

# Stoughton Town Crier

TOWN OF STOUGHTON UPDATED OCTOBER 30, 2023 ROBERTA HARBACK



All information taken from various Town of Stoughton pages



# **Selectboard Agenda**

## **Tuesday October 31, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.**

### **Great Hall Town Hall 3rd floor & virtually with Google Meets**

In accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, which extends the Governor's March 12, 2020 "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.C. 30A § 20", until March 31, 2025, this meeting will be conducted in person and virtually via Google Meets.

**To Join via Google Meets: [meet.google.com/vyi-hert-tjo](https://meet.google.com/vyi-hert-tjo)**  
**PHONE: 530-425-6870**  
**PIN: 796 546 553#**

The meeting will be recorded by SMAC cable television and broadcast live and may be livestreamed at [www.stoughtontv.org](http://www.stoughtontv.org). A recording of the meeting, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceeding will be posted on the Town's website and/or SMAC as soon as possible after the meeting if the live broadcast or livestreaming is unsuccessful. Times are approximate and items may be taken out of order at the Chair's discretion.

1. 7:00 p.m. **OPEN SESSION**  
**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**
2. 7:05 p.m. To consider notice of intent to sell, GL Chapter 61B - 1515 West St. (Votes may be taken) Brian Winner  
Town Counsel
3. 7:25 p.m. To consider approval of a Purchase and Sale Agreement regarding 30 Porter Street (Votes may be taken) Brian Winner  
Town Counsel



# *Taxes Due This Wednesday November 1*

## **Town of Stoughton**

### **OFFICE OF THE TOWN COLLECTOR**

10 Pearl Street • Stoughton, MA 02072 • (781) 341-1300 • FAX (781) 341-1032

The Treasurer/Collector, Paula Nute, has announced the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Fiscal Year 2024 REAL ESTATE and PERSONAL PROPERTY tax bills are due November 1, 2023, and must be received in the Collectors' office or at the PO Box in Medford on or before this date.

A postmark date is not acceptable as payment made if payment is not received in the Collectors' office or at the PO Box in Medford by November 1, 2023.

The 1st and 2nd quarter tax remittances were mailed in the same envelope on June 30, 2023.

**When sending payment(s) to the Lockbox address in Medford, checks AND tax remittances MUST BE SENT.** PLEASE do not send checks only to the Medford address. If there are no remittances with the check(s), the payment cannot be processed and will be returned to Town Hall for processing. This will delay the payment(s) from being applied to your tax bill(s).

**When processing a payment online through your bank, you MUST include the bill number, year, and type in the Memo field (for example, Bill #25, 2024 real estate or personal property) so your payment will be properly applied.**

When paying multiple bills through your bank, you must include each bill number. If this information is not included on your check, your check may be returned to you, and interest may accrue due to a late payment.

**Online bank payment checks must be mailed to Town of Stoughton PO Box 9108 Stoughton MA 02072.**

There is a secured payment drop box outside Town Hall on Pearl St. The payment drop box is emptied two to three times a day, once in the morning and once in the afternoon, and if needed, once before leaving the office.

**Real Estate and Personal Property tax bills may be paid online at:**

<https://www.stoughton.org/home/pages/pay-bills-online>

**The Collector's Office is now accepting payments by credit and debit cards in the Collector's Office for all tax and water, sewer, trash bills. There is a 3% fee if a card is used to process a payment.**

All Fiscal Year 2024 Real Estate and Personal Property taxes remaining unpaid after their respective due dates are subject to 14% per annum interest.

Please call 781-341-1300 X 9222 if you need your bill number(s) and or amount(s) due. The Collector staff are available by phone and in person Monday through Wednesday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Thursday from 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM, and Friday from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM.

# Town of Stoughton

Department of Veterans' Services  
10 Pearl Street Stoughton MA 02072

Tel: 781-341-1300 x9221

Email: [sjohnson@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:sjohnson@stoughton-ma.gov)



## Reflagging of Veterans' Graves Saturday, November 4th

### All Welcome

On Saturday, November 4th, we will be reflagging the graves of all veterans at the Holy Sepulcher and Evergreen Cemeteries. Many people have found this to be a moving experience and have come away with a genuine sense of accomplishment, pride and contentment. This is a great event to instill these feelings and values in our children and grandchildren; by honoring those who came before us, those who gifted all of us with the still abundant opportunities we all have today in our great Country.

If you know which cemetery you wish to go to, please feel free to go directly to either Holy Sepulcher or Evergreen by 10:05AM. The Stoughton Veterans' Graves Officer will be at Holy Sepulcher and the Stoughton Veterans' Officer will be at Evergreen by that time or very shortly thereafter. For everyone else we will be meeting at 10:00AM at VFW Post 1645 at 837 Washington Street. After a brief introduction to the process you may go to either Evergreen or Holy Sepulcher.

Refreshments will be served at the VFW after the completion of the reflagging.

### **Veterans Day Parade \*\* Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>**

The Veterans Day Parade will begin forming in the parking area at VFW Post 1645 on Washington Street at 9:30AM. It will begin at 10:00AM sharp. The parade route will proceed through the square to the Stoughton Town Hall via Washington St. and Pearl St. for a ceremony and wreath laying at the Memorial Bell. The parade will then reform on Pearl St. and proceed back through the square to Faxon Veterans' Memorial Park for two memorials. The parade will then proceed down Walnut St. to Washington St. and go back to the VFW. The entire parade will be approximately 1½ hours. At the VFW there will be a collation following the parade.

Participants in the parade generally include the VFW Color Guard and Firing Detail, Veterans groups, the Police and Fire Departments, the High School Band, Town and State officials, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and possibly other groups. The ceremonies at the various sites include opening prayers, playing by the High School Band, the laying of wreaths and various speakers.

The parade will end at approximately 11:45AM at which time you are cordially invited to a collation at the VFW at 837 Washington Street.

### **Federal, State, and Local Veterans Benefits**

Are you a **veteran** or **dependent of a veteran** who has never asked about benefits that may have been **earned**? Are you struggling **financially**? Interested in the **VA Healthcare System**? Do you have a family member in need of **Aid & Attendance**? Do you think you have a **Service-Connected Disability**? Do you have a service-connected disability that has **worsened over the years**? For these or any other related questions please call, we may be able to help.

**PLEASE PASS THESE MESSAGES ALONG**

Town of Stoughton's Annual

# HOLIDAY PARADE OF LIGHTS 2023



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9th**

Starts at 5 pm at High School, ends at corner of Park & Leach St

**SEEKING GROUPS AND BUSINESSES TO PARTICIPATE!  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO REGISTER!**

[www.StoughtonRec.org](http://www.StoughtonRec.org)





**Town of Stoughton  
10 Pearl Street  
Stoughton, MA 02072**

Phone: 781-341-1300  
Fax 781-341-1032  
[www.stoughton-ma.gov](http://www.stoughton-ma.gov)

Stephanie G. Carrara, CMC/MMC  
Town Clerk

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**NOMINATION PAPERS FOR ALL OFFICES ARE NOW AVAILABLE**

**Important Dates to Remember:**

**Possible Preliminary Election: February 13, 2024**

Last Day to Register to Vote: Saturday, February 3, 2024 (5:00 p.m.)

**Town Election: April 2, 2024**

Last Day to Register to Vote: Saturday, March 23, 2024 (5:00 p.m.)

**For Board of Selectmen, School Committee, Redevelopment & Housing Authority**

Last Day to Obtain Nomination Papers: Friday, December 22, 2023 (12:00 p.m.)

Last Day to Submit Nomination Papers: Tuesday, December 26, 2023 (5:00 p.m.)

Last Day to Withdraw from Ballot: Thursday, December 28, 2023 (7:00 p.m.)

In order to be placed on the ballot, at least 120 signatures must be on nomination papers. 100 of those signatures must be certified.

**For Town Meeting Representatives Only**

Last Day to Obtain Nomination Papers: Friday, February 9, 2024 (12:00 p.m.)

Last Day to Submit Nomination Papers: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 (5:00 p.m.)

Last Day to Withdraw from Ballot: Thursday, February 15, 2024 (7:00 p.m.)

In order to be placed on the ballot as a Town Meeting Representative, nomination papers must be signed by fifteen qualified registered voters from your precinct. It is recommended that you get at least 20 signatures on your nomination paper.

**Helpful tips:**

A candidate can sign their own nomination papers.

If a signature is illegible, it is acceptable to have the voter print their name next to their signature.

The entire address must be written out. (For example, 1 Main St. is acceptable. 1 Main is not.)

Incomplete addresses cannot be certified.

PO Boxes are not acceptable.

**Possible reasons a signature is not certified on a nomination paper**

\*Has the voter moved recently? If they have not re-registered at the new address, their signature cannot be certified.

\*If the signature is illegible and unable to be identified, it will not be certified.

\* " " marks are unacceptable. Each address must be fully written out after each signature.

**\*\* IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION LETTER FROM THE CLERKS OFFICE  
PLEASE CONTACT THE TOWN CLERK DIRECTLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AT 781-232-9224\*\***

# Pottery Wheel Workshop

**11/3 & 12/15**

**5-8 PM**

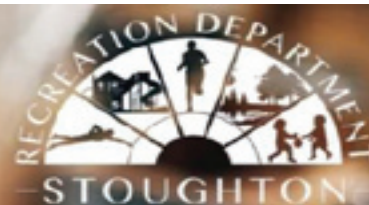
**AGES 16+**

**\$75**

**REC CENTER, 15 PLEASANT ST**

**REGISTER AT**

**[WWW.STOUGHTONREC.ORG](http://WWW.STOUGHTONREC.ORG)**



## YOGA FOR KIDS

**Saturday November 18th • 10:00 a.m.**

Join this fall themed children's yoga session full of stories, music, movement, and gentle stretching.

For families and children ages 3 and up.  
Registration Required.



**Stoughton  
Public Library**

**Stoughton Public Library**

**84 Park St., Stoughton, Massachusetts 02072  
781-344-2711**

**[www.stoughton.org/library](http://www.stoughton.org/library)**

# Gourmet ON A BUDGET

WITH MALCOLM GREEN

*Stoughton Business Owner and  
"Masterchef" Contestant*



## ASIAN FLAIR

Thursday 11/9 | 5:00 pm

TO REGISTER, VISIT

**[WWW.STOUGHTONREC.ORG](http://WWW.STOUGHTONREC.ORG)**



# Town Residents:

Please take a moment to follow the Link below and respond to our community survey regarding climate change.

Your input will help our Committee carry out its mission in addressing climate change.

Thank you for participating.

<https://forms.gle/BrzuNM4YVPZZXLrEA>



Climate Action  
Plan Committee



Air pillows



Packing peanuts



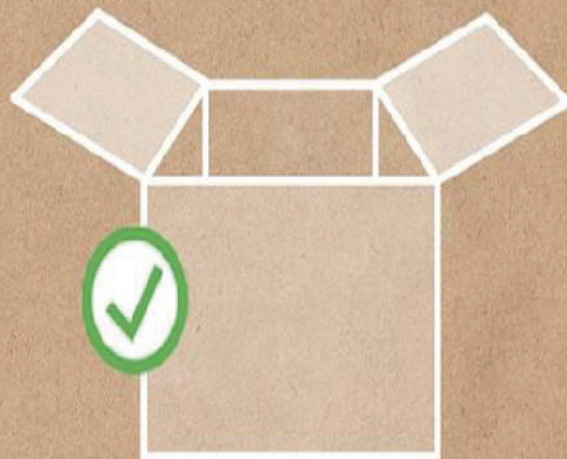
Plastic shipping bag



Bubble mailer



Paper filler



Cardboard box

# On- Call



**The Town of Stoughton is contracting for On-Call Snow Plowing Services for the upcoming winter season.**

**Information and documents can be obtained by e-mailing the Procurement Department at [fbruttaniti@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:fbruttaniti@stoughton-ma.gov) or call 781- 232-9364.**

**Complete Snow Plowing Operation responses will be accepted at the Town Hall Procurement Department, 3rd floor 10 Pearl Street before November 9, 2023.**

**The number of contracted pieces of equipment will be determined by the DPW Superintendent based on the needs to supplement the Town's equipment**

# “COME HOME TO US!”



**Who we are:** We are your town nurses providing compassionate, skilled services to our patients with a small town feel. The Stoughton Public Health Association and Visiting Nurses is owned and operated by the Town of Stoughton. We are a non-profit agency and have been Medicare Certified since 1966.

**Our Mission:** Stoughton Public Health Association's mission is to deliver quality care to all individuals within our Community and neighboring communities (Stoughton, Avon, Canton, Easton, Sharon, Randolph and Brockton) with respect, professionalism and confidentiality.

**When do you need homecare services?** Have you recently been hospitalized? Have you had a change in your medical condition? Have you had surgery recently? Does your doctor believe that it is medically necessary for you to receive skilled services in your home? These are all examples of situations when you may benefit from skilled homecare. If you and your physician feel that you could benefit from homecare services, please ask for us by name: [Stoughton Public Health Association and Visiting Nurses - 781-344-7011](tel:781-344-7011).

**The Services We Provide** Our agency provides Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy and Medical Social Worker services.

**Who pays for these services:** Let's talk insurance. We currently accept the following insurances:  
• Medicare • Harvard Pilgrim Health Plans • HPI • Tufts Senior Plans • United Health (select plans)  
• Aetna-Medicare Advantage Plans • GIC Unicare

**Public Health:** Stoughton Public Health Association also offers Public Health services to residents of Stoughton. Some of our programs include, but are not limited to the following:

- |                                                                 |                                          |                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • <i>Weekly Blood Pressure Clinic</i><br>(Thurs. 10:30am @ COA) | • <i>Vaccine Clinics</i><br>(Seasonally) | • <i>Converse with a Nurse</i><br>(Call or Visit our office Thurs. 4:30 – 6:30) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



**Stoughton Public Health Assoc. & Visiting Nurses**  
**10 Pearl Street (second floor of Town Hall) Stoughton, MA 02072**  
**Tel: 781-344-7011**

# CARDBOARD DISPOSAL

If you choose to recycle your cardboard, it needs to be broken down and placed in a recycling bin or barrel.

If you choose not to recycle, it still needs to be broken down and placed in trash bags along with your household trash.



**No loose trash allowed!**

# **Recycling Update..**

**Starting Tuesday 10/24 residents  
no longer need to  
separate your  
paper/cardboard from your  
cans/plastics/glass.**

**All recyclables need to be in your  
recycling bin or barrel.**

**No plastic bags allowed**

# Welcome to the Town Manager's Office!

On December 12, 2022 I was honored to begin my career in Stoughton. After enjoying a successful career in business, as a State Legislator and as a Town Administrator, I've taken on this challenge with eyes wide open. From a career of professional experiences, successes and mistakes, I join the Town well prepared to meet the challenges, and leverage the opportunities before us. It's hard to believe that almost 3 months have already passed. I apologize for not reaching out sooner. I want you to know that I am true and committed to several core values.

First, you can always expect transactional honesty from me. I will respectfully say what I mean and mean what I say. Second, I am committed to openness and full transparency. Secrets, hidden agendas and old grievances will not play any part in my decision making process nor, will they eat up the valuable time needed to do this job properly. Third, you can always expect me to use prudent fiscal judgement. We have real financial challenges and clear solutions which will require your understanding and support. I am not promising a "Rose Garden". I am promising however, that within three years, the Town of Stoughton will stand on a strong financial footing.

We have some challenges that are among my top priorities. As Stoughton looks forward to its 300th Anniversary, it's important to understand that our infrastructure is old and has been neglected for decades. We seldom appreciate the value of clean running water and efficient waste management until those services are interrupted or lost. We all share 112 miles of Stoughton roads. Only 24.1 miles require minimal or no maintenance. As we develop a long-term infrastructure plan, we need to coordinate the replacement of 100 year old water and waste water distribution lines with the pavement of those roads. We need to replace water meters that are not properly recording water consumption. This may appear to be getting into the weeds. However, the condition of our water and sewer lines, town buildings, and town roads is beneath the standard you deserve. Meeting those challenges is among my top priorities. Meeting you and hearing your views will be among my greatest joys!

In closing, I want you to know that openness, transparency and constituent service are among my core values. Those values served me well as a business executive, business owner, legislator and municipal leader. Your confidence in Stoughton town government is needed in order for us to move our common agenda forward. I ask that you stay in touch, stay involved, share your thoughts and make your voice heard.

Respectfully,

Thomas J. Calter

