

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

At a REGULAR SESSION of the Town Council of the Town of South Kingstown, County of Washington, in the State of Rhode Island held at the Town Hall, in and for said Town on the 9th day of February 2026 at 6:31 PM.

PRESENT: Rory H. McEntee, President
 Michael K. Marran, Vice President
 Patricia A. Alley
 Deborah D. Bergner
 Jay G. Wegimont

1. A. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: recess to Closed Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) pertaining to potential litigation.

Regular Session is reconvened at 7:33 PM.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to seal the minutes of Closed Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5(a)(2) pertaining to potential litigation.

Amy Goins, Town Solicitor notes that one vote was taken during Closed Executive Session.

Nichole C. Romane
Town Clerk

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

At a REGULAR SESSION of the Town Council of the Town of South Kingstown, County of Washington, in the State of Rhode Island held at the Town Hall, in and for said Town on the 9th day of February 2026 at 7:33 PM.

PRESENT: Rory H. McEntee, President
 Michael K. Marran, Vice President
 Patricia A. Alley
 Deborah D. Bergner
 Jay G. Wegimont

2. REGULAR SESSION

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag is given.

B. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

The Land Acknowledgement Statement is read.

3. ROLL CALL

Roll Call is taken and all members are present.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A. Regular Session: that the minutes of the Regular Session held on January 26, 2026 are accepted, approved and placed on file.

B. Closed Executive Session: that the minutes of the Closed Executive Session held on January 26, 2026 are accepted.

5. INTERVIEWS

A. The Town Council interviews Kim Falcone relative to her interest in being appointed to the Conservation Commission.

B. Justin Coutu is not present to be interviewed.

6. APPOINTMENTS

A. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to appoint Kim Falcone to the Conservation Commission for a term to expire September 2027.

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

7. CONSENT AGENDA

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to approve the Consent Agenda as indicated by (CA) on same with the exception of 7C.

(CA) A. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to grant Holiday Sales Licenses for the year beginning December 1, 2025 to the following; Renewals:

Stone Cove Marina, Inc. d/b/a Stone Cove Marina, 134 Salt Pond Road, Wakefield, RI 02879. Application by Steve Wood, Owner. License No. 59433.

South County Supplements LLC d/b/a South County Supplements, 560 Kingstown Road, Wakefield, RI 02879. Application by Michael Evangelista, Owner. License No. 82543.

Malin Bay LLC d/b/a Save, 2949 Tower Hill Road, Wakefield, RI 02879. Application by Nancy Potter, Managing Member. License No. 87631.

(CA) B. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to grant Victualling and Holiday Sales Licenses for the year beginning December 1, 2025 to the following: Renewals:

Desiree Fournier Nutrition Dynamix d/b/a Nutrition Dynamix, 593 Kingstown Road, Wakefield, RI 02879. Application by Desiree Fournier, Owner. License No. 79918.

Kingston Mart d/b/a Kingston Mart, 100 Fortin Road, Kingston, RI 02881. Application by Mohamed Hsaine, Owner. License No. 66454.

(CA) D. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to grant a Junkyard License to Pitchers Garage, Inc. d/b/a Pitcher's Garage, 2210 Post Road, Wakefield, RI 02879 for the year beginning December 1, 2025. Application by Paul Pitcher, President. Renewal; License No. 59744.

(CA) E. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: that Civil Action File Number WC-2026-0026 filed in Superior Court by Stephen Easterbrooks et. al. relative to flooding on his property be referred to the Town Solicitor and the Town's insurance carrier.

(CA) F. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: that Civil Action File Number WC-2025-0132 filed in Superior Court by Thomas Madden, Esq. on behalf of his client Doris Price as parent of a minor child relative to an incident that occurred on or about March 8, 2022 be referred to the Town Solicitor, the Town's insurance carrier, and the School Superintendent.

(CA) G. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize the Town Assessor to abate taxes in the amount of \$421.97, as shown on Tax Abatement Request No. 658.

(CA) H. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for Order of Notice a Public Hearing relative to an application for a license to keep and sell alcoholic beverages in South Kingstown in accordance with the General Laws of 1956, as amended, as follows:

CLASS B VICTUALLER LIQUOR LICENSE

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

Application for a Class B Victualler Liquor License by Butterhead, LLC d/b/a St. Charbel, 254 Robinson Street, Wakefield, RI by Matthew Brown, Owner for the main dining and bar area as well as the patio in accordance with a Special Use Permit granted by the Zoning Board of Review on June 18, 2025 and Public Laws Chapters 23-188 and 23-189; and as further defined in a site plan on file in the Town Clerk's office.

(CA) I. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize an award of contract to Working Fire Furniture & Mattress Co., Inc. d/b/a FireStationFurniture.com Contract - 1480 PO Box 1310, Mebane, NC 27302 for furniture and fixtures at the EMS Perryville Station under the Virginia Sheriff's Association First Responder Supplies and Equipment Cooperative in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 using Emergency Medical Services Billing funds, and as further detailed in a memorandum from the Director of Facilities to the Town Manager dated February 3, 2026 and entitled "Award of Contract – Furniture and Fixtures – EMS Perryville Station."

(CA) J. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize an award of a contract to The Window Shoppee, Inc., 1517 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02888 for the furnishing and installation of custom window shades at the South Kingstown Safety Complex in an amount not to exceed \$11,335.15 using funds from the Public Safety Building - General account, pursuant to State of Rhode Island Master Price Agreement No. 564, and as further described in a memorandum from the Chief of Police to the Town Manager dated February 2, 2026, entitled "Contract Award – Window Shades SK Safety Complex."

(CA) C. VOTED: to grant Holiday Sales and Laundry Licenses to Kingston Cleaners, Inc. d/b/a Pier Cleaners, 50 High Street, Wakefield, RI 02879 for the year beginning December 1, 2025. Application by Larry Fish, President. Renewal; License No. 78304.

Council Vice President Marran recuses.

8. LICENSES

A. Cameron Rancourt, Event Operations Director is present, and after testimony and discussion it is

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to grant a Special Events License to Rhode Races & Events, Inc. to conduct a portion of the Ocean State Rhode Race Marathon & Half Marathon on October 25, 2026, at 7:30 AM to 1 PM. Subject to approval by the Police, Department of Transportation and the execution of a Hold Harmless Agreement Indemnifying the Town and Certificate of Insurance, naming the Town as an additional insured for the event. Application by Cameron Rancourt. New; License No. 92079.

B. Paul Baptista is present, and after testimony and discussion it is

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to grant a Temporary Mass Gathering permit to Sons of Liberty, 1425 Kingstown Road, Wakefield, RI 02879 to hold the Botanicals & Brews Two New England Plant Expo on March 21, 2026, from 12 PM to 5 PM. Application by Paul Baptista, Event Coordinator. New; License No. TMG-26-1.

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

C. Sam Hopler, Director of Event Services is present for items 8C and 8D, and after testimony and discussion it is

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to grant a Class F 19-Hour Beverage License to Global Spectrum, LP d/b/a Spectra Venue Management for the URI Men's Hockey Game on Friday, February 20, 2026 from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM at the Boss Arena, 1 Kearney Road, Kingston, RI 02881, subject to approval from Kingston Fire. Application by Brian Rothenberg, Applicant. License No. 92203.

D. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to grant a Class F 19-Hour Beverage License to Global Spectrum, LP d/b/a Spectra Venue Management for the URI Men's Hockey Game on Saturday, February 21, 2026 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Boss Arena, 1 Kearney Road, Kingston, RI 02881. Application by Brian Rothenberg, Applicant. License No. 92204.

Town Manager's Report 11A is brought forward.

Kate Turner, LeftField reviews South Kingstown High School schedule and construction updates.

Mark Moore, Gilbane reviews construction activities and notes that site work contractors are finished and steel framework construction has begun.

Discussion ensues relative to the weather's impact on construction, feedback from abutters and other community members, the Guaranteed Maximum Price Agreement (GMP), and the status of the project remaining on budget and on time.

Kate Turner continues relative to concrete placement timing and notes that some night work may be performed.

Mark Moore notes that concrete takes longer to cure in cold weather, there may be some noise disruptions to abutters, and that public notice will be given as to when construction activities may be taking place.

Discussion ensues relative to impact to abutters from construction lights, on-site workers, and light equipment and the type of public notice to be sent.

Kate Turner continues relative to the Curtis Corner Middle School (CCMS) Athletics schedule and demolition milestones.

Discussion ensues relative to bid dates for demolition services, the cost of full demolition compared to partial demolition, the contract timeline, and the possibility of renovating a storage building for use as an athletic fieldhouse.

Kate Macinanti, School Building Committee Chair notes that the storage building was never designed to be a fieldhouse.

Further discussion ensues relative to Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) approval for reimbursement of full demolition and limits reimbursement to academic projects, not athletic.

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

Kate Turner continues relative to CCMS athletic field design milestones and notes that no GMP Agreement has been reached for that phase of the project.

Discussion ensues relative to the GMP Agreement for CCMS field design, the bid process, and the ability to use project savings toward additional features not included in the original construction plan.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS – 30 Minutes

Council President McEntee invites residents to come forward with comments.

Elizabeth Gardner comments relative to her family history and the proposed demolition of Wakefield Elementary School.

A resident comments relative to the School Building Project, the CCMS fieldhouse, and emergency shelters and evacuation routes.

Bob Trager comments relative to the Youth Advisory Board, New Business 10C and the state of the world.

Elizabeth Gardner further comments relative to windmill farms and the CCMS storage building demolition.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Lucas Murray, Deputy Town Manager/DOAS reviews the progress on the Companion Memorial to the Flagstaff War Memorial at Hazard School.

Sharon Henderson, South Kingstown USA 250th Committee reviews funding for the Companion Memorial and notes that all funding will be received through grants and donations, the goal of making the monument an educational tool, thanks Town staff for their help and ongoing collaboration efforts, and notes that tonight's item is specifically for approval of the monument concept and location.

Carol Stedman, South Kingstown USA 250th Committee reviews the initiative to find veterans that are descendants of the Native tribal members listed on the monument and introduces URI student researcher Sharday Johnson.

Sharday Johnson comments on the pride felt by the Indigenous and Black student community relative to the monument and the value of the monument as an educational resource.

Carol Stedman notes planned student involvement in recording the project for posterity and the support received by local businesses and Native organizations throughout New England.

Discussion ensues relative to South Kingstown being the first town in Rhode Island to recognize Indigenous soldiers and recognition for the ongoing work of the SK USA 250th Committee.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to approve the general location and concept of a companion memorial on school property at the Hazard School site adjacent to the existing Flagstaff War Memorial, adopt a Memorial Development Checklist to guide the project's advancement, and further authorize the Town

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

Manager to coordinate with the South Kingstown USA 250 Committee, its subcommittee, and any associated nonprofit partner to advance the memorial consistent with the approved framework, subject to final Town Council approval of design, placement, and acceptance, and in a manner consistent with the Town's accessibility, design, fiscal, and long-term stewardship requirements, as further described in a memorandum from the Deputy Town Manager to the Town Manager dated February 3, 2026, and entitled "Companion Memorial Initiative - South Kingstown USA 250 Committee."

B. James Manni, Town Manager introduces Town staff members that will be presenting information relative to Fair Share Development Fees.

Council Member Bergner reviews previous discussions relative to the Town Council's ability to enact exemptions to the fair share fees instead of requiring enabling legislation and requests an explanation of the formula to calculate need.

James Gorman, Building Official notes that the Fair Share Development Fees formula based on the Comprehensive Community Plan is 10.5 acres of recreational space per every 1,000 residents.

Discussion ensues relative to the formula being listed in the Comprehensive Community Plan, the review of fees annually based on assessed values, the number of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) currently in South Kingstown, the inclusion of ADUs in paying Fair Share Development Fees, the impact of excluding ADUs thereby disallowing rental of the units, and revenue from Fair Share fees over the last few fiscal years.

Amy Goins, Town Solicitor notes that the formula is set forth in the land development and subdivision regulations adopted by the Planning Board and is equal to the fair market value of land multiplied by the land need as set out in the Comprehensive Community Plan multiplied again by the maximum number of dwelling units to be constructed multiplied again by the average number of persons per dwelling unit, that Fair Share Development Fees are driven by community need and governed by State law.

Discussion ensues relative to the land development and subdivision formula being referred by a former Town Council to the Planning Board and how other towns calculate Fair Share Fees.

Lucas Murray, Deputy Town Manager/DOAS reviews how the formula is calculated using the Town of Coventry as an example and notes that Fair Share Development Fees can be calculated through multiple methods using various capital assets tied to growth.

Discussion ensues relative to the ability to adopt amendments to the Town Code of Ordinances to exempt ADUs from Fair Share Development Fees, making amendments effective prospectively or retroactively, seeing examples of revised formulas, the option to implement separate ADU Fair Share Fees, and the ordinance amendment process.

The Town Solicitor notes that Fair Share Development Fees will need the Planning Board to review and provide an advisory opinion before the Town Council can schedule a Public Hearing.

Discussion ensues relative to the ability to amend the formula and implement it in the Town Code of Ordinances.

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

C. Council Member Wegimont reviews his request for a Youth Advisory Board and other Youth Advisory Boards in other Rhode Island communities.

The Town Manager reviews discussion with the Mayor of North Providence relative to their Youth Advisory Board.

Discussion ensues relative to the makeup of other Youth Advisory Boards and how they operate, potential age discrimination liability, by-laws drafted for the committee by the Town Solicitor's office, requirements to join a Board or Commission, the application process, ensuring that participating minors remain safe, and the possibility of hosting a Town Council youth invitation day as an alternative to the Youth Advisory Board.

Council Member Wegimont motions for the Town Council to work with the Town Solicitor's office to establish a South Kingstown Youth Advisory Board with framework entailing membership of at least five students in grades 9 through 12 appointed by the Town Council to one-year terms with an adult liaison designated by the Town Manager, advisory capacity only, with monthly meetings and an annual written report to the Town Council.

Discussion ensues relative to what benefit a Youth Advisory Board would have to the Town Council and the potential to raise the age range so that minors are not included in membership.

There being no second the motion fails.

D. Matthew Moynihan, Chief of Police reviews a request for virtual reality (VR) training.

Discussion ensues relative to training scenarios.

The Town Manager reviews the ability of the system to identify bias policing.

Discussion ensues relative to the VR training being fairly new and the possibility that the Town Council may observe a training.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize an award of contract to Axon Enterprise, Inc., 17800 N. 85th Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85255, for the sole source purchase of an Axon Virtual Reality training system under a 43-month agreement, in an amount not to exceed \$70,399.48, inclusive of a five percent contingency, with \$25,000 allocated in FY 2026 and remaining payments distributed over FY 2027 through FY 2029, with Year One funding derived from the Police Department Education Fund, as further described in a memorandum from the Chief of Police to the Town Manager dated January 25, 2026 entitled "Axon Virtual Reality Training System."

E. Richard Bourbonnais, Public Services Director reviews the development of an irrigation ordinance.

Discussion ensues relative to whether the recent snowfall will help to replenish aquifers, the definition of hand watering, the process of introducing amendments to the proposed ordinance during Public Hearing, and odd/even water schedules.

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for Order of Notice a Public Hearing to consider proposed amendments to the South Kingstown Town Code, Chapter 19 Utilities, Article III. Water Supply, Division 8 Penalties and Division 10 Water Supply Restrictions, as follows.

AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWN CODE CHAPTER 19 – UTILITIES

* * *

ARTICLE III. – WATER SUPPLY

* * *

DIVISION 8. – PENALTIES

* * *

Sec. 19-292. - Fines.

Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time limit provided for in section 19-291 shall have service discontinued and be subject to a fine not exceeding ~~one~~ five hundred dollars (\$~~1500~~500.00) for each violation. Each day in which such violation shall continue shall be deemed a separate violation.

* * *

DIVISION 10. – WATER SUPPLY RESTRICTIONS

Sec. 19-318. Imposition of restrictions on use of water supply.

(a) Purpose. The purpose of this section of the rules and regulations is to provide for a means of conserving the town's supply of potable water and to minimize the risk associated with excess water demand by restricting the use of water on occasions of actual or anticipated shortages and when deemed necessary for the health, welfare or safety of the town residents.

(b) Applicability. The provisions of this section shall apply to all properties within the town that receive potable water from Veolia Water Rhode Island Inc. (or its successors) and South Kingstown Water Districts.

(b) Duration of restrictions for lawn and landscape irrigation. Irrigation of lawns and landscaping shall be restricted to two (2) days per week in accordance with the following schedule (Refer to Irrigation Map 1 - South Shore and Irrigation Map 2 - Veolia/Middlebridge):

DISTRICT 1: USE OF SPRINKLERS FOR LAWNS AND LANDSCAPING ALLOWED ON MONDAY AND THURSDAY ONLY – Irrigation Map 1, West of Moonstone Beach Road and Irrigation Map 2, West of the Saugatucket River.

DISTRICT 2: USE OF SPRINKLERS FOR LAWNS AND LANDSCAPING ALLOWED ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY ONLY – Irrigation Map 1, East of Moonstone Beach Road and Irrigation Map 2, East of the Saugatucket River (including SK Middlebridge customers).

No sprinkler operation will be permitted in any district between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. or on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday; however, hand watering of flowers and/or vegetable gardens is permitted at any time.

(c) Imposition and removal of more stringent restrictions. When the director anticipates a lack of water availability or a shortage of potable water, based on weather conditions, drought conditions, and patterns of water consumption, the Town, in cooperation with Town public water suppliers, may institute more stringent restrictions. While such restrictions are in effect, the director shall certify weekly in writing to the town manager the water consumption of the preceding 7-day period for the South Kingstown South Shore and Middlebridge water districts. If, on the basis of daily records, present and anticipated weather conditions, patterns of consumption and after consultation with Town public water suppliers, the director determines that the danger of shortage of potable water has ended, the director shall forthwith remove any and all restrictions theretofore imposed. Notice of

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

the removal of such restrictions shall be published by the director in the same manner in which notice of the proclamation and restrictions was given in the first instance.

(d) Enforcement. The director shall diligently enforce this section in accordance with Division 8 of this article.

(i) In-ground sprinklers. Use of in-ground sprinklers shall be in accordance with the following:

(1) All connections to a public water supply for the purpose of irrigation of lawns and landscaping shall be protected by a backflow device as specified in the state building code plumbing regulation SBC-3, dated May 1, 1997, or as revised.

(2) Every person making connection to the municipal water system for the purpose of irrigation of a lawn and landscaping installed after May 1, 1998, shall apply for a permit with the town building official as specified in the state building code plumbing regulation SBC-3, dated May 1, 1997, or as revised.

(3) All connections to the municipal water system for the purpose of irrigation of lawns and landscaping should have as part of the installation a rain switch device to prevent the initiation of the irrigation sequence in wet weather conditions.

(4) All connections to the municipal water system for the purpose of irrigation of lawns and landscaping should have as part of the installation a pressure-reducing valve set to limit the water pressure applied to the irrigation system to at or below 60 psi (per square inch).

(5) All connections to the municipal water system for the purpose of irrigation of lawns and landscaping should have as part of the installation sprinkler heads capable of delivering no more than five gallons per minute flow per sprinkler head at 60 psi (per square inch).

* * *

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage.

F. Rex Eberly, Parks Superintendent reviews the 2026 Town Beach Policy and fees.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to adopt the Town Beach Policy for the 2026 season and amending the Town's Schedule of Fees, as follows, as further described in a memorandum from the Director of Leisure Services to the Town Manager dated February 1, 2026, and entitled "2026 Town Beach Policy and Fee Schedule."

South Kingstown Town Beach Policy

It is the policy of the Town of South Kingstown to operate and maintain, as a municipal facility,
the Town
Beach at Matunuck for the 2025 summer season.

General Rules and Information

- The South Kingstown Town Beach is open to the public from May 24 through Labor Day, September 1, 2025.
- Designated Parking on Moonstone Beach Road between May 1 – September 15 requires a seasonal beach pass sticker or day pass which can be purchased at the Town Beach gate while the beach is in operation. This parking is monitored by South Kingstown Police.
- The Parking lot opens daily at 8:00 am, parking is first-come first-serve.

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

- Gate Hours are 8:00 am to 4:00 pm weekdays; and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm weekends and holidays.
- Restrooms are normally open from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm
- All cars must be vacated from the parking area no later than 9:00 p.m. as the gate is closed and locked at that time.
- Lifeguards shall be on duty 9:00 am to 5:00 pm weekdays and 9:00 am to 6:00 pm weekends and holidays
- Alcohol consumption on the property is prohibited.
- Smoking on the property is prohibited.
- Dogs are prohibited from Opening Day through Labor Day – excluding service dogs as defined by ADA (see section V). Compliance with the Town's leash law is required at all times during the off season when dogs are allowed on the beach.
- All ball playing, frisbee throwing and kite flying must be done in the picnic area.

Use of the municipal parking lot at the South Kingstown Town Beach shall be governed in accordance with the following regulations:

I. Beach Parking Stickers/Transferrable Passes

- A. A seasonal parking sticker, transferrable pass, or one-day parking pass will be required for access to the beach parking area.
- B. Season Passes will be available for purchase as follows:
 - 1. Online at <https://secure.rec1.com/RI/town-of-south-kingstown-ri/catalog> March 3-Labor Day
 - 2. At the Neighborhood Guild, 325 Columbia Street, Peace Dale, Monday – Friday, March 3 – Labor Day during operating hours.
 - 3. At the Town Beach gate during beach operating hours (weekends only May 24 – June 14, and then Sun-Sat June 15 – Labor Day while the beach is in operation)
 - 4. **Beach Stickers cannot be purchased at any other location.**
- C. The purchase of a seasonal parking sticker or transferrable pass does not guarantee parking.
- D. The fees for seasonal and daily beach parking shall be as follows:

Seasonal

- | | | |
|----|---|-------|
| 1. | Resident | \$65 |
| 2. | Resident – Senior Citizen (65 or older) | \$50 |
| 3. | Elderly Abatement and SNAP recipients
(must meet income eligibility, one pass per address) | \$25 |
| 4. | Non-Resident (see item D above) | \$130 |
| 5. | Transferrable Pass R (two passes issued) | \$215 |
| 6. | Transferrable Pass NR (two pass issued – see item D | \$250 |

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

7. 100% disabled Veteran/ Ex-POW and families in public (one pass per address) No fee
8. Narragansett Tribal Members (one pass per address) No fee

Weekdays – Monday through Friday

7. Resident Daily parking fee \$10
8. Non-resident Daily parking fee \$20
9. Daily parking for busses and large recreational vehicles \$50

Weekends/Holidays

10. Residents \$15
11. Non-residents \$25
12. 4th of July – when the holiday falls on a Tuesday the Monday before will charge the holiday rate, when the holiday falls on a Thursday the Friday after will charge the holiday rate. Charging the holiday rate for daily parking will allow the beach to be staffed to accommodate a weekend crowd over the long holiday weekend.

- E.** Resident beach parking passes shall only be issued to persons meeting one or more of the following qualifications:
1. Property taxpayers found in the most current tax roll.
 2. Property taxpayers who can show a receipt for payment of the current year's taxes.
 3. A person who can provide the Town with a copy of a current valid 90-day or longer lease term in South Kingstown.
 4. Any person who can show current rent receipts for a South Kingstown property for a period of not less than 90 days.
 5. Senior Citizens must show proof of residency and age to be 65 or older for the reduced rate.
 6. Non-resident who serves as caregiver/driver for resident who must provide proof of residency as noted in items 1 through 4.
- F.** Persons failing to meet the above-noted qualifications shall be eligible to purchase a non-resident parking pass for the South Kingstown Town Beach at the fee noted in paragraph E.4 above.
- G.** Resident parking passes will be issued only to vehicles registered to individuals meeting the criteria established in paragraph E. above. Parking stickers are not transferable. Each pass will be marked to indicate the registration number of the vehicle to which it was issued.
- H.** A valid vehicle registration must be presented for each vehicle for which a pass is issued.
- I.** Parking passes are only valid if affixed to the lower front windshield on the driver's side of the vehicle.
- J.** Transferrable passes are available to residents and non-residents as noted above in section E.5 and E.6 and in accordance with the following procedures:

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

1. For residents: two passes will be issued per the established fee. Non-residents: two passes will be issued for the established fee. The pass must be presented at the front gate at the time of entry to the beach and is good for one vehicle. Pass must be visible at all times while the vehicle is parked in the beach parking lot.
2. Application and payment for transferrable passes will only be accepted by the Parks and Recreation Department at the Neighborhood Guild, 325 Columbia Street, Peace Dale, and RI. Applications will **not** be accepted at Town Hall or the Town Beach.

II. Parking Priorities

- A. Personnel of the South Kingstown Parks and Recreation Department, with the assistance and support of the South Kingstown Police Department will oversee the management and security of the beach parking areas.
- B. Parking is first-come first-serve for all patrons (seasonal stickers, transferable passes, and daily parking passes)
- C. Motorcycles, mopeds and all other recreational vehicles are considered motor vehicles for purpose of admission.
- D. Bicycles are not considered vehicles and will be parked at the bike rack or at other designated areas.

III. Picnic Area

Picnic Tables and grills are available on a first come first serve basis. Grills are for charcoal use only; open flames are prohibited.

IV. Storage Unit Rental

A. Rental Procedure

1. Rental fee per unit is \$175 for the season (May 24–Labor Day).
2. Rental applications will be accepted at the Neighborhood Guild from March 3 through Labor Day. If more than sixteen applications are received by May 12, 2025, a lottery will be held.
3. Only one application may be submitted per person.
4. Payment must be submitted to the South Kingstown Parks and Recreation Department, 325 Columbia Street, Peace Dale within seven business days of the lottery drawing (by May 12, 2025)

B. Eligibility Requirements

1. Property taxpayers found in the most current tax roll.
2. Property taxpayers who can show a receipt for payment of the current year's taxes.
3. A person who can provide the Town with a copy of a current valid 90-day or longer lease term in South Kingstown.
4. Any person who can show current rent receipts for a South Kingstown property for a period of not less than 90 days.

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

C. Storage Unit Rules

1. The name on the application form is the person responsible for the rental unit.
2. Renter agrees to provide their own lock.
3. Renter has access to storage unit during regular operating hours of beach.
4. The unit must be cleaned and emptied by Labor Day. Items left in the unit after Labor Day become the property of the Town and will be disposed of.
5. The following items may not be stored in the rental unit
 - a. Alcohol
 - b. Firearms
 - c. Food (overnight)
 - d. Portable grills
6. Unit rental rights are not transferable.
7. Unit rental is not renewable for future seasons. A lottery will be conducted annually.
8. The Town of South Kingstown is not responsible for any damage to or loss of renter's property as a result of theft or vandalism.

V. Service Animals

Service animals as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act:

Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person with mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. Service animals are working animals, not pets. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person's disability. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.

Beach patrons accompanied by a dog may be asked what work or task has the dog been trained to perform.

G. James Rabbitt, Planning Director reviews the amendment to the Able City East contract.

Discussion ensues relative to the total funding spent to Able City East and their predecessor, Dover, Kohl & Partners.

Discussion ensues relative to what the finished product will be, the intention to adopt regulations that the community has asked for into a full development code, requirements for business owners, Able City East's commitment to attend the Work Session on February 26, and funding under the existing contract.

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

VOTED: to authorize an amendment to an award of contract, originally granted on May 28, 2024 and amended on April 14, 2025, to Able City East, 271 Palmer Street, New Bedford, MA 02740 to include a defined scope of services for the Old Tower Hill Road Neighborhood Plan from an amount not to exceed \$87,100 to an amount not to exceed \$90,100, as further described in a memorandum from the Planning Director to the Town Manager dated February 3, 2026, entitled "Old Tower Hill Road Neighborhood Plan, 2026 (Able City East)."

Council Member Alley votes no.

The Town Council reaches consensus to change the time for the Work Session from 7 to 9 PM.

I. The Deputy Town Manager reviews a request to authorize the Union Fire District to become an affiliated participant in the Town of South Kingstown's health and dental insurance programs through the RI Interlocal Risk Management Trust.

Discussion ensues relative to on the job injuries and coverage.

Brian Mahoney, District Administrator reviews fire staff and the need to cover insurance for three staff members, how a high cost claim would impact the insurance premium, the ability to modify the agreement, and the ability to request an annual report from the Union Fire District.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to authorize the Union Fire District to become an affiliated participant in the Town of South Kingstown's health and dental insurance programs through the Rhode Island Interlocal Risk Management Trust, subject to the terms and conditions of an Affiliate Relationship Agreement, and further authorizing the Town Manager to execute said agreement with the Union Fire District in a form satisfactory to the Town Solicitor and consistent with the Town's insurance, fiscal, and risk-management requirements, subject to annual review by the Town Council, as further described in a memorandum from the Deputy Town Manager to the Town Manager dated February 3, 2026, entitled "Union Fire District Request to Affiliate with the Town for Health and Dental Insurance Coverage."

11. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

B. The Town Manager proposes holding a Homestead Exemption Work Session on a regular Town Council meeting night from 6:30 to 7:30 PM and suggests the March 23, 2026 date.

Discussion ensues relative to the process after the next Work Session.

C. The Town Manager reviews Council Member Bergner's request relative to the Town of Narragansett affordable housing policies.

Brian Wagner, Deputy Planning Director reviews the policies, a home improvement program similar to a CDBG State program available that South Kingstown used to participate in and a lease to locals program that identifies housing that isn't being utilized to its fullest potential to use as affordable rentals.

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

Discussion ensues relative to subsidies to homeowners from the Town, identifying eligible residents, the Narragansett housing market, how their affordable housing program works, and limited Town staff time available to investigate affordable housing programs.

The Planning Director comments that several days' worth of staff time would need to be spent on analysis and the Town of Narragansett has not fully vetted their policies yet.

Discussion ensues relative to waiting to see how Narragansett's programs are resolved.

The Deputy Planning Director agrees to do some preliminary research into the programs.

12. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Notice having been duly given, a Public Hearing is held relative to proposed amendments to the Town Code, Chapter 10 Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article II Stopping, Standing and Parking, Section 10-12, Boulevard and Street Stop Signs Designated for the installation of a stop sign on James Trail where it terminates at Gardner Road as follows:

CHAPTER - 10 MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, Article II – STOPPING, STANDING & PARKING

Sec. 10-12 – Boulevard and street stop signs designated.

Remove:

~~James Trail at Glen Rock Road. Traffic to stop on James Trail at intersection~~

Add:

James Trail. Traffic traveling easterly must stop before entering Glenn Rock Road. Traffic traveling westerly must stop before entering Gardner Road

The Public Services Director reviews the need for a three-way stop on James Trail.

There being no public comments, it is

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to close the Public Hearing.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to adopt proposed amendments to the Town Code, Chapter 10 Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article II Stopping, Standing and Parking, Section 10-12, Boulevard and Street Stop Signs Designated for the installation of a stop sign on James Trail where it terminates at Gardner Road as follows:

CHAPTER - 10 MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, Article II – STOPPING, STANDING & PARKING

Sec. 10-12 – Boulevard and street stop signs designated.

Remove:

~~James Trail at Glen Rock Road. Traffic to stop on James Trail at intersection~~

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

Add:

James Trail. Traffic traveling easterly must stop before entering Glenn Rock Road. Traffic traveling westerly must stop before entering Gardner Road

B. Notice having been duly given, a Public Hearing is held relative to proposed amendments to the Town Code, Chapter 10 Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article II Stopping, Standing and Parking, Section 10-12, Boulevard and Street Stop Signs Designated for the installation of a stop sign on Magnolia Lane at its intersection with Oak Street as follows:

CHAPTER - 10 MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, Article II – STOPPING, STANDING & PARKING

Sec. 10-12 – Boulevard and street stop signs designated.

Add:

Magnolia Lane. Traffic to stop at intersection with Oak Street intersection

The Public Services Director reviews the installation of a stop sign on Magnolia Lane.

There being no public comments, it is

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to close the Public Hearing.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to adopt proposed amendments to the Town Code, Chapter 10 Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Article II Stopping, Standing and Parking, Section 10-12, Boulevard and Street Stop Signs Designated for the installation of a stop sign on Magnolia Lane at its intersection with Oak Street as follows:

CHAPTER - 10 MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, Article II – STOPPING, STANDING & PARKING

Sec. 10-12 – Boulevard and street stop signs designated.

Add:

Magnolia Lane. Traffic to stop at intersection with Oak Street intersection

C. Notice having been duly given, a Public Hearing is held relative to proposed amendments to the Town's Zoning Ordinance Article 5.5 Rental Dwellings.

The Town Solicitor reviews the amendments to the Rental Dwellings ordinance: clarification of the authorized agent definition, fees moved out of the ordinance text to the Town Schedule of Fees, and the registration deadline.

Discussion ensues relative to registration deadlines and the ability to amend filings from short-term to long-term rentals.

The Building Official notes that it's difficult to verify rental status.

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

Discussion ensues relative to methods to smooth program operation, enforcement of misrepresenting the status of a rental, the possibility of continuing to amend the ordinance versus implementation, and prohibiting ADUs as rentals to reflect in the ADU section of the Zoning Ordinance.

Council President McEntee invites residents to come forward with comments.

There being no public comments, it is

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to close the Public Hearing.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to adopt proposed amendments to the Town's Zoning Ordinance Article 5.5 Rental Dwellings, as recommended, as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWN CODE

APPENDIX A – ZONING ORDINANCE

ARTICLE 5.5 - RENTAL DWELLINGS

* * *

Sec. 550. - Applicability.

The provisions of this article shall apply to all rental dwellings/units within the town except those such as hotels, motels and tourist homes which are licensed pursuant to Chapter 18. Institutional dormitories are exempt from the provisions of this article.

Sec. 551. - Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Record owner means the property owner of record, as identified by the town's tax records, or the record owner's authorized agent.

Rental dwelling means any enclosed space which is wholly or partly used or intended to be used for occupants who are paying rent therefor.

Rental unit means any room or group of rooms located within a rental dwelling and forming a single habitable unit for living and sleeping by occupants who are paying rent therefor.

Sec. 552. - Registration.

(a) *Required.* No rental dwelling/unit shall be let, leased or otherwise permitted to be occupied, in whole or in part, by a tenant for residential and/or dwelling purposes unless and until the record owner has registered such property with the zoning official.

(b) *Form.* The rental registration form shall, at a minimum, indicate the tax assessor's plat and lot number address of the rental dwelling/unit the number of rental dwelling units and bedrooms therein,

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

the name and permanent mailing address of the record owner, and the maximum number of tenants at one time, and period of occupancy (~~summer, September to June, or other~~). All rental registration applications shall be signed ~~and properly notarized~~ by the record owner. The zoning official is authorized to request additional information/documentation as reasonably necessary.

(c) *Filing date; term.* Between November 30 and December 31 of each year, the record owner of the rental dwelling/unit shall file the completed rental registration form with the zoning official, which registration shall be valid for a one-year period from January 1 to December 31 of the following year. If the property is registered at any other time during the calendar year, the registration shall be valid until December 31 of that same year.

Sec. 553. - Fee.

To defray the cost of implementing and overseeing compliance with this article and to help defray the costs associated with the frequent use of town services, including, but not limited to public safety personnel, code compliance personnel and managerial personnel associated with the policing of rental dwellings there shall be a registration fee for each rental unit covered under the provisions of this article. The Town, through the zoning official, shall collect registration fees in accordance with the fee schedule established by town council resolution, as amended, for the purposes of administering this article, as follows: (a) \$300.00 per unit for rentals of 30 days or less; (b) \$50.00 per unit for rentals over 30 days, but not to exceed a total of \$1,000.00 (20 units) for any one property owner. Any owner who is required to file the registration form on or before December 31 of each year, and who does not file on time, shall, in addition to any other applicable penalties provided for in Article 9, be required to pay a late fee established by town council resolution, provided that no late fee shall be imposed if the record owner registers within 30 days of initiating a rental, of \$300.00. ~~Rental units owned by the South Kingstown Housing Authority and rental units that are deed restricted as affordable housing shall be exempt from the registration fee. The fee schedule shall be revised on an annual basis.~~

Sec. 554. – Filing deadline after passage.

The deadline for filing following the passage of this ordinance shall be March 31, 2026, which shall cover the effective period from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026. Registration thereafter shall be done annually in accordance with Section 552(c).

Secs. 554555—599. - Reserved.

* * *

This Ordinance shall take effect retroactive to December 20, 2025.

New Business 10H is brought forward.

VOTED: to amend the Town's Schedule of Fees, to include Rental Dwellings – Registration Fees, as follows, as further described in a memorandum from the Building Official to the Town Manager dated January 2, 2026, and entitled "Amendment to Municipal Fee Schedule – Rental Dwellings."

Council Member Bergner votes no.

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

Rental Dwellings - Registration Fees

Filing fee associated with the annual registration for rental dwelling/unit.

Rental unit for period of 30 days or less - \$300.00 per unit

Rental unit for period of more than 30 days - \$50.00 per unit, but not to exceed a total of \$1,000.00 (20 units) for any one property owner.

Late filing fee - \$300.00

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: to adjourn at 10:55 PM.

Nichole C. Romane
Town Clerk