

**Town of Bridgewater
Town Council
FY23 Resolutions**

Directory of Documents

[Town Council Resolutions](#)

(Click on Resolution Number/Name to View Document)

Ordinance Number	Ordinance Title	Date Adopted
R-FY23-001	Recognizing the 2 nd Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Day	September 27, 2022
R-FY23-002	Naming of the Olde Scotland Links golf Course Clubhouse	December 6, 2022
R-FY23-003	FY24 Budget Resolution	December 20, 2022
R-FY23-004	2023 Meeting Dates	December 20, 2022
R-FY23-005	Apply for Grant from Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund	March 7, 2023
R-FY23-006	July 4 th Resolution	April 4, 2023
R-FY23-007	Downtown Revitalization Initiative	May 23, 2023



Bridgewater Town Council

Introduced By: Councilors Chase and Moore
Date Introduced: 9/13/2022
First Reading: 9/13/2022
Second Reading: 9/27/2022
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted: 9/27/2022
Date Effective: 9/27/2022

Resolution R-FY23-001: Recognizing the Second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Day

Whereas, the Town of Bridgewater supports the Bridgewater Communities for Civil Rights Committee (BCCR) by resolving that we are a community of civility, where intolerant speech and behavior are unacceptable, thus ensuring our Town remains a respectful place to live, work, attend school, visit, and conduct business as expressed in a proclamation passed by the Town of Bridgewater Town Council on January 19, 2016 and,

Whereas, the Town of Bridgewater recognizes that Bridgewater is built upon the ancestral homelands and villages of the Wampanoag and Massachusetts peoples who have been caretakers of these lands for millennia and without whom the establishment of the Town of Bridgewater would not have been possible.^{1,6} and,

Whereas, European explorers and colonial settlers used the Doctrine of Discovery to justify illegally taking Indigenous lands, and to further justify the enslavement, dehumanization, and murder of Indigenous peoples and,

Whereas, Indigenous Peoples of this region and throughout this nation suffered and endured egregious acts of cruelty, exploitation, dispossession, enslavement and genocide and the actions and policies of European colonizers of the Americas actively destroyed and suppressed parts of those cultures^{1,3,6} and,

Whereas, the Town of Bridgewater values the many contributions made throughout history to our community, our state, and our country through Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, labor, technology, science, philosophy, arts, and the deep cultural contribution that has shaped the character of the Town^{1,4} and,

Whereas, the idea of Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in Geneva in 1977 by a delegation of Native nations to the United Nations-sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas^{2, 3, 6} and,

ROLL CALL VOTE. REQUIRES MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING

Whereas, in 1990, representatives from 120 Indigenous nations at the First Continental Conference on 500 Years of Indian Resistance unanimously passed a resolution to transform Columbus Day into an occasion to strengthen the process of continental unity and struggle towards liberation, and thereby use the occasion to reveal a more accurate historical record ^{2, 3, 6} and,

Whereas, the United States endorsed the United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous People on December 16, 2010 ⁴ and,

Whereas, members of the MA General Court are petitioning for legislation for the issuance of an annual proclamation by the Governor to designate the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day (S.2027 and H.3191) ⁵ and,

Whereas, MA municipalities, including Amherst, Arlington, Bedford, Belmont, Brookline, Cambridge, Easthampton, Falmouth, Great Barrington, Holyoke, Marblehead, Mashpee, Maynard, Melrose, Newton, Northampton, Provincetown, Salem, Somerville and Wellesley, have already changed the holiday name to Indigenous Peoples Day ⁷.

Therefore, Be it resolved that the Town of Bridgewater, on behalf of its residents, hereby acknowledges that Bridgewater is Indigenous land, and honors the resilience, survivance, and continuity of the Indigenous Peoples of our nation and declares and recognizes the second Monday of October of this year and for all years henceforth to be Indigenous Peoples Day rather than Columbus Day in the Town of Bridgewater ^{1, 3} and,

Be it further resolved that we call upon all residents and employees of Bridgewater to encourage schools and other institutions to use Indigenous Peoples Day to reflect upon and learn about the historical abuses and continuing struggles of Indigenous nations, and to celebrate the foundations of the Indigenous people of this land upon which our town, state, and country were built.²

Resolutions in the MA municipalities of Arlington, Brookline, Northampton, and Salem and a Proclamation by the city of Somerville guided the development of this document, as did websites of the MA legislature and MassLive. These have been noted in the appropriate paragraphs within the document, with the websites provided below.

1 Salem (<https://www.salemma.gov/mayors-office/files/mayors-filings-city-council-september-24-2020>)

Note: Scroll to page 7

2 Northampton (<https://northamptonma.gov/documentcenter/view/6753>)

3 Brookline (http://transparentbrookline.com/warrant_article/201711TMA20ACA)

4 Somerville (<https://www.somervillema.gov/news/indigenous-peoples-day-statement-mayor-curtatone-and-city-proclamation>)

5 MA Legislature from [House](#) and [Senate](#)

6 Arlington <https://www.yourarlington.com/easyblog/entry/59-rights/2927-ipd-012621.html>

7 [Masslive.com](#) (published October 6, 2021)

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

ROLL CALL VOTE. REQUIRES MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>This Resolution was not referred to any committee. 14 days have elapsed, therefore it may be finally considered this evening.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Town of Bridgewater Home Rule Charter and Town Council Rules and Procedures, the Town Council assembled voted, at their meeting on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, to approve the aforementioned Order by a Roll-call vote (8-0 Councilors Rushton absent)

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Debra Ward, Town Council Clerk



Bridgewater Town Council

Introduced By: Councilors Rushton and Moore
Date Introduced: 11/15/2022
First Reading: 11/15/2022
Second Reading: 12/6/2022
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted: 12/6/2022
Date Effective: 1/6/2023

Resolution R-FY23-002 Naming of the Olde Scotland Links Golf Course Clubhouse

WHEREAS; Charles L. (Charlie) Simonds, longtime Superintendent of Bridgewater's Park and Recreation Department and beloved colleague to hundreds of fellow employees, died peacefully on October 26, 2022 in Myrtle Beach with his wife and six children by his side.

WHEREAS; Charlie was born in Boston but grew up in Bridgewater where he and his wife raised six children.

WHEREAS; From an early age, he showed athletic prowess, and with his height of over 6' 7", he accomplished great feats on the basketball court.

WHEREAS; He was a 1973 graduate of Cardinal Spellman High School and a 1977 graduate of Stonehill College where he was a 1000-point scorer.

WHEREAS; Charlie was inducted into both the Cardinal Spellman and Stonehill College Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS; Charlie earned a degree in business from Stonehill College.

WHEREAS; The strong values he instilled as a coach to hundreds of others' children shaped generations of Bridgewater residents.

WHEREAS; As a coach he was always stern, fair, and patient. But always reminded children and their parents that sports are meant to be fun.

WHEREAS; Charlie could always be found lending a helping hand to his family, friends, or even strangers. Charlie enjoyed helping others and never took credit for successes, but always volunteered to fix problems.

WHEREAS; Charlie's career with the Town of Bridgewater was extensive. He retired earlier this year as Superintendent of Parks and Recreation after spending 26 years serving the Bridgewater community. From

VOICE VOTE - REQUIRES MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING

preparing the top-notch baseball, softball, and football fields at Legion Field, to building the Olde Scotland Links clubhouse, to building the pickleball courts, to building Music Alley, to building softball fields, to building basketball courts, he was known for his unwavering dedication, commitment, leadership, and hard work.

WHEREAS; Charlie was a doer, accomplishing more in his lifetime than could ever be listed. But his greatest contribution and his greatest pride was his family.

WHEREAS; Charlie’s many friends and colleagues honored him upon his retirement by affixing his name to the Olde Scotland Links Clubhouse, an act the Town Council now desires to make permanent.

WHEREAS, the Bridgewater Town Council recognizes that Charlie Simonds was a committed and dedicated professional who directly and positively impacted the lives of generations of Bridgewater residents;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED; that with the unanimous support of the Bridgewater Town Council, the clubhouse at the Olde Scotland Links Golf Course hereinafter shall be known as the Charles L. Simonds Clubhouse at Olde Scotland Links.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)
<i>This Order was not referred to any committee. 14 days has elapsed, therefore it may be finally considered this evening.</i>

Attachments: None

In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Town of Bridgewater Home Rule Charter and Town Council Rules and Procedures, the Town Council assembled voted, at their meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, to approve the aforementioned Resolution, by a Roll-call vote 8-0.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Debra Ward, Town Council Clerk



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, November 15, 2022

Council Resolution: R-FY23-003

Introduced By:	Councilor Wood
Date Introduced	November 15, 2022
First Reading:	November 15, 2022
Second Reading:	December 20, 2022
Amendments Adopted:	
Date Adopted:	Decemer 20, 2022
Date Effective:	January 20, 2023

FY2024 BUDGET RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: A methodical and disciplined approach to the operating budget is warranted.

RESOLVED: Pursuant to establishing guidelines and priorities for the Town Manager to develop the Annual Budget, the Town Council of Bridgewater, Massachusetts in Town Council assembled vote to adopt the following Policy Guidelines for the Town Manager to use in creating the FY 2024 Budget:

The Town Council is adopting these budget policy guidelines pursuant to Section 6-1 of the Bridgewater Home Rule Charter. Based on these guidelines, the Town Manager will develop budgetary goals and the Town Budget for Fiscal Year 2024.

Introduction

The following financial principles set forth the framework for our overall fiscal planning and management of the Town of Bridgewater's resources and are designed to ensure the Town's sound financial condition, now and in the future.

Sound Financial Condition is defined as:

- Cash Solvency - the ability to pay bills in a timely fashion
- Budgetary Solvency - the ability to annually balance the budget
- Long Term Solvency - the ability to pay for future costs
- Service Level Solvency - the ability to provide needed and desired services
- Reserve Solvency – the ability to adapt and respond to economic conditions
- Capital Solvency – the ability to assess, maintain, and replace our capital assets
- Bond Rating- maintain or improve current bond rating A2

To this end we will adhere to the following financial policies.

Financial Policies and Guidelines:

The Town will adopt a Multi-Year forecast for fiscal years 2024-2028 and a Capital Improvement Program, prior to the submission of the FY Town Manager's FY 2024 Budget. This will give the Town a broader more forwarding looking perspective to better understand the budgetary cost drivers and our revenue capacity. Projecting forward will allow us to foresee where a structural deficit may exist when building out our operating budget for the ensuing year.

The following will be applied in preparing the FY 2024 Budget.

1. The town will avoid budgetary practices that balance current expenditures at the expense of meeting future year's expenses, such as postponing maintenance and upkeep of our facilities and equipment.
2. Recurring operating costs will be funded by recurring sources of revenue. In addition, to budget prudently and plan for contingencies, the town sets the following reserve objectives for FY 2024:
 - a. Unreserved Fund Balance (free cash) for FY 2023 (07/01/2024) will be targeted at 2% of the 2024 operating budget and used only for one-time expenditures such as capital improvements, capital equipment, unexpected or extraordinary expenses such as unbudgeted snow and ice removal expenses and/or to meet the stabilization reserve policy objectives.
 - b. The Town will maintain a Stabilization Fund as its main financial reserve in the event of an emergency, unforeseen circumstances, or an extraordinary need. It shall be the goal of the town to achieve and maintain a balance in the Stabilization Fund equal to 10% of its operating budget.
3. Revenue:
 - a. Revenue Estimating: the revenues will be estimated conservatively, using an objective analytical approach. The goal is to predict revenues as accurately as possible while erring on the side of caution.
 - b. The Town will use methodologies established that best fit the accuracy of specific forecasting, in other words, different methods for different revenue types: Property Tax, Local Aid, Local Receipts, and Other Available Funds.
 - c. Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation: A five-year forecast will be used to determine available funds to support, proportionately, the ensuing year's Fire Department operating budget and capital requirements for the Ambulance Fleet.
 - d. For FY 2024 the projected revenue surplus shall be set at 2% of the 2024 operating budget. Revenue surpluses are essential to continue the annual funding of the Stabilization Fund at the 10% level, fund capital purchases of machinery, equipment, and vehicles, capital building improvements, infrastructure and engineering costs, unfunded sick leave buyback, and outstanding OPEB liability.
4. Expenditures:
 - a. Estimating Major Cost Drivers: This compilation will address the increases necessary to fund the major budgetary cost drivers - salaries and benefits - which support our current service levels.

- b. Maintenance of Capital Assets: The Town will compile a budget that will maintain capital assets and infrastructure to protect the Town's investment. The Town will compile a budget that will maintain our assets to protect the Town's investment, support and provide services, community, and economic development. Specifically:
 - Mach/Equip/Vehicles
 - Software
 - Infrastructure
 - Land & Land Improvement
 - Building & Building Improvements

- c. New Programs or Initiatives: The Town will budget for new programs or initiatives only after fully funding existing major cost drivers and the maintenance of capital assets.

FY 2023 Town Manger's Budget Objectives

1. Continue the Town's efforts within all departments to obtain grant funding from federal, state, and other sources in order to offset capital expenditures and major initiatives.
2. Review cost implication of contracted services vs. staffing in various departments.
3. Continue to enhance the Town's website and use other technologies as cost effective means for delivering information and services, increasing public awareness, and encouraging public feedback.
4. Submit a budget which maintains the Towns current service level and a budget which will meet the Town Managers service priorities.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
• Budget & Finance	• 11/22/22: Voted 2-0 to recommend
• FinCom	• 12/14/22: Voted 5-0 to recommend

In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Town of Bridgewater Home Rule Charter and Town Council Rules and Procedures, the Town Council assembled voted, at their meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, to approve the aforementioned Petition, by a Roll-call vote 8-0.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Debra Ward, Town Council Clerk



Bridgewater Town Council

Introduced By: Councilor Chase
Date Introduced: 12/6/2022
First Reading: 12/6/2022
Second Reading: 12/20/2022
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted: 12/20/2022
Date Effective: 1/20/2023

Resolution R-FY23-004: Town Council Meeting Dates - 2023

WHEREAS: The Bridgewater Town Council Rules and Procedures, Section III Meetings states, “The Town Council will hold regular meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month beginning at 7:30 p.m. In the months of June, July and August, the Council will meet monthly on the first Tuesday, following the first Monday”; and

WHEREAS: Adoption of this Resolution, establishes regular meeting dates which are an exception to the aforementioned rule; and

RESOLVED: The following dates are established as regular meetings for the calendar year 2023 and regular meetings will be held in the Academy Building, Council Chambers, 66 Central Square, Bridgewater MA, to the greatest extent possible, beginning at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

FURTHER RESOLVED: Due to COVID-19 restrictions relative to building capacity and social distancing requirements, remote participation for Councilors will be offered while allowable under the revised Open Meeting Law and meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 10, 2023	Tuesday, June 20, 2023
Tuesday, January 24, 2023	Tuesday, July 11, 2023
Tuesday, February 7, 2023	Tuesday, August 8, 2023
Tuesday, February 21, 2023	September 5, 2023
Tuesday, March 7, 2023	September 19, 2023
Tuesday, March 21, 2023	October 10, 2023
Tuesday, April 4, 2023	October 24, 2023
Tuesday, April 18, 2023	November 7, 2023
Tuesday, May 9, 2023	November 21, 2023
Tuesday, May 23, 2023	December 5, 2023
Tuesday, June 6, 2023	December 19, 2023

VOICE VOTE - REQUIRES MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING

In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Town of Bridgewater Home Rule Charter and Town Council Rules and Procedures, the Town Council assembled voted, at their meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, to approve the aforementioned Petition, by a Roll-call vote 8-0.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Debra Ward, Town Council Clerk

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)
<i>This Order was not referred to any committee. 14 days has elapsed, therefore it may be finally considered this evening.</i>

Attachments: None



Bridgewater Town Council

Introduced By: Town Manager
Date Introduced: 3/7/2023
First Reading: 3/7/2023
Second Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted: 3/7/2023
Date Effective: 3/7/2023

EMERGENCY ORDER – Resolution R-FY23-005: A Resolution to Apply for, Accept, and Expend a Grant from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund as Administered by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services

EMERGENCY MEASURE:

WHEREAS, In accordance with Section 2-7 (b) of the Home Rule Charter, an emergency measure shall be introduced in the form and manner prescribed for measures generally except that it shall be plainly designated as an emergency measure and shall contain statements after the enacting clause declaring that an emergency exists and describing its scope and nature in clear and specific terms. A preamble which declares and defines the emergency shall be separately voted on and shall require the affirmative vote of two thirds of the town council, and

WHEREAS, The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs and the National Park Service require the attached Resolution prior to the processing of the \$448,337.50 grant awarded to Bridgewater to renovate and improve Stiles and Hart Parkland, and

WHEREAS, the EOEEA has asked the Town to accelerate the adoption of the attached Resolution,

NOW, THEREFORE, The Town Council votes to declare the adoption of the Resolution an emergency which will allow the Resolution to be voted immediately after this declaration.

WHEREAS: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Division of Conservation Services (DCS) is making Federal funding available through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State Assistance Program;

WHEREAS: The LWCF Program was established by PL 88-578 in 1965 to assist in preserving, developing,

and assuring accessibility to all citizens of the United States of present and future generations, and visitors who are lawfully present within the boundaries of the United States, such quality and quantity of outdoor recreation resources as may be available and are necessary and desirable for individual active participation in such recreation; and to strengthen the health and vitality of U.S. citizens;

WHEREAS: The goals of the Town are to:

Meet State and locally identified public outdoor recreation resource needs to strengthen the health and vitality of the American people; and increase the number of protected State and local outdoor recreation resources and to ensure their availability for public use in perpetuity, and encourage sound planning and long term partnerships to expand the quantity and to ensure the quality of needed State and local outdoor recreation resources.

WHEREAS: The CITY will vote to appropriate, and/or borrowing according to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7(1), the sum of \$1,300,000, for the purpose of paying costs associated with improvements to Stiles and Hart Parkland, known as the Stiles and Hart Parkland Improvement Project, located at 0 Broad Street, and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto (the "Project").

WHEREAS: The City known as the Town of Bridgewater has identified an assembly of parcels of 75 acres known as Stiles and Hart Parkland under the control of the Bridgewater Conservation Commission pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Section 8c that would be preserved for quality outdoor passive recreation purposes.

WHEREAS: The City known as the Town of Bridgewater intends to submit an application to EEA to fund up to fifty percent of the development cost of the improvements to Stiles and Hart Parkland.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized and requested to file an application with The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Division of Conservation Services for a Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program grant, and;

Further, subject to receipt of such Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program grant, that the City Council does hereby appropriate \$1,300,000 for the purpose of paying costs associated with improvements to Stiles and Hart Parkland, located at 0 Broad Street and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, up to \$1,300,000 (One million three hundred thousand dollars) is hereby appropriated from available amounts in the Community Preservation Fund Reserve Balance and the Open Space Reserves, and the Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized to borrow \$1,300,000 (One million three hundred thousand dollars) under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(3) and Chapter 44B of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefor, and any borrowing authorized by this Loan Order shall be reduced to the extent of any and all grants received by the City on account of the Project, and;

That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to accept grant funds and execute contracts, and any amendment thereto, in order to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program grant program, and;

That the City Manager be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms purposes, and conditions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program.

1. VOICE VOTE TO DECLARE AND DEFINE EMERGENCY - 2/3 REQUIRED (6)
2. VOICE CALL VOTE TO SUSPEND COUNCIL RULES & PROCEDURES SECTION 18 - READINGS - 2/3 VOTE (6)
3. VOICE CALL VOTE TO APPROVE MEASURE - MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING

In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Town of Bridgewater Home Rule Charter and Town Council Rules and Procedures, the Town Council assembled voted, at their meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, to approve the aforementioned Resolution, by a Roll-call vote 8-0.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Debra Ward, Town Council Clerk



Bridgewater Town Council

Introduced By: Kevin Perry, Councilor
Date Introduced: 3/21/2023
First Reading: 3/21/2023
Second Reading: 4/4/2023
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted: 4/4/2023
Date Effective: 5/4/2023

Resolution R-FY23-006: Annual July 4th Community Celebration

WHEREAS, the annual 4th of July community celebration is a cherished tradition in Bridgewater that brings together residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, the celebration is fully funded by private donations from community members and businesses, and the success of the event depends on the generosity of these donors; and

WHEREAS, a fundraising thermometer on the Academy Building grounds would provide a visual reminder of the progress toward the fundraising goal and encourage additional donations from community members and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Academy Building is a central and visible location in the town;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council hereby supports the placement of a fundraising thermometer on the Academy Building grounds for the purpose of displaying the progress toward the fundraising goal for the 4th of July community celebration.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the fundraising thermometer will be installed in a manner that is respectful of the historic nature of the Academy Building and does not damage or deface the property.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the fundraising thermometer will be maintained and removed promptly after reaching the fundraising goal of \$40,000 for the community's 4th of July celebration.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

This Resolution was not referred to any committee. 14 days has elapsed, therefore it may be finally considered this evening.

ROLL-CALL VOTE: REQUIRES MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING

In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Town of Bridgewater Home Rule Charter and Town Council Rules and Procedures, the Town Council assembled voted, at their meeting on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, to approve the aforementioned Resolution, by a Roll-call vote 9-0.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Debra Ward, Town Council Clerk

ROLL-CALL VOTE: REQUIRES MAJORITY OF THOSE PRESENT AND VOTING



Bridgewater Town Council

Introduced By: Fred Chase, Councilor
Kevin Perry, Councilor

Date Introduced: 5/9/2023

First Reading: 5/9/2023

Second Reading: 5/23/2023

Amendments Adopted:

Third Reading:

Date Adopted: 5/23/2023

Date Effective: 6/23/2023

Resolution RFY23-007: A Resolution of the Town Council In Support of Downtown Revitalization Initiative

WHEREAS, the Town Council through its Order to Establish Town Goals (O-FY23-019), recognizes the importance of promoting economic development and enhancing the quality of life for residents of Bridgewater by developing a vibrant and thriving downtown area; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bridgewater has commissioned several comprehensive studies and the Town Council assembled now wishes to take substantive steps towards implementation of those recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bridgewater has been working towards the revitalization of Bridgewater's Central Square and the surrounding area through the Bridgewater Downtown Revitalization Plan, which was commissioned in 2014 and developed by The Cecil Group with traffic engineers Nelson/Nygaard; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council held a workshop on April 11th with the team from Community and Economic Development, Fuss and O'Neill, and Union Studio, who bring decades of experience delivering integrated services across multiple disciplines; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council wishes to implement changes that will benefit the community for years to come, and recognizes that there is no better time than now to implement these changes with unprecedented funding opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bridgewater is mandated to comply with state-imposed Transit Oriented Development regulations by taking certain actions by December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bridgewater will seek funding for the next wave of progress/projects, including the relocation of the MBTA platform, Congressional Directed Spending, Developer Contributions, Community Planning Grant, Massachusetts Downtown, and Complete Streets implementation; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bridgewater’s professional staff will engage with local stakeholders, including business owners, residents, and community organizations, to gather input and feedback on a proposed downtown revitalization initiative; and

WHEREAS, Town Council will regularly review and evaluate the progress of the downtown revitalization initiative to ensure that it is meeting its goals and objectives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bridgewater Town Council enthusiastically supports engaging in collaborative partnerships following national best practices to improve upon its Downtown, Housing, Roadway Safety, and Bike and Pedestrian safety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Town Council encourages all residents and business owners to support the downtown revitalization initiative and to actively participate in its implementation.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
•	•

Attachments: None

In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Town of Bridgewater Home Rule Charter and Town Council Rules and Procedures, the Town Council assembled voted, at their meeting on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, to approve the aforementioned Resolution.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Debra Ward, Town Council Clerk