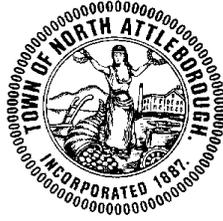


Michael D. Borg
Town Manager



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

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: Monday, November 13, 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:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

- Hurricane season is not over just yet, we will continue to track and report any storms that will impact our community. Ends November 30, 2023.
- Continuing to work with FEMA, MEMA, and our local representatives to provide relief from the recent flooding in Town.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Veteran's Day Ceremony-** Was on Saturday, November 11, 2023 at 11:00AM at Veterans Memorial Park. Very well attended.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES:

- **Boulter Farms EPA Cleanup Grant \$500,000** – Meeting was held on November 7, 2023 at 6:00PM.
 - Well attended with over 70 residents in attendance.
 - Communicated the 4 alternatives for cleaning the property.
 - Town has no plans for property post clean up as of now.
 - Great Input.
- North Attleborough is officially a **“Purple Heart Town.”** The unveiling of the signs and dedication of the Town was on November 2, 2023.
- Migrant Update
 - 60 Households including 56 families and 4 adult households now placed in North Attleborough. There are a total of 181 occupants of the hotel, with 94 adults and 87 children, with 38 school aged children.
 - 3 are currently employed and 2 more have been identified as legally employable. There are jobs available, need to work on getting the remainder legally employable.
 - Migrant Operations Update Meetings are held every other Thursday at 3:00PM.
 - National Guard is assisting with day-to-day activities, disbursement of resources, transportation, and translation of materials.

- A School Building Committee Meeting was held today 11/13/2023. They created a Communications Sub-Committee for transparency purposes.
- Zoning confirmed that the **Application for the 40B** will be submitted tomorrow for the **December 12, 2023 ZBA Meeting**.
- **Downtown Concept Plan is finished.** Town Planner is working on Mixed-Use Overlay Bylaw.
- **North Attleboro Business Accelerator (NABA)** – Draft Contracts have been sent out to the 7 recipients. Once they are filled out by the business owner and sent back to us, they each will receive their award.
- An Act Honoring, Empowering, and Recognizing our Servicemembers and Veterans has been submitted by Governor Maura Healy (see attached A)
 - If approved, this may provide the opportunity for expanded tax advantages for our Veterans.
- **Tri-County MSBA Special Election was held on October 24, 2023.**
 - The Vote passed to build a new school building for Tri-County Vocational Technical High School.
 - Of **22,925** registered voters in the Town of North Attleborough, only **896** voters came out to vote. Only **3.91%** of the population voted.
 - District Wide Vote Results (see attached B)

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

- OPEB Balances as of 10/31/23

Fund	31-Oct-22	transfers in [July 2023]	31-Oct-23	net gain (loss)	net gain (loss) %
OPEB General Govt	\$2,924,389.51	\$580,000.00	\$3,648,507.55	\$144,118.04	4.93%
OPEB Water Enterprise	\$1,373,634.37	\$163,390.00	\$1,602,615.24	\$65,590.87	4.77%
OPEB Sewer Enterprise	\$1,689,838.21	\$180,735.00	\$1,950,871.78	\$80,298.57	4.75%
OPEB Solid Waste Enterprise	\$480,915.60	\$50,726.00	\$554,480.32	\$22,838.72	4.75%
	\$6,468,777.69		\$7,756,474.89	\$312,846.20	4.84%

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Housing Authority-** Executive Director- Full Time-Closes December 8, 2023
- **Retirement-** Executive Director- Full Time -Open until filled.
- **Bus Driver-** Part Time- Parks & Recreation/Council on Aging-Closes November 14, 2023
- **Custodian-**Full Time- Town Hall- Closes November 16, 2023
- **Park & Recreation Program Assistants & Game Officials-**Part Time-November 21, 2023
- **Water Quality Supervisor-** Full Time- DPW-Open until filled.
- **Many School Department Opportunities:** Please visit the website for more information: <https://www.nattleboro.com/Jobs.aspx>

Attachment A

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 4685 FILED ON: 11/9/2023

HOUSE No. 4172



MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE · BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

November 9, 2023

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives,

I am pleased to submit for your consideration An Act Honoring, Empowering, and Recognizing our Servicemembers and Veterans.

On March 1, 2023, our administration established the Executive Office of Veterans Services (EOVS), reaffirming our commitments to veterans who have sacrificed and served their nation, and to provide an increased level of oversight, accountability, and professionalism. This important step was made possible because of the leadership of the Legislature, and we are grateful for their partnership in our efforts to improve veteran services across the state.

The Healey-Driscoll administration has completed a robust engagement process to better understand the legislative and programmatic priorities of the veteran community. I am proud to say that the administration has engaged with over 75 Veterans Service Officers representing over 100 municipalities, heard from over 30 nonprofit partners, and conducted a 50-state review of veteran policy and legislative efforts. The legislation I am filing today consists of proposals aimed at expanding veterans' benefits, increasing inclusivity, and modernizing services.

The legislation will increase benefits and opportunities for veterans, including by:

1. Increasing the annuity paid to disabled veterans, surviving spouses, or Gold Star parents from \$2,000 to \$2,500.
2. Allowing veterans who lack other options to be reimbursed for behavioral health services.
3. Increasing the tax credit for employers who hire eligible veterans from \$2,000 to \$2,500.

4. Giving municipalities options to increase property tax exemptions for veterans, by doubling the existing exemption for veterans alone and/or tying the exemption to inflation.
5. Lengthening the timeframe in which veterans in public service can pay to have up to four years of active-duty service time count toward their state retirement.

This legislation will redouble our commitment to inclusivity and greater representation of all our veterans, including by:

1. Broadening the definition of veteran by aligning the state Chapter 115 program definition of a veteran with the United States Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) definition, allowing EOVS to serve more veterans.
2. Expanding the scope of the Veterans Equality Review Board to allow individuals discharged on the basis of additional protected classes (including race/ethnicity, color, religious creed, national origin, age, and disability) to become eligible for state veterans benefits.
3. Providing, through a two-year pilot program, in vitro fertilization (IVF) reimbursement to disabled same-sex women veterans who have been denied IVF reimbursement by the VA solely because they are in a same-sex marriage.

And this legislation will modernize our approach to serving veterans, including by:

1. Revising Chapter 115 and 115A to ensure gender neutral and inclusive language while removing antiquated references.
2. Creating a public-private working group to study the health benefits of psychedelics as treatment for veterans suffering physical or mental disorders related to their service.

Our veterans answered the call to serve our state and country, and they deserve the utmost dignity, respect, and support for their service. This bill reaffirms the Commonwealth's commitment to supporting all of our servicemembers and their families.

I urge your favorable consideration of this legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Maura T. Healey,
Governor

Attachment B

Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical School District
District Wide Vote Results
October 24, 2023

TOWN	YES	NO	TOTAL	PERCENT
FRANKLIN	1329	316	1645	19.14%
MEDFIELD	188	29	217	2.53%
MEDWAY	511	66	577	6.71%
MILLIS	351	656	1007	11.72%
NORFOLK	540	169	709	8.25%
NORTH ATTLEBORO	528	368	896	10.43%
PLAINVILLE	317	239	556	6.47%
SEEKONK	274	351	625	7.27%
SHERBORN	206	27	233	2.71%
WALPOLE	663	889	1552	18.06%
WRENTHAM	458	119	577	6.71%
TOTAL	5365	3229	8594	100.00%