



Town Hall Talk

Dedham, Massachusetts

VOLUME I ISSUE I

JANUARY 6, 2020

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Introduction	1
Meetings	2
Endicott Estate	3
Fire Department	4
Office of the Treasurer	5
Planning & Zoning	6
Planning & Zoning	7
School Department	8
Sustainability	9
Sustainability	10

Happy New Year Everyone & Welcome to Town Hall Talk!

With the start of a brand new year and decade, we are expecting a lot of exciting changes and happenings in our town. In order to keep residents informed, we are happy to introduce Town Hall Talk. Town Hall Talk is the Town of Dedham's monthly newsletter that will be available digitally via the Town of Dedham website (<https://www.dedham-ma.gov/>). A limited number of printed copies will also be available at the Dedham Senior Center, Town Hall, and Library. This will be a great way for our community to stay connected, stay involved, and stay current on news and events that make Dedham a fantastic place to live, work, and play. Please make sure to subscribe so you don't miss any news. We can't wait to share all of the great things happening around our town with all of you. Here's to a safe, happy, healthy and engaged 2020!

Town Talk

JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Schedule of Meetings

- ◇ January 1— New Years Day— Town Hall Closed
- ◇ January 2— Finance & Warrant Committee
6:30pm
- ◇ January 8— Design Review Advisory Board 7pm
- ◇ January 8— Planning Board Meeting 7pm
- ◇ January 8— Charter Advisory Meeting 6pm
- ◇ January 9— Sustainability Meeting 7pm
- ◇ January 9— Conservation Commission 7pm
- ◇ January 15— Zoning Board of Appeals 7pm
- ◇ January 16— Board of Selectmen Meeting 6:30pm
- ◇ January 20— Martin Luther King Jr, Day Town Hall Closed
- ◇ January 21— Mother Brook historical survey presentation 6:30pm
- ◇ January 22— Planning Board 7 PM
- ◇ January 28— Board of Selectmen Meeting 6:30pm

For more, visit <https://www.dedham-ma.gov/>

Meet Dedham’s New Library Director

Please join the Dedham Public Library Trustees, Friends, and Staff in welcoming our new Library Director, Ryan Brennan, on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 from 6:00-8:00 pm at the Main Library. Drop in and see our amazing collection of books and things-games, kitchen equipment, keyboard, microscope, even a drone - ALL while meeting and greeting, Mr. Brennan. Light refreshments will be served.



Endicott Estate

Endicott Estate Barn Lost in a Fire

In the early morning hours of November 16th multiple fire departments responded to reports of a fire in the historic barn on the Endicott Estate. In just of few minutes the barn and its contents were destroyed. The cause of the fire is unknown, but an effort is underway to re-build.



The Dedham Retired Men's Club is Friendly, Patriotic, and Most of All, Welcoming!

Like to play golf or bowl? They will get you going. Love to sing? They've got some great voices for you to join in with. Looking for a good cup of coffee and conversation? Sit right down. Enjoy cultural events and historic sites? They will plan the trip. The Dedham Retired Men's Club is open to new members! Every meeting features a guest speaker. Whether it is former Red Sox brass, a retired Bruin's coach, a Hall of Famer, a physician talking about men's health issues, a local professor discussing the history of WWII or Civil War, a former fighter pilot or a reporter... the presentation is sure to inform, inspire and entertain.

Dedham Retired Men's Club meets every second and fourth Friday of the month at 9:30am at the Endicott Estate, 656 East Street. For more information contact Dave Bowman (ddbowl@aol.com).

Fire Department

New Engine 2

2019 *E-One Typhoon / Pumper*



The Fire Department is expecting to take delivery of a new fire engine in January 2020.

The final assembly and inspection was recently completed at the *E-One* manufacturing plant in Hamburg New York.

The new Engine 2 is currently at *Greenwood Emergency Vehicles* in North Attleboro, where it is being lettered and outfitted with all the necessary equipment.

The funding for Engine 2 was appropriated at the 2018 Spring Annual Town Meeting.

New Engine 2 will be replacing a current fire engine that has served the Town in excess of twenty years.

Adopt A Fire Hydrant This Winter



- The Dedham Fire Department is asking that residents assist us with keeping the fire hydrant closest to their residence clear of snow during this winter season.
- Please shovel snow only if you are able and when it is safe to do so.
- We would appreciate any and all assistance that residents are able to provide.

During an emergency every second counts!
- Fire Chief William Spillane



Office of the Treasurer/Collector

Important Billing Information

A number of key billing dates are coming up. The Town of Dedham offers residents a number of ways to pay bills. (1) Payments can be mailed to the lockbox in the envelopes included with tax and sewer bills. When mailing a check, please allow enough time to have it arrive well before the due date to avoid interest charges. A postmark is not accepted; (2) Paid online via the Town's website (www.dedham-ma.gov) on Invoice Cloud using an ACH method from a bank account for \$.40, or a credit card (with processing fees); or (3) Brought to Town Hall for processing.

December 31, 2019: Third quarter real estate, and personal property tax bills will be mailed. Please visit or contact the staff if a bill is not received.

February 3, 2020: Due date for third quarter real estate, and personal property taxes. Interest accrues the day after the due date.

Early February: The first 2020 Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) excise tax bills will be issued and are due thirty days from the bill issue date. Interest accrues the day after the due date. Unpaid bills will receive a demand bill with fourteen days to pay and after that be flagged at the RMV for non-renewal of a license and vehicle registration. Please contact the staff at 781-751-9160 if an expected excise tax bill is not received by mid-February since an exact issue date has not yet been determined.

Mid-February: Quarterly sewer bills will be issued and are due in thirty days. Interest accrues the day after the due date. Sewer bills are not part of a mortgage escrow tax account with lenders. It is the responsibility of the property owner to pay on time.

Planning & Zoning Department

Recent Planning Board Approvals

Animal Rescue League – 22,500 sq. ft., two-story multi-use/administrative building, 3,000 sq. ft. one story maintenance/storage building, 120 off-street parking spaces and associated landscaping and infrastructure improvements at 184, 220 and 776 Pine Street, 70 and 208 Jenney Lane

Arthur J. Hurley Company – 6,652 sq. ft. warehouse addition, two-bay loading dock and various site improvements at 8 Industrial Drive

B2 Tech LLC - 14,000 sq. ft. baseball batting cage/training facility at 110 Stergis Way



Proposed new Animal Rescue League Multi-use/Administrative Facility

Zoning

Fall 2019 Town Meeting approved new language, developed by the Planning Board, regulating retail firearms businesses. Prior to the approval at Town Meeting, the Planning Board conducted a series of public meetings/hearings to listen and hear from many Dedham community members.

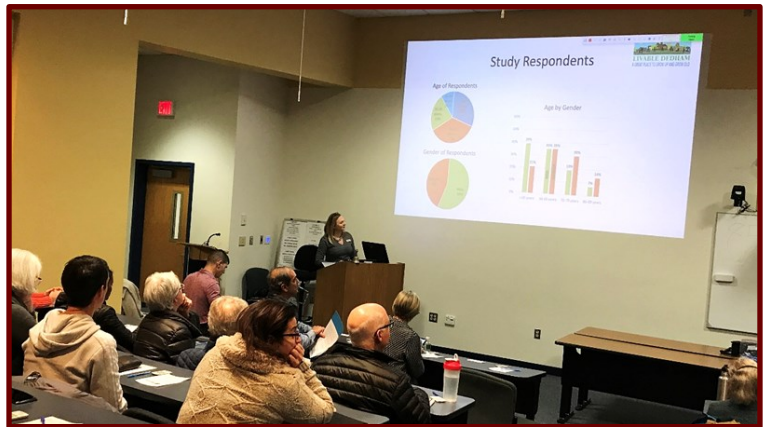
For more information, <https://www.dedham-ma.gov/home>

Meetings/Studies

The Town of Dedham, in collaboration with Livable Dedham, hosted a community meeting on December 2nd to discuss a joint housing study analyzing the Town's current housing stock, demands, supply, gaps and needs. Almost sixty attendees were offered a presentation and recommendations from housing study consultant JM Goldson. The attendees also discussed thoughts and ideas regarding the future of housing in Dedham. The joint study can be viewed and downloaded here: www.dedham-ma.gov/housing. Video of the meeting can be viewed here: [Housing Forum](#)



Town of Dedham / Livable Dedham December 2, 2019 Housing Study community meeting



Town of Dedham / Livable Dedham December 2, 2019 Housing Study community meeting

Dedham Public Schools

Dates to Remember

Monday, January 13, 2020 - Master Plan Community Input Meeting - 7:00pm at the ECEC

Wednesday, January 15, 2020 - School Committee Meeting, Public Hearing for FY21 Budget - 7:00pm at the Avery School

Monday, January 20, 2020 - MLK Community Celebration - 4:30 PM at Dedham Middle School

Wednesday, January 22, 2020 - School Committee Meeting, Public Hearing #2 for FY21 Budget - 7:00pm at the Avery School

Snow Day Cancellation & Notification Procedures

In determining if and/or when school should be cancelled due to weather conditions, the welfare and safety of students and staff will always be our highest priority.

- If and when convincing evidence exists to justify cancellation the night before a pending storm, we will send notice at that time. When the decision is less clear, we will confer beginning at 4:00 AM and make a decision about cancellation *no later than 5:00 AM*.
- If it is determined that roads, sidewalks, and/or parking lots cannot be cleared in time to safely open the schools, we will work to notify all staff and families by automated Blackboard Connect phone calls and emails. Automated calls to families will be placed approximately two hours prior to the start time for each school.
- Cancellation notices will also appear on all local television stations, as well as the Dedham Public Schools website. Please do not rely on social media posts as official notification.

For additional information please visit <https://www.dedham.k12.ma.us/>

Sustainability

Year in Review

Submitted by the Sustainability Advisory Committee

The Sustainability Advisory Committee begins every year the same way – by setting goals for the future and evaluating what we have accomplished in the past. 2019 was a big year!

Our collective aspirations for a sustainable Dedham led to the **banning of plastic bags in Dedham!** Dedham now joins 132 other communities in reducing this harmful plastic. Dedham is part of a groundswell sweeping the Commonwealth to eliminate harmful and wasteful products such as plastic bags and polystyrene. Presently, there is a bill before the House to enact a statewide plastic bag ban: it passed the Senate in November 2019; the House most likely will not take it up until 2020. Dedham's warrant article was the result of a year-long effort by the Sustainability Advisory Committee, its Plastic Bag Subcommittee, and the Town's Environmental Coordinator, Virginia LeClair. The Subcommittee brought together residents and students from throughout the Town who were passionate about eliminating plastic bags.

In 2018, LeClair applied for and the Town was awarded a \$28,000 Planning Grant from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs through their **Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program (MVP)**. We hired consultants VHB and KLA Associates to identify Dedham's future vulnerabilities and strengths, as well as develop and prioritize actions to reduce risk and increase resilience. The Town held several workshops with key stakeholders to evaluate how potential climate hazards would impact infrastructure, socioeconomic and environmental aspects of our community.

In 2019, LeClair applied for and the Town was awarded \$185,895 to complete the second phase, the creation a Climate Action and Resiliency Plan. This plan will serve as a roadmap for the Town in its efforts to reduce its carbon emissions and become more resilient to the impacts of a changing climate. Through this process the consultants from KLA helped the Committee re-brand themselves as Sustainable Dedham: Healthy, Resilient, Together and launched a new logo. Your input is crucial to making this plan a success, complete the quick survey at <http://bit.ly/sustainablededhamsurvey>



The Committee continues to host their popular bi-annual **recycling event** for hard to recycle items, including polystyrene, mercury, electronics and scrap metal. [In 2019, with your help, we diverted](#) 2.91 tons of scrap metal and polystyrene, 659 CFLs or mercury lamps, 486lbs of Batteries, 10,801.6 tons of paper and 6,200lbs of e-waste from landfills. Thank you for responsibly recycling!

Did you know the Middle School, High School and Town Hall all have **solar panels** on them? Together we have 182kW located on municipal and school buildings. The solar panels on Town Hall have avoided in their lifetime 127 tons of CO₂ emissions, which is the equivalent 18,730 gallons of gasoline offset. The solar panels on the High School have avoided 631 tons of CO₂ emissions, which is the equivalent of 92,812 gallons of gasoline offset. To put this in perspective the High School system is 128,625kW, while the Town Hall system is much smaller at 23kW.

In 2019, the ECEC was completed and a new **electric vehicle charging station** was added. This station is primarily for the teachers and guests to the school. With the addition of this station the Town now has 2 EV charging stations, with the second being located at the Keystone lot. This station has avoided 22,113kg of greenhouse gas emissions, which is like planting 567 trees and letting them grow for 10 years. We hope to add EVs to the municipal fleet in 2020 to reduce the Town's reliance on fossil fuels and oil that contribute to greenhouse gas emissions.

We have enjoyed meeting new and old friends at special events this year, such as Earth Day cleanups, Arbor Day celebrations, Water in Dedham symposium and exhibit and Dedham Trails Day. At each of these events we celebrated the rich environmental diversity in Dedham.

Stay in touch with us throughout the year by following us @Sustainable Dedham on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Cheers to a Sustainable 2020!





Town of Dedham, MA

26 Bryant St, Dedham, MA 02026

(781)751-9100

The Dedham Press will be published monthly and will be available on the [Town website](#).

Please subscribe to receive notification of each new issue!