BOARD OF SELECTMEN AGENDA

February 3, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.
Sandwich Town Hall – 130 Main Street

1. Convene Open Session Meeting in Auditorium

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment

4. Review & Approval of Minutes – 1/27/22

5. Town Manager Report

6. Correspondence / Statements / Announcements / Future Items / Follow-up

7. Staff Meeting
   Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pam Gould – FY’23 School Budget Presentation & Related Matters

8. Old Business
   • FY’23 Budget Update
   • Update on Current Building Projects
   • Pilgrim Power Plant Decommissioning Issues
   • Other Matters Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chairman

9. New Business
   • Blizzard Follow-up
   • Heritage Museums & Gardens Annual Entertainment License
   • Sandwich Historical Commission – Carolyn Crowell from Member to Alternate
   • Other Matters Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chairman

10. Public Comment

11. Closing Remarks

12. Adjournment

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, 2/10/22, 7:00 P.M., Town Hall

Melissa Carroll

TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF SANDWICH
JAN 31 2022
RECEIVED & RECORDED
Present: D. Sampson, M. Miller, B. George, S. Hoctor, C. Holden
G. Dunham, Town Manager; Heather Harper, Assistant Town Manager
Others Present: W. Jennings

Mr. Miller opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Mr. Holden moved to approve the minutes of 1/6/2022 and 1/13/2022. Seconded by Mr. Sampson. Approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. David Darling – Read a statement about his property taxes. He said he received the highest property tax bill in his life. The Town Manager is presenting a 9.24% increase in the budget, and this is not for the schools. His assessment went up 9.1%. He thinks the Town should relieve the people who have lived here. More property to tax would allow the tax burden to shift.

Ms. Laura Wing – Wants to talk about people in town being very upset about high increases in taxes, but clutches of people are experiencing a very high increase. Her taxes went up 31%. This is challenging and difficult. She has talked with Bill Jennings and the Director of Assessing and was told that there were increases on Salt Marsh Rd. and that there might be a similar increase next year. She doesn’t question the legality; other towns are having the same issue. Beachfront residents are not here in the winter. Last year three properties fell over and were removed from the beach. Two of the three properties got taxes increased without a house on them.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Before the report, Mr. Miller asked Mr. Dunham to clarify and explain the tax increases. He provided a video explanation of how taxes are determined. Every city and town follow the same process. Tax rates are determined by what is approved by the public at Town Meeting divided by the total assessed valuation of properties in the Town. Amounts approved include budgets, overrides or debt exclusions, and assessment by the Cape Cod Commission. The tax levy can grow only 2.5% over the previous year’s taxes plus an amount for new growth. Sandwich’s last override was in 2006. Only one other town – Barnstable – has not had an override recently; the average is four in the same amount of time. Exclusions usually are due to debt approved by voters; the most recent debt exclusion was to finance the police and fire buildings. Others have related to needed work at the schools. Debt exclusions are taxed until the debt is paid, then
they disappear from taxes. Additionally, the Town can approve a one-year capital exclusion to finance a specific project. Total valuation is determined by prior property sales. Towns have neighborhoods that reflect similar values however some areas have more value than others. Then the state approves the numbers, and the tax rate is set. As valuations increase the tax rate decreases, but values of specific houses in some areas might go up. Everything goes by state law. A property owner has 30 days to file for an abatement if the owner believes the value is wrong. The Town can only raise money that Town Meeting has voted and no more. If one’s property value goes up above the average property value in Town, then the taxes go up slightly; if the property value decreases below the average, the taxes might go down slightly. The average tax bill is $6,547. Mr. Sampson stated that values reflect what has gone on with the real estate market. Mr. Miller reminded the public about abatement. The Town’s total valuation is determined by assessing parcels and analyzing related sales data.

1. Meetings: The Finance Committee meets on February 1st; they will receive the budget presentation. Next Thursday Dr. Gould will come before the Board and before the Finance Committee meeting the following Tuesday. A rough schedule has been developed for presentations.

2. Emergency management is looking at the storm situation closely. It will meet again tomorrow. The transfer station will be closed on Saturday; a decision on Sunday will be made later. This has all been publicized on the Town website. Town Neck beach gate will be locked tomorrow.

3. Wastewater – there have been several meetings with Converge. We are trying to see if the system has merit for Sandwich. We will apply for a regional state grant with Barnstable to look at the amount of effluent expansion. The State DEP is supportive. The grant has a maximum of $200,000. We reached out to Mashpee, Falmouth and Bourne; Mashpee and Falmouth are interested.

Mr. Miller asked whether the DPW is short of plow drivers. Mr. Dunham said there are 15 drivers plus a few from the transfer station and other departments. More than a third are out related to Covid but are back now. We are asking people to avoid parking on streets. It is possible there will be a shelter at the human services building; this will be determined by the County.

**CORRESPONDENCE/STATEMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Holden received a letter from a citizen discussing the decommissioning of the nuclear plant and the effect from wastewater going into the Bay. There is a letter from our congressional representatives, and he asked if the Board would consider supporting the letter. This will be put on the agenda for next Thursday. Mr. Hoctor spoke with the offices of Senators Warren and Markey regarding the Section 111. They talked with the Army Corps about expanding the amount of the federal award beyond $12.5 million. He brought up Old Harbor, which is a burden on the Town. A Waterway infrastructure funding vehicle is possible. They want to see two disposal options – the salt marsh and town neck. Mr. Miller reported that the school negotiation team needs someone from the Board to be involved with that process; Mr. Holden will do it.
STAFF MEETING

Town Manager and Other Town Staff – FY’23 Budget Presentation and Related Issues

Mr. Dunham addressed the FY’23 budget and long-term issues using a slide show presentation (slides are available in the agenda packet). Before he went into detail, he made two major points: 1. The recommended general government budget increase is 9.24% over last year, and 2. The capital budget request at $300,000 is net of monies from ambulance and enterprise funds, as well as reflecting capital approvals at the fall town meeting. Additional capital items to consider include school department building improvements, which would need to be funded through a debt exclusion and improvements to the Sandwich Hollows Golf Club, funds coming from the golf enterprise fund. Mr. Dunham then presented charts and information about the sources of funds and the spending patterns, along with identifying overall long-term trends and opportunities and went over the specific sections of the budget binder (available online at www.sandwichmass.org).

He specifically addressed the capital budget, highlighting the recurring amount needed for building maintenance, addressing school building needs and costs for moving the school administration to the human services building as well as transferring money for golf course improvements. He talked about the advantageous timing for the golf course improvements related to increased play and how deterioration would continue should the improvements not be made. He is awaiting firm figures for the school improvements.

When addressing the operating budget, he emphasized that a level service budget would result in a 4.98% increase due to costs associated with wages, additional buildings, personnel related to moving into 100 Rte. 6A, opening the Hoxie House and Grist Mill, and addressing reorganizational opportunities; he provided detailed information related to all of these. The difference between the level service budget and the recommended 9.24% budget are due to shifting of funds from road infrastructure funding through debt exclusions to including enough in the DPW budget to ensure adequate road maintenance and prevention ($650,000). Additionally, the recommendation is to include Fire Department overtime expenses in the Fire Department operating budget; this will eliminate annual requests for transfers from the Reserve Fund to cover these expenses ($250,000 with $100,000 to come from the Ambulance Fund). This makes the operating budgets more realistic and sustainable for the future, while still maintaining both a balanced budget and excess levy capacity.

Mr. Dunham then talked about needs to be addressed in FY’24 and beyond, which included additional staff, sale of buildings with sales revenue put into the sinking fund and decreasing operating budget dependence on beach parking for the Recreation and Natural Resources departments. He addressed the increasing tuition assessments by the State and the pressure this puts on the operating budget, projected general fund revenues and expenses, and described issues to monitor during the budget process.

Mr. Sampson commented that significant effort has gone into this. Variables are important, particularly concerning the roads. He is concerned about disconnected information presented on social media and encourages voters to watch meetings or read the newspaper. The last debt
exclusion for road improvements passed at Town meeting and at the ballot box, but there is not enough money in the DPW to keep up; this needs to be funded. Mr. Miller commented that although the Town passed the bond, the amount was nowhere near enough to catch up with what had not been done for years. State money hasn’t kept up either.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Current Building Projects
100 Rte. 6A – high capacity file systems are going in today. Great news that the sewer ejection pump has been commissioned. Working with APC and other vendors for the dehumidification. We are waiting for an accurate cost estimate to move forward. Good progress. The exterior work will be done in the spring; move in possibly in early May. Mr. Sampson would like to see a more definite date. Drew Landry, an intern from Mass. Maritime is working on inventory of surplus cabinets and items that would be left behind after the move that we would like to sell or auction off. He has been attending meetings and the hope is he will be involved with local government. CAL – national grid is working on the gas line. Framing, exterior trim, platforms and trusses for the second floor, and the roofers are onsite. Hopefully the stairs will be completed and the second floor will be more accessible. Work on finishes and furnishings continues. Meeting with recreation leadership and human services department who are collaborating on policies and youth policies for the building. Within the next six weeks there will be a draft policy that will be brought back to the Board. There might be some activities the community will want that won’t be available because of staffing; managed and programmatic activities will be covered well. Mr. Miller thinks there should be an open house when 100 Rte. 6A is finished and ready to go; that will be planned.

Barnstable County ARPA Funds
Met with the County Administrator and Jim Killion, Sandwich’s representative to the Assembly of Delegates to inform them what Sandwich would want to do with the funds. Mr. Dunham read a statement that reiterated the request for the return of the funds to the towns and goals for use of the funds, including for Town and probably regional wastewater infrastructure issues. We are looking for a quick decision so we can begin planning. Mr. Miller would like a letter sent so our request is on the record. There is possible indicator of agreement between the Assembly and the Commission about the distribution of funds. It is going to take a while to be distributed and expended and we want to make plans as soon as possible.

Disposition of Deacon Eldred House, 4 Water Street
Ms. Harper began by recognizing all who have participated in making recommendations. The goal is rehabilitation and perpetual care of the building as a historic building. The Town retains the right of first refusal with an in perpetuity deed rider to repurchase the home. The recommendations propose that the property not transfer until approval for repairs by Massachusetts Historic Preservation has been received. The performance bond will not be released until the certificate of occupancy is acquired. She also addressed needed qualifications of the proposer. Additional aspects include that any renovations must meet historic preservation standards; the Town has right of access for repairs to Town structures and for other Town activities; and it must be open to the public at least twice a year. The primary use is
to be residential. The RFP will include these plus septic, archeological, and marketing considerations. Ms. Harper presented a proposed timeline beginning today and going until mid-March; we want it to be done as quickly as possible. A preservation consultant has reviewed the proposal and will provide additional assistance. The exterior has to be consistent with historic preservation, including any additions; the interior can be modern.

Mr. Sampson moved that, pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 3 and G.L. c. 30B, §16, (a), and the Vote of Article 23 of the 2011 Annual Town Meeting, we hereby vote that we have determined that the parcel of land with the building thereon, known as the “Deacon Eldred House,” located at 4 Water Street, Sandwich (the “Premises”), described in the Order of Taking recorded with Barnstable County Registry of Deeds in Book 1933, Page 151, containing .89 acres and shown on Assessor’s Map 73 as Lot 154, is available for sale pursuant to the terms of a Request for Proposals which we authorize to issue, in which the Town requests proposals from qualified proposers to purchase the Premises and to rehabilitate, renovate and preserve the Premises subject to the following conditions:

1. Any rehabilitation and/or restoration of the building shall be done in strict compliance with the U.S. Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Structures and complies with the Preservation Restriction Agreement recorded with Massachusetts Historical Commission recorded with Barnstable County Registry of Deeds in Book 11621, Page 310;
2. A grant from the successful proposer for public access to the historic building at least twice a year is required, the nature and extent of the public access to be negotiated with the successful proposer;
3. A grant of a permanent access easement to the Town over a portion of the Premises on the northerly side for repairs to the town’s infrastructure; and
4. The Town’s right of first refusal to purchase the Premises at any time in the future in the event the owner receives an offer to purchase the Premises from an unrelated bona fide purchaser.
5. Although not required the Town will request a permanent easement be granted to the Town for access over a portion of the land by the general public to access Lower Shawme Pond for boating, picnicking and other recreational purposes, the location and terms of which are negotiable.

Seconded by Mr. Holden. Approved unanimously.

Other Matters Not Reasonably Anticipated for Old Business
None.

NEW BUSINESS

Recommended Appointments
Barnstable County Human Rights Advisory Commission – Lou Cerrone. This is a multi-year appointment and Mr. Cerrone has been associated with this for a while. Mr. Sampson said he believes the letter is confusing and he has reservations because of a partisanship demonstrated by the applicant. This needs more research and information about what the Commission does.
Sandwich Cultural Council – Peter Fondulas with Residency Clarification. He is moving out of town and is currently a member of the Cultural Council. There is nothing in State law restricting him from serving if he is not a resident. The Cultural Council is in agreement. **Mr. Hoctor moved to move forward with Peter Fondulas as a member of the Cultural Council** Mr. George seconded. Approved unanimously.

**Proclamation of April 29, 2022 as Arbor Day**
The proclamation would like the Selectmen to declare April 29 as Arbor Day. We usually plant a tree with the School. **Mr. Sampson moved to proclaim April 29, 2022, as Arbor Day in the Town of Sandwich.** Mr. Holden seconded. Approved unanimously.

**Other Matters Not Reasonably Anticipated for new Business**
None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**
Laura Wing – Spoke about having done some research. Abatements are due Feb 1. For a cluster of beach houses, Salt Marsh is a small neighborhood relative to others. She said that a small neighborhood would not meet the required sales numbers for comparison. There were only 2 sales in 2020; the assessors were allowed to go to 2021, which had 3 sales. There was a jump in prices in 2020 and more in 2021. If both years were used the assessed value would be higher. Her question is are we distributing the tax burden among all residents, or are some being hit higher? Mr. Miller recommends she go for an abatement. The Assessors are very strict on what they will accept for an abatement; all properties in Ms. Wing’s neighborhood will be high, so there is no anomaly.

**CLOSING REMARKS**
Mr. George is concerned about the coming storm. Some sandbags have been distributed. A resident reported spending $80,000 last week. White Cap Path and Bay Beach areas are devastated. How much can people take living on the beach when the Conservation Commission refuses to let them use the Elco Rock? It was acceptable in Carlton Shores. He would like to see the Board go to the Conservation Commission to support the use of Elco Rock and to encourage them to work with these people by loosening the restrictions. Other Towns are subsidizing this type of activity. He doesn’t want the Board to sit there and do nothing. Mr. Sampson responded that he thought there was something about the Elco Rock that was more complicated, and we need to get the facts; he thought it was the Commonwealth that was the issue, not the Conservation Commission. Mr. George responded that there is a clay bottom in that area. The Town was supposed to hire a non-biased person to look at the situation; the Town hired Woods Hole who he considered to be biased. Mr. Miller commented that the people who are affected by this lost a first decision and now are appealing to the Conservation Commission; he believes one Town Board should not be telling another Town Board what to do. Mr. Sampson has advised people who have been complaining about the Conservation Commission to write letters and attend meetings to change the direction of the Conservation Commission, but he hasn’t seen any. Mr. Hoctor asked if we have a catastrophic issue, do we get an emergency permit to dig? Mr. Dunham responded that the classification of a dune or barrier beach makes a difference as to what can be done there.
Mr. Sampson requests to use the public safety text message system to notify residents how to get help if needed in the storm and to advise residents to keep off the roads. Mr. Holden is impressed at the amount of financial information we get from the administrative staff; we are fortunate to have them. Thanks. Mr. Miller reminded everyone that all of the information is online on Town Website.

Stay home Saturday and Sunday.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Sampson moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Holden seconded Approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan James

Supporting Documents:
Minutes (9 pages)
Budget Presentation (49)
Appointments (8 pages)
Arbor Day (1 page)
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INTRODUCTION
We are proud to share with you our budget for the 2022-2023 school year. As we continue to work our way out of the pandemic, you will note some changing information in funding. Some of this relates to additional funding that the district has received as well as the way we have expended these funds, and how we will expend current funds that have been allocated.

COVID-19 took us all by surprise back in March 2020 in the sense that we had no idea what was to come. We thought then that we would be out of school for maybe just a couple of weeks. We had no idea what the next two years would look like. We have learned a lot about ourselves, our teaching and the strength of our students and staff.

The past two years have been difficult for everyone. But it has also provided us with many opportunities to reshape education. It will likely take years to truly absorb what we have all been through, but I am confident that our staff, administration and school community at large will continue to come together for our students to ensure that they have everything they need to succeed moving forward.

The administrative team, the staff, and the school committee are extremely proud of the work done during the past two years. During the 2020-2021 school year, the district developed creative approaches, within some significant protocols, to ensure that all students PK-6 were able to learn in person. Students and families who chose At-Home Learning were assigned a dedicated teacher. The district needed to implement a hybrid model for our grades 7-12 students, but were able to allow students who needed to be face to face all days the ability to do that as the year progressed.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the federal government has provided funding to states and school districts to make sure that we have had what we needed to get through this pandemic. This funding is explained in more detail in later pages. We are committed to being good stewards of this historic funding and we are also committed to full transparency on how we spend all of these funds.

The COVID relief funding, along with our 2020 Reopening Plan, our Capital Plan and our FY22 Budget provide the road map moving forward. The final piece of guidance we will use is our new 2022-2027 strategic plan. This new plan will be titled A Portrait of a Graduate. The reason for this is that this plan, created with a team of teachers, students, administrators, parents and community members, will represent our district’s vision for the 21st century skills, character traits, and/or social-emotional competencies that we believe our students need to succeed in college, career, and life. This plan will be ready to publish by the end of this school year.

Something else we want to note is our capital planning moving forward. Our administrative roles not only include budgeting for the next year, we are also stewards of the town’s buildings and need to plan for maintenance for years to come. You will see us presenting throughout this year our draft capital planning items within this include addressing significant building envelope issues (roofs, heating and boiler replacements, classroom ventilation and air conditioning upgrades, etc). Just like your own homes, these are things that must be planned for and should not wait for an emergency, where things will likely cost even more. We have produced a working spreadsheet that will be published for all to see and will be updated as we get pricing for individual items. It is important to note that this is a plan for the next fifteen years. These are not items that all must be done immediately. But we do believe that the community needs to be aware so planning can take place.
Budget Overview

During the 2022-2023 school year, the Sandwich Public Schools is expected to serve almost 2,500 students, grades PK-12. The Superintendent’s proposed budget is $36,911,408, a 2.96% increase over the 2021-2022 approved budget. The local share would be $29,685,220, after the anticipated Chapter 70 share of $7,266,188. Salaries make up approximately 78% of the budget.

The budget also represents the District’s commitment to continue enhancing the technology available for our students as well as investments in our building maintenance program. There has been a significant focus on our 15-year capital planning. The plan has been broken into five year increments and is the result of a building envelope study as well as ancillary items identified by the Director of Facilities. All information can be found in the Capital Planning document. Please note, that this document will continue to be updated as quotes come in for pricing.
COVID Funding

When the schools were forced to send students home on Friday March 13, 2020, we had no way of knowing what lay ahead. The first challenge was getting the students and staff on track to complete the school year. The staff of the Sandwich Public Schools was nothing short of amazing and within days, we had our students up and running academically. Our technology department made sure any student who needed a computer at home got one. While we were anticipating only two or three weeks of this learning, that timeline turned into the rest of the school year. That summer was then spent creating our 2020 Re-Opening Plan. This was our roadmap for re-entry in the Fall of 2020.

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding presents an unprecedented opportunity to support the students of the Sandwich Public Schools. The framework for our investment of all federal relief funds has been focused on ensuring that we can provide in-school learning throughout the pandemic. A significant part of this focus has been to make sure that our facilities were prepared for our students, with a focus on heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC). Another focus was providing ample staffing during the initial part of the pandemic to allow smaller class sizes, therefore providing enough spacing between our students and meeting all of the protocols set out by the CDC, MA Department of Public Health (DPH) and the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Finally, the latest round of funding continues the focus on HVAC, as well as learning recovery and wellness.

ESSER I - $297,906: Return safely to in-person learning
ESSER II - $1,035,859: Safely reopen schools, and measure and effectively address significant learning loss.
ESSER III - $2,441,099: Support the safe reopening and sustaining safe operations of schools while meeting students’ academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

For the latest round of funding (ESSER III) the district engaged with the school community to assist in determining how this grant money should be spent. We are sharing how all the funding was spent within this COVID Relief Funding Report.

Investment Timeline

Since the pandemic started, schools have received significant grant money to assist with COVID related items such as upgrades to HVAC systems, cleaning and PPE supplies, and remote learning equipment and software. The following graphic details the amounts received and the timelines for spending:
**Funding Strategies**

During this unprecedented pandemic, states and school districts were provided funds to ensure that our students' needs were being met, whether it be physical health, mental health, or academic opportunity. Sandwich has received almost 4.5 million dollars in emergency relief funds. In this section we will provide details on this funding and how it has been and will be spent moving forward. The graphic below shows the funding relief, as well as areas that were focused on, and the timeline for spending the funds.

The main goal of the Sandwich Public School District has been to provide our students with in-person instruction each day while maintaining the health and safety of our school community. As you can see in the above graphic, the priority has been to fund the hiring of additional temporary staff as needed, the purchase of ample personal protective equipment (PPE) to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff, and addressing any HVAC issues in our buildings.

Now that we are back in school full time and are looking forward (ESSER III), the priority continues to be addressing any outstanding HVAC issues at the elementary schools, enhanced academic programming to recover any learning loss, and the playground at Forestdale.

The Sandwich School District wants our community members to be informed and confident in how we invest these one-time federal relief funds and continue to shape how we best use ESSER Funding to support our students. We will continue to share updates on how the funding is allocated and how we measure success.

Rest assured, the Sandwich School District will continue to prioritize our students and will ensure that programs will continue beyond the availability of extra funding. As tough as the pandemic has been, the school district has learned a lot and we will continue to put emphasis on the practices that we have learned will enhance our educational programming for the students.
### Proposed Budget
#### Fiscal Year 2023

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<td>428,913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics</td>
<td>437,926</td>
<td>416,311</td>
<td>402,622</td>
<td>401,683</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>401,683</td>
<td>(939)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custodial/Maintenance</td>
<td>1,416,288</td>
<td>1,413,452</td>
<td>1,417,471</td>
<td>1,516,304</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,516,304</td>
<td>98,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Salaries:</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,163,561</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,228,588</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,795,612</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,728,624</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,729,176</strong></td>
<td><strong>933,364</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary Expenses</th>
<th>FY21 Budget</th>
<th>FY21 Expend</th>
<th>FY22 Budget</th>
<th>FY23 Budget</th>
<th>FY23 Budget Revision 1</th>
<th>FY23 Budget Revision 2</th>
<th>FY23 Budget Balance</th>
<th>FY22-FY23 Budget Difference</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Office Administration</td>
<td>152,475</td>
<td>83,683</td>
<td>131,075</td>
<td>131,999</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>131,999</td>
<td>924</td>
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<td>Teaching &amp; Learning Expenses</td>
<td>349,984</td>
<td>277,162</td>
<td>335,671</td>
<td>340,450</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>340,450</td>
<td>4,779</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wing School</td>
<td>174,463</td>
<td>186,734</td>
<td>199,400</td>
<td>200,400</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>200,400</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oak Ridge School</td>
<td>124,650</td>
<td>103,122</td>
<td>124,650</td>
<td>127,845</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>127,845</td>
<td>3,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestdale School</td>
<td>93,030</td>
<td>70,874</td>
<td>91,910</td>
<td>108,890</td>
<td>(2,300)</td>
<td>(2,300)</td>
<td>106,590</td>
<td>14,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEM Academy</td>
<td>67,833</td>
<td>35,726</td>
<td>78,316</td>
<td>66,109</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>66,109</td>
<td>(12,207)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandwich High School</td>
<td>206,102</td>
<td>161,166</td>
<td>199,461</td>
<td>215,108</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>215,108</td>
<td>15,647</td>
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<td>Special Education</td>
<td>2,447,311</td>
<td>2,453,657</td>
<td>2,166,158</td>
<td>1,712,687</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,712,687</td>
<td>(435,471)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>283,218</td>
<td>190,907</td>
<td>290,799</td>
<td>296,106</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>296,106</td>
<td>5,307</td>
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<td>463,324</td>
<td>515,711</td>
<td>692,630</td>
<td>862,315</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>862,315</td>
<td>169,785</td>
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<td>Utilities</td>
<td>1,051,025</td>
<td>1,539,834</td>
<td>1,237,600</td>
<td>1,316,500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,316,500</td>
<td>77,900</td>
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<td>Fixed Assets</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>1,780,550</td>
<td>1,482,521</td>
<td>1,790,000</td>
<td>1,831,500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,831,500</td>
<td>41,500</td>
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<td>Technology</td>
<td>792,381</td>
<td>815,014</td>
<td>821,112</td>
<td>940,823</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>940,823</td>
<td>119,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,968,836</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,916,091</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,188,682</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,184,532</strong></td>
<td><strong>(2,300)</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,182,232</strong></td>
<td><strong>(6,450)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Grand Total Salaries & Expenses  | **35,122,797** | **35,144,679** | **35,864,494** | **36,912,796** | **(2,300)**            | **0**                  | **36,911,098**        | **926,914** |

| Fees and Revenues                |              |              |              |              |                       |                       |                     |                            |
| Total Budget                     | 35,122,797   | 35,144,679   | 35,864,494   | 36,912,796   | (2,300)                | 0                      | 36,911,098           | 926,914                     | 2.58% |
| Chapter 70                       | (7,151,788)  | (7,151,788)  | (7,151,788)  | (7,226,188)  | (7,226,188)            | (7,226,188)            | (7,226,188)          |                             |
| Local Share                      | 27,971,009   | 27,992,891   | 28,832,706   | 29,686,608   | (2,300)                | 0                      | 29,688,220           | 852,514                     | 2.96% |

Revenue:
- Local Share: 29,685,220
- Chapter 70: 7,226,188

8:03 AM
FY’23 BUDGET
PROJECTED GENERAL FUND REVENUES AND EXPENSES - FY’23

REVENUES

FY’23 Tax Levy:
FY’22 Levy Limit 70,893,641
2.5% Increase 1,772,341
Est. New Growth 500,000
Excess Levy Reserve Est. -3,000,000
 Overrides / Exclusions 0
County Assess. Outside 2.5: CCC 201,475
Exempt Debt: GF Outside Prop. 2.5 2,283,713 72,651,170

Other Revenue:
State Aid: Discretionary (0.00%) 2,391,226
State Ch. 70 Aid: School (0.00%) 7,226,188
Est. Local Receipts 5,500,000
Free Cash Certification - STM Capital 2,792,528
Overlay Release 0
Transfer from Stabilization Fund 0 17,909,942

Total Estimated Revenues 90,561,112

EXPENSES

ReCap Sheet Items:
State Assess: Tuition Assess (5.00%) 4,522,566
State Assess: All Other (3.00%) 728,503
Abatements / Overlay 550,000
FY’22 Snow & Ice Deficit 150,000 5,951,069

Town Meeting Items:
Group Health Insurance (5.00%) 12,075,000
County Retirement Assess. (4.14%) 4,802,452
Property & Liability Insurance (7.53%) 1,445,000
Medicare (4.00%) 724,132
GF Sanitation Ent. Fund Approp. 60,500
Unemployment Account 100,000
OPEB Trust Fund 100,000
Exempt Debt: GF Outside Prop. 2.5 2,283,713
Non-Exempt Debt: GF Inside Prop. 2.5 1,276,872
Borrowing Expenses 100,000
Reserve Fund 500,000
Capital Budget - ATM - Net 300,000
Capital Budget - Fall 2022 STM - Net 450,000
Transfer to Stabilization Fund 100,000 24,317,669

Operating Budgets:
School Budget: Local (3.00%) 29,697,687
Ch. 70 (0.00%) 7,226,188 36,923,875

UCCRVTS Budget (11.82%) 2,720,777

General Gov’t. Budget (9.24%) 20,540,474

Total Estimated Expenses 90,453,864

ESTIMATED FY’22 BUDGET BALANCE 107,248
## FY'23 GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET TOTALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>FY22 APPROP</th>
<th>FY23 SALARY</th>
<th>FY23 OPER</th>
<th>FY23 TOTAL</th>
<th>% CHANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>114</td>
<td>Moderator</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>11.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>123</td>
<td>Select./Manager</td>
<td>487,401</td>
<td>444,209</td>
<td>43,350</td>
<td>487,559</td>
<td>0.03%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Personnel Expn.</td>
<td>338,973</td>
<td>625,000</td>
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<td>625,000</td>
<td>84.38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>131</td>
<td>Finance Comm.</td>
<td>3,400</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>2,875</td>
<td>-15.44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>135</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>195,491</td>
<td>188,035</td>
<td>23,350</td>
<td>211,385</td>
<td>8.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>141</td>
<td>Assessing</td>
<td>392,599</td>
<td>308,601</td>
<td>47,400</td>
<td>356,001</td>
<td>-9.32%</td>
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<tr>
<td>145</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>271,194</td>
<td>449,009</td>
<td>90,350</td>
<td>539,559</td>
<td>98.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>146</td>
<td>Tax Collector</td>
<td>228,060</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>-100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>147</td>
<td>Tax Title</td>
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<td>35,000</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151</td>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>325,000</td>
<td>325,000</td>
<td>8.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>152</td>
<td>Human Resour.</td>
<td>196,878</td>
<td>188,822</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>200,822</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>161</td>
<td>Town Clerk</td>
<td>209,194</td>
<td>208,169</td>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>209,419</td>
<td>0.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>162</td>
<td>Elect. &amp; Regist.</td>
<td>48,000</td>
<td>25,950</td>
<td>44,800</td>
<td>70,750</td>
<td>47.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>171</td>
<td>Natural Resour.</td>
<td>313,356</td>
<td>295,962</td>
<td>26,050</td>
<td>322,012</td>
<td>2.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>175</td>
<td>Plan. &amp; Devel.</td>
<td>262,703</td>
<td>229,912</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>264,912</td>
<td>0.84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>190</td>
<td>Facilities Mgmt.</td>
<td>747,325</td>
<td>461,507</td>
<td>385,500</td>
<td>847,007</td>
<td>13.34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>195</td>
<td>Town Reports</td>
<td>12,500</td>
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<td>12,500</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>196</td>
<td>Bind Records</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>197</td>
<td>Info. Technology</td>
<td>708,152</td>
<td>280,384</td>
<td>440,000</td>
<td>720,384</td>
<td>1.73%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total 100s</strong></td>
<td>4,757,676</td>
<td>3,708,060</td>
<td>1,529,425</td>
<td>5,237,485</td>
<td>10.08%</td>
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<td>210</td>
<td>Police Dept.</td>
<td>4,923,555</td>
<td>4,747,030</td>
<td>390,335</td>
<td>5,137,365</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>220</td>
<td>Fire Dept.</td>
<td>3,925,753</td>
<td>3,584,758</td>
<td>550,800</td>
<td>4,135,558</td>
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<td>241</td>
<td>Inspections</td>
<td>314,226</td>
<td>323,514</td>
<td>11,830</td>
<td>335,344</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>244</td>
<td>Sealer of W &amp; M</td>
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<td>14,709</td>
<td>14,709</td>
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<td></td>
<td>291</td>
<td>Emerg. Mgmt.</td>
<td>22,500</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>22,500</td>
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<td></td>
<td>294</td>
<td>Forest Warden</td>
<td>1,500</td>
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<td>1,500</td>
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<td></td>
<td>297</td>
<td>Bourne Shellfish</td>
<td>4,000</td>
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<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
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<td>299</td>
<td>Greenhead Fly</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total 200s</strong></td>
<td>9,208,384</td>
<td>8,667,802</td>
<td>985,674</td>
<td>9,653,476</td>
<td>4.83%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>300</td>
<td>School Dept.</td>
<td>38,058,894</td>
<td>36,923,875</td>
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<td>36,923,875</td>
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<tr>
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<td>313</td>
<td>UCCRVTS</td>
<td>2,433,216</td>
<td>2,720,777</td>
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<td>2,720,777</td>
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<td><strong>Total 300s</strong></td>
<td>38,492,110</td>
<td>39,644,652</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>39,644,652</td>
<td>2.99%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

*(Note: School Dep't. amount includes Ch. 70 aid.)*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>FY22 Approp</th>
<th>FY23 Salary</th>
<th>FY23 Oper</th>
<th>FY23 Total</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>410</td>
<td>DPW - Engineer.</td>
<td>289,071</td>
<td>237,897</td>
<td>57,800</td>
<td>295,697</td>
<td>2.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>420</td>
<td>DPW</td>
<td>1,990,283</td>
<td>1,287,346</td>
<td>1,365,050</td>
<td>2,652,396</td>
<td>33.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>421</td>
<td>Snow &amp; Ice</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>424</td>
<td>Streetlights</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total 400s</td>
<td>2,699,354</td>
<td>1,625,243</td>
<td>1,742,850</td>
<td>3,368,093</td>
<td>24.77%</td>
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<tr>
<td>510</td>
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<td>237,259</td>
<td>235,175</td>
<td>10,250</td>
<td>245,425</td>
<td>3.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>522</td>
<td>Nursing Dept.</td>
<td>178,254</td>
<td>136,732</td>
<td>46,200</td>
<td>182,932</td>
<td>2.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>540</td>
<td>Social Services</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>541</td>
<td>Senior Services</td>
<td>248,229</td>
<td>251,861</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>265,861</td>
<td>7.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>543</td>
<td>Veterans</td>
<td>105,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>117,500</td>
<td>117,500</td>
<td>11.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Total 500s</td>
<td>803,742</td>
<td>623,768</td>
<td>222,950</td>
<td>846,718</td>
<td>5.35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>610</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>1,031,580</td>
<td>845,895</td>
<td>179,437</td>
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<tr>
<td>630</td>
<td>Recreation</td>
<td>251,055</td>
<td>262,145</td>
<td>48,725</td>
<td>310,870</td>
<td>23.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>650</td>
<td>DPW - Parks</td>
<td>30,850</td>
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<td>30,850</td>
<td>30,850</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>671</td>
<td>Hoxie / Grist Mill</td>
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<td>56,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>56,000</td>
<td>1500.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>693</td>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>694</td>
<td>Historic District</td>
<td>15,550</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10,450</td>
<td>10,450</td>
<td>-32.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total 600s</td>
<td>1,334,635</td>
<td>1,164,040</td>
<td>270,662</td>
<td>1,434,702</td>
<td>7.50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GEN. GOVT. TOTAL**  
(no School)  
18,803,791 15,788,913 4,751,561 20,540,474 9.24%

**GRAND TOTAL**  
(incl. School)  
57,295,901 55,433,565 4,751,561 60,185,126 5.04%

\[ FY'23 \text{ @ } 3.04\% = 19,375,698 \quad \text{Current vs. } 3.04\% = (1,164,776) \]

\[ FY'23 \text{ @ } 4.98\% = 19,740,474 \quad \text{Current vs. } 4.98\% = (800,000) \]

\[ FY'23 \text{ @ } 9.24\% = 20,540,474 \quad \text{Current vs. } 9.24\% = 0 \]
## FY'23 RECOMMENDED GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY'22 Total General Government Budget</td>
<td>18,803,791</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Base FY'23 General Government Budget</strong></td>
<td>19,375,698</td>
<td>3.04%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes: Actual Wages &amp; Step Increases; 7 Unresolved Union Contracts; Minor Operating Changes</td>
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January 12, 2022

Kelly Trice
President
Holtec Decommissioning International
1 Holtec Boulevard
Camden, NJ 08104

Dear Mr. Trice,

We write to express our opposition to the proposed discharge of radioactive water from Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station (Pilgrim) into Cape Cod Bay. In December 2021, the Massachusetts congressional delegation, local and state officials, residents, and the fishing, agricultural, and tourism industries raised concerns about Holtec Decommissioning International’s (Holtec) plan to discharge approximately one million gallons of irradiated water from Pilgrim’s spent fuel cooling pool into Cape Cod Bay — a volume nearly three times greater than Pilgrim has released over any prior year. Although we are pleased that Holtec responded by confirming that it would not dump radioactive material into Cape Cod Bay during 2022, this delay does not fully address the serious concerns that were raised. Given the impact that the discharge of this radioactive water could have on the Cape Cod Bay community, we urge Holtec to pursue — and publicly share information about — alternative methods of disposal.

The strong public opposition to news of the proposed discharge reflects Holtec’s failure to engage in the forthright, open, and transparent process that it promised the Plymouth community and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts when it took over the operating license for the decommissioning of Pilgrim. Holtec’s proposal to discharge approximately one million gallons of radioactive water into Cape Cod Bay would only further burden the community surrounding Pilgrim, which has already borne the negative environmental impacts of the nuclear plant for more than 40 years.¹ Forcing this latest discharge upon the community would threaten the reputations and operations of the many businesses and organizations that rely on Cape Cod Bay’s reputation for clean and safe water.

When evaluating the proper method of disposal, Holtec must consider the public’s concerns surrounding and perception of the release of irradiated material into Cape Cod, especially when viable alternatives are available. In 2021, during the decommissioning of the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant (Vermont Yankee), the NRC approved the plans of NorthStar Nuclear Decommissioning Company (NNDC), Vermont Yankee’s licensed operator, to ship approximately two millions gallons of radioactive water to the US Ecology facility in Grand

View Idaho for disposal.² NNDC agreed to pursue this method of disposal following public outcry from the Vermont Yankee community regarding NNDC’s initial plans to discharge radioactive water into the Connecticut River. As NNDC did at Vermont Yankee, Holtec could transport any remaining radioactive material at Pilgrim to the available facility in Idaho. This would be a viable alternative to the discharge of radioactive material into one of the most important areas of marine life and economy in the United States.

A commitment from Holtec to pursue alternative methods of disposal, including the solidification and shipment of this waste, would be a first step towards rebuilding trust and fulfilling the commitment to transparency with the Cape Cod Bay community. Going forward, we urge Holtec to engage with the community on any potential future discharge of material into Cape Cod Bay, regardless of the reporting requirements outlined in NRC regulations. We also ask that Holtec provide our offices and community stakeholders with more detail on other available disposal methods—including methods that have been successful at plants such as Vermont Yankee. Without a firm commitment to these requests, Holtec will have failed to live up to its commitment to our communities to ensure an open and transparent decommissioning process.

This matter is extremely important to the constituents that we represent, and we urge Holtec to treat this request with an equivalent level of care and seriousness. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Andrew Nelson in Representative Keating’s office at (202) 225-3111, Hannah Vogel in Senator Markey’s office at (202) 224-2742, Bruno Freitas in Senator Warren’s office at (202) 224-4543, or Kelly Bovio in Representative Moulton’s office at (202) 225-5915.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]

William R. Keating
Member of Congress

Edward J. Markey
United States Senator

Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator

Seth Moulton
Member of Congress

Pilgrim's Progress: The Pace Of Decommissioning Plymouth's Nuclear Plant Picks Up 08:55

Updated September 16, 2021  By Bruce Gellerman

A decommissioning crew works on dismantling the plant at Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station. (Robin Lubbock/WBUR)

Just before Thanksgiving, the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant in Plymouth is expected to reach a historic milestone. All the radioactive fuel that generated electricity — and controversy — for nearly half a century will
finally be removed from the reactor building. It will be stored outside in special steel and cement casks.

The rare occasion will be celebrated by both supporters and opponents of the plant. But as the decommissioning of Pilgrim proceeds, concern over the long-term safety of the highly radioactive waste continues.

**Security, Security, Security**

Even though Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant stopped producing electricity two years ago, there are still armed guards in watchtowers, surveillance cameras spread over the site, mazes of barbed wire fences and concrete vehicle barriers.

Entry to the shuttered plant is highly restricted. Visitors are questioned, inspected and scanned repeatedly before being allowed to enter Pilgrim's inner sanctum: the reactor.

David Noyes has access to all areas of the plant but still goes through the strict security measures; he swipes his magnetic badge and the doors to a security lock swoosh open.

“We’re going to go through the primary radiological check point to get into the radiologically controlled area,” he says.

Radiation monitors measure how much radiation a person receives while in the plant. (Robin Lubbock/WBUR)

Radiation Protection Technologist Adrian Lombardo checks equipment for any radioactivity before allowing it into the work area. He'll check again when it comes out. (Robin Lubbock/WBUR)

Noyes knows the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant inside and out. For 32 years,
he worked at Pilgrim, rising from reactor operator to senior manager with Entergy, the company that owned and operated the plant until 2019 when it sold it to Holtec International.

The New Jersey-based company reportedly paid $1,000 for Pilgrim—security locks, stock and 47 years of highly-radioactive nuclear waste. In return, Holtec got access to a billion-dollar decommissioning fund, sort of like a nuclear 401k. The money was collected from utility customers and invested to pay for dismantling and decontaminating the plant when it came to the end of its productive life.

David Noyes came out of retirement to head-up the Pilgrim clean-up.

He’s now senior compliance manager with Comprehensive Decommissioning International (CDI), the company overseeing the cleanup. The company is owned by Holtec and SNC-Lavalin of Canada.

Decommissioning compliance manager Dave Noyes by the reactor building at the Pilgrim nuclear power plant. (Robin Lubbock/WBUR)

“A lot of us have stepped up to the challenge to decommission the site,” Noyes says. “We made a commitment when we were operating to see this through.”

Noyes witnessed much of Pilgrim’s troubled history. Several times, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) considered it the worst run reactor in the nation. The plant’s GE-Mark I reactor was the same model as those at the ill-fated Fukushima nuclear plants.

WBUR is a nonprofit news organization and our coverage relies on your financial support. Please give today.
In two years, CDI workers have removed the massive concrete blocks that shielded the top of the reactor, revealing the core of the reactor vessel. It’s surprisingly small, just 21 feet in diameter and 58 feet tall, yet Pilgrim produced enough electricity to power 700,000 homes.

“The fuel was very densely packed inside of it. It’s not very large,” says Noyes, carefully guiding the way along the marked path on the floor.

**Radioactive Fuel’s Long And Uncertain Future**

Pilgrim used uranium as its fuel. It came in pellets, each the size of a pencil eraser and weighing a third of an ounce. Each pellet generated the energy equivalent of a ton of coal, with no carbon emissions.

There were millions of pellets placed into rods, then bundled into fuel assemblies. In the reactor they became intensely hot and radioactive. Some of the radioactive waste produced decays harmlessly in days, weeks and months. But Cesium-137, like that released by the Chernobyl disaster, remains dangerous for decades and Plutonium-239 must be isolated, essentially, forever.

Holtec spokesman Pat O’Brien says all the fuel assemblies ever used at Pilgrim were stored in the 40-foot deep pool above the reactor.

“"When their service life ended they went into the pool," he says. "Before they were ever irradiated — that was the last time they saw the light of day."

Over the years, more than 4,000 spent fuel assemblies were put into the pool — five times more than it was designed to hold.

There was no place else for the irradiated spent fuel to go. The Department of Energy failed to fulfill its legal obligation to take the radioactive waste
from commercial nuclear power plants. A proposed final repository, dug deep into Utah's remote Yucca Mountain, cost billions to build but failed to meet technical or political muster. As a result of that failure and the ensuing lawsuits, the DOE has paid billions more to shuttered nuclear sites where waste is stored, including Massachusetts’ Yankee Rowe, Maine Yankee and Connecticut Yankee.

With nowhere to go, Pilgrim’s spent fuel assemblies kept piling up in the pool. Without a containment shell, a leak or broken water pump could have led to catastrophic consequences, contaminating much of New England.

CDI technicians made removing the deadly radioactive assemblies from the spent fuel pool their first priority. Much to the everyone’s relief, they’re nearing the end of the process.

Workers manage the carefully-choreographed process by remote control, while watching on video screens.

Decommissioning staff watch as a tool lowered from the bridge over the spent fuel pool, moves the spent fuel. (Robin Lubbock/WBUR)

“The operator on the refuel bridge has a grapple ... and it goes down into the spent fuel pool and it grapples an individual fuel assembly,” says David Noyes, pointing at the video monitor. “There’s an assembly being loaded into a multi-purpose canister. That’s all happening under 16 feet of water.”

It takes about three days to load one stainless-steel canister with radioactive waste, drain and dry it, fill it with helium to prevent corrosion,
weld it shut and place it into a huge concrete storage casks. The casks look like giant soup cans, about 18 feet high, 11 feet in diameter.

In all, there will be 62 casks filled with spent fuel, two with other radioactive waste and one backup. Loaded, each weighs a third of a million pounds.

Casks containing spent fuel stand on a concrete pad near the reactor building. (Robin Lubbock/WBUR)

Holtec International makes the canisters and casks. The company owns five shut-down nuclear reactors at three plants, including Pilgrim, but has not yet fully decommissioned one yet. During a dry run at Pilgrim, the process hit a snag when a dummy assembly didn’t fit as intended into a multi-purpose canister.

The problem was soon solved, and workers have been loading casks filled with real spent fuel assemblies without a hitch.

But there was one major hurdle Pilgrim’s original designers had not planned for: moving the megaton casks outside. So workers had to jury-rig a rail system.

“This wasn’t considered at that time,” Noyes says. “It was never the intention to have to move fuel out of the reactor building, so all of this rail system was designed after the fact.”

The pace of the plant clean-up is picking up speed. A huge, 80-wheel flatbed transport vehicle called a "Goldhofer" crawls past the reactor building at half a mile an hour.

“You can see we have almost used up all the site that we have on this first pad,” says Noyes, pointing to a slab of concrete where 40 casks stand on
end. “You can see it’s almost full.”

The remote controlled Goldhofer treks up a hill 75 feet above sea level to a new, bigger storage location. The three-foot thick concrete pad — the size of a high-school gym and officially known as an "independent spent fuel storage facility" — can hold all 65 of Pilgrim’s casks, and sits well above the expected rising seas of climate change.

The Goldhofer transporter, used for transporting spent fuel casks. (Robin Lubbock/WBUR)

Safe storage of the nuclear waste is the name of the decommissioning game. Noyes says the goal is to consolidate all of the casks containing spent fuel assemblies into one small area.

Many buildings and machines on the Plymouth site contain asbestos and PCBs. CDI decommissioning workers will dig down at least three feet to remove chemically and radioactively contaminated soil.

Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healy got the company to agree to clean up the site to a stricter standard than the federal government requires. She also got them to keep a quarter billion dollars from the decommissioning trust fund in reserve, just in case it runs out of money before the job is done.

Holtec owns the 1,600 acre site and has yet to say what it plans to do with it. (Eversource still owns the transformers that remain in the switch yard. The lines that carried nuclear-generated electricity to the grid could one day transmit power produced by offshore wind farms.)

It’s in Holtec’s interest to finish decommissioning Pilgrim as soon as safety and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission allow. The company gets to keep whatever is left of the billion dollar trust fund.
Legally the company has until 2068, but it plans to be finished by 2026.

**Preventing Radiological Sabotage**

When Pilgrim was operating it employed about 600 people. Now just 160 workers are decommissioning the plant. Soon after they're done, there will be just 60 guards securing the new storage pad, which is surrounded by barbed-wire fences, vehicle barriers and other security measures designed to detect and delay intruders.

The blue stars on spent fuel casks mark radiological survey points. (Robin Lubbock/WBUR)

A sign by casks containing spent fuel on a concrete pad warns of the presence of radioactive materials. (Robin Lubbock/WBUR)

“The longer it takes for a bad guy to get to an area they can do radiological sabotage, the more efficient we can be at deploying the security force,” says Noyes.

Federal law prohibits drones from flying low over nuclear facilities, but airplanes aren’t prevented from the Pilgrim flightpath. However, since 9/11 the FAA has told pilots not to loiter over nuclear sites.

“Given the speed of commercial airliners, insufficient time would be available to track and intercept suspicious aircraft,” says NRC spokesman Neil Sheehan. However, “the NRC believes protecting against terrorist attacks by air should be directed by enhanced security at airports.”

O’Brien says the company can’t disclose the exact threat scenarios.

“We have simulations where we’ve flown missiles into these doesn’t breach the internal canister,” he says. "We have scenarios where you would take
an F-16 loaded with fuel and fly it into it and they do not breach a canister.”

O’Brien says the steel and concrete casks are guaranteed for 25 years, but can protect the radioactive waste inside for a century, if need be. But critics charge that the spent fuel storage casks aren’t secure.

Activist Diane Turco, founder and executive director of Cape Downwinders, has opposed Pilgrim for nearly four decades. She says the storage pad is in plain sight, near a public road.

“If I can eyeball those casks, someone with malicious intent could do some serious damage,” she says.

Turco says she’s repeatedly gone on the Pilgrim property and gotten near the storage pad areas undetected.

“I was there more than half an hour and nobody ever came out,” she says.

At a recent meeting of the Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel (NDCAP), which the state established to advise the governor on activities related to Pilgrim, board member Mary Lampert said she had received an email from a Pilgrim whistleblower about security concerns. The email claimed that there are not enough security workers on site, and that Holtec has not completed the training they have claimed they have done.

WBUR’s repeated attempted to contact the whistleblower were unsuccessful.

The Massachusetts Attorney General’s office says they are reviewing the whistleblower’s claims. Holtec says the charges aren’t true.
The company hopes to eventually ship Pilgrim’s storage casks to New Mexico, if federal regulators approve its plan to build an interim storage facility where it can consolidate thousands of casks being stored at 76 old nuclear reactors around the country. Earlier this week the NRC issued a license to a competitor to build and operate a facility in West Texas.

Until another storage facility is approved, Pilgrim’s toxic legacy will remain in Plymouth, sealed in giant casks on a storage pad above Cape Cod Bay.

The Pilgrim nuclear power station, now in the process of decommissioning. (Robin Lubbock/WBUR)

**Correction:** the original version of this story said that Diane Turco was a member of the Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel (NDCAP). She is not. WBUR regrets the error.

*This article was originally published on September 16, 2021.*

*This segment aired on September 16, 2021.*

WBUR’s Morning Edition

**Related:**

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- To Combat Climate Change, Do We Need The Nuclear Option?
- For Green Energy, MIT Aims To Build 'A Star On Earth'
Keating: Holtec has decided to dump radioactive water into Cape Cod Bay

Doug Fraser
Cape Cod Times

PLYMOUTH — The company decommissioning Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station has told the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that it plans to start discharging radioactive water from the plant into Cape Cod Bay sometime within the first three months of 2022.

U.S. Rep. William Keating, D-Mass., shared an email with the Times that his staff received from the NRC Wednesday that confirmed Holtec International had informed the agency of its plan to release radioactive water into the bay.

Just a week earlier, Holtec spokesman Patrick O'Brien told a Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel in Plymouth there were other options, including evaporating the million gallons of water from the spent fuel pool and the reactor vessel and other plant components or trucking it to a facility in Idaho.

"We had broached that (discharging water into the bay) with the state, but we've made no decision on that," O'Brien said.

Previously: Pilgrim nuclear plant may release 1M gallons of radioactive water into bay.

What we know

In an interview Tuesday, Harold Anagnostopoulos, Nuclear Regulatory Commission plant inspector and senior health physicist for Region 1 (which includes New England), said he didn't know of any planned discharge, but "we would not be involved in that decision. We would be involved in investigating or inspecting to make sure that they are meeting the requirements of their license."

Keating said that not disclosing their plans at a public forum violated promises of transparency.

"It's troubling that within a couple of days it turned into a sure thing," Keating said Friday.

"If Holtec had true concern for public health and the environment and worked with transparency as they promised, Holtec would halt any dumping until a viable solution is
found acceptable," said Diane Turco, director of Cape Downwinders, a citizen watchdog group. "(D)umping into Cape Cod Bay just highlights the fact that the NRC and Holtec don’t have a solution for what to do with nuclear waste. Contaminating our environment is part of the nuclear nightmare process and that is immoral."

Of more concern to Keating than the lack of transparency, was what he said was a decision motivated by cost and not by necessity.

Two years ago, during the negotiations for longtime plant owner Entergy Nuclear Operations to sell Pilgrim to Holtec for the purposes of decommissioning, Keating said he and others expressed concern about turning the process over — including the $1.03 billion decommissioning trust fund — to a private company that hadn’t yet dismantled a nuclear plant. At the time, state Attorney General Maura Healey tried to intervene on that basis, citing concerns that the billion-dollar fund might prove insufficient and that Pilgrim would be Holtec's first shot at decommissioning.

In interviews, both the NRC and Holtec said that discharging radioactive water into the ocean is a common practice in the nuclear industry and is the least expensive method. O'Brien said Pilgrim discharged radioactive water into Cape Cod Bay as recently as 2017.

Keating said there is also a profit motive to the dumping plan.

"They are responsible to their shareholders, and that's what is going to drive them," he said.

O'Brien said in an email response Friday night that the company hadn't made any decisions yet on which disposal option to use.

"We are looking at all options allowed under the state and federal NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) permit. We are evaluating options that include trucking for disposal, evaporation, overboarding (release) of treated water or some combination thereof. As was stated, we would be looking to come up with a final plan over the next 6-12 months, working with state and federal regulatory authorities to ensure compliance, and provide the public ample notice on the final disposition," O'Brien wrote in the email. He said Holtec may have informed the NRC that they were ready to discharge, but hadn't finalized plans.

The email shared by Keating from NRC Congressional Affairs Officer Carolyn Wolf said that "Holtec has informed the NRC that it plans to discharge liquid effluents sometime in the first quarter of 2022."
O'Brien said cost is one consideration, but that "all levels of risk are evaluated and considered as well."

In an interview this week, Anagnostopoulos said the water from the plant cannot be discharged unless it meets standards for radioactivity materials and levels. The water is handled in batches (Holtec said the batches will be 20,000 gallons) and is cycled through filters to remove metals and other possible contaminants as well as any longer-lived high radioactive elements.

Radioactive tritium is generally what is released from nuclear power plants and the Department of Energy website put its half-life at 12.3 years.

Anagnostopoulos said the level of radiation allowed to be discharged is 100 millirems. To put that in perspective, soil contains roughly 21 millirems and a mammogram exposes the patient to 42 millirems, according to U.S. Department of Energy data. A cardiac CT Scan contains over 2,000 millirems.

Anagnostopoulos said that the 100 millirem level is right at the mouth of the outfall before dilution comes into play. He said that sensors at the mouth of the discharge pipe and at a distance measure radiation, and that plant employees do biological and water sampling and submit them to an independent lab to test for bioaccumulation. He said there are also risks in transporting radioactive water, such as the potential for a crash or spill along the route, and that it is transferring a problem elsewhere.

But Keating said that claims of low radiation levels in nuclear plant effluent were only one part of the decision-making process. He said the potential biological and economic damage caused to maritime industries such as fisheries, aquaculture and recreation, including the public perception that they may be tainted with radioactivity, should have been factored in. If it was, he said, the clear choice was to truck the water to another site, not dump it into the ocean.

"The issue is much more clear-cut. We have an alternative (truck) and the only difference is cost," said Keating, who argued that the $1 billion in the trust fund came from ratepayers and that they deserved the best disposal solution that preserved their environment and maritime industries.

Contact Doug Fraser at dfraser@capecodonline.com. Follow him on Twitter: @dougfraserccct.
PLYMOUTH (CBS) – The company managing the shutdown of the Pilgrim Nuclear Plant now says it will not release contaminated water into Cape Cod Bay in 2022 as planned.

Holtec International planned to discharge the water sometime early next year.
But in a statement on Monday, they promised to store the water on site through 2022 and search for other options to get rid of it.

“We appreciate and understand the public’s questions and concerns and remain committed to an open, transparent process on the decommissioning of Pilgrim Station focused on the health and safety of the public, the environment, and on-site personnel,” Holtec said in a statement.

Pilgrim went offline in 2019.
Defuelling of Pilgrim completed in record time: Waste & Recycling

17 December 2021

The final multi-purpose canister containing used nuclear fuel from the Pilgrim nuclear power plant in Massachusetts was placed in dry storage on 13 December, marking the removal of all fissile material from its reactor building. Holtec International said the operation - completed 30 months after the reactor was shut down - sets a new world record for the speediest transfer of a plant’s used fuel to on-site storage.

The ISFSI at Pilgrim (Image: Holtec International)

The 680 MWe boiling water reactor at Pilgrim shut down on 31 May 2019 after 47 years of operation and was acquired by Holtec that August after the Nuclear Regulatory Commission approved the transfer of the plant's licence, including its existing dry cask used fuel storage installation. It was the second US decommissioning project to be acquired by Holtec, following Oyster Creek in New Jersey.

After the shutdown, Holtec loaded a total of 45 high-capacity HI-STORM 100 systems over two loading campaigns, with MPC-68 multi-purpose canisters. The Holtec team loaded 11 casks in the 2020 campaign and loaded an additional 34 casks during the final loading campaign that began in June and ended on 13 December 2021. In total, 62 HI-STORM 100 systems are now safely stored at Pilgrim’s new Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI), built at the plant site in 2020.

Holtec said to achieve the record transfer, its team had to design and build an innovative device to retrieve a severely damaged fuel assembly lodged in a fuel rack cavity since the 1970s that had thwarted all prior attempts to retrieve and containerize it. It added that the design and manufacturing know-how developed to extricate the legacy failed fuel assembly is now available to any nuclear plant
facing the problem of retrieving a severely damaged fuel assembly.

This new record set by Holtec at Pilgrim improved upon a similar record-breaking defuelling - completed in 32 months - of Oyster Creek ibn May this year, the company noted.

"We hail the record-breaking defuelling of Pilgrim made possible by the leadership of Steven Soler, our Director of Domestic Site Services and Pilgrim Site VP John Moylan supported by a superbly trained team of craftsmen and technicians," said Holtec Decommissioning International President Kelly Trice. "We should also thank our inventive professionals in the Nuclear Power Division who devised a brilliant solution to delicately extricate a severely damaged fuel assembly lodged in Pilgrim's spent fuel rack, creating in the process a new technology to deal with damaged fuel assemblies."

Holtec said Pilgrim's used nuclear fuel will remain safely stored in the HI-STORM 100 dry casks at the onsite ISFSI until the US Government takes possession of it or the canisters are transferred to an alternative location, such as Holtec's proposed HI-STORE Consolidated Interim Storage Facility (CISF'), which is undergoing licensing by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Final regulatory approval of the HI-STORE CISF is expected in early 2022. This facility, Holtec said, will provide "a supremely safe, secure, retrievable and centralised facility" for temporarily storing used nuclear fuel until its final disposal by the Department of Energy.

Researched and written by World Nuclear News
PILGRIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION

Pilgrim Weighs What to Do With 1 Million Gallons of Radioactive Water

The Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth shut down in 2019, and ever since, there has been speculation about what will happen to the million gallons of radioactive waste sitting offshore.

By Brittney Figueira, Ryan Kath and Jason Solowski • Published January 11, 2022 • Updated on January 12, 2022 at 9:08 am

The Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, shut down in 2019, has a million gallons of radioactive waste sitting offshore.
For years, the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth has been the only operating commercial nuclear power plant in Massachusetts. Ever since it shut down in 2019, there has been speculation about what is going to happen with the million gallons of radioactive water sitting offshore.

Many fear the water could be released into Cape Cod Bay.

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Diane Turco of Cape Downwinders said her group has been protesting this for decades.

"I am shocked at how irresponsible decommissioning has moved forward," Turco told NBC10 Boston. "There is no real plan to deal with this highly radioactive waste."

Pilgrim was previously owned by Entergy Corporation. The Fortune 500 energy company planned on decommissioning the plant over a long period of time, but in August of 2019, Holtec International purchased Pilgrim. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission said Holtec wants to speed up the decommissioning process and complete the job by 2024.

Edwin Lyman, director of nuclear power safety at the Union of Concerned Scientists, says this accelerated plan could pose some risks.

"The danger, of course, is that in their attempt to reduce the costs and timeline for decommissioning, that they will cut corners in a way that might jeopardize public health and safety," said Lyman.

**Local**

In-depth news coverage of the Greater Boston Area.

1 HOUR AGO

Victim of 2019 NH Motorcycle Crash Sues RMV
Neil Sheehan, public affairs officer for Region 1 at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, told NBC10 Boston that the first step of decommissioning a plant like Pilgrim is to move all the spent fuel from storage pools into dry cast storage, then put those into stainless steel casks. Once that process is complete, the casks are stored outside, above sea level.

Sheehan explained that before Holtec can move forward with the demolition of the plant, it needs to dispose of the water from the spent fuel pools that are located inside the reactor building — and that leaves them three options. They could evaporate it, ship it off-site by truck or rail, or discharge it into the bay.

"I see no legitimate reason why the spent fuel pool water from Pilgrim could not be discharged to the ocean," said David Lochbaum, the former director of nuclear safety at the Union of Concerned Scientists.

"I would strongly advocate against shipping the radioactively contaminated water," he continued. "Shipping accidents have occurred. When accidents of liquid-free materials happen, it's cleanup on aisle 10. But accidents involving radioactive liquids can result in the water flowing into groundwater or streams or other places where the dilution does not lower the concentration of harmful materials to safe, or less unsafe, levels."

In the past, Pilgrim has released water from the plant that contained radioactive waste, all within federal guidelines.

"Aside from these annual effluent discharge reports they need to file with us, they need to maintain this program that monitors impacts on the environment from any radioactive releases from a plant. It's called the Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program," said Sheehan.

"You still can't control exactly what happens after you release it into the environment," Lyman told NBC10 Boston. "Even if it's allowed, that doesn't necessarily mean that it's the right thing to do."

Holtec released the following statement to the NBC10 Boston Investigators:
"Since the November 22nd Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory meeting there have been questions and concerns around the final disposition of processed water on the site. We have been consistent in our messaging since that meeting that over the next year we will be evaluating the regulatory approved options available and no final decisions have been made. The EPA and NRC have strict regulations regarding the disposition of all effluents from any decommissioning site and Holtec confirms that these requirements will be followed in all states where we conduct operations. We wanted to share that in the near term the decision at Pilgrim has been made that the processed water will remain on site, safely stored, and that we will not discharge any processed water in 2022 while this evaluation is undertaken. We appreciate and understand the public's questions and concerns and remain committed to an open, transparent process on the decommissioning of Pilgrim Station focused on the health and safety of the public, the environment, and on-site personnel."

Sheehan said Holtec has to make sure "that any levels would not pose any sort of a health or safety risk to members of the public who are in the in the water, at the bay. The bay water is not used for drinking water purposes, obviously, but you know, we want to make sure if anybody is using, or eating oysters from the area or anything else — that they would not be adversely affected by this."

Mary Lampert, director of Pilgrim Watch, has ongoing concerns about what is being done at the plant. She lives about six miles from Pilgrim.

"If people thought this bay was going to be contaminated, what would that do to the value of my property?" Lampert said.

The NRC said Holtec can change their plans at any point in time, as long as they adhere to federal guidelines.

January 27, 2022

Town of Sandwich Selectmen
130 Main Street
Sandwich, MA 02563

To the Town of Sandwich Selectmen:

Heritage Museums & Gardens kindly requests the Town of Sandwich to renew the Annual Entertainment License for Heritage Museums & Gardens, effective January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

Thank you,

[Signature]

Elizabeth Fort
Manager of Public Programs
Heritage Museums & Gardens
508-888-3300 x. 155
efort@heritagemuseums.org
Hi Taylor,

Greg Antman has stepped down as a regular voting member and would like to be an alternate. I see that he sent you an email below. Is there anything else that we need to do to make this switch? I’ve copied Melissa above so she can put this on the Board of Selectman’s agenda.

Also, I spoke with Carolyn Crowell and she also would like to switch from being a regular voting member to being an alternate. Does she need to write a letter as well?

Kind regards,
Lisa

Begin forwarded message:

From: Greg Antman <gregantman@yahoo.com>
Subject: Sandwich Historical Commission - Membership Change
Date: December 12, 2021 at 8:37:00 PM EST
To: Taylor White <twhite@sandwichmass.org>, Lisa Hassler <lisahassler@comcast.net>

Good evening Taylor,

Lisa asked me to send over a quick message letting you know that due to some changes to my work and family obligations, I will need to step down as a full voting member of the Sandwich Historical Commission. I would like to stay on as an alternate member as I may have some free time during the week to help out where I can and will certainly attend meetings when schedule allows.

Please let me know if there is any formal paperwork needed to make this change in activity level with the Commission.

Thank you,

Greg Antman

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone