

Hingham Weekly Update – Script

7/6/2026

Hello everyone, my name is Art Robert and I'm Hingham's Assistant Town Administrator for Operations.

Thank you for joining us in our new communication/outreach program called Weekly Update.

Our purpose is to give community members information related to the upcoming week. The update may include meeting notices, upcoming events, helpful tips, or more. Each week, we will record a weekly video and make it available through the Town website (www.hingham-ma.gov/weeklyupdate) and through a link on the Town facebook page. We hope you enjoy the videos!

Last week, town departments invested a major effort into supporting several events celebrating the 250th Anniversary of America's independence - Select Board member Julie Strehle will touch a bit more on all that. While the summer is in full swing, town departments continue their good work.

DPW – Big Belly Trash Compactors

Our Department of Public Works is amid deploying seven Big Belly trash systems at seven sites in the Hingham Square and Bathing Beach areas. The Big Bellies replace conventional street bins with a combined trash compactor / recycling unit. The compactors hold up to 100 pounds of trash, which will help improve cleanliness in the Square. Our DPW paid for these solar powered systems through savings gained by taking contracted trash hauling services in house.

Health – Wellness Wednesdays

For several years now, our Health Department has been publishing a monthly flyer promoting resources seeking mental health, wellness, and related assistance. The Department focuses on low-or no-cost options found in Hingham or on the South Shore. The flyer is posted on the town web site the first Wednesday of each month, at www.hingham-ma.gov.

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Library – Summer Schedule

This summer, the Hingham Public Library will continue to offer a range of programs for children, teens, adults, and families. The Library's July newsletter highlights reading groups, activities, art exhibits, and movies. All offer great opportunities to learn, meet others, and beat the summer heat. Learn more about the full July schedule and register for a program at the Library's web site, www.hinghamlibrary.org.

Transition – Julie Strehle

Hello, my name is Julie Strehle, and I'm one of the three members of the Hingham Select Board. Thank you for tuning into our Hingham Weekly Update

I'm going to give you an update on the drought and water ban, this week's Select Board meeting, this week's Community Reading of the Declaration of Independence, and some 4th of July thank yous.

Update – Drought and Water Ban

The Select Board also serve as Water Commissioners for the Weir River Water System. We would like to thank all our customers that are complying with the current watering restrictions. It has made a positive impact on our tank levels but we are still experiencing significant drops in levels in the early morning. The Weir River Water System, the Hingham Fire Department, and the Hull Fire Department are urging all residents to immediately comply with the current outdoor lawn watering ban. Maintaining adequate water storage is critical to ensuring sufficient water is available for fire protection in our communities.

Due to the ongoing drought, lack of rainfall, high temperatures, and declining groundwater levels, we are remaining in Level 2.

Every resident's cooperation is essential to protecting our water supply and ensuring emergency fire protection when it is needed most.

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Thank you for doing your part to help keep our communities safe.

WRWS – Water Billing Service Transition

Also, please visit the Town of Hingham's website, on the homepage Latest News, you'll see that beginning July 1, 2026, Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant (HMLP) assumed responsibility for water billing and payment processing for all Weir River Water System customers. This transition affects billing and payment services only. Your water service will not be interrupted. The news flash has a lot of information about this change and may answer any questions that you have.

Next Select Board Meeting

The Select Board also meets tomorrow morning by zoom at 9:00 a.m. We will finish up year-end business with Reserve Fund Transfers.

Hingham's Rev250 Celebrations Continue

On Wednesday, you are invited to one more special event to celebrate our nation's 250th birthday. As the bells ring from Hingham's Memorial Bell Tower, gather at the Old Ship Meetinghouse on July 8th, 250 years after the Declaration of Independence was first publicly read, to join a nationwide synchronized reading of America's founding document. Bells will ring at 5:30 p.m., and the formal program begins at 6:00 p.m. Readers include Hingham leaders drawn from across the community for this historic moment. Visit hingham250.org for more information.

And in closing, I have some heartfelt thank yous for all of the volunteers and town staff who made our 4th of July festivities so memorable, and kept our town safe and clean. Despite the heat wave, our residents and neighbors turned out for the All American Picnic, the Road Race, and Parade. Thank you to Marco Boer and the Harbor Development Committee; Deirdre Anderson and the Hingham Historical Society; Patrick Kirk and the Parade Committee; Vicki Donlan and the Recreation

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Commission; Superstar Town Employees Mark Thorell and the Recreation Department, Ashley Broyer and the Department of Public Works; JR Frey the Town Engineer; the Hingham Fire Department Chief Murphy and Deputy Chiefs Levenson and Lachance; and the Hingham Police Department Chief Jones, Deputy Chiefs O'Shea and Petitti, and Sergeant Kilroy.

Thank you for tuning in! I hope everyone has a great week.