

## NORTH KINGSTOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OVERVIEW



**Meeting Date:** Monday, December 15, 2025

**Recording:** [https://northkingstown.granicus.com/player/clip/1538?view\\_id=3&redirect=true](https://northkingstown.granicus.com/player/clip/1538?view_id=3&redirect=true)

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The meeting was also the joint meeting with the School Committee and School Department, as required by Rhode Island General Law. This joint meeting also functioned as a Pre-Budget Consultation, and was attended by School Committee Members Erin Earle, Robert Case, Sheri Kennedy and Jennifer Lima as well as Superintendent Ken Duva, Assistant Superintendent Rob Mezzanotte, and School Finance Director Lesli-Ann Powell. The joint meeting featured a [preliminary budget discussion and presentation](#) led by Superintendent Dr. Duva in which he highlighted the School Department's budget process, an overview of current and proposed finances, enrollment projections, and upcoming impacts on the Department's FY 2027 Budget. The School Department will be presenting their budget to the Town Manager in early 2026, and will be followed by the Town Manager's presentation of the full municipal FY2027 Proposed Budget to the Town Council in early March and in subsequent Council Meetings with the Administration and public according to the Town Council [Meeting Calendar](#).

The meeting then proceeded to its regular [Agenda](#) as Town Council discussed an upcoming invitation for the Legislative Delegation to attend a meeting in January to discuss the Town's Legislative Priorities for the 2026 Legislative Session. This was followed by Town Council's approval of an appropriation from the School Bond for the hiring of a Construction Manager for the new Wickford Middle School within the School Bond Facility Projects.

The Town Council held a Show Cause Hearing on the Liquor and Victualling licenses of a local establishment where Town Council temporarily suspended the Liquor License until receipt of required paperwork.

The December 15 meeting had one Public Hearing where they approved the request of Quonset Development Corporation's for an abandonment of a portion of a Town Right-of-Way that is no longer in service and will allow for development and revenue producing opportunities while assisting the Town in negotiations for land necessary to construct a new Public Safety Complex.

The Town Council then proceeded to the Public Comment portion of the agenda where residents are provided with an opportunity to present comment on issues within the agenda as well as any issues that may not be on the agenda.

The Consent Agenda was busy as the Town Council approved funding for PFAS-Free gear for the Fire Department's four newest recruits; equipment for the Recreation Department; and an Agreement for service to various Fire Department medical devices. The Consent Agenda also had the Council authorize the Administration to apply for the Tree Equity Grant Program for trees along Post Road; authorization for the Town Manager to execute a new Memorandum of Agreement with the R.I. State Emergency Management Agency for an upgraded CodeRed Statewide Alert System; acceptance of a Learn365 Grant for Project Math Matters; and acceptance of various donations and sponsorships which allowed for the Troll in Ryan Park to be constructed without the use of taxpayer dollars. Also within the Consent Agenda, the Town

Council also approved meeting minutes from prior meetings, accepted various donations for the Senior Center, approved the tax abatement list as recommended by the Tax Assessor and Town Manager, and approved various licenses and resignation letters from several Advisory Committees.

One of the highlights of the Consent Agenda was the Town Council's approval of funding for much-needed renovations and improvements to the Municipal Office Building. The original plans were necessary reduced to bring the project within budget, which will be funded outside of the Town Budget via ARPA Funds and remaining funds from the 2018 Bond Referendum. The Town Manager thanked Public Works Director Adam White for his efforts in revising this project to bring it within budget as well as pointing out that this investment will save the town millions of dollars over the next 5 – 10 years as it allows the town to delay the imminent need of updated municipal office space.

After the Consent Agenda, the Town Manager provided his [Manager's Report](#) highlighting updates on various projects and initiatives in town. The Town Manager recognized the School Department on their recent designation by Special Olympics as a Unified Champion School, provided information on upcoming recycling legislation proposed for 2026, an update on the Town's FY2025 Audit, an update on local RIDOT projects, and a recognition of various individuals within Town government.

This was followed by the remainder of the Agenda where the Town Council addressed two applications before Coastal Resource Management Council, appointments to various Advisory Committees, and the approval of the Ocean State Community Electricity Agreement. The meeting concluded with Council Person Linnea Drew updating the Town Council and the public on recent correspondence received.

The next meetings of the Town Council will be in January on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, where Town Council will kick off what is expected to be a busy 2026 Budget Session in March and April.