

Celebrating 250 years

Town of Hinesburg

Weekly Update

December 5, 2012

1762-2012



Upcoming Meetings...

- **Affordable Housing Committee:** *Wednesday, December 5th at 7:00 p.m. (1st floor conf. room)*
- **Town Forest Committee:** *Wednesday, December 5th at 6:30 p.m. (3rd floor conference room)*
- **Selectboard:** *Monday, December 10th at 7:00 p.m. (Main Hall)*
- **Village Steering Committee:** *Monday, December 10th at 7:00 p.m. (1st floor conference room)*
- **Recreation Commission:** *Tuesday, December 11th at 7:00 p.m. (1st floor conference room)*
- **Trails Committee:** *Wednesday, December 12th at 7:00 p.m. (3rd floor conference room)*
- **Planning Commission:** *Wednesday, December 13th at 7:30 p.m. (1st floor conference room)*

Weekly Updates from Departments:

Hinesburg Community Police

- **DUI/Assault**—On Friday, November 30th, a female Hinesburg resident was southbound on Route 116 approaching the intersection of Shelburne Falls Rd. As she was braking, she felt several jolts as the vehicle behind her had struck the rear of her vehicle. Believing that the other driver was having mechanical problems, she got out of her vehicle and was immediately assaulted by a 38 year old male resident of Starksboro. A citizen witnessing the assault attempted to assist and was also assaulted. The subject was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol with numerous other charges pending.
- **Assault**—On Monday, December 3rd, the Hinesburg Community Police responded to a report of an assault on Hillview Terrace. A male, 25 years of age, was subsequently arrested for assaulting a 41 year old male. Both men are Hinesburg residents. The altercation began over money owed to the victim.
- **Accident Prevention Tips**—The Hinesburg Community Police have responded to several accidents this week that are, for the most part, preventable. If you need to answer a cell phone, adjust your radio or anything that requires you to take your eyes off the road, don't do it on hill crests, curves or anywhere where you can't see a substantial distance ahead. When stopped behind another vehicle, if you can't see the bottom of their rear tires, you are too close. Drive safely as we enter our winter season.

Hinesburg Fire Department

- *Fire Calls*—As the first round of winter weather made its appearance our calls reflected it. This past week we responded to 3 motor vehicle crashes, an automatic fire alarm and a good intent call about a possible structure fire which turned out to be a brush pile behind a house which looked like a house fire.
- *EMS Calls*—Our EMS folks were busy as well responding to 7 EMS calls.
- *Emergency Services Training*—Monday the Chief was at an all-day annual training summit for statewide emergency services in Pittsford.
- *Mutual Aid Meeting*— Monday evening he met with the Fire Chiefs from Charlotte and Shelburne. The main topic was setting up automatic mutual aid among the three towns to all reported calls involving smoke in a structure or reported fires as well as motor vehicle crashes involving 2 or more vehicles. He also learned at that meeting that South Burlington Fire has changed their availability of their ladder truck so we will now have to rely on Essex Junction to supply it, 30 plus minutes away typically.
- *Recruitment & Retention*—We again have been working on recruitment and retention issues. A new pay scale has been adopted as well as pay for attending trainings. Our membership is currently very low, around 20 members. In order to cover the number of responses that we typically have, ideally we would like to have 30-35 active members. If you would like more information about possibly joining the Department, to help your neighbor's in time of need, just stop by the Fire Station any Wednesday night or contact the Chief via email at VT1320@aol.com or by phone at 777-2240.
- *Electronic Message Board*—One of the Department's major concerns is getting information out to the general population in a timely manner. After looking at several possibilities, the Fireman's Association, separate from the Fire Department, is looking into purchasing an electronic message board for the fire station, similar to the one at CVU. This board would be used to convey public safety messages to the public. We need Selectboard and DRB approval to install it so we are starting this process.

Buildings & Facilities

- *Rec Path project*- Base course paving completed, final top coat from Commerce St to CVU Rd will be done next year. Sidewalk on Mechanicsville Rd almost complete, last section to be poured later this week. Stormwater treatment system installed; plants to be added next spring. Big retaining wall across from Cemetery almost complete. Fencing and landscaping almost complete. Ireland will be wrapping up this week and may work into next week depending on weather. Had a chance to do a trial run plow on CVU bike path segment last Friday with truck, worked great.
- *Public Safety Facility*—Work continued on Public Safety project with two meetings and budget review.
- *Miscellaneous*—Installed new faucet in Town Hall sink. Put new decals on truck-new logo looks mahhhvellous!

Recreation Department

- *Coaches Meeting*—Held a youth basketball coaches meeting on November 27th to go over details for the upcoming season. There are 15 coaches for the program.
- *Youth Basketball*—season began on Saturday, December 1st. We have 90 children participating from Kindergarten through 6th grade.
- *Game Scheduling Meeting*—will attend a scheduling meeting on December 4th to set up games for grades 3-6
- *Promoting Youth Basketball Coaches Clinic at CVU*—will be held on December 8th from 1:00-2:30 pm for grades 5-8 and 2:30-4:00 for grades 1-4.

Carpenter-Carse Library

- *Saturday, December 8th at 3:00 p.m., Holiday String Quartet with Eileen O'Grady, Gabe Mantegna, Gawain Usher & Noah Marconi.* Brighten your holidays with a concert by these talented young musicians.
- *Gingerbread Cookie Decorating, Saturday, November 15th from 1:00 to 2:30:* Ring in the holidays by decorating a delicious gingerbread boy or girl! All materials and snack provided, as well as seasonal music. Free. *Run, run as fast as you can to see if you can reserve a spot - not many left! Call: 482-2878*
- *Art Exhibit: Naturally Vermont: Watercolors by Deb Runge...* Don't miss this free exhibit open to the public during Carpenter-Carse Library's regular business hours through December 28, 2012.
- Attendance at Preschool and Pajama Story times on November 22nd was 22.
- December is a lively month for book sales at the library. During regular open hours, visitors may browse our (annual) Holiday Book Shelves for books in like-new condition – all items \$5.00 and under. Books make great gifts! The Vintage Book Shelves have interesting titles from bygone days; some folks have been very happy to find quirky or elusive treasures there; prices vary - \$3.00 up. Finally, our regular year-round book sale shelves continue to be stocked full of items @ the lowest prices.
- Budgeting for 2013-14 will be completed in December.
- *Keep up-to-date on the current events happening at the library—*
http://www.carpentercarse.org/ccl_programs.html.

Water/Wastewater Department

- *Lyman Meadow*—Completed necessary repair work on the Lyman Meadow water system controls, and continued monitoring to ensure problems have been resolved.
- *Water Leak*—Responded with Rocky to a water leak inside a Lyman Meadow unit caused by installation work by a contractor. It was discovered at the time that there was no external shut off for the building, but that it was located inside one of the end units. This resulted in the need to temporarily shut off water to the entire Lyman Meadow system until we could gain access to that unit.

- *Hydrant Flushing*—Completed hydrant flushing and began hydrant maintenance.
- *Wastewater Sampling*—Completed the monthly wastewater sampling as required.
- *Water Service Location*—Located and marked water services for contractors
- *Valve Maintenance*—Performed valve maintenance at the lagoons.
- *Town Water System Upgrade*—Champlin Associates worked on more issues related to the Town water system upgrade.
- *Customer Calls*—Returned several customer calls for various questions.

Town Administrator

- *Bissonette Field Project*—The Town appeared before the DRB for sketch plan review of the proposed subdivision of approximately 11 acres of land from Lot 4 for the purpose of developing recreation fields. Also, Town representatives and CVU representatives held a meeting to discuss the two field projects. CVU is working on a proposal to construct two synthetic turf fields on their campus. Both entities are committed to an open dialogue and potentially working together for the benefit of the public.
- *Public Safety Facility*—The Public Safety Facility Committee reviewed the building estimates with the architect and the professional estimator last week. These figures will be presented to the Selectboard and public at the December 10th Selectboard meeting.
- *Commission, Board, Committees*—There are still seats available on the Conservation Commission and the Economic Development Commission. Please contact the Town Administrator for more information.

Weekly Updates from Boards, Committees, and Commissions:

Selectboard

- *Committee, Board, Commission Appointments*—The Selectboard appointed Sue Rusten to a vacant seat on the Trails Committee for a term ending January 1st, 2015. The Selectboard reappointed Bob Link to a seat on the Planning Commission for a term ending January 1st, 2017.
- *New Town Employee*—The Selectboard offered a Letter of Employment to Nick Campagna. Nick will begin work on Tuesday, December 4th, 2012 as a Highway Maintainer in the Town's Highway Department. Nick is a CVU graduate and member of the Army National Guard. Nick comes to us with three years of experience doing similar work with the State of Vermont.
- *Town Forest Special Use Permit*—The Selectboard signed a Special Use Permit which will grant the Town the right to a 15' strip along the northerly boundary of Hidden Meadows (owned by the State of Vermont) in order to access the Town Forest for logging and general maintenance purposes.

- *Bissonette Field Project*—The Selectboard signed a contract with Lamoureux & Dickinson for final design work and permitting costs associated with the Bissonette Field Project. The money for this work is part of the Recreation Capital budget for FY2013.
- *Watershed Grant Program*—The Selectboard signed a letter of support for the Lewis Creek Association’s (LCA) grant application to the 2013 Watershed Grant Program. The grant will provide funds so LCA can coordinate a project that will involve biologists from VT Fish & Wildlife, Department of Environmental Conservation water quality division, and consultants to inventory and monitor the diversity of the fish and other aquatic organisms in the stream. The grant request is for \$15,000 and there will be an in kind match from both VT Fish & Wildlife and DEC, as well as volunteer time from LCA. No funds are being requested from the Town of Hinesburg.
- *VT Gas Letter*—The Selectboard endorsed a letter from the Town of Hinesburg to Vermont Gas and the Public Service Board to be part of the 45-day Advanced Notice of Proposed Project record. This letter will be available to the public on Hinesburg’s website by the end of the week.
- *Old Town F-250*—The Selectboard accepted a bid of \$3,582 from Steve Giroux for the 2003 F250. The proceeds from the sale of this truck will be used to offset the cost of a new plow on the new 2012 F-250 which was purchased this year to replace the 2003 F250.
- *FY2014 Budget*—The Selectboard reviewed the FY2014 Highway budget with Mike Anthony, Road Foreman. The Highway Department makes up the largest single chunk of total expenditures at approximately 30% of the entire Town budget. Discussion of the highway budget was aided by representatives of the Village Steering Committee and the Trails Committee regarding compliance to the Complete Streets legislation with paving projects in FY2014 and in the future. Complete Streets requires that all paving projects consider all forms of transportation when planning for road paving projects. Budget review will continue on December 10th with the General Government portion of the budget. General Government includes the Selectboard budget, Town Administrator, Planning & Zoning, Lister’s, and Town Clerk/Treasurer. After the December 10th meeting, the Selectboard will begin the process of deciding on what is eliminated from the budget and what might be added to the Town budget for voter consideration at Town Meeting.

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