

Michael D. Borg
Town Manager



TOWN OF NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
43 South Washington Street
North Attleborough MA 02760
508-699-0100

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: Wednesday, January 18, 2023
TO: Town Council
FROM: Michael D. Borg, Town Manager
RE: Town Manager Report

Below are key activities, that I think would be of interest:

PUBLIC HEALTH – Updates

- Nothing to report at this time

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT - Updates

- **Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA) TIER 2 Chemical Reporting Requirement.** We are establishing a working group under the direction of the Fire Chief to determine our requirements and develop our response and reporting plan.
- **CODE RED- We continue to encourage** all residents, Boards, Committees, and Commission Members to sign up for CODE RED notifications. This can be done by going to our website nattleboro.com and it is on the main page **“Emergency Alert Signup.”**

COMMUNICATION – Updates

- Hope Everyone had a Wonderful Holiday and a Happy New Year!
- 1/10/2023- Lenore’s Pantry received a check for \$2,000.00
 - Friends of the North Attleboro Council on Aging applied for a grant from Raymond James Trust on behalf of Lenore’s Pantry
- Keep North Attleboro Beautiful (KNAB’s) 10th Annual Town Wide Great American Cleanup is scheduled for **Saturday, May 6, 2023.**

OPERATIONS – Updates

- **Thanksgiving & Christmas Distribution Comparisons 2020, 2021 & 2022 (See attached)**
 - Many families in our community are in need, and Lenore’s Pantry was able to help 162 households at Thanksgiving and 159 households at Christmas this year.
 - Please see attached the comparison sheets for 2020, 2021, and 2022.
- Charter Review Committee met on 1/10/2023
 - They have a recommendation that resolves the “Leave of Absence” issue. It is currently being vetted by K.P. Law at this time. The Charter Review Committee will brief out their recommendations in the near future.
- **CIP –** The initial vetting of the CIP Submissions is complete We are finalizing projects

with the FY24 Budget.

- **IAC Member Distribution Meeting** was held on 1/10/2023. Meeting was conducted to discuss Direct Purchase and Member Benefits. We are continuing to gather information and requirements for a potential move away from a brokered health insurance plan.
- Measure and List Update
 - As of December 31st
 - * 31% of Residential properties have been visited (there are 8488 total)
 - * 0% of Commercial properties have been visited (waiting for staffing – 723 total)
 - * Data Entry to begin shortly
- Joint Meeting between the Planning Board and Board of Public Works on **1/12/2023**
Downtown Presentation by Stantec
 - I was in attendance at this meeting and had the opportunity to preview the proposals. I am very excited about the opportunities for our downtown area. A meeting with stakeholders is scheduled for February 7, 2023.
- **Community Host Agreements:**
 - **Native Sun-** Working with Native Sun on restructuring their current Community Host Agreement
 - **BORO Billboard-** Continued discussions/negotiations with Vivid Outdoor, LLC. and Interstate Outdoor for a Community Host Agreement.
- Starting discussions with the School Department for a **Joint Facilities Position.**
- **School Building Committee Kick Off Meeting was today 1/18/2023 at 3:00PM**
- **FY24 Exemption Updates** that the Board of Assessors will be voting on and then presenting to the Council. **(See attached)**

PERSONNEL – Update

- **Firefighter Kyle Goulet-** Congratulations on graduating from the Fire Academy and the Outstanding Student Award!
- **Probationary Fire Fighter Andres Nunez-** New Fire Fighter from Central Falls
- **Chanelle Sae-Eaw** has accepted the position of Residential Customer Service Representative and has begun working since the month of November to present.
- **Jason Gittle** appointed as a member of the Planning Board
- **Daniel McMahon** appointed as a member of the Board of Health

FY24 Exemption updates that the Board of Assessors is slated to vote on and will present to the Town Council

- The Board will present to the Town Manager the following: To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws Section 4 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986 as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988 which allows an additional real estate tax exemption of one hundred percent, (100%) of said exemption under Clauses 17D, 22, 37, 41C, of section 5 of Chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws. Passage of this article will return qualified property owners a tax exemption that compensates for the effects of inflation since the exemptions were initially established. (simply put, this is the yearly doubling of exemptions)
- The Board supports the following local options:
- **Clause 22G**, Veteran whose property is being held in trust for their benefit will now qualify. A veteran would have to qualify for an exemption if property was not held in trust. Without this Clause, the veteran would not qualify for the exemption if the house were held in a trust.
- **Clause 22H**, Full exemption to qualifying surviving parents or guardians of soldiers and sailors, members of the National Guard and veterans who during active duty suffered an injury or illness documented by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or a branch of the armed forces that was a proximate cause of their death or are missing in action with a presumptive finding of death as a result of active duty service as members of the armed forces of the United States.
- **Clause 41A**, Seniors may delay payment of their property taxes. A deferral does not discharge the tax obligation like an exemption. Instead, it defers payment until the senior sells the property or passes away. Upon qualification the senior would enter into a written tax deferral and recovery agreement with the assessors. The assessors will record the agreement at the Registry of Deeds. The current Income limit (gross receipts) is \$20,000 for both a single person or married couple. The Board of Assessors support the local option change to \$20,000 for a single person and \$40,000 for a married couple. This is consistent with the Fiscal 2022 local option changes to Clause 41C (Elderly) The Board would further support a change in lowering the interest rate on a deferral from 8% to 4%
- **Clause 56**, Upon the acceptance by the Town, the Board of Assessors may grant an Abatement/Exemption up to 100 percent of the total tax assessed to members of the Massachusetts National Guard and to reservists on active duty in foreign countries for the Fiscal Year they performed such service subject to eligibility criteria to be established by the Board of Assessors. The authority to grant abatements under this

section shall expire after 2 years of acceptance unless extended by a vote of the Town Council.

State Reimbursements, At the end of each Fiscal Year exemption totals are reported to the DOR and reimbursements are made to the Town for many of the exemptions granted. For Fiscal Year 2021 a total of \$96,325.62 was reimbursed out of \$276,413.12 granted. For Fiscal Year 2022 with the newly adopted changes a total of \$103,127.24 was reimbursed out of \$297,777.24 granted.

Lenore's Pantry Thanksgiving Distribution
At North Attleboro Board of Health
11/16/2020 & 11/18/2020

Statistics from Distribution:

57 Households 139 Adults 72 Children

\$ \$ 4,500 in Shaws or Stop & Shop Gift cards given
(\$ 100 per Family household; \$50 per Adult household)

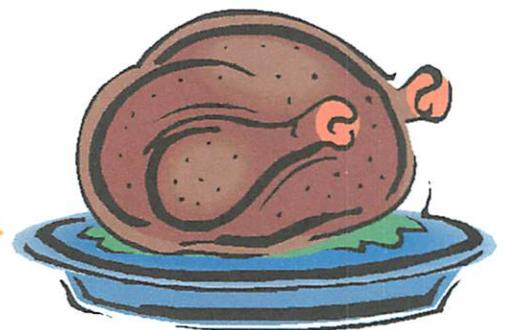
In Addition:

- 9 Frozen Turkeys from Rolling Thunder.
- 50 Thanksgiving baskets donated by America's Best Defense Karate group. Baking pan; potatoes; stuffing; gravy; cranberry sauce; pumpkin pie; rolls; about \$10 gift card to Walmart
- Schools; Churches; businesses; families; and Individuals Donated:

Food, Food, Food!!!



Happy Thanksgiving



Lenore's Pantry Thanksgiving Distribution
At North Attleboro Board of Health
11/15/21 & 11/16/2021

Statistics from Distribution:

127 Households 196 Adults 76 Children

\$ 5,880 in Shaws or Stop & Shop Gift cards given

(\$ 60 per Family household; \$40 per Adult household)

Additionally, we were able to provide assistance to 8 last minute requests for support. (\$120)

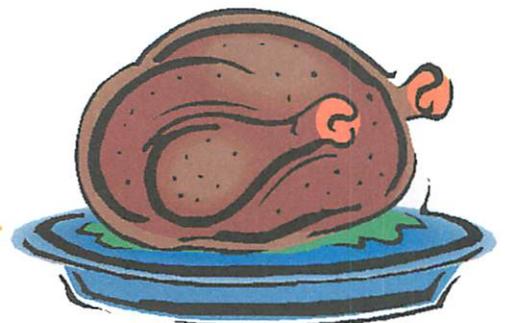
In Addition:

- 12 Frozen Turkeys from Rolling Thunder.
- 60 Thanksgiving baskets donated by America's Best Defense Karate group. Baking pan; potatoes; stuffing; gravy; cranberry sauce; pumpkin pie; rolls; about \$15 gift card to Walmart
- 60 Thanksgiving baskets donated by North Star Real Estate (\$20)
- 25 Thanksgiving Baskets donated by The Cliffs (\$20)
- 12 Thanksgiving Baskets donated by North Attleboro Junior Football (\$20)
- 30 Thanksgiving Baskets donated by
- Schools; Churches; businesses; families; and Individuals Donated:

Food, Food, Food!!!



*Happy
Thanksgiving*



**Lenore's Pantry Thanksgiving Distribution
At North Attleboro Board of Health
11/21/22 & 11/22/22**

Statistics from Distribution:

162 Households 352 Adults 99 Children

\$ 9,240 in Shaws or Stop & Shop Gift cards given

(\$ 120 per Family household; \$50 per Adult household)

Additionally, we were able to provide assistance to 5 last minute requests for support. (Meal Baskets, \$25 gift card for each)

In Addition:

- 100 Thanksgiving baskets donated by America's Best Defense Karate group. Baking pan; potatoes; stuffing; gravy; cranberry sauce; pumpkin pie; rolls; about \$15 gift card to Walmart
- 22 Thanksgiving Baskets donated by The Cliffs (\$20)
- 30 Thanksgiving Baskets donated by North Attleboro Junior Football (\$20)
- Schools; Churches; businesses; families; and Individuals Donated:

Food, Food, Food!!!



*Happy
Thanksgiving*



**Lenore's Pantry Holiday Distribution
At North Attleboro Board of Health
12/19/2022 & 12/20/2022**

Statistics from Distribution:

159 Households 265 Adults 112 Children

\$ 8,920 in Shaws or Stop & Shop Gift cards given
(\$ 80 per Family household; \$50 per Adult household)

\$ 10,650 in Target and Walmart Gift cards given
(\$120 per Family household; \$50 per Adult Household)

In Addition:

- One families adopted by a local (4 children)
- Large cash donation from Blue Stone Bank Charitable Foundation.
- Large amount of gift cards and food from Central Congregation Church
- Large food donations from Cross-Fit, The Pete Store, Boy Hockey Team, Scribble Time,
- Gift cards, hats, gloves, mittens, socks, scarves, and handmade masks donated by local residents; businesses; schools; churches

Food, Food, Food!!!



**Lenore's Pantry Christmas Distribution
At North Attleboro Board of Health
12/13/2021 & 12/14/2021**

Statistics from Distribution:

126 Households 199 Adults 92 Children

\$ 7,060 in Shaws or Stop & Shop Gift cards given
(\$ 50 per Family household, plus \$10 per child; \$50 per Adult household)

\$ 8,550 in Target and Walmart Gift cards given
(\$100 per Family household; \$50 per Adult Household)

In Addition:

- Two families adopted by local families (6 children)
- Multiple Families with children was adopted by Betty's Angels
- Large amount gift cards and food donated by Keller Williams Realty staff
- Large amount of gift cards and food from Central Congregation Church
- Gift cards, hats, gloves, mittens, socks, scarves, and handmade masks donated by local residents; businesses; schools; churches

Food, Food, Food!!!



**Lenore's Pantry Christmas Distribution
At North Attleboro Board of Health
12/14/2020 & 12/16/2020**

Statistics from Distribution:

108 Households 181 Adults 86 Children

\$ 7,600 in Shaws or Stop & Shop Gift cards given
(\$ 100 per Family household; \$50 per Adult household)

\$ 5,160 in Wal-Mart and Target Gift cards given
(\$20 per Family household/ \$20 per child; \$40 per Adult Household)

In Addition:

- Two families adopted by local families (6 children)
- One Family with 2 children was adopted by Betty's Angels
- Large amount toys and food donated by Keller Williams Realty staff
- Gift cards, hats, gloves, mittens, socks, scarves, and handmade masks donated by local residents; businesses; schools; churches

Food, Food, Food!!!

