



The Public Safety Facility combines Hingham Police headquarters and Hingham Fire's North Fire Station with a sustainable, affordable design. This project was supported by multiple Town Meetings over three years as well as by our regional, state and federal partners. We are proud of our community's investment and shared commitment to ensuring that our first responders have the modern resources they need to effectively serve and protect the Town.



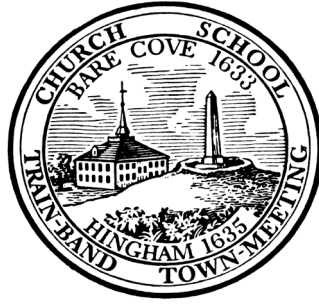
2025 Hingham Town Report

Hingham Town Report 2025



Hingham Public Safety Facility

Annual Report



Town of Hingham
2025

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Report compiled and edited by Sharon Perfetti

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Front and back cover photos courtesy of Kaestle Boos Associates
and Ed Wonsek

This is Your Town



www.hingham-ma.gov

Area	22.59 Square Miles
Shore Line	21 Miles
Population	24,343
Registered Voters	19,591
Dem. 4,273; Rep. 2,359; Un-enrolled, 12,815; Other, 144	
Number of Houses, including Condos	7,611
Assessed Value	
Real Property	\$10,305,274,570
Personal Property	\$142,716,420
Tax Rate	\$10.47
Schools	6
Public School Children, K-12	3,593
Professional Staff	431
Support Staff	367
Total FY2026 Town Budget (includes School)	\$165,757,781
Total FY2026 School Budget	\$72,007,204
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



Elizabeth Klein; Julie Strehle, William Ramsey, Chair

Select Board

The Select Board held 50 public meetings during calendar year 2025-26, with a focus on town finances, identifying additional revenue sources, a future home for the Center for Active Living, and completion of construction of the new Public Safety Facility on Route 3A. The Board continue to honor the Town's commitment to addressing environmental concerns, and working with volunteers who help the Town in numerous ways. Members of the Select Board also sit as the Board of Water Commissioners overseeing operations of the Weir River Water System.

Highlights

In August, the Public Safety Facility on Route 3A officially opened ushering in a new era for public safety in our community. This state-of-the-art facility is the new home of the Police Department and the new Station 2 for the Fire Department. The Board thanks the Public Safety Facility Building Committee for its diligence and hard work in bringing this important project to fruition.

The Board honored its fiscal pledge to control budget growth to 3.5% as established in the FY24-28 Financial Management Plan that was adopted by the Select Board, School Committee, and Advisory Committee in March 2023. The Board's proposed budget assures ongoing services for Town residents,

including our most vulnerable residents, while respecting the constraints of fiscal responsibility.

The Town once again secured a coveted AAA rating from the leading credit rating agencies - Moody's and Standard & Poor's. This is the highest rating possible, which helps assure that Hingham has access to capital markets at the lowest possible rates, resulting in lower debt costs paid by taxpayers.

- Moody's Ratings assigned its Aaa stable rating to the Town's planned general obligation and refunding bonds, citing the Town's strong financial position with healthy reserves and liquidity, large and affluent tax base, and conservative fiscal management policies.
- S&P Global Ratings assigned its AAA long-term rating to the planned general obligation and refunding bonds and SP-1+ rating to the short-term notes. The ratings reflects the Town's consistently strong finances due to its affluent and stable property tax valuations and management's strong, forward-looking budgeting.
-

In February, the Town of Hingham is issued \$23.5 million in long-term General Obligation Bonds and \$43.8 million in short-term Bond Anticipatory Notes. The Town's fixed income offerings were met with strong market demand during the bidding process at the end of January. The top-rated credit ensured robust market access resulting in the lowest cost of capital to the benefit of our residents. The refunding bonds were particularly well received enabling the Town to generate almost \$100,000 in annual debt service savings on the 2015 refunding bonds.

The Town successfully applied over \$4.4 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to support several key projects—including the Route 3A sewer system improvements, the new Public Safety Facility, an economic development plan, a stormwater master plan, and other community initiatives—while mitigating impacts on taxpayers and ratepayers.

The Town remains committed to climate action planning, ADA accessibility improvements, developing a plan to grow south Hingham, enhancing our downtown business district, and preserving the historical beauty of Hingham. Work continues to progress for the Harbor wharf wall and Route 3A Improvement Projects (sewer operations and long-term capital improvements). The Board continues to place an emphasis on safety and implement motor vehicle speed limit reductions and cross walk safety measures.

The Town honored its commitment to senior residents with plans to locate a proposed new Hingham Center for Active Living (HCAL) Building at Bare Cove Park Drive. The proposed HCAL will be an easy-to-navigate one-story building with large windows for natural light, sufficient parking spaces (including ADA-designated spaces), and a design that best supports programs that will enhance the independence and ongoing personal development of the Town's senior population. The Board thanks the Center for Active Living Building Committee, the Council on Aging, and the HCAL staff for their tireless work and commitment to this project.

Tom Mayo continues in his role as Town Administrator to lead the Select Board's supporting team. In 2026, we welcomed Katie Dugan as the new Assistant Town Administrator for Finance. Art Robert continued to serve as the Assistant Town Administrator for Operations, providing essential support for the Town's ongoing activities. Sharon Perfetti ably serves as the Office Manager for the Select Board and Town Administrator, Samantha Downton serves as our Executive Assistant, David Sequeira as our Procurement and Contracts Manager, and Patricia Burke as the Town's first full-time Sustainability Coordinator.

Hingham250

The Town celebrated Rev250 events throughout the year honoring the 250th anniversary of the events that led to the American Revolution. Our traditions, historic homes and buildings, houses of worship, cemeteries, and community of families with roots to the founding of America are a testament to Hingham's enduring legacy.

Conclusion

The Select Board thanks all Town employees, committee members, and residents who assist us in making Hingham an exceptional place to live and work. As Chair of the Select Board, it has been an honor and privilege to work alongside a group of highly-motivated and dedicated individuals who work tirelessly to assure that Hingham remains a welcoming and vibrant community for all its residents.

Respectfully submitted,

William C. Ramsey, Chair
Elizabeth F. Klein
Julie M. Strehle

Town Administrator

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

Like 2024, we experienced significant transitions in 2025. As planned, ribbon-cutting ceremonies were held in August for the new Public Safety Facility (PSF) and in September for the new Foster School. With these ceremonies, we completed the move from Police Headquarters and the North Fire Station to the new PSF and the departure from the old Foster building to the new Foster school built just a few hundred feet away. These ceremonies were wonderful events that celebrated significant effort by so many of our resident volunteers and staff over many years. The School Department and our Public Safety Department's ability to serve the Hingham public will flourish for decades to come as a result of this community support.

Other new programs started in 2025 include a program using Opioid settlement funds to provide sober home placements to residents after opioid-related treatment and we entered a lease for a new cell tower in North Hingham that should help with poor coverage in that area.

Each year, I highlight exciting new and important initiatives that I think you would be interested in learning about. However, I think it is important to report on the strength of Hingham's overall financial health. Once again, we were awarded a AAA bond rating from both Standard and Poor's and Moody's. This allows the Town great access to the financial markets and favorable rates when we borrow. In addition, the Town's fund balance (our savings account) is also in excellent shape. As we began this Fiscal Year, we had approximately \$11.3M above the upper limit of our financial policy guidelines (known as excess fund balance). Such strong reserves allow the Town to pursue some appropriate projects and purchases that may otherwise need to be either delayed or would require a borrowing. If all Select Board endorsed uses of fund balance were approved at this year's Town Meeting, and given the anticipated turnbacks, awards and investment interest during the year, we expect our excess Fund Balance to again reach close to \$10M by next year's budget season.

As always, Hingham's citizen volunteer participation is central to our successes in Hingham. Our local government thrives because of this citizen engagement. In 2025, approximately 400 people volunteered across nearly 70 boards and committees. Of course, this is only the 'formal' count. Hundreds of volunteers contribute endlessly to the community in countless ways including, PTO's, youth sports, and other

civic functions. 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 could not do it without you. Thank 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, and budget and Town Meeting Warrant preparation.

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 note the departure of Joe Fisher from the Select Board this year. Joe spent six years on the Board and has given countless hours of his time to the Town in so many different capacities over several decades. Joe has been a great leader, a staunch believer in the public process, and a good friend. I look forward to working with Joe in all of his future endeavors with the Town. As Joe rolls off the Board, we welcome our newest Select Board member Julie Strehle. Julie's many years of dedication across many committees, often in leadership roles, positions her well for her role on the Board. I look forward to working with her helping to realize her vision for the Town.

I would also like to thank the department heads and all Town employees 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, Samantha Downton, David Sequeira and Patricia Burke. Consistent with our transition theme this year, we were sad to see Michelle Monsegur move on and we wish her well in all of her future endeavors. Michelle is one of the kindest and most capable people I have ever had the pleasure to work with. Her time in Hingham resulted in too many financial process improvements to count and perhaps more important significant public trust in this office to perform to a high standard. I look forward to continuing her important work. I would like to welcome Katie Dugan to fill the vacated role of Assistant Town Administrator for Finance that Michelle left behind. Katie has hit the ground running and has provided crucial support for the FY27 budget season despite only joining us in November. I want to thank all 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 all of the important work we will undertake on behalf of the Hingham taxpayers in 2026.

Tom Mayo
Town Administrator

Town Clerk

Town Meeting and the Town Election were highlights for our office in 2025. At the Town Meeting, there was lively discussion about the proposed Center for Active Living design project, and the establishment of pickleball courts, both on Bare Cove Park Drive. The meeting also voted to reduce the local town election voting hours due to the popularity and impact of vote by mail ballots.

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

- Distribution and tallying of 10,981 annual street listing census forms;
- Issuance of 863 original birth, marriage and death certificates;
- Posting of approximately 720 meeting agendas in compliance with OML;
- Registration of 989 new voters;
- Issuance of 1715 dog licenses with the adoption of Ollie's Law;
- Receipt and oversight of 266 public record requests; and
- Issuance of 207 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, Laura Donnelly, and a group of devoted election workers.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol M. Falvey, Town Clerk



2025 Elected Town Officers

	Term Expires
MODERATOR (1 Year Term)	
Michael J. Puzo	2026
Select Board (3 Year Term)	
William C. Ramsey	2026
Elizabeth F. Klein	2027
Julie Moran Strehle	2028
TOWN CLERK (3 Year Term)	
Carol M. Falvey	2027
BOARD OF ASSESSORS (3 Year Term)	
Randall M. Winters	2026
Joshua M. Ross	2027
Sara A. Abbott	2028
BOARD OF HEALTH (3 Year Term)	
Elizabeth A. Eldredge	2026
Mark D. Lundin	2027
Rosemary D. Byrne	2028
MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD (3 Year Term)	
Tyler R. Herrald	2026
Laura M. Burns	2027
Michael D. Reive	2028
HOUSING AUTHORITY (5 Year Term)	
Michelle A. Larned	2027
Janine A. Suchecki	2029
Timothy Patrick Sullivan	2030
In addition, a tenant appointed by the Select Board and a community member appointed by the Commonwealth, serves on the Authority.	
SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3 Year Term)	
Michelle Ayer	2026
Jennifer A. Benham	2026
Kerry J. Ni	2027
Timothy Miller Dempsey	2027
Alyson B. Anderson	2028
Matthew J. Cosman	2028
John C. Mooney	2028

PLANNING BOARD (5 Year Term)

Gary S. Tondorf-Dick	2026
Gordon M. Carr	2027
Tracy K. Shriver	2028
Kevin M. Ellis	2029
Crystal G. Kelly	2030

SEWER COMMISSION (3 Year Term)

Clark Frazier	2027
Joseph M. Fisher	2028
Vacant Position	

RECREATION COMMISSION (5 Year Term)

Matthew LeBretton	2026
Stephen P. Buckley	2027
Vicki Donlan	2028
Stephen C. Melia	2029
Adrienne S. Ramsey	2030

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

Laura Boyle	2026
Laurel H. Cosman	2027
Katherine Glenzel	2028

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

Edward Johnson
Alan Perrault
Adrienne Ramsey

2025 Appointees

Term Expires

ADA COORDINATOR

(Appt. by Select Board)

Arthur Robert

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Appt. by Moderator ART 13, 1924)

Carol Tully, Chair	2026
Brenda Black	2026
John Germain	2026
David Leiphart	2026
Alan Macdonald	2026
Steven Pohl	2026
Mary Power	2026
Elaine Cusker	2027
Kevin Freytag	2027
Tina Sherwood	2027
Jerry Seelen	2027
Brian Stack	2027
Ben Burnham	2028
Ted Ciolkosz	2028
Michael Herde	2028

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

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

Cullen McGehee	2026
Liz Cullen	2026
John Falvey, Chair	2027
Brigid Ryan	2027
Pamela Bates	2027
Mike Sutton	2027
Julie Strehle, Select Board Rep.	

APPEALS, ZONING BOARD OF

(Appt. By Select Board)

Joseph Ruccio	2026
Robyn S. Maguire, Chair	2027
Paul Healey	2028

Associate Members (one-year term)

Lauren Galvin	2026
Michael Mercurio	2026
Mario Romania, Jr.	2026

AUDIT COMMITTEE
(ART 26, ATM 2010)

Jason Price (Moderator)	2027
Judd Caplain (Select Board)	2027
Doug Farrington (Select Board)	2028
Jeffrey Long (Moderator)	2028
John Slater (Moderator)	2028
Thomas Mayo, Town Administrator, Ex-Officio	
Ann MacNaughton, Town Accountant, Ex-Officio	

BARE COVE PARK COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Select Board)

Michael Cioffi	2026
Joanna Chmielinski	2026
Claudia Eaton	2026
Katie Puzo	2026
Melissa Smith	2028
Ray O'Neill, Chair	2028
Lauren Murphy	2028

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

Carolyn Aliski	2026
Henry Buckley	2026
Cheryl Russo	2026
Laura Spaziani, Chair	2028
Patricia Bray	2028
Margaret Coleman	2028
Patricia Collins	2028

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
Tom McGrath, Local Building Inspector
Robert Egan, Local Building Inspector

David Comoletti, Wiring Inspector
 David Bennett, Assistant Inspector of Wires
 Anthony Stamatorous, Assistant Inspector of Wires
 Jay Yetman, Plumbing & Gas Inspector
 Scott Wilson, Assistant Plumbing & Gas Inspector
 Mark Tolland, Assistant Plumbing & Gas Inspector

CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Select Board)

Patricia Byrnes	2027
Michelle Balconi (Harbor Media)	
Heather Kashman (School Rep)	

CAPITAL OUTLAY COMMITTEE

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

Lyndsey Kruzer	2026
Michael Donovan, Chair	2027
George Danis	2028
David Leiphart (Appt. by Advisory Committee Chair)	2026
Steven Pohl (Appt. by Advisory Committee Chair)	2026

CENTER FOR ACTIVE LIVING BUILDING COMMITTEE

Vicki Donlan (Moderator)
 Joseph Kelly (Moderator)
 Jean Silverio (Moderator)
 Stephen Young (Moderator)
 Tom Carey, Chair (Select Board)
 Beth Rouleau (Select Board)
 Paul Healey (Select Board)
 Jennifer Young, Ex-Officio

CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION

Matthew Curran (Moderator)	2027
Lisa Hennessey (Moderator)	2027
Jo-An Helleman (Select Board)	2027
Elliot Place (Select Board)	2027
Brad Moyer, Chair (Energy Action Committee)	
Maria Zade (Cleaner Greener Hingham)	
Gary Tondorf-Dick (Planning Board)	
Laurie Freeman (Conservation Commission)	
TBD (Development & Industrial Commission Appt.)	
Alyson Anderson (School Committee)	
Thomas Morahan (Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant)	
Patricia Burke (Sustainability Coordinator)	

**COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
(M.G.L. C40, S8J, ATM 1989, ART. 50)**

Stephanie Gertz, Chair	2026
Emma Lee	2026
Jessica Foley	2026
Shannon Burke, Veterans' Service Director, Member	2027
Megan Baker	2028
Jane McGrath	2028

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

Kristen Moore (Moderator)	2026
David Ellison (Select Board)	2026
Nancy MacDonald, Chair (Moderator)	2028
Eryn Kelley (Select Board)	2028
Nina Villanova (Conservation Comm. Rep.)	
Elizabeth Dings (Historical Comm. Rep.)	
Rita DaSilva (Planning Board. Rep.)	
Ruth Bennett (Housing Authority Rep.)	
Vicki Donlan (Recreation Commission Rep.)	

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
(M.G.L., C40 S8C, ART 1 STM 1959)**

Henry Hidell, III	2026
Robert Mosher	2026
Thomas Roby	2026
Caroline Neilsen, Chair	2027
Nina Villanova	2027
Philip Edmundson	2028

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

Horatio Hemmings	2027
Kathleen Peloquin	2027

**CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT BOARD
(M.G.L., C32 S20 4B)**

David Jones, Elected	2027
Charlie Cristello (Retirement Board)	2027
Eileen A. McCracken (Select Board.)	2027
Marijane Deitsch, Elected	2028
Ann MacNaughton, Town Accountant, Ex-Officio	

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

Lucinda King-Frode	2026
Sara Smithson	2026
Leon Merian	2026
Ethel Franks	2026
Elaine Ward	2026
Jean Silverio	2026
Joseph Nevins, Chair	2027
Karen Johnson	2027
Joshua Ross	2027
Rory Earley	2028
Megan Hansen	2028

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

Susan Sullivan	2026
George Kay	2026
Chris Griswold	2027
Steven Stein	2027
Stephan White	2028

CULTURAL COUNCIL**(Appt. By Select Board, M.G.L. C10 S35C)**

Kathleen Nugent	2026
Mary Bell	2027
Patti Coyle	2027
Craig Hutchinson, Chair	2028
Peter Schnorr	2028
Kali Lennon	2028

DEVELOPMENT & INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION**(Appt. By Select Board, 7 members, 5 Year Term)**

Joseph Cusker	2026
Jeff Bellows	2026
David Bailey, Co-Chair	2027
Mike Galvin, Co-Chair	2030
Christopher Goode	2030
Kate Schmidt	2030
Katie Mchardy	2030

EDUCATION/SCHOLARSHIP FUND**(Appt. by Select Board 11/15/05 M.G.L. C60 S3C)**

Kathryn Roberts, Superintendent
Jennifer Henriksen
Patricia Tomecek

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DIRECTOR OF
Fire Chief Stephen Murphy

ENERGY ACTION COMMITTEE
(ART 41 ATM 2008)

Brad Moyer, Chair (Select Board)	2025
James Byrne, (Select Board)	2025
Paul Sprecher, (Moderator)	2025
John Borger, (Moderator)	2026
Alexis LeFort, (Moderator)	2026
Briana Bennett, Hingham Municipal Light Plant Designee	
Ann MacNaughton, Town Accountant, Ex-Officio	
Aisha Oppong, School Business Manager, Ex-Officio	

FIRE CHIEF
(Appt. By Select Board)
Stephen Murphy

FOSTER SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE
ART 19 ATM 2017

Linda Hill, Chair (Select Board)
Jennifer Murphy (Select Board)
Raymond Estes, Vice Chair (Moderator)
Kevin Lynch (Moderator)
Michelle Ayer (School Committee)
Timothy O'Neill (School Committee)
Chris Mercer (School Committee)

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Select Board Annually)

Jim Murphy	Patrick Kirk
Monica Conyngham	David Berger
Dewitt DeLawter	Brian Doherty
Tom Hoffman	Michelle Prager
Louis O'Dea	Matt Goulet
Mary Ellen Carlisle	Steve Kiely
Leon Merian	Police Chief David Jones
Robin Briggs	Deputy Fire Chief Lou Lachance
Paul Callahan	

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

Robert Beal, Jr.	2026
Scott McMillan, Chair	2028
William Koenen	2028

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

Marco Boer, Chair	2026
Paul Gannon	2026
Allison Koskina	2026
Nick Amdur	2027
Callum Johnstone	2027
Thomas Kelley	2028
Celia McLane	2028

HARBORMASTER-CUSTODIAN OF THE ISLANDS
Kenneth R. Corson, III

ASSISTANT HARBORMASTERS
(Appt. By Select Board)

Michael Nash	Jay Hanrahand
Charlie Sichol	Daniel Goldstein
James Tien	Griffin Moriarty
Meara Conley	Drew Galinoskas
Phil Emmott	Daniel Martini
Brian Fernandez	Breece Achille
Jerry Sullivan	
Zachary Federman, Harbor Attendent	
Jack Kelly, Harbor Attendent	
John Algird, Shellfish Constable	

HAZARDOUS WASTE-MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR
(Appt. By Select Board)
Susan Sarni, Executive Health Officer

HISTORIAN, TOWN
(Appt. By Select Board, ART 2 ATM 1943)
Jim Conroy

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

Justin Aborn	2026
Catherine Daley	2026
Daniel Clark, Chair	2026
Eric Smoczynski, Vice Chair	2027
Joshua Blevins	2028
Alternate Members	
Mary Anne Donaldson	2026
Steven Sandler	2027
Carol Pyles	2028

HISTORICAL COMMISSION**(Appt. By Select Board, M.G.L. C40 S8D, ART 21 1974)**

Elizabeth Dings	2026
Robert Stansell	2026
Kevin Warren	2026
Steven Jiranek	2027
Brendan Concannon	2028

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Kelly Peguero Alessi	2026
Ardith Wieworka	2026
Graeme Baker	2026
John Bradley	2027
Tim Miller-Dempsey	2027
Michelle Ayer	2027
Stephen Leary, Chair	2028
Stephanie Gertz	2028
Michael Tesler	2028
John Marquardt	2028
Ruth Bennett	2028
Nes Correnti	2028
David Alschuler	2028

LIBRARY, HINGHAM PUBLIC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Aylene Calnan, Chair	
Eric Haskell, Vice Chair	
Meredith Hollander, Vice Treasurer	
Mirela Izmerlic, Secretary	
Thomas J. Carey, Trustee	
Elizabeth A. Eldredge, Trustee	
Arthur Garrity, Jr., Trustee	
Mona Pohl, Trustee	
Judith Sneath, Trustee	
Michelle Paterniti	
Jessica Coakley, (Moderator)	2027
Monica Menendes, Treasurer (Moderator)	2028
Steven Weiss (Select Board)	2026
Alyson Hussey, (Select Board)	2027
Murnie Leary, Trustee	2028
William Ramsey, Trustee Ex-Officio	
Lori-Ann Magner, Trustee Ex-Officio	
Kathryn Roberts, Trustee Ex-Officio	

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

Ben Jarvis (Select Board)	2026
Elizabeth Cullen, Chair (Affordable Housing)	2027
John Falvey (Select Board)	2027
Matthew Dillis (Affordable Housing)	2027
Connor Fallon (Moderator)	2028

**LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (L.E.P.C.)
(Appt. By Select Board)**

Stephen Murphy, Fire Chief/Director of Emergency Management
Lou LaChance, Deputy Director of Emergency Management
Jim Sheard, Fire Department - Emergency Medical Services
David Jones, Police Chief - Law Enforcement
Tom Mayo, Town Administrator – Elected Local Official designee
Arthur Robert, Broadcast & Print Media
Ashley Broyer, Superintendent of Public Works
Thomas Morahan, HMLP General Manager–Owner/Operator of Facilities
Aisha Oppong, School Dept. Business Manager-Transportation Personnel
Susan Sarni, Health
Shannon Palmer, Conservation Officer
Ken Corson, Harbormaster
Jennifer Young, Director of Hingham Center for Active Living
Joan Cooper-Zach, South Shore Hospital

**LONG RANGE WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE
CLEANER GREENER HINGHAM
(Appt. By Moderator, ART 25 ATM 1974)**

Janice McPhillips, Co-Chair	2026
David Jones	2026
Maria Zade, Secretary	2027
Mark Engel, Co-Chair	2027
Anthony George	2027
Peter Swanson	2027
Michael Poling	2026
Ashley Broyer, Superintendent Public Works, Ex-Officio	

MBTA ADVISORY BOARD

Joseph Fisher	2027
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**MASSPORT AUTHORITY COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Select Board, 11/30/2000)**

Vacant, Hingham Representative

MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Gordon Carr, Chair
Deirdre Anderson
Liza O'Reilly
Liz Klein, Select Board Rep.

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

Kenneth Drescher, Member Emeritus	
Sarah Carolan	2026
Jason Ryan	2026
Martha Ryan	2026
Michael Shilhan	2026
Shawn Wegener	2026
Paul Wasson	2026

METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL
(Appt. By Select Board, M.G.L. C161 S7, 3 Year Term)

Emily Wentworth	2027
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MUNICIPAL HEARINGS OFFICER
(Appt. By Select Board)

Carol M. Falvey

OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION COMMITTEE
(M.G.L. C161 S7, ART 15 ATM 1997)

Gerald Allen (Conservation), Chair
Carolyn Nielsen (Select Board)
Jennifer Haggerty (Planning Board)

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

Carol M. Falvey

PERSONNEL BOARD
(Appt. By Moderator, ART 4 ATM 1970)

Jack Manning, Chair	2026
Lynn Carroll	2026
Courtney Orwig	2027
Andrew McElaney	2027
Karen Johnson	2028

PLYMOUTH COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD REP.
Julie M. Strehle

POLICE CHIEF
(Appt. By Select Board)
David Jones

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY BUILDING COMMITTEE
Paul Healey (Moderator)
Joseph Kelly (Moderator)
Talbert Lauter (Moderator)
Bruce MacAloney (Moderator)
Robert Garrity, Chair (Select Board)
Donna Smallwood (Select Board)
Andy Touchette (Select Board)
Police Chief David Jones, Ex-Officio
Fire Chief Steve Murphy, Ex-Officio

PUBLIC WORKS, SUPERINTENDENT OF
(Appt. By Select Board, M.G.L. C41 S66)
Ashley Broyer

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
(Appt. by Select Board, M.G.L. C51 S15, 18)
Judith Nims
Laura Marwill
Mark LeBel
Carol M. Falvey, Town Clerk

2026
2027
2028

ROUTE 3A TASK FORCE
(Appt. by Select Board)
Judith Sneath, Chair
Deirdre Anderson
Bryce Blair
Paul Healey
Alan Perrault
J.R. Frey, Town Engineer

SCHOLARSHIP FUND COMMITTEE
(Appt. By Select Board, ART 26 ATM 1975)
Jeff Swett
John Fitzsimons
Matthew McGonagle, Chair
Jeff St. Mary
Roger Nastou
Lori-Ann Magner, Treasurer, Statutory

2026
2027
2028
2028
2028

2025 SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Charles Hays (Moderator)
Thomas Fleck (Moderator)
Tom Donnelly (Select Board)
James Cahill (Select Board)
Brian Mulkerrin (School Committee)
Shane Nolan (School Committee)
Angela Thedinga (School Committee)

SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Select Board)

Michael Studley	2026
Philip Shute	2026
James R. Huse, Chair	2027
Elisa Fontanes	2027
Melissa Fairfield	2027

SOUTH SHORE RECYCLING COOPERATIVE

(Appt. By Select Board)

Ashley Broyer

SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER

(Appt. by Select Board)

Leslie Badger	William Morgan
Kenneth Corson	Michael Murray
Ryan Baring	John Norkaitis
Brian Doherty	John Norris
Matthew Galvin	Matthew Puleo
David Horte	Robert Ramsey
Phillip Kearney	James Tian
George Kelley	Jeffrey Treanor
Robert Mansfield	Joseph Turco
Kevin McCarthy	Steven Wohlgemuth
Antonio Melendez	

TAXATION AID COMMITTEE

Chandrasen Gajria
Rachel Sadhwani
Lori-Ann Wagner, Treasurer/Collector, Ex-Officio

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Ann MacNaughton

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Thomas Mayo

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

(Appt. By Select Board)

Jeff Kilroy (Police Rep.)

David Levenson (Fire Rep.)

Kevin Ellis (Planning Board Rep.)

Ashley Broyer (DPW Rep.)

JR Frey (Engineering Rep.)

Christina Earle

2027

Mark Buonagurio

2028

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Lori-Ann Magner

TREE WARDEN

Ashley Broyer, Superintendent of Public Works

VETERANS COUNCIL

(M.G.L. Ch. 115, Sec. 12, Appt. by Select Board)

William Leonard

2027

Evan Gelfand

2027

Matthew Sexton, Chair

2028

Thomas Hoffman

2028

Peter Schnorr

2028

WATER TRANSITION & EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Scott Cyr (Select Board)

2026

Jon Asher (Moderator)

2027

Joe Welch (Moderator)

2027

David von Loesecke (Moderator)

2028

Jim Taylor, Chair (Select Board)

2028

WEIGHTS & MEASURES INSPECTOR

(Appt. By Select Board, M.G.L. C98 S34)

Robert Egan

WEIR RIVER ESTUARY PARK COMMITTEE

Margaret Curley-Nash, Hingham Representative

2028

WEIR RIVER WATER SYSTEM CITIZENS’ ADVISORY BOARD

Dave Anderson, Chair	2026
Charles Culpin	2027
Jim Broderick	2028
Brian McCarthy, Town of Hull member	
John Struzierry, Town of Hull member	
Stephen Girardi, Town of Cohasset member	

WHISTLEBLOWER COMMITTEE

Douglas Farrington (Chair of Audit Committee)
Jack Manning (Chair of Personnel Board)
Daniel Dwyer (Moderator)

Annual Town Meeting, April 28, 2025

Registered Voters: 20,077

Attendance: 735

The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Hingham was held indoors at Hingham High School, 17 Union Street, on April 28, 2025. Michael J. Puzo, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., a quorum being present. The invocation was given by Father Thomas Nestor of the Collaborative Parishes of Saint Paul and Resurrection. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Janine Suchecki. The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 p.m. and resumed at Hingham High School on April 29, 2025 at 7:01 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
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 Lighting Department Receipts
9. Building Department Revolving Fund
10. Transfer Funds to the Reserve Fund
11. DPW Vehicles & Equipment
12. Transfer of Tax Title Sale proceeds into the Capital Stabilization Fund
13. Transfer from the Capital Project Cost & Debt Service Stabilization Fund
14. Center for Active Living Revolving Fund
15. Center for Active Living: Design, Bid Documents, and OPM Funds
16. Center for Active Living: Article 97 Legislation
17. Acceptance of M.G.L. c. 59, § 5, clause 22I: Veterans' Tax Exemptions
18. South Shore Country Club: Authorization to Borrow for Equipment and Renovations
19. Recreation Department Revolving Fund
20. Recreation Commission New Pickleball Courts
21. Community Preservation Committee Recommendations
22. School: School Bus Leases
23. School: School Bus Lease Terms
24. School: Acceptance of M.G.L. c. 40, § 71: School Bus Cameras

25. Transfer Harbor Revenues to Municipal Waterways Improvement and Maintenance Fund
26. Repair/Reconstruction of Town Pier Wharf and Inner Harbor Structures
27. Town Election Voting Hours
28. Home Rule Petition: Alternative Methods for Publication of Legal Notices
29. Water: Transfer of HMLP Parcel to WRWS
30. Water: Authorization to Borrow for Water Capital Projects Treatment Plant
32. School: High School Turf Field Replacement
33. School: 2025 School Building Committee
34. School: High School Roof Replacement
35. School: Plymouth River School Roof Schematic Design
36. School: South School Roof Schematic Design
37. School: School Extraordinary Capital Repairs Fund
38. Digitization of Town of Hingham Municipal Government Records
39. Specialized Energy Code
40. Citizen Petition: Home Rule Petition: Liquor License to Hingham Gas
41. Amend Zoning By-law: Update to Accessory Dwelling Unit Regulations
42. Amend Zoning By-law: Exemption for Lots Affected by Taking
43. Amend Zoning By-law: Signage Reference Correction
44. Amend Zoning By-law: Extension or Alteration of Nonconforming Uses and Structures
45. Amend Zoning By-law: Expiration of Cell Tower Special Permits
46. Acceptance and Granting of Easements

ARTICLE 1

VOTED: That Katherine Glenzel, 13 Colonial Road, be 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, M.G.L. c. 91, § 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 authorize the Select Board 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 said bodies and posts of government be continued.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 4

The Advisory Committee and the Select Board voted unanimously in favor of this Article.

VOTED: That the report and recommendations of the Personnel Board, a copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office, be accepted; that the amendments of the Personnel By-law, including the Classification and Salary Plan, 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, 2025 or as otherwise specified in said report or agreements; that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,754,862 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, 2025, through June 30, 2026, 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 Hingham Municipal Light Department).

¹ The Town Clerk, when serving as a member of the Board of Registrars of Voters, shall be paid for such duties in accordance with M.G.L. c. 41, § 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, 2025 (FY26), the sum of money stated, \$165,757,781, therefor, including any appropriations or transfers from specified funds as detailed below, provided that, a one-time appropriation and transfer of Overlay Surplus in the amount of up to \$400,000 is hereby made to balance the FY26 budget; also that 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.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 7

VOTED: That the Town transfer \$178,836 from the Stabilization Fund for the purpose of paying interest on outstanding excluded debt notes/bonds in order to reduce the need to raise said funds through the FY26 tax rate.

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 in received funds is hereby transferred to the Town's General Fund to reduce the FY26 tax rate, all funds received by the HMLP during the 12-month period commencing July 1, 2025, 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, pursuant to and as defined in Sections 57 and 57A of Chapter 164 of the Massachusetts 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 Town of Hingham General By-laws, to \$255,000 during FY26.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 10

VOTED: That The Town raise and appropriate or transfer \$387,293 from available funds, to the Town's Reserve Fund for use during FY25 or act on anything relating thereto?

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 11

VOTED: That the Town appropriate and transfer \$1,611,404 from Unassigned Fund Balance to be expended by the Select Board to be used to purchase vehicles and/or equipment for the Department of Public Works.

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 12

VOTED: That the Town transfer the net sale proceeds from the sale of any tax title property received during FY25 into the "Capital Stabilization Fund".

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 13

VOTED: That the Town transfer the sum of \$2,200,000 from the "Capital Project Cost and Debt Service Stabilization Fund" established under Article 3 of the 2022 Town of Hingham Special Town Meeting for the purpose of making debt service payments on the excluded debt notes/bonds issued by the Town for the Public Safety Facility and Foster School projects in order to reduce the need to raise these funds through the FY26 tax rate.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 14

VOTED: That the Town vote to limit the amount that may be spent from the Center for Active Living Revolving Fund, established under Article 16 of the General By-laws, to \$80,000 during FY26.

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 15

VOTED: That the Town vote to transfer from Unassigned Fund Balance an amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 to be expended under the direction of the Select Board for expenses associated with design, architectural, engineering, owner's project manager and other professional services to complete the design and pre-construction bid documents in order to obtain construction bids for a new Center for Active Living to be located at Bare Cove Park Drive, Hingham, Massachusetts. At a later date, the Town may authorize a borrowing to finance construction of the project. In that event, the Town may elect to reimburse the funds appropriated by this vote to pay preliminary expenses of the project with proceeds of bonds or notes that may be authorized by the Town to pay costs of completing the project.

Standing Vote:

Yes: 420

No: 177

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 16

VOTED: That the Town vote to:

(1) authorize the Select Board of the Town of Hingham to petition the General Court in accordance with Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth ("Article 97"), M.G.L. c. 3, § 5A, M.G.L. c. 45, § 7, and all other applicable laws, to allow the Town to change the use of approximately 5.387 acres of land located on a portion of the parcel shown as Assessor's Map 77, Lot 1, off Bare Cove Park Drive, Hingham, MA, as more particularly shown on that certain plan entitled "Plan Showing the Delineated Limit of Development, Center for Active Living, Bare Cove Park Drive, Hingham, MA", dated 3/14/2025, prepared by CHA Consulting, Inc., a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, from passive and active recreation to use as a Center for Active Living and uses associated therewith, and to authorize the House and Senate Counsel and the General Court to make amendments to said petition consistent with the scope of the general public objectives of said petition; and

(2) further in accordance with said Article 97, M.G.L. c. 3, § 5A, M.G.L. c. 40, § 15A , and all other applicable laws, transfer to the care, custody, management and control of the Town of Hingham Conservation Commission, subject to the provisions of said Article 97, approximately seven (7) acres more or less of the approximately 49 acre parcel shown as Assessor's Map 124, Lot 32 and known as 200 High Street, which is held by the School Committee for school purposes, as replacement land, as shown on a conceptual plan on file with the Town Clerk provided that the definitive boundaries of said replacement land shall be determined by a Massachusetts land surveyor; and

(3) to authorize the Select Board to obtain all governmental approvals necessary to accomplish the purpose of this Article on terms and conditions as approved by the Select Board.

A Two-Thirds Vote Required

Standing Vote:

Yes: 372

No: 168

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 17

VOTED: That the Town accept the provisions of M.G.L. c. 59 § 5, clause Twenty-second I (HERO ACT), which allows for certain veterans’ real estate tax exemptions to be increased annually by an amount equal to the increase in the cost of living in accordance with Consumer Price Index for such year as determined by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 18

VOTED: That the Town appropriate \$1,407,887 for the purchase of replacement mowers and equipment for the South Shore Country Club (SSCC), the demolition of the existing pool at the SSCC, including the costs of electrical and landscape work associated with the demolition of the SSCC pool, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto. To meet this appropriation, (i) the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow \$957,887 under and pursuant to, M.G.L. c. 44, § 7(1) or any other enabling authority, to pay costs of the replacement mowers and equipment and to pay costs of electrical and landscaping work associated with the demolition of the SSCC pool, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore, and (ii) that \$450,000 shall be transferred from excess Unassigned Fund Balance to pay costs of demolishing the SSCC pool. While a general obligation of the Town, in accordance with the General Laws, it is expected that any borrowing undertaken pursuant to this vote shall be paid, in the first instance, from the SSCC Enterprise Fund.

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

ARTICLE 19

VOTED: That the Town vote to amend the General By-laws of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 13, 1939, as heretofore amended, by adding a new Article at the end of said General By-laws as follows:

Article: _____
RECREATION COMMISSION

SECTION 1. That the Recreation Commission (formerly the Playground Commission) established under Article 27 of the 1947 Town of Hingham Annual Town Meeting and Articles 42 and 43 of the 1958 Town of Hingham

Annual Town Meeting shall exercise the powers conferred by M.G.L. c. 45, § 14 and shall be subject to all other applicable general or special laws and by-laws of the Town of Hingham.

SECTION 2. That in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, § 53E½, there is hereby established in the Recreation Department a Recreation Department Revolving Fund for the following purposes:

1. For the receipt of all fees, charges, and other receipts from Recreation Department programs or activities.
2. For expenditures to pay the costs and expenses of said Recreation Department programs or activities.
3. For expenditures to pay wages, salaries, and fringe benefits for full-time, part-time and/or seasonal employees (as applicable) of said Recreation Department for performance of their services and for expenditures to pay for equipment and capital improvements, including debt service, associated with said Recreation Department programs or activities.
4. The Recreation Commission shall be authorized to expend from said Revolving Fund for said purposes in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, § 53E½. The Recreation Commission shall report all receipts and expenditures of said Revolving Fund to the Select Board at the end of each Fiscal Year.

And further, that the Town establish said Recreation Department Revolving Fund for FY26 in accordance with the above provisions and limit the total amount that may be spent from said Recreation Department Revolving Fund to \$2,700,000 during FY26.

And further, that the Town transfer and appropriate any funds remaining in any previously established Revolving Fund for the Recreation Commission and/or Department into the fund established hereunder.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 20

VOTED: That the Town appropriate and transfer the sum of \$1,278,010 from Unassigned Fund Balance to be expended by the Town of Hingham Recreation Commission, with approval of the Select Board, for the design, permitting, bidding, demolition, site preparation, construction, and all

other related expenses for new pickleball courts to be located at Bare Cove Park Drive, Hingham, Massachusetts.

Standing Vote:

Yes: 221

No: 205

Motion Adopted

Meeting Adjourned at 11:04 PM

Second Session

April 29, 2025

Reconvened: 7:01 PM

ARTICLE 21

VOTED: That the Town vote to appropriate, borrow and/or set aside for future appropriation 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, 2025:

- 1) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$40,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be used by the Community Preservation Committee for its administrative and operating expenses.

A Unanimous Vote

- 2) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$209,179 from the Community Preservation General Fund to be available for expenditure by the Select Board for the payment of bonds or notes borrowed for Community Preservation projects under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44B, § 11.

A Unanimous Vote

- 3) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$700,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund to the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust Opportunity Fund to be used by the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust for community housing purposes and that these funds, including, without limitation, any net proceeds received by the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust from the sale of any property acquired in whole or in part with said funds or any previous funds appropriated to the Opportunity

Fund, shall remain in said Opportunity Fund for future use for said purposes.

A Unanimous Vote

- 4) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$600,000 from the Community Preservation General Fund for historic resources preservation use purposes to be used by the Hingham Historical Society, Inc. for the Old Ordinary Campus Improvements Project and to authorize the Town of Hingham Historical Commission, with the approval of the Select Board, to acquire a preservation restriction for said project under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 40, § 8D and M.G.L. c. 184, §§ 31-33 and all other applicable laws.

A Unanimous Vote

- 5) Appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$758,640 from the Community Preservation General Fund for open space/recreational use purposes to be used by the Town of Hingham Recreation Commission, with approval of the Select Board, for the Pickleball Courts Project.

Motion Adopted

- 6) Appropriate from the Community Preservation General Fund the net sale proceeds received by the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust from the sale of 18K Beal's Cove Road and 21B Beal's Cove Road, in Hingham, MA, during Fiscal Year 2025, to the extent that the acquisition of said property was made using Community Preservation Funds, to the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust Opportunity Fund to be used by the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust for community housing purposes and that these funds , including, without limitation, any net proceeds received by the Hingham Affordable Housing Trust from the sale of any property acquired in whole or in part with said funds, shall remain in said Opportunity Fund for future use for said purposes.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 22

VOTED: That the Town authorize the Hingham School Committee to approve School Department bus leases for the procurement of four (4) school buses for regular transportation for a term of greater than three years, but less than 10 years, under M.G.L. c. 30B, § 12, including leases for electric school buses and the installation of infrastructure associated therewith.

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 23

VOTED: That the Town authorize the Hingham School Committee to approve School Department bus leases for regular transportation for a term of greater than three years but less than 10 years under M.G.L. c. 30B, § 12, including leases for electric school buses and the installation of infrastructure associated therewith.

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 24

VOTED: That the Town accept the provisions of M.G.L. c. 40, § 71 for the purpose of authorizing, but not requiring, the Town of Hingham to enforce and fine an operator or owner of a motor vehicle who fails to stop for a school bus when required by law as identified through a school bus violation detection monitoring system.

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 25

VOTED: That the Town vote to appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money, which sum was generated from fees paid to the Town of Hingham during FY25, including all revenue from any parking license for the purpose of accessing slips or moorings (approximately \$40,000), all revenues generated by the Harbormaster's Office, including mooring/docking permit late fees and boating fines (approximately \$10,000), and the remaining 50% of boat excise taxes (approximately \$35,000) from Local Receipts, for deposit into the Town's Municipal Waterways Improvement and Maintenance Fund, to be used in accordance with M.G.L. c. 40, § 5G.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 26

VOTED: That the Town amend the appropriation of \$5,650,000 previously approved under Article 20 of the Town of Hingham 2021 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 the repair/reconstruction of the Town Pier Wharf and/or any other inner harbor structures, to address safety issues and sea level rise. To meet said appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select

Board, is authorized to borrow said sum under M.G.L. c. 44, § 7, or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 27

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

By deleting the title of Article 2 in its entirety and replace it with the following:

“TOWN MEETING AND ELECTIONS AND NOTICE THEREOF”

and by deleting the last sentence of Section 2 of Article 2 in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

“At any town election held on a Saturday the polls shall be opened at eight o’clock A.M. and remain open until six o’clock P.M., and at any town election held on a day other than Saturday the polls shall be opened at eight o’clock A.M., and remain open until eight o’clock P.M.”

STANDING VOTE

Yes: 240

No: 201

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 28

VOTED: That the Town authorize the Select Board to file a petition with the General Court 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, as follows:

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF HINGHAM TO UTILIZE ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR PUBLICATION OF LEGAL NOTICES

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other general or special law or town by-law to the contrary, whenever the Town of Hingham is required by a general or special law or town bylaw to publish a legal notice in a newspaper of general circulation then the Town of Hingham may utilize the alternative means of publishing said legal notice as provided in Section 2 below.

SECTION 2. The Town of Hingham may publish said legal notice on the bulletin board or electronic visual display outside the Town Clerk's office and: (i) in a local newspaper, in either electronic or paper format; or (ii) on the town's website. For the purposes of this section, the term "website" shall mean the official website of the Town of Hingham that is operated and maintained by the town's municipal government.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 29

VOTED: That the Town of Hingham authorize, but not require, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40, § 15A and all other applicable laws, the transfer of the care, custody, management and control of the property known as Assessor's Map 64-0-2 (as described in Certificate of Title No. 22301 registered with the Plymouth County Registry District of the Land Court) from the Municipal Light Board to the Select Board acting as the Board of Water Commissioners, upon the vote of said Boards approving said transfer, for the purpose of constructing a pump station as part of the Weir River Water System.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 30

VOTED: That the Town appropriate an amount up to \$3,000,000 for the costs of designing, engineering, constructing, reconstructing, repairing and/or improving the Weir River Water System, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto. 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.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 31

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40, § 3 and all other applicable laws, the Select Board acting as the Board of Water Commissioners to renew and/or enter into a new lease for a portion of the Weir River Water System Treatment Plant site located at 900 Main Street (Assessor Map 158 - 36), Hingham, MA, for the purpose

of continuing to locate a cell tower and appurtenances thereto, subject to all applicable zoning and permitting requirements and on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems in the best interest of the Town.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 32

VOTED: That the Town vote to authorize, but not require, the Hingham School Committee to replace the turf field at Hingham High School at 17 Union Street, Hingham, MA and for the Town to transfer \$630,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance to pay a portion of the cost for said turf field replacement.

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 33

VOTED: That the Town (1) establish the "2025 School Building Committee", which committee shall consist of seven (7) voting citizens of the Town of Hingham appointed as follows: two members by the Moderator, two members by the Select Board, and three members by the School Committee, with the chair of said committee to be jointly designated by the appointing authorities; and (2) authorize said committee to do everything necessary and appropriate to study, prepare, monitor, advise, and complete a feasibility study, schematic design, and other related projects for the replacement of the roof and an updated HVAC system at Hingham High School as well as the replacement of the roofs at Plymouth River Elementary School and South Elementary School, including, but not limited to, the employment of professionals and the payment of any and all other costs incidental and related thereto as necessary to carry out said projects subject to approved and available appropriations.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 34

VOTED: That the Town of Hingham appropriate up to the amount of \$3,310,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of a feasibility study and schematic design for a potential roof replacement and heat pump conversion project, at Hingham High School, 17 Union Street, Hingham, MA, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Project"), which proposed repair project would materially extend the

useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the Town of Hingham has applied for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the 2025 School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under M.G.L. Chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The Town of Hingham acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and if the MSBA's Board of Directors votes to invite the Town to collaborate with the MSBA on this proposed repair project, any project costs the Town of Hingham incurs in excess of any grant that may be approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town; and that, if invited to collaborate with the MSBA on the proposed repair project, the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the Town and the MSBA.

A Two-Thirds Vote Required

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 35

VOTED: That the Town of Hingham appropriate up to the amount of \$370,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of a feasibility study and schematic design costs for a potential roof replacement, at Plymouth River Elementary School, 200 High Street, Hingham, MA, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the Project), which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the Town of Hingham has applied for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), said amount to be expended under the direction of the 2025 Hingham School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation, the Town will transfer from the Unassigned Fund Balance an amount up to \$370,000. At a later date, the Town may authorize a borrowing to finance construction of the project. In that event, the Town may elect to reimburse the funds appropriated by this vote to pay preliminary expenses of the project with proceeds of bonds or notes that may be authorized by the Town to pay costs of completing the project. The Town of Hingham acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and if the MSBA's Board of

Directors votes to invite the Town to collaborate with the MSBA on this proposed repair project, any project costs the Town of Hingham incurs in excess of any grant that may be approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town.

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 36

VOTED: That the Town of Hingham appropriate up to the amount of \$320,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of a feasibility study and schematic design costs for a potential roof replacement, at South Elementary School, 831 Main Street, Hingham, MA, which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the Town of Hingham has applied for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), said amount to be expended under the direction of a newly-formed 2025 School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation, the Town, will transfer from the Unassigned Fund Balance an amount up to \$320,000. At a later date, the Town may authorize a borrowing to finance construction of the project. In that event, the Town may elect to reimburse the funds appropriated by this vote to pay preliminary expenses of the project with proceeds of bonds or notes that may be authorized by the Town to pay costs of completing the project. The Town of Hingham acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and if the MSBA's Board of Directors votes to invite the Town to collaborate with the MSBA on this proposed repair project, any project costs the Town of Hingham incurs in excess of any grant that may be approved by and received from the MSBA shall be for the sole responsibility of the town.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 37

VOTED: That the Town appropriate and transfer \$309,198 from Unassigned Fund Balance and appropriate and transfer the remaining balance (\$190,802) from the existing Foster Elementary School Extraordinary Maintenance Capital account which was established under Article 24 of the 2019 Town of Hingham Annual Town Meeting to a new Extraordinary Maintenance Capital account for Hingham High School, Plymouth River Elementary School and/or South Elementary School to be established and available for expenditure under the direction of the School

Committee for the purpose of funding Roof and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) rooftop unit system capital needs for Hingham High School, Plymouth River Elementary School, and/or South Elementary School.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 38

VOTED: That the Town appropriate and transfer from Unassigned Fund Balance an amount not to exceed \$40,000 to be expended under the direction of the Select Board for expenses associated with digitizing Town records, beginning with the Historic Preservation Department, including the purchase or licensing of software to facilitate scanning, indexing, and public access of such records.

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 39

VOTED: That the Town amend the General By-laws of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 13, 1939, as heretofore amended, by adding a new Article at the end of said General By-laws to adopt the "Specialized Energy Code" for the purpose of regulating the design and construction of buildings for the effective use of energy and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, pursuant to the entirety of 225 CMR 22 and 23, including Appendices RC and CC, and including future editions, amendments or modifications thereto, as follows:

Article _____
SPECIALIZED ENERGY CODE

SECTION 1: Definitions

International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) - The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is a building energy code created by the International Code Council. It is a model code adopted by many state and municipal governments in the United States for the establishment of minimum design and construction requirements for energy efficiency, and is updated on a three-year cycle. The baseline energy conservation requirements of the MA State Building Code are the IECC with Massachusetts amendments, as approved by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards and published in state regulations as part of 780 CMR.

Specialized Energy Code - Codified by the entirety of 225 CMR 22 and 23, including Appendices RC and CC, the Specialized Energy Code is an appendix to the Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code, based on further amendments to the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) to improve the energy efficiency and reduce the climate impacts of buildings built to this code.

Stretch Energy Code - Codified by the combination of 225 CMR 22 and 23, not including Appendices RC and CC, the Stretch Energy Code is a comprehensive set of amendments to the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) seeking to achieve all lifecycle cost-effective energy efficiency in accordance with the Green Communities Act of 2008, as well as to reduce the climate impacts of buildings built to this code.

SECTION 2: Purpose

The purpose of 225 CMR 22 and 23, including Appendices RC and CC is to provide a more energy efficient and low emissions alternative to the Stretch Energy Code or the base Massachusetts Energy Code, applicable to the relevant sections of the building code for both new construction and existing buildings.

SECTION 3: Applicability

This energy code applies to residential and commercial buildings.

SECTION 4: Specialized Energy Code

The Specialized Energy Code, as codified by the entirety of 225 CMR 22 and 23, including Appendices RC and CC, and including any future editions, amendments, or modifications, is herein incorporated by reference into this By-law.

SECTION 5: Enforcement

The Specialized Energy Code adopted hereunder shall be enforced by the Town of Hingham Building Commissioner.

SECTION 6: Effective Date

This By-law shall become effective January 1, 2026.

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 40

VOTED: That the Town take No Action on this Article.

Motion Adopted

ARTICLE 41

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, in order to update Section V-K of the Zoning By-Law for consistency with the provisions of Sections 1A and 3A of the Zoning Act as modified by Section 8 of Chapter 150 of Acts of 2024 (AHA) and any regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, as follows:

Item 1 Replace Section V-K in its entirety as follows:

V-K Accessory Dwelling Units

1. Purpose

The purpose of permitting dwelling units accessory to Principal Dwellings is to:

- a. Provide Accessory Dwelling Units without substantially altering the appearance of the residential property in order to protect the stability, property values and residential character of the surrounding neighborhood.
- b. Provide housing units for persons with diverse housing needs including, without limitation, persons with mental and physical disabilities.
- c. Enable the Town to monitor accessory dwelling unit construction for code compliance.

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this Section V-K, the following terms shall have the meaning set forth herein:

Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)

A self-contained housing unit, inclusive of sleeping, cooking and sanitary facilities on the same lot as a Principal Dwelling, subject to otherwise applicable dimensional and parking requirements, that:

- a. maintains a separate entrance, either directly from the outside or through an entry hall or corridor shared with the Principal Dwelling sufficient to meet the requirements of the Building Code for safe egress;

- b. is not larger in Gross Floor Area (GFA) than ½ the GFA of the Principal Dwelling or 900 square feet, whichever is smaller; and
- c. complies with the provisions of this Section V-K and 760 CMR 71.

Gross Floor Area (GFA)

The sum of the areas of all stories of the building of compliant ceiling height pursuant to the Building Code, including basements, lofts, and intermediate floored tiers, measured from the interior faces of exterior walls or from the centerline of walls separating buildings or dwelling units, but excluding crawl spaces, garage parking areas, attics, enclosed porches and similar spaces. Where there are multiple Principal Dwellings on the Lot, the GFA of the largest Principal Dwelling shall be used for determining the maximum size of an Accessory Dwelling Unit.

Lot

An area of land with definite boundaries that is used, or available for use, as the site of a structure, or structures, regardless of whether the site conforms to requirements of Zoning.

Principal Dwelling

A structure, regardless of whether it, or the Lot it is situated on, conforms to Zoning, including use requirements and dimensional requirements, such as setbacks, bulk, and height, that contains at least one Dwelling Unit and is, or will be, located on the same Lot as an ADU.

Short-term Rental

Short-term rental, as defined in M.G.L. c. 64G, § 1.

3. Dimensional and Design Requirements

To be eligible for a building or occupancy permit, an Accessory Dwelling Unit shall meet the following dimensional and design requirements:

- a. All stairways accessing an Accessory Dwelling Unit above the ground floor of a Principal Dwelling or detached accessory structure shall be enclosed within the exterior walls of the structure; provided, however, that the Building Commissioner may permit an unenclosed stairway on the rear of a structure to access an Accessory

Dwelling Unit located on the second floor of an existing building.

- b. The Accessory Dwelling Unit shall comply with all building dimensions, including, without limitation, the front, side, or rear yard setback and height limitations for the applicable Zoning District. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an Accessory Dwelling Unit may be located within a lawfully existing nonconforming structure, provided that the location shall not result in an extension of a nonconforming building dimension.
- c. Any new entrance for the Accessory Dwelling Unit or Principal Dwelling shall be located to the side or rear of the Principal Dwelling or detached accessory structure.
- d. In addition to the minimum required parking spaces for a Principal Dwelling, the parking requirement for an Accessory Dwelling Unit is one space, provided however, that no parking space is required for an Accessory Dwelling Unit located within 0.5 miles of a Transit Station as defined in 760 CMR 71.
- e. Only one Accessory Dwelling Unit shall be permitted per Lot.

4. General Conditions

Any permit issued pursuant to this Section V-K shall be subject to, and shall incorporate the following conditions:

- a. Neither the Principal Dwelling nor the Accessory Dwelling Unit may be sold or otherwise conveyed or transferred separately from the other.
- b. The Principal Dwelling and Accessory Dwelling Unit shall have a minimum occupancy or rental term of 30 days and shall not be used as a Short-term Rental.

Item 2 Delete subsection 1.8.9 to the Schedule of uses under Section III-A in its entirety, resequencing the existing subsections 1.8.10 and 1.8.11 to subsections 1.8.9 and 1.8.10.

Item 3 Insert a new subsection 1.9 to the Schedule of Uses under Section III-A as follows:

Residence					Business		Office Park*	Waterfront Business	Waterfront Recreation	Industrial	Industrial Park*	Limited Industrial Park	Business Recreation	Official and Open Space
A	B	C	D	E	A**	B								
1.9 Accessory Dwelling Units in connection with a Principal Dwelling, subject to Section V-K														
P	P	P	O	P	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 42

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 inserting a new subsection "d" to Section III-I.1. as follows:

- d. Structures Affected by Takings – New or intensified dimensional nonconformities resulting from a taking by a governmental body through eminent domain may be continued.
Re-sequence the existing subsections d. and e. to subsections e. and f.

Item 2 By adding a new subsection "3" to Section III-I as follows:

3. A building or structure affected by a governmental taking that resulted in a new or intensified nonconformity may be altered, reconstructed, extended or structurally changed, as follows:
 - a. the alteration, reconstruction, extension, or structural change of a Single-Family Dwelling or a Two-Family Dwelling may be authorized upon the issuance of a building permit, provided that the extension does not further reduce the minimum linear measurement of the nonconforming conditions; and
 - b. the alteration, reconstruction, extension, or structural change of a building or structure for any use other than a Single-Family Dwelling or Two-Family Dwelling may be authorized upon the issuance of a Special Permit A1, provided that any nonconforming yard and/or height conditions are not extended.

A Two-Thirds Vote Required

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 43

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

Item 1 By replacing the reference to "Section IV-C, 6" under footnote 3 to the Schedule of Signage Regulations Table in Section V-B.3 to "Section IV-C.7."

Item 2 By replacing the reference to "Section V-B, 6 (e)" under footnote 3 to the Schedule of Signage Regulations Table in Section V-B.3 to "Section V-B.10.e."

A Two-Thirds Vote Required

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 44

Approval of this Article requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote by Town Meeting.

The Planning Board and Advisory Committee voted unanimously in favor of this Article, as revised through the public hearing process.

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, by replacing in the entirety, Section III-I.1.c with the following:

- c. As set forth in M.G.L. c. 40A, § 6, except as allowed under Section III-I.2, pre-existing nonconforming structures or uses may not be extended, altered, or changed, except upon the issuance of a Special Permit A1 by the ZBA, which shall include a finding that such change, extension, or alteration will not be substantially more detrimental to the neighborhood than the existing nonconforming structure or use.

A Two-Thirds Vote Required

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 45

VOTED: That the Town amend the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 10, 1941, as heretofore amended, by deleting Section V.E.7.I in its entirety.

A Two-Thirds Vote Required

A Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 46

VOTED: That the Town authorize, but not require, for a period through the end of FY26, the Select Board to accept grants of easements for streets, water, drainage, sewer and utility purposes or any public purpose and to grant easements for the limited purpose of streets, water, drainage, sewer and utility purposes or any public purpose on terms and conditions the Board deems in the best interest of the Town.

A Unanimous Vote

FY26 Cash Appropriations

Article 6

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

122 SELECT BOARD

Payroll	859,906
Expenses	72,649

131 HUMAN RESOURCE

Payroll	211,816
Expenses	9,100

132 RESERVE FUND 800,000

135 TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Payroll	326,588
Expenses	12,700
Audit	96,150

137 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Payroll	266,946
Expenses	724,468
Capital Outlay	135,000

141 ASSESSORS

Payroll	372,916
Expenses	11,358
Consulting	45,000
Map Maintenance	300

145 TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Payroll	426,331
Expenses	64,336
Tax Titles	10,000
Capital Outlay (transfer \$9,595 from Capital Stabilization Fund- CSF)	9,595

151 LEGAL SERVICES 395,372

159 TOWN MEETINGS

Payroll	2,800
Expenses	95,000

161 TOWN CLERK	
Payroll	240,226
Expenses	20,130
162 ELECTIONS	
Payroll	15,480
Expenses	21,100
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	
Payroll	241,781
Expenses	49,250
173 COMMUNITY PLANNING	
Payroll	258,245
Expenses	17,650
LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT	
Payroll	176,038
Expenses	7,170
177 BARE COVE PARK	
Payroll	26,366
Expenses	15,300
Capital Outlay	23,231
192 TOWN HALL	
Payroll	339,030
Expenses	379,600
Capital Outlay	305,052
193 GRAND ARMY MEMORIAL HALL	
Expenses	<u>20,332</u>
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	<u><u>7,104,312</u></u>
PUBLIC SAFETY	
210 POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Payroll	7,048,364
Expenses	466,600
Capital Outlay (transfer \$11,420 from CSF)	621,670

220 FIRE DEPARTMENT	
Payroll (\$2,034,858 from Ambulance Receipts)	7,361,651
Expenses	744,537
Capital Outlay (transfer \$611,124 from excess Ambulance Receipts)	831,124
230 DISPATCH SERVICES	
Expenses	1,089,389
241 BUILDING COMMISSIONER	
Payroll	399,672
Expenses	13,582
Capital Outlay	46,000
292 ANIMAL CONTROL	
Payroll (including overtime of \$2,059)	97,451
Expenses	6,200
295 HARBORMASTER	
Payroll (\$196,952 from MWI&M Fund)	321,321
Expenses	90,235
Capital Outlay (\$150,000 from MWI&M Fund)	150,000
299 PUBLIC SAFETY UTILITIES	
Emergency Water	400,000
Street Lighting	128,624
Public Safety Facility	120,000
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	<u>19,936,420</u>
EDUCATION	
300 SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	
Payroll	60,266,942
Expenses	10,116,810
Capital Outlay (transfer \$8,985 from CSF)	1,623,452
TOTAL EDUCATION	<u>72,007,204</u>
PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES	
420 HIGHWAY/RECREATION/TREE & PARK	
Payroll	2,908,597
Expenses	894,190

Snow Removal	633,968
Road Maintenance	430,500
430 LANDFILL/RECYCLING	
Payroll	591,406
Expenses	1,327,462
Capital Outlay	25,000
440 SEWER COMMISSION	
Payroll	204,750
Expenses	669,912
Engineering	13,500
Debt Service	42,617
MWRA Charges	2,319,234
Hull Intermunicipal Agreement	459,245
Capital Outlay	577,250
The sum of \$4,286,508 to come from Sewer Revenue	
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	<u><u>11,097,631</u></u>
HUMAN SERVICES	
510 HEALTH DEPARTMENT	
Payroll	312,342
Expenses	40,962
541 CENTER FOR ACTIVE LIVING	
Payroll	408,052
Expenses	22,310
543 VETERANS' SERVICES	
Payroll	114,448
Expenses	7,956
Benefits	148,529
TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	<u><u>1,054,599</u></u>
CULTURE AND RECREATION	
610 LIBRARY	
Payroll	1,967,159
Expenses	498,827
Capital Outlay	156,000

630 RECREATION COMMISSION	
Payroll	0
Expenses	0
Capital Outlay	365,000
631 ATHLETIC FIELD MAINTENANCE	
Payroll	76,928
Expenses	204,165
650 TRUSTEES OF BATHING BEACH	
Payroll	31,202
Expenses	8,800
691 HISTORIC PRESERVATION	
Payroll	75,782
Expenses	9,538
692 CELEBRATIONS	<u>15,241</u>
TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION	<u><u>3,408,642</u></u>
ENTERPRISE FUND	
720 COUNTRY CLUB	
Payroll	1,161,978
Expenses	896,234
Debt Service	244,281
Capital Outlay	75,000
The sum of \$2,377,493 shall be funded from SSCC revenue	
730 WEIR RIVER WATER SYSTEM	
Payroll	334,451
Operating Expenses	7,874,746
Debt Service	6,227,333
The sum of \$14,260 shall be funded from Weir River Water System Revenue and transfer \$176,530 from Retained Earnings	
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUND	<u><u>16,814,023</u></u>
DEBT SERVICE	
710 DEBT SERVICE	<u>13,695,055</u>
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	<u><u>13,695,055</u></u>

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

900 GROUP INSURANCE	8,406,867
900 OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	1,498,660
910 CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT	7,190,072
912 WORKERS' COMPENSATION	330,000
913 UNEMPLOYMENT	50,000
914 MANDATORY MEDICARE	<u>1,293,716</u>
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	<u><u>18,769,315</u></u>

UNCLASSIFIED

999 UNCLASSIFIED

915 PROPERTY AND LIABILITY INSURANCE	1,870,580
TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED	<u>1,870,580</u>
TOTAL ARTICLE 6	<u><u>165,757,781</u></u>

Article 4

PERSONNEL SERVICES AND EXPENSES	\$1,754,862
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Article 18

SSCC Purchase of equipment/exclude Pool demo	957,887
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Article 21

CPC Admin/Operating Expenses	40,000
Select Board-interest on Bonds/Notes for Community Preservation projects	209,179
To HAHT for Community Housing Purposes	700,000
To Hingham Historical Society, Inc. for Old Ordinary Campus Improvements Project	600,000
To Recreation Dept. for Pickleball Courts Project	758,640
To HAHT Opportunity Fund - Net sale proceeds from RE sales to extent CPC funds used to purchase properties for future use	<u>0</u>

TOTAL CPC	<u>2,307,819</u>
Article 26 Repair/Reconstruction of Town Wharf & Inner Harbor Structures	5,650,000
Article 30 WRWS: Authority to Borrow for Water Capital Projects	3,000,000
Article 34 HHS Roof Replacement/Heat Pump Conversion with MSBA	<u>3,310,000</u>
Grand Totals	<u>181,780,462</u>

Vital Statistics

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Births	196	197	236	242	223	230	222
Marriages	71	82	92	75	58	64	74
Deaths	482	489	475	517	582	572	567

Town Election, May 3, 2025

FOR MODERATOR - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR 7A	TOTAL
MICHAEL J. PUZO	110	135	141	170	133	118	86	166	1,059
Write-ins	2	-	3	2	3	2	1	1	14
Blanks	21	30	22	31	24	25	22	38	213
Total	133	165	166	203	160	145	109	205	1,286
FOR SELECT BOARD - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR 7A	TOTAL
JULIE MORAN STREHLE	120	139	144	175	129	118	79	160	1,064
Write-ins	-	1	-	2	3	2	2	1	11
Blanks	13	25	22	26	28	25	28	44	211
Total	133	165	166	203	160	145	109	205	1,286
FOR BOARD OF ASSESSORS - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR 7A	TOTAL
SARA A. ABBOTT	113	137	131	165	127	114	75	156	1,018
Write-ins	1	1	4	2	-	-	1	-	9
Blanks	19	27	31	36	33	31	33	49	259
Total	133	165	166	203	160	145	109	205	1,286
FOR BOARD OF HEALTH - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR 7A	TOTAL
ROSEMARY D. BYRNE	114	132	129	167	126	114	82	161	1,025
Write-ins	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	3
Blanks	19	32	37	36	33	31	27	43	258
Total	133	165	166	203	160	145	109	205	1,286
FOR MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR 7A	TOTAL
MICHAEL D. REIVE	108	129	128	161	121	105	74	155	981
Write-ins	1	-	2	1	3	1	1	1	10
Blanks	24	36	36	41	36	39	34	49	295
Total	133	165	166	203	160	145	109	205	1,286

FOR HOUSING AUTHORITY - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR 7A	TOTAL
TIMOTHY PATRICK SULI	103	132	123	147	118	104	74	151	952
Write-ins	-	-	1	1	2	-	1	1	6
Blanks	30	33	42	55	40	41	34	53	328
Total	133	165	166	203	160	145	109	205	1,286
FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE- Vote for THREE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR 7A	TOTAL
ALYSON B. ANDERSON	99	121	128	155	111	106	70	153	943
MATTHEW J. COSMAN	96	127	119	154	114	105	67	144	926
JOHN C. MOONEY	101	121	129	140	105	98	64	149	907
Write-ins	-	3	3	1	8	2	1	-	18
Blanks	103	123	119	159	142	124	125	169	1,064
Total	399	495	498	609	480	435	327	615	3,858
FOR PLANNING BOARD - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR 7A	TOTAL
CRYSTAL G. KELLY	110	135	123	162	119	112	67	174	1,002
THOMAS F. PATCH	23	27	42	31	37	32	38	26	256
Write-ins	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Blanks	-	3	1	10	4	1	3	5	27
Total	133	165	166	203	160	145	109	205	1,286
FOR SEWER COMMISSIONER - Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR7	PR7A	TOTAL
JOSEPH M. FISHER	113	134	137	163	128	109	76	160	1,020
Write-ins	1	-	-	1	2	2	1	1	8
Blanks	19	31	29	39	30	34	32	44	258
Total	133	165	166	203	160	145	109	205	1,286
FOR RECREATION COMMISSION- Vote for ONE									
	PR 1	PR 2	PR 3	PR 4	PR 5	PR 6	PR 7	PR 7A	TOTAL
ADRIENNE F. RAMSEY	117	134	137	174	133	113	80	159	1,047
Write-ins	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2
Blanks	16	31	29	29	26	32	29	45	237
Total	133	165	166	203	160	145	109	205	1,286

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 now in effect which includes significant changes to the Stretch Energy Code.

Linden Ponds and the Hingham Shipyard both continue to renovate existing units. The new Public Safety Building on Lincoln Street has received its Certificate of Use and Occupancy. Several more homes throughout the town have been razed and rebuilt over the past year. The Derby Street Shoppes continue to have new businesses move into town.

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 3,692 permits and conducted 5,581 inspections in 2025. We also responded to 74 Public Records Requests

	<u>Fees Collected</u>
1,205 Building Permits	\$1,671,221
20 Final Cost Affidavits	41,320
597 Plumbing Permits	74,330
446 Gas Permits	37,425
995 Electrical Permits	161,539
122 Certificate of Inspection	6,190
83 Certificate of Use and Occupancy	2,905
15 Re-inspection	1,500
127 Sheet Metal	30,665
47 Miscellaneous	2,620
35 Wt.'s & Measures	<u>7,265</u>
3,692	\$2,036,980

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 2026.

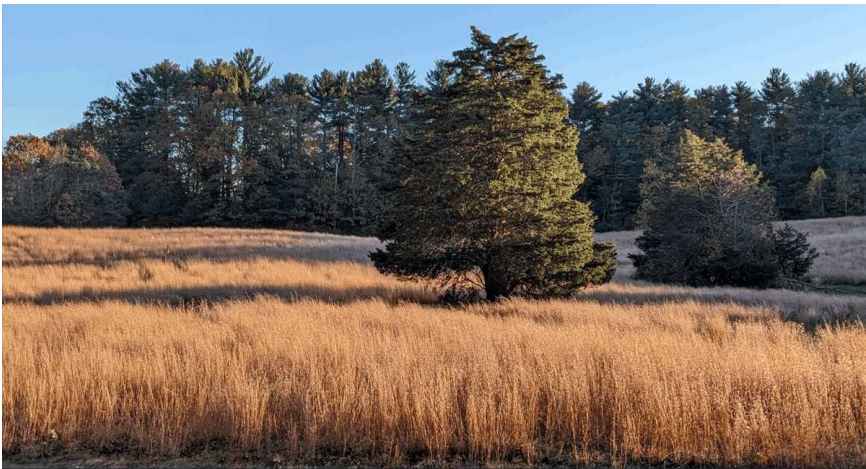
Respectfully submitted,

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

Conservation Commission

The Hingham Conservation Commission is a seven-member volunteer board established under the authority of the Conservation Commission Act of 1957 (M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 8C) to protect the community's natural resources and acquire lands for conservation and passive recreation. The Commission members are appointed to three-year overlapping terms by the Select Board.

The Commission oversees approximately 1,000 acres of conservation land in Hingham that will remain protected as open space in perpetuity. Conservation lands are acquired and managed for protection of wildlife habitat, water resources protection, preservation of wetlands, as well as passive recreation including walking, hiking, bird watching, and fishing. The Commission's Rules and Regulations Governing Use of Conservation Lands was updated in 2025 and can be found on the website (see QR Code below).



More-Brewer Park

Management of these lands would not be possible without the assistance and dedication of other town staff and departments, property caretakers, and volunteers. Special thanks to the Department of Public Works for all their efforts and assistance throughout the year.

Volunteer efforts in 2025 include a Boy Scout bridge replacement project at the South Elementary School nature trail, the Hingham Swim team trash collection at the Cranberry Pond Conservation Area, and ongoing trash collection efforts by permitted hunters. The Commission's regulations

include the common practice of “Carry in-Carry out” and all users are required to carry out whatever is carried in to the woods as there is no trash disposal on conservation lands. Despite this, alcohol nips, dog waste bags, plastic bottles, and more, continue to be a problem on conservation properties. The Commission appreciates all efforts to remove trash, no matter who discarded it.

The Commission plans for natural resource protection in coordination with the Open Space Acquisition Committee, by researching and identifying significant parcels of interest in the community and proposing the acquisition of these lands through the Community Preservation Act process or other mechanism. In 2025, the Commission acquired a 4.5 acre parcel on Hersey Street through the generous donation of the Hersey Family. This property will now be protected in perpetuity, preserving wetlands and valuable wildlife habitat.

The other primary responsibility of the Commission is to administer the state Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40) and the Hingham Wetlands Protection Bylaw (Article 22 of the Town Bylaws). In administering these laws, the Commission reviews applications for work within and near wetland resource areas to ensure proposed activities do not result in any adverse impacts. Jurisdictional resource areas include bordering and isolated vegetated wetlands, waterbodies, floodplains, salt marshes, coastal banks and beaches, land within 100 feet of wetlands (buffer zones), and, riverfront areas (area within 200 feet of perennial streams). The Commission is also responsible for pursuing violations of local and state wetland regulations and issuing Enforcement Orders for unauthorized activities.



Erosion control protecting wetland

In 2025, the Commission held 20 public meetings and acted on the following:

Summary of Applications Received	
Notice of Intent	33
Request for Determination of Applicability	24
Emergency Certifications	3
Enforcement Orders	5
Administrative Reviews	21
Septic Reviews	50
Request for Certificate of Compliance	37
Request for Extension Permit	1

Examples of permits issued by the Commission in 2025 for work in jurisdictional areas included a commercial redevelopment project for a child day care facility, numerous single family residential projects, a commercial project on Broad Cove, and a state project to replace a sewer force main near the Weir River.

The Commission is also active in advising other Town boards and committees on conservation related matters and has representative members on the Climate Action Planning Committee, Community Preservation Committee, Comprehensive Trails Plan Committee, Master Plan Committee, Open Space Acquisition Committee, and Turkey Hill Management Committee.

In 2025, Conservation staff collaborated with the Harbor Development Committee, Mass Audubon, and the Harbormaster on the July 4th Drone Show celebration to reduce potential risks to the many vulnerable nesting birds and chicks on the Hingham Harbor islands. This allowed Mass Audubon to successfully monitor the bird populations prior to, during, and after the drone show to assess behavior and disruptions from drone activity. Fortunately, no adverse effects to chicks or nesting birds were observed and the collaboration proved to be a great success.



American Oyster Catcher chick, Mass Audubon

Future collaborations will ensure that Hingham colonial-nesting water birds and wading birds that rely on the Harbor Islands as critical breeding grounds, remain protected while allowing the community to utilize and enjoy to the harbor and shoreline for celebrations and events.



Button Island in foreground

Hunting Program

The Commission issues a limited number of annual permits for turkey and deer hunting on certain conservation properties through a bow hunting program managed by Conservation staff in accordance with all state and local regulations. The goal of the hunting program is to promote responsible management of lands by reducing issues caused by overpopulation of white tailed deer. In 2025, a total of 47 bow hunting permits were issued: 7 for the spring turkey season and 40 for the fall deer season. The Commission received notification of 27 deer harvested during the season, a number of which were donated by hunters to the MassWildlife 'Share the Harvest Program' which coordinates venison donations to food pantries. The Commission updated its Bow Hunting Regulations in 2025 which can be found on the website (see QR Code Below).

Dams

The Commission manages two dams located on Conservation property, the Foundry Pond Dam and Triphammer Pond Dam which are managed for recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, and flood control. Both dams contain fish ladders to allow for seasonal migration of diadromous fish such as river herring, rainbow smelt, and American eel. Staff monitors the dams throughout the year to ensure proper function and fish passage in cooperation with the Division of Marine Fisheries.

The Commission is supported by the Conservation Officer, Shannon Palmer, Assistant Conservation Officer Sylvia Schuler, and Administrative Assistant, Natashja Molina. Department staff is available to assist residents, developers, other town departments, and the general public in all conservation related matters during regular Town Hall hours. We encourage all interested citizens to visit the Commission’s webpage for additional information.



Finally, the Commission extends their thanks to all town boards, commissions and departments and the citizens of Hingham for their support, cooperation, and efforts over the past year to protect and preserve the community’s essential natural resources and open spaces.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Nielsen, Chair
Nina Villanova, Vice-Chair
Henry Hidell, III
Robert Mosher
Thomas Roby
Douglas Troyer
Philip Edmundson

Shannon Palmer,
Conservation Officer



Planning Board

The establishment of municipal Planning Boards is authorized by Massachusetts General Law, chapter 41, section 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 additionally 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 stone walls, within a scenic roadway layout.

Most of the permitting conducted by the Board in 2025 involved new or modified construction projects that exceeded land disturbance thresholds under Site Plan Review. The Board issued a waiver of Site Plan Review for approximately thirty percent of those applications as minor modifications of previously approved plans. Of the forty-one applications that required a full Site Plan Review, twenty proposed the reconstruction of existing single-family dwellings. Non-residential applications primarily resulted from redevelopment, expansion, or tenant fit-outs of existing industrial or commercial properties. The Board also received a preliminary application

to subdivide more than one hundred acres of land in the Office Park District in South Hingham.

Summary of 2025 Permit Applications	
Site Plan Reviews	58
Special Permits	7
ANRs (Form As)	1
Subdivisions	5
Scenic Roads	0
Total:	71

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 recommended adoption of five zoning articles at Annual Town Meeting 2025. The Planning Board initiated three of these articles and the Zoning Board of Appeals initiated two articles. The proposed amendments broadly fall into three categories: state-mandated changes, locally-identified changes, and corrective changes. For instance, one of the articles was advanced to make the Town’s Accessory Dwelling Unit regulations compliant with by-right state requirements. The Board recommended others in response to locally identified needs. These resulted in new or expanded allowances for cell towers and nonconforming uses and structures. Finally, a more limited amendment intended to clean-up existing signage reference was also adopted.

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 and created a Master Plan Implementation Committee in 2023. The Committee tracks progress on plan recommendations and reports back to the Board.

In part based on one of the recommendations of the Master Plan, the Board created an advisory committee in 2025 to consider potential regulatory controls to ensure that residential grown and redevelopment enhances the character, scale, and integrity of the surrounding neighborhood. better control the scale and massing of residential development and redevelopment. This Residential Compatibility Standards Subcommittee consists of representatives of various permitting boards as well as resident representative of each single-family zoning district. Last year, the Subcommittee recommended a change to the threshold for Minor Site Plan Review, which the Planning Board advanced and recommends

for adoption at the 2026 Annual Town Meeting. Potential future changes arise based on the efforts of this group.

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, 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,

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

Emily Wentworth, Community Planning Director

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 grant comprehensive permits under M.G.L. c. 40B.

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

In 2025, the Board received 22 applications and held 14 meetings, during which members conducted 27 separate hearings on both ongoing and new applications.

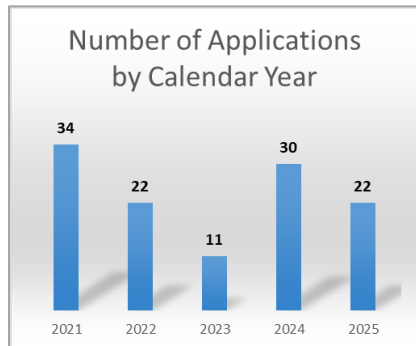
Variances:

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. In 2025, the Board received two applications for variances, one application was for relief from dimensional requirements for a new pump station for the Weir River Water System, the other was for the reconstruction of nonconforming garage within the setback; both variances were granted.

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 2025.

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 one administrative appeal application in 2025. The administrative appeal was withdrawn prior to being noticed for a public hearing.

Findings:

One application for a modification of finding under M.G.L. c. 40A, § 6 was 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 to the neighborhood than the existing nonconforming use or structure.

At the April 2025 Annual Town Meeting, Section III-I.2.c was amended to require a Special Permit A1 instead of a Finding, allowing the Board to utilize the Special Permit criteria and add conditions to the permit if the Board deems they are needed.

Special Permits:

Special permits are authorizations to use land or structures for a particular purpose, provided general guidelines as detailed in the Zoning By-Law and specific conditions arising from the review process itself are met. They are designed as flexible tools to ensure that proposed uses align with the intent and purposes of the Zoning By-Law.

In 2025, the Board received 17 special permit applications: 14 were granted with conditions, one was granted without conditions, and two were withdrawn without prejudice. Each application involved a distinct request, including four applications under the newly amended Section III-I.1.c of the Zoning By-Law, which allows for the extension or alteration of pre-existing nonconforming structures or uses in Residence Districts A and B and the Industrial District.

Other Special Permits granted by the Board included the construction of a residential pier in Residence District A; the approval of two new sit-down and take-out restaurants, and expansions of two existing restaurants located in the Business District A and Downtown Overlay District, as well as in the Industrial District; a new booster pump station for the Weir River Water System and a new Center for Active Living, both located in Official and Open Space Districts.

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 2025.

Board members wish to express their appreciation for the support, cooperation, and assistance received from all Town departments over the past year. Zoning Board staff within the Land Use & Development Department are available to assist residents, developers, other Town departments, and the public with all zoning-related matters during regular Town Hall hours. The Board encourages 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 2025, the Historic Districts Commission held 74 hearings and made site visits to review applications from property owners seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness. The Historic Preservation Administrator reviewed an additional 47 applications for administrative approval. 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 a 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.

The Commission consists of five voting members and five alternates appointed by the Select Board 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 and meetings and site visits have been held as scheduled. The public has always been encouraged to attend Commission meetings. Commission meetings are generally scheduled on the third Thursday evening of the month. The Commission records all of its meetings, which can be accessed by contacting the Administrator.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Gaul, Historic Preservation Administrator

Members:

Daniel Clark, Chair
Eric Smoczynski, Vice-Chair
Catherine Daley
Josh Blevins
Justin Aborn

Alternate Members:

Mary Anne Donaldson
Carol Pyles
Steve Sadler
Vacant
Vacant



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 <https://www.hingham-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2887/Hingham-Historical-Asset-Inventory-PDF?bidId=>

Under M.G.L. Chapter 40 Section 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 2025, the Commission continued its focus on longer-term initiatives, such as the Historical Commission's project to digitize departmental records and the preservation and restoration of Hingham's Veterans' monuments and markers. Other ongoing projects include maintaining the historical streetscapes along the Greenbush Rail corridor with grants from the Greenbush Historic Preservation Trust. 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 2025, the Commission awarded grants totaling \$100,000.

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. Former

Assistant United States Attorney Andrew Weissman, speaking to a full house at Old Ship Church, provided a spectacular lecture on the "Rule of Law" during the summer of 2025. Past speakers include Ken Burns, Doris Kearns Goodwin, and Jon Meacham.

The annual reenactment of the Battle of Grape Island took place at Hingham Harbor with the largest audience to date, commemorating the beginning of the Provision Wars and the second battle of the American Revolution. The reenactment took place during Hingham's first ever "Revolutionary Weekend," as a kick-off to Hingham's Rev250 celebrations honoring the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War. In addition, a Rev250 Task Force has been created, on which I have been serving, as a way to partner with the Hingham Historical Society to develop and promote a number of Rev250 celebrations. One such event was a very popular screening of Ken Burns' PBS miniseries, *The American Revolution*, which was held at the Loring Hall Cinema. The events will continue into 2026.



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, the Victory statue (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 (CPA), 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. In 2025, the Historical Commission secured CPC grant funding in the amount of \$30,300 to restore the surface of the Victory statue at Hingham Harbor, also known as the "Iron Horse" statue.

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 27 Certified Local Governments in the Commonwealth.

Thank you to the members of the Historical Commission for volunteering their time and expertise in an effort to protect Hingham's unique historic assets.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Gaul, Historic Preservation Administrator

Historical Commission Members

Elizabeth Dings, Chair

Robert Stansell

Stephen Jiranek

Brendan Concannon

Kevin Francis Warren

Pamela Peters

Vacant

Information Technology

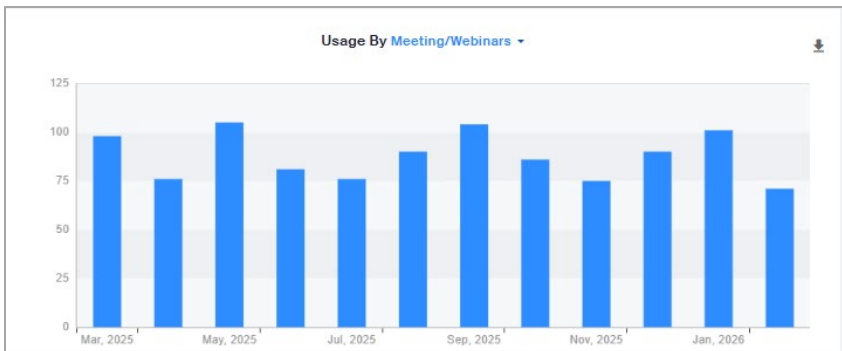
The Information Technology (IT) Department's three full-time staff members are responsible for supporting 26 municipal departments across 16 locations. The Department provides strategic direction for and management of the Town's technology resources.

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.

Major accomplishments over the past year:

- Responded to over 2,400 helpdesk tickets
- Completed migration of the Town-Wide phone system to a cloud hosted UCaaS (Universal Communication as a Service) platform greatly improving the reliability, redundancy and remote work flexibility over the existing end-of-life on-site system.
- Brought the new Public Safety Facility online
- Converted all Town building to new IP Addresses in line with cybersecurity best practices.
- The Town has hosted 1053 online (remote or hybrid) meetings (800 Meetings, 253 Webinars) for a total of 408,673 minutes with a total of 8,171 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.

I am sure I am leaving some significant projects off the above list but with the work that has been 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, 2025.

The Personnel Board addressed a multitude of issues in the 2025 calendar year.

The Board approved revisions to the Land Use and Development Coordinator job description and approved placement on the Salary Schedule at Grade 5, Step 2.

The Board approved a request to hire a Heavy Equipment Operator for the Tree and Parks Division of the Department of Public Works at Grade PW1, Step 5 of the Salary Schedule and granted the Heavy Equipment Operator credit for prior years of service for his role at Hingham Public Schools for purposes of calculating vacation time and approved the granting of credit for earned, but unused sick time.

The Board approved requests to increase compensation for a South Shore Country Club Grounds Keeper at Grade X-15, from Year 1 to Year 2 on the Seasonal Salary Schedule and to increase the compensation of two Police Patrol Officers, one to PS-1-B and one to PS-1-C under the Collective Bargaining Agreement to give credit for prior years of service.

Additional sick time was approved for three Police Officers.

The Board recommended to the 2025 Annual Town Meeting that, effective July 1, 2025, a 3% general wage increase for Hingham Town employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement be implemented.

Seventeen vacation carry-over requests were approved by the Board where circumstances beyond the control of an employee precluded the enjoyment of the usual annual vacation period.

The Board recommended to the 2025 Annual Town Meeting that, effective July 1, 2025, a change to the Town of Hingham Personnel Bylaws be made to the language in Section 16.c.1. to read in its entirety as follows:

“(1) Accumulated unused sick leave will be paid to all employees at normal retirement only, according to the following schedule:

<u>Accumulated Sick Days</u>	<u>Payment</u>
1-149_____	\$12.00 per day
150-199_____	\$1,788, plus \$14.00 per day for each day over 150
200 & over_____	\$2,488 plus \$16.00 per day for each day over 200."

This recommendation was approved by Town Meeting.

The Board concluded negotiations and the Select Board entered into a memorandum of agreement with the Police Patrolman's Association, the Hingham Police Superior Officers Union MCOP, Local 405, the Hingham Permanent Firefighters Association, IAFF, Local 2398, the Department of Public Works Teamsters Local 25 and the Hingham Library Staff Association. The Board shortly will begin collective bargaining agreement negotiations with the union representing the Department of Public Works Supervisors Unit, Local 25, whose agreement expires on June 30, 2026.

Finally, the Board extends its deep gratitude to David Pace who stepped down from the Personnel Board after over fifteen years of dedicated service. His experience and knowledge were invaluable and he will be missed. The Board welcomed new member, Andy McElaney.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Manning, Chair
Lynn Carroll
Karen Johnson
Andy McElaney
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. The department also oversees numerous parks, recreation and athletic fields, playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts, parking areas, skating areas, beaches, public buildings, the Town Forest, and two Town nurseries.

DPW supports the upkeep of Conservation areas, Bare Cove Park, and various other public properties throughout the Town. It also provides assistance to other Town departments with procurement, building maintenance, and vehicle maintenance and repairs.

The department 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. In addition, DPW is also responsible for the operation of the Town's Recycling and Trash Transfer Facility and monitors and maintains the Town's capped Sanitary Landfill.

Highway Division

Drainage: Inspected, repaired and made adjustments to 40 catch basins prior to road reconstruction. Replaced 180 feet of drainage pipe on Thompson Ave. Replaced 20 of new outfall pipe and riprap at 218 Main St. Replaced 10 feet of new pipe on Spring St.

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

Permit Program Background: On May 1, 2003, EPA Region 1 issued its Final General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (2003 small MS4 permit) consistent with the Phase II rule. The 2003 small MS4 permit covered "traditional" (i.e., cities and towns) and "non-traditional" (i.e., Federal and state agencies) MS4 Operators located in the states of Massachusetts and New Hampshire. This permit expired on May 1, 2008 but remained in effect until operators were authorized under the 2016 MS4 general permit, which 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 for the safe and efficient maintenance of equipment for both the DPW and Transfer Station Departments. This equipment includes 11 Dump Trucks with sanders and plows, 11 ¾ Ton Pickup Trucks w/ 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. In addition, the DPW Shop provides maintenance for vehicles used by the Board of Health, Assessors, Building Department, Bare Cove Park and Town Hall.

Snow and Ice Control: In 2025, Hingham received a total of 31 inches of snow. The DPW conducted 10 snowplow operations and 15 sanding operations.

Special Projects: The DPW provided support for the following projects: annual voting and elections setups, Town Meeting setup, Christmas in the square, 4th of July Road Race and Parade, downtown and beach trash management, and maintaining accessibility at the new boat ramp for launching and retrieving boats.

New Equipment:

- 2025 Chevrolet Silverado with Plow
- 2025 Chevrolet 2500 HD Pickup with Plow
- 2025 IH Dump Truck with Plow & High way Sander-HV507
- 2025 INTL MV607 Catch Basin
- 2025 IH HV607 Logging Truck
- 2025 Elgin Pelican Sweeper
- 2025-Silverado 2500 Pickup with Plow
- 2025 3500 Silverado Dump Truck with Plow
- 2025 GMC Sierra 3500 Pickup with Plow
- 2025 Wacker EW65
- 2025 Wacker Neuson Light Tower

Tree and Park Division

- Tree Plantings: 23
- Tree Removals: 168
- Trees Pruned: 161

New Equipment: 2025 Log Truck

Special Projects/Maintenance: The Tree and Park Division maintains 110 parks and traffic islands throughout Town and continually strives to make improvements with the assistance of other Town committees to which we are extremely grateful. The division maintains more than 1,000 acres of open space and over 10,000 public shade trees, providing support to various Town committees, boards and departments as needed.

The department continues its work within the George Washington Town Forest, which has been impacted by “Red Pine Scale” and the “Pine Shoot Beetle” which has contributed to the widespread mortality of Red Pine trees. Trails in the forest are monitored for downed trees and limbs, and approximately 85% of the trees that posed a threat to the public have been removed. An ongoing tree removal program remains in place to

evaluate and remove any potential hazards. We would like to thank you for your patience as this work continues, with our commitment to keeping the forest open to the public while minimizing impact and ensuring safety.

In 2025, the Tree and Park Division planted 23 shade trees throughout the Town. The limited number is due to the rising operational costs and the increased frequency of storm cleanup. The 2025 Arbor Day Celebration was celebrated on April 25, with the planting of an October Glory Red Maple on Hingham Common. The Town of Hingham was also recognized as a "Tree City USA" for the 37th consecutive year.

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

Our staff's knowledge and experience remain a valuable asset to the Town, and we welcome any questions regarding the care and maintenance of trees and shrubs.

Recreation Division

The Recreation 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 been highly successful in preserving the condition and playability of the Town's youth athletic fields, and we look forward to continuing this partnership.

In addition, the Recreation Division assists with improvements to public roads, drainage, trees, and other Town properties, and assists with snow and ice control throughout the Town. The division has teamed up with the Tree and Park Division, providing everyday maintenance to the Town's parks and facilities, and most importantly, responding to emergencies that are storm related.

New Equipment: None

Hingham Trash Transfer and Recycling Facility

In 2025, the Hingham Trash Transfer and Recycling Facility transferred 4,839 tons of household rubbish to the COVANTA/SEMASS trash to energy facility in Rochester and 735 tons of bulky waste and demolition to New England Recycling (NER) in Taunton for recycling. Hingham residents recycled 1,568 tons of mixed recyclables, 950 tons of brush, logs and yard waste, 1.26 tons of tires, 1,040 gallons of motor oil, 32 tons of electronics, 82 tons of textiles, 39 pounds of batteries.

The Town also collected household hazardous waste handled 202 cars. The Returnable Bottle-Can Program donated approximately 651,200 cans and 77,700 plastic bottles for an estimated total of \$36,445. Of this, \$25,610 was distributed to 25 Hingham youth organizations and \$10,835 went to the recycling fund. The success of Hingham's recycling program provides relief from increasing waste disposal fees, benefits the environment, and helps our youth organizations.

The Transfer Station scale is used to weigh trash and recyclables, as well as commercial construction debris, and serves as a revenue source for the facility. In 2025, revenue from the scale totaled \$106,572. Revenue from Transfer Station Permits (stickers)—including part-time permits, residential permits, and commercial permits—was \$16,200. With the installation of a vehicle counter, the Transfer Station accepts an average of 7,182 cars per week.

The DPW continues to offer a residential Composting Program. With support from the Cleaner Greener Hingham Recycling Committee, the DPW offers composting bins for a reduced cost of \$25 per bin. Please contact the DPW office to reserve a bin.

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. The DPW is happy to answer any questions regarding recycling, composting, or the use of the Recycling and Trash Transfer Facility.

Special Projects: The Transfer Station continues to undergo concrete repairs and other updates to improve and expand the facility.

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. We are pleased to report the following activities were accomplished in 2025.

Roadwork: The division managed 140 miles of roadway infrastructure throughout the Town. The administration of this work included overseeing both State Funds (Chapter 90) and Town funds allocated for road building. A paving plan was successfully completed in 2025, with 6.1 miles of roads being reconstructed and/or resurfaced as required, along with coordination among town officials, contractors, builders, and the public.

Reconstruction and Paving:

Scotland Street (Main St to Mark Ln)	Ward St. (Spot Sections)
Polk Rd	Beal St (SB Lane, Tuckers Ln to
Farfield Rd	Beal’s Cover Rd)
Palmers Ln	Otis St. (Downer to Gov. Long)
Fulling Mill Ln	Downer Ave (Foster School to
French St. (Spot Sections)	Otis St.)

Micro surfacing:

Hope Rd	Highfield Rd
Cutter Hill Rd	Westmoreland Rd
Codman Rd	Southgate Ln
Forest Ln	Wompatuck Rd
Huntley Rd	Planters Field Lane
Hoover Rd	Crow Point Lane

In addition to the road reconstruction outlined above, sidewalks were improved along the right-of-way on Downer Ave. and Scotland Street.

Projects: The Engineering Division is actively involved in projects throughout Town that are advanced through various committees or through Town Administration. In 2025, Engineering provided support to certain improvements at 30 Summer Street, support through completion of the Public Safety Facility, and supported projects at the South Shore Country Club, Central Fire Station, and South Fire Station. The division also provided engineering support for the Harbor Resiliency project and the Route 3A Sewer Main Replacement Project. Transportation-related projects include the annual paving program, Complete Streets Tier 2 Implementation, Route 3A Improvements, design work for the Main Street/Middle Street/Short Street intersection, Fountain Square (also known as Lincoln Street at North Street) traffic improvements, speed limit reductions on certain roads, and traffic calming and pedestrian safety

improvements throughout the town.

Key Initiatives/Current Projects: The following projects will continue through the following year: Route 3A Design & Safety Improvements, Inner Harbor Resiliency, 5-Year Road Reconstruction Plan, Complete Streets Project Implementation, Main Street/Middle Street/Short Street intersection Safety Improvements, Fountain Square 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 completed the permitting scope using grants awarded from Coastal Zone Management supporting the Harbor Resiliency project. Tasks involved are grant preparation, administration & reporting on awarded grants. Tasks include Hingham Harbor Waterfront Resiliency Project Salt Marsh Analysis, Compliance/Permitting, and Project Management. The Town was awarded \$249,000 as a Shared Streets Grant to complete Pedestrian accessibility improvements at Fountain Square and along North Street. The Town was awarded an equipment grant of seven (7) complete solar-powered rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) systems. These systems are being installed at the following locations: Arnold Road crossing Main Street, Haley Field crossing Main Street, the Short Street crossing at Main Street, Leavitt Street at 31/39 Leavitt Street, crossing Hull Street at Glastonbury Abbey, at Fountain Square crossing Lincoln Street, and at Planters Field Lane crossing Downer Avenue (Foster School). Because the grant covered the cost of RRFB equipment systems that had been budgeted for in FY26, the Town was able to purchase an additional RRFB system, which is in the process of being installed at Rosemary Lane (Hingham Middle School).

Committee Support: Engineering works with project proponents (citizens, committees and boards) to help facilitate their project goals. These include the Harbor Development Committee (HDC), Route 3A Task Force, Building Committees, Trustees of the Bathing Beach, and the Traffic Committee.

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.

Interdepartmental

The DPW and Transfer Station Department has been working under the direction of the DPW Superintendent, enabling both departments to operate more efficiently through shared manpower, equipment, and office staff. We will continue to uphold our commitment of providing necessary and essential services for the Town of Hingham.

We are committed to maintaining the Town of Hingham at its best, preserving and improving its historical character while keeping with the plans of the future. We continually strive to train our staff and ensure they work as safely and efficiently as possible.

On behalf of the residents of Hingham, I would like express my sincere gratitude and commend all the employees of the Department of Public Works who devoted countless long hours last winter 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 my office staff—Elizabeth Welch Office Manager; Susan Doran, Colleen Tivnan, and Sarah Gorman—for keeping the Public Works Department Office operating in an efficient and professional manner.

We would also like to extend special thanks and best wishes to members of our staff who have retired: Randy Sylvester, DPW Superintendent, after 20 years of dedicated service; Walter Carens, Trees & Parks Foreman, for 37 years of service; Michael McAuliffe, Maintenance Motor Equipment Repairman, for 32 years of service; Jeff Madden, Highway Mason, for 24 years of service; and John Madden, Trees & Parks Foreman, for 13 years of service. We are happy to welcome new employees, John Reynolds, Highway Heavy Equipment Operator; Luke Sullivan Highway Laborer; Lance Mortland, Assistant DPW Superintendent; Richard Moulton, Trees & Parks Heavy Equipment Operator; Michael Sheehan, Transfer Station Heavy Equipment Operator.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Broyer,
DPW Superintendent

JR Frey, Town Engineer



Sewer Commission & Sewer Department

The Hingham Sewer Commission consists of three elected members from the community serving three-year terms. The Commission oversees sewer department policies, annual and capital budgets, and reviews and sets rates. The Water and Sewer Superintendent manages the operations and maintenance of the sewer system in Hingham.

The Hingham Sewer Department provides service to approximately 2,500 residences and/or businesses in the North Sewer District and about 180 residences and/or businesses in the Weir River Sewer District. The Department inspects and maintains 14 wastewater-pumping stations, 33 miles of gravity sewer main, 1.5 miles of sewer force main, and 2.3 miles of low-pressure sewer main.

In 2025, the town hired Weston & Sampson Services (WSS), under a three-year contract, to perform pump station operations and maintenance. During the first year of the contract, WSS has performed very well maintaining the stations and responding to emergencies and customer requests. In addition, they completed a full assessment of each pump station, identifying prioritized repairs, future upgrades, and other station needs. This assessment is key to both short-term planning and the long-term planning of the sewer system.



Infiltration & Inflow Program (I&I):

This program involves investigating and inspecting the Town's sewer infrastructure for unwanted entry of storm water and other illegal discharges - such as sump pumps and roof drains - entering the collection system. Ratepayers pay for the disposal and treatment of this additional water, which in turn can overtax our system, cause failures, and in some instances overflows.

Our engineering consultant inspected Sub Area 2, which is the 10-inch cast-iron pipe along Kimball Beach Road and Bel Air Beach that feeds into the Bel-Air Pump Station. A total of 70 manholes were inspected, and approximately 8,640 linear feet of sewer lines were video-inspected. The report identified deficiencies, which are scheduled to be addressed in fiscal year 2027.

Capital Improvement Projects:

The Route 3A force-main replacement project was 90% complete in 2025, with remaining work at the Broad Cove Pump Station and final paving scheduled for completion in 2026.

Our consultant is also continuing design work on a new force main running from the Public Safety Complex to Stoddard's Neck, along with the specifications to reline the 18-inch gravity main on Route 3A, improving both flow and capacity. This work is expected to be put out to public bid in June 2026.

On behalf of the townspeople of Hingham, we would like express our sincere gratitude and commend all the employees of the Sewer Department, Department of Public Works, Engineering Department, and all those who support the sewer system. These individuals work long and continuous hours to operate and maintain the collection and pumping systems, ensuring the safe conveyance of sewerage. They are often called upon to work under adverse conditions, including weather-related and other emergencies.



Respectfully Submitted,

Clark Frazier, Chair
Joseph Fisher
Richard Eisen

Russell E Tierney, Water and Sewer Superintendent

Weir River Water System

VEOLIA continues to provide contract operation, maintenance, and billing services to the Weir River Water System (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 Town's 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, 3 surface water sources, including Accord Pond, 196 miles of water main, 2 booster pump stations, 2 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 WTF. Our sludge holding tanks, which are a critical part of the post-treatment process, underwent heavy cleaning and repairs to the Claritrac systems. This work allows us to move sludge more efficiently to the new centrifuges for processing and disposal. It also maximizes the amount of reclaimed water returned to the head of the plant to be re-treated and helps improve our zero-waste footprint.

Additionally, we completed our Cybersecurity Report to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) as required and received a high passing grade. This certification ensures that the WTF is protected from the potential of a cyber-attack.

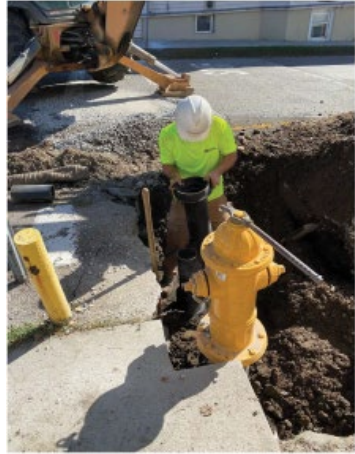
Construction began on the Accord Pond intake line replacement project. This new line will replace the failed existing pipe and allow the facility to draw water from the portion of the pond with the highest water quality for our customers. The project is expected to be completed in March 2026, and ready for the summer season.

All water sampling conducted at the Water Treatment Facility and throughout the distribution system remains within EPA and MassDEP guidelines. Our total PFAS6 levels continue to be well below the 20 µg/L limit established by MassDEP, with a four-year running average of 5.96 µg/L. We are working with our engineering consultant and conducting a plant capacity, PFAS treatment review, and raw water line improvement study to prepare for the new PFAS limits set by EPA and MassDEP. In

addition, we are working on our revised lead and copper rule plan to ensure full compliance with the regulations.

Distribution System Operations / Maintenance

We continued with the annual distribution system maintenance of fire hydrants and gate valves. Crews responded to 40 water main breaks, 46 service leaks, replaced 13 gate valves, and made other improvements throughout the system. We continued our hydrant replacement program and to date have repaired and/or replaced an additional 19 fire hydrants.



We revised our annual flushing program and in the fall of 2025 performed a unidirectional flushing in Hull and North Cohasset. This program utilizes the process of closing gate valves to redirect water flow, thereby increasing velocities in the water mains. This process has been proven to scour and clean water mains in a more effective manner than conventional flushing. Since implementing the program, the number of complaints during emergencies in the area have decreased significantly, which is an indication that we have scoured the main and removed settled particulates, which are the primary cause of discolored water events.

Capital Improvement Projects



Over the past year, we have continued working on the final design and bid specifications for the new 1.0 million gallon water storage tank on Strawberry Hill and booster pump station in Hingham. The addition of these two system components will improve water quality, flow, pressure, system redundancy and firefighting capabilities.

We completed the installation of a new 16-inch water main on Nantasket Ave. in Hull along the new seawall, which will improve flow through this area.

We will continue with the water main replacement program over the next several years. In 2026, we plan to replace 9,500 linear feet of aged water main on Summer St. and Otis St., from Rockland St. to Broad Cove Rd., as part of the Summer Street / Route 3A / Rotary rehabilitation project by MassDOT. We are also designing over 10,000 linear feet of water main to replace the undersized and aged water mains on Samoset Ave. and Manomet Ave. in Hull, which is planned for 2027/2028.

Interdepartmental

On behalf of the residents 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, the Engineering Department, and all those who support to the water system. These individuals work long and continuous hours to treat and distribute clean, safe drinking water and are frequently called upon to work under adverse conditions, including weather-related and other types of emergencies.

Respectfully Submitted,

Russell E Tierney, Water and Sewer Superintendent
Brian Pekkinen, Assistant Water Superintendent

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 employees of HMLP. In 2025, HMLP focused on critical infrastructure improvements and customer engagement. As a Public Power utility, HMLP remains committed to delivering local, reliable, and sustainable energy to Hingham ratepayers.

Safety, Reliability, & Resilience

HMLP continued to invest in infrastructure and operational improvements to ensure reliable service for all customers. In 2025, HMLP:

- Added an extension of the fiber network to support four new reclosers planned for early 2026, improving outage segmentation and minimizing customer impact.
- Replaced all of the insulators on the 115 kV lines from Weymouth to Hingham, fortifying transmission resilience.
- Reconductored power lines from Pleasant St to Union St, upgraded several neighborhoods with new poles, and continued tree-trimming initiatives for reliability.
- Addressed questions from the Electrical Facilities Siting Board (EFSB) related to the HMLP Reliability Project. The project will require a Town Meeting vote in 2026. Read more at heirp.com.

Community Initiatives, Rebates, & Outreach

HMLP strengthened its community outreach initiatives in 2025:

- In March, HMLP hosted an educational heat pump forum at the House of Prayer, where over 100 attendees listened to presentations by HMLP, State Representative Joan Meschino, the Hingham Climate Action Commission, Energy New England, Abode Energy, NextZero, and the Center for EcoTechnology.
- During the summer, HMLP conducted a customer survey with 465 responses. The survey emphasized high satisfaction ratings, growing awareness about HMLP, and interest in various energy programs.
- In October, HMLP hosted a successful Open House at its facility with over 150 attendees. The event included pumpkin painting, test drives for electric vehicles and bikes, touch-a-truck, fun lineworker activities inside the garage, face painting, induction stove demonstrations, plenty of food, and a variety of information booths.

In 2025, HMLP also refined its community programs to support affordable, accessible electricity for all ratepayers:

- Connected Homes, HMLP's demand response program, avoided \$154,221 in potential transmission costs. Customers enroll devices to earn credits for reducing energy use during peak demand periods.

- HMLP's public EV charging network hosted over 6,000 charging sessions and collected \$46,385 in revenue.
- In 2025, HMLP conducted 177 home energy assessments and provided 233 rebates related to energy efficiency and electrification. Learn more about HMLP's incentives and programming at www.hmlp.com/electrifyhingham.

Effective community programming would not be possible without our partners & volunteers. Thank you for supporting HMLP's initiatives in 2025.

Awards & Recognition

HMLP received noteworthy recognition in 2025 for its achievements:

- **APPA Public Power Customer Satisfaction Award:** HMLP was nationally recognized for the excellent customer satisfaction ratings highlighted in the 2025 Customer Survey.
- **NextZero Marketing Award:** HMLP's Connected Homes program has been a resounding success story among MLPs, with 123 customers and 188 devices enrolled in 2025.
- **NEPPA Carol A. Tracy Customer Service Award:** A dedicated member of HMLP's Customer Service Department, Christine White, received recognition for her dedication and service.

HMLP is also designated a Smart Energy Provider and Reliable Public Power Provider by the American Public Power Association until 2027.

Financials & Power Supply Portfolio

In early 2025, HMLP implemented the third and final phase of its rate increase, approved as part of a three-year plan to support rising operational costs and necessary infrastructure upgrades.

More than 200 ratepayers took advantage of HMLP's income-adjusted rate program in 2025, which provides a discount on the electric bill for qualified customers. If you struggle to pay your bill, please call 781-749-0134, email info@hmlp.com, or visit www.hmlp.com/assistance.

For the 2025 fiscal year, the Light Board voted to transfer a payment of \$471,485 to the Town of Hingham in lieu of taxes, helping to sustain vital community services.

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.

For the fourth consecutive year, the department's call volume exceeded 5,000 incidents. In 2025, we saw a slight increase in ambulance transports.

In 2025, the Hingham Fire Department responded to 5,598 emergency calls. Of those responses, 3,506 were medically related, and our ambulance transported 2,876 patients. Ambulance services generated \$2,195,103.33 in net revenue.

EMERGENCY RESPONSES – 2025

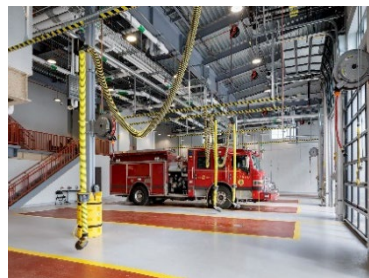
Fire	81
Overpressure/Explosion/Overheat	2
Emergency Medical Services	3,506
Hazardous Conditions	110
Service Calls	302
Good Intent Calls	484
Fire Alarm and Other Alarm Calls	595
Severe Weather	5
Special Incident	45
Other	468

Response Totals 2021 - 2025

2024	5,598
2023	5,379
2023	5,382
2022	5,372
2021	4,993

Total Responses

5,598



Fire Stations

In August 2025, the Hingham Fire Department officially moved into the new Public Safety Building, completing a project nearly ten years in the

making. This facility enhances operational readiness, improves coordination among public safety partners, and provides modern, safe working conditions for our personnel. We are grateful to the many Town officials, committee members, and residents whose support made this project possible.

With the relocation to the new facility, Station 2 (Torrent) was decommissioned.

Station 3 (Constitution), constructed in 1941, continues to operate with aging infrastructure. The building’s systems, including electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and structural components, are outdated and increasingly difficult to maintain. As operational demands continue to grow, this facility will require evaluation as part of the Town’s long-term capital planning efforts.

Fire Prevention

The Fire Prevention Division remained highly active in 2025, continuing its work in inspections, permitting, and participation in town committees. The Division issued 1,063 permits and conducted 1,910 inspections, generating \$36,275 in revenue.

FIRE INSPECTIONS - 2025

Smoke Detector and CO Detector	641
Plan Reviews	470
Certification of Occupancy	258
Chapter 304 Alcohol License Inspections	35
FP6 Permits (General, propane storage, cutting/welding.)	410
Blasting Permit	12
Nursery School Inspection	8
Elderly Boarding Care Inspection	20
School Fire Drills	40
Food Truck Inspections	16
Total Inspections	1,910

Personnel & Promotions

Two firefighters joined the department in 2025: Brandon Gaudet and Patrick Mannion. Firefighter Mannion completed the Massachusetts Fire Academy Recruit Training Program; Firefighter Gaudet is scheduled to attend in the upcoming cycle.

Jeff Saunders was promoted to Fire Marshal and now oversees the department’s fire prevention, code enforcement, and inspection programs.

Apparatus & Equipment

In 2025, the department placed a new fire engine into service — a 2025 E-One Cyclone II. This modern apparatus enhances reliability, operational capability, and firefighter safety. Replacing aging equipment is essential to maintaining response readiness and ensuring our personnel have dependable tools to protect lives and property.



Training & Professional Development

In 2025, the department strengthened its commitment to structured and consistent training by appointing two Training Officers: Lieutenant Dave Nickerson and Lieutenant Chris Melanson. Their leadership has brought renewed focus and organization to department-wide training efforts.

This year marked the beginning of a more formalized training program for all personnel, with an emphasis on mastering the fundamentals of firefighting and emergency medical response. The goal is to ensure that every member maintains a strong foundation in core operational skills.

Lieutenants Nickerson and Melanson used the former Station 2 facility to conduct hands-on drills and practical evolutions, enabling realistic training scenarios in a controlled environment.



Community Outreach & Public Education

The department continued its strong commitment to community risk reduction and public engagement in 2025 through a variety of educational and outreach initiatives.

Through the SAFE (Student Awareness of Fire Education) and Senior SAFE programs, firefighters conducted 10 SAFE events in Hingham schools, including programming at all public elementary schools. These age-appropriate lessons focused on fire prevention, home escape planning, and emergency preparedness.



Senior SAFE programs were also conducted at Penniman Hill and Lincoln School Apartments, providing fire and life safety education tailored to older residents.

To support these efforts, the department received \$5,696.70 through the SAFE Grant Program and \$2,391.90 through the Senior SAFE Grant Program. These programs remain an essential component of our proactive approach to preventing fires and reducing risk within the community.

In October, the department hosted an Open House at the new Public Safety Building — the first in several years. The event welcomed more than 300 families and children and was a tremendous success. Demonstrations included rope rescue operations, vehicle extrication, and fire extinguisher training. Children participated in interactive hands-on activities, including handling fire hoses that sprayed water onto small fire engine props — a huge crowd favorite.



Department members also participated in Hingham's Local Government Academy, offering residents a behind-the-scenes look at fire department operations. Demonstrations included forcible entry techniques, fire extinguisher use, and engine pump operations. Participants were introduced to EMS equipment and turnout gear, and some chose to ascend approximately 100 feet on the Quint platform—an experience that remains a highlight of the program.

These outreach efforts strengthen community partnerships, enhance public safety awareness, and reinforce the department's commitment to serving beyond emergency response.

In Memoriam

We respectfully acknowledge the passing of two retired firefighters. Richard Hatch and Chuck Bacon. Richard, who died on February 20, 2025, joined the Hingham Fire Department as a provisional firefighter on September 30, 1968, and was hired as a permanent firefighter on April 14, 1969. He was promoted to Lieutenant on March 3, 1988, and as a Provisional Fire Captain on December 2, 1998. He served the department for 32 years and retired on June 4, 2000.

Chuck, who died on July 10, 2025, was appointed as a sub call firefighter on January 1, 1977. He was then hired as a permanent firefighter on July 2, 1979. He was promoted to Assistant Mechanic on September 8, 1980, and again to Master Mechanic on October 22, 1997. He dedicated more than 35 years to the department before retiring on May 20, 2014. We honor both Richard and Chuck's memories and their contributions to the safety of our town.

Closing

I want to take this opportunity to thank and credit all our department members for their outstanding dedication and professionalism. The members of the Hingham Fire Department remain committed to delivering professional, responsive, and high-quality emergency services to our community. I thank our personnel, Town officials, and residents for their continued support. It is an honor and a privilege to lead such an exceptional team. I also thank the SelectBoard, the Town Administrator, the Assistant Town Administrators, all Town Departments, and various committees for their collaboration and support throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen A. Murphy
Fire Chief / Emergency Management Director

Hingham Police Department



As Chief of Police for the Town of Hingham, I am proud to present the 2025 annual report for the Hingham Police Department. This past year continued to be one of progress, professionalism, and steadfast dedication to serving and protecting the residents of Hingham.

Hingham Police Statistics – 2025

Court Statistics	
Arrests	102
Criminal Complaint Applications	147
Traffic Statistics	
Motor Vehicle Citations	3,380
Parking Tickets	165

Professional Development and Training

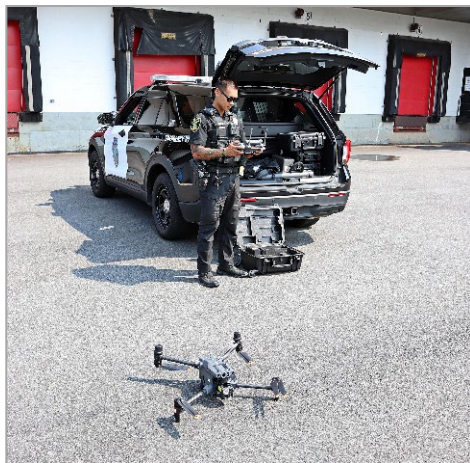
Throughout 2025, the Hingham Police Department continued to place a strong emphasis on professional development and ongoing training for all sworn and civilian personnel. Officers participated in a wide range of in-service and specialized training programs, including de-escalation techniques, crisis intervention, emergency medical response, use-of-force review, and updates to Massachusetts law. This continued investment in training ensures that our officers are well prepared to respond professionally, effectively, and compassionately to the complex situations they encounter while serving the community.



Technology, Equipment, and Operational Readiness

Maintaining a high level of operational readiness remained a priority throughout 2025. The department continued to evaluate and improve equipment, technology, and internal procedures to enhance officer safety and service delivery. Upgrades to communications systems, patrol equipment, and data management tools have improved efficiency, strengthened coordination, and supported timely responses to incidents.

These efforts ensure that the Hingham Police Department remains equipped to meet the evolving needs of the community. In addition, the department continues to utilize its drone unit as a valuable tool in modern policing. The drone unit enhances situational awareness during critical incidents, assists with search and rescue operations, supports traffic crash investigations, and provides aerial perspectives that improve officer safety and operational effectiveness. All drone operations are conducted in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and departmental policies.



Marine Operations and Harbormaster Division



The Harbormaster Division continues to operate as an integral part of the Hingham Police Department, providing comprehensive public safety services on the town's waterways. During the boating season, officers assigned to marine operations patrol Hingham's coastline and harbor, enforce maritime laws, respond to emergencies, and assist residents and visitors enjoying the water. This integrated approach ensures consistent enforcement, efficient response, and a high level of safety across both land and marine environments.

Strengthening Community Connections

Community engagement continues to be a cornerstone of our mission. Throughout 2025, the Hingham Police Department remained actively involved in programs designed to foster trust, transparency, and open communication with residents. Events such as **National Night Out**, the **Citizen's Police Academy**, and **Coffee with a Cop** provide valuable opportunities for meaningful interaction between officers and community

members. These initiatives strengthen relationships, encourage dialogue, and reinforce our shared commitment to community safety.

Our New Public Safety Facility

We remain deeply grateful to the residents of Hingham for their continued support of the new Public Safety Facility. This state-of-the-art building will provide our officers with modern resources, improved working conditions, and enhanced operational capabilities. The department successfully moved into the new Public Safety Facility in June 2025. This state-of-the-art building represents a significant investment in the future of public safety and the well-being of both our officers and the community we serve.



I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the dedicated members of the Hingham Police Department. Their professionalism, commitment, and service are evident every day, and it is an honor to lead such a capable and devoted team. I also extend my gratitude to the residents of Hingham for their continued trust and support.

As we look ahead, the Hingham Police Department remains committed to excellence, accountability, and community partnership. Together, we will continue working to ensure the safety, security, and quality of life in our town.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief David P. Jones
Hingham Police Department



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 designation of the 25 MPH speed limit for business districts and thickly settled roadways (with the exception of state highways) continued to be implemented. 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 are underway at the Lincoln Street and North Street intersection (Fountain Square area) to improve safety, add sidewalks, improve pedestrian access with

Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) signalized crossing, increase ADA accessibility, and provide additional green space.

The Traffic Committee made a recommendation to the Select Board that to install a roundabout (at the Main, Middle, and Short Street intersection after traffic studies and analysis conducted by Vanasse Associates to improve traffic flow, enhance pedestrian safety, and reduce the number of accidents.

The Traffic Committee continued to monitor the accident occurrences at the intersection of Main Street and Cushing Street. In 2025, based on available data, there were two accidents at this location. At the intersections of High, French and Ward, based on available data, there were 5 accidents (two at High/French and 3 at High/Ward).

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)
Ashley Broyer, Department of Public Works
JR Frey, Town of Hingham Engineering Dept.
Kevin Ellis, Representative for Planning Board
Mark Buonagurio
Christina Earle

Harbormaster

Calendar Year 2025 was a year of significant progress and professional advancement for the Hingham Harbormaster Division. Core statutory responsibilities were carried out consistently while the division strengthened staffing, expanded marine and aerial assets, enhanced port security capabilities, and advanced long-range harbor planning efforts. Notable achievements included the award of a major federal port security grant, expanded interagency training and response readiness, updated mooring regulations, and continued emphasis on environmental stewardship and public safety. Collectively, these efforts position the Town of Hingham to manage increasing maritime activity while maintaining a safe, secure, and well-regulated harbor.

Overview and Mission

The Hingham Harbormaster Division operates under the authority of M.G.L. c. 102 and applicable local bylaws and is administered through the Hingham Police Department. The mission of the Harbormaster is to ensure the safe, orderly, and lawful use of Hingham Harbor and its surrounding waterways; to protect public safety; to manage municipal maritime resources; and to steward the harbor for long-term community and environmental benefit.

Operational Enhancements

The Harbormaster's Office expanded its marine fleet with the addition of a 20-foot Highfield patrol vessel, bringing the total fleet to four vessels. This vessel significantly improved access to shallow water areas and our islands and expanded the division's operational flexibility for both routine patrols and emergency response.

2025 marked the second year of coordinated harbor security training patrols with the patrol division. While staffing constraints on land patrol limited the number of officers able to participate on the water during portions of the year, the program continues to provide valuable cross-training opportunities and remains a priority for expansion in the coming year.

Port Security and Emergency Preparedness

In 2025, the Town was awarded a \$990,000 Port Security Grant, representing a significant investment in maritime safety and homeland security capabilities. Grant-funded initiatives included:

- Acquisition of a high-speed, multi-mission port security and emergency response vessel
- Funding for backfill and overtime to support training and operations

- Completion of multiple NASBLA-certified training programs, including:
 - Tactical Operators Course
 - Stop and Pursuit
 - Boat Operator Anti-Terrorism Training
- Expansion of the Drone as First Responder (DFR) program
- Implementation of a UAS Detection System

These investments substantially enhance the Town's ability to respond to maritime emergencies, security threats, and large-scale public events.

Harbor Operations and Core Responsibilities

Throughout 2025, the Harbormaster Division continued to perform its essential duties, including:

- Harbor planning and management
- Mooring and dock management
- Enforcement of waterways rules and regulations
- Emergency search and rescue readiness
- Vessel assistance and marine incident response
- Pump-out services and environmental protection operations

These functions represent the ongoing statutory and operational role of the Harbormaster Division and are critical to maintaining a safe and navigable harbor.



Mooring Management and Regulatory Activity

Updated Mooring Regulations became effective on June 3, 2025. The Harbormaster continued to administer these regulations through permit

issuance and renewals, waiting list management, transient mooring assignments, inspections, and enforcement actions designed to maintain navigational safety and equitable access.

Mooring permit activity was managed through the DockWa system, which provided improved tracking and customer service metrics. During Calendar Year 2025, the system reflected 1,529 customers associated with 1,886 vessels, including transient boats. Approximately 90 percent of vessels were powerboats and 5 percent were sailboats. The average time to execute a mooring contract was 26 days, with 15 percent of customers completing contracts within 24 hours. Contract execution continued to shift toward digital platforms, with 57 percent completed online and 43 percent completed in person.

Public Safety Activity

Throughout 2025, the Harbormaster Division responded to a wide range of marine-related public safety incidents and calls for service, underscoring its role as a frontline public safety agency on the Town's waterways. Responses included vessel assists, water rescues, marine area checks, investigations of suspicious activity, disturbances, missing person cases, environmental and animal-related calls, and 911-initiated marine responses. The Division also regularly assisted other local, state, and federal agencies as circumstances required.

Beyond routine and emergency marine responses within Hingham Harbor, the Harbormaster Division coordinated with partner agencies to respond to a request from UMass Boston regarding a reported possible active shooter threat. Upon arrival o assessment with law enforcement partners, the incident was quickly investigated and downgraded, with no active threat identified. This response highlighted the division's readiness to integrate into complex, multi-agency public safety operations beyond routine harbor activity.

These responses reflect the Harbormaster Division's expanded role in public safety, emergency preparedness, and interagency coordination on both land-adjacent and maritime incidents.

Pump-Out and Environmental Services

Environmental protection remained a priority throughout 2025.

Calendar Year 2025 Pump-Out Statistics

- Pump-out operating hours: 247
- Boats serviced: 281
- Total gallons pumped: 5,111

These services directly support water quality protection and help ensure regulatory compliance within Hingham Harbor.

Drone Operations and Special Events

The Harbormaster Division placed two unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), or drones, into regular operational service for both routine harbor operations and emergency response. The drones were funded through the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's Municipal Oil Spill Prevention and Response (MOSPRA) Grant Program, a competitive grant that allowed the Town to enhance situational awareness, environmental monitoring, and public safety without increasing local operating budgets.

Throughout 2025, drones were integrated into daily operations and special events, including marine patrols, emergency preparedness activities, and environmental monitoring, including shorebird observation on Button Island.

Drones played a critical role during the July 2 waterfront drone show, when vessel traffic increased significantly, as boaters gathered in the inner harbor. UAS patrols over shallow waters surrounding Button Island enhanced safety, monitored vessel movement, and provided real-time situational assessment. Aerial imagery was also used to estimate crowd size, supporting public safety planning and post-event analysis. Based on time-stamped imagery, approximately 6,500 people were present at 8:30 p.m., increasing to about 7,500 people by 8:53 p.m. Actual attendance may have been slightly higher.

Community Engagement and Public Communication

The Harbormaster continued to engage with the boating community and general public through official communication channels and public meetings. Seasonal updates, safety reminders, and operational highlights were shared to keep stakeholders informed.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Corson
Harbormaster

Animal Control



The Town of Hingham has one full-time Animal Control Officer and one part-time Animal Inspector. Both positions require the response to animal-related emergencies and enforcement. Hingham is a diverse town when it comes to animals that call it home. The Animal Control officer is certified and trained to handle domestic/pet animals, barnyard/livestock, wildlife, and marine mammals. The Animal inspector is responsible for quarantines, barn/kennel inspections, and animal disease control. Both positions are responsible for enforcing all animal-related State and Town laws.

In 2025, Hingham Animal Control continued to answer the call for emergencies and other animal-related concerns such as noise complaints and loose dogs. In addition, Animal Control continued to patrol Bare Cove Park and monitor the off-leash dog program as well as coyote and other wildlife activity. The Animal Control Officer is also a certified police officer and assists the Police Department when needed on police-related calls.

In 2025, Animal Control began enforcing the new State of Massachusetts Ollie's Law, an Act to Increase Kennel Safety, and handle cases of suspected bird flu. The Animal Inspector performed annual barn, kennel, doggie daycare, and veterinarian offices inspections to ensure they meet safety protocols.

Animal Control Statistics – 2025

Calls for Service	493
Barn Inspections	15
Kennel Inspections	8
Loose dogs	34
Quarantines	19
Citations	10

Animal Control, with the help of town residents, started a pet food pantry for those in need. Animal Control also provides mutual aid to surrounding towns.

when an Animal Control Officer is not available for an emergency or for large-scale animal response help.

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

I look forward to continuing to serve and protect the Town of Hingham and animals in 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie A. Badger, Animal Control Officer

Hingham Affordable Housing Trust

The Hingham Affordable Housing Trust was created by Town Meeting in 2007. Hingham is one of more than 130 Massachusetts towns that have created a state-authorized affordable housing trust to work with state and local agencies to preserve existing housing for low and moderate income persons and create additional such opportunities. Increasing the stock of affordable housing benefits many constituencies and is a Town priority under the 2021 Town Master Plan.

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

Lincoln School Apartments (LSA) is a 60-unit senior affordable housing development that the Town purchased in 2008. Since then, the Trust has been the sole member of Lincoln Apartments LLC, which leases the property and oversees the Board of Managers of LSA. The Trust appoints two members to that Board. One of the Board's roles is to assess and address capital improvements. The Board and Town staff continue to review needed capital improvements and develop repair and preservation schedules.

Creating Housing

In 2025, the Trust added two new units – both one-bedroom units located in Beal's Cove Village – to the Town's Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI) and expects to add one additional unit in 2026. During 2025, the Trust completed a renovation on one condominium unit and purchased an additional unit, the Trust's first unit in Hingham Woods. Three single-family home projects are presently in the planning stages. The Trust continues to look to obtain additional properties to rehabilitate and sell to income-qualified buyers.

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 affordable housing efforts in Hingham.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Falvey, Chair
Pamela Bates, Vice Chair
Michael Sutton, Treasurer
Julie Strehle, Select Board Member / Trustee
Elizabeth Curran, Trustee
Brigid Ryan, Trustee
Cullen McGehee, 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, 2025.
2. Town of Hingham "GAO Internal Control Report" and "Uniform Guidance Report" for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025.
3. Town of Hingham "Governance Communication Letter" for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025
4. Town of Hingham "Contributory Retirement System Pension Plan Schedules for the Year Ended December 31, 2024"
5. Town of Hingham "Management Letter" for the year ended June 30, 2025, 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. A material weakness was received with respect to internal controls over financial reporting in the GAO Internal Control Report with respect to an inadvertent double posting of a distribution from the Commonwealth Community Preservation Trust Fund to the Town's Community Preservation Act fund. The issue is has been addressed by management.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Farrington, Chair
Judd Caplain
Jason Price, Secretary
John Slater
Jeff Long

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 both a wildlife preserve and a place for public recreation and education. The park is beautiful, safe, and full of life. In 2025, Bare Cove Park celebrated its 53rd year of operation as a Town of Hingham municipal park. The Town's website provides information about the Park, including its history, regulations, a printable map, dog permit application, and a contact email for the Bare Cove Park Committee.

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



In the spring, Bare Cove Park hosted regattas for Hingham High Crew, drawing large turnouts from area schools. Hingham Recreation also offered its fourth year of Parkland Adventure Program, where campers

rode their bikes through the park enjoying fresh air, exercise, and a visit to the Dock House Museum, which houses artifacts found within the park from its war history.

The park also hosts a variety of other events including road races and non-profit events, and serves as a resource for those completing community service hours.

Ranger Scott McMillan continues to maintain a serene environment for all park users, as well as for the park’s flora and fauna, while curating the Dock House Museum, which is open on alternating Sunday’s mid-day.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray O’Neill, Chair



Trustees of the Bathing Beach

The bath house/snack stand had a successful fifth 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 fourth year for yoga classes under the auspices of the Hingham Recreation Department.

In the latter half of 2025, we worked with Town Administrator Tom Mayo and staff to establish a community room rental procedure. We anticipate that this program will increase utilization of the space in 2026 and help repay the supplementary construction funding received from Town Meeting.



We continued to interface with the Harbor Development Committee to see the completion of the updated master plan for the Inner Harbor area, which will provide a road map for future improvements and programs to help maximize the utilization of this important Town asset. We also continued to work with the Route 3A Task Force and look forward to traffic-light improvements, and increased pedestrian and bike access coming about from the MA Highway Department (MHD) project for which construction is expected to start in 2027.

We would like to thank Town Engineer J.R. Frey for his assistance with our ongoing planning efforts and coordination of the 3A Project. We also extend our appreciation to DPW Superintendent Ashley Broyer and her staff for their continued efforts, including trash removal; managing sand; grading and shaping the beach for the 2025 season; maintaining the grass areas along Route 3A and in the Grove; and coordinating the geese control program.

We would also like to thank Town Clerk Carol Falvey and her staff for posting our meetings. Finally, we extend our appreciation to the Hingham Recreation Department—particularly Director Mark Thorell—for

overseeing lifeguard personnel this past year, as the beach continued to experience increased activity.



Respectfully submitted,

Alan Perrault, Chair

Edward Johnson, Clerk & Vice Chair

Adrienne Ramsey

Beautification Commission

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

The commission met once a month at the Town Hall to plan for our upcoming plantings and cleanups. There are eleven garden islands throughout Hingham and they are maintained by the HBC about every four weeks. The lack of rain was a hardship on these islands; the plantings struggled to look their best. A major weed problem (mugwort) has plagued the library islands and it seems impossible to eradicate.

Several container gardens in downtown Hingham are designed, decorated, and maintained throughout the various seasons by the HBC. From April through October, about 200 hours were spent this year by the commission in planting, decorating, and 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 gets under way. At the end of the season, they help us to clear out the island beds before winter.

We are fortunate to have a small group of extra volunteers who are willing to lend a helping hand.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Spaziani, Chair
Carolyn Aliski
Patricia Bray
Margaret Coleman
Patricia Collins
Henry Buckley



Center for Active Living

The Hingham Center for Active Living (HCAL) is dedicated to supporting the independence and ongoing personal development of Hingham residents aged 60 and older. We advocate for their needs and work to enhance the quality of their lives.

Facility and Operations

The HCAL operates a 5,000-square-foot senior center that offers a comprehensive variety of programs and services, including: Fitness and wellness classes (lymphatic drainage, reflexology, chair strength, balance, Barre, yoga, Pilates, Pound, and more); health clinics; lifelong learning and education programs; art classes; DIY crafts; special events; movies, discussion groups; information and referral services; card games; transportation assistance; social media classes; and volunteer opportunities.

The Center is open Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Tuesdays from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Our team includes one full-time Director, one full-time Administrative Assistant, one full-time Outreach Coordinator, one full-time Program Coordinator, one part-time Office Assistant, two part-time medical drivers, and one part-time grant-funded Transportation Coordinator.

The HCAL maintains its status of National Accreditation through the National Institute of Senior Centers, recognizing that the Center performs within the top 2% of all senior centers across the country.

Program Data

From January through December 2025, the Center hosted 177 individual programs offered 2,409 times. Participation grew from 1,190 active members in 2024 to 1,224 active members in 2025, including 61 residents from Linden Ponds. The Center welcomed 297 new participants during the year.

In partnership with Bridgewater University, the HCAL offers Senior College courses through the College of Continuing Studies. This partnership continues to thrive, with courses available both in person and online. The Center added several new programs in 2025, including six full-day trips. Fitness, education, and social programs remain the most popular offerings among our members.

Volunteers

The Hingham Center for Active Living depends on the dedication of volunteers who perform a wide variety of essential roles. They provide shuttle transportation, greet visitors and answer phones at the front desk, facilitate and assist with programs, prepare and serve meals, offer health insurance counseling, design the monthly newsletter and program flyers, serve on the Council on Aging and Building Committee, provide data entry and organization, deliver newsletters, and much more.

In 2025, 71 volunteers logged 4,734 hours of service. According to Independentsector.org, the value of volunteer time is \$42.00 per hour (including the cost of benefits). Our volunteers saved the Town of Hingham \$198,744, equivalent to the work of 2.6 full-time employees.

The 2024 Earl Dare Mable Volunteer of the Year award was presented to Jean Silverio. After retiring from a 35-year career as an educator with the



Jean Silverio & daughter Susan

Boston Public Schools, Jean joined the Center in 2014, where she helped establish a monthly book club and contributed to the Pen Pal Program. She joined the Council on Aging in 2019 and has since worked on numerous initiatives including the HCAL 50th anniversary celebration, rebranding efforts, outreach programs, and the Brand Ambassador program. In 2020, Jean was appointed to the Center for Active Building Committee. She also serves with the Clerk's Office and is a graduate of both the Hingham Citizens Police Academy and Hingham's Local Government Academy.

Partnerships and Collaboration

In 2025, the HCAL established strong partnerships with 75 local agencies and businesses, enriching our programs and expanding comprehensive support services for members.

Transportation Services

The Department 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 Thursday and is staffed by volunteers.

In 2025, several special trips were added to the schedule, including scenic tours of Hingham and South Shore towns such as Scituate, Humarock, and Plymouth, as well as visits to holiday light displays, C.N. Smith Farm, Gerard's Turkey Farm, Sugar Hill Dairy, Castle Island, Wellspring, Market Basket, Saver's, South Shore Plaza, Dollar Tree, Ocean State Job Lot, Walmart, and more.

The Department also provides free transportation to local medical appointments for Hingham senior residents. Appointments are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis, and providers may be located in surrounding towns.

Between January and December 2025, 177 seniors utilized transportation services. During this time, 32 residents received 224 rides to medical appointments, 95 individuals used the shuttle service, and 118 seniors received rides to the Center.

Outreach

The Outreach Coordinator provides information and referral services to Hingham residents seeking programs and aging services, including assistance with applications for subsidized programs such as SNAP and Fuel Assistance. In 2025, 279 individuals sought assistance from Outreach across a total of 634 meetings. Residents most commonly request this crucial one-on-one support for health insurance information, food insecurity concerns, and general information and referral services.

The Outreach Coordinator oversees placement for the Town Tax Work-Off Program, which offers 60 slots annually to eligible seniors. Participants work within various municipal departments to reduce their real estate tax liabilities. In 2025, 18 participants reduced their total real estate taxes by \$25,734.14. 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 in selecting health care coverage that best meets their unique medical and financial needs. Open enrollment takes place annually from October to December.

Grants

Beyond the Annual State Formula Grant (line item 9110-9002), the Department benefited from a \$2,000 grant partnership with South Shore Elder Services and South Shore Community Action Council. This funding enabled 11 seniors to receive transportation to 58 medical appointments they otherwise could not have accessed.

Community Outreach

The Department distributes 1,200 printed copies of its monthly newsletter and sends it out to 872 recipients. The newsletter is also available online at mycommunityonline.com/organization/hingham-center-for-active-living. Printed copies are delivered to senior housing developments, medical providers, and other high-traffic locations.

The Center also maintains a Facebook page with 749 followers to provide up-to-the-minute information on programs and services, as well as to promote social opportunities and events:

<https://www.facebook.com/HinghamCenterForActiveLiving>.

Council on Aging

The Council on Aging (COA) is an 11-seat advisory board whose members also serve on various committees to assist in achieving the mission and vision of the Center and the Department. Subcommittees comprise COA Board members, staff, volunteers, and 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, support the annual appeal for donations, and much more.

The COA reviewed, revised, and adopted a new strategic plan in September 2024, identifying five initiatives for the Department and COA to pursue over the next five years:

Increase Space: To acquire and utilize a larger building space that will provide accessibility for our aging members, increase membership, and expand programming to promote healthy, active living for our community members. The COA is working alongside the HCAL Building Committee and feasibility architects, advocating for the dynamic needs of older adults in the community.



Ambassadors Karen Johnson & Jean Silverio



HCAL Arts Walk: Pat LaLiberte, Sharon Hampton, Maureen Spillane

Outreach: To increase engagement between HCAL and the broader Hingham community—particularly residents in the 50–60 and 60+ age groups—the COA expanded marketing efforts, outreach, and partnerships with community organizations and municipal departments. The COA established a Marketing Subcommittee to oversee community engagement initiatives. Consisting of COA Board members and volunteer brand ambassadors, the committee maintained an informational table at the Farmers Market and the Arts Walk. The Department also participated in Hingham’s second annual Local Government Academy.

Transportation: To increase use of available transportation as well as provide expanded and targeted transportation when needed.

Programming: To increase the range and capacity of programs to ensure a wide variety of programming that will lead to increased participation.



Mrs. Bossom Ballous Botanical Art

Food Services: To enhance food services to encourage increased attendance and longer daily visits to HCAL.

The full strategic plan can be found on the HCAL website at <https://www.hingham-ma.gov/353/Center-for-Active-Living>.

Facility discussions remain at the forefront of COA Board meetings and among Center participants. According to the UMass Donahue Institute, in 2025 Hingham had 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 is expected to have 9,591 residents over age 60 (39.1% of the total population) and 12,465 over age 50 (50.9% of the total population). The Department's services are provided to caregivers as well as senior residents. The Center for Active Living and Council on Aging carefully consider the impact this growth will have on the Department, staff, programs, transportation, and facility capacity.

2025 Center for Active Living Membership

Number of total members: 12,747

Number of active members: 1,224

Registered email addresses: 872

Demographics (active members): 77.8% Female, 22% Male,

The Council on Aging would like to thank outgoing Board members David Alschuler and Joe Millburg for their many years of service and dedication to the COA, the HCAL, and the Town of Hingham.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Young, Center for Active Living Director

Council on Aging members:

Joe Nevins, Chair

Sara Smithson, Vice-Chair

Rory Earley

Ethel Franks

Megan Hansen

Karen Johnson

Cindy King

Leon Merion

Joshua Ross

Jean Silverio

Elaine Ward

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 oversee and report on the CAP's implementation, and will update the CAP pursuant to its terms as progress is made.

Overview of 2025 Activities

The period covered by this report reflects a year of significant progress, organizational development, and deepening engagement across municipal departments, community groups, and regional partners. HCAC's work centered on five major areas: adoption and implementation of the Municipal Opt-in Specialized Stretch Energy Code; advancement toward Climate Leaders Community designation; strengthening HCAC's organizational structure and alignment with Town governance; support for major municipal building projects and long-term decarbonization planning; and community engagement, education, and public outreach.

Specialized Code Adoption and Implementation

Following extensive review, public engagement, and collaboration with the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER), the Select Board, and the Advisory Committee, HCAC successfully advanced a warrant article for adoption of the Specialized Stretch Energy Code at the 2025 Annual Town Meeting. The article passed, positioning Hingham to ensure that new construction aligns with long-term climate and energy goals. Throughout the year, HCAC hosted a public engagement session with DOER, worked with HMLP and the Building Department to prepare educational materials, engaged with the Advisory Committee and Select Board, and coordinated with local builders and residents to clarify cost and compliance considerations.

Climate Leaders Community Program

HCAC made substantial progress toward meeting the Commonwealth's Climate Leaders Community criteria. Hingham currently satisfies several required elements, including adopting a Climate Action Plan, maintaining a Climate Action Commission, maintaining Green Community status in good standing, and adopting the Specialized Stretch Energy Code. Two major requirements remain: adoption of a Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) First Policy for municipal light-duty vehicles and development of a municipal decarbonization roadmap. Over the past year, HCAC met with DOER, began developing a municipal fleet inventory and charging infrastructure assessment, coordinated with HMLP on feasibility work, initiated planning for a decarbonization roadmap, and submitted a DOER Technical Assistance Grant application in November 2025.

Organizational Development and Reconstitution Proposal

Recognizing the overlapping missions of the Energy Action Committee (EAC) and HCAC, both committees collaborated on a proposal to dissolve the EAC and consolidate its responsibilities within an expanded HCAC. The proposal increases HCAC's voting membership to thirteen, adds new seats appointed by the Moderator and Select Board, converts several liaison seats into voting positions, and strengthens HCAC's capacity to staff working groups and meet its growing workload. The Commission voted unanimously to support the proposal and submitted warrant language for consideration at the 2026 Annual Town Meeting.

Municipal Buildings, Capital Projects, and Decarbonization Planning

HCAC deepened its involvement in major municipal building projects, recognizing that buildings represent the largest share of Hingham's emissions. Key activities included monitoring design progress for the Center for Active Living, supporting the Town's successful Green Communities grant for the Central Fire Station, collaborating with the School Department on the High School roof and HVAC project, supporting the rollout of electric school buses, monitoring the early design phase of the library's HVAC replacement, and assisting with consolidation of building condition data for long-term capital planning.

Community Engagement and Public Outreach

Public engagement remained a core component of HCAC's work. Highlights included the Heat Pump Forum in March 2025, the Specialized Code public session in April 2025, participation in HMLP's Public Power Week Open House, and support for HMLP's Power Hour podcast series.

Looking Ahead to 2026

HCAC enters 2026 with clear priorities: finalizing and adopting the ZEV First Policy; securing DOER technical assistance and beginning the decarbonization roadmap; advancing the reconstitution warrant article; deepening involvement in municipal building projects; supporting electric school bus deployment; continuing public engagement on electrification and climate action; preparing for the next greenhouse gas inventory update; and strengthening coordination with regional partners and state agencies. The Commission remains committed to transparent, data-driven, and community-centered climate action.

Closing

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 workings 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 and its liaisons Brenda Black and Brian Stack; Patricia Burke, the Hingham Sustainability Coordinator; Brianna Bennett, the HMLP Sustainability Coordinator; and the departments with whom 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

Doug Troyer, Conservation Commission Representative

TBD, Development & Industrial Commission Representative

Jo-An Heileman, Select Board Appointee

Matthew Curran, Moderator Appointee

Lisa Hennessey, Moderator Appointee

Non-Voting Members

Alyson Anderson, School Committee Representative

Thomas Morahan, Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant Representative

Patricia Burke, Sustainability Coordinator

Commission on Disabilities

The Hingham Select Board reactivated the Commission on Disabilities (COD) 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 (American Disabilities Act).



We are an active and engaged group that advocates for disabled residents.

- We recently welcomed new members the Commission: Secretary Amy Muldoon, Shannon Burke, Hingham's Veterans' Services Director, Jessica Foley and Emma Lee. We extend our sincere thanks to departing members Sharon Allen, Megan Baker, and Nicole Nihan for their dedicated service - especially Megan Baker, a founding member who previously served as Secretary.
- In October 2025, we partnered with the Scituate Commission on Disabilities for the Accessibility Awareness Event. This event connects the South Shore disabled community with local organizations and services, providing an important opportunity to engage directly with our constituents.

- In 2025, 3,500 linear feet of accessible pathways and ramps were added to Cronin Field, improving access for Hingham residents and other users with limited mobility. This project was funded by a \$250,000 grant from the Massachusetts Office on Disability, submitted by the Town and endorsed by the Commission.
- The Commission and friends of the Commission continued our annual tradition of participating in Hingham's Fourth of July parade.



- The Commission is currently evaluating several new accessibility tools to improve accessibility in Hingham public facilities, with targeted acquisition and implementation in 2026.

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 2026
 Shannon Burke, Veterans' Services Director, Member 2027
 Jessica Foley, Member 2026
 Emma Lee, Member 2026
 Jane McGrath, Treasurer 2028
 Amy Muldoon, Secretary 2027

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, 2025, includes local tax revenue of \$1,565,288, plus an annual distribution from the Commonwealth's Community Preservation Trust Fund (based on a formula) of \$264,363. Additional funds available are: \$580,970 held over from the CPA budget of FY25 and \$44,194 in funds unspent from the Administration Fund from the 2023 Town Meeting (FY24) for a total budget of \$2,454,815.

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 Annual 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 (with Recreation as a subcategory). The remaining 70% maybe spent on any one or more of these categories or for saving for a subsequent year.

The CPC reviewed six final applications and recommended the following projects to Annual Town Meeting 2025, all of which were approved. The CPC held a surplus of \$146,996 in general funds in reserve for use in FY27 or beyond.

Affordable Housing Category

- Hingham Affordable Housing Trust, \$700,000

Open Space/Recreation Category

- Hingham Recreation Commission, Pickleball design through construction phases of 12 pickleball courts (\$758,640).
- Lehner Conservation Property Acquisition Debt Payment (\$209,404).

Historic Preservation Category

- Hingham Historical Society, Old Ordinary Restoration (\$600,000).

Administrative Category

- A sum of \$40,000 to use for CPC operational and administrative expenses, including any legal costs, membership to the Community Preservation Coalition, and payment for administrative assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy MacDonald, Chair (Moderator Appointment)

Eryn Kelley, Vice Chair (Select Board Appointment)

Kirsten Moore (Moderator Appointment)

David Ellison (Select Board Appointment)

Phil Edmundson (Conservation Commission Appointment)

Elizabeth Dings (Historical Commission Appointment)

Ruth Bennett (Housing Authority Appointment)

Crystal Kelley (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.

We have been very pleased with the successful launch this past January of our new restaurant, the Ironwood Grille. Tina Conte, Executive Chef; Jessica McGuinness, Director of Events; and Danielle Barnes, General Manager, have completed their first season after providing a fresh makeover and elevating the already high standards to create a renewed and refreshing dining and function experience.

In addition, the Country Club Management Committee (CCMC) completed a major capital improvement to the Hingham Room (the upstairs function facility) by reconstructing the sagging exterior wall and replacing all exterior windows.

We are also delighted to announce that the litigation surrounding the town pool project has been resolved, and the CCMC has received new bids that are within the town's appropriated budget. We anticipate that a new contract will soon be awarded and hope to have the new pool in operation for the summer of 2027.

The Master Planning and Facility Assessment process was completed in 2024 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 continues to focus on facility improvements. Significant capital investments are planned this year, including the demolition of the existing pool and pro shop area, the relocation of the pro shop, and extensive electrical upgrades to the building.

New handicap-accessible entry doors are planned this year for the front entrance, along with a new doorway for the bowling alley.

The bowling alley continues to thrive with the addition of several new leagues, complementing daily bowling and party events. It remains a profitable operation each year.

The golf course continues to be the financial engine of the facility. Under the guidance of Executive Director Kevin Whalen, gross revenue has grown each of the past six years and now accounts for 85% of the annual facility revenue. In addition to approximately 30,000 rounds of golf played annually, there are over 800 people on the Permit Holder waiting list.



This past year, the golf course renovated the five bunkers on the 17th hole and rebuilt several tee boxes, with financial assistance from the Friends of the South Shore Country Club.

We are also very pleased to report that the SSCC was designated the 14th-best public golf course in the country by Golf Now, out of 7,500 public courses. The rating criteria included the following: value, course conditions, layout, pace of play, staff friendliness, off-course amenities, and overall rating.

The CCMC has also recently retained the services of Tylor Rae a renowned golf architect, to provide a Master Plan for future capital improvements to the golf course.

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 36 years, the SSCC continues to partner with local schools, the Recreation Department, and the renowned Special Needs Athletic Program (SNAP) to provide a variety of services and programming activities throughout the year.

Our three golf simulators, 10-lane bowling alley, and active restaurant, as well as the soon-to-be-built pool, help balance 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 the continued support of the Town.

Respectfully submitted

George Kay, Chair
Chris Griswold
Steven Stein
Sue Sullivan
Stephan White

Cultural Council

The Mass Cultural Council ("MCC") is an independent state agency that promotes excellence, education, diversity, and inclusion in the arts, humanities, and sciences. The MA State Legislature appropriates the agency's funds. Hingham participates in the Local Cultural Council (LCC) Program, a statewide network representing every city and town in the Commonwealth. Each LLC receives an annual allocation and awards grants that support local projects based on the community's cultural needs as determined by its council members. To learn more information, visit <https://massculturalcouncil.org/>.

In August, the governing body of the MCC approved the FY25 fiscal plan, which called for \$34 million for creative and cultural investment in the state, of which \$26.2 million will be allocated for grants. The LCC Program was allocated \$5.7 million for grants.¹ Hingham Cultural Council (HCC) received \$8,500.² In addition, \$275.00 were available from previously encumbered funds (i.e. funds that were awarded in past cycles, but due to various circumstances were not used, so are now being redistributed), giving the HCC a total budget of \$8,775 to award. The HCC convened a meeting on October 30, 2025, to vote on grant applications and decided how to dispense our available balance.

The Hingham Cultural Council approved \$8,775 in grants to support the arts, humanities, and sciences in our community. Twenty-four grants ranging from \$250–\$750 were awarded.

Performing Arts & Music

- *Lewis and Ferri Present "The Coffee House"*
Andrew Lewis – Parks
- *The Hingham Singers 2025–26 Season*
The Hingham Singers, Inc.
- *Holiday Concert – Mystery & Wonder*
The Broad Cove Chorale – Unicorn Singers, Inc.
- *Community Jam*
South Shore Conservatory of Music, Inc.

¹ Mass Cultural Council. (2024, August 19). *Mass Cultural Council Adopts \$34M Fiscal Year 2025 Spending Plan* [Press Release].
<https://massculturalcouncil.org/blog/mass-cultural-council-commits-26-2m-to-grants-in-fy26/>

² Mass Cultural Council. (2024). *Hingham Cultural Council*.
<https://massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/hingham/>

- *Candlelight Concerts*
Old Ship Candlelight Concerts
- *Interactive Music Concert for Young Children and Their Families*
Evan Haller
- *Boston Classical Guitar Society Community Series*
Boston Classical Guitar Society, Inc.

Theater, Storytelling & Media

- *Actress Sheryl Faye as Abigail Adams*
The James Library & Center for Arts Charitable Trust
- *Frozen, Jr.*
Spotlight Music and Theater Academy, Inc.
- *Fun Folktales from Japan*
Motoko Dworkin
- *Talking Information Center Live Radio Play and Broadcast for Blind and Low Vision Listeners*
Talking Information Center, Incorporated

Visual Arts, Education & Youth Programs

- *The Inspired I – Paid Youth Art Apprenticeships*
South Shore Art Center, Inc.
- *Materials and Costumes for SSC Dance Department*
South Shore Conservatory of Music, Inc.
- *Building the Future One Robot at a Time*
Notre Dame Academy School
- *Tanglewood Marionettes Presents The Fairy Circus*
Plymouth River Elementary School
- *49th Annual Festival of the Arts*
North River Arts Society, Inc.

History, Nature & Community Learning

- *Dead of Winter Arts Series*
The Hingham Cemetery Corporation
- *Plein Air Painting: Art in Nature*
South Shore YMCA
- *Eyes on Owls*
South Shore YMCA
- *WaterWatch Lecture Series*
North and South Rivers Watershed Association, Inc.
- *Conversation with Joshua Taylor: Freelance Photographer*
Rachelle Jeanty

Council Member Update

The Council currently has seven residents appointed by the Hingham Select Board. While state regulations require a minimum of five members to participate in the state-sponsored program, municipalities may have up to 22 members. Residents interested in joining are encouraged to inquire at Hingham Town Hall and fill out a Talent Bank application. Current members are also happy to speak to interested residents about volunteering.

Craig Hutchison was elected Chair; Mary Bell was re-elected Grants Coordinator; Kathleen Nugent was re-elected Secretary; and Patricia Coyle was elected Treasurer. Kate Doyle and Peter Schnorr fulfilled their responsibilities as active, voting members, and Kali Lennon joined the council. Many thanks to our members, past and present. Your contributions make a difference!

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 that can benefit Hingham residents.

The primary purpose of the Hingham Cultural Council is to ensure that Hingham's share of Mass Cultural Council funds is administered fairly and equitably for the benefit of the community. To learn more, visit the Hingham town website at <https://www.hingham-ma.gov/716/Cultural-Council> and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Hutchison (2028), Chair
Kathleen Nugent (2026), Secretary
Mary Bell (2027), Grants Coordinator
Patricia Coyle (2027), Treasurer
Kate Doyle (2027), Active Voting Member
Peter Schnorr (2028), Active Voting Member
Kali Lennon (2028), Active Voting Member

Development and Industrial Commission

Mission

The Hingham Development and Industrial Commission (HDIC) is organized, under MGL CH 40, Section 8A, for the promotion and development of Hingham's industrial resources. The HDIC's major roles include research, supporting projects expanding or strengthening the local economy, coordinating unofficial bodies, and communication related to attracting private investment and job creation.

The HDIC plays a key role in implementing Hingham's Master Plan, including evaluating and advancing HDIC roles. The HDIC will honor the town's character as it works to expand the town's tax base.

Roles & Example Projects

- Research
 - Assess local business conditions, identify barriers to new investment, identify emerging opportunities, and provide recommendations to the town
 - Identify potential development sites and obstacles to their development
 - Analyze, identify & communicate local economic development best practices (organization, staffing, marketing, etc.)
 - Support Town economic development research efforts, including the Economic Development Strategic Plan
- Projects expanding or strengthening the local economy
 - Maintain a listing of commercial properties available for redevelopment
 - Network with local business decision-makers and their advisors
 - Celebrate Hingham's businesses
 - Market Hingham's advantages to growing businesses, investors, and visitors
- Coordinating unofficial bodies
 - Establish and maintain relationships with non-governmental institutions and business groups (e.g., Hingham Downtown Association, Hingham Historical Society, Chambers of Commerce, industry associations, etc.)
 - Secure local and regional support for economic development opportunities, including grant opportunities
- Communicate
 - Research findings and positions on economic development and policy issues

- Impart the benefits of new private investment and an expanded, diversified, and stable commercial tax base to the town's future budgetary stability to local audiences
- Present status and findings to the Select Board bi-annually or more frequently as required
- Share research and findings with the Master Plan Implementation Committee

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin O'Brien (Chair)
Christopher Goode (Secretary)
David Bailey
Joseph Cusker
Michael Galvin
Jeff Bellows

Fourth of July Parade Committee

Parade Theme

The Parade Committee selected 'Building Brighter Futures' as the 2025 theme to recognize Hingham's significant community investments. With major milestones like the Foster School and Public Safety Building Facility projects, the Committee felt it was fitting to celebrate these achievements at the town's biggest event of the year.

Event Success & Attendance

The 2025 Hingham July 4th Parade was a resounding success, drawing an estimated 15,000 spectators from across the South Shore. The 1.5-hour event featured many participants including 10 bands (bagpipers, mariachi, brass), colorful floats, and antique vehicles. Safety, a top priority, was managed by the coordinated efforts of Hingham Police, Fire, DPW, and emergency service officials.

Fundraising Summary

The parade's annual organizing cost of approximately \$60,000 was fully funded by private and corporate donations. Funds were raised across three main pillars:

- 50 Flags Campaign: Grossed approximately \$34,000 from 385 town installations, netting nearly \$27,000 for the parade after a 20% contribution to volunteer youth groups.
- Parade Buttons: Generated approximately \$12,000 through sales at 16 local businesses and various town events.
- Corporate Donations: Raised a total of approximately \$15,000, with contributions ranging from \$250 to \$5,000. Fidelity Investments Hingham Investor Center was the top donor at the \$5,000 level, and A.W. Perry continued its decade-long support.



Honors & Highlights

- Grand Marshal: George Ford, honored for his extensive civic legacy,

including 17 years as the town's "Uncle Sam" and 18 years on the Parade Committee. He was educated at Holy Cross and Boston College Law School and served in the Navy. Additionally, Ford has provided extensive service to the town of Hingham including serving on town counsel, chairman of the Advisory Committee, and a member of the fourth of July parade committee since 2008, worked tirelessly for local nonprofits serving developmentally disabled citizens, with special mention to Road to Responsibility.



- Veteran of the Year: Bob Fournier, a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Air Force, and the Massachusetts Army National Guard, was honored in the parade. A Bronze Star recipient, Fournier was recognized as the Town of Hingham's 2024 Hank Maude "Service above Self" Veteran of the Year.



- Hinghamite of the Year: Joseph Fisher, former Select Board Chair and current Sewer Commissioner, was recognized for his decades of volunteerism in education, faith, and local government.
- Button Design Winner: As done in years' past, all of Hingham's 5th graders are invited to participate in a competition to create the design for the parade button, sales of which are a major fundraiser. The Parade Committee received hundreds of submissions from East School, Foster School, Plymouth River School, South School, as well as St. Paul's School.

Fifth-grader Mila McKinnies from South School, was chosen as the design winner in 2025. Her design captured the "Building Brighter Futures" theme very well. Mila captured this year's theme with a patriotic American flag with a sun behind it illuminating warmth and positivity with an outstretching of hands representing eager builders of the future.



- Float Awards: Local groups, teams, and organizers were represented by many floats. A special "Thank You" to the Murphy Family who helped out Jim (the parade committee co-chair) by serving as the Float Judges. There were four winners, for the following regular categories:
- - Best in Parade: HHS Crew - HHS Rowing Association
 - Most Patriotic: Hingham Youth Girls Hockey
 - Most Beautiful: Adelia the Wonderful Girl
 - Most Unique: St John's Episcopal Church - Haunted theme

Committee Transition

The 2025 event marked a significant leadership transition:

- Retirements: Longtime Chair Jim Murphy stepped down after 18 years of service (15 as chair), along with veteran members Mary Ellen Carlisle, Monica Conyngham, and Louis O'Dea.
- Leadership: Pat Kirk served as co-chair with Jim Murphy in 2025 and will assume the committee chair position in 2026.
- New Members: Matt Goulet and Steve Kiely joined the committee, which continues to seek new members.

Special Thank You

- Huge thanks go out to all the police, medical, safety staff, and DPW personnel, who keep our day safe and clean, starting with the road race at 7AM, and culminating with the parade at 10AM, and 15,000+ spectators.
- The Committee greatly appreciated the support and advice from the Town's Public Safety services, from Police Chief David Jones and Sgt. Kilroy, Fire Chief Steve Murphy, and Randy Sylvester of the DPW. Safety is the major focus of the Parade Committee and, after all the preparation for each parade, the Committee's major reward is the knowledge the Parade was both joyful and safe!
- Finally, we also thank **Jim Murphy** for his wonderful stewardship of the Hingham 4th of July Parade for nearly two decades. The parade is one of Hingham's biggest events of the year, and Jim has dedicated a great deal of his personal time over the years making sure it doesn't let anyone down. We hope to carry on Jim's great work as he goes off to parade committee retirement in 2026.



Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Kirk, Chair



Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall

In 1869, the Edwin Humphrey Post of the Grand Army of the Republic was organized in Hingham, named after a Hingham man who died on the first day of the battle of Gettysburg in July 1863. Col. Hawkes Fearing was the post's first Commander.

In 1888, Hingham's Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Memorial Hall was dedicated as a meeting place for Civil War veterans, part of a widespread and influential post-Civil War national fraternal organization.

Our Building

The building was designed by 22-year-old architect Henry Merritt, the son of a Hingham blacksmith, in a Neo-Gothic style. In addition to being a meeting place for veterans, the Hall has served many functions. In 1912, before Loring Hall began showing movies, the G.A.R. showed silent films. In the 1930s, Hingham's G.A.R. Post



was dissolved by its last two surviving members. Years later, the building was known as the Maj. Edward B. Cole American Legion Post 120, named for a Hingham resident who had served with distinction during the First World War.

Today's Hall

The hall is used by various organizations throughout the year to include American Legion Post 120, Veteran of Foreign Wars Post 6053, Hingham Militia, Hingham High School Veteran's Appreciation Club, and Disabled American Veterans. We now have permanent staff on site for open houses on the first and third Saturday's from 10am-2pm. These open houses are free to the public. We also had the honor to host one of the Local Government Academy sessions where residents get to hear what town departments do and how they can be of service to the residents. The members of the academy loved seeing all of the military history that the

G.A.R. Hall has on display to honor the service and sacrifice of our Hingham veterans.

In May 2025, the G.A.R. hosted the 16th annual Hingham High School Sophomore History Day. This event provides students with the opportunity to learn about the military history of Hingham veterans and the wars that the town took part in.

Tomorrow's Future

The G.A.R. Trustees remain committed to preserving and showcasing this historic Hingham landmark. They work diligently with Veteran Services, the Hingham Select Board, and the DPW to ensure the facility stays in good working order. The Veteran Services department also assisted in applying for Community Preservation Committee funds to replace the building's existing elevator.

The G.A.R. Trustees extend our sincere appreciation to the Town Hall Facilities Staff, under the direction of Jeff Pizzi, for their continued upkeep of the Hall and the Select Board for their budgeting support, which enables continuation of the mission of this unique historical facility.

Respectfully submitted by the G.A.R. Hall Trustees:

Scott McMillan, Chair
Robert Beal, Jr, Treasurer
Paul Koenen, Secretary

Veterans' Services Director, Shannon Burke
Frank Collins, Museum Curator

Harbor Development Committee

The Harbor Development Committee (HDC) is executing on bringing more events and activities to the harbor front as part of its 2024 Master Plan for Hingham harbor. The HDC, in conjunction with the Hingham Historical Society, hosted Hingham's first drone show as a replacement of the 4th of July fireworks, which are no longer tenable due to the residency of endangered Oyster Catcher birds during their July nesting season on Button Island. The drone show was made possible by a very generous donation from the Mike Reilly Classic, a foundation established to celebrate the legacy of Michael D. Reilly, a lifelong Hingham resident who had a thirst for life who passed away as a young adult in 2019, as well as the Hingham Lions. With highly energetic live music by Booty Vortex and a wide array of food trucks, the event was arguably the best-attended gathering the Hingham inner harbor has ever hosted. A post-show Hingham Police observation drone count estimated that approximately 7,500 people in attendance.

The event was even covered by the *New York Times* as an example of a sustainable alternative to fireworks. It brought the Town together to celebrate all that is great about Hingham and would not have been possible without the support and generosity of the Hingham Police Department and the Department of Public Works.



Master Plan for Hingham Harbor

The Master Plan specific to Hingham Harbor, complimentary to the Town's 2020 Master Plan, was completed in December 2024. It updates the previous Hingham Harbor Master Plan, which was created in 2007.

The HDC and Bathing Beach Trustees have worked closely with the Town Engineer and 50 other stakeholders to create a vision for a more welcoming inner harbor for our Town's citizens and visitors alike. The plan cites specific options for new hardscaping, landscaping, a potential new playground, programming, as well as rough estimates on costs, grant opportunities, and implementation prioritization. Some of the ideas like extending the harbor walk will be implemented as part of the Route 3A re-design; other ideas like a harbor playground, sculpture area, and hardscaping will take fundraising and Town warrant articles to implement. Many of these ideas will require significant funding.

In the short term, the Committee is focused several key initiatives: coordinating with the Route 3A Task Force on the redesign of Route 3A along the harbor; expanding transient docking and mooring opportunities to attract more boaters to Hingham; exploring the installation of a splash pad near the Bathing Beach House, in collaboration with the Hingham Recreation Department; and developing a sculpture garden on the former Mobil gas station property, which the Town acquired over a decade ago.

Town-Owned Wharf Repair, Restoration, and Reconstruction

Engineering and permitting work required to reconstruct Town Pier, Barnes Wharf, and the seawall near Veteran's Park is ongoing. The Town's wharves are planned to be raised above four feet each, to a uniform elevation of 11 feet, consistent with Veteran's Wharf.



Due to the delays in obtaining permitting and increased regulatory requirements, the estimated costs to rebuild the wharves have risen significantly since replacement planning began more than a decade ago. With the uncertainty of timing and availability of grant funding, we cannot

yet put an estimate on the cost to re-build the wharves. However, the project is expected to be substantial. In light of the Town's competing infrastructure needs and budget constraints, major reconstruction work is likely to be deferred until 2028 or 2029.

In preparation for the future reconstruction, the Town will begin preparatory work to meet resiliency requirements at the inner harbor using previously approved Town meeting funding. This includes raising the boat ramp parking lot, with permitting expected to occur in the next 12 months.

Shellfishing

For the first time in many decades, recreational shellfish harvesting is expected to receive conditional approval from the Department of Marine Fisheries in a designated intertidal area along the shoreline from HMC/Barnes Wharf to the tip of World's End, as early as late spring or early summer 2026. The Town will need to adopt regulations governing this activity, including licensing requirements; a draft of these regulations is currently in development.

This initial phase would allow the harvesting of naturally occurring shellfish, such as soft-shell clams and oysters. Key considerations include access to harvesting areas and procedures for inspecting and verifying harvested shellfish. A subsequent phase may involve development of an aquaculture plan, which would include seeding shellfish for cultivation purposes. Any expansion of shellfish cultivation would require additional approval from the Department of Marine Fisheries and would be contingent upon water quality testing, as well as consideration of navigation, visual impacts to abutters, and dock access.

Geese Management

Gaggles of Canadian geese have been a menace and health hazard to the enjoyment of the grassy areas around the inner harbor for years. One of our committee members led the effort to have his dog chase the geese on a daily basis, and we installed a coyote decoys to deter the geese. This worked very well, until three of the decoys were stolen and the impact diminished when geese were fed during the school vacation period. The Committee will continue its efforts, including educating the public not to feed the geese next summer.

30 Summer Street

Hingham's waterfront is less than six percent publicly accessible, and at the 2024 Town Meeting, voters approved the acquisition of one of the few remaining properties that provides the Town with an opportunity to expand public access to the waterfront. This acquisition will support

construction of a pedestrian walkway along the waterside of the property as part of the Route 3A redesign and will enable development of what voters requested: A center for maritime and recreation related activities. Details regarding the long-term use and operation of the building are still being worked out, with the possibility for short-term use as paid office space to support the Route 3A reconfiguration. In the meantime, deferred maintenance work has been completed, including the addition of a ramp to make the building wheel chair accessible.

The Harbor Development Committee would like to express its thanks and gratitude to Hingham's Town Engineer, J.R. Frey, Ashley Boyer, DPW Superintendent, and Sgt. Jeffrey Kilroy, Hingham Police Department, without whom none of this ongoing work and activities would have been possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Marco Boer, Chair
Amy Cowan, Vice Chair
Nick Amdur
Paul Gannon
Allison Koskina

William Reardon, Emeritus

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

Board of Health

The Hingham Board of Health (BOH) consists of three elected members from the community who serve three-year terms. The Board oversees a staff of seven employees including Susan Sarni, MPH, Executive Health Officer; Teresa Flynn, Public Health Nurse; Elizabeth Nee, Health Agent; Roberta Mahoney, Administrative Secretary; Robin Magner, Food Inspector; and a vacant position for a Social Worker.

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 two regional Social Workers and independent contractors for Title 5 plan review. 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's jurisdiction and broad responsibilities include such activities 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	34	Food Establishments	132
Animal Permits	12	Store Milk	95
Catering	7	Frozen Desserts	4
Residential Food Serv.	7	Mobile Food Service	24
Septage Haulers	19	Beach Testing	7
Rubbish Haulers	16	Septic Installers	41
Tanning Salons	1	Funeral Directors	2
Semi-Public Pools	11	Pool Construct. Permits	14
Manufactured Housing	1	Day Camps	16
Septic Permits	88	Variance Applications	35
Building Permits	1,236	Soil Evaluations	63
Tobacco Sales	17	Private Well Permits	1

The Board of Health also continued to permit new construction lots and expansion of use for septic variances. The Board also reviewed many septic system plans with variances to potable wells.

The Board of Health continued to work with our Tobacco Compliance Officer to ensure tobacco products were not sold to minors. Several establishments were cited for selling tobacco products to minors.

Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project checked 332 larval sites and treated over 1000 catch basins to prevent the emergence of Culex pipiens, a known mosquito vector in West Nile Virus transmission.

Public Health Nurse

The Public Health Nurse (PHN) has continued to monitor, assess and investigate all reportable diseases and works to prevent additional transmission. The PHN has also continued and expanded upon many community outreach programs such as "Ask a Nurse" monthly programs at the Center for Active Living, Hingham Public Library, 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. Skin screenings with the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Blum Van were offered to residents in conjunction with our Regional Public Health group. Residents were able to make appointments for drop-in for blood pressure checks and to discuss non-urgent medical concerns.

Communicable Disease Investigation

Babesiosis 4, Borrelia miyamotoi infection 2, Norovirus 16, Campylobacteriosis 8, Cryptosporidiosis 1 Hepatitis B 2, Hepatitis C 3, Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis 5, Influenza 237, Legionellosis 3, Lyme Disease 62, Novel Coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc.) 153, Pertussis 1, Salmonellosis 2, Shingelosis 3, Streptococcus pneumonia 1, Tuberculosis 1, Vibrio 1.

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 132 establishments twice a year; and most establishments received an additional re-inspection within 2-weeks of their unannounced inspection. The food inspector does inspections on Saturdays for events at Weir River Farm, Farmers Markets, and many celebrations throughout Hingham.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Eldredge M.D. Chair,
Rosemary Byrne, MSN, ANP-BC, ACHRN
Mark Lundin

Hingham Housing Authority

Welcome to the Hingham Housing Authority. Our main office is located at 30 Thaxter Street. It is the mission of the Hingham Housing Authority to provide and preserve affordable, safe and sanitary low- and moderate-income housing options for individuals and families, while also offering much-needed services to the residents with integrity and respect.

The Authority owns and manages numerous properties throughout Hingham, offering Hingham residents various affordable housing options. These options include:

- 78 elderly/disabled housing units at Thaxter Street.
- 6 units of congregate housing at Thaxter Street.
- 8 units of family housing at Thaxter Street.
- 1 single family home on Beal Street, which houses up to 16 individuals, with supportive services.
- 23 Housing Choice Vouchers and 5 project-based vouchers.

The Authority partners with local agencies and Father Bill's to administer five project-based Section 8 vouchers to homeless veterans. These vouchers provide subsidized assistance at property located on Fort Hill Street under a contract for a minimum of 20 years.

Under the leadership of Quincy Housing Authority's Executive Director, James Marathas, the Authority continues to thrive. The management agreement between Hingham Housing and Quincy Housing Authority has proven to be extremely beneficial to the residents and staff alike.

To ensure financial stability and contribute to the sustainability of affordable housing, in partnership with the Mass. Housing Partnership, the property at Beal Street has been awarded to Peabody Companies for development. This development will provide approximately 64 senior housing units on that parcel of land. With over 8,000 seniors on the public housing waitlist for Hingham alone, this is much needed housing.

In 2025, the Hingham Housing Authority was awarded a five-year grant to fund a Resident Services Coordinator (RSC) position, to be shared with Marshfield Housing Authority. The Resident Services Coordinator joined the Hingham team halfway through the year and has been a huge asset to the tenants. The RSC is an important resource for residents in need of services, contact with the outside community, and serves as a welcoming presence to bring the community together through events each month.

Projects at the Housing Authority include upgrade and repairs to the porches of the 667-2 development, roof replacement of several buildings both 667-1 and 667-2, emergency lighting upgrades with new signage. The Beal Street group home had the sprinkler back flow replaced.

The Housing Authority utilizes the statewide Common Housing Application for Massachusetts Public-Housing (CHAMP) Waiting List System. CHAMP was launched in 2019 and is a centralized waitlist. This system allows applicants for state-aided public housing to apply online through a single portal and submit an application to one or more housing authorities. Applicants can also keep their application information up to date on this website as it changes.

The Thaxter Park Tenants Association (TPTA) represents current residents and serves as a link between management and the residents. The TPTA meets regularly with residents and attends Housing Authority Board meetings to present noteworthy items and recommendations directly to the Board of Commissioners. This vital connection provides ongoing communication between the Quincy Housing Authority (QHA) board, staff and residents. The Tenants Association also has the unique responsibility of recommending a fellow tenant for appointment to the Board of Commissioners. The TPTA continues to actively involve the tenants in programs and community events.

It is the continual goal of the Hingham Housing Authority to work with other Hingham agencies and Town boards to bridge services and capital to preserve the valuable asset of affordable housing in Hingham. We extend our thanks to the Town of Hingham, the Police and Fire Departments, Department of Veterans Services, the Council on Aging, and the Health Department for the vital services they provide to our residents.

2026 promises to be another exciting year for Hingham Housing Authority, highlighted by a major heating/air conditioning project set to begin in mid-year, as well as and the painting of all common area hallways.

The Board of Commissioners are very grateful to the Director and staff for their hard work and commitment to the mission of providing residents with a healthy, safe and warm place to call home, especially the great maintenance team of Kevin Kazlauskas and Mike Regan.

Respectfully submitted,

James Marathas, Executive Director

Human Rights Commission

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Hingham Human Rights Commission (HHRC) 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 makes recommendations to the Select Board on programs and policies that help identify conscious and unconscious bias and prejudice. The Commission works to identify and reject discrimination including, but not limited to, race, color, ancestry, national origin, language, citizenship status, sex, sexuality, gender identity, disability, marital, family, military or veteran status, class, socio-economic status, age, ex-offender status, and religious or non-religious identities.

Membership (2025–2026)

The Commission is composed of appointed residents and representatives from Town boards, departments, and schools, bringing a diverse range of perspectives and expertise to its advisory work.

Stephen Leary, Chair
Tim Miller-Dempsey, Vice Chair
Kelly Peguero Alessi
David Alschuler
Michelle Ayer
Graeme Baker
Ruth Bennett

John Bradley
Nes Correnti
Stephanie Gertz
Lt. John Marquardt
Mike Tesler
Ardith Wieworka

Overview

The HHRC, established in 2022 as an advisory body to the Select Board, continued its work during 2025 to support the rights of all persons in Hingham and to promote equity, inclusion, and belonging across the Town. The Commission met regularly throughout the year and maintained strong partnerships with Town boards, departments, schools, community organizations, and regional human rights networks. Our efforts focused on education, community engagement, and collaboration across the community.

2025 Highlights and Accomplishments

Education and Community Programs:

In June 2025, the Commission collaborated with the Select Board and Town Administration to host a *Know Your Rights* program. The program,

cosponsored with the Hingham Unity Council (HUC) featured presentations by the Hingham Police Department and the Hingham Unity Council, and focused on residents' rights, public safety, and civic responsibility. Planning is underway to expand this work through a bystander and upstander initiative to further promote respectful and informed community action.

The Commission also participated in a presentation hosted by Indivisible Hingham Hull, which focused on fostering respectful public discourse, encouraging civic engagement, and addressing the importance of inclusion, dignity, and support for immigrant communities. The program emphasized the value of democratic participation, community connection, and creating space for dialogue across differences.

Community Partnerships and Events:

The HHRC continued its collaboration on the annual Menorah Lighting, working alongside the Hingham Downtown Association, Hingham Unity Council, Hingham Police Department, and Congregation Sha'aray Shalom. This event highlighted student involvement and community partnership and remains a meaningful symbol of inclusion in Hingham.

The HHRC also participated in the annual Juneteenth Freedom Day celebration, held at the Hingham Harbor Bandstand and organized by the South Shore Unity Council. The event brought together residents of all ages for music, performances, and historical reflection recognizing Juneteenth and its significance in American history, and remains an important opportunity for community connection and inclusion in Hingham.

The Commission strengthened its partnership with *The Hingham Anchor*, using the platform to share educational content and promote awareness of human rights issues.

Partnership with Hingham Public Schools:

The HHRC collaborated with Hingham Public Schools in response to incidents of bias that occurred on school property during FY25. As HPS will prepare to implement a bystander training initiative in spring 2026, the HHRC will sponsor a community-wide program in coordination with the schools. This initiative will include a partnership with the national organization Right To Be, virtual bystander intervention training, and an in-person follow-up discussion about how the Hingham community should respond to incidents on bias.

Health and Wellness Initiatives:

Commission members contributed to a Boston University-led health survey and supported the development of a Town-wide health resources list.

These efforts complemented ongoing collaboration with local health stakeholders and aligned with broader health equity goals.

Historical Awareness, Recognition, and Statements:

During Black History Month, work was featured at the Hingham Public Library, and the Select Board issued a proclamation recognizing the month. The Commission also remained attentive to national and local observances that reflect the diversity of Hingham’s residents.

The Commission engaged in extensive discussion regarding reported swastika incidents at Hingham High School and Hingham Middle School, expressing concern and underscoring the importance of education and vigilance in responding to acts of bias and hate.

Organizational Development:

In 2025, the Commission welcomed new members representing a range of perspectives and Town connections, including members who also serve as liaisons to the Affordable Housing Trust, Center for Active Living and representation from Hingham High School. The Commission also created an official logo to strengthen its identity and visibility.

The HHRC continued regular participation in monthly meetings with the Massachusetts Human Rights Coalition, allowing members to share best practices and remain informed about statewide initiatives and trends.

Looking Ahead

The Hingham Human Rights Commission remains committed to deepening partnerships, expanding educational opportunities, and supporting policies and programs that foster equity, inclusion, and belonging for all who live, work, and learn in Hingham. As the Commission enters the coming year, priorities include continued community education and ongoing collaboration with Town leadership and residents. The Commission values its role as a resource to the Select Board and other Town bodies and remains committed to providing guidance on human rights-related matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Leary, Chair
Tim Miller-Dempsey, Vice Chair

Long Range Waste Disposal & Recycling Committee (Cleaner, Greener Hingham)

During 2025, the members of the Cleaner Greener Hingham Committee focused on educating residents about the ways in which they can reduce their household waste, specifically through composting and recycling.

Throughout the year, committee members hosted public workshops and information sessions on composting. In February and April, committee members Janice McPhillips and Peter Swanson led workshops at the Hingham Public Library. The February workshop focused on winter composting methods, while the April session covered backyard composting and Bokashi composting. Both events were well attended, with participants leaving eager to apply their newly acquired knowledge. We look forward to continuing this partnership with the Hingham Public Library.

Committee members also volunteered at the community table at the Hingham Farmers Market in July and October, educating residents about obtaining and using subsidized compost bins provided by Hingham's Department of Public Works.

Committee members were also active in educating residents about proper waste disposal and recycling opportunities within Hingham. In June, we partnered with Wild Cohasset and the Hingham Public Library to educate residents on the proper disposal of invasive species. More than a dozen residents walked the neighborhoods surrounding the Hingham Public Library, learning how to identify and properly remove invasive plants, including garlic mustard and black swallow-wort. These plants should be bagged and disposed of with household trash, not composted.

In July, the Committee authored an article promoting the new HDPE ("frosted") plastic recycling program at the Transfer Station. Under this program, frosted plastics - such as milk containers - can be recycled separately, generating revenue for the Town.

In November, we published 15 recycling "tips," one per day, leading up to America Recycles Day.

Finally, the Committee remained active in supporting residents and other Town bodies. In March, Maria Zade and Peter Swanson partnered with the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant (HMLP) to help make its heat pump forum a near zero-waste event. Prior to the forum, we consulted with

HMLP on which beverages and utensils could most easily be recycled or composted in Hingham. During the event, we provided on-site composting for all food scraps. We look forward to partnering with other Town events that aspire to be zero-waste.

In May, we hosted the annual Cleaner Greener Hingham Day town-wide cleanup. Special thanks to the Department of Public Works for providing trash bags and to the Hingham Girl Scouts for their outstanding participation!

Respectfully submitted,

Janice McPhillips, co-chair
Mark Engel, co-chair
Maria Zade, secretary
Tony George
Peter Swanson
Michael Poling

Memorial Bell Tower Committee

The Hingham Memorial Bell Tower Band continues to enjoy weekly ringing sessions on Saturday mornings and ringing for special occasions for the Town. Care and tending to the bells is an ongoing process, and there is currently a request to have the belfry cleaned, the steelwork repainted, and a rotten sill within the tower repaired.

We were thrilled that, over the past year, our place in the community was celebrated in feature articles in both *Hingham Life* and *Greet* magazines. We are grateful that when asked, "What's unique about Hingham?" The Memorial Bell Tower is on that list.

The band has continued to advance our ringing techniques, with several members regularly joining more experienced ringers in Boston to refine their skills. In keeping with tradition, the bells were rung to mark the start of the 4th of July parade and on the evening of Christmas in the Square. As always, the Bell Tower band welcomes ringers from near and far. This year was no different, with visits from the NAGCR, ringers from the Church of the Advent in Boston, and Claybrooke Tower in England.



We are an open tower and welcome visitors of all ages on Saturday mornings to learn about the art of English change ringing.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Ryan

Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project

The Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project (PCMCP) are pleased to submit the following report of our activities during 2025.

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 13,217 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 2, 2025 and ended on September 19, 2025. The Project responded to 13,992 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 "Remote/Low Risk Level" for Eastern Equine Encephalitis. At the end of the season the following towns were still at "Remote/Low Risk Level": Cohasset, Duxbury, Kingston, Hingham, Hull, Marshfield, Marion, Mattapoisett, Pembroke, Plymouth, Rochester, Wareham, and Scituate. The following towns were at "Moderate Risk Level": Brockton, Abington, Rockland, Hanover, Norwell, West Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, Whitman, Hanson, Bridgewater, Halifax, Plympton, Lakeville, Middleboro, and Carver. There were no human or animal cases of EEE in Plymouth County.

West Nile Virus activity was widespread in Massachusetts. Statewide there were 9 human cases, none of them were in Plymouth County. All towns started the season at the "Low Risk Level" for West Nile Virus. However, later in the season the human risk was raised to moderate for all towns. As part of our West Nile Virus control strategy a total of 54,007 catch basins were treated with larvicide in member towns to prevent WNV

The Project participates in DPH's mosquito surveillance program. As part of that program we collected 81,992 mosquitoes and submitted 19,277 mosquitoes for testing. The mosquitoes were combined into 542 groups or pools. DPH also tested 17,344 mosquitoes from the district. In all there were 11 isolations of EEEV from mosquito samples. EEEV was found in Bridgewater, Halifax, Rockland and Norwell. There was a total of 51 WNV isolations from Abington, Bridgewater, Brockton, Cohasset, East Bridgewater, Hanover, Hull, Kingston, Lakeville, Marion, Marshfield, Middleborough, Pembroke, Plymouth, Rockland, Scituate, 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 2025 season we recycled 1,111 tires bringing us to a total of 19,315 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 332 larval sites were checked.

During the summer 1,246 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 1,864.53 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 September.

Water Management: During 2025 crews removed blockages, brush and other obstructions from 1,586 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, *Ae. vexans*, *Ae.cinereus*, and *Cx. Pipiens/restuans*.

Education and Outreach: Our Community Liaison, Erin Morrill, has given 45 presentations this year to various groups in the County. She has been reaching out to schools and daycares to update IPM plans in preparation for the upcoming mosquito season. In-person visits to local Boards of Health (BOH) are ongoing. Educational presentations are given throughout the year, so if your town is interested in setting up a presentation at summer camps, schools, fairs, libraries, or Councils on Aging 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. Please visit us at www.plymouthmosquito.org or call our office with any matters of concern.

Respectfully submitted,

Ross Rossetti
Superintendent



Hingham Public Library

Throughout 2025, the Hingham Public Library remained as busy as ever, serving as a well-used and well-loved community resource where people of all ages come to borrow materials and museum passes, attend programs and events, engage in life-long learning, view art exhibits, and use our spaces to work-from-home, meet friends, or sit quietly to read, study, or even work on a puzzle. During the past year, the Library continued to see strong increases in overall usage of our physical and digital collections, as well as attendance at our numerous and diverse educational and informational programs and fun events.

In the last fiscal year 2025, Library patrons borrowed an impressive total of 388,237 items including:



- 213,545 books
- 55,151 e-books
- 38,767 e-audiobooks
- 44,416 movies, music, and audiobooks
- 6,976 magazines
- 11,182 miscellaneous items such as:
puzzles, games, artwork, technology, gadgets and electronic devices

Bestseller Book Collection

Additionally, there were a total of 142,331 visitors to the Library throughout the year, and a total of 10,695 registered patrons who have recently used their library cards to borrow materials. In a Town of just over 24,000 residents, that's quite a remarkable number of active library patrons! Of these visitors, 2,558 people attended 577 Library programs, which are fully funded by the Library Board of Trustees through generous donations to our Annual Fundraising Drive. Our popular Summer Reading Program alone had about 400 children participate in the many events and activities that were offered, thanks to the hard work, creativity, and planning of Children's Librarians Totsie McGonagle and Katie Sullivan, and Teen Librarian Meghan McCusker!

Computer use and internet connection remains an invaluable service to the community when visiting the Library, and our patrons connected their devices to the Wi-Fi for internet access an amazing 142,484 times and

used the physical computers 5,096 times. Library databases, a collection of reliable research materials from articles, journals, and other publications were accessible online both from home and in the Library, and these continue to be a highly used and valuable resource. Other physical library materials were transferred between libraries in the region through the Inter-Library Loan service to help patrons get the titles and materials they want as quickly as possible, with 40,018 books, magazines, audiobooks, movies, music, and other items sent between libraries to help fill patron requests.

The Library is many things to many people, and we offer a wide variety of programs, events, and resources to the community including:

- Books, movies, and music, available in-Library and online
- Story hours for young children and book groups for all ages
- Author talks and educational events online and in person
- eBooks and audiobooks through the Libby App
- Concerts on Sunday afternoons
- Technology training, workshops and support
- Museum passes and art exhibits
- Online newspaper, magazine, and database subscriptions
- A variety of items to borrow, such as puzzles, games, artwork, and tech devices
- Home delivery service for the homebound
- Bookstore for used and almost new books



Families attending a Children's Event

Among the many events we offered at the Library in 2025, one of the highlights includes this year's annual Harold & Avis Goldstein Lecture Series, generously sponsored by The Harold & Avis Goldstein Trust. This special program featured Jane Kamensky, President of Monticello and the

Thomas Jefferson Foundation, who presented "The Art of Civic Friendship or, What Can We Learn from Jefferson and Adams?". This engaging and enlightening lecture was attended by over 300 people, and we thank Derby Academy for providing the venue at Larson Auditorium, and especially to Derby Academy staff members Emmy Garr, Director of Library Services, and Will Everett, Executive Operations Manager, for their support, planning, and logistical assistance. As always, we owe the deepest gratitude to Avis Goldstein, for her steadfast and continued support of the lecture series and all that we do at the Library.

Another fun and popular event that transformed the Library into a full-building two-day 18 hole mini-golf course was this year's fundraiser, Library Links. Library Links was held in April as a Friday night fundraiser with live music and lite-bites, followed by an all-day



free community event for people of all ages on Saturday. Thanks to Library Trustee Alyson Molloy Hussey for her tireless work on planning this successful event, and thanks to all the hole sponsors for their generous support!

2025 also saw the retirement of some long-serving Library Staff, including Library Technician and Volunteer Coordinator Ann Fickenwirth, who retired with over 10 years of service; Senior Library Technician Mary Ellen Miller, who retired with over 14 years of service; Building Maintenance Worker Rob Barretto, who retired with over 20 years of service; and Circulation Supervisor Mary Beth Keif, who retired with over 30 years of service. We are deeply grateful to have worked alongside them for these many years, we thank them for their years of hard-work, dedication, enthusiasm, teamwork, and service. They will be missed!

Once again, we also want to sincerely thank our many volunteers for giving their time and talents to the Library. In 2025, our team of volunteers gave 2,215 hours to the Library, shelving books, working in the bookstore, and delivering books to the homebound through our Home Delivery Service. Thanks especially to Adrienne Richardson and Marcia Sinclair for all their hard work and efforts running the bookstore and special book sale events year-round, to Jean McGeary for all her work organizing and managing the Home Delivery service, and to Jim Macedo for his self-

reading work that helps to keep shelved library materials readily findable and available for our patrons. We are grateful for all that our volunteers do the help make the Library such an amazing community resource.

The Hingham Public Library is such a special, valued, and well-loved place due to the efforts, talents and dedication of the members of the Board of Trustees and the Library Staff, who work tirelessly every day to offer exceptional customer service, helpful assistance, fun programs, educational events, and friendly services to everyone in the community. We are grateful for their commitment and hard work, each and every day.

Respectfully submitted,

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



Hingham Public Library Staff

Public Safety Facility Building Committee

During 2025, construction of the New Public Safety Facility Building Project (the "Project") proceeded to completion.

The Project called for the construction of a building that would jointly house a new Police Station, a new Fire Station, construction of a two level parking facility, public parking areas and various site improvements. The Project also included the purchase and installation of furnishings and equipment for the New Police Station and Fire Station.

The general contractor, Colantonio, Inc., substantially completed the construction of the Project in May 2025. The Police Department moved into the New Building in June 2025 and the Fire Department moved into the New Building in August 2025.

The Police and Fire Departments worked closely with the Town Purchasing Office, as well as the Designer, KBA, and the Owner's Project Manager, Liro-Hill, to identify and procure the furnishings and equipment necessary to make the facility operational. Their combined efforts resulted in the timely delivery and installation of new furnishings and equipment.

As part of the construction completion process, Colantonio, Inc. and its subcontractors developed detailed punch lists identifying the remaining items of work prior to the Town's final acceptance of the construction contract. In October 2025, the Town, with the assistance from KBA and Liro-Hill, determined that all punch list items had been completed. The Town also determined that the design contract with KBA, the Owner's Project Management contract with Liro-Hill, and numerous other contracts with vendors for furnishings and equipment for the Project, had been completed.

The Town made final payments to Colantonio, Inc., KBA, Liro-Hill, and the furnishings and equipment vendors for all work performed and materials provided for the Project.

Throughout the Project, Liro-Hill regularly provided the Town with detailed financial reports tracking all the costs that were budgeted and expended on the Project. That report was referred to as the Total Project Budget. The Town relied on these reports to inform decision-making during each phase of the Project. The final Total Project Budget shows that during 2020, 2021 and 2022, the Town authorized a total of \$50,965,380 to fund the Project. By December 2025, construction was complete, furnishings

and equipment had been installed, and the Project was fully operational. The Town spent \$50,954,877 to complete the Project, resulting in an approximate remaining balance of \$10,503 in the Total Project Budget.

Many Town departments contributed to the successful completion of the Project. They all performed their respective obligations in a professional and timely manner and their combined efforts were instrumental to the successful completion of the Project. The work of the Town Administrator, Town Engineer, and Town Counsel was especially helpful throughout the project.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert P. Garrity, Chair
Paul K. Healey, Vice Chair
Joseph Kelly,
Talbert Lauter
Bruce MacAloney
Donna Smallwood
Andy Touchette
Steven Murphy, Fire Chief (ex-officio)
David Jones, Police Chief (ex-officio)

Hingham Public Schools

School Enrollment

As of October 1, 2025, 3,593 students were enrolled in the Hingham Public Schools, including 72 preschool students, 1680 elementary students (K-5), 819 middle school students (Gr. 6-8), 1022 high school students (Gr. 9-12), and 5 special education students who participate in programming beyond grade 12 (SP). Demographic data indicate that 7.8% of students identified as low-income, 19.1% students with disabilities, and 0.8% English Language Learners (ELL).

HPS Staff

The staff of the Hingham Public Schools includes highly-qualified educators, skilled administrators, and dedicated support professionals who are committed to the success of every student. All HPS educators and administrators are licensed by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and greater than 97% of HPS educators have more than three years of teaching experience in a public school setting.



New Foster School

The 2025-2026 school year will mark the first full year of occupancy of the new Foster School building, which officially opened for students in January 2025. In Fall 2025, the Integrated Pre-K program transitioned from the previous location of East School to Foster School, which was purposefully designed to accommodate specialized programming and special education services. All PreK-5 students at Foster enjoy the grade level "neighborhood" design of the building with common spaces for each grade, and specialist spaces for art, music, library, gym, computer science and nature studies. The broader community has also enjoyed use of the Foster facilities for youth sports and other community activities.



The HHS Dock

A highlight of the 2025-2026 school year included the opening of the new HHS Wellness Center, known as “The Dock”. This space has provided a significant upgrade of facilities for all students. Classes, student groups and athletics teams have enjoyed use of the space for fitness and other community wellness activities. Many thanks to the Hingham Sports Partnership and a number of private donors for their generosity and philanthropy in fully funding this project.



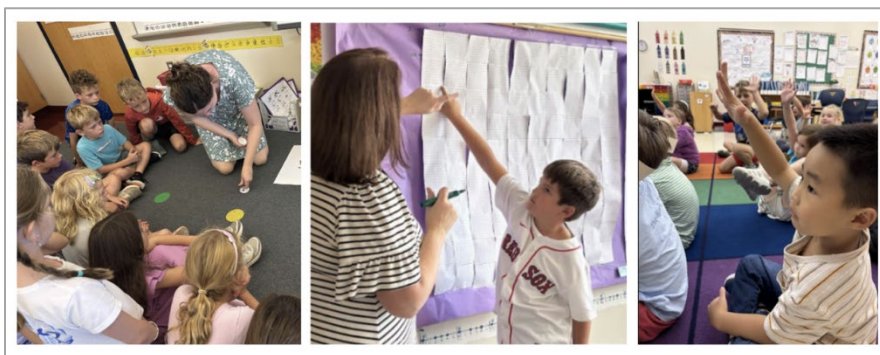
Elementary Schools

Our four elementary schools (East, Foster, Plymouth River, and South) serve and support 1680+ students and share a vibrant culture of collaboration, inclusivity, and community engagement. At each school, dedicated educators, support personnel, and administrators have been working diligently to foster student growth and success. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) have been a cornerstone of this shared effort, allowing teachers to collaborate, analyze student achievement data, and refine their practices. The elementary schools have also been collaborating on instructional initiatives including the pilot of a new math program, *Bridges*, and a year-long professional development theme focused on social-emotional learning. In addition, a district-wide commitment to sustaining Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) and associated scheduling further reflect this dedication to meeting both academic and social-emotional needs. Each school has also embraced inclusive pedagogy, including Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles and tiered interventions to meet the diverse needs of students, ensuring that every child, regardless of ability or background, receives the support they need to thrive.



Dedicated support personnel and Special Education staff at each elementary school ensure that all students, regardless of need, have access to learning in a way that feels supported and celebrates growth. Specialized Special Education programs such as RISE (*Reaching Independence Through Structured Education*), LAHB (*Language Academic Home Base*), and CLC (*Comprehensive Learning Center*) support students with our highest level of need, including language-based learning disabilities, complex neurological disorders, and intensive behavioral and communication needs including applied behavior analysis. These specialized programs highlight a deep commitment to providing tailored opportunities for all students.

Outside the classroom, strong partnerships with Parent-Teacher Organizations (PTOs) enrich each school's environment. The PTOs have played a vital role in bringing learning to life through enriching activities, funding field trips, and supporting community service initiatives. From South's Buzz Assemblies celebrating kindness and community to Plymouth River's community connections through visits to senior centers and collaboration with local resource officers, every event reinforces the shared values of kindness, responsibility, and lifelong learning. Foster Plus and East Explorer programming encourage hands-on exploration and creativity. Collectively, these schools embody the spirit of community, where students are nurtured not only academically but also socially and emotionally, preparing them to become thoughtful, responsible citizens. With a forward-thinking vision and a foundation of strong community involvement, these schools continue to inspire and empower their students for the future.



Hingham Middle School

The overarching themes for 2025-2026 at Hingham Middle School continue to center on community and connection, with efforts being made on all fronts to help our students and families feel that HMS is where everyone is welcome and belongs. Hingham Middle School continues to use a teaming approach to best support the academic and social emotional development of students. Each academic team consists of a math, science, social studies, and English teacher, along with a dedicated special educator. Each grade level also has an assigned school counselor to support students through each phase of their HMS journey. This organizational approach has worked well in building a sense of community and connection between students and teachers, and allows our faculty to better support the social-emotional needs of all students through strengthened communication and collaboration among the adults. With common planning and meeting time for teachers, faculty are able to work together meeting the needs of all learners

This year, Hingham Middle School continued its *One Book, One School* program, hosting an "all school" read of *Song for a Whale* by Lynn Kelly. To celebrate the community read, students participated in a variety of activities including a virtual presentation by author Lynn Kelly, an in-person presentation and interactive exhibits by scientists from the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, and a special gymnasium visit by "Salt," a life size inflatable whale to build friendships and community while enjoying some friendly competition.

Finally, HMS continues to offer students a wide variety of clubs and activities after school to give all students a reason to stay beyond the 2:00 bell. With opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular offerings in the arts, student government, service, athletics, world language and various adventures, there is something for everyone at Hingham Middle School.



Hingham High School

At the annual graduation ceremony on June 7, 2025, 259 students graduated from Hingham High School. Of these graduates, a total of 92.66% of graduates planned to attend four-year colleges in 32 different states and three foreign countries (Canada, France, UK); 3.48% planned to attend specialized or two-year institutions; 1.16% planned to participate in post-graduate programs; 1.16% planned to take a gap year; and 1.16% planned to begin full-time employment.

One highlight of 2025 included the recognition of Hingham Unified Athletics as a Special Olympics Unified Champion School. Coaches attended the 2025 Unified Champions School Conference where the HPS team led a panel discussion titled, *Integrating Unified Champion Schools into School Culture*. In December, a banner raising ceremony was held at

a basketball game where an Executive Director from Special Olympics made the recognition.



HHS continues to develop and expand interest-based pathway programs, including the Global Citizens Program, Arts Pathway, Technology and Engineering Pathway, and a new Business Pathway that is under development. Each of the pathways are designed for students to build community around shared interests and allow students to integrate their coursework and extracurricular activities with career exploration. Hingham High also continues to develop and expand dual-enrollment offerings, allowing students to pursue college credit while taking Hingham High school classes. These dual enrollment offerings, which are offered in addition to robust Advanced Placement (AP) offerings, include courses in science, mathematics, world language, social studies and business.



Hingham High School's extracurricular activities enjoyed continued success. One extracurricular initiative of note at HHS included the reimagining of the Hingham Service Club, which hosted a variety of projects including community drives and fundraisers for organizations such as Cancer Kids First, as well as off-site community service events at the Hingham Food Pantry, local animal shelter and Hingham Center for Active

Living. As has been our tradition, HHS senior class also participates in a Senior Day of Service in April, engaging in projects across our community.

All of the above offerings center the priorities of the Hingham Portrait of a Learner initiative, which emphasizes skills such as creative problem solving, effective communication, responsible citizenship, mindful habits, and skillful collaboration.



Expansion of Thinking Classrooms in Gr. 6-12 Mathematics

HPS continues to be grateful for the generosity of the Hingham Education Foundation (HEF) in reimagining mathematics classrooms to promote collaboration and student-centered problem solving. HEF transformed each of our secondary mathematics classrooms in Grades 6-12 to include flexible seating and whiteboard space to promote student dialogue and engagement.



Fine Arts

The Fine Arts Department experienced continued successes this year. Funding was approved and construction is currently underway for a significant high school auditorium renovation to bring lighting and sound

equipment up to modern standards. Work is currently on-track to be completed in March 2026.

Interest and enrollment in the KIA Strings program continues to trend upward. The program has grown from 47 students in its first year of implementation in 2023-2024 to 77 enrolled students with a waitlist of 11 in 2025-2026. We hope to increase staffing next year to allow for continued program growth.

The Fine Arts Program is in its third year of implementation of the Arts Pathway Program, which seeks to connect students across arts disciplines, build a positive arts community, and offer more support for college/career readiness and exposure to professional opportunities in the arts. Currently, sixty HHS students are participating in the certificate track of the program to earn arts recognition on their transcript.

To build connections between elementary and middle school, elementary schools brought 5th grade students up to Hingham Middle School during the school day to view the 6th grade band concert and will also be bringing all 4th grade students up to view the HMS Musical in April.



Athletics

Hingham High School Athletics continued its strong tradition of excellence in 2025, highlighted by eight Patriot League Championships and numerous accomplishments across programs. Most notably, 85% of HHS students participated in at least one of the three athletic seasons—an achievement that reflects our commitment to broad, inclusive engagement.

Additional honors included being named a National Unified Champion School by the Special Olympics, recognizing our efforts to create meaningful opportunities for students with disabilities. In competition, our

girls' crew team and combined boys' and girls' crew program captured state titles in the fall season.

Beyond competitive success, our student-athletes demonstrated an exceptional commitment to service and community impact. Athletics teams engaged in a number of fundraisers and drives and our HHS captain's class provides leadership opportunities for students to further their leadership skills.

This fall, the resurfacing of our multipurpose turf field significantly enhanced the quality and safety of the student-athlete experience. We are grateful for the continued support of our community partners, including the Hingham Sports Partnership and our dedicated booster groups.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to a community that prioritizes educational athletics and provides the resources necessary for our programs to thrive. Finally, we thank the Hingham Recreation Commission for its ongoing partnership in maintaining high-quality playing fields for our athletes.



METCO Program:

Under the direction of the HPS METCO Director Amy Jackson, HPS continues to be a thriving METCO district. The current enrollment for the Hingham METCO program is 46 students, including 25 in the elementary grades, 7 at the middle school, and 14 at the high school. The number of students at each elementary school is as follows:

- East - 6
- Foster - 8
- Plymouth River - 4
- South - 7

Ms. Jackson continues to lead robust programming to support METCO students and families and collaborates with the Central Office and broader leadership team to offer professional development designed to strengthen the district's equitable and inclusive practices. Student and family programming have included student leadership opportunities, parent

support groups, summer enrichment opportunities, participation in METCO advocacy day, and college planning support. The district is also grateful for the support of Darren Martinez who was brought on board as the METCO Advisor currently working in each elementary and middle school. The advisor works in the classrooms alongside their teachers, with each METCO student providing academic and social-emotional support. The METCO relationship continues to enrich the entire community for the mutual benefit of all students.



Student Services

The Hingham Public Schools' Office of Student Services (OSS) oversees the compliant implementation and monitoring of the state and federal laws that protect the educational and civil rights of all students with disabilities and their families. The Hingham OSS is responsible for the education of students who reside in foster care, students of military families, homeless students, homeschooled students, Hingham out of district students, and those students with complex medical needs that require their educational and related services to be delivered in their home.

The following areas of responsibility also come under the Hingham OSS: Section 504 Accommodations, Related Services (health services, speech, occupational and physical therapies, vision, counseling, applied behavior analysis and assistive technology), Title IX, Extended School Year (ESY) services, and the writing and maintenance reporting for federal and state disability and METCO grants. The OSS is also responsible for the Integrated IDEA Equitable Share processes, Integrated Preschool, Child Find and IEP processes of all students suspected to have a disability who either reside in Hingham, attend a private school located in or out of Hingham and all student referrals from Early Intervention Services.

This year, the OSS focused on the building of community through the development of trusting, collaborative partnerships among educators, families, and other educational stakeholders to meet the individual needs of our students with disabilities. Examples of the department's progress in this area can be measured through the twice monthly collaborations with the Hingham Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) officers to better understand parent/guardian concerns, the coordination, development and delivery of parent/guardian workshops to date such as Special Education and the Law, Understanding Specialized Assessments in Reading, Writing and Mathematics, and Building Students' Executive Functioning Skills. Members of SEPAC have also joined meetings of the Educational Programming Subcommittee and the voluntary Dyslexia Working Group which held its initial meeting in February of 2026. Members of the Hingham Public Schools Office of Student Services (OSS) are committed to building community to transparently promote meaningful engagement and partnerships with students and their families in the education and IEP and 504 processes for all students with disabilities. Building community is best described as the bringing together of a diverse group of individuals from the local area, all of whom are interested in learning about new ways to improve education through the building of trusting, caring, and respectful citizenship towards their own and others' learning (Hall & Panarese, 2016).

Hingham Public Schools offers several specialized learning programs for students with disabilities that embed external partnerships with outside agencies such as Landmark, New England Center for Children and Leftside Strong. Professional development for professional staff included all the MADESE compliance training, early literacy/language progress monitoring, coaching to support students with Autism and coaching support for students who have been identified with a specific learning disability.

The Hingham Integrated Preschool, with their new director, has expanded their collaboration and partnership with the Kids in Action Program (KIA). This year, the Integrated Preschool and KIA partnered together to present Hingham preschool information sessions to parents/guardians and worked closely to align the learning content of the programs. Members of KIA have participated in the Leftside Strong professional development and are in the process of implementing the language screener, interventions and progress monitoring into their program.

Other educator professional development included two different trainings in the newly purchased Feifer Assessments (FAR, FAM, FAW), Goalbook, Blume Modules, IEP and 504 Collaborative Teams Book Study, IEP Timelines, Transition processes, and the 2025-2026 Massachusetts

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Tiered Focus Monitoring/CHAMPS processes. Hingham paraeducators also received multiple professional development workshops focusing on small group student interventions, data gathering and analysis processes and the completion of several of the new DESE paraeducator modules. Weekly individual and monthly whole group meetings with school and out of district-based team chairs, counselors, teachers and administrators support the mission and vision of the OSS. Weekly meetings with all OSS administrators and a monthly OSS newsletter serve to keep educators and the OSS executive director informed of any needs for intervention, collaborative problem-solving or other student-focused school-based support.

The OSS continues to support several specialized small classrooms at the elementary and middle school levels that include RISE, Language-Based and CLC programs. The High School programs include the RISE, CLC and Transition programs.

During the 2025-2026 school year, the Student Services department once again explored the potential to add highly specialized programming internally to meet the individual needs of students who would otherwise attend an out of district school. Through the addition of an additional staff role of a Hingham Public Schools Behavior Technician (BT) and contracted BCBAs, several students have been successful in their learning and remained in their local schools in the least restrictive environment.

Human Resources

The School Human Resource Department is responsible for activities that span a wide variety of core functions linked by a concern for the well-being of the employees. Functions include the development, and maintenance of policies and programs that ensure successful management of the employee life cycle, employee relations, labor relations, compensation and benefits, labor law compliance requirements, and mandatory training and compliance. The Department works to develop and maintain human resource and risk management services in an effort to maintain a safe, collaborative, and positive work environment for all employees.

The School Human Resource Department strives to be a proactive change agent by being a contributor, partner, and advisor for employees and leaders throughout the District. The goals of the department this year have included the continuation of strengthening of hiring procedures and practices, relationship building, and strengthening the partnership between human resources and payroll. This work includes the rollout of an applicant tracking system, collaboration with the payroll office in the development of structures and procedures, establishment of timelines,

updating HR forms and documents for districtwide alignment, training operations managers, quarterly meetings with Administrative Assistants.

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.

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 routers, switches, firewalls, servers, wireless access points, a wireless mobility controller, and a Scale Computing HC3 array. 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 FY25:

- Implementation of technologies to incorporated into the new Foster Elementary School
- Installed and configured Viewsonic Viewboards in all instructional spaces in Plymouth River Elementary School
- Improved the help desk support system to enhance operational efficiency relative to our response to technology support requests District-wide
- Updated Plymouth River School's wireless access points
- 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 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

Budget

Early in September 2025, the district and school leaders began building the budget for the 2026-2027 school year. The budget planning included opportunities to discuss our priorities and review current FY26 budget spending and staffing. The leadership team analyzed current staffing levels, which have been reduced in recent years due to budget restraints. Such reductions include elimination of 9 elementary classrooms and reduction of 26.2 secondary general education staff across various content areas. The leadership team also reviewed the results of a recent enrollment study conducted by NESDEC. The NESDEC enrollment study noted that the district enrollment has stabilized after a period of post-pandemic decline, and is in fact anticipated to increase by 117 students over the next three years and increase by 417 students over the next 10 years. Despite the challenges of lean budgets, 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.

As part of the budget planning for FY27, we have identified an approximate \$431,736 deficit. The Memorandum of Understanding with the Town commits increased funding for special education costs above a 2% threshold.

The FY27 budget will be impacted by several factors that are leading to increased costs:

- The district's personnel costs are increasing. The district must meet its contractual obligations to its employees.
- We continue to experience increased student needs, particularly related to students' social-emotional learning and behavioral needs. These needs require additional staffing and contractual services to meet our students' increased needs.
- Tuition costs for out-of-district special education placements have increased and must be funded, as legally required, when specified in a student's IEP.

In the budget development, the district developed our priorities, including furthering the objectives of 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:

- Align resources and program offerings to support the Portrait of a Learner initiative and 2025-2028 Strategic Plan.
- Continue to strengthen and sustain tiered systems of academic and social-emotional support to ensure the success of all students.
- Strengthen systems, structures, and programs in the Student Services Department to address diverse social-emotional, behavioral health, and academic needs.
- Promote and support strategic initiatives through aligned, relevant professional development. Continue to advance educator capacity to employ best practices through high-quality curriculum, robust instruction and implementation of social-emotional and behavioral supports.
- Provide access to safe, welcoming and well-maintained facilities, with reliable, high-quality technology, to create a learning environment that is supportive of students' academic and social-emotional development. Promote efficient financial and HR operations to support smooth functioning of the district.

As always, Hingham Public Schools benefited from strong and long-standing 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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathryn (Katie) Roberts
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Jen Benham, Chair
Michelle Ayer, Vice Chair
Aly Anderson, Secretary
Matt Cosman
Tim Miller-Dempsey
John Mooney
Kerry Ni



Recreation Commission

The Hingham Recreation Commission oversees the operations of the Recreation Department. This five-member elected board is committed to providing high quality, affordable recreation programs, as well as maintaining safe and accessible fields and facilities throughout the Hingham community. The mission of the Recreation Department is to offer programs, activities, and opportunities that assist all Hingham residents in enhancing their physical, social and emotional well-being.

Hingham and its citizenry - of all ages, abilities and interests - have always been, and will continue to be, the primary focus of the Hingham Recreation Department. Because Hingham comprises such a vibrant and active community, the Department has embraced the philosophy of striving to provide "something for everyone". The Recreation Center, located at Town Hall, oversees the gymnasium, game room, two studios, and the Fitness Center, as well as the Hingham Community Playground, a street hockey rink, tennis, basketball and volleyball courts, a soccer field, and two baseball fields. Additionally, the Recreation Department oversees the "Rec Barn," located at 341 Main Street in the renovated Cordage House, which offers additional programming space.

The Recreation Department schedules and maintains all town fields by collaborating with other town departments. Hingham Recreation permits and schedules all town fields and courts which consist of 37 fields at 16 locations, 22 tennis courts at 4 locations, and 6 basketball courts at 5 locations. Every permit from every sports organization is scheduled and uploaded into the Rec Department's software where the public has the ability to view the comprehensive town field schedule. The Hingham Rec Department also manages the Town Athletic Field Turf Maintenance program, devoted to improving the quality of Hingham's athletic fields. This program has been a huge success from the start earning recognition by the Massachusetts Rec and Park Association.

After several years partnering with Hingham Schools to bring afterschool programming to East School, known as East Explorers, the Recreation Department added afterschool programming to Foster School, bringing back Foster PLUS. The programs offered include Multisport, Stem Classes, Art Classes, Slime Classes, Skateboarding, Gardening, Harbor Media, Jiu-Jitsu, Futsal, Homework Club, and Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader. In 2025, more than 750 students registered for the East Explorers programs and in just the first half of the school year, 396 students have registered for Foster PLUS.

The 2025 Recreation Summer Camp Programs saw strong registration numbers, with more than 700 registrations for our Preschool Camps; 1,500 for the Fun Time program; 600 for Adventure Club; more than 225 registrations for the all-outdoor Parkland Camp (which explores Hingham parks and Greenspaces); and 1,200 for the trip-based Teen Xtreme Camp. Specialty summer camps, including Sports Experience, Harbor Girl Sports, and Summer Dance had 300 registrations. Additionally, the Recreation Department continued its collaboration with the Bathing Beach Trustees to staff and oversee lifeguards at the Hingham Bathing Beach from June until September. To top off the summer season, the 2025 July 4th Road Race had 2,000 registered runners!

Once again, due in part to the continued success of these programs, the Recreation Department faced the difficult task of filling more than 150 summer staff positions from an applicant pool of over 200 candidates.

The Recreation Department’s year-round programming also saw strong registration numbers. Our collaboration with the South Shore Country Club for golf lessons attracted more than 400 registrants. Both Youth Tennis and Youth Field Hockey had nearly 300 participants each, while the Funky Feet School of Dance, including the special Funky Nutcracker performance, enrolled 750 dancers. Together, the May and December 2025 recitals sold approximately 5,000 tickets.

Adult Recreation continued to grow with successful programs such as Harbor Hoops, Tennis, Golf, Pickleball, Dance Fitness, Yoga, Spin, and Cardio Dance. The Recreation Department’s collaboration with the Bathing Beach Trustees continued in 2025, bringing the highly successful Yoga program to the Hingham Harbor Community Room, located next to the Beach House at Hingham Harbor.



2025 marked the highly anticipated grand opening of the Hingham Community Playground. This all-inclusive playground features state-of-

the-art equipment that incorporates all aspects of play, including sensory elements (musical instruments), motion activities (zip line), spinning equipment, physical challenges (hanging, climbing, balancing, etc.), and imaginative play areas (custom farmers market and ice cream shop, schoolhouse, and red barn). Another major capital project completed in 2025 was the Cronin Accessibility Pathways project, which added nearly half a mile of walking paths circling the entire Cronin Field complex.



Respectfully submitted,

Recreation Commissioners

Vicki Donlan, Chair
Matt LeBretton, Co-Chair
Steve Buckley
Steve Melia
Adrienne Ramsey

Route 3A Task Force

The Route 3A Task Force is an advisory group of five residents appointed by the Select Board in June 2017. The Task Force was created to provide a forum for public discussion during the design of the Route 3A/Summer Street/Rockland Street corridor improvement project and to serve as a proxy for Hingham residents throughout this long-term effort. Working with the Town of Hingham Engineer, the Task Force reports periodically to the Select Board, receives public questions and concerns, and assists in coordination with neighboring communities and regional partners.

Project Objective

The project corridor extends from the intersection of Otis Street and Broad Cove Road to the intersection of George Washington Boulevard and Rockland Street. The goal is a comprehensive set of improvements allowing this critical corridor to operate more safely and efficiently for motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users.

Planned improvements include a modern roundabout; lane reconfigurations on Summer Street between Martins Lane and North Street; upgraded traffic signals and turning lanes; intersection improvements; ADA-compliant sidewalks and crossings; enhanced bicycle accommodations; and a shared-use path along the waterfront. A lane reduction between Burditt Avenue and Ship Street remains a key design feature, improving pedestrian safety and reducing environmental impact with a negligible effect on traffic flow.

This project represents a significant investment in public safety and mobility. It advances key Master Plan goals by:

- Connecting neighborhoods from Crow Point through Downtown, around the rotary, and past Martins Lane to Muzzi's Corner;
- Activating and enhancing access to the Harbor;
- Increasing accessibility and safety for users of all ages and abilities;
- Promoting a healthier and more livable Hingham for generations to come.

2025 Design and Coordination Milestones

In 2025, the project reached several important milestones. The major utility plan—an essential underpinning of the corridor redesign—was finalized through coordination among MassDOT, Hingham Municipal Light Plant, Weir River Water System, and other utility providers. The project has now advanced to 100 percent design.

The MBTA completed a portion of the improvements at the intersection of Broad Cove Road and Otis Street, representing an early step forward within the broader corridor plan.

Certain utility improvements required by the project are scheduled to begin construction in spring 2026. The full roadway improvement project is currently scheduled to go out to bid in February 2027, with a Notice to Proceed anticipated in June 2027.

Funding and Investment

MassDOT has assumed the expense for the remaining design effort and required submittals through a Master Service Agreement. GM2 Associates continues to work closely with the Town Engineer, who coordinates among state agencies, Town departments and committees, public safety officials, abutters, and regional stakeholders.

The Town's investment of approximately \$800,000 in engineering design represents a small fraction of the total estimated project cost. MassDOT's design costs through project completion are anticipated to reach \$2.0 million. Current construction costs are estimated at approximately \$32.6 million and are funded through state and federal sources via the Boston region's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The substantial construction costs will not be borne by the Town's taxpayers, reflecting the value of working with our elected representatives to secure significant state support for this critical infrastructure project.

Community Engagement

The Task Force continues to hold regular public meetings, posted on the Town's website, to review design updates and guide decisions. Project materials are available on the Town's Route 3A Task Force webpage. As construction on the project proceeds, timely communications will alert drivers, commuters, and residents of possible disruptions.

After eight years of steady work, this project remains one of the most significant safety, connectivity, and recreation investments in Hingham's recent history. The Task Force remains committed to representing the Town's interests as the project moves toward and through construction.

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 2025 totaled \$8,403,842 compared to \$7,510,260 at the end of 2024. These figures include an investment gain of \$1,260,589, donations of \$87,559, scholarship disbursements of \$375,000, and administrative fees of \$500.

Market performance for 2025, while volatile, was strong across all asset classes, especially non-US equities, which outperformed US equities for the first time in several years. The plan finished the year with a healthy 15.46% return.

The Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate, a broad domestic investment grade bond index returned 7.30%. The S&P 500, an index of the 500 largest US public companies by market capitalization, returned 17.88%. The Russell 2500 Index, an equity index that tracks an array of small and mid-cap sized US companies, returned 11.91%. The MSCI EAFE Index, measuring large company equity performance in developed markets within Europe, Australasia and the Far East, returned 31.89%.

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. As noted above, the Scholarship Fund returned 15.46%, net of investment returns, income, donations, and withdrawals. By comparison, the Fund's benchmark, which is a weighted average of the above-mentioned indices, returned 15.27%.

The committee voted in early spring to provide \$375,000 in scholarship awards to the class of 2025. 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 \$330,000 in 2023 and \$330,000 in 2024. The Town of Hingham authorized this program in 1975. In the subsequent years, more than \$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

John Fitzsimons

Roger Nastou

Jeff St. Mary

Jeffrey Swett

Lori Magner, Treasurer/Collector

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE TRUST FUNDS
IN CUSTODY OF THE TREASURER

Scholarship	12/31/24	12/31/25
Rizzotto Memorial	41,533	48,230
Cyrus Bacon & Ada W. Bacon	46,251	51,126
Orvis K. & May B. Collins	98,002	108,675
Amasa J. Whiting	46,239	51,429
Second World War Memorial	120,879	133,990
Margaret McElroy	23,944	26,544
Stuart Macmillan Memorial.....	111,004	123,712
Ann Mulholland	10,839	11,959
John Lewis Russell	28,722	31,879
Caroline Murdock	21,740	24,350
Charles (Chuck) Martell	65,049	73,898
Francis James Thompson.....	3,782,712	4,187,115
Patricia Lynne Schneider.....	8,093	9,047
Harold L. Downing	34,804	38,628
Hingham Theater for Children.....	11,453	12,615
1 st Lieutenant Curtis E. Chase	26,053	28,923
The Wallis Lee Chipman Music Award.....	12,980	15,073
Russell Arkell Scholarship	20,015	22,908
Hingham High Basketball Boosters	23,727	26,368
Charles Berry	9,893	11,059
Edward O. Hornstra	31,877	35,144
William J. Laubenstein Jr	9,237	10,200
Mary Sheldon.....	12,799	14,105
Robin Karen Kurciviez.....	9,462	10,964
Mary J. Fee for the Arts.....	8,803	10,150
Jacobs Scholarship	53,854	59,722
John Higgins Scholarship	7,926	8,842
Burditt W. Collins Memorial.....	12,304	13,466
Savini Music.....	10,753	11,884
The Luce Scholarships.....	375,784	419,016
Robert V. Barbuto & James C. Silipo.....	32,490	35,993
Herbert W. Farrar Memorial	10,204	11,307
The Bryant Scholarship.....	206,588	228,463
Hingham Taxpayers	106,613	118,302
Hingham Band Parents	10,514	12,189
Susan/George Burton Music Scholarship	39,199	45,562
Leroy L. Eldredge	29,634	31,443
John Barba	36,467	41,842
M. Tilghman Earle	41,051	44,555
Supt. Lewis J. Ernst.....	35,057	44,408
Joan E. Pyne Memorial	13,177	14,531
John Peter Nionakis.....	25,829	28,594

Kids Cabaret	5,757	6,346
Rosemary Amoscato Shaughnessy	25,678	28,115
Field Hockey Team	17,250	19,504
Charles L. Vickery	60,557	67,686
Jamin Guarino	62,429	69,542
Clifford Family Memorial	18,599	20,626
Thomas J. Wallace, Jr & Michelle Wallace	162,405	179,410
Gerald M. Collins, M.D	5,033	5,604
Hingham Scholarship Memorial	14,392	16,063
Crofoot Trust	33,448	36,633
Sam Butterfield Scholarship	16,095	17,720
Gloria O. Lofgren	22,265	24,661
Robin Helene Ruben	35,345	38,524
Robert L. Goodrich	57,023	62,818
Helen S. Wollan	12,460	14,036
Former Students of HHS	22,519	24,809
Mark S. Gratta Sr Memorial	34,197	37,524
Hingham Women's Club	26,631	29,543
Corine Cyr Benedict Memorial	19,429	21,577
Carol & Ruth Gardner Memorial	44,464	48,862
Samantha Hooper Memorial	11,074	12,184
Cynthia Steven Scholarship	8,730	9,640
Marie Meallo Scholarship	19,199	20,960
Keith Ryan Memorial	5,775	6,408
Sean Ryan Memorial	100,823	121,006
Colarullo Family Scholarship	14,462	15,981
Neal Tompkins Memorial	122,200	135,274
Corporal Christopher J. Orlando USMC Memorial	126,439	143,891
Elizabeth Nally Memorial	12,501	14,342
Class of 1976 Fritz Hansel Memorial	8,047	8,969
Herbert T. McMeekin, Jr.	195,609	217,414
Dr. Andrew V. & Edith B. Mason	190,677	209,577
Haskell N. & Elinor F. Maude	13,960	17,369
Supt. Dorothy H. Galo Scholarship	145,695	166,806
Pamela Noble-Hill Memorial	34,753	37,755
HHS Class of 1962	16,496	60,043
Ruth Butterfield Scholarship	101,253	105,472
Philip J Arena Scholarship	10,728	11,800
Allison Clarke Memorial Scholarship	0	18,997
General Fund	3,310	13,144

Total Rounded 5,605,860 6,750,461

2017 School Building Committee



*New Foster Elementary School Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held September 16, 2025
(Photo courtesy of Joshua Ross Photography)*

Following the early January 2025 opening and occupancy by students and staff of the new Foster Elementary School ("Foster"), the project team turned its focus to preparing the site for the abatement and demolition of the old William L. Foster Elementary School and completing other essential elements of the project including permanent access drives, parking, playgrounds and utility infrastructure. Throughout the year, the School Building Committee ("SBC") continued to provide vigilant management, oversight, and cost control, while ensuring the safe and expeditious execution of the project. A strong coordinated effort from the entire project team, with flexibility and cooperation from teachers and administrators, and the continued patience of Foster families, led to a successful new school opening following Christmas break.

After confirming that budgeted contingency funds would be available, the SBC approved the installation of solar panels on the new school roof during the summer and fall. A separate design and bidding process led to the selection of a contractor who completed the installation expeditiously and well under the estimated cost. The addition of this feature to the project amplifies the net zero, environmentally conscious approach the SBC has taken since the early planning stages.

In September, a formal ribbon cutting ceremony was held during which State and Town officials gathered with staff, students, and community members to celebrate the results of years of vision, determination, and accomplishment. As autumn advanced, unanticipated delays in finalizing certain site attributes, frequent rain and an early freeze prevented the completion of the project leaving a new well installation and surfacing the new softball field as key site components that must wait until spring 2026. As the calendar turned to 2026, punch list work in the building and commissioning of major mechanical and operational systems was nearly complete.

The SBC is confident that the total cost of the project will be under the 2022 Special Town Meeting appropriation of \$113,335,749.00. To date, the Town has received approximately \$25 million in reimbursement payments from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"). Regular payments will continue throughout the project duration and regulatory closeout until the total anticipated MSBA grant of just over \$28 million is received.

As a historical reminder, William L. Foster Elementary School 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 served for many years 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. Despite the renovations and investments that improved the educational experience temporarily, facility issues were too costly to address adequately, many classroom layouts remained problematic, and more frequent and serious concerns arose relative to some of the building's aging mechanical systems, which at times displaced students and staff requiring temporary relocation and rendering 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 in 2019 and a series of Town Meetings appropriated the necessary funding and oversight mechanism.

The new 126,000 square foot school has several benefits that will serve both the student body and the broader community. The building includes space that has allowed the expansion of 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 distinct ecosystem “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 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, while providing a well-insulated exterior skin and abundant natural light. A number of spaces are also designed for maximized utility and 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 activities and includes maker space and other features to enhance flexibility for both curricular and community activities. The natural resources surrounding the school in its coastal marsh and upland setting will allow students to reap the curricular and aesthetic benefits inherent in their beauty. Visually, the building is an attractive addition to the neighborhood with both natural and natural-looking building materials that complement the adjacent landscape. 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 remains grateful for the engagement and support of the Hingham community as it seeks to finalize nearly 9 years of work, providing prudent and responsible project stewardship 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
Jennifer Murphy
Timothy O'Neill

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.

In 2025 the Committee continued its annual Arbor Day celebration on Friday, April 25 at Taurasi Park. Attending the ceremony were members of the Select Board, the Shade Tree Committee, DPW representatives and The Garden Club of Hingham who donated the beautiful Tulip Tree, *Liriodendron Tulipifera*, which is named for its distinct tulip shaped flowers. The President of the Garden Club read the proclamation declaring April 25, 2025 as Arbor Day in the Town of Hingham.



For the thirty-fifth year, Hingham has been named Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation. This designation is an accomplishment of the Town's commitment to effective management, growth and development of its public trees.

This past year the Shade Tree Committee in consultation with the DPW 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 21 street/shade trees.

We are pleased to report the generous donation of 12 shade trees by a Hingham resident. Additional contributions toward the purchase of shade trees are welcome and greatly appreciated. Donations may be made to the Town of Hingham, Department of Public Works, Tree and Park Department. We thank you in advance for your support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elisa Fontanes
James Huse
Phillip Shute
Michael Studley

Veterans' Services

The Department of Veterans' Services is responsible for administering benefits to qualifying veterans and their dependents under Massachusetts General Laws (MGL) Chapter 115. The Department also assists veterans applying for various State and Federal support programs as well as arranging and managing the Town's veteran-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 2025, benefits were paid on average to 10 Hingham veterans, and/or their dependents, totaling \$79,547.67. 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 224 Federal Veterans Affairs cases and claims were managed by this Department, resulting in those individuals being awarded \$452,346 in total—an average monthly payout of approximately \$2,019 per case. That is a potential of \$5,428,147.32 coming back into the Hingham communities businesses. The workload to support VA case submission is supplemental to the Department's primary mission under MGL Chapter 115.

The Town's Veterans In Need Fund—supported through community donations as well as from contributions accompanying annual excise and quarterly property-tax payments—ended fiscal year 2025 with a balance of \$13,818. During 2025, the Department expended \$3,046 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 Chapter 141, the HOME Act.



This year's Memorial Day service was held 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. Captain Thomas W. Hagstrom, U.S. Army (Retired) was our special speaker. A graduate of West Point, Captain Hagstrom chose aviation as his career path. After West Point, he was stationed at

Fort Novosel in Alabama where he attended the Aviation Officer Basic Course, Air Assault School, and Initial Entry Rotary Wing Course. Captain

Hagstrom served with the 501st Aviation Battalion (Combat), and later the 10th Attack Helicopter Battalion stationed in Illeshien, FRG.



On Veteran's 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 VIP speaker was Chief Master Sergeant Michelle Weiser. CMSgt. Weiser is the Senior Enlisted Leader for the 439th Aeromedical Staging Squadron at Westover Air Base in Massachusetts. In her civilian life, she is a licensed Clinical Social Worker and is the Director of Clinical Services for Vinfen.

During the awards portion of the ceremony, United States Air Force Sergeant Robert Beal Jr. was named Veteran of the Year. A Vietnam veteran, Sergeant Beal served as an Inertial and Doppler Radar System Technician and was honorably discharged from Langley AFB in 1972. Not only did Bob serve his country with Honor, he served the Hingham community as well. He was a member of the Conservation Commission from 1979-1993, a Trustee of the historic Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall, served on the Hingham Veterans' Council, supporting the POW/MIA tribute at Whitney Wharf, and is a member of the local American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars posts. For more than 50 years, Bob has also volunteered as Santa for Christmas in the Square and for events with the Fire and Police departments. His recognition as Veteran of the Year is a tribute well deserved.

Hingham Veteran Services also participated in numerous veteran/military ceremonies throughout the year. These included the Battle of Grape Island Commemoration, which highlighted Hingham's role in the American Revolution; the annual recognition ceremony for Medal of Honor recipient SN Herbert L. Foss, USN, at the Herbert L. Foss Hingham Intermodal Center; National POW/MIA Recognition Day, honoring the sacrifice of those missing in action; and National Veteran Suicide Awareness and Remembrance Day, now a recognized state holiday observed on September 22nd.

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,

Shannon Burke, Director of Veterans' Services
USAF Security Forces Veteran

Water Transition and Evaluation Committee

After several years of intensive activity supporting the Town's acquisition and transition of the Weir River Water System (WRWS) from private to public ownership, the Water Transition and Evaluation Committee (WTEC) was largely dormant during the past two years.

During the most recent year, the Committee was reconvened at the request of the Select Board to resume the final element of its original charge: the review and evaluation of the long-term governance structure of the Weir River Water System. With the system now operating under municipal ownership for several years, the Committee believes the timing is appropriate to conduct a thoughtful and deliberate assessment of governance alternatives and to provide informed recommendations to the Select Board.

The Committee has resumed meeting on a regular basis and has begun outlining a structured research and evaluation process. This work includes reviewing the current governance model; examining how other municipal and regional water systems in Massachusetts and comparable communities are governed; and identifying the advantages and disadvantages of alternative structures. Particular focus is being placed on issues such as accountability, operational oversight, rate-setting authority, long-term capital planning, regional considerations with Hull and Cohasset, and alignment with best practices for municipally owned utilities. As part of this effort, the Committee anticipates gathering input from key stakeholders, including the Select Board in its role as Water Commissioners, the Water Superintendent, Town staff, Customer Advisory Board, ratepayers, and other relevant parties. The goal of this work is not only to evaluate structural options, but also to ensure that any recommended governance framework supports transparency, financial sustainability, high-quality service to ratepayers, and the long-term stewardship of the water system's assets.

The Committee expects this research and evaluation phase to continue over the coming year, culminating in a set of findings and recommendations to be presented to the Select Board for consideration for Town Meeting 2027. The Committee views this work as an important final step in completing the transition process and helping to position the Weir River Water System for long-term success under Town ownership.

The Committee appreciates the continued cooperation and support of the Select Board, Town staff, and other stakeholders as it resumes its work,

and looks forward to providing thoughtful guidance as this process moves forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Asher

Scott Cyr

Jim Taylor, Chair

David von Loesecke

Joe Welch

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 2025, we monitored some of the issues impacting the Estuary, and celebrated community and educational events linked to the Estuary.

Estuary Clean-up Day

In April, the WREP coordinated with Straits Pond Watershed Assoc., Weir River Watershed Assoc., and local volunteers to conduct the annual Earth Day cleanup. Trash was collected from all areas that touch the Estuary and hauled away by Cohasset and Hull DPWs. Participants from the three Towns enjoyed a picnic cook-out lunch for their efforts.



Straits Pond Updates

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 2023 volunteers clipped briars and cleared an initial path along the waterfront. In 2024 Hull Conservation Dept prepared and approved a Request for Determination (RMD) with the Mass Dept of Environment Protection. The Conservation department will use the Hull DPW for any challenging construction, and the Hull Land Conservation Trust continues to offer to fund the building of a wildlife viewing platform. More trail work will be planned for next year.

Tom Bell reported that invasive green crabs are becoming a significant issue. There were herring found in the pond this year. Algae blooms were back again, but not as bad as years in the past. The nine new nesting boxes for tree swallows all had activity.

Straits Pond History

A well-attended exhibition on the history of Straits Pond and West Corner was held at the Panagia Greek Church in Cohasset. The event fostered strong community engagement, with many attendees sharing personal stories. We plan to share this information with Hingham.

Hull Waterfront Access Study Group

Scott Plympton represents the WREP committee in this study assisted by Woods Hole Group. They recognized over 160 public access points in Hull. The group will apply for CPA funding of a project to highlight the access points with a painted stencil on sidewalks and pavement. A subgroup will also develop a map for citizens.

Weir River Woods Kiosk Repair

A project to rebuild the information kiosk that was destroyed by a tree fall has stalled due to personnel changes. We are proposing to restart this with Hull High School Woodworking leading in the construction.

Support of SOS Hull

SOS Hull (Save Open Space) continues its efforts to encourage the HRA to pause its desire to develop the land that borders the beach and the estuary and seek alternative methods for raising revenue. This property is also a major crossover point for sea birds between ocean and bay and a feeding zone for horned larks for 3 seasons of the year.

Cohasset Sidewalk Committee

Proposal to construct sidewalks from the Greek Church to Black Rock Beach where it is extremely dangerous to walk along the road as it enters

a rock canyon. This is good for the public and advances our efforts for a sidewalk around the pond

Weir River Culvert and Trout Study

At the annual meeting of the Weir River Watershed Association, we learned what resides in the tributaries of the Weir River. This was possible via a \$60K grant. Sections of the Eel and Plymouth Rivers were analyzed using EDNA (Environmental DNA) measurements. They found out that the tributaries contain a wide variety of aquatic species and mammals, even in the smallest culverts.

Residential Development in Cohasset

The Straits Pond Watershed Association continues to monitor proposed new residential development near Straits Pond. The developer is restarting the proposed development project of 23 new homes in the Rattlesnake Run watershed has after the Cohasset Planning Board after the board rejected their documentation.

New Membership

We welcome Meg Nash as our newest member from Hingham.

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)
Meg Nash, (Hingham)
Richard Avery (Cohasset)
Tom Bell (Cohasset)

Town Accountant

State law requires the Town of Hingham to publish, at the close of each year, a complete set of financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in the United States of America and audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by a firm of licensed certified public accountants.

The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) is intended for use by Hingham's elected and appointed officials, as well as by those with an interest in the Town's management and development, including credit rating agencies, bond analysts, investors, and financial institutions. The report is structured to present complex financial information in a way that is accessible and understandable to the citizens and taxpayers of Hingham. The Town's ACFRs are available 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, 2025 are free of material misstatement. The 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 presentation of the financial statements. Based on this audit, the independent auditor concluded 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, 2025, and that the statements 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 22.5 square 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, which spans 3,509 acres across the Towns of Hingham and Cohasset, with 2,047 acres located in Hingham. In addition to the facilities offered at Bare Cove Park, Wompatuck provides extensive hiking trails in the summer, which are used for cross-country skiing in the winter, as well as extensive camping facilities.

Hingham is located in Plymouth County, where the County primarily provides court facilities, a jail and house of correction, and the 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. 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).

The Town constructed a new Public Safety Facility (\$47 million) and the new Foster Elementary School (\$111 million). The actual taxpayer cost was 25% lower due to reimbursement from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). Both facilities were completed and became fully operational in 2025. Each Building features state-of-the-art design and thoughtfully planned spaces, providing the Town reliable, high-performing facilities that enhance public safety and support high-quality education.

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 in conjunction with the override that included a commitment to cap budget growth rates at 3.5% annually for both 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 additional operational overrides would be pursued until at least FY28.

Fund Balance decreased by \$1.9 million in 2025, primarily due to the use of approximately \$14.8 million in reserves for planned capital infrastructure. The Town remains a very desirable community due to its close proximity to Boston and the level and quality of services provided. The residential real estate 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 information.

Other 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, 2024. This was the twenty-ninth 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, 2025 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 careful attention to the 2025 financial statements was invaluable. We also express our sincere appreciation to the Town's Accounting team-Aksana Holmes, Mary Ann Bosse, and Cheryl Karoutsos-for their hard work and dedication this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann R. MacNaughton
Town Accountant

Treasurer/Collector

Balance in the Treasury July 1, 2024.....	247,184,626
-Total Receipts for Fiscal Year 2025.....	356,909,021
-Total Paid on Selectmen warrant.....	(384,554,877)
Balance in the Treasury June 30, 2025.....	219,538,680

During Fiscal Year 2025 the Collector's Office processed the following warrants for collection:

2025 Real Estate Tax	112,831,298
2025 Community Preservation Surcharge	1,565,288
2025 Personal Property Tax	1,483,787
2025 Boat Excise Tax	83,666
2025 Motor Vehicle Tax	5,523,246
2024 Motor Vehicle Tax	617,073
2025 Sewer Use Charge.....	4,198,043
Betterments-Paid in Advance	0
Sewer Betterments & Committed Interest	71,720
Sewer Use Liens	301,152
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	809,242
I&ECPN	38,500
I&ERPN	750
Light Use Liens	0
Total	127,523,765

Tax collections remain strong for FY25 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 no new tax liens secured in 2025. 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 30, 2025 was \$247,547,655 of which \$191,099,841 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, 2025.

In February of 2025, a competitive sale was held for the issuance of a \$70,000,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan. Mesirow Financial Inc. submitted the winning bid of 3.8393% true interest cost (TIC). Proceeds from the sale of the Bonds was used to redeem a portion of the outstanding bond anticipation notes of the Town maturing on February 15, 2025 and to provide funding for the Public Safety Facility and Foster Elementary School.

At the same time, a competitive sale was held for the issuance of a \$37,661,683 one-year note for a Net Interest Cost (NIC) bid of 2.763% submitted by J.P. Morgan Securities. Proceeds from the sale of the notes together with \$429,562 in available funds, were used to redeem \$27,366,453 in outstanding notes. The remaining \$10,724,792 will provide additional financing for Weir River Water Capital Projects and the new Foster Elementary School.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the Treasurer/Collector staff, Marijane Deitsch, Jen Doan, Brittany Gianibas, Ann Larracey 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, 2025

Trust Fund	6/30/24	06/30/25
375 th Anniversary	16,394.....	17,390
4 th of July Parade	115,837.....	130,403
Affordable Housing Trust.....	1,838,813.....	1,819,349
Aid to Elderly/Disabled (Tax Bill Checkoff)	49,071.....	54,937
Buttonwood Tre.....	1,023.....	1,085
Dr. Margaret Long Memorial	80,540.....	85,434
Education Fund (Tax Bill Checkoff).....	32,139.....	35,128
Foster School SAAA.....	256,944.....	257,586
Foundry Pond	9,768.....	10,362
Greenbush Historic Preservation Projects.....	1,037,351.....	1,154,676
Hannah Lincoln Whiting.....	15,766.....	15,108
Hingham Federal Withholding	31,928.....	33,219
Hingham High School Fields Projects.....	83,309.....	88,371
Hingham High School SAAA	387,130.....	403,965
Hingham Middle School SAAA.....	264,716.....	351,015
Hingham War Memorial	388.....	411
Light Customer Deposit	2,080,173.....	2,174,758
Light Depreciation.....	29,587,985.....	34,764,956
Light OPEB Trust.....	2,416,374.....	2,599,343
Light Reserve Stranded Cost.....	10,041,425.....	9,652,736
More-Brewer.....	93,392.....	97,599
Open Space Conservation	116,778.....	118,381
Preservation Projects.....	144,096.....	162,249
Scholarship Fund*.....	7,400,188.....	7,971,764
Stabilization	8,369,730.....	8,783,351
Town OPEB Trust.....	26,064,213.....	30,846,094
USLST War Memorial.....	2,602.....	2,760
Veterans Council Beneficial Gift Account	28,902.....	36,317
Veterans in Need (Tax Bill Checkoff)	38,286.....	44,181
Weir River Water System Capital Reserve	7,735,660.....	8,117,947
Capital Stabilization Fund.....	11,174.....	38,308
Tax Migration Stabilization.....	3,526,205.....	3,700,465
Total.....	101,878,119.....	113,569,652

*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 (DOR) 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 a comprehensive examination of Hingham's assessment policies and procedures.

In addition to managing real property valuations, the Assessors' Office maintains records for taxable personal property, as well as boat and motor vehicle excise taxes. Applications for deferrals, personal exemptions, community preservation exemptions, and abatements—for real property, personal property, and excise taxes—are available through and must be filed with the Assessors' Office.

We update property ownership records based on recorded deed transactions received from the Registry of Deeds. With approximately 8,808 parcels in Hingham, the office manages a high volume of transactions. We also process plans and corrections to keep the Assessor's maps accurate and conduct detailed research on property ownership.

The office works diligently to inform and assist Hingham residents on all available services and exemptions. Our goal is to provide accurate, up-to-date information while helping residents make the most of the programs offered.

The ratio of the assessment to the sales price is calculated and Hingham's ratio for 2025 is 95%. The fiscal 2026 tax rate is \$10.47 down 22 cents from last year. The average assessment for single-family homes is \$1,367,055, up from last year's average of \$1,273,121. The average assessment for condominiums is \$907,289, up from last year's average of \$872,980.

This year brought several meaningful changes to both our office staff and the Board of Assessors, marking a time of transition, appreciation, and new beginnings.

In September, we said farewell to Maureen Carlson as she entered a well-deserved retirement. Maureen's extensive knowledge, unwavering dedication, and positive spirit made a lasting impact on our office and the

community we serve. Her contributions over the years have been truly invaluable, and she leaves behind a legacy of professionalism and commitment. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Maureen and wish her all the best in this exciting new chapter.

In November, we were pleased to welcome Ellen Ryan to the team as she stepped into Maureen's role. We are excited to have Ellen on board and look forward to the experience, energy, and perspective she brings to the office.

The Board of Assessors also experienced notable transitions. Randall Winters was appointed Chair this year, and we appreciate his leadership as he guides the Board forward. In April, Sara Abbott was elected to the Board and began her three-year term. We are grateful for her willingness to serve and contribute to the important work of the Board. Joshua Ross continues to provide valuable insight and thoughtful guidance, and we sincerely appreciate his ongoing dedication.

Additionally, Christine Roberts made the decision not to seek reelection. We will greatly miss her years of devoted service, strong leadership, and the meaningful contributions she made during her tenure. Her commitment to the Board and the community has left a lasting and positive impact.

Together, these changes reflect both the strength of the foundation built by those who have served and the promise of continued progress with those stepping into new roles.

Our office was pleased to participate in Town Hall's first Halloween Open House. Staff enjoyed decorating and welcoming trick-or-treaters from the community. It was a great opportunity to connect with residents in a fun and festive setting, and we hope it becomes a favorite annual tradition.

In October, Director of Assessing Erin Delaney participated in the Hingham Local Government Academy, a program designed to provide residents with a comprehensive, hands-on understanding of municipal government operations. As part of the session, Erin highlighted the critical role of the Assessor's Office in maintaining equitable and accurate property valuations. She provided an overview of the assessment process, including the methodologies used to determine property values and the importance of compliance with state regulations. Her participation helped promote transparency, strengthen public understanding, and reinforce the Town's commitment to fairness and accountability in property assessment practices.

As active members of the Plymouth County Assessors Association and the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers, our assessing team stays current with the latest industry trends and legislative updates that impact our work. By connecting with fellow municipal assessors across the state and engaging in ongoing professional development, we ensure our community receives informed, high-quality service. We value these opportunities for collaboration, learning, and growth.

The Board of Assessors wishes to acknowledge Assessing Director Erin Delaney, Assistant Assessor Jacquie Berard, Assessing Technicians Ellen Ryan and Cyrille Donlan, and Data Quality Inspector Kerri Coughlin for their diligence and commitment to the mission of the Assessors' office.

Respectfully submitted,

Randall M. Winters, Chairperson
Joshua M. Ross
Sara A. Abbott

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 2025 contains the system's financial statements as well as membership statistics listing new members enrolled, members that were retired and members who died in 2025.

Ann R. MacNaughton, <i>Ex-officio Member</i>	(12/12/2023-)
Eileen McCracken, <i>Appointed Member</i>	(07/01/2024-06/30/2027)
David P. Jones, <i>Elected Member</i>	(11/27/2024-11/26/2027)
Marijane C. Deitsch, <i>Elected Member</i>	(07/30/2025-07/29/2028)
Charles J. Cristello, <i>Appointed Member & Chair</i>	(06/23/2024-06/22/2027)

Annual Statement of the Hingham Retirement Board for the Year Ended December 31, 2025

ASSETS & LIABILITIES

Cash	2,232,370.02
PRIT Cash	1,473.02
PRIT Fund	199,919,567.09
Accounts Receivable	2,433.85
Accounts Payable	0.00
TOTAL	202,155,843.98

FUNDS

Annuity Savings Fund	38,856,480.17
Annuity Reserve Fund	8,097,299.76
Military Service Fund	2,064.00
Pension Reserve Fund	155,200,000.05
Total Assets at Market Value	202,155,843.98

RECEIPTS

Members' Deductions	4,576,111.96
Transfers from Other Systems	535,559.44
Member Make Up Payments and Redeposits	10,715.26
Member Payments from Rollovers	14,088.82
3(8)(c) Reimbursements from Other Systems	351,600.85

Received from Commonwealth for COLA & Survivor Benefit	20,922.76
Pension Fund Appropriation	7,902,237.00
Contrib. received for Military Service	0.00
Workers' Compensation Settlements	1,050.00
Interest not refunded	7,104.53
Total Investment Income	4,968,061.05
Realized Gains (Profits)	5,331,744.58
Unrealized Gains (Increase in Market Value)	17,267,420.69
Realized Loss	-115,813.38
Unrealized Loss	-4,233,604.74
Total Receipts	36,637,198.82

DISBURSEMENTS

Refunds to Members	344,961.98
Transfers to other Systems	933,537.59
Annuities Paid	2,641,455.77
Pensions Paid	9,058,563.82
3(8)(c) Reimbursements To Other Systems	536,104.74
COLAs Paid	1,469,859.69
Staff Salaries	85,741.09
Management Fees	861,154.25
Investment Consultant Fees	23,000.00
Legal Expenses	2,167.50
Fiduciary Insurance	6,365.13
Service Contracts	39,552.00
Actuarial Services	6,000.00
Accounting Services	10,800.00
Education and Training	650.00
Administrative Expenses	7,179.90
Total Disbursements	16,027,093.46

NEW MEMBERS 2025

Abegail Dube	Eric McMenimon	Maria Velasquez
Abigail Lindsley	Fatiola Spahiu	Mary McAuliffe
Alanna Stanley	Francesca N. Ephraim	Melissa Gray
Allison MacVarish	Georgina Stacey	Melissa Mee
Alyson Pike	Hannah Murphy	Michael McHugh
Andrew Rose	Janine Birmingham	Michael Nash
Annabelle Madden	Jared Van Ness	Michael Sheehan
Antoine Vilno	Jay Froio	Michele Christopher
Ashley Faiella	Jenna Hurlburt	Michelle Outar
Benjamin Burnham	Jenna Rasmussen	Noelle Smith

Bianca Foresta
 Bonnie Gasdia
 Bradford Matton
 Brandon Gaudet
 Brendan O'Connor
 Brittany Iacaponi
 Cheryl Pennacchio
 Chloe Morrissey
 Christine Flynn
 Christine Panarese
 Christopher Brewer
 Christopher Curry
 Christopher Niland
 Collin Madeiros
 Crystal Mattia
 Daniel Martini
 Daniel Ritchie
 Danielle Poole
 Darren Martinez
 Deborah Leckonby
 Denise Eaton
 Diane Russo
 Dylan Diersch
 Eileen Hier
 Elaine Cashman
 Elizabeth North
 Ellen Ryan
 Emma Tucker

Jesse Homer
 Joan Herrity
 John Reynolds
 John Sandberg
 Julie Livingston
 Julie Rovelli
 Karen Palma
 Katherine Dugan
 Katherine Mawhinney
 Katherine St Pierre
 Keely Soundararajan
 Kelly Maling
 Kelsea Gunther
 Kerrin Forsyth
 Kerrylynn Donato
 Kristin Kilrain
 Lamar Winters
 Lance Mortland
 Latoya Nelson
 Laura Donnelly
 Leslie Leblanc
 Lillian Ahl
 Lisa Lubas
 Lisa O'Rourke
 Lisa Troy
 Lucia Foresta
 Luke Sullivan
 Madeline Whalen

Paige Maguire
 Patricia Czajak
 Patrick Harvie
 Patrick Mannion
 Paul Mullen
 Rebecca Barry
 Richard Brown
 Richard Mroz
 Robert Tuscher
 Roberta Mahoney
 Rosalie Celino
 Ryan Decouto
 Ryan Hogan
 Samantha Noenickx
 Santiago A. Duquette
 Sarah Kelly
 Sarah Spahiu
 Shannon Brinkley
 Shannon Burke
 Sheila Duclos
 Stephanie Kennedy
 Stephen McCoy
 Susanne Tedeschi
 Sydney Collins
 Victoria Gadsden
 Xi Wang
 Zoie Mulrey

RETIRED MEMBERS 2025

Ann Fickenwirth
 Anne Krog
 Antonietta Barbuto
 Jeffrey Madden
 John Madden
 Keith Jermyn
 Kenneth Hanson
 Lisa Sharp

Maria Brady
 Mary Ellen Miller
 Mary Keif
 Maryann Kaulins
 Maureen Carlson
 Michael McAuliffe
 Paige Silvia
 Randy Sylvester

Robert Barretto
 Robert Ramsey
 Roberta Nevins
 Sheri Boretti
 Tony Tervakoski
 Walter Carnes

DECEASED MEMBERS 2025

Anne R. Krog	Joan S Grimm	Mary R. McCormack
Charles L Bacon Sr	Joanne R. Coggins	Paul J. McMahon
Eileen F. Garvin	Joseph H. McCracken III	Richard W. Hatch
Eleanor Donovan	Mary E. Foley	
Joan P. Wigmore	Mary Linda Ryan	

MEMBERSHIP STATISTIC REPORT 2025

ACTIVE MEMBERS

Active Membership, Dec. 31st, Previous Year	642
Inactive Membership, Dec. 31st, Previous Year	421

Enrolled During Current Year	118
Transfers Between Groups	0
Reinstatements of Disabled Members	0
Subtotal	118

Deduct:

Death	1
Withdrawals	64
Retirements	22
Subtotal	87

Active Membership, Dec. 31st, Current Year	662
Inactive Membership, Dec. 31st, Current Year	432

Retired, Beneficiary and Survivor Membership, Dec. 31st, Previous Year	404
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Retirements During the Year	
Superannuation	21
Ordinary Disability	0
Accidental Disability	0
Termination Retirement Allowance	0
Beneficiary of Deceased Retiree	0
Survivor Benefits from Active Membership	1
Subtotal	22

Deduct:

Deaths of Retired Members	11
Termination of Survivor Benefits	4
Reinstatements of Disabled Pensions	0
Subtotal	15

Retired Membership, Dec. 31st, Current Year

Superannuation	342
Ordinary Disability	1
Accidental Disability	20
Termination	0
Beneficiaries from Accidental Deaths	3
Beneficiaries from Section 100	0
Beneficiaries from Section 101	2
Beneficiaries under Option C	26
Option (D) Survivor Allowance	17
Section 12B Survivor Allowance	0

**Total Retired, Beneficiary and Survivor Membership,
Dec. 31st, Current Year****411****TOTAL MEMBERSHIP****Active, Inactive, Retired, Beneficiary and Survivor,
Dec. 31st, Current Year****1505**