

# Town of Hinesburg

*Celebrating 250 years*

## *Weekly Update*

1762-2012

### January 23, 2013



#### Upcoming Meetings. . .

- **Planning Commission:** *Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room)*
- **Selectboard:** *Monday, January, 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. (Main Hall)*
- **Development Review Board:** *Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. (Main Hall)*

#### Weekly Updates from Departments:

##### **Hinesburg Community Police**

- *Vandalism Spree* – During the early morning hours of Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, a Hinesburg resident went on a dangerous vandalism spree pulling down stop signs, curve signs, and mailboxes. Many of these items were left in the road where motorists could hit the objects. This malicious act occurred in both Hinesburg and Charlotte and cost thousands of dollars in damage. Damage was also done to the attendant station at Mt. Philo.
- Please Contact Sergeant Casco at the Police Department by email at [caleb.casco@state.vt.us](mailto:caleb.casco@state.vt.us) or by calling 802-482-3397 and leave a message if you sustained any financial loss as a result of this incident.

##### **Hinesburg Fire Department**

- *Meetings Attended* – Along with the call activities, it has been a very active few weeks. On Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, the Chief attended the Leadership meeting at 9:00 a.m. and then that night, attended the Selectboard meeting. On Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, he attended the State wide Planning and Exercise group meeting in Berlin, and that same evening, the Hinesburg Fire Officer's meeting was held. On Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:40 a.m., he attended the Hinesburg Community School Safety Committee meeting and later that night, the monthly EMS training was held. On Friday afternoon January 11<sup>th</sup>, the Chief met with Alex Weinhausen in the Planning Department to discuss the Hannaford's Act 250 application and help identify the new impact on the Fire Department, as well as improving the flow of information between the Departments. On Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, the Chief attended the CVUHS Safety Meeting at 1:25 p.m. On Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, he attended a planning meeting at Essex Jct. Fire

Department for a March 2014 Catastrophic 2 exercise and then the Selectboard meeting later that evening. On Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, he hosted the first state LEPC Chair meeting in Randolph.

▪ *Call Activity:*

Date	Day of Week	Time	Location	Reason	Responder	Transported
1/5	Saturday	9:03 am	Hayden Hill East	Fall from roof	EMS	Yes
1/5	Saturday	12:42 pm	Silver Street	Tractor fire	Fire	No
1/7	Monday	6:19 pm	Hemlock Road	Disoriented	EMS	Yes
1/8	Tuesday	11:48 am	22 Commerce St.	Chest pain	EMS	Yes
1/8	Tuesday	1:34 pm	Garvey Farm Rd	Breathing Diff.	EMS	Yes
1/9	Wednesday	12:46 pm	Silver Street	Breathing Diff.	EMS	Yes
1/10	Thursday	3:00 pm	22 Commerce St.	Breathing Diff.	EMS	Yes
1/10	Thursday	5:27 pm	Lincoln Hill Road	Lost Hiker	Fire/EMS	No
1/10	Thursday	7:44 pm	Hemlock Road	Disoriented	EMS	Yes
1/12	Saturday	3:21 pm	Raven Hill Road	Breathing Diff.	EMS	Yes
1/13	Sunday	8:26 am	Tyler Bridge Road	Structure Fire	Fire/EMS	No
1/16	Wednesday	5:55 pm	Hollow Road	Crash	Fire/EMS	Yes
1/16	Wednesday	6:48 pm	Lyman Meadows	Electrical Prob.	Fire/EMS	No
1/17	Thursday	10:13 am	Pond Road	Crash	Fire/EMS	Yes
1/21	Monday	11:41 am	Winterbottom Rd	Vision Prob.	EMS	Yes

**Town Clerk's Office**

- *Dog Licenses* – Dog tags have finally arrived! Please come in at your earliest convenience (prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>) to obtain your 2013 dog tags. If your pet's rabies certificate has expired, we will need you to bring a copy of the new one. Fees are \$8.00 per license until April 1<sup>st</sup>, at which point they increase to \$10.00. Please remember that licensing is required annually between Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>. This law is to enhance rabies vaccinations to protect both your pet and the public, and to help us locate the owner of strays that may go out for a jaunt and get picked up by animal control. Thanks for helping us in this important public health effort!
- *Petitions* – Petitions are due on January 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. for anyone wishing to run for office. Please stop by the Town Clerk's office to pick up a petition if you are interested in running for an elected position. There are also vacancies on various Boards and Committees. For information on those openings, please contact Joe Colangelo, Hinesburg Town Administrator.

**Recreation Department**

- *Children's Choir* – New semester of Children' Choir began on January 14<sup>th</sup>.
- *Youth Basketball Games* – Hosted two 3/4 boys and one 5/6 girls basketball game at the HCS gym.
- *Discounted Smugg's Lift Tickets/Rentals/Lessons* – Advertising discounted Smugg's ski and ride lift passes, ski and snowboard rentals and lessons for 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 3/3 and 3/10. Adults \$25/youths \$20 each. Sign up by noon on Thursday through HRD.
- *Town Hall Rental* – Coordinated various Town Hall rental requests.
- *Spring Sport Information* – Began spring sport information.

- *Spring/Summer Programs* –Began working on some spring and summer programming.

## **Carpenter-Carse Library**

### Events:

- **Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., “Heartfire Henna Program presented by Rebecca Freedner.** Learn about the henna plant’s rich history. Dive into this ancient art form by creating your own henna design. This free program offers adults an artistic and cultural learning opportunity. Class size is limited. Call 482-2878 to register.
- **Winter Photography Exhibit featuring works by Janice A. Bauch:** Janice’s passion for photography is embodied in her stunning photographs. They capture the many wonders of nature, animals and birds. “My goal is to bring to those who view my work, the magic of the moment.” The exhibit is open during regular library hours in January and February.
- **Correction:** Last week we listed Janice Bauch as the owner of the delightful figurines currently featured in the library display case; the collection belongs to Ellen Foster...Our apologies to both Ellen and Janice!
- **Carpenter-Carse Book Discussion Group: February Meeting** - Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. @ Carrie Fenn’s house. Book selection: *The Tin Ticket* by Deborah Swiss. **March Meeting** - Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. @ Carol Jenkins’ house. Book selection: *March* by Geraldine Brooks. Dessert will be served!
- **Valentine Crafts, Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>** – For details, phone 482-2878.
- Twenty-four people attended Janet Soutiere’s “Snow” storytimes last week.

### Other News:

- The regular Carpenter-Carse Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for 7:30 on Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Meetings are held @ the library.
- On January 18<sup>th</sup>, Assistant Director Richard Pritsky hosted a Quarterly VOKAL (*Vermont Organization of Koha Automated Libraries*), a project of the Green Mountain Consortium (GMLC) meeting at Carpenter-Carse Library, with 24 Vermont librarians in attendance. The VOKAL project focuses on a shared library catalog and Integrated Library System.
- Last week Sue Barden submitted the proposed 2013-14 library budget for inclusion in the Town Report.
- *Keep up-to-date on the current events happening at the library—*  
[http://www.carpentercarse.org/ccl\\_programs.html](http://www.carpentercarse.org/ccl_programs.html).

## **Planning & Zoning**

- *DRB Meeting* – Staff worked with applicants and the DRB at the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting on several applications. Staff prepared draft approval language for Board consideration with two relatively minor applications – Bouthilette home addition on Shadow Lane (expansion to a non-complying structure), and a new sign for the Cheese Plant development owned by Catamount-Malone/Hinesburg

LLC. Approvals were finalized for both of these projects – i.e., same day service, hearing and approval at same meeting. Staff also sought to help the Board work through remaining compliance issues with the Fletcher Allen Health Care proposal to relocate Hinesburg Family Health to a new facility to be built on the south side of Shelburne Falls Road (opposite Jiffy Mart). The Board continued the FAHC project review to the February 5 meeting, and instructed staff to begin drafting approval language while ironing out remaining issues with the applicant.

- *Trails Committee Meeting* – Staff met with the Trails Committee on 1/16 to discuss possible trail connections to the proposed Bissonette Recreation Fields project, which the Town is working on collaboratively with the Bissonette family. This project is located to the northwest of the village growth area, with initial access from Shelburne Falls Road. Pursuant to DRB instructions related to the subdivision review, the Town needs to consider pedestrian access to the recreation fields. In the future, this will be provided via a network of sidewalks along planned roadways; however, in the short term, the Town is exploring how to facilitate pedestrian connections via trails. Staff subsequently contacted the two immediate landowners (Bissonette & Lyman) for permission to walk the land and to invite their participation on possible trail alignments.
- *Planning Commission Meeting Preparation* – Finalized the agenda for the 1/23 Planning Commission meeting, and distributed pre-meeting packets to PC members. Discussion to focus on the Rural Residential 1 Zoning District – including the possibility of dividing this into multiple districts, assessing allowed uses, discussing development design standards, as well as appropriate development densities.
- *Stormwater Regulation Project* – Scheduled a speaker from the Stormwater section of the VT Agency of Natural Resources for the 2/13 Planning Commission meeting. Before delving into stormwater regulation revisions, the PC wants to learn more about the State stormwater permitting system. Staff also working to line up speakers for a panel discussion on this topic at a future PC meeting.
- *Village Visualization Project* – Met with project consultant and Jan Blittersdorf to discuss possible development patterns for the Village Northeast zoning district, which includes NRG and other land controlled by Blittersdorf. This was a follow up to stakeholder meetings held in October 2012, information from which will be used to inform the visualization work that the consultant is doing in conjunction with the Village Steering Committee. The results of this work to be presented at an upcoming community forum – likely in mid-February.

### **Water/Wastewater Department**

- *Quarterly Meter Readings* – Performed quarterly meter readings throughout town.
- *Monthly Wastewater Sampling* – Monthly wastewater sampling is ongoing
- *Brown Water* – Responded to many calls regarding brown water. Apparently there was a pressure fluctuation in the system which stirred up the lines.

- *Broken Fire Hydrant* – Responded to a report of a fire hydrant that was busted and blowing water everywhere. The hydrant had managed to reseal and stop leaking on its own. However, it blew out the 4” steamer, and busted one of the 2.5” steamers when it started. This hydrant has been taken out of service until repairs can be made.
- *Water Line* – Inspected the repair work of the water service line.
- *Customer Questions* – Answered several customer calls and emails with questions about the water and services in Town.

### **Town Administrator**

- *Vermont Gas* – Phil Pouech and I attended a meeting on Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, in Montpelier. At this meeting, Vermont Gas unveiled their proposed amended plan to regulators (the Agency of Natural Resources and the Army Corps of Engineers) after taking into consideration the feedback from Hinesburg and Monkton of their initial proposal. Phil Pouech is drafting a brief summary of this meeting which he will post on Front Porch Forum today or tomorrow. Please follow this project at: <http://www.hinesburg.org/vt-gas-project/index.html>
- *Town Meeting Preparation* – Please make the effort to review the proposed Town budget and the Public Safety Facility Project closely over the month of February leading up to Town Meeting (March 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>). Information on the budget is available at: <http://www.hinesburg.org/budget/index.html>; information on the Public Safety Facility is available at: <http://www.hinesburg.org/public-safety-building-project/index.html> I will publish extensive articles for publication in the *Citizen*, *Front Porch Forum*, the Town Website, and the *Weekly Update*, once the Town Meeting Warning is set this Monday night.
- *Commissions, Boards, Committees* – There are 2 open seats on the Economic Development Commission and 2 seats open on the Agency Request Review Committee. If you are interested in service on either of these 2 groups, please contact the Town Administrator or submit an application to get on the Selectboard agenda for an interview ASAP. You can download an application form on the Town website at the following link: [http://www.hinesburg.org/documents/cbc\\_application\\_form\\_040212.pdf](http://www.hinesburg.org/documents/cbc_application_form_040212.pdf)

### **Weekly Update from Boards, Committees, and Commissions:**

#### **Selectboard**

- *FY2014 Budget* – The Selectboard made a motion to conceptually approve a Town budget of approximately \$3,027,000. The final totals will be added up by the Town Administrator based on the direction of the Selectboard at Monday evening’s meeting. This represents an approximately \$52,000 increase from the current fiscal year’s spending plan. The major items decided on Monday night

were the following: 1) remove \$5,000 from the Highway Department's Brush Cutting Budget; 2) remove \$5,000 from the Fire Department's Insurance line; 3) remove \$6,000 from the Storage Shed capital fund; 4) Increase the Highway Paving Budget by \$25,000; 5) Increase the Applied Fund Balance Estimate by \$25,000 to specifically pay for the Highway Paving Program. The full approved budget will be available for public review as soon as the Town Meeting Warning is signed on Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Information at: <http://www.hinesburg.org/budget/index.html>

- *Town Forest Committee* – Chuck Reiss, Pat Mainer, and Stewart Pierson of the Town Forest Committee presented the Selectboard their annual review.
- *Conservation Commission Budget Request* – The Conservation Commission along with the Lake Iroquois Association presented budget requests for FY2014. The total Conservation Commission budget is proposed at \$8,600 and increase of \$3,100 from the current year. The reason for the increase is the inclusion of \$5,000 towards collaborative work with the Lake Iroquois Association to capture grant funds to mitigate storm water run-off into the Lake.
- *Commission, Boards, Committee Appointments* – Meg Handler was appointed to a 4 year term on the Conservation Commission for a seat ending December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016.
- *Public Safety Facility Project* – Edited diagrams depicting the project were presented. The Selectboard and members of the audience discussed the trade-offs of showing too much detail of the entire site master plan with showing a little less detail and emphasizing the information pertinent to just the police station. Two public meetings are scheduled: February 6<sup>th</sup> and February 27<sup>th</sup>. Voters will be asked to consider a ballot box item to grant the Selectboard the authority to issue up to \$1,055,000 in bonds for the final design, construction, and site work necessary to complete a new police station. Please visit: <http://www.hinesburg.org/public-safety-building-project/index.html>
- *PACE Financing* – Hinesburg resident Chuck Reiss asked the Selectboard to place an Article on the Town Meeting Warning so voters can consider designating Hinesburg a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) District. The basic element of this program is that it would allow a property owner to make energy efficiency improvements or install renewable energy products (like solar roof panels) with a loan that could be paid back via property tax payments. Selectboard members decided to take time over the week between January 21<sup>st</sup> and January 28<sup>th</sup> to research the program in more depth before making a final determination on whether or not to place this as an Article. Chuck is also collecting signatures on a petition which would force the issue. It is important to note that voter approved designation of a PACE district does not automatically mean implementation. If an Article for PACE designation was approved at Town Meeting the Selectboard would have the ability to hold-off implementing the program in Hinesburg until all the facets and mechanisms of the program were fully understood by the Selectboard, staff, and citizens. There is no set timeframe between designation and implementation. More

information is available on the PACE program at:  
<http://www.veic.org/ResourceLibrary/PACE.aspx>

- *State Senators & Representatives* – Senator Zuckerman and Representatives Lippert and Yantachka attended the meeting to discuss the more pressing issues for this upcoming session in Montpelier with the Hinesburg Selectboard. Some of the issues discussed included the gap in the State’s transportation fund and the potential impact that could have on State Highway Aid; health insurance changes on the horizon in 2014; the Statewide education property tax increase; firearms control. We will attempt to bring these representatives back to a Hinesburg Selectboard meeting towards the end of the session for a recap on the outcome of the year.



## Town of Hinesburg Contact Information:

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Non-emergency calls: (802)482-2455  
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Highway Dept.: Michael Anthony  
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