

NATICK SELECT BOARD
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on February 9, 1920, the Massachusetts General Court passed “An Act to Provide for Commissioners of Public Works in the Town of Natick” (Chapter 22 of the Acts of 1920), which specified that, once accepted by Town, its voters may elect three Public Works Commissioners and, upon their election, that the boards of water and sewer commissioners would be abolished; and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 1920, Natick Town Meeting voted to accept Chapter 22 of the Acts of 1920; and

WHEREAS, on February 10, 1921, the Massachusetts General Court passed “An Act to Abolish the Office of Highway Surveyor of the Town of Natick” (Chapter 20 of the Acts of 1921), which specified that upon the election of Commissioners pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 1920, the office of highway surveyor would be abolished; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 1921, the Commissioners of Public Works were elected, thereby establishing the foundation of the Natick Department of Public Works (the “Department”); and

WHEREAS, the Department’s mission is to maintain and improve in a safe and cost-efficient manner Town infrastructure, vehicles, equipment, and recreational facilities, and to provide quick, professional emergency response; and

WHEREAS, the Department is led by a talented Director, who oversees the trusted Heads of six collaborative Divisions: Administration, Engineering, Highway, Equipment Maintenance, Land Facilities & Natural Resources, and Water & Sewer; and

WHEREAS, as first responders, more than 85 dedicated Department employees deliver a wide range of important services and functions, including responding to requests from Town residents; maintaining, improving and plowing roadways; maintaining over 250 vehicles and 500 pieces of equipment; ensuring reliable trash and recycling collection; delivering 1.2 billion gallons of safe drinking water each year; providing sanitary wastewater collection and disposal; managing over 70 acres of parks and fields across more than 60 locations; and planting and maintaining public shade trees; and

WHEREAS, the Department assists and supports other Town departments, boards and commissions, civic organizations, and other municipalities in activities that benefit Town citizens, including the Boston Marathon, the 4th of July parade, and Natick Days, and hosts an annual Open House and Truck Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Select Board hereby proclaims March 7, 2021 as the Centennial Anniversary of the Natick Department of Public Works, congratulates the Department on its “Century of Service”, and calls upon all citizens to recognize the contributions that Natick’s public works professionals make to our health, safety, and quality of life.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of the Town of Natick to be affixed this 10th Day of March, 2021.

Jonathan H. Freedman, Chair

Karen Adelman-Foster, Vice Chair

Richard Jennett, Jr., Clerk

Susan G. Salamoff

Michael J. Hickey, Jr.