

What's Going on in Dunstable?

The goal of this newsletter is to share information from the town's municipal departments as well as volunteer boards & committees. Please note, that some information could be subject to changes.

February 16, 2022

Winter 2022

1. Dunstable Town Administrator
 - Dunstable's current Town Administrator has resigned. The selectboard is advertising for this role and actively reviewing resumes for an interim Town Administrator.
2. 350th Anniversary Committee Update
 - 350th Anniversary Committee is full steam ahead; working with subgroups and coming up with ideas for the big year to come! Please be on the lookout for publications and posts about events and opportunities to participate in activities throughout the town.
3. Route 113 Highway Project
 - Route 113 project has received the final legislative approvals needed to go forward. The State is reviewing the bids that were received in January and is expected to certify a bidder soon. The Town will learn in the coming month or two the schedule for their contractor to begin and work out a traffic plan during construction. The State will have a resident engineer on site throughout the project to address abutting property owner concerns and ensure quality control.
4. Dunstable Fire Department
 - Dunstable Fire Department has been actively reviewing its services, budget, and local relationships to determine ways to improve services. Chief Zbikowski and his fire fighters have engaged in numerous discussions with one each other as well as Pepperell and Groton Fire Departments to find common ground regarding regional services (including full time fire fighters, ambulance options, and different service models to respective communities). The selectboard looks forward to reviewing the suggestions and seeing ways to enhance the way Dunstable Fire Department serves the community.
5. Swallow Union Building Exterior Restoration

Questions? Email bos@dunstable-ma.gov

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- CPA / CPC is reviewing ways to improve the exterior envelope of the Swallow Union School building. This project is wide ranging as we evaluate ways to ensure the legacy of the building and manage costs associated with its functionality to the town. This project funding is likely to come from CPA Restoration or Historical funds.
6. Governance Committee – Town Charter
 - Dunstable's Governance Committee is working to finish its draft Charter. A draft is available on the town website (it was made available this past fall). The draft has been circulated to Town departments and committees for feedback. A final report is expected soon on their recommended course of action which will be followed by a formal opportunity for public feedback before anything is put to the voters at Town Meeting.
 7. The Groton-Dunstable School District Budget
 - The Advisory Board has begun meeting with school officials to assess budget needs and make a recommendation to the Selectmen regarding the potential Proposition 2 ½ Override for the school district. This request for an override would be necessary to fund the upcoming fiscal year (FY23) and ensuing years budgets based on projections from the regional school committee.
 8. MUD/Affordable Housing Project
 - The Town has seen some initial interest from potential developers in the latest request for proposals. The Town extended the response deadline to March 8th to ensure maximum response from those interested.
 9. Upcoming Elections for Dunstable offices
 - Are you interested in running for a town position on an elected board? Nomination papers will be available as of February 1. Please contact the Town Clerk's office for additional information (cskerrett@dunstable-ma.gov). You must be a resident and registered voter to hold an elected office. View the offices up for election at this website - <https://www.dunstable-ma.gov/home/news/are-you-interested-running-town-office> .
 10. Woodward Mill Dam
 - The Town has noticed recent erosion and sink holes near the Woodward Mill dam. We recently received an inspection report that identified some potential structural deficiencies.