



Town Administrator's Transcript & Newsletter

Michael Mullen, Jr.
Dighton Town Administrator
September / October 2021

Hello, Dighton!

Community. That's the word that always comes to mind as I reflect on our work together during the last 8 months.

As I sit down to begin writing this month's newsletter, we are dealing with the aftermath of this week's Autumn Nor'easter. Our Fire, Police, Highway and Communications Departments have been working tirelessly to respond to storm emergencies and downed trees and wires in numerous areas of town.

I think about the leadership and coordination between Fire Chief Chris Maguy, Police Chief Bob MacDonald, Highway Superintendent Tom Ferry, our first responders, dispatchers, and Highway Department staff to make these efforts possible. I think about the countless calls to dispatch and the professionalism and care in their response. I think about the phone calls and emails from residents seeking assistance. I think about the phone calls and emails from residents seeking their assistance. I'm also reminded of our priority throughout the storm and up until now to share information with residents via email and social media to provide updates on power outages, road closures, and anticipated power restoration efforts.

This month I had the chance to participate in the Massachusetts Municipal Management Association's annual 'Boot Camp' for municipal managers, assistant municipal managers and aspiring municipal managers across the state. This year's 'Boot Camp' was held via Zoom and focused on what I call the 'nuts and bolts' of local government: budget and capital planning, financial forecasting, and outreach and communications.

A number of my well-respected colleagues spoke about their experiences and the pride they take in serving their communities, because everything comes back to community. **The response to this week's storm provides a clear example of just how special of a community Dighton is.** Our departments pull together. Businesses pull together, like Alice's Last Stop which graciously donated coffee for our Warming/Charging Center. Neighbors pull together. Our community pulls together; and I cannot tell you how fortunate I am to be working for you.

In addition to kicking-off our capital planning and continuing grant application efforts, we have been busy the last few weeks preparing for next week's Special Town Meeting. Special Town Meeting will be held on Monday, November 1, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School Auditorium. More information relating to Special Town Meeting and additional updates are included in this month's newsletter.

As always, please feel free to contact me should any need arise.

See you around Town,

Mike Mullen, Jr.



Participating in this month's Massachusetts Municipal Management Association's (MMMA) 'Boot Camp'

Upcoming and Important Dates

November 1, 2021 – Special Town Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School Auditorium, 2700 Regional Road

November 6, 2021 – Town of Dighton Veterans Breakfast, 9:00 a.m., Father's House Family Church, 207 Main Street, Dighton

November 10, 2021 – Board of Selectmen meets at 6:00 p.m.

November 11, 2021 – Veterans Day Ceremony, 11:00 a.m., Dighton Veterans Memorial, Town Hall Campus, 979 Somerset Avenue

November 20, 2021 – Dighton Lions Club Food Bank, 8:00 a.m., Town Hall Lower Level

November 26, 2021 – Town Hall Closed

November 27, 2021 – Dighton Lights-On, 4:00 p.m., Old Town Hall

Special Town Meeting Scheduled for this Monday, November 1

Just a reminder of Monday night's Special Town Meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m. in the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School located at 2700 Regional Road in Dighton.

Included in the proposed warrant articles are a citizen's petition, funding to pay the debt service on the new police station to reduce the tax rate, as well as proposals for a number of capital investments, proposed bylaws, street acceptances and other matters. To read all the proposed warrant articles, [click here](#).

The Board of Selectmen, this past Monday night, held an informational meeting on the proposed Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles.

[Click Here to view a PowerPoint presentation outlining the proposed Articles.](#)

Dighton Police and Fire Departments Share Tips for Halloween and Trick-or-Treating

Police Chief Robert MacDonald and Fire Chief Christopher Maguy earlier this week shared guidance and safety tips to help residents and trick-or-treaters plan for Halloween on Sunday, October 31.

Suggested trick-or-treating hours in the Town of Dighton will be from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Dighton Police and Fire encourage families to make the most of Halloween with their children but ask that parents and guardians remain mindful of their child's safety when choosing costumes, and trick-or-treating.

Additional guidance from Chief MacDonald and Chief Maguy can be found [here](#). Happy Halloween!

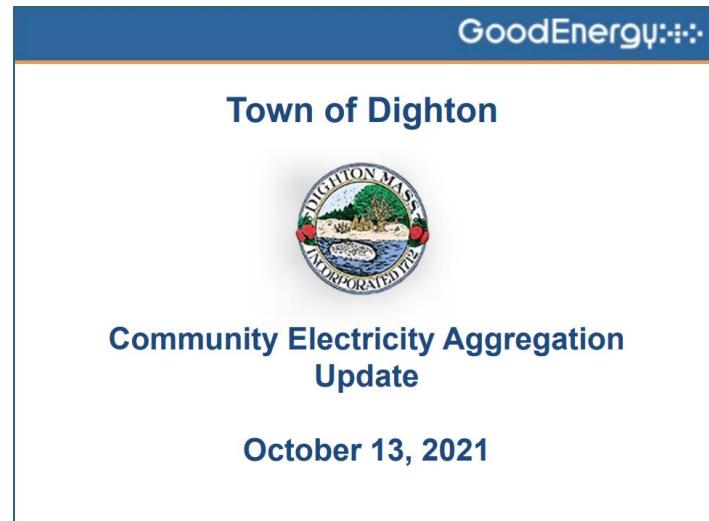
Community Electricity Aggregation Update Provided to Board of Selectmen

Dighton's Community Electricity Aggregation (CEA) program is providing a great monetary benefit to town residents. That was the report presented to the Board of Selectmen and Dighton residents during the Board's October 13, 2021 meeting.

Now in its 5th year since being launched in January 2016, Dighton's CEA has saved the Town and its residents a cumulative total of \$838,033 in electricity costs in all rate classes.

These savings are expected to increase significantly with National Grid's Basic Service Residential rates increasing to \$.014821/hWh on November 1st when compared to Dighton's CEA Standard rate costs of \$.010470/kWh, locked in through December 2023.

The Dighton CEA program recently sent a Customer Notification Letter to new electricity customers in Dighton. All program details, including forms to enroll in different products, can be found at www.MassCEA.com/Dighton. Residents with questions about the program are encouraged to contact Good Energy, the Town's consultant for the program, at support_ma@goodenergy.com or 844-627-7232.



The slide features the GoodEnergy logo at the top right. The title "Town of Dighton" is centered above the town's circular seal. The seal depicts a landscape with a river, trees, and a bridge, surrounded by the text "DIGHTON MASS." and "INCORPORATED 1712". Below the seal, the text "Community Electricity Aggregation Update" is centered, followed by the date "October 13, 2021" at the bottom right.

Dighton Portal Additional News and Updates

[**\(Update #2\) Town of Dighton to Open Warming/Charging Center at Police Station**](#)

[**Town of Dighton Provides Update on Nor'easter Response**](#)

[**Dighton Police Shares Warning Signs and Offers Resources During Domestic Violence Awareness Month**](#)

[**Dighton Police Share Safety Tips Following Multiple Bear Sightings in the Area**](#)