

Celebrating 250 years

Town of Hinesburg

Weekly Update

November 7, 2012

1762-2012



Upcoming Meetings...

- **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)*
- **Selectboard:** *Monday, November 12th at 7:00 p.m. (Main Hall)*
- **Village Steering Committee** *Monday, November 7th at 7:00 p.m. (1st floor conference room)*
- **Recreation Commission:** *Tuesday, November 13th at 7:00 p.m. (1st floor conference room)*
- **Planning Commission:** *Wednesday, November 14th at 7:30 p.m. (1st floor conference room)*

Weekly Updates from Departments:

Highway Department

- *Street Signs*—New street signs installed around Town replacing the ones that have been stolen
- *Clean up*—Cleaned out ditches and opened culverts from the rains washing them full of debris
- *Pond Road*—Ditching and changed a culvert on Pond Road
- *Road Grading*—Started grading the gravel roads in prep for winter

Planning & Zoning

- *Hannaford Decision* – Staff spent significant time honing draft decision language pursuant to DRB instructions at their closed deliberative session on October 30th. Deliberations continued on election night at the November 6th DRB meeting. We hope to announce a decision shortly thereafter via Town website, Front Porch Forum, media, etc.
- *DRB Meeting Preparation* – Preparation and attendance at November 6th DRB meeting. Staff reports and applicant/neighbor coordination for three new subdivisions. Draft decisions for two applications.
- *Public Safety Facility Meetings* – Drafted extensive feedback for the architect on the public safety facilities and lot 1 design project and participated in two meetings for this project. One staff meeting on November 1st, and one public forum at the November 5th Selectboard meeting.

- *Miscellaneous Development Review Coordination* – Over the last few weeks, we've received a large number of new development review applications, which have filled the DRB's schedule through the end of the calendar year. Lots of coordination, staff feedback, communication with applicants, going on to juggle these 8-10 new applications.

Recreation Department

- *Youth Basketball Registration*—Early incentive Youth Basketball registration continues. Save \$10 per player by registering by November 15th, 2012.
- *Coaches Needed*—Currently recruiting volunteer coaches for upcoming season.
- *Winter Brochure*—Finalizing various program details for Winter Brochure offerings.
- *After school Horseback Riding Lessons*—Began a second session of after-school horseback riding lessons at Livery Stables.
- *Preschool Dance*—Began new month of pre-school dance on Friday.
- *Louise Romet Turkey Lane Turkey Trot*—Walkers and runners, mark your calendars for the Louise Romet Turkey Lane Turkey Trot on Sunday, Nov. 25th at the intersection of Lewis Creek Rd. and Turkey Ln. Registration starts at 12:30 pm. Walkers start 12:45 pm and runners at 1:00 pm. No rain date. Proceeds to benefit the Hinesburg Land Trust.

Town Clerk's Office

- *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 Road pouring curbing and sidewalk, topsoil, seeding and mulch. Work began on the big retaining wall by Patrick Brook which made it necessary to move the natural gas line out of the way first. At this point, sidewalk is complete on Mechanicsville Rd except along the retaining wall and a small portion beyond.
- *Storm Preparation*—battened down the hatches in preparation for Sandy, luckily not needed.
- *Sidewalk Project*—Held kickoff meeting on next sidewalk project from Commerce Street to NRG.
- *Safe Routes to School*—Work continues on Safe Routes to School sidewalk project, from Charlotte Rd to HCS.
- Met with an appraiser to start process to get approx. ½ acre of Police Station lot appraised.

Carpenter-Carse Library

- The Library will be closed to the public on Tuesday, November 13th for the installation of some new heating units. We regret any inconvenience caused by the closure.

- 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. Registration is helpful but not required for this free program.
- The classical sounds of a string quartet will fill the Library on Saturday, December 8th at 3:00 p.m. Treat yourself and a friend to the works of Handel, Bach and Beethoven performed by talented young musicians Eileen O’Grady, Gabe Mantegna, Gawain Usher and Noah Marconi.
- Fifteen people attended our henna designs program on October 26th.
- Budgeting for 2013-14 continues.
- Work continues on the Annual Public Library Report and Minimum Standards Report for the State of Vermont Dept. of Libraries.
- We are using space heaters in the library as supplemental heating while we wait for the new rooftop units to be installed by Avonda Air Systems.
- *Keep up-to-date on the current events happening at the library—http://www.carpentercarse.org/ccl_programs.html.*

Water/Wastewater

- *Mechanicsville Road*—Began installing hydrant extensions on Mechanicsville Rd to bring them up to grade.
- *Lyman Meadows*—Continued monitoring Lyman Meadow water system, and have scheduled for control person to examine issues.
- *Water Main Flushing*—Flushed Lyman Meadow water mains.
- *Water Feasibility Study*—Met with Cynthia Sprague, the hydrologist working with A&E for Water feasibility study.
- Attended GMWEA fall meeting and trade show.
- *Link2site upgrade*—Met with Jon Champlin from Champlin Associates to discuss minor issues concerning link2site upgrade.
- *Sewer Line Assessment*—Met with Green Mountain Pipe concerning sewer line assessment.
- Met with Ben Montross, who conducted sanitary survey of water system, to discuss status of issues that had been noted.
- Completed required monthly wastewater sampling.

Town Administrator

- *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:

Affordable Housing Committee

- *Energy Fair*—Held an Energy Fair at Mountain View Mobile Home Park on October 27th. A local contractor volunteered to demonstrate how an energy audit is done and teams canvassed the park to perform 6 “mini audits”. At our next meeting on Wednesday, November 7th, we will review the results of the audits and discuss the next steps in this project which may involve applying to Efficiency VT for grant funding to cover energy efficiency improvements in the park.

Development Review Board

New application received since October 31st:

- *Steve & Lisa Carlson (Subdivision Sketch Plan)*—Applicants are requesting subdivision sketch plan approval for the purpose of creating a 2-lot subdivision to place an existing house and an existing camp on separate lots. This property is located at 85 Upper Access Road in the Rural Residential 1 District.
- *Kelleys Field Apartments (Sketch Plan Review)*—Applicants (Loren & Nancy Palmer) are requesting sketch plan review for the purpose of adding a two-story building comprising 30 apartments for elderly housing at the southerly end of the existing Kelleys Field Apartment site. This will add to the existing 24 apartments. Parking will be extended to provide 30 additional spaces surrounding a landscaped “island” and accessible paved walkways will be extended to the three points of egress. This property is located at 87 Kelley’s Field Road in the Village District.
- *Lawrence & Cynthia Caron (Subdivision Sketch Plan Review)*—Applicants are requesting sketch plan approval for a 3-lot subdivision and PUD to add two new building lots. This property is located at 274 Richmond Road in the Rural Residential 1 District.

Selectboard

- *Public Safety Facility* – Ashar Nelson, lead architect, presented the conceptual plans for the master plan of Lot 1 and the designs for the proposed new police station and additions to the current fire house. Discussion at the meeting on Monday evening centered around the program needs of the fire and police departments and how those needs are captured in the architects design and how the public safety campus relates to the Town Common/Town Green space proposed for Lot 1. Once costs are understood, financial models will be developed to show how a project might be financed and the Selectboard will make a decision on what portions of the project might go forward to bond vote at Town Meeting. At this point in the project, the public is strongly encouraged to offer feedback on the proposed plans. Please visit: <http://www.hinesburg.org/public-safety-building-project/index.html> to review

the plans shown at the meeting Monday night and all information to date on the public safety facility project.

- *FY2014 Budget* – The FY2014 budget was presented to the Selectboard by the Town Administrator on Monday evening. The budget presentation and supplemental budget information for FY2014 is available on the Town website for public review and comment at www.hinesburg.org. The budget, as it stands currently, would require a 2 cent property tax increase. The Selectboard will now start the process of holding public budget meetings with each Town department.

The schedule moving forward is as follows:

November 12th-----Police and Fire

November 19th-----Recreation and Buildings and Facilities

December 3rd-----Highway

December 10th-----General Government

December 17th-----Work Session

January 7th-----Library/Agency Request Review Committee

January 14th-----Work Session

January 21st-----Work Session

January 28th-----Finalize Budget

February 18th-----Budget Hearing

March 4th-----Town Meeting

- *Bissonette Recreation Field* – The Selectboard passed a motion creating a line-item in the Recreation Budget to accept tax-exempt donations for the Bissonette Recreation Field project. With the leadership of Tom Ayer and members of the Recreation Commission, the Town is optimistic that it can privately raise the funds necessary to build the new fields without placing a burden on tax-payers.

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