dept. - Sgt. Daniel Salvucci, Sgt. Derek Richards
Hull Police Dept. - Officer Kevin Olson
Norwell Police Dept. - Sgt. William Pasteris, Detective Kenneth
Cameraota, Officer Sean Sutton
Rockland Police Dept. - Officer Jeff DiRenzo, Officer Joseph Zielinski
Scituate Police Dept. - Sgt. James Bulman, Sgt. Jeffrey Ciulla

CULTURAL COUNCIL

(Appt. By Select Board, MGL C10 S35C)

Megan Ward	2024
Mary Bell	2024
Jonathan Kirk	2025
Kate Schembri	2026
Kathleen Nugent	2026

DEVELOPMENT & INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

(Appt. By Select Board, 7 members, 5 Year Term)

Michael Tesler	2025
Kevin O'Brien	2025
Daniel McGonagle	2025
Nancy Wiley	2026
Matt Gallagher	2026
Michael Kranzley, Chair	2027

EDUCATION/SCHOLARSHIP FUND

(Appt. by Select Board 11/15/05 MGL C60 S3C)

Margaret Adams, Superintendent
Jennifer Henriksen
Patricia Tomecek

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DIRECTOR OF

Chief Stephen Murphy

ENERGY ACTION COMMITTEE

(ART 41 ATM 2008)

Paul Sprecher, Moderator Appt.	2025
James Byrne, Select Board Appt.	2025
Brad Moyer, Select Board Appt., Chair	2025
Kenneth Carr, Select Board Appt.	2025
Briana Bennett, Light Plant Designee	
Town Accountant-Ann MacNaughton, ex-officio	
School Business Manager, Aisha Oppong, ex-officio	

FIRE CHIEF
Stephen Murphy

FOSTER SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

ART 19 ATM 2017
(Appt. by Select Board)

Linda Hill
Jennifer Murphy

(Appt. by Moderator)

Raymond Estes
Kevin Lynch

(Appt. by School Committee)

Michelle Ayer
Timothy O'Neill
Chris Mercer

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Select Board Annually)

Jim Murphy	William Keough
Jason Caine	Leon Merian
Mary Ellen Carlisle	Erin McGourty
Monica Conyngham	Cassie McDermott
Dewitt DeLawter	Louis O'Dea
George Ford	Police Chief David Jones
Tom Hoffman	Dep. Chief Louis Lachance

GAR HALL TRUSTEES

(Appt. By Select Board, ART 40 ATM 1944)

Scott McMillan	2025
William Koenen	2025
Robert Beal, Jr.	2026

HARBOR DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Select Board, ART 30 ATM 1971)

Katie Doran Cutler	2024
Nick Amdur	2024
Brian Tomasello	2025
Amy Cowan	2025
Marco Boer	2026
Paul Gannon	2026
Allison Koskina	2026

HARBORMASTER-CUSTODIAN OF THE ISLANDS

Kenneth R. Corson, III

ASSISTANT HARBORMASTERS

(Appt. By Select Board)

Joseph P. Driscoll, Head Assistant
Ray Abreu
Bradford Betzner
Meara Conley
Cameron Lumbard
Michael McCue
Michael Nash
Michael Riley
Charlie Sichel
Danny Sousa
James Tien
John Algird, Shellfish Constable and Harbormaster

HAZARDOUS WASTE-MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR

(Appt. By Select Board)

Susan Sarni, Executive Health Officer

HISTORIAN, TOWN

(Appt. By Select Board, ART 2 ATM 1943)

Alexander Macmillan

HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION

(Appt. By Select Board, ART 37 1966 ATM, ART 34 ATM 1967)

Eric Smoczynski (Architect) 2024
Carol Pyles, (Resident in HD) 2025
Justin Aborn (Planning Board Designee) 2025
Catherine Daly (Historical Society Rep) 2025
Daniel Clark (At-large) 2026

Alternate Members

Mary Anne Donaldson (Planning Board Rep.) 2023
Steven Sandler (At-large) 2024
Joshua Blevins (Resident in HDt) 2025

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

(Appt. By Select Board, MGL C40 S8D, ART 21 1974)

Steven Jiranek 2024
Brendan Concannon 2025
Jeannie Ingram, Chair 2026
Robert Stansell 2026
Elizabeth Dings 2026
Kevin Warren 2026

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

John Bradley	2024
Reena Patel	2024
Ava Lydotes	2024
John Marquardt	2025
Tim Miller-Dempsey	2025
Sara Smithson	2025
Stephanie Gertz	2025
Kelly Peguero Alessi	2025
Ruth Bennett	2025
Stephen Leary, Chair	2025
Tien Do-Suarez	2025
Christine Griffin	2025
Ardith Wieworka	2026

LIBRARY, HINGHAM PUBLIC, TRUSTEE OF

Charles B. Abbott, Esq.

Arthur Garrity

David Mehegan

JoAnn C. Mitchell

Jeremy Parker

Elizabeth A. Eldredge

Aylene Calnan, Chair

Mirela Izmerlic

Eric Haskell

Thomas J. Carey, Jr.

Meredith Hollander

Appt. By Moderator

David Janey

Michelle Paterniti

Appt. By Select Board

Alysson Molloy Hussey

Mona Pohl

Judith Sneath

Elizabeth Klein, Select Board Rep., ex-officio

Lori-Ann Magner, Treasurer/Collector, ex-officio

Margaret Adams, Superintendent of Schools, ex-officio

**LINCOLN SCHOOL APTS., BOARD OF MANAGERS
(ART 1 STM 2008)**

Liz Cullen (Afford. Housing Appt.)	2024
Matthew Dillis (Afford. Housing Appt.)	2024
Sheila O'Neil (Moderator Appt.)	2025
Steve Spall (Select Board Appt.)	2024
Ben Jarvis (Select Board Appt.)	2026

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (L.E.P.C.)

(Appt. By Select Board)

Tom Mayo, Select Board Designee
Michelle Monsegur, Broadcast & Print Media
David Jones, Law Enforcement
Stephen Murphy, Director of Emergency Management
Lou LaChance, Firefighting
Jim Sheard, Emergency Medical Services
Susan Sarni, Health
Loni Fournier, Local Environmental
Joan Cooper-Zach, Hospital
Aisha Oppong, Transportation Personnel
Jennifer Young, Director of Elder Services
Tom Morahan, Owners and Operators of Facilities
Randy Sylvester, Department of Public Works
Ken Corson, Harbormaster

**LONG RANGE WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE
CLEANER GREENER HINGHAM**

(Appt. By Moderator, ART 25 ATM 1974, 2 year term)

Maria Zade, Chair	2024
Mark Engel	2024
Katie Gallacher	2024
Anthony George	2024
Janice McPhillips	2026
Alexander King	2026
Jaynika Parekh	2026
Randy Sylvester, Superintendent Public Works, ex-officio	

MBTA ADVISORY BOARD

Vacant, Hingham Representative

MASS BAYS PROGRAM LOCAL GOVERNANCE COMM.

Peter S. Rosen, Hingham Representative
Faith L. Burbank, Alternate Representative

**MASSPORT AUTHORITY COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Select Board, 11/30/2000)**

Vacant, Hingham Representative

MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Gordon Carr, Chair
Liz Klein, Select Board Representative
Nancy Kerber
Jerry Seelen
Deirdre Anderson
Liza O'Reilly

**MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE
(Article 36 ATM 2019)**

Gordon Carr, Chair	Deidre Anderson
Adrienne Ramsey	Michael Kranzley
Liza O'Reilly	Hans Von der Luft
Paul Healey	Bryce Blair
Nancy Kerber	Bob Hidell
Susan Sarni	Liz Klein
Donna Smallwood	Jerry Seelen

**MEMORIAL BELL TOWER COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Select Board Annually, ART 13 ATM 1975)**

Kenneth Drescher, Chair	
Sarah Carolan	2024
Jason Ryan	2024
Martha Ryan	2024
Michael Shilhan	2024
Shawn Wegener	2024

**METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL
(Appt. By Select Board, MGL C161 S7, 3 Year Term)**

Ed Johnson	2024
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**MUNICIPAL HEARINGS OFFICER
(Appt. By Select Board)**

Carol M. Falvey

NAMING BY-LAW COMMITTEE

Victor Baltera
Phil Edmundson, Chair
Wendy Ellison
Christine Falvey
Thomas O'Reilly

**OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION COMMITTEE
(MGL C161 S7, ART 15 ATM 1997)**

Charles Berry (Planning Board Appt.)
Gerald Allen (Conservation Appt.), Chair
Carolyn Nieslen (Select Board Appt.)

PARKING CLERK
(Appt. By Select Board, ART 13 STM 11/16/81)
Carol M. Falvey

PERSONNEL BOARD
(Appt. By Moderator, ART 4 ATM 1970)
Russell Conn 2024
Courtney Orwig 2024
David Pace, Chair 2024
Karen Johnson 2025
Jack Manning 2026

PLYMOUTH COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD REP.
William C. Ramsey

POLICE CHIEF
(Appt. By Select Board)
David Jones

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY BUILDING COMMITTEE
(Appt. by Moderator)
Paul Healey
Joseph Kelly
Talbert Lauter
Bruce MacAloney
(Appt. by Select Board)
Robert Garrity, Chair
Donna Smallwood
Andy Touchette
David Jones, ex-officio
Steve Murphy, ex-officio

PUBLIC WORKS, SUPERINTENDENT OF
(Appt. By Select Board, MGL C41 S66)
Randy Sylvester

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
(Appt. by Select Board, MGL C51 S15, 18)
Judith Nims 2023
Laura Marwill 2024
Lucinda King-Frode 2025
Carol M. Falvey, Town Clerk 2024

**ROUTE 3A TASK FORCE
(Appt. by Select Board)**

Judith Sneath, Chair	Paul Healey
Deirdre Anderson	Alan Perrault
Bryce Blair	J.R. Frey, Town Engineer

**SCHOLARSHIP FUND COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Select Board, ART 26 ATM 1975)**

John Fitzsimmons	2024
Roger Nastou	2025
Matthew McGonagle, Chair	2025
Francis Gaul, Jr.	2025
Jeff Swett	2026
Lori-Ann Magner, Treasurer	Statutory

**SENIOR CENTER BUILDING COMMITTEE
(Appt. by Moderator) (Appt. by Select Board)**

Vicki Donlan	Beth Rouleau
Clement McCarey	Sally O'Hare
Jean Silverio	Tom Carey, Chair
Stephen Young	Jennifer Young, ex-officio

**SHADE TREE COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Select Board)**

James R. Huse, Chair	2024
Elisa Fontanes	2024
Michael Studley	2023
Philip Shute	2023

**SOUTH SHORE RECYCLING COOPERATIVE
(Appt. By Select Board)**

Stephen Messinger
Randy Sylvester

**SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER
(Appt. by Select Board)**

Leslie Badger	David Horte	John Norris
Kenneth Corson	George Kelley	Matthew Puleo
Joseph Driscoll	Robert Mansfield	James Tian
Ryan Baring	Daniel Martini	Jeffrey Treanor
Douglas Comman	William Morgan	Joseph Turco
Brian Doherty	Michael Murray	Eric Wiessmeyer
Matthew Galvin	John Norkaitis	Steven Wohlgemuth

TAXATION AID COMMITTEE

Chandrasen Gajria
Rachel Sadhwani
Lori-Ann Magner, Treasurer/Collector, ex-officio

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Ann MacNaughton

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Thomas Mayo

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Select Board)

David Jones, Chair
Jeff Kilroy (Police Rep.)
David Levenson (Fire Rep.)
Rita DaSilva (Planning Board Rep.)
Randy Sylvester (DPW Rep.)
JR Frey (Engineering Rep.)
Daniel Miller Dempsey 2024

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Lori-Ann Magner

TREE PRESERVATION STUDY COMMITTEE

Becky Mullaley Priya Howell
Isabel Robinson Heather Kaas
Katie McBrine

TREE WARDEN

Randy Sylvester, Superintendent of Public Works

VETERANS COUNCIL

(MGL Ch. 115, Sec. 12, Appt. by Select Board)

Mary Ann Blackmur 2024
Thomas Hoffman 2025
Matthew Sexton 2025
Thomas Burbank 2025

WATER TRANSITION & EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Jon Asher (Appointed by Moderator) 2024
Joe Welch (Appointed by Moderator) 2024
David von Loesecke (Appointed by Moderator) 2025
Jim Taylor, Chair (Appointed by Select Board) 2025
Scott Cyr (Appointed by Select Board) 2026

**WEIGHTS & MEASURES INSPECTOR
(Appt. By Select Board, MGL C98 S34)**

Robert Egan

WEIR RIVER ESTUARY PARK COMMITTEE

Mark Buonagurio, Hingham Representative	2024
Sharon Burbank Allen, Hingham Representative	2025
Vacant, Hingham Representative	2022

WEIR RIVER WATER SYSTEM CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD

Charles Culpin	2024
Steven Weiss	2025
Donna Pursel (Hull)	2023
Stephen Girardi (Cohasset)	2024
John Struzziery (Hull)	2024
Sam Mullin	2026

WHISTLEBLOWER COMMITTEE

Dan Dwyer (Moderator Appt.)
Doug Farrington (Chair of Audit Committee)
David Pace (Chair of Personnel Board)

Annual Town Meeting April 24, 2023

Registered Voters: 19,405

Attendance: 1,377

The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Hingham was held indoors at Hingham High School, 17 Union Street, on April 24, 2023. Michael J. Puzo, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., a quorum being present. The invocation was given by Rabbi Erik Berk of the Congregation Sha'aray Shalom. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by William C. Ramsey, Select Board Chair. The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 p.m. and resumed at Hingham High School on April 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., a quorum being present. The following actions were taken on the articles contained in the warrant.

ARTICLES INDEX

1. Hannah Lincoln Whiting Fund/Trustees of the Bathing Beach
2. Assume Liability for DCR on Rivers, Harbors, Etc.
3. Reports of Various Town Committees
4. Report of the Personnel Board
5. Salaries of Town Officers
6. Budgets
7. Transfer from the Stabilization Fund
8. Disbursement of Electric Light Department Receipts
9. Building Department Revolving Fund
10. Department of Elder Services Revolving Fund
11. Transfer Funds to the Reserve Fund
12. Establishment of a Tax Mitigation Stabilization Fund
13. Establishment of a Capitalization Fund
14. Sale of 32 Rockwood Road
15. Senior Center Feasibility
16. Extension of Property Tax Relief: Senior Means-Tested Tax Exemption
17. Acceptance of M.G.L. c.59, s. 5C½
18. Acceptance of M.G.L. c.59, s. 5N
19. Community Preservation Committee Recommendations
20. Amend General By-law Article 18: Fees for Plumbing and Gas Permits
21. Amend General By-law Article 29: Electrical Permit Fees
22. Naming By-law
23. Climate Action Implementation
24. Permitting and Design of Inner Harbor Coastal Structures
25. Plastic Bottle Ban By-law: Commercial Sale or Distribution
26. Route 3A Sewer Project
27. Purchase of 30 Summer Street

28. Affordable Housing Restriction: 270 Central Street
29. Amend Zoning By-law: Accessory Dwelling Units
30. Amend Zoning By-law: Minimum Occupancy for Residential Uses
31. Amend Zoning By-law: Storage of Unregistered Vehicles
32. Amend Zoning By-law: Downtown Hingham Overlay District
33. Amend Zoning By-law: Hingham Harbor Overlay District
34. Amend Zoning By-law: Electric Vehicle Charging Parking Requirements
35. Acceptance of Easements

ARTICLE 1

VOTED: That Laura Boyle, 22 Westmoreland Road, be re-elected a member of the Committee to have charge of the income of the Hannah Lincoln Whiting Fund for a term of three years.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 2

VOTED: That the Town, in accordance with, and only to the extent permitted by, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 91, Section 29, as amended, assume liability for all damages that may be incurred by work to be performed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the improvement, development, maintenance, and protection of tidal and non-tidal rivers and streams, harbors, tide waters, foreshores, and shores along a public beach within the Town, in accordance with Section 11 of said Chapter 91, and that the Select Board is hereby authorized to execute and deliver a bond of such indemnity to the Commonwealth assuming such liability.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 3

VOTED: That the reports, if any, of the existing Town Committees and Commissions and the Town Historian be received; and that all of said bodies and posts of government be continued.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 4

VOTED: That the report of the Personnel Board, a copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office, be accepted; that the amendment of the

Personnel By-law, and any Cost Item agreements reached by the Personnel Board in collective bargaining, which may be embodied or referred to in said report, be approved and adopted in their entirety, such approval and adoption to become effective July 1, 2023, or as otherwise specified in said report or agreements; that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$302,497 for the purpose of this vote; and that the Town Accountant is hereby authorized and instructed to allocate said sum to and among the several Personnel Services and Expense Accounts in such amounts, respectively, as are proper and required to meet such amendments and to comply with such collective bargaining agreements as may be entered into by the Select Board on behalf of the Town.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 5

VOTED: That the salary from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, for each of the following officers shall be at the rates below stated or provided after the name of the office.

Select Board: at the annual rate of \$2,000 each, except that the Chair shall receive an annual rate of \$2,500 for the period of incumbency.

Board of Assessors: at the annual rate of \$1,800 each, except that the Chair shall receive an annual rate of \$2,000 for the period of incumbency.

Town Clerk¹: in accordance with the compensation rates established in Grade 10 of the Town of Hingham Classification and Salary Plan of the Personnel By-law.

Municipal Light Board: at the annual rate of \$214 each (to be paid from the receipts of the Electric Light Department).

¹ Town Clerk, when serving as a member of the Board of Registrars of Voters, shall be paid for such duties in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 41, Section 19G.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 6

VOTED: That the Town raise, appropriate and/or transfer for each of the following purposes, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2023 (FY24), the sum of money stated therefor, provided that, a one-time appropriation and transfer of Opioid Settlement Funds in the total amount of \$250,577* is hereby made to balance the FY24 budget as allocated below within the Health Department, and provided that, where a transfer appropriation is

stated, the amount so indicated shall be transferred or specifically appropriated as stated; also that the authority is hereby given to turn in vehicles and equipment in partial payment for vehicles and equipment purchased in those cases where a turn-in is stated; and provided that any amount or portion thereof appropriated to a sub-account and included in a numbered account as set forth below may be transferred to another sub-account under the same numbered account with the approval of the Select Board and the Advisory Committee.

*Per conversation with Thomas Guilfoyle from the Department on Revenue on November 20, 2023, these funds are not available for appropriation in FY2024

A Majority Vote

ARTICLE 7

VOTED: That the Town transfer the sum of \$178,836 from the Stabilization Fund for the purpose of paying interest on outstanding excluded debt bonds in order to reduce the need to raise these funds through the FY24 tax rate.

A Two-Thirds Vote Required

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 8

VOTED: That, with the exception of the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant's (HMLP) PILOT, to which no less than \$450,000 is hereby transferred to the Town's General Fund, all funds received by the HMLP during the 12-month period commencing July 1, 2023, be appropriated to said HMLP, the same to be expended by the Manager of said HMLP under the control and direction of the Municipal Light Board, for the expenses of the Plant during said period, as defined in sections 57 and 57A of chapter 164 of the Massachusetts 32 General Laws, and, if there should be any surplus receipts at the end of said period, such amount as is deemed necessary shall be transferred to the Plant's net investment in capital assets and appropriated and used for such additions to the Plant as may be authorized by the Municipal Light Board during said period.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 9

VOTED: That the Town limit the total amount that may be spent from the Building Department Revolving Fund, established under Article 18 of the General By-laws, to \$350,000 during Fiscal Year 2024.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 10

VOTED: That the Town limit the total amount that may be spent from the Elder Services Revolving Fund for Fiscal Year 2024 to \$80,000.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 11

VOTED: That the Town transfer the sum of \$749,194 from available funds to the Town's Reserve Fund for use during Fiscal Year 2023.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 12

VOTED: That the Town establish a "Tax Mitigation Stabilization Fund" under M.G.L. c. 40, § 5B for the purpose of setting aside funds for future appropriation by Town Meeting in order to reduce the need to raise these funds through the annual tax rate and to transfer \$1,000,000 from available reserves into said "Tax Mitigation Stabilization Fund."

**A Two-Thirds Vote Required
Motion Adopted**

ARTICLE 13

VOTED: That the Town establish a "Capital Stabilization Fund" under M.G.L. c. 40, § 5B for the purpose of setting aside funds for future appropriation by Town Meeting in order to pay for capital equipment and/or capital projects, and further, will the Town accept the provisions of the fourth paragraph of said M.G.L. c. 40, § 5B for the purpose of dedicating all general fund receipts from the sale of tangible supplies under M.G.L. c. 30B, § 15 and Town of Hingham General By-law Article 5A, Section 8 (which includes the sale of motor vehicles, machinery, computer equipment, furniture and other items of personal property but

excluding real property) into said "Capital Stabilization Fund" effective July 1, 2023 and thereafter.

**A Two-Thirds Vote Required
Motion Adopted**

ARTICLE 14

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Select Board to sell, lease, or otherwise transfer that parcel of land located at 32 Rockwood Road and shown as Lot 56 on Assessors' Map 62 for residential use and provided further that the proceeds from any such sale, lease or other transfer shall be deposited into the "Capital Stabilization Fund" if such fund has been established by Town Meeting; otherwise, said proceeds shall be deposited into the General Fund.

A Majority Vote

ARTICLE 15

VOTED: That the Town vote to amend the appropriation of \$525,000 previously approved under Article 14 of the Town of Hingham 2020 Annual Town Meeting to expand the purpose for which said appropriation may be expended as follows: Said appropriation may be expended by the Select Board for any expenses of feasibility, design, architectural, engineering, and other services related to feasibility studies through the issuance of bid documents for a Senior Center to be located on any property owned by the Town of Hingham.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 16

VOTED: That the Town vote to reaffirm the provisions of Chapter 381 of the Acts of 2020 to allow for the continuance of the existing senior means-tested property tax exemption and to further authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in accordance with Article LXXXIX, Article II, Section 8 (M.G.L.A. Const. Amend. Art. 2, Section 8) of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth, to amend Chapter 381 of the Acts of 2020 to delete the expiration date contained in SECTION 6 of said Act in substantially the following form, provided that the General Court may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition:

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 381 OF THE ACTS
OF 2020
TO CONTINUE THE TOWN OF HINGHAM SENIOR MEANS-TESTED
PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in
General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as
follows:*

That SECTION 6 of Chapter 381 of the Acts of 2020 is hereby
deleted to remove the expiration date of said Act to allow for the
continuance of the Town of Hingham Senior Means-Tested
Property Tax Exemption.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 17

VOTED: That the Town accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59,
Section 5C½ which provides for an additional real estate exemption for
taxpayers who are granted personal exemptions on their domiciles under
M.G. L. c. 59, Section 5, including certain blind persons, veterans,
surviving spouses and seniors, and to provide that the additional
exemption shall be up to 100 percent of the personal exemption, to be
effective for exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after
July 1, 2023.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 18

VOTED: That the Town confirm acceptance of the provisions of M.G.L. c.
59, § 5N, specifically including the last paragraph thereof, which
authorizes the Select Board to establish a program to allow veterans to
volunteer to provide services to the Town of Hingham in return for a
reduction in the real property tax obligations of that veteran, and, further,
to adjust said exemption by allowing an approved representative to
provide such services on behalf of a veteran physically unable to provide
such services, and by allowing the maximum reduction for said real
property tax bill to be based upon 125 volunteer service hours in any given
tax year.

A Majority Vote

ARTICLE 19

VOTED: That the Town appropriate, borrow and/or set aside for later spending a sum of money from the available Community Preservation Funds remaining after payment of debt service for bonds and/or notes issued under M.G.L. c. 44B for the following items recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023:

- 1) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$50,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the Community Preservation Committee for its administrative and operating expenses;
- 2) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$735,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund for community housing purposes to be used by the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust ("HAHT") for the HAHT Opportunity Fund;
- 3) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$15,592 from the Community Preservation General Fund for community housing purposes to be used by the Hingham Housing Authority for exterior restoration to the house located at 132 Scotland Street, Map 190/Lot 26;
- 4) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$12,964 from the Community Preservation General Fund for community housing purposes to be used by the Hingham Housing Authority for exterior restoration to the garage located at 132 Scotland Street, Map 190/Lot 26;
- 5) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$7,727 from the Community Preservation General Fund for community housing purposes to be used by the Hingham Housing Authority for boiler replacement at 132 Scotland Street, Map 190/Lot 26;
- 6) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$40,535 from the Community Preservation General Fund for community housing purposes to be used by the Hingham Housing Authority to install a fire door hold-open system for the Thaxter Park Elderly Housing development located at 30 Thaxter Street, Map 60/Lot 15;
- 7) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$178,945 from the Community Preservation General Fund for open space/recreational use purposes to be used by the Hingham Recreation Commission to reconstruct the basketball court at Cronin Field;

- 8) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$55,500 from the Community Preservation General Fund for open space/recreational use purposes to be used by the Hingham Recreation Commission for a feasibility study and design of pickleball courts;
- 9) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$21,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund for historic resources purposes to be used by the Hingham Public Library to digitize Hingham newspapers on microfilm;
- 10) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$93,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund for historic resources purposes to be used by the Hingham Historical Commission to paint and restore the former Tree and Park Barn located at 8 Short Street, Map 81/Lot 140;
- 11) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$109,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund for historic resources purposes to be used by Hingham Girl Scout House, Inc., to rehabilitate to meet Federal and state code regulations of the Americans with Disability Act the Hingham Girl Scout House located at 26 Burr Road, Map 80/Lot 89.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 20

VOTED: That the Town amend Article 18 of the Town of Hingham General By-laws by deleting Article 18 of the existing General By-laws in its entirety and replacing said Article with the language and fees set forth below:

GENERAL BY-LAW ARTICLE 18
FEES FOR PLUMBING AND GAS PERMITS

Residential Plumbing and Gas Fees

1 fixture (minimum) Plumbing & Gas	\$50
Each additional fixture	\$15
New house complete (up to 2,500 sq.ft.)	\$200
New house complete (up to 3,500 sq.ft.)	\$300
New house complete (up to 4,500 sq.ft.)	\$400
New house complete (over 4,500 sq.ft.)	\$500
Site visit	\$50

Re-inspection fee	\$100
Domestic water heater	\$50 + gas \$50 = \$100
All gas requires a test	\$15 (test with a fixture) \$75 (test alone)
Underground Plumbing & Gas	\$60
Work started without permit	Double fee +\$150

Commercial Plumbing and Gas Fees

1 fixture (minimum)	\$60
Each additional fixture	\$20
Site visit	\$60
Re-inspection fee	\$100
Underground per inspection	\$75
Commercial water heater	\$60 + gas \$60 = \$120
Work started without permit	Double fee +150

The fees set forth herein may be changed and adjusted from time to time by the Select Board.

In accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, s. 53E½, there is hereby established in the Building Department a Building Department Revolving Fund for the following purposes:

1. For the receipt of all fees from plumbing and gas inspections (under General By-law Article 18) and electrical inspections (under General By-law Article 29) performed by Inspectors within the Building Department.
2. For the expenditures to pay wages, salaries, and fringe benefits (as applicable) for said Inspectors and associated department staff for performance of their services and for the expenditures to pay for equipment to be used by said Inspectors and/or associated department staff for the performance of their services.

The Building Commissioner shall be authorized to expend from said Revolving Fund for said purposes in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, s. 53E½. The Building Commissioner shall report all receipts and expenditures of said Revolving Fund to the Select Board at the end of each Fiscal Year.

A Majority Vote

ARTICLE 21

VOTED: That the Town amend Article 29 of the Town of Hingham General By-laws by deleting the Fee Table in Article 29 of the existing General By-laws in its entirety and replacing said Fee Table with the following language:

GENERAL BY-LAW ARTICLE 29
ELECTRICAL PERMIT FEES

Residential

Base Residential Fee	\$50
Re-inspection fee	\$100
Service, temp, or partial 100 amp	\$60
Service 200 amp	\$70
Service over 200 amp	\$250
New house complete and multi-family per unit up to 200 AMP service	\$275
New house complete with 300 amp Service	\$325
New house complete with 400 amp Service	\$375
Trenches each 100 feet	\$75
Addition/remodel/out building (i.e. shed or garage)	\$125
Generator	\$75
Septic System Wiring Motor/Pump	\$60
Alarm Systems, Fire and Burglar	\$60
Single Appliance	\$60
Water Heater	\$60
Heating System	\$60
Solar Panel installation	\$200
Swimming Pools (in-ground)	\$250
Swimming Pools (above ground)	\$125

Automotive chargers	\$60
Concrete encased electrode (underground)	\$60
After hours inspection	\$200
Work started w/o permit (permit must be obtained w/i 5 days of commencing work)	Double fee +150
<u>Commercial</u>	
Base Commercial Fee	\$100
Re-inspection required	\$100
Service, temp, or partial 200 amp or less	\$150
Service 201-400 amp	\$200
Service 401 amp and up	\$250
Commercial project not including service 1.50% of electrical contract up to \$100,000 and \$3.00 per thousand over \$100,000	
After hours inspection	\$200
Work started w/o permit (permit must be obtained w/i 5 days of commencing work)	Double fee +150

The fees set forth herein may be changed and adjusted from time to time by the Select Board.

A Majority Vote

ARTICLE 22

VOTED: That the Town vote to amend the General By-laws of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 13, 1939, as heretofore amended, as follows:

To delete Article 40 of the General By-laws of the Town of Hingham in its entirety and insert in its place the following new Article 40:

GENERAL BY-LAW ARTICLE 40
THE NAMING OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC LANDS

SECTION 1. Purpose:

The naming of Public Buildings and Public Lands is an important matter that deserves thoughtful attention. It is the purpose of this By-law to reserve the naming or renaming of Public Buildings and Public Lands for circumstances that will best serve the interests of the Town and to ensure a worthy and enduring legacy. Naming should reflect positively on the Town's public image. This By-law is enacted to establish the process by which, in naming or renaming Public Buildings and Public Lands, the Town seeks to recognize individuals, entities, locations, or events.

It is important that the decision to name a Public Building or Public Land is achieved through a process that is transparent, collaborative, inclusive and based on a public process.

SECTION 2. Definitions:

1. "Naming" – the act of assigning a Name to any Public Building or Public Land as defined in this by-law.
2. "Name" – a word or phrase that recognizes one or more individuals, entities, locations, or events.
3. "Renaming" – the act of removing or redesignating the Name of any Public Building or Public Land.
4. "Public Building" – any building or structure owned by the Town of Hingham.
5. "Public Land" – any real property owned by the Town of Hingham, including, but not limited to, playgrounds, parks, courts, athletic fields, wharves or piers, intersections and medians, and driveways on Public Lands, but not including public ways regulated by Article 10 of the General By-laws.
6. "Widely Advertised" - for the purpose of this bylaw, a public meeting notice shall be valid and shall be considered Widely Advertised if duly posted in accordance with 940 CMR 29.03(2)(b). Nothing in this bylaw precludes the town from choosing to distribute, advertise or disseminate additional public meeting notices through other means in accordance with 940 CMR 29.03(2)(c).

SECTION 3. Procedure, Exemptions, and Other Requirements:

1. The Naming or Renaming of any Public Building or Public Land shall be by majority vote at an Annual or Special Town Meeting.

2. Any proposed warrant article to name a Public Building or Public Land shall be submitted to the Select Board for its review and recommendation as to the appropriateness thereof. Following a Widely Advertised public meeting, and with the advice of the board(s), committee(s), or department(s) with care, custody, management, and control of the Public Building or Public Land, the Select Board shall forward its recommendation to the Annual or Special Town Meeting.
3. No Public Building or Public Land shall be named for any person employed by the Town of Hingham at the time the Naming proposal is being reviewed or approved hereunder.
4. The Naming or Renaming of individual rooms, areas or sub-areas within a Public Building, or areas or sub-areas associated with any Public Land, shall be subject to approval by the board(s), committee(s), or department(s) having care, custody, management, and control over the same, and paragraphs 1 and 2 of this section shall not apply, provided that:
 - (a) such room, area, or sub-area within a Public Building constitutes less than 25% of the usable square footage of the Public Building or such area or sub-area associated with any Public Land constitutes less than 25% of the total square footage of the parcel comprising said Public Land; provided that in the case of an ancillary Public Building located on the same parcel of Public Land as the primary Public Building, the 25% threshold shall be calculated based on usable square footage of the ancillary Public Building as compared to the total of all other usable square footage of all Public Buildings located on the same parcel of Public Land;
 - (b) no room, area, or sub-area shall be named for any person employed by the Town of Hingham at the time the Name is being reviewed or approved hereunder,
 - (c) a widely advertised public meeting, posted no less than 14 days in advance, is held at which such Naming or Renaming is considered and acted upon by said board(s), committee(s), or department(s); and
 - (d) any town resident, objecting to such Naming or Renaming by the board(s), committee(s), or department(s) may, within 10 days thereafter, appeal the action in writing to the Select Board, which shall, after a Widely Advertised public meeting, approve or reject the action.

5. The following may be installed upon approval by the board(s), committee(s), or department(s) having care, custody, management, and control over the Public Building or Public Land: (a) benches, flagpoles, trees or other markers dedicated to individual(s); and (b) bricks installed in walkways and similar hardscape areas on Public Land as part of a public fundraising or like program and which display the name(s) of the donor or a person to whom the brick is dedicated. Such a brick installation may be approved as a whole project (rather than each individual brick) provided that the bricks are limited to name(s) and not phrases or statements.
6. The Select Board shall, after a Widely Advertised public meeting, adopt a written policy regarding additional procedures, specifications and standards to be followed by all boards, committees, or departments in acting under paragraphs 4 and 5 of this Section 3, including, but not limited to, a process beyond the minimum requirements of 940 CMR 29.03(2)(b) to Widely Advertise any Naming or Renaming proposal.

A Standing Vote:

Yes: 231

No: 45

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 23

VOTED: That the Town vote to establish a Hingham Climate Action Commission charged with supporting, overseeing, and reporting on (1) the Town's implementation of the Climate Action Plan, developed and adopted pursuant to Article 14 of the 2021 Annual Town Meeting, by updating the Town's carbon footprint as a measure of progress on the implementation the Climate Action Plan and progress towards our Net Zero goal, and (2) any updates and amendments to the plan in accordance with the recommendations and processes set forth therein; with such commission organized as follows: (a)(i) nine voting members consisting of one member of Energy Action Committee or its designee, one member of Cleaner Greener Hingham or its designee, one member of the Planning Board or its designee; one member of the Conservation Commission or its designee; one member of the Development & Industrial Commission or its designee, with each of the above to be selected by their respective board or committee; and four residents, each to be appointed to a two-year term, with two selected by the Select Board and two selected by the Moderator; and (ii) three non-voting members consisting of one member representing the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant as designated by the Hingham Municipal Light Board; one member of the School Committee or its designee; and the Sustainability Coordinator or any successor role

thereto who would be responsible for updating the Town's carbon footprint; and (b) the Hingham Climate Action Commission shall be led by a Chair and a Vice Chair, with the Vice Chair performing the duties of the Chair when the Chair is not available, each to be elected by majority vote of all nine voting members present at the first duly called meeting of the Hingham Climate Action Commission and subsequently thereafter upon any successful motion for a new election to be held for one or both positions.

A Majority Vote

ARTICLE 24

VOTED: That the Town appropriate or transfer from the Municipal Waterways Improvement and Maintenance Fund a sum of money not to exceed \$360,000 to be expended by the Select Board to be used for the permitting and design of Inner Harbor Coastal Structures to address safety issues, sea level rise, and harborside activities.

A Majority Vote

ARTICLE 25

VOTED: That the Town vote to amend the General By-laws of the Town of Hingham by adding Article 45 as written below:

GENERAL BY-LAW ARTICLE 45
COMMERCIAL SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF WATER
IN SINGLE-USE BOTTLES

Section 1. Purpose and Intent

The purpose of this by-law is to reduce the common use of single-use plastic water bottles and to promote the use of reusable bottles by consumers, thereby reducing local land and marine pollution, reducing waste, protecting the town's unique natural beauty and irreplaceable natural resources, and improving the quality of life for the residents of the Town of Hingham.

Section 2. Definitions

Single-use plastic bottle means a beverage container made from any type of plastic resin.

Reusable bottle means a beverage container that is either (1) made from a plastic alternative such as stainless steel or glass, or (2) made of plastic

other than polyethylene or polyvinyl chloride that is durable, non-toxic, and generally considered a food grade material.

Non-carbonated water means water which, by nature and after possible treatment and packaging, taking into consideration usual technical tolerance, does not contain free carbon dioxide in amounts larger than are necessary to keep the hydrogen carbonate salts present in the water dissolved.

Section 3. Sale Restrictions

Effective on January 1, 2024, it shall be unlawful to sell non-carbonated, unflavored drinking water in single-use plastic bottles of less than one gallon in the Town of Hingham.

Section 4. Exemptions

Sales or distribution of non-carbonated, unflavored drinking water in single-use plastic bottles occurring subsequent to a declaration of an emergency (by the Emergency Management Director or other duly authorized Town, county, commonwealth or federal official) affecting the availability and/or quality of drinking water for residents of the Town of Hingham shall be exempt from this by-law until seven calendar days after the declaration has ended.

Section 5. Enforcement; violations and penalties; inspection of businesses.

- A. Enforcement of this by-law shall be the responsibility of the Town Administrator or their designee. The Town Administrator shall determine the inspection process to be followed, incorporating the process into other Town administration duties as appropriate.
- B. Any establishment or person conducting sales in violation of this by-law shall be subject to a non-criminal disposition fine as specified in M.G.L. c. 40 § 21D. The following penalties apply:
 - (1) First violation: written warning.
 - (2) Second violation: \$100 Fine.
 - (3) Third violation: \$200 Fine.
 - (4) Fourth and subsequent violations: \$300 Fine.
- C. Each day a violation continues constitutes a separate violation, incurring additional fines. Any such fines collected shall be payable to the Town of Hingham.
- D. All businesses may be routinely inspected in accordance with applicable law until the Town Administrator or their designee deems the inspection to no longer be required.

Section 6. Effective Date
This by-law shall become effective January 1, 2024.

Standing Vote:
Yes: 266
No: 95
Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 26

VOTED: That the Town appropriate an amount up to \$900,000 for the costs of designing, engineering and/or permitting the main sewer line and appurtenances thereto located in the Route 3A highway. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under M.G.L. c. 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor and provided further that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any eligible grant funds received under the federal American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") through Plymouth County which grant funds are hereby appropriated for said purpose.

A Two-Thirds Vote Required
A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 27

VOTED: That the Town (1) authorize, but not require, the Select Board to acquire by purchase the property located at 30 Summer Street, shown on Assessors Map 51 as Lot 5, Hingham, Massachusetts, substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions of a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the Town and Button Island 4, LLC on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems in the best interest of the Town; (2) to authorize, but not require, the Select Board to grant and accept all easements necessary to develop said property; and (3) appropriate an amount not to exceed \$1,550,000 to be used by the Select Board to acquire said property and to take all actions necessary to complete said purchase. To meet said appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said sum under Massachusetts General Laws chapter 44, section 7 or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

A Two-Thirds Vote Required
Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 28

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, the Select Board to release those real property restrictions and right to purchase for 270 Central Street, Hingham, MA as contained in a deed from the Town of Hingham to South Shore Habitat for Humanity, Inc. recorded at the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds in Book 13210, Page 109, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 40, § 15A, provided that said restrictions shall be replaced with a new deed restriction and right to purchase in a standard form approved by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, all on such terms and conditions as determined by the Select Board.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 29

VOTED: To amend the main motion as follows:

PART A: That the Town amend Section V-K (Accessory Dwelling Units) of the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

- Item 1: By replacing the introductory sentence of Section 1 in its entirety with the following: "The purpose of permitting dwelling units accessory to single-family dwellings is to:"
- Item 2: By amending Section 1.a to replace the clause "without adding" to "without significantly adding" and to replace the clause "with family members (as defined in this Section V-K)" with the clause "with others".
- Item 3: By replacing Section 1.b in its entirety with the following:
 - b. Provide housing units for persons with diverse housing needs including, without limitation, persons with mental and physical disabilities.
- Item 4: By deleting Section 2.b (definition of "family member") in its entirety and relettering existing subsections c and d as subsections b and c.
- Item 5: By amending Section 3.b to delete the subsection reference "(i)" while retaining the text thereafter and to delete the

clause "and (ii) that the other unit shall be occupied by a family member".

Item 6: By replacing the title of Section 4 and subsections 4.a through 4.d in their entirety with the following:

4. Dimensional and Design Requirements Applicable to all Accessory Dwelling Units
 - a. The architectural character and scale of a single-family dwelling use shall be maintained.
 - b. All stairways accessing an accessory dwelling unit above the ground floor of a single-family dwelling shall be enclosed within the exterior walls of the single-family dwelling; provided, however, that the Board of Appeals may waive this requirement for an unenclosed stairway on the rear of a structure to access an accessory dwelling unit located on the second floor of an existing building.
 - c. The maximum area of an accessory dwelling unit shall be the lesser of 875 square feet or 35% of the gross floor area of the principal dwelling. For this calculation, the gross floor area shall be as defined in Section VI of this By-Law.
 - d. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section III-I,2. of the Zoning By-Law, no accessory dwelling unit shall be created by any extension of a non-conforming building dimension, including the front, side or rear yard setback.

Item 7: By replacing Section 4.f in its entirety with the following:

- f. Water and sewer utilities serving the accessory dwelling unit shall not be metered separately from the principal dwelling; provided, however, that the Board of Appeals may waive this requirement for an accessory dwelling unit within a lawfully existing structure which already maintains separately metered utilities, if the request is accompanied by the written approval of the appropriate utility, upon a finding that a waiver advances the purposes of this bylaw.

Item 8: By amending the second sentence of Section 5.a to replace the words "nine months" with the words "six months" and to delete the last clause which states "provided that the dwelling

units may only be occupied by family members of the owner during the owner's absence".

Item 9: By inserting at the end of Section 5 a new subsection e as follows:

- e. The accessory dwelling unit or the principal dwelling, whichever is not owner-occupied, shall have a minimum occupancy or rental term of 6 months.

PART B: That the Town amend the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, to amend Section V-K (Accessory Dwelling Units) to modify certain provisions thereof as necessary to allow detached accessory dwelling units by special permit as follows:

Item 1: By replacing the introductory sentence of Section 1 in its entirety with the following: "The purpose of permitting dwelling units accessory to single-family dwellings is to:"

Item 2: By amending Section 1.a to replace the words "the appearance of the dwelling" with the words "the appearance of the residential property".

Item 3: By replacing the definition of "accessory dwelling unit" in Section 2.a in its entirety with the following:

- a. An "accessory dwelling unit" is a second self-contained dwelling unit located either within a single-family dwelling or a detached structure accessory thereto, which second dwelling unit is subordinate in size to the principal dwelling and otherwise complies with the provisions of this Section V-K.

Item 4: By amending Section 3.b. to replace the words "in which the accessory dwelling is proposed" to "where the accessory dwelling unit is proposed".

Item 5: By replacing Section 3.c in its entirety as follows:

- c. The area of the lot on which the existing single-family dwelling is located shall not be less than five thousand (5,000) square feet for an accessory dwelling unit within the principal structure or ten thousand (10,000) square feet for an accessory dwelling unit in a detached

accessory structure. In the case of new construction, the area of the lot shall comply with the applicable minimum lot size for the single-family zoning district in which the single-family dwelling is proposed.

Item 6: By deleting in Section 3.e the words "within a single-family dwelling and".

Item 7: By amending Section 3.f to insert the words "connection with" as follows:

f. In Residence District D and in Business Districts A and B accessory dwelling units are only permitted in connection with preexisting nonconforming single-family dwellings.

Item 8: By amending the first clause of Section 4.b in its entirety as follows: "All stairways accessing an accessory dwelling unit above the ground floor of a single-family dwelling or detached accessory structure shall be enclosed within the exterior walls of the building".

Item 9: By amending the first clause of Section 4.e in its entirety as follows:

e. Any new entrance for the accessory dwelling unit or principal dwelling shall be located to the side or rear of the single-family dwelling or detached accessory structure.

Item 10: By inserting a new Section 5 as follows and renumbering existing Section 5 as Section 6:

5. Additional Requirements Applicable to Accessory Dwelling Units in Detached Accessory Structures

The Board of Appeals may only issue a Special Permit A1 for a detached accessory dwelling unit that meets the following dimensional and design requirements:

a. The detached accessory dwelling unit shall comply with all building dimensions, including the front, side or rear yard setback and height limitations. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Permit Granting Authority may waive the preceding requirements for an accessory dwelling unit within a lawfully existing nonconforming detached accessory

structure to no less than 10' from a side or rear property line upon a finding that there will be no potential negative visual or auditory impacts associated with the accessory dwelling unit that cannot be mitigated.

- b. The detached accessory dwelling unit shall be located a minimum of 10' from the principal dwelling and (i) to the rear of the principal single-family dwelling or (ii) to the side of the single-family dwelling at a minimum position 10' further back from the front plane of the single-family dwelling.

Item 11: By amending former Section 5.b by replacing the reference to "subsection 5.a" with a reference to "subsection 6.a".

A Motion to Amend the Recommendation was made

A Majority Vote Required

A Standing Vote:

Yes: 205

No: 100

The Motion to Amend Carried

Then Came a Vote on the Substitute Main Motion (printed above)

A Two-thirds Vote Required on Part A

Motion Adopted

A Majority Vote Required on Part B

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 30

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

Item 1 By replacing Section III-A, 1. under the Schedule of Uses in its entirety as follows:

- 1. Residential, subject to Special Condition 4 of Section III-B

Item 2 By replacing the parenthetical in Section 4.22 under Section III-A with "(Subject to Special Condition 4 and Special Condition 7 of

Section III-B)”

Item 3 By replacing Special Condition 4. under Section III-B in its entirety as follows:

4. No dwelling unit shall be leased or rented for a period of less than 30 consecutive days.

**A Two-Thirds Vote Required
Motion Adopted**

ARTICLE 31

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:
By amending Section III-A Schedule of Uses to include the following new subsets under section 1.8:

“1.8.10 Outdoor storage of not more than one unregistered vehicle”, to be permitted in all zoning districts; and

“1.8.11 Outdoor storage of two or more unregistered vehicles, provided, however, that such vehicles shall be screened from public view”, to be allowed by Special Permit A1 in all zoning districts.

And further that the Town vote to amend the General By-laws of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 13, 1939, as heretofore amended, as follows:

By deleting Section 35 of Article 10 of said General By-laws and by amending Section 36 of Article 10 of said General By-laws to now become Section 35

**A Two-Thirds Vote Required
A Unanimous Vote**

ARTICLE 32

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, by replacing the second sentence under Section III-G,6.b.(ii) with the following:

“A permitted commercial use shall be those uses permitted under Section III-G,4. above, but excluding parking areas, except as specifically provided in subsection 7.a. below;”

**A Two-Thirds Vote Required
A Unanimous Vote**

ARTICLE 33

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

- Item 1 Amend Section III-H,5.c. to replace the first sentence with the following: "For all parcels within the Overlay District, the offsite parking provisions under Section V-A,2. are modified as follows:"
- Item 2 Amend Section III-H,5. to insert the following new subsection e:
- "e. Seawalls, embankments or other coastal defense structures are permitted uses within the Overlay District, subject to the requirements of Section III-C."
- and re-sequence the existing subsection e. to subsection f.
- Item 3 Amend Section III-H,6. to insert a new subsection d. that reads: "d. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this subsection 6, seawalls, embankments or other coastal defense structures shall be exempt from the dimensional requirements of the Overlay District and Section IV-A and IV-B, regardless of the underlying zoning district."

A Two-Thirds Vote Required
A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 34

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, as follows:

- Item 1 Amend Section V-A by replacing in its entirety Note d. to the Off-Street Parking Requirements with the following:
- d. No space reserved for any person, tenant, activity or purpose shall be included to satisfy the parking requirement with the following exceptions:
- (i) Spaces reserved for "visitor" or "customer" parking; and
 - (ii) Spaces equipped with electric vehicle charging stations or infrastructure to make

spaces compatible with future electric vehicle charging.

Item 2 Amend Section V-A, 5. Design Standards by inserting a new subsection p. as follows:

- p. Parking lots containing 20 or more parking spaces shall provide infrastructure to make a minimum of 25 percent of the spaces compatible with electric vehicle charging and a minimum of 10 percent shall be equipped with electric vehicle charging stations.

**A Two-Thirds Vote Required
The Motion Carried**

ARTICLE 35

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, for a period through the end of Fiscal Year 2024, the Select Board to accept grants of easements for purposes of streets, sidewalks, or pedestrian walkways, or water, drainage, sewage, or utility facilities on terms or conditions that the Board deems in the best interests of the Town.

A Unanimous Vote

Cash Appropriations

Article 6

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

122 SELECT BOARD

Payroll	761,553
Expenses	116,575

131 HUMAN RESOURCE

Payroll	174,474
Expenses	3,925

132 RESERVE FUND

734,184

135 TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Payroll	329,824
Expenses	10,150
Audit	76,500

137 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Payroll	322,114
Expenses	534,465
Capital Outlay	116,000

141 ASSESSORS

Payroll	321,201
Expenses	11,358
Consulting	52,000
Map Maintenance	300

145 TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Payroll	372,050
Expenses	56,535
Tax Titles	10,000

151 LEGAL SERVICES

395,372

159 TOWN MEETINGS

Payroll	3,230
Expenses	57,050

161 TOWN CLERK	
Payroll	208,474
Expenses	17,720
162 ELECTIONS	
Payroll	27,545
Expenses	20,632
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	
Payroll	209,395
Expenses	38,747
173 COMMUNITY PLANNING	
Payroll	258,976
Expenses	24,205
LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT	
Payroll	169,540
Expenses	7,375
177 BARE COVE PARK	
Payroll	24,757
Expenses	9,390
192 TOWN HALL	
Payroll	310,673
Expenses	339,800
Capital Outlay	104,000
193 GRAND ARMY MEMORIAL HALL	17,055
Capital Outlay	<u>94,000</u>
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	<u><u>6,341,144</u></u>
PUBLIC SAFETY	
210 POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Payroll	6,873,921
Expenses	495,750
Capital Outlay	222,658

220 FIRE DEPARTMENT	
Payroll (\$1,600,000 from Ambulance Receipts)	7,380,856
Expenses	712,028
Capital Outlay	637,957
230 DISPATCH SERVICES	
Expenses	1,085,127
241 BUILDING COMMISSIONER	
Payroll	271,342
Expenses	14,910
292 ANIMAL CONTROL	
Payroll	81,858
Expenses	6,200
295 HARBORMASTER	
Payroll	249,997
Expenses	85,343
Capital Outlay	144,000
299 PUBLIC SAFETY UTILITIES	
Emergency Water	453,250
Street Lighting	<u>107,100</u>
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	<u>18,822,297</u>
EDUCATION	
300 SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	
Payroll	55,566,969
Expenses	10,137,016
Capital Outlay	<u>1,268,362</u>
TOTAL EDUCATION	<u>66,972,347</u>
PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES	
420 HIGHWAY/RECREATION/TREE & PARK	
Payroll	2,967,811
Expenses	836,130
Capital Outlay	1,132,000

Snow Removal	630,286
Road Maintenance	387,000
430 LANDFILL/RECYCLING	
Payroll	717,441
Expenses	1,191,460
Capital Outlay	60,000
440 SEWER COMMISSION	
Payroll	429,194
Expenses	327,007
Capital Outlay	437,000
Engineering	10,000
MWRA Charges	2,366,565
Debt Service	68,848
Hull Intermunicipal Agreement	445,869
The sum of \$4,084,483 shall be funded from Sewer Revenue.	
	<hr/>
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	<u><u>12,006,611</u></u>
HUMAN SERVICES	
510 HEALTH DEPARTMENT	
Payroll	413,093
Expenses	241,522
Capital Outlay	
The sum of \$250,577 from Opioid Settlement Funds	
541 ELDER SERVICES	
Payroll	348,381
Expenses	28,310
Capital Outlay	
543 VETERANS' SERVICES	
Payroll	142,663
Expenses	8,597
Benefits	150,533
545 HEALTH IMPERATIVES (WOMANSPLACE CRISIS CENTER)	
	2,700

546 SOUTH SHORE WOMEN'S CENTER	<u>3,700</u>
TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	<u><u>1,339,499</u></u>
CULTURE AND RECREATION	
610 LIBRARY	
Payroll	1,806,243
Expenses	418,147
Capital Outlay	66,500
630 RECREATION COMMISSION	
Payroll	195,116
Expenses	192,445
650 TRUSTEES OF BATHING BEACH	
Payroll	27,372
Expenses	11,750
691 HISTORIC PRESERVATION	
Payroll	85,796
Expenses	9,713
692 CELEBRATIONS	<u>18,621</u>
TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION	<u><u>2,831,703</u></u>
ENTERPRISE FUND	
720 COUNTRY CLUB	
Payroll	1,045,198
Expenses (Includes Debt Service of \$357,500)	1,259,800
Capital Outlay	<u>450,000</u>
The sum of \$2,304,988 shall be funded from Country Club Revenue and the balance of \$450,000 from Country Club Retained Earnings	
730 WEIR RIVER WATER SYSTEM	
Payroll	274,503
Operating Expenses	7,729,752
Debt Service	<u>6,150,000</u>

The sum of \$14,154,255 shall be funded from Weir
River Water System Revenue

TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUND	<u>16,909,253</u>
DEBT SERVICE	
710 DEBT SERVICE	<u>8,783,729</u>
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	<u>8,783,729</u>
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	
900 GROUP INSURANCE	7,439,200
900 OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	1,313,773
910 CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT	6,303,180
912 WORKERS' COMPENSATION	330,000
913 UNEMPLOYMENT	30,000
914 MANDATORY MEDICARE	<u>1,168,195</u>
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	<u>16,584,348</u>
UNCLASSIFIED	
999 UNCLASSIFIED	
915 PROPERTY AND LIABILITY INSURANCE	<u>1,225,910</u>
TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED	<u>1,225,910</u>
TOTAL ARTICLE 6	151,816,841

Article 4	
PERSONNEL SERVICES AND EXPENSES	\$302,497
Article 12 Tax Mitigation Fund	\$1,000,000
Article 19	
Community Preservation Committee	
Administration	50,000
Hingham Affordable Housing Trust	735,000
HHA-Exterior restoration 132 Scotland St	15,592
HHA-Exterior restoration of garage at132 Scotland St	12,964
HHA- boiler replacement at 132 Scotland St	7,727
HHA- install fire-door Thaxter Park Elderly Housing	
Dev	40,535
Hingham Rec- reconstruct basketball court Cronin Fld	178,945
Hingham Rec- feasibility study/design pickle ball	
courts	55,500
HPL digitize Hingham newspapers on microfilm	21,000
Hingham Historical Comm- paint/restore Tree & Park	
Barn	93,000
Girls Scouts America-rehab GS House at 26 Burr Rd	109,000
to comply with the Americans with Disability Act	
TOTAL CPC	<u>1,319,263</u>
Article 24	
Permitting & Design Inner Harbor Coastal Structures-	
Include?	360,000
Article 26	
Rt 3A Sewer Project	900,000
	<u><u>155,698,601</u></u>

Annual Town Election, April 29, 2023

MODERATOR - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR7A	TOTAL
Michael J. Puzo	497	613	667	729	707	698	347	255	4513
Write-ins	7	3	6	11	14	6	4	1	52
Blanks	134	125	159	159	175	160	120	66	1098
Total	638	741	832	899	896	864	471	322	5663
SELECT BOARD - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR7A	TOTAL
William C. Ramsey	518	603	672	732	727	665	335	244	4496
Write-ins	Ballotto	8	5	14	10	9	6	1	53
Blanks	118	130	155	153	159	190	130	77	1112
Total	636	741	832	899	896	864	471	322	5661
BOARD OF ASSESSORS - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR7A	TOTAL
Randall W. Winters	469	555	625	664	667	642	320	232	4174
Write-ins	2	3	2	10	7	2	2	1	29
Blanks	167	183	205	225	222	220	149	89	1460
Total	638	741	832	899	896	864	471	322	5663
BOARD OF HEALTH - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR7A	TOTAL
Elizabeth A. Eldredge	484	580	661	694	694	651	324	244	4332
Write-ins	2	3	5	7	4	6	1	2	30
Blanks	152	158	166	198	198	207	146	76	1301
Total	638	741	832	899	896	864	471	322	5663
MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR7A	TOTAL
Tyler R. Harrold	465	551	599	656	651	627	308	234	4091
Write-ins	0	3	3	10	7	6	4	0	33
Blanks	173	187	230	233	238	231	159	88	1539
Total	638	741	832	899	896	864	471	322	5663
SCHOOL COMMITTEE- Vote for TWO									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR7A	TOTAL
Michelle Ayer	455	539	596	658	642	597	287	232	4006
Jennifer A. Benham	425	502	564	619	612	602	323	239	3886
Write-ins	2	9	8	15	13	12	6	1	66
Blanks	394	432	496	506	525	517	326	172	3368
Total	1276	1482	1664	1798	1792	1728	942	644	11326

PLANNING BOARD - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR7A	TOTAL
Thomas F. Patch	155	199	243	204	288	242	167	103	1601
Tracy K. Shriver	383	435	460	574	458	470	231	176	3187
Write-ins	2	3	2	3	3	2	0	0	15
Blanks	98	104	127	118	147	150	73	43	860
Total	638	741	832	899	896	864	471	322	5663
SEWER COMMISSIONER - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR7A	TOTAL
James Henry Byrne II	470	564	613	674	660	620	316	242	4159
Write-ins	1	1	4	9	3	4	1	0	23
Blanks	167	176	215	216	233	240	154	80	1481
Total	638	741	832	899	896	864	471	322	5663
FOR RECREATION COMMISSION- Vote for ONE									
For Five Years	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR7A	TOTAL
Vicki Donlan	486	569	624	692	676	643	326	240	4256
Write-ins	2	0	7	7	3	3	3	1	26
Blanks	150	172	201	200	217	218	142	81	1381
Total	638	741	832	899	896	864	471	322	5663
RECREATION COMMISSION- Vote for ONE									
For Three Years	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR7A	TOTAL
Matthew LeBretton	467	560	620	679	673	659	332	233	4223
Write-ins	1	2	3	9	6	7	1	1	30
Blanks	170	179	209	211	217	198	138	88	1410
Total	638	741	832	899	896	864	471	322	5663
Ballot Question									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR7A	TOTAL
Yes	410	443	497	614	518	549	257	227	3515
No	224	294	334	282	374	311	212	92	2123
Blanks	4	4	1	3	4	4	2	3	25
Total	638	741	832	899	896	864	471	322	5663

Vital Statistics

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Births	196	197	236	242	223
Marriages	71	82	92	75	58
Deaths	482	489	475	517	582

Building Department

The Building/Inspectional Services Department falls under the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety. We enforce a series of 14 International Codes including State Building Code Residential/Commercial, Fire Code, Existing Building Code, Mechanical Code, Swimming Pool and Spa Code, Energy Conservation Code, Architectural Access Board for Disabilities, Zoning Act Chapter 40A, Zoning By-Law, Town of Hingham General By-Laws, Plumbing and Gas Code and Electrical Codes. All Building officials are on call 24/7. The new 10th Edition of the Building Code is scheduled for release July 1, 2024, which will include significant changes to the Stretch Energy Code.

In 2023, several homes throughout town have been demolished and rebuilt along with homes receiving alterations and additions. Three large projects have received building permits which include the new Public Safety building on Lincoln Street, the new Foster School and Linden Ponds addition to their Assisted Living Care Facility. The Derby Street Shoppes and Hingham Shipyard continue to renovate existing spaces. 109 North Street has received Certificates of Use and Occupancy for the residential units. A building permit has been issued to rebuild the home at 4 Mann Street after the devastating house fire.

All permits are applied for online. Homeowners and Contractors may apply for permits from their home or office at www.hingham-ma.gov.

The Building Department has issued a total of 3,998 permits and conducted 6,774 inspections in 2023.

		<u>Fees Collected</u>
1,244	Building Permits	\$1,569,711
53	Final Cost Affidavits	89,505
906	Plumbing Permits	69,030
604	Gas Permits	29,265
982	Electrical Permits	96,700
64	Certificate of Inspection	6,292
94	Certificate of Use and Occupancy	3,290
12	Re-inspection	900
<u>216</u>	Sheet Metal	<u>60,645</u>
4,211		\$1,925,338

I would like to thank the staff of the Building Department for their continued professional manner in which they serve the various customer concerns and inspections that we address throughout the day.

We would like to thank all the applicants, residents, businesses and Town departments for their continued cooperation and support this past year.

We look forward to serving you in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Clancy C.B.O.
Building Commissioner/
Zoning Enforcement Officer

Conservation Commission

Empowered to administer the state's Wetlands Protection Act (MGL c. 131, s. 40) and the Hingham Wetlands Protection By-law (Article 22 of the Town By-laws), the Conservation Commission reviews applications for projects within floodplains, within 100 feet of inland and coastal wetlands, waterbodies, and intermittent streams, and within 200 feet of perennial streams. The Commission holds public meetings twice per month to review permit applications and issue permits for work in areas under their jurisdiction. The Commission may also issue Enforcement Orders if necessary for violations of local or state wetlands protection regulations.

In 2023, the Commission held 19 public meetings and provided coordination, monitoring, permit review, and consultation on numerous residential, commercial, and municipal projects throughout the town. The Commission acted on 107 applications and projects, including:

- 25 Orders of Conditions
- 1 Amended Orders of Conditions
- 1 Emergency Certification
- 19 Determinations of Applicability
- 29 Certificates of Compliance
- 22 Administrative Review Decisions
- 10 Permit Extensions

One of these permit approvals was a result of Boy Scout Aidan Blanch's initiative to improve the public's access and knowledge of a little known Conservation Commission property called Fee Pond, in Crow's Point. Aidan's Eagle Scout proposal included design & installation of two trailhead signs; one located at the Grove Street entrance and the other at the Blackberry Lane entrance. He also organized minor trail improvements while being mindful of the native vegetation.



One of two new signs for the Fee Pond trailheads.

The other primary responsibility of the Commission is protect the community's natural resources and to acquire lands for conservation and passive recreation, as established under the Conservation Commission Act of 1957. With assistance from numerous volunteers, town departments, and other agencies, the Commission oversees over 1,000 acres of conservation lands.



The Conservation department also manages a turkey and deer hunting program on certain conservation properties. The goal of the hunting program is promote responsible management of lands by reducing issues caused by overpopulation of certain animal species, particularly white tailed ear. The 2023 hunting program was facilitated by conservation staff in accordance with all state and local regulations. A total of 40 bow hunting permits were issued; 5 for the spring turkey season and 35 for the fall deer season. The Commission received notification of 35 deer harvested during the 2023 season.

Respectfully submitted,

Crystal Kelly, Chair
Carolyn Nielsen, Vice Chair
Laurie Freeman
Henry Hidell
Robert Mosher
Thomas Roby
Nina Villanova

Shannon Palmer, Conservation Officer

Planning Board

The establishment of municipal Planning Boards is authorized by MGL c. 41, s. 81A. In Hingham, the Planning Board consists of five members elected to serve five-year terms. An appointed associate member may also act on special permit applications on an as-needed basis. Planning Board responsibilities include the following:

Permitting: Under the Zoning By-law, the Planning Board acts as the site plan review authority for certain development projects that propose moderate to significant levels of land disturbance or uses that require a particular type of authorization. In past years, these reviews tended to be commercial in nature; however, recent applications increasingly involve residential projects that trigger a minimum level of land disturbance adopted by Annual Town Meeting in 2020. The Board also serves as the special permit granting authority for some uses or configurations of land, such as flexible residential developments, common driveways, and parking determinations.

The Planning Board also reviews all subdivision plans under the Subdivision Control Law. These plans generally propose construction of new streets to support additional development. Certain divisions of land are exempt from Subdivision Control because the proposed lots have frontage on an existing street or proposed parcels do not represent building lots. These applications, which are also reviewed by the Board, are known as Approval Not Required (ANR) or Form A Plans.

Finally, under the Scenic Roads Act, the Planning Board is empowered to review specified activities, such as removal of trees or stonewalls, within a scenic roadway layout.

Summary of 2023 Permit Applications	
Site Plan Reviews	53
Special Permits	8
ANRs (Form As)	5
Subdivisions	3
Scenic Roads	1
Total:	70

Most of the permitting conducted by the Board in 2023 involved improvement or reconstruction of existing single family properties that exceeded land disturbance thresholds under Site Plan Review. Nineteen of these applications proposed the reconstruction of single family

dwellings. The Board also approved three new residential subdivisions or flexible residential developments that created lots for new single family dwellings. Applications related to commercial uses primarily resulted from tenant changeover in existing business spaces.

Reviewing Zoning Amendments: The Planning Board is one of several agencies or individuals authorized to initiate a zoning amendment. When a zoning amendment has been put forward, the Planning Board holds the public hearing and reports its recommendation for action to Town Meeting.

The Planning Board advanced six articles for consideration at Annual Town Meeting 2023, resulting in expanded allowances for Accessory Dwelling Units, minimum occupancy terms for residential uses to prevent short term rentals, electric vehicle charging parking requirements, along with several more limited amendments intended to clean-up existing regulations.

The Planning Board also worked in partnership with the Select Board over the year to develop a by-right multifamily housing zoning district in compliance with a recent mandate by the state that effects MBTA Communities. A zoning article was initiated in late 2023 and remains under review by the Board through a public hearing process at the time of this report. A number of other zoning amendments were initiated for consideration at Annual Town Meeting 2024.

Adopting the Master Plan: The Planning Board is charged with creation of a comprehensive master plan to guide future development in the Town. The Board adopted the current Master Plan in August 2021. The Board created a Master Plan Implementation Committee in 2023. Members of the Committee began meeting in the Fall and held the first annual Master Plan Summit in December 2023.

The Board conducted most of its work remotely last year. Beginning in March 2020, all public meetings were held by Zoom as an alternate means of public access pursuant to an Order issued by the Governor of Massachusetts suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law. Despite the remote nature of its work, the Planning Board collaborated with a variety of other Town departments, boards, and committees, including the Select Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission, and Affordable Housing Trust. Planning Board members or their designees continued to play an active role as members of or liaisons to several Town entities, including the Master Plan Implementation Committee, Community Preservation Committee, Development and Industrial Committee, Route 3A Task Force, and Traffic Committee.

Department staff is available to assist residents, developers, other town departments, and the general public in all planning related matters during regular Town Hall hours. The Board encourages all interested citizens to visit its webpage (www.hingham-ma.gov/166), where all pending application materials are posted, and attend its meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Ellis, Chair
Gordon Carr, Clerk
Rita DaSilva
Tracy Shriver
Gary Tondorf-Dick

Emily Wentworth, Community Planning Director
Michael Silveira, Senior Planner



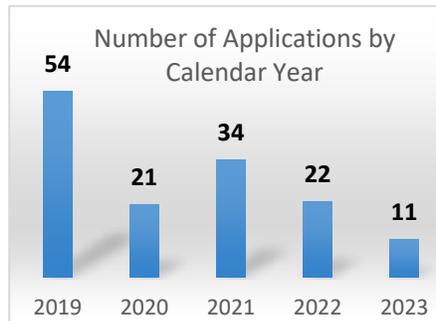
Zoning Board of Appeals

The Board of Appeals is a quasi-judicial body established under the provisions of the "Zoning Act", Chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L.). The Zoning Act and the Hingham Zoning By-law authorize the Board to hear and decide applications for findings, variances, certain special permits, and appeals from actions of the Building Commissioner or the Zoning Administrator. These permits are broadly categorized into land use and dimensional regulations.

The Board is also the only Town agency entitled to issue comprehensive permits under M.G.L. c. 40B.

The Board of Appeals consists of three regular members, appointed to 3-year terms. Four associate members, appointed to 1-year terms, presently serve on an as-needed basis. The Select Board makes all appointments.

In 2023 the Board received 11 applications and held 12 meetings, during which members conducted 17 separate hearings on both ongoing and new applications.



Variances: Variances are authorizations to use land or structures in a manner that is otherwise prohibited by the Zoning By-law where the applicant demonstrates substantial hardship, unique conditions affecting the property, and no substantial detriment to the public good. Most requests for dimensional relief related primarily to setback requirements for residential accessory structures, both attached and detached, or modifications of previously approved plans. In 2023, the Board received two applications for variances. No new variances were granted; both variance applications that were received were withdrawn without prejudice.

The Hingham Zoning By-law also authorizes the Board to grant use variances; however, this form of relief is granted sparingly. The Board did not receive any of these applications in 2023.

Administrative Appeals: Aggrieved parties may appeal a decision or issuance of a permit by the Building Commissioner or the Zoning

Administrator to the Board. The Board received two administrative appeal applications in 2023. One application was withdrawn prior to being noticed for a public hearing, and the other is still under review at the time of this report.

Findings: No applications for a finding under M.G.L. c. 40A, s. 6 were filed with the Board this past year. Findings involve changes to pre-existing nonconforming structures or uses. Section 6 allows extensions or alterations if the Board finds that the proposed change, extension, or alteration will not be substantially more detrimental than the existing nonconforming use or structure to the neighborhood.

Special Permits: Special permits are authorizations to use land or structures for a particular purpose, provided general guidelines as detailed in the By-Law and specific conditions arising from the review process itself are met. Special permits are designed as flexible tools to assure that the use is in harmony with the intent and purposes of the Zoning By-law. The Board received seven special permit applications in 2023: four were granted, two were withdrawn without prejudice and one involved a review of impacts from a previously issued special permit, referred to as a "Look Back". The special permit applications received in 2023 each involved distinctly different requests, including construction of an attached Accessory Dwelling Unit in Residence District A; operation of a private school and a childcare facility in the Limited Industrial Park District; and installation of additional signage at a storage facility located both in the Industrial Park and South Hingham Development Overlay District.

Comprehensive Permits (M.G.L. c. 40B): Chapter 40B is a state statute that allows developers to seek a single local permit under flexible rules for housing developments where at least 20-25% of the units will have a long-term affordability restriction. These applications tend to be more complex than others, in particular because the Board must review comprehensive permit applications under all local regulations, including those otherwise under the jurisdiction of the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and the Board of Health. As a result, the Board solicits comments from these agencies and coordinates closely with all Town departments during its review of comprehensive permit applications in order to protect the public interest consistent with local needs. The Board did not receive any of these applications in 2023.

Board members would like to express appreciation for the support, cooperation, and assistance we received from all town departments during the past year. Zoning Board staff within the Land Use & Development Department is available to assist residents, developers, other town

departments, and the general public in all zoning related matters during regular Town Hall hours. The Board encourages all interested citizens to visit its webpage (www.hingham-ma.gov/351), where all application materials are now posted, and attend its meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn S. Maguire, Chair
Paul K. Healey
Joseph Ruccio

Historic Districts Commission

The Historic Districts Commission is the Town's permitting board responsible for reviewing proposed exterior additions and alterations to buildings in Hingham's historic districts. In 2023, the Historic Districts Commission held over 76 hearings and made site visits to review applications from property owners seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness. The mission of the Historic Districts Commission is to protect the history and character of Hingham's historic districts by preserving, through design review, the streetscape and the characteristic architectural features of the structures located within the historic districts. Maintenance and repair projects do not require a hearing and are approved administratively. The work of the Commission is enabled by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, MGL c. 40C, and by the Historic Districts By-law approved by Town Meeting.

The Commission's objective is to work collaboratively with applicants to help them meet their lifestyle and space needs while preserving the historic and architectural integrity of an historic building and its site. Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Properties established by the United States Secretary of the Interior form the basis for the Commission's review of projects. Hingham's local design guidelines, *Guidelines for Work in Historic Districts*, and *Guidelines for New Construction and Additions in Hingham's Historic Districts* are derived from the Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines. These Guidelines define the standards for exterior work on properties located in historic districts throughout the country, Hingham's historic districts included, and are a valuable resource for property owners to submit project plans that meet the criteria required for approval. The *Guidelines* can be obtained from the Historic Districts Commission page on the Town's website or by contacting the Administrator via email.

The Commission consists of five voting members and five alternates appointed by the Board of Selectmen for three-year terms. The Historic Districts By-Law requires that the group of voting members and the group of alternate members each include an AIA architect, one designee from the Planning Board, one designee from the Historical Society, a resident of an historic district and an at-large member.

The Commission has held remote meetings using Zoom for the last several years, beginning with the onset of COVID. As a practical matter, remote access has its benefits. The ability to share a screen allows everyone, Commission member and the public, to see project plans clearly, easily, and simultaneously. The ability to use other tools such as Google maps and historical and architectural descriptions of a building or property under

review is another advantage of meeting remotely. Despite remote access, the Commission has maintained its high level of service to applicants seeking project approvals; meetings and site visits have been held as scheduled. The public has always been encouraged to attend Commission meetings in person when held at Town Hall. Several in person meetings are planned for 2024; however, most meetings will continue to be held remotely. Commission meetings are generally scheduled on the third Thursday evening of the month. The Commission videotapes all of its meetings, which can be accessed via the Harbor Media website or YouTube.

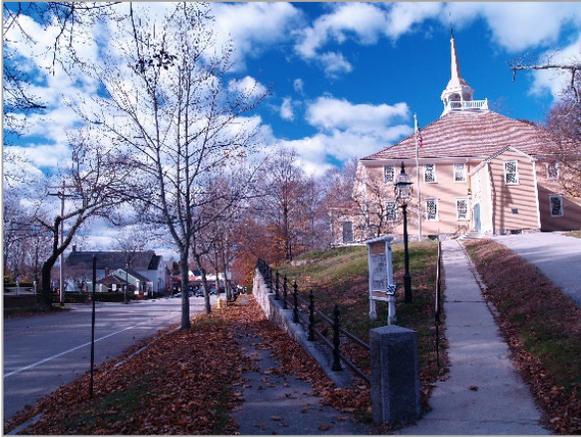
Last spring the Commission's chair, Tracy Shriver, ran for and was elected to a seat on the Planning Board. As an architect and AIA member, Tracy contributed his experience and talent to the work of the Commission and also served as the Commission's representative on the Accessory Dwelling Unit Study Committee. The Commission extends its thanks to Tracy for his service on the Commission and offers its best wishes as he serves as a member of the Planning Board. The Commission is pleased to welcome Steve Sadler as an alternate member appointed by the Select Board in 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Young, Administrator

Members:
Daniel Clark, Chair
Carol Pyles, Vice-Chair
Catherine Daley
Justin Aborn
Eric Smoczynski

Alternate Members:
Josh Blevins
Mary Anne Donaldson
Steve Sadler



Historical Commission

The Hingham Historical Commission was created by Town Meeting in 1974 to serve as the Town's official body for administering the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The duty of the seven-member Historical Commission is to act in the public interest to preserve and protect the historic, cultural and archeological assets of the Town, most of which are identified in the *Town of Hingham Comprehensive Community Inventory*. The *Inventory* lists these assets, which consist of the homes, outbuildings, churches and other non-residential or commercial buildings, cemeteries and burial grounds, bridges and landscape elements, monuments and markers that are the visual chronicle of Hingham's evolution and the essence of its character, culture and historic appeal. The Inventory is posted on the Town website at <http://www.hingham-ma.com/historical/inventory.html>.

Under M.G.L. c. 40, s. 8D local Historical Commissions are responsible for: (1) creating and maintaining an inventory of historic assets as described in the previous paragraph; (2) protecting these assets from neglect, deterioration, demolition and development; (3) providing educational opportunities to understand the Town's history and the historic context of its resources. The Commission carries out its responsibilities by establishing new initiatives and objectives annually and pursues its mission through the time, expertise, and commitment of its volunteer members.

During 2023, the Commission continued its focus on longer term initiatives, such as the project to tell the story of Hingham's Tranquility Grove, the site of the largest anti-slavery picnic in the U.S. The picnic was held in 1844 in what is now Burns Memorial Park. The project seeks to highlight this important movement in the Town's history by recreating access to the paths leading to the grove, a place where one can reflect on the history and passion of the day as told through interpretive panels. Other ongoing projects include placing signs naming the sites of former bridges throughout Town; updating photographs of properties listed on the *Inventory* and maintaining the historical streetscapes along the Greenbush Rail corridor with grants from the Greenbush Historic Preservation Trust. The Virginia Tay Memorial Lecture Series, sponsored by Mary Anne Tay Donaldson with the support of the Historical Commission realizes the goal of Dr. Virginia Tay to bring nationally known authors, historians, Presidential biographers and Pulitzer Prize recipients to Hingham. Jon Meacham, speaking to a full house, provided a spectacular start to the lecture series in 2022. Doris Kearns Goodwin delivered an equally outstanding talk, also to a packed audience, in 2023. Finally, the sixth annual reenactment of the Battle of Grape Island took

place at Hingham Harbor, commemorating the beginning of the Provision Wars and the second battle of the American Revolution.



The work on the Memorial Bell Tower came to a close in 2023. The multi-year project funded with Community Preservation Act Funds and grants from the Greenbush Historic Preservation Trust restored the precision mechanical elements on which the bellringers rely to perform the art of change-ringing

The Historical Commission, in concert with the Town Treasurer, administers the \$1.35M Greenbush Historic Preservation Trust, established pursuant to an agreement between the Town and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, to assist in the preservation and improvement of historical assets along the Greenbush rail line right-of-way. In 2023, the Commission awarded grants totaling \$100,000.

Monies from the Historical Commission's Preservation Projects Fund, initially established pursuant to statute with grants and donations, maintain assets such as the Memorial Bell Tower, the Lincoln statue, Victory (the "iron" horse), and the markers and monuments located throughout Town. The Commission also uses the fund to help carry out projects and programs important to preserving the Town's historic character. Since the adoption of the *Community Preservation Act*, the Commission reviews, makes recommendations on, and proposes such projects and programs and has also used CPA and other grants to support preservation-related projects.

The Commission also advises on certain environmental reviews through the Federal "Section 106" historic review process and the Massachusetts *State Register of Historic Places* program, and administers the Demolition Delay By-law, adopted by vote of Town Meeting in 1988 and revised in

2012. The By-law is designed to protect historic properties outside of designated Historic Districts. The delay allows the Commission time to work with property owners to consider alternatives to demolition of structures that contribute to the Town's historic character.

Finally, by virtue of its demonstrated level of commitment to historic preservation, The Town of Hingham has been designated by the National Park Service as a "Certified Local Government", and is thus eligible for certain grants from the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the Department of the Interior. Hingham has the distinction of being one of only 13 Certified Local Governments in the Commonwealth.

The Commission wishes to welcome new members Jeannie Ingram and Kevin Francis Warren. The Commission thanks Kevin M. Burke, Esq. who served as Chair throughout his tenure on the Commission. His considerable experience and expertise led the Commission through many projects in pursuit of its mission, and through some formidable challenges as well. The Commission also recognizes Stephen Dempsey for sharing his considerable knowledge of all things Hingham, both Then and Now, and for contributing his time and other resources to guarantee that the photographs, documents and artifacts important to the Town's history would be preserved for future generations.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Ingram, Chair
Elizabeth Dings, Vice-Chair
Robert Stansell
Stephen Jiranek
Brendan Concannon
Kevin Francis Warren

Andrea Young, Administrator

Information Technology

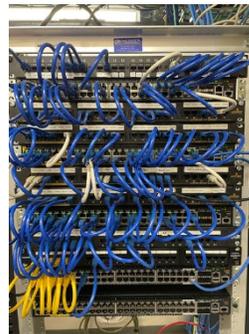
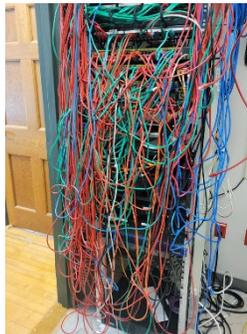
The Information Technology (IT) Department's three full-time staff members are responsible for supporting more than 20 municipal departments across 16 locations. The Department provides strategic direction for and management of the Town's technology resources. The IT Department also supports the School Administration offices and VoIP telephone system servicing both Town and School buildings and works closely with the School Department's IT staff.

The Department provides centralized management of network infrastructure, servers, storage, backup, VoIP telephone communications system, workstation/peripheral/mobile devices, and security systems. Application support includes the Town's financial/human resources management, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Assessor's parcel database, Microsoft Exchange email, licensing/permitting databases, and cloud services. This includes procurement, installation, configuration, maintenance, removal, and disposal of any related technology.

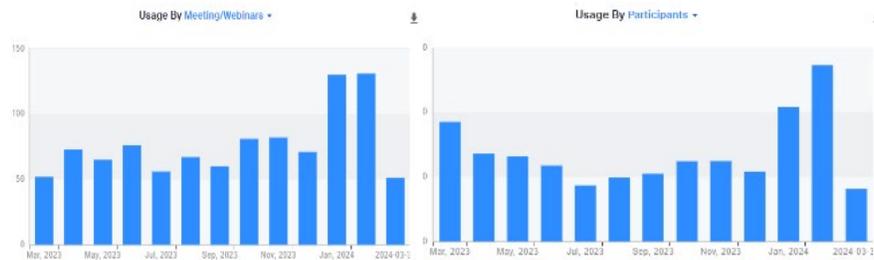
The Department is responsible for the Town's website including updates, enhancements and content management system (CMS) administration.

Accomplishments over the past year:

- Responded to 2,680 helpdesk tickets
- Completed refreshing the Library and South Shore Country Club websites.
- Completed the replacement of all network switches throughout the Town. The existing switches dated back to 2007 and have served us well but lack many features and capabilities required by today's technology such as POE+ power delivery, video conferencing and online streaming. This project also allowed us to cleanup up wiring making service much easier (before and after example photo below).



- Completed connecting all buildings via redundant 10Gbps connections over our Town-wide fiber network back to Town Hall. This ensures if there is a break in the fiber all locations will remain online connected to all systems.
- The Town has hosted 955 online (remote or hybrid) meetings for a total of 495,858 minutes with a total of 8,217 participants. Graphs below show the distribution over the past 12 months.



- Replacement of older desktop/laptop devices that have reached the end of life expectancy.
- Oversaw the upgrade of audio/video technology in the Select Board meeting room tying those systems into the Harbor Media broadcast systems for a consistent viewing and broadcast experience for hybrid meetings.
- Installed wireless HDMI adapters in all Town Hall meeting/hearing rooms for more versatile connection option of devices during presentations.

With the work that was accomplished over the past 12 months, we are well poised for new/updated services and systems to be implemented over the coming 12 months.

I appreciate the support from the Town Administrator’s office, our elected officials, board and committee members, and residents who all recognize the important role Technology plays in Municipal Government. I, along with Kate Richardsson and Joe Lindsay, look forward to continuing to serve and support the community through our stewardship of the Technology infrastructure.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Hartigan,
 Director of Information Technology

Personnel Board

The Personnel Board is pleased to submit this Annual Report of its activities from January 1 through December 31, 2023.

The Personnel Board addressed a multitude of issues in the 2023 calendar year. The Board approved five job descriptions for the newly created positions of: Elder Services Program Coordinator and placed the position on the salary scale at Grade 6; Assistant Town Engineer and placed the position on the salary scale at Grade 10; Social Worker Opioid Program Coordinator and placed the position on the salary scale at Grade 6; Assistant Water Superintendent and placed the position on the salary scale at Grade 11; and the seasonal Bowling Alley Manager and placed the position on the seasonal salary scale at \$21 per hour.

The Board approved revisions to the following job descriptions: Veteran's Services Administrative Assistant; Benefits Coordinator; Executive Health Officer; and the Conservation Officer.

The Board approved the reclassification of the Veteran's Services Administrative Assistant and placed the position on Grade 4 in the Salary Schedule. The Board also approved the reclassification of the Benefits Coordinator and placed the position on Grade 6 in the Salary Schedule.

The Board approved the following requests to hire: The Assistant Water Superintendent at Grade 11, Step 3 of the Salary Scale with an additional week of vacation time; the Assistant Golf Superintendent at Grade 6, Step 5 of the Salary Scale with an additional week of vacation time; the Assistant Town Engineer at Grade 10 Step 3 of the Salary Scale; the Conservation Officer at Grade 10, Step 5 of the Salary Scale with an additional week of vacation time; and the approval of the placement of the Interim Assistant Conservation Officer at Grade 6, Step 4 of the Salary Scale.

Additional sick time was approved for a Police Officer and the Administrative Assistant at the Department of Public Works.

Ten vacation carry-over requests were approved by the Board.

The Board recommended to the 2023 Annual Town Meeting that, effective July 1, 2023, a 3% general wage increase for Hingham Town employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement be implemented.

The Board recommended to the 2023 Annual Town Meeting that, effective July 1, 2023, a change to the Town of Hingham Personnel Bylaws be made to the language in Section 4 to read in its entirety as follows: "The Plan shall be administered by a Personnel Board consisting of five citizens of the Town who shall not be employees or elected officials of the Town. The members of the Personnel Board shall be appointed by the Moderator and shall serve for terms of three years. The term of office of each member of the Board shall expire at the end of the third fiscal year following the member's appointment. Prior to the commencement of each fiscal year or as soon thereafter as reasonable review of prospective appointees permits the Moderator shall appoint a member or members of the Board to succeed the member or members whose term or terms are expiring. Any vacancy in the Board shall be filled by the Moderator, and any person appointed to fill a vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of the person whom they succeed. The Board shall choose its own officers and shall serve without compensation." This recommendation was approved by Town Meeting.

The Board concluded negotiations and the Select Board entered into a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Public Works Teamsters, Local 25 whose agreement expired on June 30, 2022. The Board remained in negotiation throughout December of 2023 with the Department Of Public Works Supervisors Unit whose agreement expired on June 30, 2023. The Board shortly will begin collective bargaining agreement negotiations with the Hingham Police Patrolman's Association, the Hingham Police Superior Officers Union MCOP, Local 405, the Hingham Permanent Firefighters Association, IAFF, Local 2398, and the Hingham Library Staff Association.

Finally, the Board extends its gratitude to Robert Curley who stepped down from the Personnel Board. Robert was a valued member of the Board and a dedicated public servant who will be missed. The Board welcomed back Russell Conn as an interim member of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

David Pace, Chair
Russell Conn
Karen Johnson
Jack Manning
Courtney Orwig

Department of Public Works



The Department of Public Works (DPW) is responsible for the care and upkeep of approximately 140 miles of public roads and unaccepted subdivisions, 100 miles of drain lines, 10,000 drainage structures, 60 miles of sidewalks and over 10,000 public shade trees. We maintain numerous parks, grounds, islands, recreation and athletic fields, playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts, parking areas, skating areas, beaches, public buildings, the Town Forest, and two Town nurseries.

We maintain and provide other assistance for the upkeep of Conservation areas, Bare Cove Park, and numerous other public properties throughout Town. We also assist other Town departments with building maintenance and vehicle maintenance and repairs.

DPW is directly responsible for snow and ice control on all public roadways, parking areas, public buildings, driveways, schools, sidewalks, and certain private ways and unaccepted subdivisions. We are also responsible for operating the Town's Recycling and Trash Transfer Facility as well as the monitoring and maintenance of the Town's capped Sanitary Landfill.

Highway Division

Drainage: Inspected, repaired, and made adjustments to 44 catch basins prior to road reconstruction. Replaced 100 ft. of failed drainage pipe at the end of Plymouth River Road, 20 ft. of drainage pipe at Porters Cove, 10 ft. of drainage pipe at Governor Andrew Road, 30 ft. of drainage pipe at Amber Road, 100 ft. of drainage pipe at Minuteman Road, and 8 ft. of drainage pipe at Pond Street. Provided a controlled drainage discharge off East Street to address erosion and remove excess stormwater flow in the gutter.

Maintenance Operations: Painted and marked, swept and cleaned, plowed and treated 140 miles of Town owned roadways and approximately 60 miles of sidewalks. Inspected and maintained 5,384 drainage structures and outfalls. Maintained 3,100 traffic and street signs and five sets of signal lights.

Stormwater Management

Stormwater Regulation: The Stormwater Phase II Final Rule was promulgated in 1999 and was the next step after the 1987 Phase I Rule in EPA's effort to preserve, protect, and improve the Nation's water

resources from polluted stormwater runoff. The Phase II program expands the Phase I program by requiring additional operators of from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) in urbanized areas and operators of small construction sites, through the use of National Pollution Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) permits, to implement programs and practices to control polluted stormwater runoff. Phase II is intended to further reduce adverse impacts to water quality and aquatic habitat by instituting the use of controls on the unregulated sources of stormwater discharges that have the greatest likelihood of causing continued environmental degradation. Under the Phase II rule all MS4s with stormwater discharges from Census designated Urbanized Area are required to seek NPDES permit coverage for those stormwater discharges. The 2016 MS4 general permit became effective on July 1, 2018.

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP): The Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) describes and details the activities and measures that will be implemented to meet the terms and conditions of the permit. The SWMP accurately describes the permittees plans and activities. The document should be updated and/or modified during the permit term as the permittee's activities are modified, changed or updated to meet permit conditions during the permit term. The main elements of the stormwater management program are (1) a public education program in order to affect public behavior causing stormwater pollution, (2) an opportunity for the public to participate and provide comments on the stormwater program (3) a program to effectively find and eliminate illicit discharges within the MS4 (4) a program to effectively control construction site stormwater discharges to the MS4 (5) a program to ensure that stormwater from development projects entering the MS4 is adequately controlled by the construction of stormwater controls, and (6) a good housekeeping program to ensure that stormwater pollution sources on municipal properties and from municipal operations are minimized.

Vehicle Maintenance

The DPW facility allows us to maintain the DPW, Transfer Station, and Sewer Department's equipment safely and efficiently. This equipment includes 11 Dump Trucks w/ sanders and plows, 11 ¾ Ton Pickup Trucks with plows, 4 Sidewalk Plows, 1 Front End Loaders, 1 Backhoe, 2 Street Sweepers, 1 Bucket Truck, 1 Logging Material Handler, 1 Chipper, 5 Mowers, Chainsaws, and 2 Rollers. The DPW Shop also has maintained vehicles for the Health Department, Assessors, Building Department, Bare Cove Park, and Town Hall.

Snow and Ice Control: In 2023, Hingham received 9.5" of snow. The DPW conducted one snowplow operation and eight sanding operations.

Special Projects: Assisted in the following projects: annual voting and elections setup, Town Meeting setup, Christmas in the Square, 4th of July Road Race and Parade, Downtown and Beach trash pickup, keeping the new boat ramp accessible for launching and retrieving boats.

New Equipment: 2023 Ford Explorer (Administrative)

Tree and Park Division

Tree Plantings: 10
Tree Removals: 156
Trees Pruned: 151

New Equipment: None

Special Projects/Maintenance: The Tree and Park Division maintains 110 parks and traffic islands throughout the town and strives to constantly make improvements with the assistance of other Town committees to which we are extremely grateful. We maintain in excess of 1,000 acres of open space and over 10,000 public shade trees.

The Tree & Park Division continues its work within the Town Forest. The George Washington Town Forest was diagnosed with "Red Pine Scale" and the "Pine Shoot Beetle" which has contributed to the widespread mortality of the Red Pine Trees in the forest. Trails in the forest are monitored for downed trees and limbs. About 85% of the trees that were a threat to the public have been removed and an ongoing tree removal program is in place which evaluates and removes any threats to the public. We would like to thank you for your patience while this process is going on with our commitment to open the forest with minimal impact on the forest as we make it safe for the public.

This year, Tree & Park planted 10 shade trees throughout the town due limited budget due to the rising cost of normal operations and the increased frequency of storm clean up.

The 2023 Arbor Day Celebration was celebrated on April 29, 2023 with the planting of a October Glory Red Maple on Taurasi Park. The Town of Hingham was also recognized as a "Tree City USA" for the 35th year.

The Department of Public Works would like to express its sincere gratitude to the past and present members of the Shade Tree Committee for their many hours of dedication and service to the Town of Hingham. We would also like to thank the Hingham Beautification Commission and Garden Club for all they do in keeping our many traffic islands and downtown sidewalks looking great.

Our staff's knowledge and experience is a great asset to the Town and we would be happy to discuss any questions regarding the care and maintenance of trees and shrubs.

The Tree & Park Division is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of athletic fields, tennis courts, recreation areas, playgrounds, and other open spaces throughout the Town. The Division mows and maintains Lynch Field, Haley Field, Center School Field, Hull Street Park and Field, Hersey Playground and Field, Bradley Woods Playground and Park, Kress Playground Park and Field, Carlson Field, the Harbor waterfront area, and numerous other public grounds, areas, and schools.

The recent partnership with the Recreation Department and Mark Thorell's team has shown great success in the preservation, condition, and playability of the Town's many athletic fields. We look forward to continuing this partnership.

New Equipment: None

Hingham Trash Transfer and Recycling Facility

Last year we transferred 5,063.3 tons of household rubbish to the COVANTA/SEMASS trash to energy facility in Rochester and 748 tons of bulky waste and demolition to New England Recycling (NER) in Taunton to be recycled. Hingham residents recycled 1,339 tons of mixed recyclables, 1423 tons of brush, logs and yard waste, 3.7 tons of tires, 1,490 gallons of motor oil, 24 tons of electronics, 164 tons of textiles, and 7 ton of batteries. In 2023, Hingham's collection of household hazardous waste handled 241 cars.

The Returnable Bottle-Can Program donated approximately 580,800 cans and 69,300 plastic bottles for an estimated total of \$32,505. Twenty-six (26) different Hingham Youth Organizations received \$22,655 and \$9,850 went to the recycling fund. The success of our recycling program provides relief from increasing waste disposal fees benefits the environment and helps our youth organizations.

The Transfer Station scale weighs the trash and recyclables at the Transfer Station. The scale is also used to weigh commercial and residential bulky/construction debris and has been a revenue source for the Town of Hingham. In 2023, the revenue from the scale was \$116,410. Transfer Station Permits revenue for part-time Permits, Residential Permits, and Commercial Permits was \$12,950. With the installation of a vehicle counter, the Transfer Station accepts an average of 7,416 cars per week.

We continue to have a residential Composting Program and with the support of the Cleaner Greener Hingham Recycling Committee, the DPW

offers composting bins for a reduced cost of \$25 a bin. Please call the DPW office to reserve yours today.

With disposal costs projected to rise steadily in the future, the economic benefits of separation and recycling cannot be overemphasized. We urge residents to maximize their recycling efforts and to reduce waste disposal through separation, recycling and composting. DPW is happy to answer any questions regarding recycling, composting, or use of the Recycling and Trash Transfer Facility.

Special Projects: The Transfer Station is still in the process of finishing the installation of a second hand baler. This baler will allow the Transfer Station to start baling the more equitable commodities.

New Equipment: None

Engineering Division

The Engineering Division of the Department of Public Works provides a wide variety of support services to Town departments, commissions, and boards. The Division was augmented in December with the addition of our new Assistant Town Engineer, Matthew Mui. We are pleased to report the following activities were accomplished in 2023.

Roadwork: Managed approximately 113 miles of town-wide roadway infrastructure system. The administration of work included: Management of State Funds (Chapter 90), and Town funds for Road Building. Analyzed road ratings and developed a paving plan that was completed during 2023 with the following 6.9 miles of road being reconstructed and/or resurfaced as required, along with the coordination of town officials, contractors, builders and the general public.

Paving:

Micro-surface Only:

Downing Street	Meadow View Road	Stoddard Road
Pleasant Street	Pond Street	Elm Street
Marshall Road	Thayer Street	Thaxter Street
Bremer Circle	Crooked Meadow Lane	Bradley Hill Road
Cape Cod Lane	Plymouth River Road	

Pave & Micro-surface:

Leavitt Street (Short St. to East St.)	Willow Circle
Wompatuck Road (Kimball Beach Rd. to End)	Sunset Lane
Main Street (Short St. to 373 Main St.)	
Short Street (Leavitt St. to Main St.)	

Temporary paving:

Downer Avenue (Lincoln St. to 72 Downer Ave.)

Micro-surface only:

Bradley Hill Road



Sidewalks: In addition to the road reconstruction outlined above, sidewalks were improved along the Right-of-Way in Thaxter Street and Wompatuck Street.

Projects: Engineering is actively involved in projects throughout Town which are being advanced through committees or through Town Administration. Engineering provided support to the now completed Barnes Wharf Float acquisition, and continues active support on the Public Safety Facility, improvements at the South Shore Country Club, the Lincoln School Apartments, the Library, Central Fire Station, South Fire Station, the Hingham Harbor Land Use Plan, Harbor Resiliency, Improvements at the Broad Cove Pump Station and to the Lincoln Street Sewer Main. Transportation projects include the annual paving program, administration of Shared Streets Grant funding from MassDOT towards the purchase of sidewalk snow removal equipment, Route 3A Improvements, Road Safety Audit and Alternatives Analysis for the Main Street/Middle Street/Short Street intersection, Lincoln Park traffic improvements, Speed Limit Reduction on certain roads, and implementation of proposed improvements at the intersection of Ward/French/High Streets.

Key Initiatives/Current Projects: The following projects will continue through the following year: Route 3A Design & Safety Improvements, Inner Harbor Walls Resiliency, Harbor Walkway Extension, 5-Year Road

Reconstruction Plan, Complete Streets Project Implementation, Main Street/Middle Street/Short Street intersection Safety Improvements, Lincoln Park traffic improvements, and Traffic Calming efforts.

Grants: Engineering remained diligent in seeking out and applying for grants to reduce Town outlays on certain capital projects. Engineering secured and was reimbursed \$50K from a Shared Streets MassDOT grant to improve pedestrian accessibility in Town through the purchase of new trackless snow removal equipment for clearing sidewalks. Engineering completed and was reimbursed for the Seaport Economic Council grant for the purchase of new floats at Barnes Wharf. Engineering received a grant award of from Coastal Zone Management supporting the Harbor Resiliency project in the amount of \$268,771. Tasks involved are grant preparation, administration, and reporting on awarded grants.

Committee Support: Engineering works with project proponents (citizens and committees) to help facilitate their project goals. These include the Harbor Development Committee (HDC), Route 3A Task Force, Building Committees, Trustees of the Bathing Beach, Traffic Committee, Affordable Housing Trust (HAHT), South Hingham Study Group, and the Hingham Maritime Center with the dock system on Barnes Wharf.

Support to Town Departments: The Engineering staff provides technical services to Town departments, committees and boards that include, but are not limited to, any related Town construction such as: reviewing and advising on construction, maintenance, repairs of buildings, grounds, subdivision and other plans and proposals that require the Engineering department to meet and direct engineers, architects and consultants hired by the Town of Hingham for road and building designs. We also assist local engineering firms and residents with research record drawings of utilities, property lines, etc. that exist within the Town.

Sewer

The Sewer Division falls under the direction of the DPW Superintendent. This arrangement has allowed both DPW and Sewer operations to realize savings from sharing manpower, equipment, and office staff. I would like to give special thanks to Sewer Commissioners James Byrne, Kirk Shilts, and Clark Frazier for their contributions this year. Please see the separate Sewer Commission & Sewer Department report for 2023 sewer activities.

On behalf of the Townspeople of Hingham, I would like express my sincere gratitude and commend all of the DPW employees who worked hard to keep our roads safe and passable, and who are frequently called upon to work under adverse conditions dealing with weather related and other

emergencies. I would also like to thank all of our office staff for keeping the Department operating in an efficient and professional manner.

We extend our well wishes to Steve Messinger, Transfer Station Supervisor, who retired after 37 years of dedicated service, and Billy Crosier, Transfer Station Foreman, who retired after 33 years of dedicated service. We also would like to thank Matthew Cahill, John Grant, Treavor Sass, and Stefani Dalabon and wish them well in their new endeavors.

We are happy to welcome new employees Sarah Gorman, Andrew DelPrete, and Matthew Mui to our Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Sylvester,
DPW Superintendent

Sewer Commission & Sewer Department

The Hingham Sewer Commission consists of three elected members from the community. The term of office is for three years. The Sewer Commission oversees the policies and budget of the Sewer Department and sets customer rates for the Town's two sewer districts. The DPW Superintendent manages the operation and maintenance of the Sewer Department.

In 2023, the Sewer Department performed routine maintenance, continued to upgrade its infrastructure with capital improvements to keep stride with our Asset Management Program, and responded to emergencies within the Hingham Sewer District and the Weir River Sewer District.

Infiltration/Inflow (I&I):

The I&I program consists of inspecting the infrastructure for surface or groundwater flow, or other illicit flows entering the sanitary sewer system and correcting conditions that allow inflow or infiltration to occur. As part of the I&I program, our engineering contractors inspect sewer pipes to determine where unwanted flow is entering the system. After this investigation, a work plan is put together for the repair and rehabilitation of the sewer pipes and specialized contractors are brought in to perform the work. Once the repairs are made the I&I is reduced and the capacity of the sewer system increased.

The I&I program started back up this year with the department completing the grouting of lateral services serving Planters Field Lane and Wompatuck Road, and installing short liners along South Street. Replace the wet well liner at Weir River Station on Rockland Street. Raised manholes at Bel Air Beach and replaced the frame & cover of a manhole on Rockland Street.

These efforts will continue well into the future to save the ratepayers money in discharge pumping and treatment costs. Homeowners in the sewer districts who have sump pumps can aid the effort to reduce I&I by contacting the Sewer Commission to have their sump pumps checked. Any flow found entering the sewer system can be redirected.

New Equipment:

The Sewer Department has also upgraded equipment in the sewer pumping stations as part of the Asset Management Plan. These capital improvements include: Broad Cove Station: Replaced Pump #1 and replaced the impellers on pump #2 and #3. New station heater and water heater was installed, along with new station doors and a new backflow preventer. Weir River: Wet well re-hab and replaced the stations

controllers and overloads. Town Pier Station: Installed new pump rails, float tree to operate pumps and alarms, and installed a new SCADA system. Walton Cove Station: Main door lock replacement. South Street Station: New controllers and wet well level control.

Sewer Main Repairs and Maintenance

The Sewer Department made emergency repairs at the following locations: repaired a force main break on Lincoln Street and North Street, raised a manhole and replaced the frame and cover on Rockland Street, installed a new manhole at 123 Nokomis Road, in the sewer easement; maintained the Fee Pond easement, and replaced a sewer service connection at 6 Elderidge Court.

Maintenance

The Sewer Department installed a new station door and installed a station heater at Bel Air Station. At Town Hall Station, the discharge gate was replaced. At Mill Street Station, a phase monitor control was replaced. At Howe Street Station, the discharge gaskets and bail lifts were replaced on pumps #1 and #2, and the electrical overloads were replaced.

New Projects

New force main and gravity main for Lincoln Street (3A) is in the design phase.

New Sewer Accounts

North Sewer District: 5 Weir River District: 4

The Sewer Department continues to work alongside the Board of Health enforcing the Town Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Regulation. Inspections of the grease traps in all food establishments connected to municipal sewer were performed to locate sources of unwanted FOG in the system. Camera inspections of the lines in the streets were performed to provide additional information and pinpoint any problem areas.

The Commission and Superintendent Sylvester would like to acknowledge our Sewer Supervisor, Stephen Dempsey; department employees; Office Administrator, Liz Welch; and our office staff for their dedication and hard work.

Respectfully submitted,

Clark Frazier, Chair
Kirk Shiels
James Byrne

Randy Sylvester, DPW Superintendent

Weir River Water System

The Town completed its third year managing the operation of the water system. The WRWS has received three awards from MassDEP for the work we have been doing since the Town assumed operations of the water system. We revived the annual Medium to Large Community System Award two out of the three years, and Darren Dearth of VEOLIA received an Operator Excellence Award for guiding the system through the transition, the plants ability to remove PFAS and other important treatment facility work that has been completed.

VEOLIA continues to provide operation, maintenance, and billing services to the WRWS. Along with VEOLIA, we are responsible for the pumping, treatment and distribution of over 1.2 billion gallons of drinking water per year to over 15,000 customers in Hingham, Hull, and north Cohasset.

The water system operates and maintains a 7.7 million gallon per day water treatment plant located at 900 Main Street in Hingham, 13 ground water sources, three surface water sources including Accord Pond, 190 miles of water main, two booster pump stations, two storage tanks, 3,100 gate valves, and over 950 municipally-owned fire hydrants.

Water Treatment Facility (WTF) Operations / Maintenance

During the past year, the WRWS continued to make improvements and upgrades at the WTP. A new high efficiency and higher capacity centrifuge was procured and installed at the WTF. The centrifuge is used to “de-water” the sludge produced by our treatment process. This water is then sent back to the head of the plant and recycled back through the process. This eliminates the need to decant water and waste it, and remove water to make sludge removal and disposal less expensive as it is charge by the ton. The existing centrifuge was install in 1996 and has exceeded its expected life span. We also procured a second centrifuge that is expected to be delivered in June of 2024.



We have continued with our LED lighting replacement program and will continue to invest additional resources to get all the lights at the plant replaced by FY26. We also procured a competitive bid to replace the underdrain systems in Filters 1, 3, and 4 in FY24.

All wells were tested and rehabilitated as needed.

Distribution System Operations / Maintenance

We continued with our annual distribution system maintenance of fire hydrants and gate valves. Our crews responded to 25 main and 49 service leaks, and made other improvements throughout the system. We continued our hydrant replacement program and to date have replaced over 109 fire hydrants throughout the system. Over the next year, we will continue to review the needs of the system and address them as needed. The meter replacement program continued with 635 meters replaced over the past year. Updating our meters is a key component in assuring the accuracy of accounting for water usage. This will in turn reduce our UAW.



Capital Improvement Projects

Capital improvement projects are key to the water system and the customers we serve. Over the past year, we focused our efforts on the Water Treatment Facility and finishing up on Wompatuck Road.



We continued the hydraulic analysis and other work associated with the new water storage tank and booster pump station. The tank siting recommendation was received by our consultant and at this time we are directing our efforts to the old Strawberry Hill tank site in Hull. The addition of these two system components will improve water quality, flow, pressure, system redundancy, and firefighting capabilities.

Interdepartmental

On behalf of the Townspeople of Hingham, Hull and north Cohasset, we would like express our sincere gratitude and commend all the employees of VEOLIA North America, the Town's Department of Public Works, and all those who provide support to the water system. These individuals work long and continuous hours to treat and distribute clean and safe drinking water and can be frequently called upon to work under adverse conditions dealing with weather related and other types of emergencies. We are grateful for their dedication and service.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Tierney
Water Superintendent, Managing Director

Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant

The Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant (HMLP) is pleased to submit its Annual Report on behalf of the Municipal Light Board and the employees of HMLP. In 2023, HMLP made critical reliability improvements, held its first customer survey, expanded public electrification accessibility, and held a rate study. Due to the leadership and innovation of the Light Board, HMLP continues to support the Hingham community by maintaining a safe and reliable electric system that is accessible to all customers.

Safety, Reliability & Resilience

HMLP routinely invests in its infrastructure and performs system upgrades to maintain the highest quality service. In 2023, HMLP upgraded various neighborhoods with new poles and wires, such as Partridge Dr., Manatee Rd., Stonegate Ln., Merrymount Rd., Tudur Cir., Manor Dr., Amber Rd., Andora Rd., and Mast Hill. HMLP replaced 9,000 ft. of wire from Hersey St. to the beginning of Crowes Point. HMLP also contracted Pathfinder Tree to trim trees from High St. to south Hingham and surrounding neighborhoods. These investments are critical for outage prevention and resilience. Over the year, HMLP had no lost-time injuries.

During the summer, HMLP installed a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) for all field devices and the substation. SCADA's fiber optic network will allow HMLP to operate the substation remotely. HMLP is celebrating a second year of its outage map to promote further system visibility, which the Hingham community can use to view outages live from HMLP's website at www.hmlp.com/outage-map/.

HMLP is progressing on the Hingham Electrical Infrastructure Reliability Project (HEIRP), the construction and operation of a new transmission line and substation in Hingham. In April 2022, voters authorized the transfer and control of a parcel of land at the transfer station to HMLP for the purpose of installing a new substation. HEIRP will address critical reliability needs and support the Town's electrification goals. Several public meetings were held in 2023 as HMLP readies to bring the project to the Electrical Facilities Siting Board (EFSB). Learn more at www.heirp.com.

Community Initiatives, Rebates & Outreach

Thank you to all of the customers who responded to HMLP's first customer satisfaction survey. The 52-question survey, conducted by GreatBlue Research, collected 775 responses. HMLP ranked high on reliable service (99%), honesty/integrity (97%), communication (95%), community service (91%), energy efficiency programs (82%), and rates (81%). Ratepayers identified reliability as a top priority throughout the survey.

HMLP has been a proud participant in the Town of Hingham's 2023 Climate Action Plan and strives to help Hingham reach Net Zero by 2040. In 2023, HMLP continued to grow Electrify Hingham, a program to help ratepayers go electric and decarbonize in ways that benefit everyone. HMLP's Policy on Demand Management and Electrification speaks to the need to guide this transition that will significantly impact HMLP's revenue, rate structure, and capital needs. Learn more at www.hmlp.com/electrifyhingham.

In the fall, HMLP installed Hingham's first level-3 direct current fast chargers (DCFCs) at Station St. and Lynch Field thanks to a state grant of \$175,200. These stations are now a part of Hingham's publicly accessible charging network, which supports vehicle electrification and brings additional revenue to HMLP. In 2023, HMLP's stations collected \$4,797.37 in revenue from 1,186 charging sessions with almost 400 unique drivers! HMLP also purchased three electric vehicles with state and federal funding.



EV charging station in use at the South Shore Country Club

HMLP spent \$252,374.88 on conservation services in 2023. On behalf of HMLP, Energy New England (ENE) conducted 160 energy assessments and approved 188 rebates. HMLP also issued rebates for solar installations totaling \$79,230. When HMLP invests in efficiency, it receives a return for itself and the ratepayers through kWh savings and avoided costs.

Financials & Power Supply Portfolio

In 2023, HMLP completed an extensive rate study with Utility Financial Services. With increasing operation costs, energy costs, and upcoming capital expenses, the Board approved UFS's recommended rate increase,

which HMLP will phase over three years instead of all at once. Rates were adjusted to achieve an overall increase in revenues of approximately 6% in 2023. The Board also established an income-adjusted rate in 2023 for qualified residents. If you struggle to pay your bill, please call 781-749-0134, email info@hmlp.com, or visit www.hmlp.com/assistance.

For the 2023 fiscal year, the Light Board voted to transfer a payment to the Town of Hingham in lieu of taxes totaling \$465,445. These dollars help the Town maintain the high level of services the citizens of Hingham have come to expect and receive.

HMLP proudly provides reliable electric services to Hingham while keeping rates reasonable, service quality high, and operations environmentally sustainable, including a commitment to 100% carbon-free energy.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Morahan
HMLP General Manager

Fire Department / Emergency Management



I am pleased to submit the annual report to the citizens of the Town of Hingham as the Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director.

2023 was our busiest year to date and the second time our call volume surpassed 5,000 incidents. In 2023, we saw a slight decrease in ambulance transports but an increase in other responses.

In 2023, the Hingham Fire Department responded to 5,382 emergency calls. Of those 5,382 responses, 3,369 were medically related calls, and the ambulance transported 2,804 patients, which generated a net revenue of \$2,277,181.60 in ambulance receipts.

EMERGENCY RESPONSES – 2023

Fire	78	Response Totals 2019 - 2023	
Overpressure/Explosion/Over Heat	3		
Emergency Medical Services	3,369		
Motor Vehicle Accidents	321	2023	5,382
Hazardous Conditions	181	2022	5,372
Service Calls	325	2021	4,993
Good Intent Calls	395	2020	4,268
Fire Alarm and Other Alarm Calls	614	2019	4,616
Severe Weather	78		
Special Incident	18		
TOTAL RESPONSES	5,382		

In November, Governor Healey and State Fire Marshal Jon Davine recognized sixteen of our firefighters at the Firefighter of the Year ceremony for the Apple Store Incident in November 2022. All of them received a Governor's Group Citation for Meritorious Conduct. Deputy Levenson was also awarded the Stephen D. Coan Fire Marshal Award for his actions during the incident.



Fire Department personnel continued working on the public safety building project. I want to thank the Public Safety Building Committee members and everyone working on this project. We are delighted with the construction progress and can't wait to move into the building in the spring of 2025.

The Fire Prevention Division has continued with inspections, permitting, and participation in different Town committees. Last year, the division issued 942 permits and conducted 1,599 inspections. The combined total from all permits, fees, and reports generated \$38,170 in revenue.

Fire Inspections – 2023

Smoke Detector and CO Detector	582
Plan Reviews	407
Certification of Occupancy	149
Chapter 304 Alcohol License Inspections	39
FP6 Permits (General, propane storage, cutting/welding.)	356
Blasting Permit	4
Nursery School Inspection	8
Elderly Boarding Care Inspection	20
School Fire Drills	36
Total Inspections	1,599

Last year, we continued hiring, and we brought four new firefighter paramedics on board. Thomas Leonard was hired in January, and Edward Geswell and Anthony Matthews were hired in April. Finally, Alexandra Minehan was hired in October. The four new firefighters successfully graduated from the Massachusetts Fire Academy (MFA) recruit program and are working in Hingham. We are excited about our newly promoted officers and new hires and are confident they will help improve our Department. We thank the Town Meeting for supporting our request to hire four additional firefighters. The latest hires return our staffing levels

to a maximum of fourteen firefighters per shift. We are continuing to work to fill the positions.

Unfortunately, one retiree passed away in 2023. Mike Ford died on November 15, 2023. Mike served in the US Air Force from 1967 to 1973. He joined the fire department in March 1971 and retired as an acting lieutenant in April 2003. During his career, he received a commendation for heroic acts at the Hingham Square fire in 1988.

The Fire Department continued training on various topics. Some highlights included more marine training, working in houses slated for demolition, active shooter, K9 training, and emergency vehicle operations. The Department participated in a large-scale active shooter drill at Blue Cross Blue Shield in August. The drill involved multiple agencies and allowed our staff to train with other departments, such as the Mass State Police. All members of the Department also attended specialized training to treat injured police dogs. We want to thank the K9 Kitt Foundation for sponsoring this training.



Deputy Lachance continued to ensure we take advantage of grants or other financial opportunities. We received one grant from the Massachusetts Department of Fire Safety for \$18,900 to purchase 19 sets of wildland/rescue turnout pants. The new gear can be worn in motor vehicle accidents and is safer for firefighters because it doesn't contain PFAS like our structural gear. We also have two grants from FEMA. One grant was to support the CERT team for \$4,800, which we used to buy new uniforms for the team. We also received \$5,100 from a FEMA Emergency Preparedness Grant to purchase three portable lights and a car fire blanket.



Again this year, the Department was pleased to offer the SAFE (Student Awareness of Fire Education) and Senior SAFE programs. The State awarded us \$6,658 to provide both programs. The SAFE educators successfully taught multiple programs for schools and at the senior center. It's always lovely when we hear from parents that their children came home from school and wanted to talk about evacuation plans or smoke detectors.

I want to thank and credit all of our department members for their excellent work. The men and women of the Hingham Fire are genuinely dedicated to serving the public and succeeding through their skill and professionalism. It is an honor and privilege to lead such great people. I also want to thank the Board of Selectman, Town Administrator, Assistant Town Administrator, all Town Departments, and Committees for their help and guidance throughout this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen A. Murphy
Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director



Hingham Police Department



The Hingham Police Department remains committed to proudly serving all residents and visitors to our Town. The Department's core values of Integrity, Service, Excellence, and Leadership are demonstrated daily by the dedicated men and women of this agency. We are grateful for the support that our residents and businesses have shown our officers and professional staff over the past year.

In 2023, officers responded to 28,121 calls for service.

Hingham Police Statistics – 2023

Court Statistics	
Arrests	112
Criminal Complaint Applications	238
Traffic Statistics	
Motor Vehicle Citations	4,273
Parking Tickets	206

Opry, who was rescued from a kill shelter in Texas, continues to be one of the most popular members of our agency. She serves as the Hingham Police Department's Comfort Dog and is assigned to School Resource Officer Thomas Ford. She can be found frequently at events and locations around town, follow her on Instagram at @OpryDogHPD.



Officers John Crenier, Gina McCarthy, and Justin Worth graduated from the police academy and have completed their field training.

K-9 Pablo retired after proudly serving our Town for over 8 years! Pablo was our first single purpose Narcotics Detection K-9 and served alongside his handler, Officer Robert Achille. K-9 Pablo is enjoying his well-deserved retirement living with Officer Achille and his family. K-9 Pandia has joined

the department and has big shoes to fill after Pablo's retirement. She will be serving with her handler Officer Bryan LoBianco as Narcotics Detection and "Friendly Find" K-9.

With the generous support of Senator Patrick O'Connor the department was able to secure grant funding to start a drone unit. Currently we have four drones and seven drone pilots with a supervisor overseeing the unit. The drones are equipped with accessories like spot lights and infrared cameras. This specialized unit can be used to assist with search and rescue, accident and crime scene mapping, public event security, and apprehending suspects.

I want to thank the men and women of the Hingham Police Department for their dedication to service and the passion that they display each day to our community. I am incredibly proud to be able to serve alongside them.

Respectfully submitted,

David P. Jones
Chief of Police



Traffic Committee

The Traffic Committee exists to assist Hingham residents and business owners with ways to alleviate traffic concerns in all areas of the Town. The Traffic Committee does not have the power to implement changes, but rather recommends proposals to the Select Board.

The implementation of the 25 MPH speed limit for business districts and thickly settled roadways (with the exception of state highways) is underway. This measure to improve public safety was approved at the 2022 Town meeting. The process has consisted of installing signage and flashing speed warning signs along with enforcement by Hingham Police Department.



Improvements to the North Street corridor have been made including a wider shoulder on both sides of the road with designations for no parking. Additional measures to improve safety in this area as well as the Downtown area are ongoing.

The Traffic Committee continued to monitor the accident occurrences at the intersection of Main Street and Cushing Street. In 2023, based on available data, there were four accidents at this location.

At High, French and Ward, based on available data, there have been a total of two accidents at that intersection in 2023.

Once again, the Traffic Committee thanks the citizens of Hingham for their ongoing interest in suggesting ways to improve the free and efficient flow of traffic and pedestrian movement within the town's streets and sidewalks.

Should a resident or merchant have a topic to bring before the Traffic Committee, they can make a written request to the attention of Sergeant Jeffrey Kilroy and the Traffic Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief David P. Jones, Chair (Represented by Sgt. Jeffrey Kilroy)
Chief Steven Murphy (Represented by Deputy Chief David Levenson)
Randy Sylvester, Department of Public Works
JR Frey, Town of Hingham Engineering Dept.
Rita DaSilva, Representative for Planning Board
Daniel Miller-Dempsey

Harbormaster

Each year brings increased requests for services throughout our waterways. The Harbormaster Division of the Police Department continues to meet these demands ensuring a safe boating season for everyone.

We received typical maritime calls for services including vessels aground or capsized and persons in the water. Early in the season two boys swam to Ragged Island before heavy rain and wind arrived from over the horizon. A shoreside observer reported them missing when they could no longer be seen. We responded arrived on scene quickly, located, and returned them safely to shore.

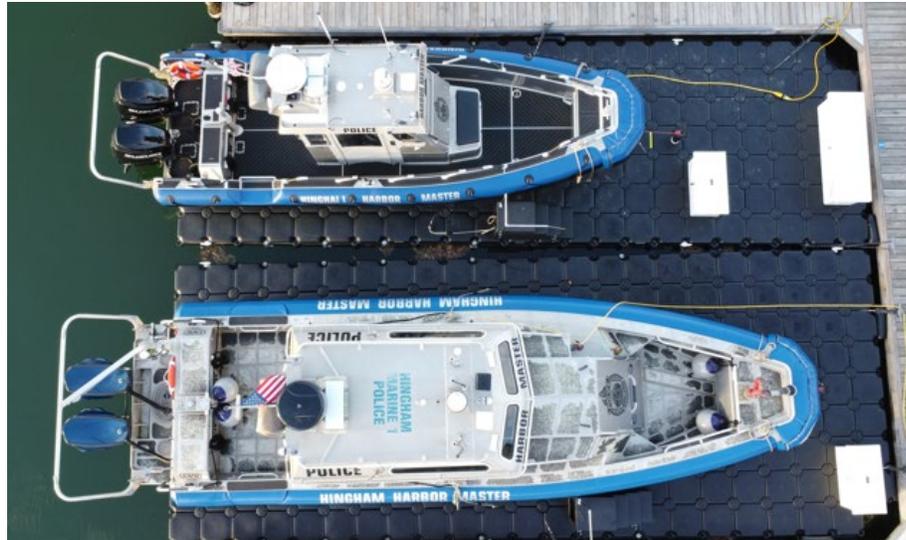
We continue to provide assistance to our port partners and responded to a boat fire off Metropolitan Yacht Club and assisted Hull Harbormaster with a nighttime boat incident in the vicinity of Boston Light. Numerous thefts of electronics from boats occurred at Hingham Shipyard Marinas and moored boats in the Back River. A sailboat laid up for the winter in the shipyard caught fire, but quickly extinguished by diligent workers in the yard.



Safeboat 31 responding to Boston for port wide active threat drill.

The Harbormaster Division participates in Homeland Security missions and training including Securing the Cities Maritime Nuclear Detection/Response Training. Several officers from the patrol division joined us as a force multiplier. We also participated in the annual port wide Active Threat Exercise, responding in our Safeboat 25 to an active shooter drill on board a commuter ferry. Our drone unit participated by flying to the ferry providing advance situational awareness and gained experience with takeoff and landing from a moving vessel.

Two JetDocks were installed for our 25 & 31 Safeboat. When concluding a patrol, the boats now drive up onto the dock and are lifted out of the water, minimizing saltwater corrosion and eliminating the need to paint the vessel's bottoms.



Patrol boats on the JetDocks

The pumpout boat received a big upgrade, a Suzuki four stroke outboard motor. Our pumpout boat is an important tool keeping our waters clean. This year three new employees joined our team operating the pumpout boat, providing pumpout services for 278 boats pumping over 6,000 gallons of waste.

Our 1997 26' SeaArk was auctioned off and transported to its new home in Connecticut where it will be employed in a different line of service. It was replaced by our Safeboat 25, which is an excellent quick response boat. Our Safeboat 31 experienced a port engine failure and was rebuilt keeping it in service for the remainder of the year.

At the tail end of the boating season post tropical storm Lee caused a 30 foot sailboat to break its mooring. Luckily, we were underway at that moment and quickly hooked the sailboat into a stern tow.

Community engagement is always important. I was recruited by Officers Ramsey and Ford to participate in their summer episode of Cops & Kids. We talked about safe boating on the water and enjoyed some fun.



Filming Cops & Kids with Harbor Media

The 2023 boating season was beautiful, warm with higher than average rainfall. The waterways were busy with various boating activities (water skiing, swimming, all kinds of paddle sports, and numerous camping reservations on Langlee Island). As always, the Harbormaster team provided 24/7 public safety services to keep our harbor community, people, and property safe and secure. We responded to numerous calls for service last year, some of which are identified below. On average, a call for service lasted slightly longer than one hour.

Calls for Service – 2023

8	B&E Boat
1	Boat Adrift
5	Boat Dewatering
21	Boats Disabled
4	Boat Fires
9	Boat in Distress
3	Mutual Aid - Hull, Weymouth, Quincy
4	Water Rescues
82	Violations Issued
1	Suicide

The Harbormaster Division has hometown dedication with homeland security responsibilities. Our commitment to people's safety and enjoyment of Hingham's waters is foremost. We are always open to questions and suggestions. We can be emailed at harbormaster@hpd.org and follow us on Instagram @harbor_Master_Ken_Corson.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R. Corson III, Esq.
Harbormaster/Shellfish Constable
Custodian of the Islands

Animal Control



The Town of Hingham has one full-time Animal Control Officer and Animal Inspector who is responsible for handling domestic, barnyard and marine animals. While also dealing with sick or injured wildlife on Hingham Town-owned property and enforcing all animal-related State and Town laws.

In 2023, Hingham Animal Control attended a number of trainings related to animal and police matters. Animal Control continues to patrol Bare Cove Park and monitor the off-leash dog program as well as coyote, fox, and fisher cat activity. Animal Control worked with local veterans (Vets with Pets) and seniors to help them ensure their pets are well cared for when they are in need of assistance. The Animal inspector performed barn, kennel, doggie daycare, and veterinarian office inspections to ensure they meet safety protocols. Hingham Animal Control works side by side with the State parks, Trustees, and other private properties that welcome animals during emergencies and to establish protocols to ensure the public's safety.

Animal Control Statistics – 2023

Licensed Dogs	
Calls to duty	273
Barn Inspections	14
Kennel Inspections	8
Loose dogs	63
Quarantines	25

The Hingham Animal Control Officer would like to acknowledge and thank the Chief and Deputy Chiefs of Police Department, Select Board, Town Administrator, Town Departments, and Hingham residents for their continued support.

I look forward to continuing to serve the residents and animals of our community in 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie A. Badger, Animal Control Officer

Hingham Affordable Housing Trust

The Hingham Affordable Housing Trust was created by Town Meeting in 2007. The Trust is one of more than 100 state-authorized affordable housing trusts that work with state and local agencies to preserve existing housing opportunities and increase future housing for low- and moderate-income persons. Increasing the stock of affordable housing benefits many constituencies.

Trustees are appointed by the Select Board and include one member of the Select Board. The Trust's powers include the authority to receive money and property and to undertake projects to improve affordable housing opportunities in Hingham. Our mission statement is as follows:

- The Trust seeks to preserve affordable housing through a variety of means which will benefit both current and potential new residents.
- The Trust will propose, support, and develop affordable housing that contributes positively to the character of the town, considering both Hingham's history and its future.
- The Trust will engage in education and advocacy with the goal of promoting the diversity of Hingham's population.

Lincoln School Apartments

Since the Town's purchase of the Lincoln School Apartments (LSA) in 2008, the Trust has been the sole member of Lincoln Apartments LLC, which oversees the Board of Managers of the 60-unit senior affordable housing development. The Trust appoints two members to the Board. The Board recently updated the capital needs assessment that will inform upcoming capital investments in the apartments in light of the age of the two adjoining structures. Capital improvements include a comprehensive window replacement project that was completed in 2023. This project brought to light issues in the two structures, including older leaking roofs and water intrusion into the facades of both buildings. The Board worked with Staff and Town Engineering to commission and complete studies by third-party engineering specialists for Roof and Building Envelope repairs and HVAC systems updates. The Board of Managers along with the Trust and Town staff, are currently reviewing needed capital improvements and developing repair schedules.

Creating Housing

During 2023, the Trust completed renovation of four homes, located at Rhodes Circle, Ridgewood Crossing, and Central Street. Three of these homes were sold to new owners and the fourth is expected to sell imminently. In addition, Habitat for Humanity completed construction of

and sold two homes on Whiting Street on property that the Town and the Trust had transferred to them. These projects have added three new units to the Town's Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI), and an additional three units will be added soon. The Trust continues to look to obtain additional properties to rehabilitate and sell to income-qualified buyers.

Also in 2023, the Trust received a \$735,000 grant under the Community Preservation Act as part of the annual CPC article at Annual Town Meeting. These funds will be used to complete the rehabilitation of a single-family home on Cushing Street and a condominium located in Beal's Cove, among other uses.

The Trust welcomed new member Michael Sutton this year, and expresses our appreciation to Randy Winters, who completed his term on the Trust and continues to serve on the Board of Assessors.

The support of dedicated professional staff is key to our success. The Trust expresses its gratitude to Art Robert, Assistant Town Administrator of Operations; Jennifer Oram, Zoning Administrator/Senior Planner, and Donna Thompson, Land Use and Development Coordinator. We look forward to working closely with them in the coming year. The Trust also thanks the Select Board for its continued support of the Trust's initiatives as well as the Community Preservation Committee, Planning Board, and other Town boards and officials for their ongoing commitment to the creation and preservation of affordable housing in Hingham. We welcome continued public participation and input from residents and encourage interested individuals to attend our monthly meetings to learn more about ways to support housing opportunity in Hingham.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Falvey, Chair
Pamela Bates, Vice Chair
Brigid Ryan, Treasurer
Liz Klein, Select Board Member / Trustee
Elizabeth Curran, Trustee
Michael Sutton, Trustee
Greg Waxman, Trustee

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is charged with the responsibility to review the audit process, including the annual financial statements and reports prepared by our auditors. The committee met on multiple occasions over the past year to review the following reports as prepared by Clifton Larson Allen (CLA):

1. Town of Hingham "Annual Comprehensive Financial Report" (ACFR) for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023.
2. Town of Hingham "GAO and Uniform Guidance Reports for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023"
3. Town of Hingham "Governance Communication Letter" for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023
4. Town of Hingham "Contributory Retirement System Pension Plan Schedules for the Year Ended December 31, 2022"
5. Town of Hingham "Management Letter" for the year ended June 30, 2023, discussing internal controls, ongoing status of previously reported items and review of upcoming regulatory changes

Key findings from the auditors in the reports:

1. Had no material disagreements with management.
2. The audited financial statements received an "unmodified opinion" which is the best opinion that a government unit can receive. It indicates that the financial statements were prepared in accordance with generally acceptable accounting principles and that they are fairly presented in all material respects.
3. One material weakness was identified in internal controls over financial reporting in the GAO and Uniform Guidance Report with respect to Bond Premiums. The issue has been addressed by management and is properly reflected in the June 30, 2023 financial statements

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Farrington, Chair
Andrew Sander, Secretary
Katie Gosselin
Wilson Kistler

Bare Cove Park Committee

Bare Cove Park consists of 484 acres located along the banks of the Weymouth Back River. The property is managed as a wildlife preserve and a place for public recreation and education. The park is beautiful, safe, fun, and full of life. 2023 was the 49th year of operation as a Town of Hingham municipal park. The Town's website contains information about the Park, including park history, Park Regulations, a printable map, dog permit application, and a contact email to reach the Bare Cove Park Committee.

The Bare Cove Park Committee manages the day-to-day operations of the park. Ranger Scott McMillan continues to keep the park in excellent condition for year-round use. He mows the roadsides and fields seasonally and plows the snow to keep the roads clear in the winter. Ranger McMillan also completes a variety of tasks to make the park an enjoyable place to visit year-round, including removing refuse, coordinating volunteer service activities, trimming back branches from roads and trails, and maintaining the vistas of the river for all to enjoy, among many other things

Springtime held regattas within the park for the Hingham High Rowing Team with large turnouts from area schools pitching hammocks and rowing shells in the afternoon sunshine



Hingham Recreation offered its second year of Parkland Adventure where campers rode their bikes through the park enjoying fresh air, exercise and a visit to the Dock House Museum that houses the items found within the park from its war history.

The park hosts any other events including road races, non-profit events, and as a resource to complete community service hours

Scott McMillan, Park Ranger, has maintained a serene environment for all park users, flora, and fauna while curating the Dock House Museum which is opened alternating Sunday's mid-day.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray O'Neill and Claudia Eaton

Trustees of the Bathing Beach

The Trustees of the Bathing Beach conducted our 2023 meetings under the Town's virtual Zoom meeting format similar to the three prior years. We thank Town Clerk Carol Falvey, her staff and everyone associated with managing this format and for facilitating this process so that Town business could go on as seamlessly as possible.

The new bath house/snack stand had a successful third season under the oversight of snack stand operator Greg Acerra. The community room portion of the building was utilized from April through November for the second year for yoga



classes under the auspices of the Hingham Recreation Department. We hope to be able to increase the utilization of the room in 2024 for additional activities including revenue producing uses to help repay the supplementary construction funding received from Town Meeting.

We continued to interface with the Harbor Development Committee and the 3A Task Force in the preparation of an updated master plan for the Inner Harbor area and traffic light improvements and improved pedestrian and bike access.

We would like to thank Town Engineer J.R. Frey for his assistance in our ongoing planning efforts. We would again like to thank DPW Director Randy Sylvester and his staff for their ongoing efforts including: trash removal; managing sand, and grading/shaping the beach for the 2023 season; for their maintenance of the grass area along Route 3A and in the Grove area and for their coordination of the geese control program. We would also like to thank the Hingham Recreation Department and particularly Director Mark Thorell for overseeing the lifeguards and personnel again this past year as the beach continued to see more activity than ever before and for helping our residents enjoy everything the beach has to offer.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Perrault, Chair; Adrienne Ramsey; Edward Johnson

Beautification Commission

The Hingham Beautification Commission (HBC) completed its nineteenth year of helping to maintain the beauty of Hingham!

Our group met most months at Town Hall to plan for our upcoming plantings and cleanups. There are eleven garden islands throughout Hingham maintained by the HBC once every 4 to 6 weeks. The lack of rain was a hardship on these islands; the plantings struggled to look their best. There are also several container gardens in downtown Hingham and Lincoln Street areas that the commission designed, decorated, and maintained throughout the seasons. From April through October, about 200 hours were spent this year by the commission on maintaining these sites.

The commission receives much needed assistance from the Department of Public Works. They remove the debris that we clear out of the islands. They also help mulch before the season really got under way. At the end of the season, they helped us clear out the island beds before winter.

We are fortunate to have a small group of extra volunteers, who are not members of the commission, but are willing to lend a helping hand. We welcome our new member, Cheryl Russo, to the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Spaziani, Chair
Carolyn Aliski
Patricia Bray
Margaret Coleman
Patricia Collins
Carole Waite
Henry Buckley
Cheryl Russo



Cable TV Advisory Committee

In 2023, the Committee continued to focus on advising the Select Board on the content and quality of programming on our Public, Educational, and Government channels, in partnership with Hingham Harbor Media, formerly known as, Hingham Cable Access and Media (HCAM), our non-profit organization. The roll out of an HD (high-definition channel) has been well received.

In April 2023, the committee completed its negotiations with Verizon on the renewal of their license with the town for an additional 5 years. We've also expanded our web page at <https://www.hingham-ma.gov/424/Cable-TV-Advisory-Committee>.



Scan QR Code

Our webpage also includes a feedback form for citizens to use to collaborate with the committee: <https://www.hingham-ma.gov/FormCenter/Committees-22/Cable-Advisory-Committee-Feedback-94>.



Scan QR Code

Local public, education, and government programming is available on Harbor Media's high-definition channels with closed captioning support on Comcast 1072/Verizon 2131. Visit www.HarborMedia.org for more information on the new grant program, live stream viewing and interactive TV schedule, how to support local programming, and training classes.

Our Current Channels:

Public : Comcast Channel HD 1072 | Verizon HD Channel 2131
 Educational: Comcast Channel 22 | Verizon Channel 29
 Government: Comcast Channel 09 | Verizon Channel 30

Harbor Media Budget vs. Actual

	Proposed	Budgeted	Actual
Total Business Expenses	\$4,220.00	\$4,220.00	\$4,331.07
Total Contract Services	\$21,500.00	\$13,850.00	\$13,837.44
Total Facilities and Equipment	\$89,000.00	\$70,480.00	\$47,037.34
Insurance (Professional, Liability, Worker's Comp & Fire)	\$12,000.00	\$6,600.00	\$3,908.76
Total Operations	\$16,750.00	\$16,250.00	\$5,064.83
Total Human Resources	\$413,850.00	\$413,760.57	\$202,265.77

New this year was the launch of the Harbor Media Production Grant program, providing cable funds for video production directly to local producers to cover the costs associated with creating new programming. Two grant cycles were held in 2023 funding 29 videos totaling more than \$130,000. As all cable funds are restricted for use in development of local programming, Hingham viewers will reap the benefits of this innovative grant program to improve the quality and quantity of Hingham TV.

The upward trend of locally produced and contributed public TV programming, along with Harbor Media crew coverage of education and government programming resulted in just more than 444 hours of new videos for local viewers. Harbor Media was fortunate to attract a former PBS producer/reporter to the team and his take on a new series, Give Me the Good News Hingham, showcases local people and places around town. Hingham is home to many creative professionals and a former network producer/director and TV host teamed up with our crew to create a dozen "stand ups" to add polish to the channels and introduce key TV block segments.

2023 Monthly Production Totals

Date	Public	EDU	Gov't	Member Produced
January	6:06:30	5:52:58	34:47:07	4:52:15 (6 shows)
February	7:37:34	0:12:30	28:44:08	2:47:05 (8 shows)
March	11:37:12	4:37:50	24:35:57	4:01:50 (10 shows)
April	10:42:19	0:14:30	21:02:36	3:43:34 (8 shows)
May	9:34:12	0:43:50	21:02:36	4:43:50 (9 shows)
June	4:20:20	8:50:46	27:17:13	2:58:10 (13 shows)
July	4:46:20	2:17:15	33:11:23	4:01:05 (12 shows)
August	3:34:50	0:27:30	18:14:19	2:08:40 (6 shows)
September	5:33:25	1:42:55	27:37:08	3:08:30 (6 shows)
October	10:32:55	2:10:30	34:32:13	5:42:35 (9 shows)
November	5:24:29	2:40:05	31:24:44	2:42:35 (13 shows)
December	6:35:22	0:22:40	21:57:14	1:25:45 (7 shows)
Total	86:25:28	30:12:49	329:07:33	42:15:54 (107 shows)

Technologically, Harbor Media continues to offer viewers closed caption options for increased accessibility as well as the video on demand feature. Future activities include live streaming online via both Android, and iOS (Apple) smartphone devices.

I wish to thank all the committee members for the giving of their time and expertise in providing the best local cable access we can for the citizens of the Town of Hingham.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Jones, Chair

Michael Wilmot, Recording Secretary

John Lawler

Heather Kashman, Hingham Schools Representative

Michelle Balconi, Harbor Media Representative

CAC@Hingham-MA.gov

Climate Action Commission

Mission & Formation: At Town Meeting April 2023, the Town voted to establish the Hingham Climate Action Commission (HCAC) and charged it with supporting, overseeing, and reporting on:

- 1) the Town's implementation of the Climate Action Plan (CAP), developed and adopted pursuant to Article 14 of the 2021 Annual Town Meeting, by updating the Town's carbon footprint as a measure of progress on the implementation of the CAP and progress towards the Net Zero goal, and
- 2) any updates and amendments to the CAP in accordance with the recommendations and processes set forth therein.

Work Product: The HCAC, as per its mission, will pick up where the Climate Action Planning Committee (CAPC) left off and oversee and report on the CAP's implementation, and will update the CAP pursuant to its terms as progress is made.

2023 Activities: The CAPC, the predecessor committee to the HCAC, fulfilled its mission by finalizing and adopting the CAP on July 19, 2023. The CAPC, in developing the CAP in conjunction with the consultant Energyzt Advisors, LLC (the engagement of which was generously funded by the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant) and Hingham's Sustainability Coordinator Consultant, Virginia (Ginny) LeClair, placed an emphasis on public engagement to ensure that the plan developed was made by and made for the citizens of Hingham. To that end, the CAPC held 40 public meetings, three public engagement sessions, presented progress to the Select Board on three separate occasions, made three presentations to various Town bodies, gave two presentations to community groups, held two public events separate and apart from the engagement sessions, published three articles, and conducted a broad community survey. The CAP was designed to be deep but accessible, including multiple detailed recommendations and narrative expositions along with executive summaries describing each contour of the plan in one page or less.

On finalizing the CAP, the CAPC disbanded and is to be formally discharged. With the CAP completed, the HCAC was constituted in November 2023 after each Town committee represented on the HCAC selected its representative and both the Select Board and Moderator selected their appointed volunteers. The HCAC will hold its first meeting on January 10, 2024.

Having recently been constituted, the HCAC is focused on getting up and running, determining how it plans to support and oversee the CAP's implementation. It has targeted three principal areas to start:

1. CAP Buildings contour: The Town's buildings constitute the single largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. The HCAC will target educating citizens on how to reduce their use of carbon-intensive energy for heating and cooling, modeling ways of doing so depending on the type of structure (historical home, modern construction, etc.). The HCAC will also investigate alternative funding sources and programs to assist Hingham citizens in making such transitions.
2. CAP Transportation contour: The HCAC will explore opportunities for transitioning municipal and residential transportation to less carbon-intensive or carbon-free alternatives, such as electric school buses and adding more electric vehicle charging stations.
3. Community & Regional Engagement: Public education, regional cooperation, and "getting the word out" are key components of a successful implementation of the CAP. The HCAC will continually focus on how to raise awareness and engage the public in the HCAC's work.

The HCAC also acknowledges that the Sustainability Coordinator role, which serves as a non-voting member of the HCAC, is currently vacant. The Sustainability Coordinator position is of critical importance to the functioning of the HCAC and the Town's ability to achieve its goals under the CAP. The Sustainability Coordinator is needed to manage the Town's carbon inventory, identify opportunities and costs for carbon reduction, seek funding opportunities where the Town is a contracting party or otherwise the body needed to apply for grants, coordinate with HCAC for goal setting and progress reporting, and other functions relating to the CAP implementation. Therefore, the HCAC will continue to advocate for and involve itself in the Town's efforts to fund, attract, and support a Sustainability Coordinator.

The HCAC conducts its meetings in accordance with the Open Meeting Law and encourages all interested citizens to attend and have their voices heard. Materials related to the working of the HCAC can be found on the Town of Hingham website. The HCAC is grateful for the participation, insight, and support it has received from Hingham citizens and other Town committees.

The HCAC would like to express its thanks to the Select Board; Town Administration; the Advisory Committee; Virginia (Ginny) LeClair, the Hingham Sustainability Coordinator Consultant; Brianna Bennett, the HMLP Sustainability Coordinator; and the Departments with whom the CPAC and HCAC has worked over the past year, as nothing could have been accomplished without their support.

Respectfully submitted,

Voting Members

Brad E. Moyer, Chair, Energy Action Committee Representative
Elliott Place, Vice Chair, Select Board Appointee
Maria Zade, Cleaner Greener Hingham Representative
Gary Tondorf-Dick, Planning Board Representative
Henry (Bob) Hidell, Conservation Commission Representative
Nancy Wiley, Development & Industrial Commission Representative
Jo-An Heileman, Select Board Appointee
Matthew Moran, Moderator Appointee
Vincent (Vin) Moran, Moderator Appointee

Non-Voting Members

Alyson Anderson, School Committee Representative
Thomas Morahan, Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant Representative
TBD, Sustainability Coordinator

Commission on Disabilities

The Commission on Disabilities was reactivated by the Hingham Select Board in 2020. The mission of the Commission is to improve the lives of the people with disabilities in Hingham. The Commission is responsible for promoting integration of the persons with disabilities in the community, providing information and referral to individuals, businesses and organizations in all matters that pertain to disability issues, participate in a variety of forums to develop awareness of persons with disabilities and encourage compliance with the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act).

Our primary focus this past year was to make our page on the Town website a resource for disability questions. We have listed resources ranging from transportation services to service animal programs to the grievance procedures to employment resources.

The Commission has received a number of calls and emails from residents asking about various accessibility issues in town. We are pleased to be a helpful resource.

Once again, the Commission on Disabilities participated in the Hingham July 4th Parade. We also represented the Commission through other Town groups such as the Human Rights Commission.



We are working with the Town to make each Town Meeting more accessible. We are also working with the Town on how to implement the recommendations in Hingham's ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan. We hosted a public meeting where the Plan was presented and we presented the Plan to the Select Board.

The Commission on Disabilities would like to thank all those who have supported our mission over the last year. A heartfelt thank you goes to the Select Board. The Commission is also grateful to Tom Mayo, Town Administrator, and Art Robert, Assistant Town Administrator for Operations, for their support. Lastly, the Commission would like to acknowledge the support of the Town Clerk's Office and the IT Department for keeping things running smoothly.

We continue to look for opportunities to broaden our reach and support in the community and encourage residents with disabilities to consider becoming a member of the Commission.

If you would like to learn more about the Commission on Disabilities, please email cod@hingham-ma.gov.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Gertz, Chair
Sharon Allen, Vice Chair
Megan Baker, Secretary
Jane McGrath, Treasurer
Nicole Nihan, Member
Art Robert, Assistant Town Administrator, ADA Coordinator and Member

Community Preservation Committee

The Community Preservation Act (MGL c. 44B) (CPA) is a local option statute enacted by the State Legislature in 2000 and adopted by the Town in 2001. It enables municipalities to collect and expend funds (including matching funds from the Commonwealth) to maintain their character by supporting open space, historic preservation initiatives, affordable housing, and recreation specifically defined by the CPA.

The Town obtains Community Preservation funds from a 1.5% surcharge on Town real estate taxes, plus funding from the Commonwealth's Community Preservation Trust Fund. Grant funding coming from the Commonwealth, payable each November 15th, is based on the surcharge revenues for the fiscal year ending the prior June 30th and interest on the accumulated funds. The total amount collected by the Town's Community Preservation Fund for the year ended June 30, 2023 was approximately \$1,254,609 from local taxes and a distribution of \$370,349 from the Commonwealth's Community Preservation Trust Fund for a total budget of \$1,624,958.

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is composed of nine members; one each appointed by and from the Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Historical Commission, Housing Authority, and the Recreation Commission, two citizens appointed by the Select Board and two citizens appointed by the Moderator. The CPC reviews applications submitted by Town bodies, citizens, and other town entities such as nonprofits to fund projects involving preservation of historic resources, creation of low- and moderate-income housing, acquisition of open space, and recreation. The CPC makes recommendations to Town Meeting regarding the use of the Town's Community Preservation Fund for those purposes. The Community Preservation Act requires that at least 10% of each year's Community Preservation revenues be spent or set aside for each of three categories: Historic Preservation; Community Housing; and Open Space (of which Recreation is a sub-category). The remaining 70% is available for spending on any one or more of these categories, or for saving for a subsequent year.

The CPC reviewed applications and made recommendations of the following projects to Annual Town Meeting 2023, which were approved. The CPC held a surplus of \$35,316 in reserve for use in FY25.

Affordable Housing Category

- Hingham Affordable Housing Trust Opportunity Fund (\$735,000)

- Hingham Housing Authority, 132 Scotland Street Building Envelope Restoration (\$15,592)
- Hingham Housing Authority, 132 Scotland Street Garage Envelope Restoration (\$12,964)
- Hingham Housing Authority, 132 Scotland Street Boiler Replacement (\$7,727)
- Hingham Housing Authority, Thaxter Park Fire Door Hold Open Systems (\$40,534)

Open Space/Recreation Category

- Hingham Recreation, Cronin Field Basketball Court Reconstruction (\$178,945)
- Hingham Recreation, Pickleball Court Feasibility Study and Design (\$55,500)
- Lehner Conservation Property Acquisition Debt Payment (\$195,279)

Historic Preservation Category

- Benjamin Lincoln House Acquisition Debt Payment, final payment (\$75,100)
- Hingham Public Library, Digitizing Historical Hingham Newspapers (\$20,430)
- Hingham Historical Commission, Tree and Park Barn Painting and Restoration (\$93,000)
- Hingham Girl Scout House Rehabilitation (ADA compliance) (\$109,000)



Administrative Category

- A sum of \$50,000 to use for CPC operational and administrative expenses.

The CPC wishes to thank departing member David Gossage for his service to the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Strehle, Chair (Moderator Appointment)
Kirsten Moore, Vice Chair (Moderator Appointment)
David Gossage (Select Board Appointment)
Eryn Kelley (Select Board Appointment)
Laurie Freeman (Conservation Commission Appointment)
Elizabeth Dings (Historical Commission Appointment)
Megan Buhr (Housing Authority Appointment)
Rita DaSilva (Planning Board Appointment)
Vicki Donlan (Recreation Commission Appointment)

Country Club Management Committee



The 160 acres purchased by the Town in 1988 continues to thrive as a place for all of Hingham's community to gather. With the completion and opening of our new maintenance facility this past year, our staff beams with pride over their stewardship of our renowned 18-hole golf course.

Raffael's at the South Shore Country Club and the Greenside Grille owner/operators Elio and Frank Ricci will be moving on to other ventures at the end of 2024 and we thank them for their 15-year partnership and care of our facility and community. The Town and the Country Club Management Committee will work closely to ensure a smooth transition and ongoing first-rate services that the Country Club community has come to expect.

The Town pool project remains on hold due to litigation - we look forward to its resolution.

The Master Planning/Facility Assessment process continues with the assistance of Chris Rotti, Architect from RMD Collaborative who also helped design the town pool and maintenance facility. As part of their mission to protect and enhance the capital assets of the (South Shore Country Club (SSCC), the five-member Country Club Management Committee (CCMC) board continues to focus on facility improvements with a new roof and HVAC system being installed this year. Significant capital investment continues to be required, including the demolition of the existing pool and pro shop area. This continues to pose financial challenges as over 85% of SSCC revenue is generated from golf, forcing the Committee to consider other building-centric/Town revenue sources to help pay for capital requirements.

The Club continues to be profitable, adding to its fund balance. In addition to the 30,000 annual rounds of golf, there is over 500 people on the Permit Holder waiting list.

Executive Director Kevin Whalen, Golf Pro Chris Riley, Assistant Club Pro Mike Libby, Golf Course Superintendent Jake Silva, Cate Cannon in the office, and the SSCC staff are to be commended for their commitment to making the SSCC a successful and safe operation.

As a Town-owned and operated facility for over 35 years, the SSCC continues to partner with our local schools, Recreation Department, and renowned Special Needs Athletic Program (SNAP) for numerous services and programming activities throughout a normal year.

Our three golf simulators, 10 lane bowling alley, and active restaurant help to balance out the seasonal nature of the golf course. We are honored to be recognized as a premier public course in the Commonwealth and are most thankful for continued Town support.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Smith, Chair
John J. Bailey
George Kay
Sue Sullivan
Stephan White



Cultural Council

The Mass Cultural Council is a state agency that promotes excellence, education, diversity, and inclusion in the arts, humanities, and sciences. The MA Legislature appropriates the agency's funds. Hingham participates in the Local Cultural Council (LCC) Program, a network representing every city and town in the Commonwealth. LCCs dispense their annual allocation – awarding grants that support thousands of local projects – according to each community's cultural needs as determined by its council members. To learn more, see: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/about/programs-a-z/>.

In August, the governing body of the Mass Cultural Council approved the FY24 fiscal plan, which called for \$44 million for creative and cultural investment in the state, and which Governor Healey later approved. The Local Cultural Council Program was allocated \$5.5 million for grants. Hingham received \$8,200; we had another \$1000 in now-unencumbered funds. We met on November 15, 2023 to vote on the applications, and decided how to dispense our available balance.

The Hingham Cultural Council approved \$9,200 to support the arts, humanities and sciences in our community. Seventeen grants ranging from \$250–\$1,500 were awarded to:

• Atlantic Symphony Orchestra – <i>Presents Carnival of the Animals</i> - Concert at Weir River Farm, Hingham
• Motoko Dworkin – <i>Fun Folktales from Japan</i> at Foster, South and Plymouth River elementary schools in Hingham
• Evan Haller – <i>Interactive Music Concerts for Young Children and Their Families</i> at Hingham Public Library
• Talking Information Center, Inc. – <i>TIC Live Radio Theater</i> performs live radio theater for the blind and low vision community
• Notre Dame Academy – <i>Building the Future One Robot at a Time</i> Elementary schools and Scout troops in Hingham and at Notre Dame Academy (Hingham)
• The Trustees of Reservations – <i>Weir River Farm Sunset Picnic Concerts</i> in Hingham
• Gnome, Inc. – <i>Happy Camp Nantasket</i> , a surfing-centered therapy session for kids with physical differences or neurodiversities. Nantasket Beach, Hull, MA
• Lewis and Shea – <i>Present "Songs and Stories of the American Folk Revival"</i> at the Hingham Senior Center

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ed the Wizard – <i>Reading is Magic</i>, an interactive magic performance emphasizing the importance of reading skills, will take place at the Hingham Public Library
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Ship Candlelight Concerts – Presents: <i>Candlelight Concerts</i> taking place at the Old Ship Meetinghouse in Hingham
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easton Children’s Museum, Inc.– Presents: <i>Waves, Sound and Light</i> at the Hingham Public Library
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Arc of the South Shore, Inc. – the <i>2nd Annual Bunny Bash</i> will be held at Derby Street in Hingham, featuring a petting zoo, live music, an egg hunt, and other kid-friendly, family activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MUSIC Dance.edu – <i>Hip Hop Chair Dance for Seniors!</i> --A dance series held at the Hingham Senior Center
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hingham Cemetery – <i>Dead of Winter Cultural Series, keeping the arts alive in the middle of winter with poets, music, and speakers, held at Ames Chapel</i> in Hingham
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Shore Art Center – <i>The Inspired I</i>, an invitational arts apprenticeship program in Cohasset engaging ±30 local teens
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Shore YMCA – <i>Maple Day</i>, explores the cultural and natural history surrounding maple sugaring in the region and will be held at South Shore Natural Science Center (SSNSC), Norwell
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Shore YMCA – Brings the <i>Corn Festival Performers</i> to Emilson YMCA, in Hanover, a harvest festival bringing together artisans, crafters, music, and performers

We currently have five residents appointed by the Select Board to the seven available seats on the Cultural Council. Jonathan Kirk performed the duties of Chair, with assistance from Mary Bell for reimbursement responsibilities. Additionally, Megan Ward coordinated grant awardee notifications, while Kathleen Nugent performed the duties of Council Secretary, and Kate Schembri performed the duties of social and communications coordinator. Many thanks to our members who volunteered their time to our Town. You make a difference!

As of March 12, 2024, there will be three open seats as Megan Ward will have completed two consecutive terms on the Council and is required to vacate that seat for at least one year. Hingham is required to have at least five of the seven seats filled by the start of the next fiscal year in order to receive new funds from the state for local allocation in FY25.

Our local guidelines include the following:

- All grant applications must benefit the community and promote the arts, humanities or interpretive sciences.
- All grant applicants must have a local sponsor.
- Priorities include arts and cultural events held within Hingham or the immediate area to benefit Hingham residents.

Our Cultural Council's primary purpose is to ensure that Hingham's share of funds from Mass Cultural Council are administered fairly and equitably in the best interests of our community. Find us on the Hingham town Website at <https://www.hingham-ma.gov/716/Cultural-Council> and on Facebook.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan P. Kirk, Chair
Kathleen Nugent, Secretary
Megan ward, Grant Recipient Communications
Mary Bell, Reimbursement Coordinator
Kate Schembri, Communications Coordinator

Department of Elder Services

The Hingham Department of Elder Services' mission is to support the independence and ongoing personal development of Hingham's population 60 and older, advocate for their needs and work to enhance the quality of their lives.

The Department of Elder Services operates a 5,000 square foot senior center, newly retitled to *The Hingham Center for Active Living (HCAL)*. The HCAL offers a variety of in person, remote and hybrid programs and services, including; fitness and wellness classes (i.e. massage, reflexology, strength, balance, yoga, Pilates, Pound, etc.), health clinics, lifelong learning and education, art classes, DIY crafts, special events, movies, discussion groups, information and referral services, card games, transportation, volunteer opportunities and much more.



Life Long Learning Lecture

The Center for Active Living hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30 am-4:00 pm, Tuesdays, 8:30 am-6:30 pm, and Fridays, 8:30 am-1:00 pm. The department employs one full-time Director, one full-time Administrative Assistant, one full-time Outreach Coordinator, one full-time Program Coordinator, one part-time Office Assistant and two part-time medical drivers. The department also employs one part-time grant funded Transportation Coordinator.

The Department of Elder Services maintains its status of National Accreditation through the National Institute of Senior Centers. This achievement recognizes that the Hingham Center for Active Living performs within the top 2% of all senior centers across the country.

Program Data

From January through December of 2023, the Center hosted 150 individual programs. Many programs are recurring, for a total of 2,475 events. Programs increased by 3.5% over 2022 (2,391 programs).



Participation grew from 853 active members in 2022 to 1,140 active members in 2023, (33.65% growth). The Center welcomed 232 new participants versus 127 new members in 2022, an increase of 82.7%). The HCAL added several new programs to its roster; Pound, Barre, line dancing, intergenerational events, holiday portraits, Derby party, Christmas in July, the Enchanted Center and open house community event.

The department honored World Elder Abuse Awareness Day with the Select Board making a proclamation to recognize June 15, 2023 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Hingham.

Volunteers

The Hingham Center for Active Living could not function without the efforts of our tremendous volunteers who perform a wide variety of roles within the department. Volunteers provide shuttle transportation, greet and answer the phones at our front desk, facilitate and assist with programs, prepare and serve meals, provide health insurance counseling, assist with design of the monthly newsletter and program flyers, serve on the Council on Aging and Building Committee, provide data entry, organization, deliver newsletters and so much more.

62 volunteers logged 4,410 hours in 2023, an increase of 22% over 2022. According to Independantsector.org, the value of volunteer time was \$39.19 per hour. Volunteers of the Center saved the Town \$172,829 or the equivalent of 2.4 full-time employees.



Volunteer Jay Giles

The department held its first Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon since 2019, honoring the recipients of the Earle Dare Mable Volunteer of the Year awards in front of their peers: Peggy Hughes (2020), Dawn Sibor (2021) and W. Joe Millburg (2022).

Transportation Services

The Department of Elder Services provides shuttle transportation services to senior residents for essential errands around Hingham and to the Center for Active Living. The shuttle van operates Monday through Friday and is staffed by volunteer drivers. In 2023, several special trips were added to the schedule including scenic tours of the backroads of Hingham and South Shore towns such as Scituate and Humarock, Hull and Plymouth, holiday lights, JFK Museum and Library, monthly Market Basket trips, Big Y, Ocean State Job Lot and many more. The Department provides free transportation to local medical appointments for Hingham senior residents. Appointments are accepted on a first come first serve basis and providers may be in surrounding towns.

Between January and December of 2023, 129 seniors utilized transportation services. 54 residents were provided 792 rides to medical appointments, 85 individuals took advantage of the shuttle and 43 seniors received rides to the center. Medical Transportation was provided to 16 individuals through a grant funded third party organization.

Outreach

The Outreach Coordinator provides information and referral services to Hingham residents seeking such information related to available programs and aging services; including assistance applying for subsidized programs including SNAP and Fuel Assistance. In 2023, 305 individuals sought assistance from Outreach for a cumulative total of 677 meetings. Senior safety, food insecurity and information, and referral are the most occurring reasons for seeking assistance.

The Outreach Coordinator also oversees the Town Tax Work-Off Program placement. In a customary year, 60 tax work-off slots are available to seniors who meet eligibility guidelines. Seniors can work within various municipal departments to reduce real estate tax liabilities. This year, 21 tax work-off participants reduced their total real estate taxes by \$30,374.40 at minimum wage. For more information, call the center or visit: <https://www.hingham-ma.gov/747/Property-Tax-Work-Off-Program>

SHINE (Serving the Health Information Needs of Everyone) Counselors assist individuals' select health care coverage that best meets their unique

medical and financial needs. Open enrollment takes place from October to December annually.

Grants

In addition to the Annual State Formula Grant, the Department benefitted from several additional grants:

- In May 2023, the department received notification of the State's Chapter 268 Economic Development Earmark award of \$25,000 to replace the center's commercial kitchen gas range and dishwasher.
- In June 2023, Elder Services received notification of a State FY23 Community Transit Grant towards the purchase of a replacement van. The grant will provide \$149,656 towards the total cost of the vehicle. Expected delivery date is in July 2024.
- Hingham senior residents benefited from a grant partnership between Hingham Elder Services, South Shore Elder Services and South Shore Community Action Council. The grant provided funding for 16 seniors to receive transportation to 48 medical appointments that otherwise would not have been accessible to them.

Marketing and Community Outreach

The department distributed 1,200 printed copies monthly of its newsletter, "*The Central Times*" which can be found online at <https://mycommunityonline.com/find/hingham-senior-center>. The printed copy is delivered to senior housing developments, medical providers and other high trafficked locations. The Senior Center operates a Facebook page, with 560 followers, to provide up to the minute information on programs and services, as well as to promote social opportunities and events at <https://www.facebook.com/HinghamSeniorCenter>.

Elder Services established an online donation option through the Town of Hingham's website.

Council on Aging

The Council on Aging (COA) is an 11-seat advisory board. The COA members also serve on various committees to assist in achieving the mission and vision for the Senior Center and the Department of Elder Services. Committees are comprised of COA Board Members, staff, volunteers and senior center patrons. The COA Board meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. Advisory Board members facilitate the development of the department's long term strategic plan, assist with the

NISC Accreditation process, the annual appeal for donations and so much more.

The COA continues its work on several initiatives to address key findings of the 2022 Community Needs Assessment Report. This project was a partnership between the UMass Boston's Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging through the Gerontology Institute and the John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, the Council on Aging, the Department of Elder Services, the Senior Center Building Committee and Town Administration. The full report, *Aging in Hingham: A Community Needs Assessment*, can be found at <https://www.hingham-ma.gov/353/Elder-Services>.

The COA developed a Rebranding Committee to address the following key findings:

- 24% of respondents report they are not old enough to use the center.
- Awareness and understanding of the Senior Center is uneven among residents.

Following 12 months of work, the COA voted unanimously to put forth a request to formally change the name of the Senior Center to the Center for Active Living. On November 7, 2023 the Select Board further supported the Town Administrators request to change the name of the facility. This will be followed by additional action at the 2024 Town Meeting.

Facility discussions continue to be at the forefront of COA Board meetings and amongst center participants. According to the UMass Donahue Institute, by 2025 Hingham is projected to have 8,924 residents over the age of 60 (37% of the total population) and 12,087 residents over the age of 50 (50.6% of the total population).

By 2030, Hingham should expect to have 9,591 residents over 60 (39.1% of the total population) and 12,465 over 50 (50.9% of the total population). The department's services are provided to caregivers as well as senior residents. The Department of Elder Services gives serious consideration to the impact this growth will have on the department, staff, programs, transportation and facility limitations.

2023 Center for Active Living Memberships

Number of total members:	12,212
Number of active members:	1,140
Registered email addresses:	1,188
Demographics (active members):	73.9% Female, 25.4% Male

The Council on Aging thanks outgoing COA Board Member Christine Conley, for her service to the seniors of Hingham.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Young, Director

COA Members:
Joe Nevins, Chair
David Alschuler, Vice-Chair
Ethel Franks
Karen Johnson
Cindy King
Leon Merian
Joe Millburg
Joshua Ross
Jean Silverio
Sara Smithson
Elaine Ward



Energy Action Committee

Mission: To serve the residents and commercial enterprises of the Town of Hingham by helping to establish energy policies and measures that will promote the efficient use of energy and reduce adverse environmental impact, and by taking measures to increase awareness of energy issues.

Work Product: The ongoing Energy Action Committee identifies, promotes, and helps implement energy savings opportunities for municipal and community-wide operations and residences, and raises energy awareness on issues of concern to Town residents.

Work Agenda: Monthly meetings; working with various Town committees, groups, Hingham Public Schools, and the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant on identifying, and eventually providing implementation support, for carbon reducing measures; and, as needed, representing the Town on energy policy issues in the broader Massachusetts community.

For the calendar year 2023, the Committee continued meeting on roughly a monthly basis and set as its short term goal the following:

- Continue to identify and advocate for renewable energy use in the Town with a short term focus on:
 - Municipal Electric Vehicle opportunities for fleets such as School Buses
 - Develop a plan to educate residents on the availability of heat pump programs and the benefits of converting from fossil fuels.
- Participate in and support any climate action planning effort approved by the Town;
- Identify further projects and opportunities for, and assist the Town in preparing, competitive grant applications under the Green Communities program or other sources of incentive funding (Federal / State);
- Support sustainable, resilient, and energy efficient design in any new and planned-for municipal buildings; and

During the year, the Committee engaged with the Town's Sustainability Coordinator Consultant to monitor and update the Green Communities energy reduction plan. The plan was updated in areas of School Building and the South Shore Club. The annual report from Hingham's plan were successfully submitted to the state by the assistant town administrator.

Other activities of the Committee include (1) a complete rework of the EAC web site to highlight various energy or carbon reducing technologies such as Heat Pumps, EVs, and Solar, located here: <https://www.hingham-ma.gov/499/Energy-Action-Committee>; (2) suggesting the Library consider adding EV chargers to any future plans to rework the parking lot; (3) provided options to the fire chief for an EV ambulance; (4) kept Hingham Public Schools aware of the application process and deadlines for the EPA administered EV bus grant applications and (5) offered assistance to the South Shore Country Club to find funding sources for Solar.

The Committee would like to express its appreciation to the Town Administration and, most of all, the active and engaged citizens of Hingham. While the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact the Committee's functioning with in-person meetings, remote meeting format continued via Zoom, and the Committee members were able to meet and conduct business

Any individuals interested in serving on the committee or offering expertise on energy related matters are encouraged to contact us through energy@hingham-ma.com.

The Committee would like to express its thanks to the Select Board, Town Administration, the Advisory Committee, the School Committee, the School Building Committee, the Climate Action Planning Committee, the Public Safety Building Committee, the South Shore Country Club Management Committee, Hingham Net Zero and the Departments with whom the Committee has worked over the past year, as nothing could have been accomplished without their support. The Committee would like to express its thanks to, and acknowledge the strong support of, the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant, which has advocated for and provided assistance to the Committee for many years.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Brad Carr, Chair
Paul Sprecher
Brad Moyer
Brianna Bennet

Fourth of July Parade Committee

"The parade was a major part of our lives and our boys. It brought our families together with friends and neighbors to simply enjoy the day. The parade has something for every generation in Hingham, from our little kids to their grandparents we all loved the Fourth of July in Hingham."

- Warren Pelissier, 2023 Grand Marshal

It is the charge of the Fourth of July Parade Committee to plan, organize, and raise appropriate funds for Hingham's annual Independence Day Parade. The parade is entirely self-funded through fundraising activities by the Hingham 4th of July Parade Committee and donations from many generous supporters. As the parade has grown, so have the expenses. The current annual budget averages approximately \$55,000. We would like to recognize and thank the following local and regional businesses for their sponsorship in support of the 2023 parade:

- A.W. Perry – Our Longest and Strongest Supporter!
- Bristol Brothers Development
- The Range Bar & Grille
- Lorusso-Bristol Stone
- Plymouth Quarries
- Weathervane Companies,
- Hingham Police Association
- South Shore Conservatory
- Panek Donuts (Dunkin on 3A)
- McCusker-Gill
- Pyne Keohane
- Compass Real Estate
- Notre Dame Academy
- Hingham Institution for Savings
- South Shore Bank
- Fruit Center Marketplace
- Richardson Insurance
- Bold Depot
- Hingham Lumber

Chair Jim Murphy was back to lead the Parade Committee for a 13th year and he continues to be supported by a dedicated group of people from the community. This year's committee included: Monica Conyngham, Gabby Roegner, Tom Hoffman, Dewitt DeLawter, George Ford (Uncle Sam), Mary Ellen Lahiff, Cassie McDermott, Jason Caine, Leon Merion, Sgt. Kilroy of HPD, and Louis O'Dea. Parade day help included Carrie Murphy, Dan Lahiff, Jack Murphy, and other volunteers.

The Parade Committee selected "Together for the 4th" as the theme this year to represent the traditional gatherings that occur year after year and generation after generation, to celebrate the 4th of July in Hingham. As done in years' past, Hingham's 5th grade students were invited to participate in creating a design for the parade button, based on the selected theme. The committee received hundreds of talented submissions from East School, Foster School, Plymouth River School, South School, as well as St. Paul's School and chose William Donovan from Plymouth River School as the 2023 July 4th Parade button winner. William captured this year's theme quite simply with four friends sitting together on the grass overlooking Hingham Harbor watching the fireworks!



July 4th parade button winner, William Donovan, far right, and friends

Sales of the 2023 Parade Buttons sold under the leadership of Dewitt DeLawter, who is a member of both the Rotary Club and the Parade Committee. Parade buttons were available at more than 20 locations for a donation and sold quickly. This year, sale of the buttons generated a record donation of over \$9,700!

Parade Committee members Tom Hoffman, Erin McGourty, Susan Rizzo, and Will Keough continued to lead the efforts for the 50 Flags Campaign. Tom was successful in recruiting various high school organizations and athletic teams to assist in the labor-intensive tasks of installing, retrieving, and managing the flag inventory of approximately 20,000 flags. This year's campaign achieved a record \$37,500! Twenty percent of the funds raised, or \$7,500, were distributed to the groups represented by the

volunteers, which included HHS Football, HHS Girls Soccer, HHS Girls Lacrosse, HHS Track, HHS Boys Hockey, HHS Rowing, HHS Field Hockey, HHS Baseball, Hingham Youth Football, and South Shore SNAP.

One of the most exciting tasks of the Committee each year is the selection of the Parade Grand Marshal and the unanimous selection was Warren Pelessier, a Hingham resident for over 35 years. Warren's extraordinary dedication to our community includes his past involvement with the Hingham Nursery School's relocation and later the Hingham Sports Partnership (HSP). Warren became the HSP President at a time the fields, track and tennis courts at Hingham School all needed significant work. His voice and leadership led to investment in the athletic infrastructure.



After working with HSP, Warren noticed that Special Needs children were excluded from participating in Hingham athletics. Within months the South Shore SNAP (Special Needs Athletic Partnership) was formed. Soon after, high school sports teams had Special Needs student-athletes participating with a strong student-to-student mentoring program.

In 2022, the Citizen of the Year selection process was taken over by the Hingham Anchor and rebranded as the "Hinghamite of the Year." Tom Hoffman was named the Hinghamite of the Year in 2023 in recognition of his exceptional community contributions. Over the years, Tom has always exhibited a passion for making Hingham a better place, and he has left an indelible mark on the town and its residents. You could hear 'Hey Hoffs' called out from the crowds repeatedly as Tom was paraded through town!



The Parade also honored the Hingham Veteran of the Year, LCDR Arthur Smith, USCG (Ret.). Arthur was named



veteran of the year during the Veterans Day ceremonies at Hingham Town Hall on Friday, November 11, 2022. He is a veteran of the Coast Guard.

The 2023 parade had a wide variety of participants including 26 registered colorful floats, 15 bands, classic and antique automobiles, Clydesdale horses, clowns, Scouts, sports teams, community groups, and elected officials spread out for the 1 and ½ hour parade.



1911 Manhattan Mack Truck from Daley & Wanzer

Local groups, teams, and organizers were represented by many floats, and among them, there were four winners, for the following annual categories:

- Best in Parade – Hingham Congregational Church, 175th Jubilee
- Most Unique - Hingham Arts Alliance/Kids Cabaret
- Most Patriotic - Hingham Historical Society
- Most Beautiful - Hingham Maritime Center



A special "Thank You" to this year's judges: Aine and Jill Powell, Fiona Pierce, Riley McDermott, Jacqui and Connor McDermott, and Catherine Nash.

Parade planning is well underway for 2024 and one critical area for discussion is parade committee succession planning. A number of committee members, who have been serving on the committee for over 10 years, have formally given their notice: George Ford, (Uncle Sam, Paid Performer Coordinator is stepping down in December 2024; Jim Murphy, Parade Committee Chair since 2011, Mary Ellen Lahiff (Button/Schools Liaison, Parade Float Judging); Louis O'Dea (Cars, Day of Float Management); Monica Conyngham (Meeting Minutes, Treasurer, Parade Tent); and Cassie McDermott (Parade Day Order Control); are all stepping down in December 2025.

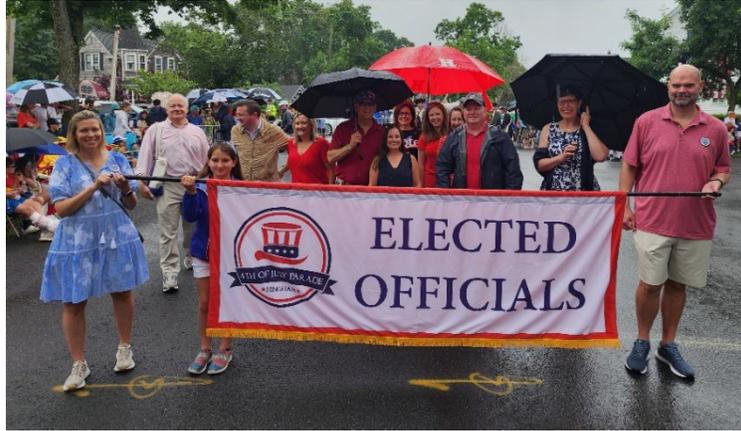
Sadly, Gabby Roegner (Parade Forms Manager, Social Media, Meeting Minutes, Float Registration Coordinator, Safety Regulations & Safety Meeting, Parade Order Planner, and Registration Tent) passed away in August.

Finally, the Committee greatly appreciated the support from the Town's Public Safety services, from Police Chief David Jones, Fire Chief Steve Murphy, Randy Sylvester, and the DPW for keeping our day safe and clean, starting with the road race at 7:00 am and culminating with the parade at 10:00 am. Safety is the major focus of the Parade Committee and, after

all the preparation for the each parade, the Committee's major reward is knowing the Parade was both joyful and safe!

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Murphy, Chair



Harbor Development Committee

The Harborfront continues to draw lots of interest and attention. The second annual Harbor Celebration Day held the weekend after Labor Day in 2023 was a great success despite the rain.

Town-Owned Wharf Repair, Restoration, and Reconstruction

The Town's Inner Harbor wharves are now over 80-years-old, and the wear and tear that mother-nature has taken on them have become a safety issue. Overtopping of Town Pier and Barnes Wharf during significant storms has become common, and makes it clear that the Town needs to build a united defense against sea-level rise to protect the Downtown infrastructure and ensure sustainable use of Route 3A. With the engagement of Foth Infrastructure and Environment, LLC, the Town and Harbor Development Committee are planning to reconstruct Town Pier, Barnes Wharf, and the wall near Veteran's Park commencing in the fall of 2025, pending approval to fund the projects by Town Meeting in April 2025. The intent is to complete the majority of wharf construction before the 2026 start of the Route 3A redesign. The Town's wharves are planned to be raised above four feet each, to a uniform 11 feet level matching Veteran's Wharf.



Hingham Boat Ramp

The new boat ramp was opened in summer of 2022. The Town has been working on a sand management program to keep sand off the bottom of the boat ramp during the boating season, and will continue to explore ways to improve sand management.

Bath House/Snack Shack

The Community Bathing Beach House asset is managed by the Bathing Beach Trustees. Under their purview and Eat Well, Inc.'s management of the Beach House restaurant, the Beach House continues to attract lots of customers, resulting in demand for more outdoor seating and trash pick-up. The Recreation Department's trial for yoga classes in the community room have been well-received.

Master Plan for Hingham Harbor

The Master Plan specific to Hingham Harbor and complimentary to the Town's 2020 Master Plan remains an ongoing project. The Harbor Development Committee and Bathing Beach Trustees have worked closely with the Town Engineer and 50 other stakeholders to create specific options, cost, grant opportunities, and implementation prioritization to address the following:

How do we most appropriately utilize space between Route 3A and the water?

- Playground
- Recreation (e.g., kayak storage, lessons, etc.)
- Event space/shade structures
- Hardscaping/Landscaping
- Improve disability access
- Where should benches be located, under what conditions

Who coordinates/manages ongoing maintenance?

- What is the upkeep cost once more features/activities are added, how is it funded?

What is realistic in terms of big infrastructure investments to continue to see growing use of the harbor by Hingham residents?

- Barnes Wharf infrastructure requirements

What programming should be developed to make the harbor area more attractive to all of our residents?

What grant money is available to implement the visions created by this plan?

The final report for the Master Plan for Hingham Harbor is expected to be delivered by late 2024.

At the 2023 Annual Town Meeting, voter's passed Warrant Article 27 which allows the Town to negotiate and acquire 30 Summer Street, the former

Gallery 360 Real Estate office, near the Route 3A rotary. The Harbor Development Committee is in the process of forming its recommendations for the short, medium, and long-term use of this property.

The Harbor Development Committee would like to express its thanks and gratitude to Hingham's Town Engineer, J.R. Frey, without whom none of this ongoing work would be possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Marco Boer, Chair
Amy Cowan, Vice Chair
Kathleen Doran Cutler
Nick Amdur
Paul Gannon
Brian Tomasello
Allie Koskinas

William Reardon, Emeritus

Kenneth Corson III (Harbormaster) ex-officio
J.R. Frey, Town Engineer

Board of Health

The Hingham Board of Health consists of three elected members from the community who serve three-year terms. The Board is supported by dedicated staff including Susan Sarni, MPH, Executive Health Officer; Teresa Flynn, Public Health Nurse; Elizabeth Nee, Health Agent; Andrea Benedetto, Administrative Secretary; and Robin Magner, Food Inspector.

The Board of Health received a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to work with Cohasset and Scituate on regional public health initiatives in 2022. We continued to work collaboratively to contract a Regional Public Health Nurse and Social Worker, and Title 5 Systems Inspector. We continued to work with the state on a Public Health Capacity Assessment to determine what additional services we can better provide to our community while meeting state standards.

The Board of Health also continued to permit new construction lots and subdivisions. The Board worked with applicants to preserve open space while reducing nitrogen impacts on the environment.

The Board of Health continued to work with our Tobacco Compliance Officer to ensure tobacco was not sold to minors. We revised the Tobacco Regulations to include restricting the number of permits of Tobacco Sale Establishments and increased fees for those establishments that sold to minor to match the state requirements.

The Board of Health's jurisdiction and broad responsibilities include such activities as Title-5 septic system permitting and inspection, food establishment licensing and inspections, surface water quality testing and enforcement, Recycling and Dumpster regulations administration, Fats, Oil and Grease (FOG) regulation administration, Tobacco Sales and Smoking control program, West Nile virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis surveillance, local and regional emergency planning and response, Body Art and Bodywork licensing, communicable disease surveillance and response, recreational camps for children licensing, regulating the Keeping of Animals and Fowl, tanning salon licensing, building permit review, subdivision review, private well permitting, housing code compliance and much more.

Health Department Permits

Farmers Market	40	Food Establishments	153
Animal Permits	7	Store Milk	95
Catering	7	Frozen Desserts	5
Residential Food Serv.	3	Mobile Food Service	12
Septage Haulers	17	Beach Testing	8
Rubbish Haulers	16	Septic Installers	34
Tanning Salons	1	Funeral Directors	2
Semi-Public Pools	11	Pool Construct. Permits	36
Manufactured Housing	1	Day Camps	13
Septic Permits	104	Variance Applications	80
Building Permits	1200	Treatment Plant	317
Soil Evaluations	43	Tobacco Sales	15
Private Well Permits	6		

Public Health Nurse

The Health Department hired a new Part-time Public Health Nurse (PHN) in July 2023. The PHN has continued to monitor, assess and investigate all reportable diseases and works to prevent additional transmission. The PHN has also instituted many community outreach programs such as "Ask a Nurse" monthly programs at the Center for Active Living, Lincoln School Apartments, and Thaxter Park as well as relevant seasonal programs that include Sun Safety, Tick-borne Illness Prevention, Women's Health, Heart Health and more. Residents have been able to make appointments/drop-in for blood pressure checks and to discuss non-urgent medical concerns.

Communicable Disease Investigation

Babesiosis 5, Borrelia miyamotoi infection 2, Norovirus 12, Campylobacteriosis 3, Cryptosporidiosis 1, Cyclosporiasis 1, Giardiasis 3, Group A streptococcus 5, Group B streptococcus 1, Haemophilus influenza 1, Hepatitis B 3, Hepatitis C 3, Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis 1, Influenza 57, Lyme Disease 50, Novel Coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc) 449, Salmonellosis 4, Streptococcus pneumonia 5

Town Social Worker

In 2023, this position remained unfilled for the year. We used the Regional Social Worker for immediate needs of our community. The position of the Town Social Worker (TSW) provides broad support for our residents and family members with mental health challenges, hoarding or clutter reduction, family issues, and resource information for housing and food adequacy concerns. Our TSW also helped those reporting mental health to find a therapist or support group.

Food Inspector

Food Establishment permits are for our town's restaurants, cafeterias, schools, nursing homes, daycares, grocery stores, and bakeries. Our Food Inspector inspected each of these 153 establishments twice a year; and most establishments received an additional re-inspection within 2-weeks of their unannounced inspection. The inspector completed six new kitchen plan reviews for new food establishments opening this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Bickford, Chair
Elizabeth Eldredge M.D.
Rosemary Byrne, MSN, ANP-BC, ACHRN

Human Rights Commission

The Human Right Commission (HRC) was established in 2022 as an advisory body to the Select Board. It represents the Town of Hingham's commitment to support the rights of all persons in Hingham to enjoy the free and equal exercise of their rights and privileges as secured by the Constitution and Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and of the United States. We are to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion within the Town of Hingham.

The Commission consists of thirteen members. All the members are appointed by the Select Board. There are seven Town government members representing the Police Department, School Committee, Council on Aging, Commission on Disabilities, Affordable Housing Trust, Housing Authority, and the Recreation Commission. Other members include a High School Student who is a Hingham Resident recommended by the School Committee and five at-large members who are Hingham Residents.

Our Mission Statement

The purpose of the Human Rights Commission is to advise the Hingham Select Board on how to ensure the town of Hingham supports diversity and equity while fostering inclusion and belonging for every member of the community.

The Commission will make recommendations to the Hingham Select Board on programs and policies that will help identify conscious and unconscious biases and prejudices. The Commission will work to identify and reject discrimination including but not limited to race, color, ancestry, national origin, language, citizenship status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, marital, family, military or veteran status, socio-economic status, age, ex-offender status, and religious/non-religious identities.

2023 Initiatives

The HRC worked on a number of important initiatives during 2023 ranging from partnering with other local groups on Town events and knowledge sharing, inviting guest speakers to our meetings to learn about their group's initiatives, conducting a stakeholder survey and attending social justice trainings, issuing statements to the community on incidents that are counter to/or support of our mission and participating in the Massachusetts Human Rights Coalition monthly meetings.

Commission members partnered with local groups and attended several events including the 4th of July Parade with the Commission on Disabilities and the Menorah Project with the Hingham Community Center, Downtown

Merchants Association, Hingham Unity Council, Hingham Police Department, and Congregation Sha'aray Shalom.

We also collaborated with the Historical Society on a Land Acknowledgement Statement and connected with Superintendent Dr. Adams with Thomas Green of the Neponset Band of the Indigenous Massachusetts Tribe to explore a way for us to bring educational opportunities to Hingham students.

Guest Speakers included Katie Sutton who presented an overview of the Hingham Unity Council, Michelle Larned from the Hingham Pride Project who explained HPP mission and goals and provided an historical overview of pride month and her experiences in Hingham, Tom Green of the Neponset Band of the Indigenous Massachusetts Tribe helped the Commission with drafting a Land Acknowledgement statement and spoke to the history of the Tribe and working together to raise awareness and Aileen Walsh HPD Clinician and Susan Sarni of Hingham Board of Health provided an overview of Health Equity and Mental Health crisis occurring throughout the Town.

We conducted a Town stakeholder survey and participated in two Network for Social Justice trainings for the members of the Commission, the Select Board and Town Administrator to better understand various perspectives and what our Town values are in order to shape our focus and for possible future programming initiatives.



L to R: Back: Bill Ramsey (Select Board), Tom Mayo (Town Administrator), Lt. John Marquardt, Tim Miller-Dempsey, Middle: Kelly Peguero, Reena Patel, Sara Smithson, John Bradley, Stephen Leary (HRC Chair), Joel Fisher(Select Board), Front: Liora Norwich(Network for Social Justice), Liz Klein(Select Board Chair),Tien Do-Suarez, Ruth Bennett, Christine Griffin, Stephanie Gertz. Missing: Ardith Wieworka

The Commission acknowledged, issued, and/or supported a number of Town Board/Committee statements including Black History month and the Embrace statue in Boston, Town Budget cuts, Massachusetts Indigenous Legislative Agenda, removing family restriction on Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders month, an alleged firearm and racial incident with a Hingham Police Department Officer and hate crimes, Juneteenth, Scituate Incident/Jamele Adams on DEI, the Israel-Palestine conflict and the Bomb Threat at Congregation Sha'aray Shalom.

We participated in Zoom meetings with the Massachusetts Human Rights Coalition to learn about other town and statewide HRC's initiatives and attended their annual convening at the State House: Bending the Arc Towards Health Equity in May.

Thank you to all Town boards and committees, residents and local organizations that have welcomed us and supported our initiatives, as well as our guest speakers for their hard work and contributions. We are fortunate that our Commission's members and our key partners represent diverse backgrounds which gives us keen insight and perspective in raising awareness and promoting inclusion, equity, and diversity initiatives for all people in the Town of Hingham.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Leary, Chair
Tien Do-Suarez, Vice Chair
Reena Patel
Tim Miller-Dempsey
Ruth Bennett
Lt. John Marquardt
Ardith Wieworka
Sara Smithson
Christine Griffin
Kelly Peguero
John Bradley
Stephanie Gertz
Akaashi Shetty



Long-Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee (Cleaner Greener Hingham)

2023 was a productive year for the members of Cleaner Greener Hingham (CGH), officially known as the Long-Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee. Our work was focused on three main areas: taking action on single use plastics; continuing composting education; and supporting other Town officials and departments. For the year 2024, we will be working on ways in which Hingham can move closer to the goals set out in the Waste section of Hingham's Climate Action Plan. To read the Plan, follow the QR code. To join our work, please submit a Talent Bank application, included in the Town Meeting Warrant, or attend one of our meetings.



*Scan to read Hingham's
Climate Action Plan*

Taking Action on Single Use Plastics

The first four months of 2023 were devoted to gaining support for CGH's warrant article banning the commercial sale of plain water in single use plastic containers under one gallon in size ("Bottle By-law"). We published articles and opinion pieces in the Hingham Anchor and conducted interviews with The Patriot Ledger. We also presented to varying citizen groups with the intent of answering questions, incorporating feedback, and finding consensus on the bylaw. As a result of our efforts, we won the unanimous support of the Select Board, overwhelming majority support of the Advisory Board, and the support of seven private citizen groups. The most important "group" to support the Bottle Bylaw was, of course, the voters at Town Meeting, who passed the bylaw resoundingly.

Beginning in June, members of CGH worked with Town officials, specifically the Health Officer, to educate residents and businesses about the coming bylaw and provide resources and information to ease the transition. We are grateful to CGH intern Nathan Tesler, who volunteered with us over the summer as part of Harvard University's SPARK program. We are also grateful to Hingham Net Zero and Ginny Leclair (former Sustainability Coordinator-Consultant for the Towns of Hingham and Cohasset) for their assistance in securing a Grow Grant from the New England Grassroots Environment Fund. These funds were used for the installation of a new public hydration station. Thank you is due to the Weir River Water System for their financial support and logistical assistance in growing Hingham's network of hydration stations.

Finally, we are grateful to the local businesses who have stocked their shelves with a multitude of plastic alternatives.

Composting Action and Education

During the past year, we have continued our long efforts to promote and facilitate composting in Hingham. Members of CGH tabled at Ecofest in Cohasset as well as the Hingham Farmers' Market. During these events, we offered information about how to buy a subsidized compost bin from the Hingham DPW as well as how to install and manage this bin. Working with Hingham resident Peter Swanson, we also offered information on alternative forms of composting, including bokashi and vermicomposting. Finally, we distributed a survey to better understand citizens' composting interests and habits. With this information, we hope to be able to help the Town provide solutions to residents. If you would like to voice your opinion, please complete our survey by following the QR code.



Scan to share your opinion on composting solutions for Hingham.



Educating residents about composting options at South Shore EcoFest and the Hingham Farmers' Market.

Supporting Town Departments and Officials

Parallel to our efforts to pass the Bottle By-law, CGH members supported Town Administration in writing and passing a municipal policy banning the procurement, distribution, and sale of plain water in single use plastic containers less than one gallon in size by Town employees and on Town property. That policy went into effect September 1, 2023. We worked with Christin Eigenmann of the Hingham Public Schools' Food Services department to research alternatives for school cafeterias. We also worked with the Hingham Public Schools' Facilities department to ensure repair and maintenance of school hydration stations leading up to the September

1 implementation date. We are grateful to resident Beverly Vernon for her help with these efforts.

CGH Chair Maria Zade served as CGH's representative to the Climate Action Planning Committee and contributed to the development of Hingham's Climate Action Plan, which was finalized during the summer of 2023.

In February, CGH member Janice McPhillips hosted the annual All-Schools Recycling Meeting, a place where members of school Green Teams, custodial staff, and school administration shared best practices about recycling in the schools.

Next Steps

Looking forward to 2024, we will be considering ways that our committee can support Hingham as it moves closer to its net zero target date. We welcome you to join our work. Our meetings are posted on the Town of Hingham website and are open to the public. All are welcome!

Respectful submitted,

- Maria Zade, Chair
- Janice McPhillips
- Mark Engel
- Katie Gallacher
- Alyson Anderson
- Tony George



Canned still and sparkling water for sale at Hingham High School

Memorial Bell Tower Committee

It was a great year for the Hingham Memorial Bell Tower. On May 9, Paul Wasson, a member of the bell-ringing band, was invited to Hingham Senior Center and spoke on the 111-year history of the Hingham Memorial Bell Tower and the art of English Change Bell Ringing. In July, the bell ringers gathered to clean, garden, do routine maintenance, and install a full set of new ropes.

On July 23, 2023, a quarter peal of Bob Caters was rung, dedicated to our Tower Captain Michael Shilhan, who has devoted over three decades of service to the tower. In 2011, he advocated for the restoration of the tower and bells. The refurbishment of the bells began in July 2022 and was completed that November. The restoration work replaced the 1912 bearings with modern ball bearings on new wheels, headstocks, and new clappers. With the conclusion of the work, the band began ringing again, noting significant improvement in the handling of the bells.



Michael and Ann Shilhan

We are so pleased that his vision has been realized and recognize this milestone will ensure that this thriving local tradition of change ringing in Hingham will continue for generations to come.



A steadfast ensemble of bell ringers meets on Saturday mornings from 9:30-11:00 am to ring the bells.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha P. Ryan

Naming By-law Committee

Article 40 of Hingham's General By-laws establishes the Town's process for the naming of public buildings and public lands. The Naming By-law Committee (NBLC) has been asked to review Article 40, assess whether the Article, in its present form, serves the best interests of the Town, and make recommendations with respect to possible changes to Article 40 to better promote the interests of the Town. The Committee's review of Article 40 should include, but need not be limited to, the following considerations:

1. Whether and when to name public buildings or lands for a living people or families
2. Whether and when to name public buildings or lands for a commercial enterprise
3. Whether and when to name public buildings or lands for civic organizations
4. Naming rights and public/private partnerships
5. Reputational risk clauses
6. Funding levels associated with naming
7. Approval processes to name public buildings or lands
8. Name-removal processes for public buildings or lands

Over the course of three years, the committee has held over a dozen public meetings to seek input from stakeholders in Town government, local sports organizations, and other parties which are interested in stimulating private philanthropy for the purpose of building and improving Town facilities, fields, and other assets. Comments were received from the general public at meetings and in writing. Issues discussed included the types of donors, the types of assets, possible endowment, time limitations, and other related incentives and rules around the naming of assets. In addition, the tradition of honoring local, national, and international citizens with naming of assets was also discussed. Discussion points included the service of the individual(s) and the reasons for the honor.

The committee extensively reviewed naming materials from benchmark communities and other communities around the nation (and even Vancouver, British Columbia). The committee found that the Town's present (now previous) By-law is highly restrictive when compared to these other communities.

The committee submitted their recommendations for changes to the By-law to the Select Board. These recommendations were presented as Warrant Article 22 at the 2023 Annual Town Meeting. Voters supported this article and it passed unanimously. The new By-law requires the Select Board to adopt a policy to govern procedures for all boards involved in the naming of Town assets. To assist in that task, the NBLC prepared a draft policy for the Select Board's consideration thereby completing the work of the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Edmundson, Chair
Victor Baltera
Wendy Ellison
Christine Falvey
Thomas O'Reilly

Plymouth County Mosquito Control

The Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project are pleased to submit the following report of our activities during 2022.

The Project is a special district created by the State Legislature in 1957, and is composed of the 27 municipalities in Plymouth County and the Town of Cohasset. The Project is a regional response to a regional problem, and provides a way of organizing specialized equipment, specially trained employees, and mosquito control professionals into a single agency with a broad geographical area of responsibility.

In the spring, larviciding efforts begin as water temperatures rise and mosquito larvae begin to feed. The Project ground and aerial larvicided 14,581 acres and this was accomplished using an environmentally selective bacterial agent. Upon emergence of the spring brood of mosquitoes, ultra-low volume adulticiding began on June 5th, 2023 and ended on October 6th, 2023. The Project responded to 13,655 requests for spraying and larval checks from residents covering all of the towns within the district.

The Department of Public Health (DPH) has developed an "Arbovirus Surveillance and Response Plan" for the state. The Plan creates a system which estimates the human risk for contracting Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus using several factors including the number of infected mosquitoes. Based on guidelines defined by the Plan, all towns in Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project started the season at "Low Level Risk" for Eastern Equine Encephalitis. Near the end of the season, Bridgewater and West Bridgewater were moved to "Moderate Risk" due to a positive mosquito sample found in Bristol County. There was no Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus detected in the PCMCP service area this year.

West Nile Virus activity was widespread in Massachusetts. Statewide there were 6 human cases, none of them were in the district. All towns in the district started the season at low risk for West Nile Virus. However, later in the season the human risk was raised to moderate for all towns but Hull, Marshfield and Scituate. These three towns remained at low risk. As part of our West Nile Virus control strategy a total of 48,597 catch basins were treated with larvicide in member towns to help control WNV.

The Project participates in DPH's mosquito surveillance program. As part of that program we collected 99,563 mosquitoes and submitted 29,259 mosquitoes for testing. The mosquitoes were combined into 685 groups.

DPH also tested 14,498 mosquitoes from the district. In all there were 0 isolations of EEEV from mosquito samples. There was a total of 17 WNV isolations from Abington, Brockton, Carver, Halifax, Hanover, Hingham, Kingston, Marion, Marshfield, Mattapoisett, Middleboro, Pembroke, and Whitman.

The health threat of EEE and WNV continues to ensure cooperation between the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project, local Boards of Health and the Department of Public Health. In an effort to keep the public informed, EEE and WNV activity updates are regularly posted on the Department of Public Health website.

The introduced mosquito *Aedes albopictus* has the potential to become a serious pest and a vector of disease. The mosquito has been present in Massachusetts since 2009. The larvae live in containers and are closely linked with human activity. They are especially associated with used tires. The Project began a tire recycling program in October 2017. During the 2023 season we recycled 4,039 tires bringing us to a total of 16,841 tires for the program.

The figures specific to the town of Hingham are given below. While mosquitoes do not respect town lines the information given below does provide a tally of the activities which have had the greatest impact on the health and comfort of Hingham residents.

Insecticide Applications: Our greatest effort has been targeted at mosquitoes in the larval stage, which can be found in woodland pools, swamps, marshes and other standing water areas. Field Technicians continually gather data on these sites and treat with highly specific larvicides when immature mosquitoes are present. In Hingham 79 larval sites were checked.

During the summer 3,008 catch basins were treated in Hingham to prevent the emergence of *Culex pipiens*, a known mosquito vector in West Nile Virus transmission.

Our staff treated 1,078 acres using truck mounted sprayers for control of adult mosquitoes. More than one application was made to the same site if mosquitoes reinvaded the area. The first treatments were made in June and the last in October.

Water Management: During 2023 crews removed blockages, brush and other obstructions from 4,245 linear feet of ditches and streams to prevent overflows or stagnation that can result in mosquito production. This work,

together with machine reclamation, is most often carried out in the fall and winter.

Mosquito Survey: Our surveillance showed that the dominant mosquitoes throughout the district were generally Cq. peturbans and Cx. pipiens/restuans. In the Town of Hingham the three most common mosquitoes were, Culex pipiens/restuans, Cs. melanura, and Ae. Canadensis.

Education and Outreach: Our Community Liaison, Erin Morrill, held 18 in-person presentations at local Boards of Health, Councils on Aging, libraries, schools, and fairs to update Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plans. Planning and scheduling for the upcoming season has already started with hopes of adding new community organizations to the list. Erin has reached out to all of our school IPM coordinators in efforts to keep them up to date and in compliance with the Children and Families Protection Act. If your town is interested in setting up a presentation, please contact our office.



Our Project website is a great resource for information on upcoming meetings, the annual budget, educational information, and Project services. Announcements and important dates can be found on the home page. We encourage residents or municipal officials to visit our website at www.plymouthmosquito.org or call our office for information about mosquitoes, mosquito-borne diseases, control practices, or any other matters of concern.

Respectfully submitted,

Ross Rossetti, Superintendent

Commissioners:
John Sharland, Chair
Ann Motyka, Vice-Chair/Secretary
Thomas Reynolds
Elaine Fiore

Hingham Public Library

FY23 continued to see strong increases in usage of the Library's physical and digital collections, our programs, spaces, and services, and in-person visits. The Library had a total of 127,857 visitors during the year, and a total of 9,181 registered patrons who have recently used their library cards to borrow materials. Throughout the year, patrons borrowed a total of 352,448 items from the Library's diverse collections, including:

- 211,010 books
- 49,890 e-books
- 26,900 e-audiobooks
- 46,744 movies, music, and audiobooks
- 7,224 magazines
- 8,217 miscellaneous items such as puzzles, games, artwork, technology, household gadgets and electronic devices

While visiting the library, patrons connected their devices to the wireless internet 115,229 times and used the Library's physical computers 9,256 times. Library databases, accessible both at home and in the Library, were used 49,489 times. Library materials were transferred through the Inter-Library Loan service to help patrons get the titles they want as quickly as possible, with 42,768 books, audiobooks, movies, music, and other items sent between libraries to help fill patron requests.



Our programs for people of all ages and interests were as popular as ever, and included offerings such as educational lectures, author talks,

technology classes, craft and art workshops, book clubs, teen clubs, family events, and story times for children. A total of 8,291 people attended the 465 programs that were offered throughout the year. Additionally, there were 4,302 patrons who received assistance with their reference and research questions from our Reference, Children's, and Young Adult Librarians, and another 246 people who received one-on-one assistance learning about various technologies and devices from our Information Technology Services Librarian Robby St. John.

Local history has always been of interest to many of our patrons, and we were fortunate to receive a grant of \$21,000 from CPC funding in 2023 that was used to make accessible every issue of the Hingham Journal from 1827 to the present day. Thanks to the work of Reference and Local History Librarian Michael Achille, who planned and managed this very successful project which resulted in over 18,000 page views and over 5,000 articles downloaded in the first four months since the launch of the newspaper database.

We are fortunate to have such wonderful and amazing volunteers who give of their time and talents to the Library every day. In 2023, there were 50 volunteers who worked a total of 2,223 hours helping to run the used Bookstore, shelve books, collect holds, and select and deliver books to homebound residents. Thanks especially to Adrienne Richardson and Marcia Sinclair for all their work running the bookstore and special book sale events year-round, and to Jean McGeary for all her work organizing and managing the Home Delivery service, which provided books and other library materials every two weeks to 25 homebound patrons. Thanks also to Ann Fickenwirth, Volunteer Coordinator and Staff Library Technician, for recruiting, training, and managing such a dedicated team of volunteers.

There were a number of the highlights and special events from 2023 that deserve special recognition. In April 2023, the Library held "Beyond the Books", a successful community fundraiser to benefit the Library, planned and organized through the hard work and creativity of volunteers on the Event Committee. The evening featured food, drinks, music, a raffle and a live auction. Thanks to Emcee Michael Page and to all our volunteers, staff, and sponsors who helped make the evening a memorable one, and a special thanks to Library Board of Trustees Development Chair Alyson Molloy Hussey, and to Event Committee Co-Chairs Mona Pohl, Library Trustee, and Avis Goldstein, for their ideas, vision, and planning.

In October 2023, The Harold & Avis Goldstein Lecture Series featured award-winning author Lois Lowry. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of The Harold & Avis Goldstein Trust, the Library held this special event, "Telling the Truth: A Conversation with Lois Lowry on Writing, Libraries, and Young Readers" at the Larson Auditorium at Derby Academy.



(L to R: Library Technician Jenn Kyle, Children's Librarian Totsie McGonagle, author Lois Lowry)

Library Trustee and former book editor of the Boston Globe David Mehegan held a wide-ranging conversation with the author, touching on her life and career, her art and approach to it, and her remarkable bond with her readers. Special thanks to Avis Goldstein for her ongoing support and inspiration, to Derby Academy for the generous use of their beautiful facilities, to Buttonwood Books & Toys for managing the book sales and signing for the event, and to Library staff who worked behind-the-scenes and helped make this such a wonderful lecture series.



The Hingham Public Library is a very special place, beyond the books and beyond the building, thanks to the efforts of the entire staff each and every day. We are fortunate to have such dedicated, hard-working, creative, friendly, and caring individuals who give of themselves above and beyond to help make this library such a welcoming and amazing place in the

community. Although the accomplishments of staff are too numerous to list, a few special thanks include to Senior Library Technician Carol Lipsett and Library Technician Jenn Kyle for their incredible book displays and craft programs, to Children's Librarian Totsie McGonagle for outstanding programming and knowing just what book a child would want to read next, to Young Adult Librarian Meghan McCusker for helping to keep teens

engaged and motivated, to Collection Development Librarian Peter Thornell for developing such top-notch collections and book recommendations for adults, to Reference Librarian Lou Johnson for doing a great job promoting the Library through social media while offering technology and other classes that encourage life-long learning, to Circulation Supervisor Mary Beth Keif for creating a warm and welcoming environment for everyone who walks through the doors, to Building Maintenance Supervisor Kevin Jenkins for managing the daily and scheduled work that keeps the building and grounds safe, clean and well-maintained, to Library Business Administrator Dina Johnson for keeping everything running smoothly at the Library, and to Assistant Director Anna Byrne for staff scheduling and overseeing all aspects of the daily operations so successfully.

Special thanks to the hard work and dedication of all the members of the Library's Board of Trustees throughout the year, and most especially, to two longstanding Board members for their many years of support and service to the Library, Trustee Charles B. Abbott, Esq. and Trustee JoAnn Mitchell.



(L to R: Trustees Thomas J. Carey, Jr., JoAnn C. Mitchell, David J. Mehegan, Charles B. Abbott, and Library Director Linda Harper Stone)

Trustee Abbott retired from the Board in September after 35 years of service, which included serving 8 years as Chair. Trustee Abbott was highly praised for his devotion to the Library, courteous nature, and institutional knowledge. He was truly a gentleman and a scholar, who was respected for his intelligence, insight, and balanced perspective in all his discussions. Trustee Mitchell resigned from the Board in May after 17 years of service. Trustee Mitchell brought her knowledge and experience as a professional librarian to the Board. She was valued and appreciated for her kind

manner, thoughtful insights, logical discourse, exceptional gardening skills, and steadfast support for the Library.

We are grateful to the many people who give of themselves to help make the Library such a special place for all of us.

Respectfully submitted,

Aylene Calnan, Chair of the Library Board of Trustees
Linda Harper Stone, Library Director



Public Safety Facility Building Committee

During 2023, significant progress was made in the development of the New Public Safety Facility Building Project (the "Project"). The Town finalized easement agreements with various property owners in the Shipyard Development in order to allow the Town's construction of the Project to proceed.

The Town also worked with the MBTA to have the MBTA provide a temporary license to the General Contractor that would allow the Contractor to use a portion of the MBTA parking lot as a construction laydown area across the street from the construction site. That license provides the Contractor with ample space for receipt and storage of equipment and materials that will be used during construction.

In the spring, the construction contract to build the Project was publicly bid. The contract was awarded to Colantonio, Inc., an experienced general contractor from Holliston, Massachusetts. The construction contract amount was \$41,975,497.

Construction began in May 2023. Construction work during 2023 involved extensive site preparation work including: demolition of the large concrete foundation on the site; the removal, testing, disposal and replacement of unsuitable soils, ledge and abandoned utilities that were encountered at the



site. During the last few months of 2023, construction commenced on the new foundations, utilities and the erection of structural steel for the Project. Construction will proceed through 2024 and the Town expects that it will be able to take substantial completion and occupancy of the Project during the winter of 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert P. Garrity, Chair
Paul K. Healey, Vice Chair
Joseph Kelly
Steven Murphy, Fire Chief (ex-officio)
David Jones, Police Chief (ex-officio)

Bruce MacAloney
Donna Smallwood
Andy Touchette
Talbert Lauter

Hingham Public Schools

School Enrollment

As of October 1, 2023, 3,707 students enrolled in PreK to Grade 12 (Pre-K-12) in the Hingham Public Schools. This represents a decrease of 90 students from the October 1, 2022 enrollment. In addition, the district was responsible for funding and/or programming for 77 preschool students (down from 79 the previous year) in the Integrated Preschool Program. Enrollment for this year included 7.8% low-income, 18.3% students with disabilities, and 24.1% high needs.



Strategic Plan

During the 2023-2024 school year, the Hingham Public Schools continued with its second year of a three-year strategic plan. Below are some accomplishments for the 2023-24 school year for each strategic objective:

Culture of Collaboration and Community: Create partnerships between home, school, and community through effective two-way communication to ensure an inclusive culture and a sense of belonging.

- Regular communication continues through newsletters at the school and district levels. Principals continue weekly emails to families.
- School and district leaders meet monthly with town safety officials, including School Resource Officers, to review safety and emergency procedures.
- Strengthen activities that support students' transition between elementary, middle, and high school, including for our students with disabilities.

Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning: Ensure student success through aligned, high-quality PK-12+ curriculum, innovative research-based practices, and data-informed instruction.

- Hingham High School initiated two new pathways, including the Advanced Manufacturing and Arts Pathways. In addition, the initial exploration of the Business and Finance Pathway is part of the program review process.
- Hingham High School has piloted and implemented dual enrollment courses in Science, Math, and World Language, expanding access to college-level courses.

- Additional full-day KIA Preschool/Pre-Kindergarten and Integrated Program classrooms are planned for next year, including four new classrooms at the new elementary school building.
- Student Services completed a program evaluation of special education programming. The report will inform both short and long-term goals for programming for our students with disabilities.

Healthy, Equitable, and Inclusive Communities: Cultivate equitable and inclusive environments that promote a sense of belonging to allow for social, emotional, physical, and academic wellness.

- The Wellness Committee has reviewed the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data and report from last year's Wellness Committee. The Wellness Committee has broadened the group members to include partnering with community groups to develop action steps.
- A Task Force for revising the Bullying Prevention Plan was formed and will present a revised plan for the spring.
- One-year equity plan was presented to the school committee in June 2023. The district equity task force is monitoring the implementation of the plan.
- A revised District Curriculum Accommodation Plan (DCAP) was completed and will be implemented next school year.

Capital and Finance: Allocate funding to provide effective, safe, and modern facilities and adequate resources to enhance the student experience.

- Review of the current website provider has begun to consider other possible options that provide more functionality and are more cost-effective.
- The School Committee voted to submit a warrant article for naming the new elementary school.
- The School Building Committee received a report on the columns at Plymouth River Elementary (PRS) and is determining the best course of action. In addition, the School Building Committee monitors the completion of the Plymouth River School (PRS) Windows and Doors project, which includes painting the front area.
- The School Building Committee continues to facilitate all components of the building of the new elementary school building.
- A Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)/Behavioral Health Task Force is being formed to examine needs and determine program development. The team has outlined a draft timeline, identified data sources to collect, and contacted other local programs to visit.

Human Resources and Leadership: Recruit, develop, and empower a diverse staff to lead courageously in teaching and learning.

- A draft of a Hiring Handbook has been completed. Hiring managers will review over the next few months to then implement this coming hiring season.
- Elementary professional learning communities were implemented to support regular review of literacy and math data for MTSS implementation.
- Materials to support improved onboarding of paraprofessionals are being curated with the goal of implementing a strengthened process for the fall of 2024.

New Elementary School Building Project

At the fall 2022 town meeting, funding for a new elementary school at the site of the current Foster Elementary School was approved almost unanimously. The Foster Elementary School community is now excited to see the building project coming together. Phase one of the construction began soon after the fall 2022 town meeting vote. Phase one of the building included completing a temporary front parking lot, relocating a new temporary playground, and excavating the site. Phase Two of the project is well underway to include the building out of the new elementary school building. The new building is to be completed in the fall of 2024. In September 2024 while students move from the old building to the new school, the project will move to the front of the school with demolition of the old Foster Elementary School building and completion of parking and access roads to the building.



East Elementary School

East Elementary and its 533 Explorers and 100+ educators, support personnel, and leaders have been hard at work this school year!

Our educators have been committed to collaborating with peers in the Professional Learning Communities, leading the successful rollout of our new Reading program (Into Reading), and broadening their understanding and use of Universal Design for Learning principles. In addition to these efforts, a consistent focus on academic growth, analysis of student achievement, and meeting student needs through clearly defined interventions has been a priority. Our support personnel and Special Education staff ensure that all students, regardless of need, have access to learning in a way that feels supported and celebrates growth. East houses district-wide programs K-5 students throughout Hingham Public Schools can utilize: the Comprehensive Learning Center (CLC) and Language and Academic Home Base (LAHB). These programs are led by SPED staff and are specially designed to meet the needs of students with



language-based learning disabilities or complex neurological disorders. In addition to these offerings, East's Integrated Early Childhood Program is available to students ages three, four, and five who receive special education and school readiness services along with community peers seeking a preschool or Pre-K program.

Outside of the classroom, our amazing PTO collaborates with our team and supports our student's enrichment, activity, and sense of school spirit. From funding enrichment activities and field trips to kindness initiatives and community drives (such as coat drives, toy drives, etc.) to bringing cheer to faculty and students alike with celebrations and gestures, the East PTO is a consistent source of energy and positivity!

All of these combined efforts develop a feel within the school of vision and purpose, one that is connected to its surrounding community by parental support and involvement and strives to improve its practices and student performance each year.

Foster Elementary School

Foster Elementary School is the home of 392 students, whom we refer to as Foster's Finest. We take pride in our work: to develop students who enjoy learning, constantly striving to meet their potential and become lifelong learners. Foster's students learn to be responsible and demonstrate respect for themselves and others. Our students are challenged to practice critical thinking skills to solve problems. We want them to have a strong sense of community



inside and outside of our school. We do this through our daily instruction, as well as through extracurricular activities, such as our Green Team, Kindness Club, and Student Council. Foster's Finest Students have participated in supporting Veterans, conducting Food Drives, and writing cards to community members in nursing homes.

Our building project is coming along and we are looking forward to the next school year when we occupy the new school building. Through the support of the PTO, we have been very excited to have two new programs after school. We have added a Lego club and a Lego Robotics club that has been taking place weekly. Thanks to fantastic volunteers and staff we have been able to engage many of our students in this wonderful program.

This year we have added a Spanish Immersion preschool program through Kids in Action. This classroom has been a wonderful addition to our school community. We have twenty preschool students from across the town of Hingham who have been a part of our inaugural year. We are looking forward to continuing to have this program and have begun exploring future opportunities for our students to engage in an immersion program as they progress through the grades here at Foster. While we are not embarking on this next year, we are looking forward to seeing what our future options are when we occupy the new building.

Plymouth River Elementary School

Plymouth River Elementary is a school with 358 students and 80 educators. They recently experienced a drop in student enrollment due to the transition of fifth-grade students to middle school and the arrival of a small kindergarten class. Even with this drop in students, our educators have been able to enhance their approach to education, the school has

implemented Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), which allow teachers and specialists to discuss data and address school issues on a more focused level. They promote student growth and ensure a safe and inclusive learning environment.

Plymouth River is in its second year of the Inclusive Academy, which focuses on the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL). These principles include offering multiple means of representation, action, and expression, and engagement to cater to diverse student needs. The school has received guidance and support from Laurie Casna, an expert from the academy, to incorporate UDL seamlessly into their existing teaching practices.

The school also provides a variety of engaging activities through the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO), such as ballet performances, magic shows, presentations on wildlife, community service opportunities, art presentations at different grade levels, and visits to local establishments. Students actively participate in their community through visits and presentations from resource officers, trips to the fire station, serving at the Senior Center, and commemorating important events like Veterans Day and Memorial Day. Plymouth River Elementary takes pride in its students' achievements, as well as the continuous professional development of its staff. Their commitment to excellence has led them to be recognized as a "School of Recognition" by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.



South Elementary School

Our overarching theme at South School is always: It takes a *village* to prepare the child for the path! South School started the 2023-2024 school

year with the added theme of "Up, Up and Away," as everything we have put into place since the Pandemic is to ensure that all of our students reach their highest academic potential while also enjoying excellent social/emotional health. The goal is always to be sure that our students' education is evenly split between their academic and social-emotional needs.

The 2022-2023 school year was the inaugural year for our refined schedule. During that year, representatives from each grade level and specialty met several times with the administration to work collaboratively to further improve upon that schedule. This included updating the regular intervention times for math and literacy so that there was no overlap with different grade levels and, therefore, much more efficient use of resources in both academic areas. There also continue to be more scheduled times for social/emotional education and support. These times include small group remediation in all of these areas and supports built into a typical day in the classroom at different times for all grade levels to better utilize our resources. This tier II support is known as MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support/ Hingham Tiered Systems of Support). We are grateful for the additional staff (interventionists and guidance counselor) that continues to allow us to provide all of this in addition to complete classroom instruction that considers all learning styles. Recent data is very encouraging as most of our students are on track to make significant gains in these areas again this year. Furthermore, looking back to the 2022-2023 school year, it is important to note that we were recognized as a School of Recognition by the Massachusetts DESE.

Beyond that, we have always prided ourselves on our inclusive culture at South School. We continue to have our wonderful all-school assemblies known as **Buzz Assemblies**, which celebrate good behavior with a **Bee** as our mascot. These also include a performance by one grade level and the singing of our special school song entitled **Nothing More** by Alternate Routes.

So far this year, we have had four of these assemblies, with others planned in March, April, and May:

1. October: Celebration of Friendship/Welcome to new school year
2. November: Meaning of Veteran's Day/Honored actual visiting veterans
3. December: Celebration of Togetherness and holidays around the world
4. January: Celebration of the New Year and togetherness

We have also continued many of our wonderful traditional activities such as our all-school feast in November; Holiday Concert; Fly South (minimum of 60 students attending after-school enrichment classes), Homework

Heroes; BOKS (40 students attend a before-school exercise program); Kindergarten Holidays Around the World and Alphafest; Grade One Musical; Grade Two Poetry Festival; Grade Three History at Home Timeline Performance; Grade Four Box City; Grade Five Booth Day. It is always wonderful to welcome families to these events and guest readers and daily volunteers for many other events.

Our PTO has also sponsored many events, such as our Welcome Back Tour; Harvest Party; Parent/Caregiver Social; Fun Run; and the Winterfest/Bookfair. It has been an incredible journey this school year, and we look forward to a beautiful second half of the year. We also have great anticipation for what the future holds as we continue along our path of preparing our students for life.

Being together as a *village* with upwards of 600 people (including staff and students) is so inspiring for all who attend and work at South School. We look forward to the remaining assemblies and events planned for 2023-2024 as they will continue to keep us cohesive and enthusiastic about our mission, which is to educate every child to their most significant potential and, more importantly, make them feel loved and part of our *village!*



Hingham Middle School

During the 2023 - 2024 academic year, Hingham Middle School continues to work to expand the support of students' social-emotional health and well-being through the expansion of our *Second Step* program at all grade levels. New this year is the involvement of classroom teachers in the implementation of this curriculum. The lessons introduced are then supported by follow-up lessons taught by classroom teachers. This approach should double the number of lessons presented to children and also expand the number of adults involved in the implementation. Each month lessons are first taught by all members of our school counseling department, health teacher, the director of counseling, and building administrators. Classroom teachers then present a follow-up lesson to their students. Topics include dealing with stress and anxiety, goal setting, and understanding how the adolescent brain works.

Hingham Middle School also continued its *One Book, One School* program, with a focus on the importance of inclusion and the challenges of identity-based bias through the reading of *Linked*, by Gordon Korman. Set in a school not unlike HMS, students are confronted with anti-semitic graffiti and learn how this impacts their entire community. As a culminating activity, we were extremely fortunate to have all of our students and faculty hear from Holocaust survivor Marian Blumenthal Lazan, who brought her message of the importance of kindness to our school. Finding ways to bring our school together as a community, like this annual event, help our students to feel a deeper connection to one another.



In addition, Hingham Middle School began work with both the Anti-Defamation League's No Place for Hate program as well as the Special Olympics' Unified Sports program. Both endeavors are intended to help create a community of learners where all are valued and respected, with a true sense of belonging for all, and we are excited to watch these programs grow in the future.

Hingham High School

At the annual graduation ceremony, 318 students graduated from Hingham High School on June 3, 2023. In addition to a diploma, 21 members of the class received the Global Competency Certificate. Through interdisciplinary academic study, community service, and international travel, these graduates demonstrated increased global awareness, a heightened appreciation of diversity, and a capacity to work and contribute in an increasingly interconnected world. The National Honor Society students collectively completed over 1400 hours of community service and over 700 hours of peer tutoring. In April 2023, 87 juniors were inducted at the annual NHS ceremony.

A total of 92.5 % of graduates planned to attend four-year colleges in 33 different states and three foreign countries (Ireland, Canada, and Spain); 2.2% planned to attend specialized or two-year institutions; .6% planned to participate in post-graduate programs, 1.3% planned to take a gap year; 0 entered military service; and 2.5% planned to begin full-time employment. Additionally, 314 Hingham High School students took 593 Advanced Placement exams. Of those 314 students, 168 were seniors who took 360 exams. Overall, Hingham High School students were designated as AP Scholars, including 49 Scholars, 29 Scholars with Honor, and 38 Scholars with Distinction.



Hingham High School's extracurricular clubs also enjoyed continued success. The following are some examples of the opportunities and activities of our students through the extracurricular clubs offered at the high school:

- Best Buddies continues to welcome students with and without disabilities, forming meaningful friendships.
- Breathe Out promotes awareness about mental health and suicide. Their goal is to help students learn coping skills that can lead to resilience and become more comfortable seeking help from adults. They deliver presentations (e.g., "How Not to Keep a Secret") to all ninth-grade students. The presentations provide awareness and education about mental health and how to support someone you may be worried about, including talking to a trusted adult. Twice a year, they organize outdoor days emphasizing exercise and the outdoors to help manage stress. During Unity Week, another "Breathe Out Day" focused on supporting one another when someone is struggling.

- The Career Exploration Event includes more than 35 professional volunteers, giving students an up-close and personal view of various career paths.
- The Chinese Club is dedicated to improving awareness and understanding of Chinese culture, customs, and traditions. Students learn Chinese culture, music, and art, try Chinese food, and celebrate Chinese festivals.
- The Drama Club produced "Mind Your Manners: Two One Act Plays in the Style of Comedy of Manners," "Too Many Daughters," and "The Importance of Being Earnest" in the spring of 2023, as well as the Fall Musical, "Little Shop of Horrors."
- The annual "Harbormen Helping Hingham" day of community service achieved a 96% participation rate among members of the Class of 2023; altogether, 304 participants completed six hours of community service on May 19, 2023.
- Affiliated with the nationwide Random Acts of Kindness Foundation, the Hingham Service Club participates in numerous monthly community service events. The club members strive to help foster an inclusive, welcoming environment, not only at HHS but in the broader Hingham community. They also collaborate with Foster School's 1st Grade Kindness Club to help spread acts of kindness and positivity.
- The Math Team finished second in their division and 7th within the 30-member Southeastern Massachusetts Mathematics League (SMML).
- The Mentor Program continues to ease students' transition to 9th grade by pairing them with an older peer mentor.
- The HHS Unity Project delivered the school's third annual Unity Week in February 2024; sparked new connections between students with the third annual "42 Games of Catch" initiative in April; led campus beautification by continuing to sponsor a new "Adopt an Island" initiative throughout the school year; conducted several successful food drives for the Hingham Food Pantry; raised funds for a variety of causes; and updated a display of flags of more than 80 countries that represent the ethnic diversity of the entire student body.

Teaching and Learning

A Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) is a framework for districts to build the necessary staffing, systems, and structures to ensure that every child finds success and meets grade-level standards. According to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA, 2015), a multi-tiered system of support is "a comprehensive continuum of evidence-based, systemic practices to support a rapid response to students' needs, with regular

observation to facilitate data-based instructional decision-making.” MTSS is considered a best practice in education, and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education issued an MTSS “blueprint” to guide districts in assembling a comprehensive MTSS system for both academic and social-emotional learning (SEL) needs.

In Hingham, while some components of a multi-tiered academic support system existed pre-2020, the need for a fully articulated MTSS was given a new urgency both during and post-pandemic. Therefore, in FY’22, additional academic specialists in writing, literacy, and math were added across K-8 to ensure students receive the support they need to meet grade-level proficiency and recover from pandemic learning losses.



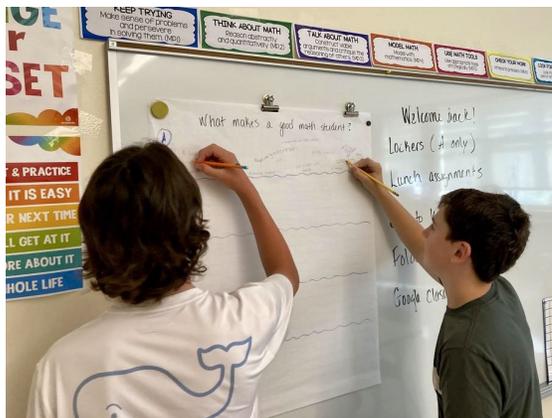
In FY23, a major emphasis of the MTSS academic initiative was to strengthen our district-wide data practices. At the elementary level, data sources routinely analyzed include the Acadience/Dibels early literacy screener in K-2 and the iReady Diagnostic in Gr. 3-5 ELA and K-5 math. These screeners are administered at the beginning of year (BOY), middle of the year (MOY), and end of the year (EOY), with associated data meetings coordinated with specialists and educators to analyze progress and assign tiered supports. In FY’24, the district focused on Tier I elementary literacy instruction by implementing a new evidence-based reading program, *HMH Into Reading*. The reading program implementation was supported by robust professional development and ongoing coaching by literacy specialists. The MTSS academic model, coupled with our existing social-emotional tiered system, is well positioned to ensure ongoing monitoring of student skills, student success, and

access to our curriculum as we closely monitor student progress post-pandemic.

MCAS Results

The 2021-2022 school year saw the first complete administration of MCAS exams since 2019 for Grades 3-8, as testing was paused in the Spring of 2020 due to the pandemic, and in 2020-2021, shorter exams were administered in Grades 3-8. MCAS administration was similarly impacted at the high school level, and the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education approved modified competency determination requirements due to the cancellation of testing opportunities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The modified competency was in place for ELA and Mathematics for the classes of 2020–2022 and Science, Technology and Engineering for the classes of 2020–2023.

Spring 2022 results state-wide indicate some signs of learning loss recovery post-pandemic, but progress was uneven across grade levels, subject areas, and sub-groups. HPS data indicates that pandemic losses were mitigated overall relative to state, and exit outcomes in Grade



10 are strong for HPS students across content areas, with 91% of students meeting or exceeding expectations for ELA, 82% of students meeting or exceeding expectations for Mathematics, and 80% of students meeting or exceeding expectations for Science. In the Spring of 2023, student exit outcomes in Grade 10 remained strong for HPS students across content areas and subgroups. Across the district, student performance neared or exceeded achievement levels in several grade levels, with particularly strong gains in Grade 3-5 mathematics following a year of professional development focus. MCAS data points to areas for targeted focus, including Grade 6 math, Grade 8 Science, and Grade 8 Math/ELA subgroups for SWD (students with disabilities) and HN (high needs). These gaps will be addressed by focusing on multi-tiered supports (MTSS), universal design for learning (UDL), and curriculum enhancements.

Curriculum & Instruction Initiatives:

Following are a few highlights of initiatives related to curriculum and instruction:

Elementary Reading Program Adoption

In FY'23, twenty-four K-5 teachers piloted two new research-based elementary reading programs, *Into Reading* (HMH) and *myView* (Savaas). Both programs feature a robust science-based approach to reading instruction and also feature diversified and culturally responsive literature. In FY'24, the district formally selected and adopted the evidence-based reading program *HMH Into Reading* in all K-5 classrooms.



Elementary Reading Workshop series

In partnership with HMH Into Reading trainers, the district's elementary reading specialists facilitated a multi-part professional development series for K-5 teachers across the district to engage in best practices in elementary reading instruction.

HMS Science Program Pilot (Open Sci Ed)

Gr. 6-8 science teachers continue implementing a new phenomenon-based curriculum, *Open Sci Ed*, which engages students in real-world inquiry rooted in a problem-based approach. The department is currently in Year 2 of a multi-year roll-out.

Social Studies Investigating History pilot

The Social Studies department received a DESE grant to support the implementation of new *Investigating History* units at the elementary level. To help teachers in teaching these new units, the department partnered with trainers from Educurious to support professional development.

Spanish Immersion Pre-K

This year, the World Language department collaborated with the *Kids in Action* program to pilot a new fee-based Spanish immersion Pre-K program, which commenced in the Fall of 2023. The program is currently housed at Foster School and has the potential to grow in the future.

Fine Arts

Annually, the Fine Arts department hosts a districtwide K-12 art show, displays artwork at the Hingham Library, performs four major drama productions and several smaller class performances, and coordinates a music calendar with over 50 events. This year, we continue to improve



coordination processes and increase program promotion of these events through active social media, press releases, collaboration with Harbor Media, and the growth of community partnerships. For example, the department published a complete arts calendar this year as a community press release. To share programs with the community, an arts filter to the Hingham Public Schools calendar allows families to subscribe to arts events. The drama department in organized a sewing workshop collaboration between the Hingham Senior Center and a local sewing workshop, Sew Simple, to support the fall production *Little Shop of Horrors*.

This year, the Fine Arts department successfully enrolled 47 students in semester I and 40 students in semester II of the new after-school KIA Strings program. Students from semester I recently highlighted their growth through a concert in January.

The Fine Arts department is also in its first year of implementing an arts "pathway" program for HHS students, modeled on the existing Global Citizen program. Students can synthesize coursework, extracurricular activities, and mentorship through the pathway to foster and strengthen their artistic interests. To date, at least 55 students have connected with the Arts Pathway program by applying to be in the certificate program or attending at least one meeting as a club member. Through grant funding and support from the Hingham Arts Alliance, the Arts Pathway program hosted a College and Career Alumni Panel in January and is also coordinating a combined art/music field trip to see the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and an open rehearsal with the Boston Symphony

Orchestra in February. The Arts Pathway program will host student-led workshops such as printmaking, private music lessons for middle school students, and a tech/backstage workshop this spring. Students on the certificate track will present student interest-based thesis projects in May.

Equity

During the 2022-2023 school year, the district completed a district-wide equity audit in partnership with consultants from The Equity Process. The audit included reviewing data, policies, and procedures; coordinating site visits, instructional walkthroughs, interviews, and focus groups; and administering surveys to staff, students, and families. The results of the equity audit and recommendations for a multi-year equity plan were presented to the School Committee in June 2023.



Outlined below are some accomplishments for the 2023-24 school year for each of the goals of the Equity Plan:

Curriculum: Ensure all students have access to culturally responsive curriculum and materials.

- Created tool for auditing curriculum unit guides, instructional materials, media, and supplementary materials.
- Plan for auditing of materials across content areas and grade spans.

Professional Development: Increase professional development opportunities for staff to support the creation of equitable and culturally responsive learning environments that provide access to all students.

- East and Plymouth River (PRS) participate in the DESE Inclusive Practices Academy (Year 2), focusing on UDL.
- Continue participation in DESE Culturally Responsive Leadership Academy (Year 2) to support year-long professional development and coaching to support district equity goal implementation.
- Continue partnership with DESE Safe Schools to support LGBTQ+ students, families, and staff.

Hiring: Create and implement clear procedures and practices for the recruitment, hiring, and retention of racially and ethnically diverse staff that reflects the diversity of our school and local, national, and global community.

- Create procedures for the hiring of staff to support consistent practices.
- Utilize resources available through the Massachusetts Partnership for Education.
- Expand approaches for posting positions and recruitment.

Data Practices: Analyze academic and social-emotional learning data to identify disproportionality, systems and structures, scheduling, policies, procedures, and practice changes and resources needed to improve student academic and social-emotional learning (SEL) outcomes.

- Complete program evaluation of special education services to determine strengths and needs. Use results to develop an action plan with improvement goals.
- Develop a climate survey for families for the Spring of 2024.
- Analyze data for the disproportionality of subgroup outcomes.

METCO Program

Amy Jackson, METCO Director, is entering her second year and has brought several programs and a new staff on board. Tihna Kouka was brought on board as the K-8 METCO interventionist currently working in each elementary and middle school. The interventionist works in the classrooms alongside their teachers, with each METCO student providing academic and social-emotional support. METCO staff met with the high school students individually and as a group to discuss college readiness and educational progress. Hingham METCO held a one-day December retreat with the middle and high school students focusing on leadership development, improving communication, and building solid relationships. METCO partnered with Heather Rodriguez, Director of School Counseling, to bring 15 METCO / Hingham resident students to Boston for the (HBCU) Historically Black Colleges University college fair, with over 15 HBCU colleges and universities participating. I have continued to partner with the Hingham Unity Council to plan family events in Hingham and Boston each year. The goal is to have one event in the fall and one in the spring. The events are a way to build community with the Boston METCO families and the Hingham resident families while learning about one another's community. The next event will be held on May 8th in Boston - Boston. Hingham families will participate in the Nubian Square Walking Tour, exploring Roxbury and Dorchester's historical and civil rights landmarks that shaped our future. The METCO Parent Support Group is a monthly group offered to METCO parents to talk about issues they face as their

children live and learn in two polar opposite environments. Parents will have an opportunity to bring their topics to meetings for discussion. The meeting will be facilitated by Sonya Patton, counselor, life coach, and trainer.

The current enrollment for the Hingham METCO program is 49 students, including 21 in the elementary grades, 10 at the middle school, and 18 at the high school, of which 7 are seniors. The number of students at each elementary school is as follows:

- East - 6
- Foster - 3
- Plymouth River - 3
- South – 9



Student Services

The Department of Student Services oversees the implementation of state and federal laws that protect the educational and civil rights of students with disabilities, impairments, those who are in foster care and are homeless, students of military families, and those with substantial medical needs that confine them to their homes. The department's responsibility for these students includes any student who lives in Hingham and those who attend a private school in Hingham. Below are some highlights of the department of the year. This year, the department focused on implementing a program evaluation of special education services, improving communication and relationships with families, and supporting the implementation of a new IEP.

Student Services supported an independent evaluation of the Student Services department this school year. Their report was recently finalized and presented to Dr. Adams and Dr. Cataldo. The contents of the fifty-three-page report was shared with the School Committee and the broader public. The in-depth report studied our specialized programs, professional development, the substance of our IEPs, inclusive



practices, District Accommodations Plans, preschool and early childhood programming, and staff utilization. In addition, the consultants reviewed documentation around descriptions of programs and services, budgetary and census data, procedures and services, out-of-district placements, and information contained in the most recent DESE Tiered Focused Monitoring (formally the Coordinated Program Review). Lastly, they reviewed seventy-five IEPs and interviewed fifty-five individuals consisting of staff, parents, and constituents in one-on-one and group settings.

The report highlights many areas the district is doing very well in delivering services and supporting families. Parallel to this are areas for the district to work on during the next three to five years. The report offers an unbiased and fair assessment of the Student Services department and the next steps to increase its strength.

Student Services continues to strengthen its relationships with stakeholders this year. Monthly meetings are held with Team Chairs. Topics of urgency as well as needs of the district are discussed. Laws and procedures are reviewed, and team chairs are able to work with their colleagues on difficult discussions receiving helpful input.

The Director meets with SEPAC monthly. The SEPAC has been generous with their time and contributed to the thoughtful discussions around our students. They can bring forward parents' concerns that might not always arrive on our desk, and we have worked together to solve these issues.

Student Services also provides support to building administration by observing students and programs, addressing processes and procedures, and helping to look forward at the needs of the individual buildings. Student Services is also meeting with parents by attending IEP meetings, working directly with parents, assisting in process and procedure questions, and offering direction to the parents.

Student Services also began the process of planning training for the implementation of a new IEP. The Coordinators have worked together to create programming to offer to all staff during our early release sessions and two half-day sessions. Staff training will be held in March, April and May. A fall training will take place for families and will be sponsored by SEPAC and the district. Additionally, we are focusing training on our Team Chairs so they can assist with training in their individual buildings.

Our Student Information System (Aspen) has already created the new IEP, which will go online in August. Staff will be able to gain access before then, but we are asking for it to be used beginning in September. We will

arrange training for any new staff who join us over the summer. Our goal is to prepare everyone for the changeover.

Human Resources

Human Resources manages the district's processes and procedures for recruiting, hiring, onboarding, training/compliance, and separations from employment). The goals of the department this year have included strengthening hiring procedures and practices.

- By the end of the year, the district will have completed a Hiring Handbook to help outline the best recruitment, hiring, and onboarding practices.
- In addition, a Faculty Handbook will also outline important policies and procedures for faculty.
- The Substitute Handbook was updated with relevant and important information to support success in the role. In addition, we developed new training modules to support the onboarding of substitutes.
- Improvement in the onboarding of paraprofessionals is planned and will be implemented for the fall of 2024.
- The department worked to update all forms and documents to align across all hiring managers.

The hiring landscape has changed significantly. Recruitment has required the use of different strategies to recruit staff. The department expanded its use of employment posting databases beyond Schoolspring to the use of Handshake and Indeed. In addition, the department will continue to take advantage of local job fairs. The department's staff will participate in job fairs and use employment databases and social media to develop a cadre of qualified candidates for positions.



Athletics

Hingham High School Athletics enjoyed continued success in 2023, winning the prestigious Boston Globe Holmes Award, recognizing overall athletic excellence for the fifth consecutive year. During the year, 80% of our students participated in athletics during one of the three seasons. Our partnership with the Hingham Recreation Commission has helped significantly improve the condition of our playing fields. In partnership

with Marshfield High School, our boys' hockey team raised over \$30,000 for breast cancer research. Our teams won 12 Patriot League Championships. After twenty-five years with our program, boys' soccer coach Ken Carlin retired from coaching.



Technology

The Hingham Public Schools' Technology Department (IT) consists of three full-time employees dedicated to serving the district students and staff in all technology-related enterprises. IT continually strives to identify and implement supportive technologies that complement the District's mission. The Technology Department incorporates 'best-of-breed' technologies into the District while maintaining a secure and fiscally responsible approach to acquisition and maintenance. Additionally, IT staff are a support resource to teach, train, and troubleshoot technology issues that inevitably arise. As a department, we believe technology can and does provide many benefits to the District.

Indeed, technology has become a pervasive element throughout the overall educational environment. In addition to the many physical computing devices in the District (and the software products installed on them), the Technology Department is responsible for the installation and support of peripheral devices, including (but not limited to) printers, scanners, video projectors, phones, interactive whiteboards (Viewsonic Viewboards®), and document cameras.

Additionally, the Technology Department also maintains control over various infrastructure components. IT manages servers, routers, switches, firewalls, wireless access points, a wireless mobility controller, and a vxRail vSAN. Over the past year, IT has continued to improve operational efficiency and modernize the District's technology footprint. Below are some of the IT Department's initiatives and accomplishments of FY24:



- Planning the implementation of technologies to be incorporated into the new Foster Elementary School
- Updated the switching components throughout Hingham Middle School
- Installed and configured Viewsonic Viewboards in all instructional spaces in Hingham High School
- Instituted a new help desk support system to improve operation efficiency relative to our response to technology support requests District-wide
- Promoted the use of multi-factor authentication to assist staff in securing access to their online resources
- Coordinating student information system (Follett Aspen) and SSO solution (Clever) integration to facilitate access to a variety of online applications
- Managing (and repairing as necessary) approximately 2,500 Chromebooks and 1,000 iPads throughout the District
- Incorporating the strategic initiatives outlined in the three-year technology plan approved in 2023

During the 2022-2023 school year, the district completed a year-long process to develop a three-year technology plan that outlined a three-year plan to help continue to strengthen the integration of technology. Our vision for technology is for our students and educators to innovate, create, and collaborate through equitable access to a technology-rich environment supported by robust infrastructure. It will integrate technology purposefully and responsibly to access and construct knowledge, effectively communicate, and support creative expression. Below are some accomplishments for the 2023-24 school year for each of the goals in the Technology Plan:

Digital Literacy & Computer Science Curriculum PreK-12: HPS will have a sequenced set of courses and curriculum that meets the Massachusetts Digital Literacy & Computer Science Curriculum Frameworks.

- Unit guides for Digital Literacy and Computer Science are being completed to outline standards and common assessments.

Infrastructure, Data, and Privacy: HPS will provide a robust infrastructure that supports tools, resources, data, and systems that enable powerful digital learning opportunities while ensuring privacy, safety, and security for all students and staff.

- Viewsonic Viewboards were all installed at HHS before the beginning of the school year. A teacher leader has supported the implementation of the boards into instructional practices.
- The wireless access points at the middle school have been installed.
- The Chromebooks at the middle school were purchased for incoming sixth graders. Chromebooks for second graders were replaced, allowing for one-to-one instruction at that level.
- The district technology department is implementing Spiceworks Helpdesk, which will help collect data on the technology needs of the buildings and each level.
- Review of the current website provider has begun to consider other possible options that provide more functionality and are more cost-effective.

Instructional Practices: HPS will foster universally designed technology integration to support equitable learning environments.

- Gr. 6-12 Technology Integration Fellows participated in a summer professional development series through Ed Tech Teacher, selecting from more than 20 courses available through the summer learning pass (funded by HEF). Technology Integration fellows also participated in two full-day professional development opportunities with Tech Integration Specialist Greg Kuloweic and HPS Viewsonic trainer Sarah Jacobson. Sessions focused on applications of AI (e.g.--CHAT GPT) in educational settings, utilizing Ed Tech for UDL, and integration of Viewsonic boards.
- Technology Integration Fellows will present workshops based on their learnings in a choice-based "share-a-thon" format at the February 2024 early release.

Personalized Professional Learning: HPS will leverage technologies and digital learning strategies to expand access to high-quality professional learning opportunities for all staff.

- Technology Tools professional development is shared with new hires during orientation, mentoring, and induction. New asynchronous modules developed to support Viewsonic integration.
- A staff member participated in Viewsonic “Train the Trainer” certification to build capacity for offering in-house training. Viewsonic support sessions were offered during HHS faculty meetings, drop-in-support hours, and department meetings. Additional choice Viewsonic sessions were provided during the February 2024 PD offered by Gr. 6-12 Tech Integration fellows.

Budget

Early in September 2023 the district and school leaders began building the FY25 budget for the 2024-2025 school year. The budget planning included opportunities to discuss our priorities and review current FY24 budget spending. Despite the challenges of increased costs, our discussions have focused on supporting all of our students to ensure their academic, social-emotional learning, and behavioral health needs as we continue our recovery from the disrupted learning of the pandemic.

In the spring of 2023, the town supported an operational override of \$7.9 million that supported the implementation of a level services budget for the 2023-2024 school year. As part of the override discussions, the School Committee, Advisory, and Select Board developed a Memorandum of Understanding that capped future spending for the FY25-FY28 to an overall 3.5% increase. Based on this agreement, the town will allocate \$68,003,625 for the FY25 budget to the schools, representing a 3.5% increase from FY24.

As part of the budget planning for FY25, we have identified an approximate \$2.6 million dollar deficit. Of the \$2.6 million, \$1,438,355 is due to increased special education costs, including out-of-district special education tuition and specialized contracted services. The Memorandum of Understanding with the town allows the schools to request increased funding for special education costs above a 2% threshold. The remaining \$1.2 million of the deficit is due to the district's obligations to several budget drivers, including meeting the contractual agreements with our employees, utilities, and increases in substitute costs.

The FY25 budget will be impacted by several factors that are leading to increased costs:

- The district's personnel costs are increasing. As the district continues to negotiate with several of its employee unions, it must meet its contractual obligations to its employees.

- The district is experiencing increased costs, including natural gas, fuel, and electricity.
- The budget will reflect needed increases for substitutes to cover long and short-term absences.
- We continue to experience increased student needs due to the pandemic and other societal pressures. Most significantly, we see an increased need in students' social-emotional learning and behavioral needs. These needs require additional staffing and contractual services to meet our students' increased needs. In addition, out-of-district special education tuition will also increase.

As we have begun planning for the FY25 budget, these drivers have led to increases.

In the budget development, the district developed our priorities, including continuing the three-year strategic plan. The strategic plan outlines goals to create and sustain a school system that continuously improves teaching and learning so that our students can realize academic, social-emotional, and personal success. The following are additional priorities established by the Leadership Team in the development of the budget:

- Provide systems, structures, and programs in the Student Services Department in collaboration with efforts to strengthen MTSS, which addresses diverse social-emotional, behavioral health, and academic needs.
- Strengthen tiered support systems for social-emotional learning and academics through staffing, schedules, professional development, high-quality instruction, and curriculum to support all students' wellness, mental health, and academic needs.
- Promote and support strategic initiatives through aligned, relevant professional development. Continue advancing educator capacity to employ best practices, including Universal Design for Learning and implementing high-quality tiered curriculum and wellness supports.
- Provide access to safe, welcoming, and well-maintained facilities with reliable, high-quality technology to create a learning environment that supports students' academic and social-emotional development.

As always, Hingham Public Schools benefited from strong and longstanding community partnerships. The cooperative efforts, volunteerism, and generosity of parents, PTOs, boosters, community groups, civic organizations, SEPAC, the Hingham Education Foundation, and the Hingham Sports Partnership have again supported the School Department in supporting its mission and achieving goals. Myriad

graduation scholarships and awards are presented yearly in recognition of students' outstanding performance in academic areas or involvement in school organizations. The School Department and the School Committee gratefully acknowledge and appreciate the many community efforts that enhance the valued facilities, programs, and activities of the Hingham Public Schools.

School Committee

In the spring of 2023, Nes Correnti, Michelle Ayer, and Jen Benham were elected School Committee Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary, respectively.

The School Committee and HPS staff appreciate the citizens and voters of the town for their ongoing support and financing of annual education budgets and facility enhancement projects. Equally important to students of all ages is Hingham residents' support for school activities, student performances, and other achievements.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Margaret Adams
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Nes Correnti, Chair
Michelle Ayer, Vice Chair
Jen Benham, Secretary
Alyson Anderson
Matt Cosman
Tim Dempsey
Kerry Ni



Recreation Commission

The Hingham Recreation Commission oversees the operations of the Recreation Department. It is a five member elected board committed to providing high quality, affordable recreation programs as well as maintaining safe and accessible fields and facilities throughout the Hingham community. It is the mission of the Recreation Department to offer programs, activities, and opportunities which assist all Hingham residents in enhancing their physical, social, and emotional well-being.

The Hingham Community has always and will continue to be the primary focus of the Hingham Recreation Department attracting residents of all ages, abilities, and interests. An important part of determining which programs to make available each year is to make certain there is a "something for everyone" attitude included in the development process. Every year the Rec attempts to maximize the use of its multiple locations and amenities. The Recreation Center, located in Town Hall, comprises a gymnasium, game room, two studios and the Fitness Center. The outdoor facilities include playgrounds, a street hockey rink, tennis, basketball and volleyball courts and soccer and baseball fields. Additionally, the Recreation Department oversees program space located at 341 Main Street in the renovated Cordage House that we have named the "Rec Barn" as well as making use of facilities located at the South Shore Country Club and managing a number of neighborhood playgrounds. Additionally,



the Recreation Department oversees Town-wide Field Maintenance, devoted to raising the effectiveness and quality of Hingham's many green spaces.

The partnership continued between the Recreation Department and East School for after-school programming including: Skateboarding, Gardening, Multisport, Arts & Crafts, Game Night, Japanese, Cheerleading, a collaboration with Harbor Media and a Lego Stem Class with more than 600 registrations.

The Summer Camp Programs saw a record number of registrations with more than 4,200 registrations for our programs: Preschool, Funtime, Adventure Club, Parkland and Teen Xtreme. These camp programs continue to grow, swelling the recreation summer staff to more than 120 counselors, senior staff and counselors-in-training. In addition to these programs, other programs included Sports Experience, Summer Dance, Golf clinics, Skateboarding clinics, and Tennis clinics also added to an active, exciting summer season. Additionally, the Recreation Department continued its collaboration with the Bathing Beach committee to staff and oversee the lifeguards for the Hingham Bathing Beach from June until September. And to top off the summer season, the 2023 July 4th Road race had 1,800 registered runners.

The Recreation Department's Funky Feet School of Dance had more than 600 dance registrations. In the spring, the recitals returned to the Hingham Middle School for two days with four shows and more than 1,900 tickets sold. In the winter, Funky Feet returned to the Middle School for a jam-packed Saturday with five shows with almost 600 dancers and 2300 tickets sold.

Adult Fitness continued to grow with successful programs such as: Harbor Hoops, Adult Tennis, Adult Golf, and Adult Pickleball. Adult Dance Fitness and a new Adult Cardio dance joined spin and yoga as weekly class installments continuing the Recreation's focus on providing fun and affordable activities for all ages. The Recreation's collaboration with the Bathing Beach Trustees allowed the highly successful Yoga program to return to the Hingham Harbor Community Room located next to the Beach House at the harbor for three seasons along with some spectacular outdoor yoga classes in the shaded greenspace by the harbor.

Hingham Recreation was also able to offer a host of other programs to meet the needs of the younger community including: Basketball, Skateboarding, Track and Field, Multisport Classes, Cookie and Cupcake Decorating, Chess, Tennis, Soccer and Field Hockey. Finally, Hingham Recreation returned to its tradition of offering Friday Night Events for Kindergarten to 5th grade students with more than 200 preregistrations.

2023 was the third year of the Recreation Department overseeing the management of Hingham's outdoor fields and courts. The Cronin Baseball beautification and remodeling project culminated with the unveiling of the brand new state-of-the-art scoreboard capping off the 18-month renovation which included a new backstop, new dual-lane batting cage, and new dugouts.



Respectfully submitted,

Recreation Commissioners

- Vicki Donlan, Chair
- Adrienne Ramsey
- Ryan Lynch
- Steve Buckley
- Matt Lebreton

Recreation Department Staff

- Mark Thorell, Recreation Director
- Kathy Walsh, Administrative Assistant
- Mike Benard, Program Supervisor
- Jacquelyn Muh, Program Supervisor

Route 3A Task Force

The Route 3A Task Force is an advisory group consisting of five residents appointed by the Select Board in June 2017. The 3A Task Force provides a forum for public discussion and presentation during design development for the Route 3A/Summer Street/Rockland Street corridor improvement project. The group reports back to the Hingham Board of Selectmen periodically, working with the guidance and thru the Town of Hingham Engineering division of DPW. As a proxy to Hingham residents, the Task Force receives questions and concerns regarding the design and also assists in the collaboration with neighboring communities.

Objective

The bounds of the route 3A roadway project are from the intersection of Otis Street and Broad Cove Road to the intersection of George Washington Boulevard and Rockland Street. The final result will be a series of improvements that, together, provide a vision for the corridor to operate safely, efficiently, and sufficiently for all users of different transportation modes.

The project includes a modern roundabout, a lane reduction on Summer Street between Martins Lane and the rotary, traffic signals, turning lanes, and intersection improvements, improved pedestrian and bike accommodations, including ADA compliant walkways and a shared used path along the waterfront. The latest design submitted to MassDOT includes a lane reduction between Burditt Ave and Ship Street, resulting in greater pedestrian safety and lessened environmental impact with negligible impact on traffic flow.

Design Milestones

In the last year, MassDOT has assumed the expense for the remaining design effort and required submittals for the project. MassDOT's commitment to the project is vital to its success. Through a Master Service Agreement (MSA) with MassDOT, project design consultant GM2 Associates has continued working on the project and reporting to our Town Engineer who continues to facilitate solutions with MassDOT, the MBTA, Hingham Municipal Light Plant, the Conservation Commission, other Town committees and offices, project abutters, and regional partners. The 3A Task Force continues to represent the Town's interests in the process.

The 75 percent design plan is scheduled for submittal to Mass DOT in the first quarter of 2024. The Town's \$800,000 investment in engineering design plans currently represents less than three percent of the revised

total cost, now estimated at \$30 million-funded by the state and federal governments. Construction costs have continued to climb, and the new estimate, nearly double the 2022 figure of \$15.6 million, includes additional aspects of the project, newly required to be included.

The Hingham project is prospectively funded on the Boston region's 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) 2026 budget, a year later than currently scheduled (2025) based on the 2024-2028 TIP. The 2025-2029 TIP will be approved by the Boston MPO in April, 2024. Construction on the Route 3A improvement project is expected to take place over the course of two and a half years. We are currently planning to break ground on the project in the spring of 2026.



Conceptual Landscape along Inner Harbor by CopleyWolff

Community Engagement

As the design phase approaches completion, close coordination with local, regional, and state government, public safety, and civic groups is a top priority. The Task Force holds regular public meetings – posted to the Town's website - to review plan updates and guide decisions. Recent project developments and presentations are on the Town's 3A Task Force web page.

We are excited by the prospect of a safer and more welcoming roadway for Hingham and for our region, and look forward to the continued collaboration that will see this project to fruition.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Sneath, Chair 3A Task Force
JR Frey, Town Engineer

Scholarship Fund Committee

The Scholarship Committee is charged with the investing of assets on behalf of current and future recipients of the Hingham Scholarship Fund. Scholarship Fund assets at the end of 2023 totaled \$6,750,461 compared to \$5,605,860 at the end of 2022. These figures include an investment gain of \$1,294,503, donations of \$180,598, scholarship disbursements of \$330,000, and administrative fees of \$500.

Market performance for 2023 was dominated by large cap US equities, with a significant portion of those returns coming in the fourth quarter. Off the back of a poor showing in 2022 for both equities and bonds, the outlook coming into the year was not very promising with the Fed still raising rates to combat inflation and fear of an imminent recession. A regional banking crisis in March didn't help matters, and as the year progressed it seemed the only investments working were in the Magnificent Seven stocks. However, a broad-based rally in the fourth quarter was the tide that raised all boats, and the plan finished the year with an impressive 22.9% return.

The Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate, a broad domestic investment grade bond index returned 5.5%. The S&P 500, an index of the 500 largest US public companies by market capitalization, returned 26.3%. The Russell 2500 Index, an equity index that tracks an array of small and mid-cap sized US companies, returned 17.4%. The MSCI EAFE Index, measuring large company equity performance in developed markets within Europe, Australasia and the Far East, returned 18.2%.

The Fund's asset mix, approximately 70% equities and 30% bonds & money market equivalents, has been a consistent strategic target of the fund for several years. Given the perpetual nature of the fund's beneficiary interests, the committee continues to feel this mix to be most prudent. For 2023, the Scholarship Fund returned 22.9%, net of investment returns, income, donations, and withdrawals. Its' benchmark, which utilizes a combination of the above-mentioned indices, had a return of 18.0%. The outperformance is attributed to our Growth allocation, which returned 55.6% for the year.

The committee voted to provide \$330,000 in scholarship awards in 2023. This amount is consistent with the Fund's Investment Policy Statement, which is to distribute ~5% of the average assets over the prior three years and compares to \$285,000 in 2021 and \$308,000 in 2022. The Town of Hingham authorized this program in 1975. In the subsequent years nearly \$4M has been awarded to Hingham High School graduates who successfully complete their first semester of higher learning. The

members of the committee volunteer their time and are listed below. We continue to rely heavily upon the skills and professional acumen of members of the Treasurer's Office for trade implementation and accurate processing of donations and disbursements.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew McGonagle, Chair

Roger Nastou

John Fitzsimons

Jeffrey Swett

Lori Magner, Treasurer

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE TRUST FUNDS
IN CUSTODY OF THE TREASURER

Scholarship	12/31/22	12/31/23
Rizzotto Memorial	29,853	37,852
Cyrus Bacon & Ada W. Bacon	35,370	41,540
Orvis K. & May B. Collins	74,839	88,027
Amasa J. Whiting	34,804	41,334
Second World War Memorial.....	87,217	108,449
Margaret McElroy	18,124	21,436
Stuart Macmillan Memorial.....	83,082	99,039
Ann Mulholland	8,505	9,843
John Lewis Russell	21,732	25,730
Caroline Murdock	16,310	19,006
Charles (Chuck) Martell	42,783	56,696
Francis James Thompson.....	2,899,012	3,411,307
Patricia Lynne Schneider.....	6,107	7,244
Harold L. Downing	26,111	31,023
Hingham Theater for Children.....	7,977	10,327
1 st Lieutenant Curtis E. Chase	19,560	23,217
The Wallis Lee Chipman Music Award.....	9,730	11,584
Russell Arkell Scholarship	14,773	17,992
Hingham High Basketball Boosters	18,021	21,181
Charles Berry	7,464	8,855
Edward O. Hornstra	24,861	28,873
William J. Laubenstein Jr	6,775	8,730
Mary Sheldon.....	9,871	11,536
Robin Karen Kurciviez.....	7,224	8,498
Mary J. Fee for the Arts.....	6,767	7,930
Jacobs Scholarship	41,218	48,442
John Higgins Scholarship	6,021	7,112
Burditt W. Collins Memorial.....	9,678	11,178
Savini Music.....	8,191	9,654
The Luce Scholarships.....	279,117	334,958
Robert V. Barbuto & James C. Silipo.....	24,777	29,183
Herbert W. Farrar Memorial	7,800	9,176
The Bryant Scholarship.....	158,572	186,149
Hingham Taxpayers	81,638	95,693
Hingham Band Parents.....	7,909	9,396
Susan/George Burton Music Scholarship	30,482	35,453
Leroy L. Eldredge.....	25,646	30,465
John Barba	28,140	30,402
M. Tilghman Earle.....	33,835	37,814
Supt. Lewis J. Ernst.....	26,516	31,389
Joan E. Pyne Memorial	10,149	11,880
John Peter Nionakis.....	17,209	23,388

Kids Cabaret	4,481	5,239
Rosemary Amoscato Shaughnessy	19,502	23,319
Field Hockey Team.....	12,454	15,698
Charles L. Vickery	44,211	53,739
Jamin Guarino	46,583	55,627
Clifford Family Memorial	14,374	16,763
Thomas J. Wallace, Jr & Michelle Wallace	124,034	146,312
Gerald M. Collins, M.D	3,847	4,528
Hingham Scholarship Memorial	10,390	12,418
Crofoot Trust	26,405	30,422
Sam Butterfield Scholarship	12,502	14,554
Gloria O. Lofgren	16,867	19,947
Robin Helene Ruben	24,617	30,887
Robert L. Goodrich	49,913	51,937
Helen S. Wollan	9,034	10,971
Former Students of HHS.....	17,542	20,389
Mark S. Gratta Sr Memorial.....	26,957	31,148
Hingham Women's Club	20,151	23,848
Corine Cyr Benedict Memorial	14,594	17,429
Carol & Ruth Gardner Memorial	34,856	40,058
Samantha Hooper Memorial.....	8,565	9,998
Cynthia Steven Scholarship.....	6,838	7,921
Marie Meallo Scholarship	14,213	17,340
Keith Ryan Memorial	2,757	5,215
Sean Ryan Memorial	85,282	99,215
Colarullo Family Scholarship.....	14,714	13,060
Neal Tompkins Memorial	91,752	109,618
Corporal Christopher J. Orlando USMC Memorial .	89,837	112,018
Elizabeth Nally Memorial.....	9,452	11,140
Class of 1976 Fritz Hansel Memorial	4,622	7,224
Herbert T. McMeekin, Jr.	152,485	177,133
Dr. Andrew V. & Edith B. Mason.....	149,030	172,723
Haskell N. & Elinor F. Maude.....	8,997	10,860
Supt. Dorothy H. Galo Scholarship	95,005	126,776
Pamela Noble-Hill Memorial	26,498	31,640
HHS Class of 1962.....	6,494	14,889
Ruth Butterfield Scholarship.....	0	97,304
General Fund	1,760	2,665
Total Rounded	5,605,860	6,750,461

2017 School Building Committee



February 2023



December 2023

As of July 2024, the School Building Committee (SBC) will have been working actively on the project to replace the William L. Foster Elementary School ("Foster") for seven years. In 2023, with preliminary testing, feasibility, and design all complete, Hingham was poised to begin the process of building a new elementary school in the Crow Point neighborhood. Cost estimates were completed and reconciled during the spring and bids were solicited for general contractors and key subcontractors to perform the construction work. The SBC followed its intended approach to achieve a carbon-free, net zero design by electing to pursue ground source heat pumps and a geo-thermal well field to provide heating and cooling for the building. This design element is the first of its kind implemented in Hingham and one of the first to be

incorporated in an elementary school in Massachusetts. Site preparations continued through late spring and early summer including the displacement and repurposing of many tons of earth material from Otis Hill in order to raise the site to the required elevation. New retaining walls were completed to define the landscape contour that will provide the natural backdrop for the new school. With the issuance of the building permit in mid-July, Bacon Construction, Inc. “dug in” with all deliberate speed. An official groundbreaking ceremony was held in late August at which State and Town officials shared words of praise and promise for the new school project, already well underway.

2023 also saw the first of many reimbursement payments to the Town from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). Regular payments will continue throughout the project until completion and regulatory closeout and the full MSBA grant of approximately \$25 million is received.

The SBC continues to provide vigilant management, oversight, and cost control, while ensuring the safe and expeditious execution of the project. Foster administration and staff continue to provide a clean, safe, and positive learning environment for the students in their charge.

As a historical reminder, Foster was built in 1951 with various renovations and additions in the decades that followed and benefitted from a 2008 Town Meeting-authorized capital investment of approximately \$3.5 million in its physical plant as part of a School Facilities Master Plan executed by the 2006 School Building Committee. This investment was made to enhance learning environment parity among Hingham’s elementary schools and breathe an additional 10-15 years of life into a tired and poorly designed, albeit a clean, safe, and well-maintained structure, which continues to serve as a welcoming haven for well over four hundred students residing in north Hingham.

Although the 2006 Master Plan recommended that either a comprehensive renovation or replacement of Foster should be pursued, the East Elementary and Middle School projects were prioritized and completed first. The most recent renovations to Foster have improved the educational experience but many facility issues were too costly to address adequately, many classroom layouts remain problematic, and more recent and serious concerns arose relative to some of the building’s aging mechanical systems, which at times have displaced students and staff requiring temporary relocation and rendered the building temporarily unusable. As a result, the School Committee sought Town-wide support for a long-term solution to these growing challenges and submitted a Statement of

Interest for MSBA consideration. After two unsuccessful attempts, a project to provide that long-term solution was approved by the MSBA and a series of Town Meetings over a six-year period appropriated the necessary funding.

The overall design of the new school began with the development of a comprehensive educational plan that details methodology for curriculum delivery. The resulting design is driven and informed by that plan as well as space requirements and guidelines imposed by the MSBA. The new school will have many benefits that will serve both the student body and the broader community. The building will provide space to expand our integrated pre-Kindergarten program and our popular Kids in Action program. The design is smart educationally, grouping each set of grade level classrooms in a neighborhood with common areas to promote collaborative learning, and providing right-sized spaces for physical education, lunch, music instruction, arts and stem exploration, all school assemblies and potentially new special education programming Hingham has not previously been able to offer. The design is also smart environmentally, reducing operational, maintenance, and utility costs over time, providing a well-insulated exterior skin and abundant natural light.

Many spaces are also designed for maximized functionality. The gym and the cafetorium can accommodate youth sports and other community groups after hours and on weekends. The multipurpose room will house the field science program and Kids in Action and includes maker space and other features to enable both utility and flexibility for curricular and community activities. The school will utilize the natural resources its coastal marsh setting provides allowing students to reap the curricular and aesthetic benefits inherent in its beauty. In total, the new school will help Hingham sustain its well-earned reputation for providing exceptional education services and allow growth, expansion, and exploration in a 21st century learning environment.

The SBC also continued its oversight of the \$3,993,600 window and door replacement project at Plymouth River Elementary School (PRS) as a participant in the MSBA's Accelerated Repair Grant Program. The project addresses much needed window and door replacements throughout the building together with associated infrastructure that could not be accomplished after Hingham voters approved \$3.5 million in improvements at PRS as recommended by the 2006 School Facilities Master Plan. Now nearly complete, with only a handful of punch list items remaining and solidly under budget, the result provides a safer and more attractive appearance for staff and students as well as energy efficiency

to help reduce utility costs, while improving a valuable Town asset and extending the useful life of this 55-year-old elementary school.

The SBC remains grateful for the engagement and support of the Foster, PRS, and larger Hingham communities as it continues to execute both the Foster and PRS projects, providing prudent and responsible oversight for the benefit of Hingham students for generations to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Hill, Chair
Raymond Estes, Vice-Chair
Christopher Mercer, Secretary
Michelle Ayer
Kevin Lynch
Timothy O'Neill
Jennifer Murphy

Shade Tree Committee

The primary purpose of the Shade Tree Committee of Hingham is to foster and promote the preservation and planting of shade trees and to support the DPW in the appropriate shade tree species, site selections, and the care of shade trees.

The Shade Tree Committee celebrated Arbor Day on Friday, April 28, 2023 at Taurasi Park. Attending the ceremony were members of the Shade Tree Committee, Select Board, Department of Public Works, and the Garden Club of Hingham who donated the beautiful tree, an October Glory Maple, *Acer rubrum*. The Select Board issued a proclamation declaring April 28, 2023 as Arbor Day in the Town of Hingham.

This past year the Shade Tree Committee, in consultation with the Department of Public Works, reviewed the current list of recommended "public street" trees and made adjustments to the list where necessary. The focus of the Shade Tree Committee's review was the identification of those trees that are in keeping with the current street tree canopy. The revised list of trees consists of twenty-one street/shade trees.

For the thirty-third year, Hingham has been named a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation. This designation is an accomplishment of the Town's commitment to effective management, growth and development of its public trees.

The Shade Tree Committee wishes to thank departing members Barbara Kardok and Dottie Manganaro for their years of service on the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Elisa Fontanes
James Huse
Phillip Shute
Michael Studley

Veterans' Services



*The Hingham High School Boys' Soccer Team Captains
(L to R #9 Mason Lemieux, #1 Jacob Riker, #11 Nick Oravitz)
The Team made a collective decision to fundraise at this year's HHS Homecoming for
Veterans in Need, raising over \$1,200.*

The Department of Veterans' Services is responsible for administering benefits to qualifying veterans and their dependents under MGL c. 115. The Department also assists veterans applying for various State and Federal support programs as well as arranging and managing the Town's military-related ceremonies throughout the year. The Department is proud to report that it continues to maintain state certification and compliance with both MGL c. 115 and 108 Code of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR).

During 2023, benefits were paid on average to 15 Hingham veterans and/or their dependents, totaling \$125,222. The state reimburses the Town for its benefits expenditures at the 75% statutory maximum rate because of the Department's timely processing and accurate accounting. Massachusetts is still the only state in the nation that provides this type of benefit to its veterans.

Last year, a total of 196 Federal Veterans Affairs (VA) cases and claims were managed by this Department, resulting in those individuals being awarded \$280,707 in total—an average monthly payout of approximately \$1,432 per case. The workload to support VA case submission is supplemental to the Department's primary mission under MGL c. 115.

The Town's Veterans In Need Fund—funded through *ad hoc* donations as well as from contributions accompanying annual excise and quarterly property-tax payments—finished calendar 2023 with slightly less than \$34,000 on hand. During 2023, the Department expended upwards of \$7,000 to provide supplemental emergency shelter, heating, medical, and sustenance support to qualifying veterans and their dependents as recommended by the Veterans' Services Officer and in accordance with MGL c. 141, the HOME Act.

Since its inception one decade ago by Special Legislation, the Veterans In Need Fund has raised well over \$107,000 in total donations and has been able to provide benefits in excess of \$77,000 to those with immediate needs. These supplemental funds are pivotal in providing a safety net by bridging the gap between the state's allowable benefit maximums and client bills.

This year's Memorial Day service was held outside at Town Hall with hundreds in attendance. Volunteers from the Hingham High School Band, under the direction of Mr. Brian Cincotta, performed several patriotic tunes. Colonel Cheryl Poppe, U.S. Army (Ret.) was the principal speaker. Colonel Poppe served for 30 years in the Massachusetts Army National Guard in several capacities. Her passion for working with veterans led to her second career at the Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services where she held several positions including Department Secretary until February 2023.

This summer, our Town partnered with a national organization called the Veterans Suicide Awareness & Remembrance (SAR) Flag Corp. Their primary mission is to break the stigma of mental health, suicide, and seeking treatment within our warrior culture to facilitate suicide prevention.

The SAR President, Kevin Hertell, and several members of his team joined together with local veterans' motorcycle clubs, veterans' organizations, and elected and appointed officials to honor our newest Gold Star Family, the Partyka Family, during a public ceremony conducted at the Bandstand on Hingham Harbor. The keynote Speaker was Brigadier General Tom Sellars, U.S. Army (Ret.), and musical pieces were generously donated and performed by "The Singing Trooper" Sgt. Daniel Clark, MSP (Ret.). The pinnacle portion of the event was the presentation of the SAR flag to the family. The SAR Flag Family Motto is: We Honor. We Remember. We Will End Veteran Suicide Together!



*LCDR Tony O'Brien, USN (Ret.), Caroline Partyka, Scott McMillan,
Jon Asher*

The Hingham Select Board and our Representatives in the Great & General Court proclaimed September 22nd as Veterans' Suicide Awareness and Remembrance Day. Similar bills are pending for our Governor and the U.S. Congress to sign into law.

Veteran suicide is one of the greatest crises of our time. Since September 11, 2001, over 30,000 veterans have died by suicide — four times more than the total number of U.S. military personnel who died from combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. Veterans consist of 13.5% of all deaths by suicide in the US, but only make up 7.9% of the US adult population.

On Veterans' Day, members of the military, veterans, and their families attended the annual Cpl. Lawrence St. Laurent, USMC, breakfast followed by the main observance in Sanborn Auditorium. The National Anthem was performed by the HHS Concert Chorale, as was the moving piece "America the Beautiful". Both selections were conducted by Dr. Joseph Young. The principal speaker was Colonel Robert Notch, U.S. Army (Ret.), who retired from the Army Reserve as a Colonel in May 2016 after nearly 27 years of active service as a commissioned officer in both the Army and Army Reserve.

Colonel Notch is the current President of the South Shore Chapter of Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). He is involved in multiple organizations across the Commonwealth; supporting service members, veterans and their families, including families of the fallen.

During the awards portion of the ceremony, U.S. Navy veteran, Janine Suchecki was named Veteran of the Year for her many achievements. She was one of the first women in the history of the Navy to complete passive Sonar training.

Ms. Suchecki's municipal service is nothing short of exemplary. She served over six years as Chair of the Hingham Cultural Council, five years as Vice Chair & Public Affairs Officer on the Veterans Council; she is the current Chair of the Hingham Housing Authority and a member of American Legion Post 120.

Ms. Suchecki has worked to single-handedly change our Veteran's Services outreach efforts with her social media skills. She specifically focuses on helping veterans in need in our community by increasing their awareness of tax relief programs as well as Mental Health resources available for Veterans. Many veterans have credited her work with making a substantial difference in their lives. Most recently, Governor Healey recognized Ms. Suchecki with a Gubernatorial Citation as a finalist for the prestigious Deborah Sampson Award recognizing women veteran leaders in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.



L to R: ENS JT Jermyn, USN; Lisa Jermyn; Janine Suchecki; Jeanette Bradley; SCPO Keith Jermyn, USN (Ret.)

For the fourth year in a row, Tom Hoffman (and crew) has coordinated and organized the National Wreaths Across America Day in Hingham. Donations from various community members and organizations raised over \$7,800 to purchase this year's wreaths. Volunteers from Hingham's Veterans Council, SNAP community, Police Patrolmen's Union, and Daughters of the American Revolution laid almost 1,000 wreaths at the gravesites of veterans. The High Street and Fort Hill cemeteries were chosen this year, thus beginning again the project's three-year goal of honoring all who served within the Town's six privately owned cemeteries.

Working with veterans and their dependents has been the highlight of my career. Many of you have been an integral part of my journey "home". Transitioning from military to civilian life is never easy. The military

provides a sense of purpose, well-defined roles and hierarchy, camaraderie, honor and mission – things that can be hard to find or define in the civilian world. So when our veterans transition out of the military, it can spark a loss of identity and meaning of life. No one is above this struggle, no matter your rank, your position, or your affiliation length.

Currently, 0.4% of Americans serve in the military. Estimations indicate that just over 7% of living Americans have served in the U.S. military in some capacity. So please, BE PROUD and WELCOME HOME!

“...for it’s when we hear, we forget; when we see, we remember; and when we do, we understand.”

We greatly appreciate all the Town departments that help us to fulfill our mission, as well as the strong support provided by our hard-working volunteers throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

SCPO Keith Jermyn, USN (Ret.)
Director of Veterans’ Services

Weir River Estuary Park Committee



The Weir River Estuary Park Committee (WREPC) is a Tri-Town committee (Cohasset, Hingham & Hull) focused on care of the Estuary and Straits Pond, including protecting land, improving water quality, and encouraging stewardship through education and respectful recreation.

Environmental Conditions

The Weir River Estuary (an area roughly 950 acres), a State designated Area of Critical Environmental Concern, runs from Black Rock Beach in Hull and Cohasset to Sunset Point in Hull, including the area from Foundry Pond Dam in Hingham, the Weir River Estuary including World's End along George Washington Boulevard. Though special protection is codified by State regulations, a variety of environmental challenges impact the Estuary. Plastic debris, excess nutrients, sedimentation from stormwater runoff, reduced streamflow, and legacy pollution all contribute to degradation of the Estuary.

Terrestrial, aquatic and avian wildlife use the estuary as a way point in their migration, a seasonal habitat to feed during the summer months, or are year-round residents. The three Towns have a joint responsibility to preserve and protect the Estuary from the negative impacts above.

The WREPC meets four to six times each year. In 2023, we reviewed some of the issues impacting the Estuary, reviewed plans for environmental restoration, and celebrated community and educational events linked to the Estuary.

Path to the Island in Straits Pond

In 2022, Hull voters approved \$30K in Community Preservation funds to pay for permitting and surveying a walking path to the island in Straits Pond via Eastman Road. In April, Hull Conservation

Director, Chris Krahforst shared the survey maps with the WREP. In November, members of the WREP and Hull Land Conservation Trust (HLCT), spent the day creating and scouting the trail. They clipped briars and cleared an initial path along the waterfront but stopped short of the island. The next phase of the project is community outreach and public comment. The

Conservation department proposes using the Hull DPW for any challenging construction and the HLCT is offering to fund the building of a wildlife viewing platform. More trail work will be planned for next year.

Estuary Clean-up Day

In April, the WREP coordinated with local watershed associations and environmental groups to conduct the annual Earth Day cleanup. Trash was collected from the Estuary, including Amonte Meadows, Lyford's Liking, Rockland Street, Straits Pond, Black Rock, Crescent, and Gun Rock beaches, Foundry and Sidney Ponds, and the Hull HRA waterfront. Volunteers from the three Towns participated and were feted by SPWA and WRWA with a picnic lunch.

Hull High Science Class

Young citizen scientists from Hull collaborated for a grant from CZM to initiate water sampling and testing for nitrate, nitrite, ammonia, phosphorus, and other chemical species. Samatha Woods of the NSWRA led the group on a walk along the estuary and Scott Plympton of Nantasket Kayaks took them kayaking to conduct water samples. The grant was not approved this year. The group will be purchasing water study instruments from funding by Weir River Watershed Association and Straits Pond Watershed Assoc.

Atlantic Avenue Reconstruction Project

The Atlantic Avenue Reconstruction Project is nearing completion. We continue to monitor progress and note the completion of a new stormwater catchment system which will trap sediment in the storm drains, one-way caps on the outfalls to the Pond, and riprap at the outlets to slow and disperse discharge.

Support of SOS Hull

A new organization, SOS Hull (Save Open Space) has formed to ask the Hull Redevelopment Authority (HRA) to pause their proposal to build over 100+ condos, a new hotel / convention center and retail within the 13 acres of HRA land that borders the estuary and Nantasket Beach. They seek to keep the land as open space and find creative ways to raise revenue from the land without development. The WREP provided SOS with a letter of support.

Continued Residential Development in Cohasset

Cohasset Conservation is monitoring the threat of new residential development near Straits Pond and working to make sure that contractors manage their sites to meet the strict conditions imposed by their Storm Water permits.

Midges and Algae

Sediment and core studies find that the Midge infestations and algae mats in Straits Pond were less than in previous years and predicted fewer midges this season. The environmental conditions which favor them are still poorly understood.

Tree Swallow Nest Boxes

New redesigned tree swallow boxes were a hit. These boxes provide nesting habitat for the swallows who feed on flying insects including the midges that create a public nuisance around the Pond.

Invasive Green Crabs

We are seeing the impacts of this invasive species which damages sensitive coastal vegetation and causes issues with erosion.

Salt Marsh Loss

Salt marsh loss continues along all tidal creeks and ditches in the Estuary. We hope you will continue to explore and visit the Weir River Estuary Park area by bike, kayak/canoe, or on foot.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Plympton, Chair (Hull)
Judeth Van Hamm (Hull)
Sharon Allen, (Hingham)

Richard Avery (Cohasset)
Tom Bell (Cohasset)
Mark Buonagurio (Hingham)

Town Accountant

State law requires the Town of Hingham to publish at the close of each year a complete set of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) that are audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by a firm of licensed certified public accountants.

The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) is designed to be used by the elected and appointed officials of Hingham in addition to those entities concerned with the Town's management and development, including credit rating agencies, bond analysts, investors, and financial institutions. The format of the report enables the Town to present complex financial data in a manner that is easier for citizens and taxpayers of the Town of Hingham to review and understand. The Town's ACFRs can be found on the Town website at <https://www.hingham-ma.gov/157/Financial-Reports>.

The Town of Hingham's financial statements have been audited by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, a firm of licensed certified public accountants. The goal of the independent audit was to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements of the Town of Hingham for the year ended June 30, 2023 are free of material misstatement. The independent audit involved examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management; and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. The independent auditor concluded, based upon the audit, that there was a reasonable basis for rendering an unmodified opinion on the Town of Hingham's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023 and that they are fairly presented in conformity with GAAP. The independent auditor's report is presented as the first component of the financial section of this report.

The independent audit of the financial statements of the Town of Hingham was part of a broader, federally mandated "Single Audit" designed to meet the special needs of Federal grantor agencies. The standards governing Single Audit engagements require the independent auditor to report not only on the fair presentation of the financial statements, but also on the audited government's internal controls and compliance with legal requirements, with special emphasis on internal controls and legal requirements involving the administration of Federal awards. These reports are available in the Town of Hingham's separately issued Single Audit Report.

The ACFR includes all of the operational departments of the Town. The Hingham Public Library, the Lincoln Apartments, LLC, and the Hingham Contributory Retirement System are included in the report as component units, with the Hingham Public Library and the Lincoln Apartments, LLC being presented as discrete units, and the Hingham Contributory Retirement System being presented as a fiduciary fund within the statement of fiduciary net position.

Profile of the Town of Hingham

The Town of Hingham is a seacoast community located approximately 20 miles southeast of downtown Boston. Primarily an established single family community, Hingham has several historic village districts and more recent single family subdivisions that were constructed within the last 40 years.

The Town provides general government services including police and fire protection, disposal of rubbish, public education, streets, recreation, and a municipal golf course (South Shore Country Club). The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority provides certain sewer services to the Town. A municipal sewer system serves approximately 27% of the households of the Town. The Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant, a self-supporting enterprise, provides electric power to the Town, and the Weir River Water System, a self-supporting enterprise, provides water services to the Town. The Hingham Housing Authority maintains housing for elderly residents and those with disabilities. In addition, the Town has a Center for Active Living to service older adults with various programs as well as outreach projects. Bus services are provided by the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority and connect to established stations of the Authority.

Several recreational programs are provided among the parks located throughout the Town, in addition to beach and swimming facilities. Bare Cove Park contains 468 acres and was a former federal ammunition depot. It is mostly in its original pristine condition with many trees and forests and is adjacent to the scenic Back River. It provides walking and bicycle trails, nature studies, picnic facilities, and other items of interest.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts maintains Wompatuck State Park in the Towns of Hingham and Cohasset containing 3,509 acres, of which 2,047 acres are in Hingham. In addition to the facilities provided by Bare Cove Park, Wompatuck offers hiking trails in the summer which become cross country skiing trails in the winter, and extensive camping facilities are provided.

The Town is located in Plymouth County and the principal services provided by the County are court facilities, a jail and house of correction, and registry of deeds and probate.

The three-member elected Select Board is the Chief Executive Officer; however, the Town has a diverse government with many elected and appointed boards and committees. A Town Administrator is appointed by the Select Board and is responsible for day-to-day administration.

Factors Affecting Economic and Financial Condition

The Town of Hingham continues to reflect a strong economic condition; per capita income is significantly higher than state averages and the unemployment rate has always been extremely low as compared to state and national averages. The unemployment rate has remained below average again this year after spiking in FY20 due to the pandemic. In its commitment to financial stability, the Town upholds a Financial Plan aimed at preserving an excess of Unassigned Fund Balance between 16-20% of Total Annual Expenditures (TAE).

During November 2022, the Town approved the construction of a new Foster Elementary School (\$113 million) and a new Public Safety Facility for (\$47 million). Concurrently, the Town earmarked \$7 million from excess Unassigned Fund Balance to cover a portion of the debt service associated with these projects.

In April 2023, the Town approved a \$7.9 million operational override for FY24. To demonstrate accountability to the taxpayers, the Town implemented a Financial Management Plan with the override that included a commitment to cap budget growth rates at 3.5% annually for the School and Municipal budgets. This commitment was formalized through a Financial Management Plan signed by the School Committee, Advisory Committee, Select Board, Town Administrator, and School Superintendent. The Plan was created with the understanding that no further operational overrides would be pursued until at least FY28.

Fund Balance increased by \$1.3 million in 2023 primarily due to departmental budget turn-backs and an increase in Investment Income due to higher interest rates. The Town remains a very desirable community given its close proximity to Boston and the level and quality of services provided. The residential sales market has been and continues to be very strong, reflecting the great interest in the community.

Hingham is known throughout the state for its high quality school system; Hingham students consistently score in the top percentiles on national and state tests and an extremely high percentage of students graduating from the high school go on to pursue higher education.

Long-term Financial Planning

The Town Administrator and the Finance Team, which consists of the Assistant Town Administrator for Finance, Town Accountant, Treasurer/Collector, Director of Assessing, School Business Manager, and external financial advisors and bond counsel, work closely with the Select Board, Advisory Committee, Capital Outlay Committee, and department heads to develop short and long-term financial goals to maintain and strength the financial position of the Town and preserve Hingham's AAA credit rating.

Financial Information

Financial Management. The Advisory Committee maintains the Town's Financial Policy, which is reviewed and updated every three years. It is a comprehensive statement covering financial management, capital expenditures, and debt service. The purpose of the Policy is to stabilize tax rates and control expenditures. It is expected to give guidance to the preparation, review, and approval of budgets.

The Policy recommends that Unassigned Fund Balance be maintained at a level of no less than 16% and no more than 20% of total annual expenditures. Each year that Unassigned Fund Balance increases, any excess of the above the 20% level should be available for spending or for tax reductions in accordance with the Policy.

Internal Controls. Management of the Town is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure designed to ensure the assets of the Town are protected from loss, theft, or misuse and to ensure that accurate accounting data is compiled to allow for the preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. The Town Administrator and the finance team are responsible for evaluating the adequacy and effectiveness of the internal control structure and implementing improvements. Because the cost of internal controls should not outweigh their benefits, the Town's comprehensive framework of internal controls has been designed to provide reasonable rather than absolute assurance that the financial statements will be free of material misstatement.

The Town voted at the Annual Town Meeting held on April 27, 2010 to establish an Audit Committee. The Committee assists in the selection and monitoring of an independent auditing firm to conduct annual audits of the financial statements of the Town. The Committee supervises and reviews the conduct of the audit and the auditor's relationship with the Town.

Budgetary Controls. The Town Administrator is responsible for the preparation of the annual budget and initiates the process with the development of a five-year financial forecast and budget guidelines for the coming year, which starts in October/November. The various department heads prepare the budgets for departments under their jurisdiction and meet with the Town Administrator and Assistant Town Administrator for Finance to review their requests. The Town Administrator submits his recommendations to the Select Board. The Select Board conducts public budget hearings with each department to review their requests and then recommends a budget to the 15-member Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee reviews the budgets approved by the Select Board, attempts to resolve any differences if necessary, and prepares the annual budget recommendations to Town Meeting, which is the body that has final approval authority. Annual Town Meeting (April) legally adopts the operating and capital outlay budgets for the coming fiscal year. Once approved, the budgets are controlled at the department level with the Town Accountant approving all payrolls and invoices. The Advisory Committee, based on a recommendation of the Select Board, may approve subsequent transfers from a budgeted Reserve Fund.

The Treasurer/Collector is responsible for all of the Town's cash and investments, debt management, and payment of invoices. The Town Accountant works with the Finance team to set the tax rate, while the Assessors commit the real estate taxes, personal property taxes, and motor vehicle excise taxes to the Treasurer/Collector for collection. About 99% of all real estate taxes are collected during the year of billing with the remaining 1% collected the following year. This efficiency greatly aids the Treasurer/Collector in not only reducing or avoiding temporary loans but also maximizing investment potential.

In addition to approval authority over all disbursements, the Town Accountant is responsible for providing accurate and timely estimates of the Town's current and future financial position to the Town Administrator. The Town Accountant holds quarterly budget review meetings with departments to ensure they are within their approved budgeted appropriation. In addition, the Finance team meets monthly to coordinate various fiscal processes and share informatioOther Information

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Town of Hingham for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the year ended June 30, 2022. This was the twenty-seventh consecutive year that the government has achieved this prestigious award. In order to be awarded the Certificate of Achievement, a governmental unit must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized Annual Comprehensive Financial Report whose contents conform to program standards established by the GFOA. Such reports must satisfy both GAAP and applicable legal requirements. A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. We believe that our current Annual Comprehensive Financial Report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement program's requirements and have submitted it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

Independent Audit. The financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023 were audited by the public accounting firm of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP. The financial statements have received an "unmodified opinion" from the auditors, which is the best opinion a governmental unit can receive. It indicates that the financial statements were prepared in accordance with GAAP and that they are fairly presented in all material aspects.

Acknowledgments

A special gratitude is owed to James Piotrowski and Christian Rogers, Manager and Principal at CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, whose attention to the 2023 financial statements was invaluable. We want to express our great appreciation to the Town's Accounting team Aksana Holmes, Huong Pham, and Cheryl Karoutsos for their hard work and dedication this year. We also wish to thank former Accounts Payable Administrator Lynn Phillips and former Town Accountant Susan Nickerson for their many years of service and contributions to the Town.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann R. MacNaughton
Town Accountant

Treasurer/Collector

Balance in the Treasury July 1, 2022.....147,812,449
 -Total Receipts for Fiscal Year 2023.....320,823,407
 -Total Paid on Selectmen warrant(234,778,125)
 Balance in the Treasury June 30, 2023 233,857,731

Investment Return on General Fund cash FY 2023.....2,951,237
 Investment Return on All Funds FY 2023*4,423,877
 *other than scholarship

During Fiscal Year 2023 the Collector's Office processed the following warrants for collection:

2023 Real Estate Tax	94,426,891
2023 Community Preservation Surcharge	1,297,564
2023 Personal Property Tax	1,280,696
2023 Boat Excise Tax	83,187
2023 Motor Vehicle Tax	4,751,759
2022 Motor Vehicle Tax	503,695
2022 Sewer Use Charge.....	3,814,740
Betterments-Paid in Advance	16,973
Sewer Betterments & Committed Interest	79,646
Sewer Use Liens	183,851
Payments in Lieu of Taxes.....	<u>731,604</u>
Total	107,170,606

Tax collections remain strong for FY23 with over ninety-eight percent of real estate and personal property revenue billed and collected by fiscal year end. Each year approximately 70,000 invoices are issued to property owners for assessments on real estate, personal property, motor vehicle, boat and sewer use charges.

There were five new tax liens secured in 2023. The practice of pursuing tax lien collection in house rather than selling or assigning liens to an outside party is still preferred. By applying consistently enforced collection measures and working directly with taxpayers, the Treasurer's office focuses firstly on redemption and lastly on foreclosure. We currently have several foreclosure cases active in Land Court.

The total outstanding long- term debt as of June 30th was \$140,363,411 of which \$131,031,976 is outside the Town's debt limit. Details related to the Town's outstanding debt obligation can be found in the Annual

Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFRA) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

In February of 2023 a competitive sale was held for the issuance of an \$83,542,880 one year Note. The winning bid of 2.86% Net Interest Cost (NIC) was submitted by Jeffries LLC. Proceeds from the sale of the notes provided the initial funding for the Public Safety Facility and the New Foster School. A competitive sale was also held in May of 2023 for the issuance of a \$24,084,468 one year note with a Net Interest Cost (NIC) bid of 3.22% submitted by Fidelity Capital Markets. Proceeds from the sale of the notes together with \$1,216,801 in available funds, were used to redeem \$21,392,931 in outstanding notes. The remaining \$3,908,338 will provide additional financing for five projects: the Lincoln St property, Plymouth River School windows, Town Hall Data Center Remodel, SSCC Maintenance Facility and the Weir River Water Capital Projects.

I would like to extend best wishes and gratitude to Linda Kelley who retired January 2023 after many years working for the town in different roles over the years. Linda was an asset to the department and the Town and will be greatly missed.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank the Treasurer/Collector staff, Marijane Deitsch, Jen Doan, Brittany Gianibas and Nancy Leahy for their consistent and dedicated service that they bring to the department, the Town Hall and the Taxpayers every day.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori-Ann Magner
Treasurer/Collector

TRUST FUNDS/GIFT ACCOUNTS IN CUSTODY OF THE TREASURER
As of June 30, 2023

Trust Fund	6/30/22	06/30/23
375th Anniversary	15,296	15,713
4 th of July Parade	101,076	112,975
Affordable Housing Trust	1,280,840	1,738,356
Aid to Elderly/Disabled (Tax Bill Checkoff)	39,931	43,890
Buttonwood Tree	959	980
Dr. Margaret Long Memorial	75,514	77,196
Education Fund (Tax Bill Checkoff)	27,601	29,259
Foster School SAAA	215,042	256,302
Foundry Pond	9,159	9,363
Greenbush Historic Preservation Projects.....	1,104,043	1,058,973
Hannah Lincoln Whiting.....	16,106	15,112
Hingham Federal Withholding	30,117	32,169
Hingham High School Fields Projects.....	87,170	79,850
Hingham High School SAAA	325,069	285,489
Hingham Middle School SAAA	225,584	227,489
Hingham War Memorial	423	371
Light Customer Deposit	1,832,752	2,010,929
Light Depreciation	20,739,062	21,714,157
Light OPEB Trust.....	2,160,073	2,246,279
Light Reserve Stranded Cost.....	9,049,024	9,731,140
More-Brewer.....	93,677	93,112
Open Space Conservation	111,214	111,930
Preservation Projects.....	168,265	168,533
Scholarship Fund*.....	5,826,835	6,473,987
Stabilization	2,167,013	9,197,987
Town OPEB Trust.....	22,354,087	23,441,871
USLST War Memorial.....	2,439	2,494
Veterans Council Beneficial Gift Account	23,373	29,399
Veterans in Need (Tax Bill Checkoff)	43,196	36,902
Weir River Water System Capital Reserve	7,032,725	7,318,085
Total	75,157,665	86,560,292

*See Scholarship Committee Report for individual scholarship balances

Board of Assessors

It is the responsibility of the Assessors' office to establish current fair market value for all of the properties in the Town of Hingham. The Massachusetts Department of Revenue mandates that every city/town fully update its property assessments each fiscal year to reflect the current fair market value. Every five years, the DOR audits the Board of Assessors records and procedures for certification. This includes an intense examination of all of Hingham's assessment policies and procedures.

In addition to the real property valuations, the Assessors' office maintains records on taxable personal property, boat and motor vehicles excise tax files. All applications for deferrals, personal exemptions, community preservation exemptions, and abatement requests for real property, personal property, boat and motor vehicle excise taxes can be obtained from and must be filed with the Assessors' office. The Assessors' office updates all property ownerships according to the recorded deed transactions which are received from the Registry of Deeds. Hingham consists of approximately 8823 parcels, so there are many transactions that take place. They also process plans and corrections to update the Assessors' maps as well as research property ownership and assist other town departments in the performance of their duties. The office works closely with the Veterans Department and Elder Services to ensure that we are providing the residents of Hingham as many possible services and exemptions that are offered.

The ratio of the assessment to the sales price is calculated and Hingham's ratio for 2023 is 95%. The fiscal 2024 tax rate is \$10.85, up 85 cents from last year. The average assessment for single family homes is \$1,183,300.00 up from last year's average of \$1,117,651.00. The average assessment for condominiums is \$848,334.00, up from last year's average of \$771,326.00.



We are thrilled to announce that we have successfully continued our participation in the Senior Tax Work Off program. Our office is incredibly fortunate to have a dedicated volunteer working with us, earning a real

estate tax credit. We are deeply grateful for their invaluable service and enthusiastic participation in this immensely worthwhile program

In 2023 with the support of Town Meeting we were able to double the exemptions that we offer. We know this was welcome news to all of the recipients. We also continued to focus on bringing greater awareness to the Senior Means Tested Real Estate Exemption, which is now in its third year. The Senior Means Tested Real Estate Exemption is the only one that can be used in tandem with another exemption if the property owner so qualifies.

In 2023, we were thrilled to welcome Joshua Ross as the newly elected Chairperson of the Board of Assessors. His expertise enriches board discussions, while his community connection strengthens outreach efforts, positioning him as a trusted advocate for the Board's mission.

Director of Assessing Erin Walsh assumed the presidency of the Plymouth County Assessors Association, bringing forth a wealth of educational and networking initiatives. Under her leadership, members had the opportunity to engage in informative activities, including a tour of the Registry of Deeds in Plymouth to gain insights into deed recording and data storage practices. Additionally, they deepened their understanding of the Probate Court. A gathering of clerks from throughout the county convened in Hingham for fruitful discussions and mutual learning. As 2023 drew to a close, Erin was honored with the Past Presidents award, recognizing her exceptional contributions during her tenure.

As members of both the Plymouth County Assessors Association and the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers, our assessing staff remains informed about assessing news and pending legislation that could impact our daily duties. Networking with municipal assessors statewide and seizing ongoing educational opportunities are crucial for providing excellent service. We are grateful for these valuable opportunities.

The Board of Assessors wishes to acknowledge Assessing Director Erin Walsh, Assistant Assessor Jacquie Berard, Assessing Technicians Maureen Carlson and Cyrille Donlan, and Data Quality Inspector Kerri Coughlin for their diligence and commitment to the mission of Assessors' office.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua M. Ross, Chair
Christine M. Roberts
Randall M. Winters

Hingham Contributory Retirement System

There are 104 contributory retirement systems within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. These systems have accepted the provisions of Sections 1-28 (contributory sections), Chapter 32, of Massachusetts General Laws. As a result of this acceptance, all systems, although operating independently, are bound together under one uniform retirement law.

The Annual Report for 2023 contains the system's financial statements as well as membership statistics listing new members enrolled, members that were retired and members who died in 2023.

Ann R. MacNaughton, <i>Ex-officio Member</i>	(12/12/2023-)
Eileen McCracken, <i>Appointed Member</i>	(07/01/2021-06/30/2024)
David P. Jones, <i>Elected Member</i>	(11/27/2021-11/26/2024)
Jean M. Montgomery, <i>Elected Member</i>	(07/30/2022-07/29/2025)
Charles J. Cristello, <i>Appointed Member & Chair</i>	(06/23/2021-06/22/2024)

Annual Statement of the Hingham Retirement Board for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

ASSETS & LIABILITIES

Cash	1,052,801.99
PRIT Cash	2,013.17
PRIT Fund	166,804,048.20
Accounts Receivable	74,956.81
Accounts Payable	(0.00)
Total	167,933,820.17

FUNDS

Annuity Savings Fund	35,489,777.69
Annuity Reserve Fund	8,267,160.74
Military Service Fund	14,005.75
Pension Reserve Fund	124,162,875.99
Total Assets at Market Value	167,933,820.17

RECEIPTS

Members' Deductions	3,810,909.03
Transfers from Other Systems	552,949.58
Member Make Up Payments and Redeposits	21,431.56
Member Payments from Rollovers	8,678.12
3(8)(c) Reimbursements from Other Systems	289,130.92

Received from Commonwealth for COLA & Survivor Bft	24,523.93
Pension Fund Appropriation	7,041,637.00
Contrib. received for Military Service	0.00
Workers' Compensation Settlements	0.00
Interest not refunded	2,761.71
Total Investment Income	4,239,570.87
Realized Gains (Profits)	2,187,601.14
Unrealized Gains (Increase in Market Value)	24,943,996.42
Realized Loss	(158,999.94)
Unrealized Loss	(13,877,308.48)
Total receipts	29,086,881.86

DISBURSEMENTS

Refunds to Members	126,523.57
Transfers to other Systems	707,874.70
Annuities Paid	2,460,966.06
Pensions Paid	8,233,821.86
3(8)(c) Reimbursements To Other Systems	468,881.84
COLAs Paid	1,319,406.20
Staff Salaries	69,575.71
Management Fees	807,122.00
Investment Consultant Fees	23,000.00
Legal Expenses	0.00
Fiduciary Insurance	6,840.00
Service Contracts	34,200.00
Actuarial Services	5,500.00
Accounting Services	9,500.00
Education and Training	650.00
Administrative Expenses	6,484.46
Total Disbursements	14,280,346.40

NEW MEMBERS 2023

Adriana De Castro	Emily McLaughlin	Mary Healey
Alexandra Minahan	Erika Craciun	Mary Kelley
Alexia Prioli	Erin Campbell	Mary Stearns
Alicia Keohane	Erin Flynn	Matthew Mui
Alix Gruber	Erin Grover	Matthew Raimondi
Amayah Carroll	Gina McCarthy	Meagan Hodges
Amanda Bartlett	Gwen Traynor	Melissa Lawson
Amanda Parker	Heather Chipley-McCall	Michelle Magner
Amy Becker	Heather Cordaro	Nancy O'Connor
Andrew Delprete	Helen Camia	Natalia Catone

Ann Doyle	Herbert Frager	Natalie Miller
Ann MacNaughton	Jacob Foss	Nicholas Costanza
Anna Keenan	James Larosa	Nicholas Pasolini
Anne Bernazzani	Jasper Lee	Nicole Lovett
Anne Fernandez	Jennifer Garretson	Pamela Taylor
Anthony Matthews	Jennifer Haggerty	Patrick Witherell
Ashley Balaconis	Jennifer King	Paula Boyle
Bonnie Lee	John Crenier	Raymond Jenkins
Brian Campbell	Joshua Murray	Regina Marchione
Brian Pekkinen	Joyce Holbrook	Samantha Black
Cameron Olsen	Julianna Royek	Sandra Mastrullo
Cameron Schneider	Julie Quinn	Sarah Gorman
Cheryl Karoutsos	Justin Worth	Sarah Ventola
Christopher Cerqueira	Kaitlin Scott	Sean Long
Colleen Lahiff	Kathleen Bonner	Shannen Maloney
Courtney Connolly	Kathleen Conway	Shannon Palmer
Cynthia Kester	Kathleen Sullivan	Sheila Duclos
Deborah Vassil	Katie Brooks	Stacey Fluet
Devlin Trout	Kelli MacLeod	Steavi Swinson
Diana Delouise	Kelly Littlefield	Stephanie Cristadoro
Diane Russo	Kelly McGahan	Stephanie Maggiani
Donald Clark	Kiana Shipp	Susan Mahoney
Donna Thompson	Kim White	Taina Bruno
Dorota Lynsky	Kimberley Gilbert	Tejalben Patel
Dylan Gately	Kimberly Cox-Forrand	Teresa Flynn
Edward Geswell	Lakia Carter	Thomas Leonard
Elizabeth Chapin	Linda Tully	Thomas Manley
Elizabeth Emerson	Lisa Sharp	Thomas Powers
Elizabeth Fetsko	Lorraine Shea	Tihna Kouka
Elizabeth Naylor	Mark Berube	William Brooks
Ellen Holler	Mark Lima	Yanling Lin

RETIRED MEMBERS 2023

Anthony Fahie	James McDaid	Steven Messinger
Barbara Mullin	Kathleen Crowley	Sue Gentile
Brian Dugard	Linda Kelley	William Crosier
Doreen Newcomb	Lynn Phillips	
James Keaney	Margaret Daniels	

DECEASED MEMBERS 2023

Allan MacDonald	Joyce Kimball	Mary Cadieux
Donald Lincoln	Kathleen Conte	Michael Ford
Dorothy Richardson	Leona Beatty	Patricia Masison
Elizabeth Henderson	Marilyn Darling	Peter Casey Jr.
Elizabeth Priestly	Marjorie Foley	Samuel Bosco
Francis Doyle Jr.	Mark License	Thomas Hall

MEMBERSHIP STATISTIC REPORT 2023

Active Membership, Dec. 31st, Previous Year	625
Inactive Membership, Dec. 31st, Previous Year	380
Enrolled During Current Year	123
Transfers Between Groups	0
Reinstatements of Disabled Members	0
Subtotal	123
Deduct:	
Death	0
Withdrawals	73
Retirements	14
Subtotal	87
Active Membership, Dec. 31st, Current Year	659
Inactive Membership, Dec. 31st, Current Year	382
Retired, Beneficiary and Survivor Membership, Dec. 31st, Previous Year	382
Retirements During the Year	
Superannuation	14
Ordinary Disability	0
Accidental Disability	0
Termination Retirement Allowance	0
Beneficiary of Deceased Retiree	3
Survivor Benefits from Active Membership	0
Subtotal	17
Deduct:	
Deaths of Retired Members	15
Termination of Survivor Benefits	3
Reinstatements of Disabled Pensions	0
Subtotal	18

Retired Membership, Dec. 31st, Current Year	
Superannuation	320
Ordinary Disability	0
Accidental Disability	14
Termination	0
Beneficiaries from Accidental Deaths	4
Beneficiaries from Section 100	0
Beneficiaries from Section 101	2
Beneficiaries under Option C	25
Option (D) Survivor Allowance	16
Section 12B Survivor Allowance	0

**Total Retired, Beneficiary and Survivor Membership,
Dec. 31st, Current Year** **381**

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

**Active, Inactive, Retired, Beneficiary and Survivor,
Dec. 31st, Current Year** **1,422**