

MAYOR'S UPDATE
April 24, 2023
Mayor Sean R. Reardon

Earth Day:

I want to thank everyone that came out on a chilly Saturday for our Earth Day event, "Looking 4-8 ways we can help our planet today". We had eight stations set up around eight topics: composting, waste reduction/recycling, solar, energy efficiency, walking/biking/less driving, food, natural resources and upcycle/repurpose/repair. We also had residents at each table talking about their own personal experiences around each topic. It was a terrific event and one we will continue to do each Earth Day.

Newburyport Public Schools and Budget Process:

The School Committee will take a vote on the school budget on Tuesday April 25th. Once we have the school budget I will add it to the city budget and submit it to Council for their May 8th meeting. I want to thank Council Zeid for working on the budget hearing schedule. I know this is a labor intensive process but I appreciate all the hard work of the Council and city employees as we work towards a budget that provides the highest level of services and moves our community forward.

We are also finalizing the CIP this week and will submit it to Council along with the FY24 Budget for the May 8th meeting. This is a five year look at our capital projects and we will identify funding sources and a plan for moving forward with all projects that are targeted for FY24.

Fire Chief Search:

Three candidates will be put through the Fire Chief Assessment Center this week. The assessment center will take place Thursday at the Senior/Community Center. After the assessment is completed the three candidates' scores will be sent to the Fire Chief Screening Committee who will then decide if all three will move on to interviews with the Mayor.

59 Low Street:

EGA was chosen as the firm to design the potential Youth, Recreation, and Community Services Center at 59 Low Street. The City has a great relationship with EGA and we are excited they will continue to work with the City around this project.

Pride Parade 2023:

I am excited for the Pride Parade application in your packet tonight. This is coming from our Pride Committee which is a subset of the DEI Alliance. A number of dedicated residents have stepped up and joined this important group that will help us plan events during the month of June and throughout the year. I think a Pride Parade will be a great addition to the month's activities.

Newburyport Youth Services:

NYS had a busy school vacation week. They ran 12 programs for over 150 youngsters. NYS is now gearing up for more outdoor activities and will be bringing back the outdoor hangout for kids at the Nock.

May 4th Boards and Commissions Fair:

We will be holding the first Boards and Commissions Fair in the City Hall Auditorium 6-730pm on May 4th. This is a great opportunity for residents to come and learn about the important roles these volunteer boards play in Newburyport, and to see if there are any boards they may be interested in applying to join. We hope to have a high turnout for this event!

Mayor Sean Reardon