



Town Hall Talk

Select Board Votes to Set FY22 Tax Rate

IN THIS ISSUE

Updates	1
Meetings & Holiday Hours	2
Council on Aging	3
Dedham Police Department	5
Parks and Recreation	6
Engineering	7
Department of Public Works	10
Parking Meters	11



Following a presentation by the Board of Assessors during the December 2 public meeting, the Select Board voted unanimously to approve and set the tax rates for fiscal year 2022, as listed below:

- Residential Tax Rate: \$13.35 per \$1,000 (of assessed value)
- Commercial/Industrial/Personal Property (CIP) Tax Rate: \$27.93 per \$1,000 (of assessed value)

At the December 2, 2021 public meeting, the Select Board agreed with the recommendation by the Board of Assessors and voted to continue the classification and maintain the existing tax shift from residential property to CIP. Using the assessment values recorded in the Assessor’s Office which have been approved by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR) for FY2022 and have a valuation date of January 1, 2021, the average single-family home value in Dedham this year is \$597,742, an 8.66 percent increase from last year’s value of \$550,083. As a result, the average residential tax bill for a single-family home will increase by 6.1 percent (approximately \$460 per year, on average), and the average commercial tax bill will increase by 1.46 percent. In FY22, the average tax bill for a single-family home in Dedham for FY22 is approximately \$7,980, a savings of approximately \$1,560 if the Select Board did not vote to continue the classification.

The FY22 tax rates are currently pending certification by the DOR. Once certified by the DOR, the tax rates become final and are assigned to each property for FY2022, which runs from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

DECEMBER 2021



Public meetings are being held in person and remotely. The state's Open Meeting Law allows public bodies to continue providing live adequate, alternative means to enable local governments to carry out essential functions. This Act includes an extension, until April 1, 2022, per the governor's emergency order. Please refer to the **Town calendar** to view a public meetings and agendas.

Face masks/face coverings are required for all individuals aged 2 years or older*, regardless of vaccination status, when inside all Town of Dedham municipal buildings. (*Except where an individual is unable to wear a face mask / face covering due to a medical condition or disability.)

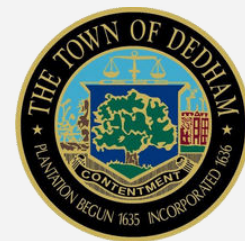
Holiday Hours

Non-emergency Town Offices will be closed:

- Friday, December 24, 2021
- Friday, December 31, 2021

Town Hall will close at 4:30 p.m. on:

- Wednesday, December 22, 2021
- Wednesday, December 29, 2021



Council On Aging

Week of December 13th



DEDHAM COUNCIL ON AGING

HOLIDAY BINGO!!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16TH
5:30 P.M.
AMES SENIOR CENTER

COME JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF HOLIDAY FUN
AND CASH PRIZES!!
\$1 PER CARD \$5 FOR 6 CARDS
RSVP - 781-751-9495



Christmas Cheer at Eustis Estate!!



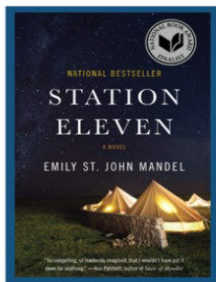
Join us for a tour of the beautiful and historic Eustis Estate in Milton which will be all decked out for the holidays!

Wednesday, December 15th
11:00 a.m.

Cost is \$25 per person
Space is limited - RSVP to 781-751-9495

Council on Aging Book Group

Discussing:
Station Eleven
by Emily
St. John Mandel
on 12/21 at 1pm



At the Senior Center
450 Washington St, Dedham

BECOME A SOUP MASTER!!



Thursday, December 16th at 1:00 p.m.

What's better than a simmering pot of soup or stew on a cold day?

Come sample homemade soups and stews and learn how to make them your way using fresh and healthy ingredients.

Everyone gets a packet of Therapy Gardens original Soup Seasonings Mix.

PLEASE CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!
\$10 materials fee per person

RSVP to 781-751-9495



Council On Aging

Dedham Seniors and guests celebrated the holidays at the Endicott Estate on Friday, December 10, 2021. There were some familiar faces...



...and even Santa stopped by!



Happy Holidays!

Dedham Police Department

Pink Patch Project Donation to Dana Farber

On December 6, 2021, the Dedham Police Department had the honor and privilege of presenting a check for \$2,000 to the Dana Farber Foundation. The donation is from the proceeds collected through the Pink Patch Project, a charitable fundraising program selling special edition Pink Dedham Police Patches. This the first year the Dedham Police Department participated in the Pink Patch Program and with the community support and generosity, the program was a success!



*A big thank you to everyone
who donated to this great
cause!*



Parks & Recreation Department

The Dedham Parks and Recreation Department and Commission are in the holiday spirit and are hosting some free events for local families this month.



Twelve Days of Holidays

The Twelve Days of Holidays kicked off on December 2nd and has been a big hit! Sign up to day to join the team from Parks and Recreation to celebrating different holidays throughout the month with virtual story time on Zoom. The schedule of events is as follows:

- December 9 through December 12: Christmas stories at 6:30 p.m.
- December 27 through December 30: Kwanzaa stories at 6:30 p.m.



Calls From Santa

This annual tradition is back, and the list is growing! Registration is open and there is still room to sign up to receive a call from Santa Claus. The online form is available on the Parks and Recreation website and is available to everyone interested at no cost. Santa will be available to make his calls on December 20 and December 21 before he heads off on his world tour.



Engineering Department

Social Media:

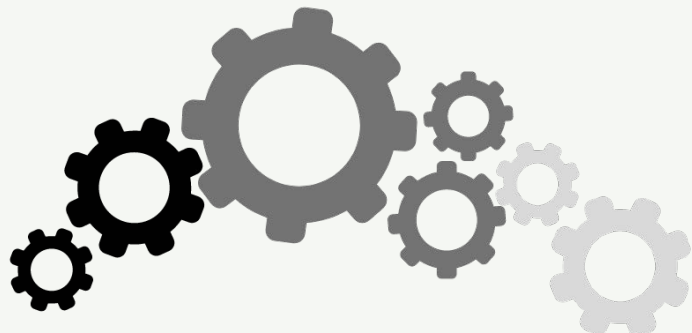
Please find and follows the Engineering Department on Twitter at [@tod_engineering](https://twitter.com/tod_engineering). The Engineering Department will be utilizing this Twitter account to post information related to our stormwater system and what we all can do as a Town to improve the water quality of waterways and natural resources.

Elm Street & Rustcraft Rd Sidewalk Improvements Project:

The project is heading into a winter shutdown in the next few weeks and is not anticipated to restart until March/April, weather permitting. Over the past several months, MassDOT's contractor has installed various stormwater upgrades and Eversource has completed all utility relocations and upgrades associated with this project. The sidewalks will be constructed as part of the upcoming construction season. The end date for this project is still set for the end of 2022. For anyone who would like to see the plans and/or get additional information about this project, please feel free to visit the Town's webpage at <https://www.dedham-ma.gov/departments/engineering/projects/elm-street-rustcraft-road-roadway-reconstruction> . The Town will also be using this webpage to place information regarding the project as it progresses. If you have any specific questions regarding the project please contact either of the following MassDOT RE Field Office Personnel:

- Donny Dailey, MassDOT Government Affairs, Donny.dailey2@dot.state.ma.us
- Laura Montiel, Resident Engineer, Laura.montiel@dot.state.ma.us

*Engineering Department updates
continued on page 8*



Engineering Department

2021 Wet Weather Sewer Inspections

In March, the Town awarded the 2021 Sewer On-Call Services Contract to National Water Main Cleaning Company (NWM). As part of the contract, National Water Main is responsible for this year's wet weather inspections. The wet season in MA typically runs from March through May when the groundwater is at its highest. This allows us to inspect our sewer mains to observe if any of the groundwater (Infiltration) is entering the sewer system. Infiltration does not belong in our sewer system as it reduces the capacity at which our sewer mains can handle wastewater and it also costs all of the Town's sewer customers, through your sewer bill, to have this clean water transported and treated by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA). We will use this information to create a work order for National Water Main to line these leaking sewer mains to keep the infiltration out our sewer system under this same contract.

2021 Infiltration Sewer Rehabilitation Project

As part of the 2021 Sewer On-Call Services Contract, NWM has started rehabilitating the Town's public sewer mains and manholes that were identified in past wet weather sewer inspections as having infiltration. The project is estimated to remove approximately 62,000 Gallon Per Day (GPD) of infiltration exclusively through trenchless technologies. For our public sewer mains, the project will involve the installation of about 4,600 linear feet of cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) and about 15 linear feet of short liners. For our public sewer manholes, the project will involve the exterior grouting and interior cementitious lining of about 650 vertical feet of manholes. The work for this project is spread out throughout the entire Town and is scheduled to be completed before December 31, 2021.

Washington Street On-street Parking

The Engineering Department recently designed 5 new on-street parking spaces on Washington Street in front of Town Hall, that were painted by the DPW. These spaces are currently available without restrictions. The Select Board will review these spaces over the next several months and determine if future restrictions will be needed once the Public Safety Building is operational.



Construction activities are ongoing with MassDOT's contractor for the Bridge Street & Ames Street project. The project limits are along the State Highway's portions of Bridge Street (Dedham Town Line to Ames Street) and Ames Street (Bridge Street to Ames Street Bridge). The project work includes minor roadway widening, sidewalk reconstruction, resurfacing the roadway, re-striping the roadway and reconstruction of the signal at Bridge/Ames Street intersection. The project will include creating ADA-compliant ramps and include designating 5 to 6-foot wide shoulders as bike lanes. The project is anticipated to be completed by the Spring of 2023.

For questions or concerns related to MassDOT's project, please contact the MassDOT Field Office personnel:

- Donny Dailey, MassDOT Government Affairs,
Donny.dailey2@dot.state.ma.us
- Kevin Fuller, MassDOT Resident Engineer,
Kevin.Fuller@dot.state.ma.us

Department of Public Works

Excess Recycling Collection Weeks:

Waste Management will pick up additional recycling materials during the weeks of December 26, 2021 (Green week) and January 3, 2022 (Gold week). During these two weeks, additional cardboard (flattened), paper, and recyclable materials will be picked up outside of the recycling carts. Additional recyclable materials can be stored in open barrels, paper bags, or other boxes for collection. To determine your Recycling Collection Week and Day, please review the 2021 Program Guide and locate your street name from the list.

Christmas Tree Disposal:

Christmas Trees will be collected by the DPW starting the week of December 27th and continuing through the month of January (or until all trees are collected). Please place your tree curbside free of tinsel, garland, lights, ornaments and plastic. Trees may not be collected on your regular trash day, but the DPW team will collect your tree for disposal. Collection may be delayed due to weather or staffing issues, and updates will be posted on the Town website and social media accounts.



Parking Meters

The construction and installation of new parking meters in the Dedham Square has been completed, and all meters are live and functioning.

As voted unanimously by the Select Board during their November 18, 2021, the parking meters in the Dedham Square will offer **two hours of free parking for holiday shopping, beginning on Friday, December 17, 2021 for the benefit of local businesses.** The holiday waiver will be in effect through the Christmas weekend, returning to normal function on Monday, December 27, 2021.

Please note, the two-hour time limit at the meters during the holiday waiver will remain in effect. For example, if you leave a car parked at a meter for longer than two hours during posted times, the vehicle owner should expect to receive a \$20 citation by mail.

There are three public lots within close proximity to the Dedham Square that offer **free daytime parking:**

- Keystone Lot (10 Eastern Avenue) 138 spaces
- Lower Gonzalez (506 High Street) 45 spaces
- Upper Gonzalez (420 Providence Highway) 27 spaces

The Town has created a specific Parking page on our website, www.dedham-ma.gov/parking, that includes the following information:

- Parking meter zones and hours of operation
- Parking meter rates and acceptable forms of payment
- How to use the parking meters
- Contact information for the Parking Enforcement Officer
- How to pay/appeal a parking ticket

If you require assistance using the parking meters, experience technical issues, or if you have questions about available parking in Dedham, please call the Parking Enforcement Officer at (781) 751-9245 or email rjohnson@dedham-ma.gov.



Town Hall Talk will be published monthly and will be available on the [Town website](#).

Please subscribe to receive notification of each new issue!

Town of Dedham, MA

450 Washington Street (Ames Building)

(781) 751-9100