

## TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

TO: Honorable Town Council Members

FROM: Karl F. Kilduff, Town Manager

DATE: March 1, 2023

---

Please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council and community.

### 1. Council Business:

- Charter Revision – The next milestone for the Council for Charter Revision (after the public hearing) is a discussion to determine if the Council has any recommendations for the Charter Revision Commission. If the Council has no recommendations, then the report is considered final. If the Council does have recommendations, then a meeting should take place with the Commission ASAP and they have 30 days to consider. The Commission would make the report final after those 30 days without further action from the Council.

I did follow-up with the Town Attorney regarding the two comments that came from the public during the public hearing. In one instance, there is no statutory requirement that would require a town to look at its charter every five years – that is an exclusively local decision. The other comment concerned the staggered terms of the Council. It was suggested to just leave the current language alone rather than replace it to avoid confusion.

### 2. River COG:

The Council of Governments met on February 22, 2023. Some of the meeting highlights included:

- Early Voting Report – The Regional Election Monitor gave a report to the COG regarding the possibilities of early voting and concepts being discussed for how it could be implemented.
- CEDS Public Comment – The COG's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is out for public comment at this time. The public comment period was extended. It may be voted on by the COG in March. However, given the extension and possible impacts of added comments, that vote could take place in April. A CEDS is a tool to help leverage additional federal funding and our region is the only one in the State without a CEDS.
- Regional Housing Committee – To date, 10 COG towns have voted or intend to participate in the Regional Housing Committee.

### 3. Miscellaneous:

- Consulting Town Engineer – Interviews were held to appoint a consulting town engineer. After the interviews, I contacted the top pick and will be reviewing their service contract language and fee structure.

- Solid Waste – MIRA held a meeting with participating towns to provide an overview of their operations and the possible impact of the Governor’s proposed bill that would restructure MIRA. A regional meeting will also be held more locally with MIRA towns to continue discussions on creating a regional solid waste authority to manage the waste flow from our area.
- Union Contract Negotiation – Negotiations need to be completed for entire successor agreements to the Police and Dispatchers Unions. Public Works, Clerical and Supervisors all have wage re-openers where only wages are subject to negotiations. Additionally, the Police Union pension negotiations (which were put on hold in 2018) are going to be active.
- Coastal Resiliency – I have a number of potential appointees for the Council to add to the Coastal Resiliency Taskforce. Names have been put forward by Planning & Zoning, Harbor Management, and the Conservation Commission. A possible appointee representing a beach association also put their name forward. The Council will need to determine who will represent the Council on this group.