

Town of Hinesburg
Weekly Update
October 31, 2012

Celebrating 250 years

1762-2012



Upcoming Meetings...

- **Conservation Commission:** Monday, November 5th at 7:00 p.m. (3rd floor conference room)
- **Selectboard:** Monday, November 5th at 6:30 p.m. (1st floor conference room)
- **Public Safety Facility:** Monday, November 5th at 6:30 p.m. (1st floor conference room)
- **Development Review Board:** Tuesday, November 6th at 7:30 p.m. (1st floor conference room)
- **Affordable Housing Committee:** Wednesday, November 7th at 7:00 p.m. (1st floor conference room)
- **Town Forest Committee:** Wednesday, November 7th at 6:00 p.m. (3rd floor conference room)
- **Election Day:** Tuesday, November 6th—voting takes place from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Main Hall)

Weekly Updates from Departments:

Hinesburg Community Police

- **Meth Lab**—On Tuesday, the 23rd at 12:48 pm, Hinesburg Community Police and Hinesburg First Response responded to a residence on Texas Hill for a reported explosion. Upon arrival, a nineteen year old male was found to have severe facial burns which included his eyes. Medical attention was provided until he was transported to Fletcher Allen Hospital. An investigation surrounding the residence uncovered what was determined to be clandestine lab for making methamphetamine.

As a result of the discovery, the Vermont State Police and Drug Enforcement Agency responded for investigation and clean-up. By the end of the incident on the 24th, the following agencies were present on site: Hinesburg Fire/Rescue, Charlotte Fire paramedic ambulance, State Haz Mat team with two trucks, VSP Clandestine Lab Team, VSP Troopers and the VSP Williston Barracks Commander, DEA Vermont, DEA Boston Clandestine lab team and truck and the EMPRO Haz Mat clean up company.

The U.S. Attorney will be prosecuting the case and at this time, there are other people that have been named that will be investigated for their involvement at the time of the explosion.

- At the same time the above incident was in progress, a call came in to respond to Kelley's Field for a possible deceased female. Responding police and first response found the 64 year old woman had passed away.

- *Thefts*—Hinesburg Community Police received a report that a vehicle and boat had been stolen off of a resident's property and that the vehicle had been sold for scrap. An investigation led to a Hinesburg resident receiving a citation for Fraud and a request for arrest warrants for two other people living in Cambridge.
- *Food Drive*—On Saturday, November 3rd, the Hinesburg Community Police and Hinesburg Fire Department will be hosting a food drive for the Hinesburg Food Shelf. This is the second such event that was very successful last year receiving over 2,000 pounds of food and cash donations. Collections will be at the fire station from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Hinesburg Fire Department

- *Call Activity*—In the last two weeks the Fire Department members have been extremely active with a diverse number of calls and activities. EMS responded to 11 calls, Fire 2 calls. Most notable was the Texas Hill explosion with injuries. While an unusual call, it is also what the hours of training prepares us to deal with.
- *Meth Lab*—As the press has publicized the obvious details, it's what happens behind the scenes that put such a strain on volunteers.

Chief Barber was first on scene, after a rapid size up of the situation it was clear this was going to be a large, extended incident requiring many resources. One major hurdle was quickly identified; the fact there was no cell service at the site. As a rapid police investigation was conducted unified command was set up, the call went out quickly to the State Police for assistance as well as Chief Barber requesting the State Haz-Mat team to help access the scope of the incident. Vermont State Police were quick to assist but their special team members as well as the call members for the State Haz-Mat team are located all around the state taking a couple of hours to arrive. Because of night fall, the determination was made that no investigation would be conducted that night. The Fire Department was requested to set up scene lighting for security while law enforcement protected the scene throughout the night. That night Chief Barber was tasked with several details needed for the following days activities, including ensure there was a Paramedic ambulance on scene, after several calls Charlotte Rescue was able to provide the ambulance & paramedic with Hinesburg providing a driver. The next task was providing food & beverages for 75 people as well as a portable restroom, these tasks were accomplished with the help of Firefighter/EMT Jess Stoltz. The last task was arranging for Firefighting and EMS staff for the scene, this again was provided by the dedicated Hinesburg Fire members totaling about 15 people for nearly 8 hours, most taking time off from their jobs.

Chief Barber, Chief Koss and Officer Fox attended 3 briefings at the Vermont State Police barracks in Williston, two in preparation and one post action briefing. After all was said and done, the State and Federal agencies advised this was one of the best run scenes they had ever encountered. It was due to the great dedication of the Hinesburg Fire & Police Departments.

- *Medical Calls*—As a side note while we were on scene we also had two other medical calls one of which was classified as an untimely death.
- *Hurricane Sandy*—As the Town’s Emergency Management Director, Chief Barber prepared the Town’s emergency response to Hurricane Sandy.

Highway Department

- Made repairs to Lincoln Hill from last weekend’s rains and re-graded entire road
- Gravel hauled on parts of Gilman road and re-graded
- Clean-up work in the Town Gravel Pit from summer work
- Routine truck and equipment maintenance
- Prepared chainsaws, chipper, and other tools for Hurricane Sandy.

Planning & Zoning

- *Planning Commission Meeting Prep*—Preparation and attendance at 10/24 Planning Commission meeting. Completed review of the Zoning Administrator’s technical review of the proposal. Town Planner now working on various revisions based on public feedback, ZA review, and Planning Commission discussion.
- *Village Visualization Project*—Organized and attended three meetings of key stakeholders for the Village Visualization project. Our consultant has been working with the Village Steering Committee to better understand the current zoning and vision for future development in the village growth area. These stakeholder meetings were designed to get other ideas and feedback on the vision from landowners, local developers, and interest groups. A bit of a reality check for our consultant before rough visualization products are created and presented to community members at a public forum later this year or in January of 2013.
- *Planning Workshop*—Alex spent Friday, October 26th at the VT Planners Association fall workshop and annual meeting. Much discussion about how communities can plan for and be involved in permit review for large scale renewable energy projects – i.e., solar farms, wind farms, etc. Also heard some very compelling success stories from other communities, including the very interesting economic development experience in Randolph, which formed a successful non-profit community development corporation to bolster jobs, redevelopment, and local commerce.
- *Hannaford Decision*—Staff spent substantial time last week creating a rough draft of the Hannaford site plan decision per instructions from the Development Review Board. We will attend a special DRB meeting on October 30th for closed deliberations on this review and decision. Hoping that the DRB finalizes this decision at their November 6th meeting, with an announcement the following day.

Recreation Department

- Hauled 8 mini soccer goals off the fields to storage just in time for Hurricane Sandy.
- Collected and stored 11 soccer ball bags.
- Wrote and mailed thank you letters to soccer coaches.
- Mailed soccer ribbons to players who missed the last day.
- Eleven students attended a Halloween cupcake decorating class on Thursday 10/25 with Wendy Frink.
- Basketball registration continues. Coaches Clinic scheduled for 12/8.
- Signed contract with Smugg's for 5 Sundays this winter to offer discounted lift tickets, lessons, and rentals.

Town Clerk's Office

- *Voting Information*—Early & Absentee Voters are taking advantage of Vermont's statute allowing voters to fill out their ballots ahead of Election Day. We have had over 300 early and absentee voters thus far and expect to have well over 1000 by Election Day. You are free to come in any time during normal office hours to vote.
- *Property taxes*—due on November 15th, 2012. You can pay by either cash or check, though if you do pay cash, we ask that you bring exact change.

Buildings and Facilities

- *Rec Path Project*- work continued along Mechanicsville Rd-pouring curbing and sidewalk, topsoil seeding and mulch. Fencing along CVU Rd and part of Mechanicsville Rd started. Property owner meetings continue focusing on driveway access and landscaping details.

Carpenter-Carse Library

- A library Board of Trustees meeting was held on October 24.
- Budgeting for 2013-14 continues.
- The public is invited to a genealogy program presented by Ed McGuire on Wednesday, November 7th at 7:00 p.m. Ed will guide us through an intro to genealogy searches and beyond. Be sure to call the library to register: 482-2878. Free!
- Preschool and Pajama Halloween story times were held on October 23rd, with 16 in attendance.
- Work continues on the Annual Public Library Report and Minimum Standards Report for the Vermont Department of Libraries.
- Music and an art exhibit are planned for November/December of 2012.
- *Keep up-to-date on the current events happening at the library—*
http://www.carpentercarse.org/ccl_programs.html.

Water/Wastewater

- Inspected a new private sewer line installation on Mechanicsville Rd.
- Completed quarterly meter readings.

- Installed a meter and turned on new service for a residence on Richmond Rd.
- Replaced flushing hydrant on Silver St., and made repairs to a separate flushing hydrant on Rt.116. Flushing for the Town system will be conducted the week of Thanksgiving when school is out (this alleviates issues at the school with pressures, and fire alarm system).
- Champlain Associates worked on the upgrade to the water systems SCADA system.
- Pratt Electric worked with the Lyman Meadows water system. We have been experiencing pump control issues, and until it is resolved, we will be running the controls manually every day for a period of time to make sure the tank stays full.
- Started monthly wastewater sampling.
- Emergency Dig Safe called in from GMP to mark water and sewer lines near a pole at the entrance of Lantman's. The anchor was pulling out of the ground, and they needed to install a new one right away.
- Signed contract and met with Joe Duncan from A&E for a water feasibility study, as approved by the Selectboard on October 15th.
- Prep for Hurricane Sandy, and into the night monitoring of the water system to ensure that, had it been a big event, we would be able to continue to provide water and sewer services to everyone on the system. As we all know, we ended up being luckier than some of those around us, and we only experienced some minor outages, which caused a couple of pumps to fail, but not catastrophically.
- A notice to Lyman Meadow residents, we will be flushing water mains on Monday, November 5th. This only affects Lyman Meadow residents.

Town Administrator

- *Public Safety Facility*—The Public Safety Facility Group met last Friday to review the design work completed to date by the architect and to review the landscaping plans for Lot 1 that were developed with input from the community on October 17th. The design work to date will be presented to the community at-large at 6:30pm on November 5th at Town Hall. The meeting that evening will give the public a change to chime in on the design work before the designs are finalized and submitted to the estimator for final cost estimates. On November 5th the public will be able to view the plans for the entire build-out of the public safety campus. These plans include a new police station built next to the existing fire house and additions to the current fire station to allow for additional training space and new bays. As of now, the plan is that the new police station will be built first and half the sallyport to be used by the fire department. This would meet the immediate building needs of the police department and the immediate space needs for the fire department in the most cost effective manner.
- *Village North Sidewalk*—The Town of Hinesburg was awarded \$235,000 from the 2012 VTrans Bicycle & Pedestrian Program to design and construct 1100' of sidewalk connecting Commerce Street to Riggs Road along the east side of Rte

116. NRG has graciously agreed to take responsibility for the Town's 10% match, a requirement of the grant program. The original project submitted by the Town was to connect Commerce Street to CVU road along the east side of Rte 116. We will continue to look for another pot of funding to complete this project but excited to receive funding (from a very competitive grant) for the portion of the project that we did. Special thanks to Lenore Budd and Martha Keenan for the work they put into applying for this grant.

- *FY2014 Budget*—The proposed FY2014 budget will be presented to the Selectboard and public on November 5th. The budget document will be available to all on the Town webpage by November 5th. Questions and comments on the proposed budget are strongly encouraged.
- *Volunteers Needed!*—Many seats are still available on various Hinesburg Boards, Committees, and Commissions! The deadline has been extended! The Selectboard will begin interviewing applicants at their November 12th meeting. The application form, information, and seats available can be found on the Town website at the following link: <http://www.hinesburg.org/vacancies.html>

Weekly Updates from Boards, Committees, and Commissions:

Development Review Board

New application received since October 24th:

- *Akiko F. Balchiunas (Subdivision sketch plan review)*—Applicant is requesting a subdivision sketch plan review to subdivide her 22.3 acre parcel into three residential lots. Her property is located at 401 Butternut Lane in the Rural Residential 2 District.—Scheduled for the November 6th DRB hearing.
- *George & Jan Bedard (Subdivision sketch plan review)*—Applicants are requesting subdivision sketch plan review to subdivide their 53 acre parcel into 8 residential lots. This property is located on the south side of Texas Hill Road, about a half mile west of the Hayden Hill Road intersection and directly across from Bishop Road in the Rural Residential 2 District.
- *Fletcher Allen Health Care (Conditional Use & Site Plan Review)*—The applicant is requesting conditional use and site plan review for the construction of a new facility to house the Hinesburg Family Health outpatient practice that is currently located on Commerce Street. The proposed facility would be built on a 2.28 acre parcel known as Lot #1 of the Bissonette Subdivision on Shelburne Falls Road in the Village NW District.—Scheduled for the December 4th DRB hearing.

Happy Halloween
From
The Town of Hinesburg!



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