

Town of Hinesburg

Celebrating 250 years

Weekly Update

1762-2012

July 3, 2013



Upcoming Meetings. . .

- **July 4th Schedule of Events:** <http://hinesburg.org/recreation/July4th2013.pdf>
- **Selectboard:** Special Meeting for Rural Area Zoning Proposal - *Monday, July 8th at 7:00 p.m. (Main Hall)*
- **Conservation Commission:** *Tuesday, July 9th at 7:00 p.m. (3rd floor conference room)*

Weekly Updates from Departments:

Hinesburg Community Police

- *Gasoline Nozzles* - Twice in the same week, at two different service stations, motorists drove off with the nozzle still attached to their vehicles. Besides causing significant damage, there is the apparent hazard of spilled fuel. These are small mistakes but preventable with a little caution and attention to detail.
- *Motorist Dispute* - On Wednesday, June 26th, officers responded to North Road for what was reported as a motorist dispute. Upon arrival, one motorist claimed that a rock fell from the dump truck that the other person was operating. Names were exchanged and no further action was taken.
- *New Traffic Light* - The transition to the new traffic signal at VT Route 116 and Commerce Street has gone better than expected. Motorists are properly using the flashing yellow arrow and there have been no problems encountered.

Hinesburg Fire & First Response

Fire

(6/24/13 – 7/01/13)

- *July 4th Preparations* - A busy week preparing for the 4th, all hands on deck for flag-placement along the parade route, prepping grills, polishing bright-work and generally sprucing up the station.
- *New Member* - The department also welcomed a new probationary member, Dustin Benoit, and interviewed a couple more prospects. Like most volunteer departments, ours is chronically understaffed, so new recruits are always welcome and we remind folks that a visit on any Wednesday (training) night is a good place to explore membership.
- *Call Activity* - Fire responded to two calls this week, a report of smoke from a neighbors building on Friday and leaking fluids after a non-injury motor vehicle

crash (MVC) on Saturday. Often times the leaking fluids are coolant but sometimes oil or gasoline requiring application from a big tub of kitty-litter (properly called "Speedy-Dry") carried on Rescue One, our heavy-rescue apparatus.

- *Training* - pretty much on hold until after the 4th. Apparatus -- all equipment is operational at present with outstanding issues being pesky wiring problems causing false "door open" alerts. With lots of doors and lots of switches these can be hard to trace.

First Response

(6/24/13 – 7/01/13)

- *New EMS Protocols* - Like other EMS departments across the state HFR is awaiting a draft of the new EMS protocols soon to be adopted in Vermont. These are procedures and "interventions" (anything that affects the outcome of a patient's problems) that are changing with advances in medical technology. One example is a method of gaining IV access through an "inter-osseous" device (I/O), providing a potentially life-saving method of giving fluids and medications when conventional access is not possible. EMTs at the new "Advanced" level (AEMT) are already trained on these and other new procedures. We will keep everyone informed as these changes move through draft to hopeful adoption, a process that is as glacial as medical caution demands. In all respects though, these changes will be an "upgrade".
- *Cardiac Monitor* - We are also beginning to explore the possibility of obtaining a cardiac monitor, a device that would permit analysis and transmission of EKG (cardiac rhythms) to the ED even before the ambulance arrives, buying some important time and providing a "heads up" for serious heart conditions. With our distance to the ED and reliance on out-of-town ambulance transportation, minutes saved are extremely valuable.
- *Call Activity* - Three calls this week included a "difficulty breathing" on Tuesday and an 'unresponsive male' on Thursday, both transported, and on Monday a serious cardiac call involving an unresponsive elderly female. In the latter case our "AutoPulse", an automated CPR device valuable on relatively long transports, was used, alas to no avail.
- *Call Volume* - 3.
- *Equipment issues* - none.

Buildings & Facilities

- *Mechanicsville Road* - Rec Path work on Mechanicsville Road continues as follows: Guardrail installation – Wednesday, July 3; pavement milling – Monday, July 8; paving from Commerce Street to CVU Road – Tuesday, July 9 and Wednesday, July 10. Schedule is weather dependent and subject to change. All operations will require alternating one-way traffic around the construction zone. Motorists may experience traffic delays and are encouraged to allow for extra time in their travel plans when traveling through these areas. Please seek alternate routes if possible.
- *Water Pump Station Repair Work* - Controls destroyed by lightning strike June 24 at the water pump station on Piette Rd are being repaired. One of two booster pumps working automatically, additional parts ordered.

Recreation Department

- *Golf Camps* - There were 12 participants in the Beginner Golf Camp that ran 6/24-6/28 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 3 participants in the Junior Golf Player Camp from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. at Cedar Knoll. Weather has been very challenging this summer.
- *Recreation Track & Field* - The Track & Field program is underway and thriving. Unfortunately, the Colchester meet scheduled for 6/25 was cancelled due to poor weather. There are 40 athletes registered to participate in the Hershey Track Meet held at Essex H.S. on 7/6. This is the highest number of participation for our program ever!! There are two more casual meets set for 7/10 (MMU) and 7/17 (Essex) along with the State Track Meet on 7/20 at St. Johnsbury Academy.
- *Community Supper supporting the Bissonette Family Recreation Area* - The Hinesburgh Public House sponsored a Community Supper to benefit the Bissonette Family Recreation Area on July 2nd. For \$20, attendees were able to partake in a delicious four-course meal and a portion of the cost will be donated to support this worthwhile project. Those who attended enjoyed a starter salad with local strawberries, Maple Brook Farms feta cheese, Bella Farms mixed greens tossed in a balsamic vinaigrette, a cold minted watermelon soup, followed by Chef Sean's Hoisen barbeque pork ribs. A pea shoot pesto pasta salad and braised rainbow swiss chard accompanied the entree. This tasty meal was completed with homemade blueberry cake squares baked fresh by Spoon and Sparrow Bakery.
- *July 4th* -Plans are being finalized. Prizes are being collected, trophies have been picked up, judges have been recruited, the point person for the fireworks display has been appointed, the road closure signs have been hung, and now all we need is for Mother Nature to cooperate!! Cross your fingers that we'll get the parade, fireworks, and everything in between in to celebrate Independence Day the Hinesburg way!!
- *The Hart & Mead Concert Series* - First concert is Wednesday, July 10 at 6:30 p.m. behind the Hinesburg Community School. Hinesburg band Wolcot will perform. Rain dates are Thursdays.

Carpenter-Carse Library

Calendar

- *Friends of the Library Book Sale* - We are gearing up for the July 4th Friends of the Library Book Sale at the Town Hall. We are no longer taking in donations of books; the deadline was Saturday, June 29, so that we could have time to sort the books. Thank you to all who generously donated items of good quality and condition! *Help is still needed at the Town Hall on July 4th when Friends of the Library gather to sell an exciting assortment of books and other media.* Contact Heather @ 482-2081.
- *E-reader program* - On June 18 the Library offered a program for those who use e-readers to access e-books and audiobooks via our web page. The class of 15 was taught by Virgil Fuller, Director at Chelsea Public Library and Substitute Librarian at Carpenter-Carse; Virgil enjoys teaching readers how to use popular devices. Listen Up! Vermont is an online collection of e-books and audiobooks powered by Overdrive and available to our library (and its patrons) as a member of the Green

Mountain Library Consortium. Virgil gave clear directions on how to sign in @ Listen Up, follow prompts to access books, and understand the compatibility of specific devices & e-books. Hand-outs were available to attendees. The “students” had lots of good questions for Virgil! There was excellent feedback from attendees regarding the program and Green Mt. Library Consortium and we will likely plan additional classes at the Library sometime in the future.

Other News

- *Student Clerks* - The Library has two new student clerks: High school students Catherine Keefe and Jake Quatt. We welcome them to our staff and wish Rose Watts the best of luck with her future plans, as she has graduated from CVU. Charlie Yarwood is now the senior clerk.
- *Summer Reading Club* - sessions are under way at the library. Last Wednesday children planted vegetables, flowers and herbs in two lovely raised beds located beside the library. What a great experience for our youth, made possible by the following people:
 - Planning – *Youth Librarian Janet Soutiere & Summer Program Assistant, Judy Curtis
 - Building the raised beds – Scout leader, Stephen Cote
 - Providing soil, organic material & *wonderful plants* – Julie Rubaud, Red Wagon Plants
 - Already, the garden looks great, and we look forward to sharing it with the children all summer long.
 - The outside appearance of library grounds is improving, thanks to the efforts of Curdie Gardner, Jane Racer and Dave Tucker.
- *Keep up-to-date on the current events happening at the library—*
http://www.carpentercarse.org/ccl_programs.html.

Planning & Zoning

- *Big Development Plans* – Staff met with Brett Grabowski (Hinesburg Center LLC; Milot Real Estate) on 6/25 to discuss his recent application for phase two of the Hinesburg Center project – i.e., the next phase of development of the Lyman property (fields west of the Kinney Drugs). The initial application was deemed incomplete, and the applicant is working to submit additional plans and information so that this project can get on the DRB schedule – possibly for the July 30 meeting. This is a very significant development proposal that includes completing most of the infrastructure (roads, sidewalks, stormwater treatment) involved in the Lyman property master plan. Beyond infrastructure, the new development includes a proposal for 21 units of affordable rental housing and 17 new single-family home lots, as well as placeholder areas for additional commercial, mixed use, and residential development that is to be determined. More information later as this sketch plan application (first of a three-step local review) is finalized and scheduled.
- *Route 116 Corridor Project* – Staff attended the first steering committee meeting for this project on 6/26. Excellent feedback from the 7 of 9 steering committee members that could attend. Consultants will be hard at work through the summer

with the first public forum to discuss the existing conditions and corridor issues planned for September.

- *Planning Commission Paddle* – Staff paddled along with the Planning Commission at the non-conventional June 26 meeting on Lake Iroquois. Three lake residents joined the group for a look at shoreline areas from the water. The group made stops along the shoreline to view and discuss various features and converse with several property owners who happened to be outside enjoying the evening. The Board will discuss their observations at the July 10 meeting.
- *Development Review Board* – Staff prepared for and attended the July 2 DRB meeting with focused on three applications. The Town public safety facility site plan review and the Palmer, Thibodeau site plan review (residential infill project) were discussed again – review for both began at the June 18 meeting. The Town project review was closed and the DRB is now in the process of drafting an approval with conditions. The Palmer, Thibodeau project was continued to the August 20 meeting to give the applicant more time to address several compliance issues. The DRB also reviewed and approved a new office use and site plan changes for the historic property at 10600 Route 116 – the yellow building two doors up from the Town Office. This property was owned and cared for by Len Duffy for many years, with several office spaces available for rent. It was recently sold to EPJ Properties (owned by Hinesburg resident Eric Belliveau), who plans to relocate Optimal Energy (an energy efficiency consulting firm) from Bristol to Hinesburg. Optimal Energy will occupy the first and second floors of the building, with the basement level still available for rental. A handicap parking space and access ramp will be added to the property over the summer to comply with State ADA code.

Town Administrator

- *Commission, Boards, Committees* – Applications are now being accepted for the newly minted Hinesburg Energy Committee. The first wave of applicants will be interviewed on August 5th; if you would like to be considered at that time please complete and return an application to the Town Administrator by Friday, August 2. <http://hinesburg.org/vacancies.html>
- *Facebook* – ‘Like’ the Town of Hinesburg on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/townofhinesburg>
- *FY2014 Tax Rate* – The grand list has been lodged and the State’s Education Tax Rates have been set. On July 15th, Hinesburg’s Selectboard will be asked to officially adopt the tax rates for FY2014. The chart below shows the change in the REDISIDENTIAL tax rate and what property tax payers can expect to pay in local property taxes for the new fiscal year. Per every \$100,000 of homestead value, Hinesburg property tax payers will pay an additional \$95 compared to this past year; of that increase, \$3 can be contributed to the municipal rate and \$92 is to the education rate. (See table on following page)

| <u>Municipal/Education</u> | <u>Tax Rate</u> | <u>% TaxBill</u> | <u>100K</u> | <u>200K</u> | <u>300K</u> | <u>400K</u> | <u>500K</u> |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Municipal Tax Rate - 13 | 0.4700 | 24.44% | \$470 | \$940 | \$1,410 | \$1,880 | \$2,350 |
| Education Tax Rate - 13 | 1.4533 | 75.56% | \$1,453 | \$2,907 | \$4,360 | \$5,813 | \$7,267 |
| Total Prop Tax Raised - 13 | 1.9233 | 100.00% | \$1,923 | \$3,847 | \$5,770 | \$7,693 | \$9,617 |
| Municipal Tax Rate - 14 | 0.4730 | 23.44% | \$473 | \$946 | \$1,419 | \$1,892 | \$2,365 |
| Education Tax Rate - 14 | 1.5453 | 76.56% | \$1,545 | \$3,091 | \$4,636 | \$6,181 | \$7,727 |
| Total Prop Tax Raised- 14 | 2.0183 | 100.00% | \$2,018 | \$4,037 | \$6,055 | \$8,073 | \$10,092 |
| Muni Rate Change - 14 | <u>0.0030</u> | <u>0.64%</u> | <u>\$3</u> | <u>\$6</u> | <u>\$9</u> | <u>\$12</u> | <u>\$15</u> |
| Ed. Rate Change - 14 | <u>0.0920</u> | <u>6.33%</u> | <u>\$92</u> | <u>\$184</u> | <u>\$276</u> | <u>\$368</u> | <u>\$460</u> |
| Total Change - 14 | <u>0.0950</u> | <u>4.94%</u> | <u>\$95</u> | <u>\$190</u> | <u>\$285</u> | <u>\$380</u> | <u>\$475</u> |

Weekly Update from Boards, Committees, and Commissions:

Selectboard

- *Affordable Housing* – The Selectboard passed a Motion to hold a Public Hearing on July 29th (7pm, Main Hall) to decide whether or not the Town will go forward with an application to the Community Development Block Grant Program for a pass-through grant up-to \$550,000 in support of the Hinesburg Village Housing Project. If this project receives all of its permits, it would be constructed to the west of the new Kinney Drugs as part of the larger Creekside master development plan in Hinesburg Village and include 19 affordable housing units and 2 market rate homes. More information on the project is available in the July 1, 2013 Selectboard packet on the Town’s webpage.
- *Energy Committee* – Approval was granted by the Selectboard to form the Hinesburg Energy Committee, per the request of Hinesburg resident Chuck Reiss. While the Mission Statement and Objectives of the committee still need to be vetted and adopted by the Selectboard, the Town will begin the process of advertising for applicants. Like all Town CBC’s, those interested in joining this committee must complete a Town application form and then interview with the Selectboard. Applications are available on the Town’s webpage. <http://hinesburg.org/vacancies.html>
- *Dog Park* – Two local residents approached the Selectboard seeking authorization to move forward with initial plans to build a Town dog park at Geprags Park. Both those proposing the idea, and the Selectboard, agreed that this capital project would be funded strictly through donations. The Selectboard asked that a site plan be fully developed prior to the start of a fundraising campaign. Those

interested will work with the Planning & Zoning Department and the Conservation Commission to develop an appropriate plan for a dog park at Geprags and return to the Selectboard at a future date.

- *Employee Pay* – Per the requirements of the Town’s Personnel Manual, the Selectboard set employee wage rates for FY2014.
- *Special Meeting* – The Selectboard will hold a special meeting this Monday evening (July 8th) at 7:00PM and focus the meeting solely on the proposed Rural Area Zoning Ordinance. <http://hinesburg.org/planning/raz/>



Thank you Chuck Reiss for your many years of service to the Town Forest Committee. Chuck is now focusing his volunteer efforts in working with the Town to develop an Energy Committee.



July 4th 2013 - Schedule Events

Wednesday, July 3rd

- 6 pm Registration for Foot Race - Hinesburg Community School.
6:30 pm 10 K Race begins at bottom of Buck Hill Rd. West & Rte. 116.
7 pm 5 K Foot Race begins at bottom of Buck Hill Rd. West & Rte. 116.
7:10 pm 2 K Foot Race begins at Veterans Park.

Thursday, July 4th

9-11:00 am Book Sale at Town Hall.

10 am Food booths along Route 116 and HCS parking lot open.
Parade Assembly. Go up Lavigne Hill to line up at bottom of Buck Hill Rd.
Craft Fair at the United Church.

10:30 am Judging of parade entries.

11:00 am Parade starts at Rte. 116 and Buck Hill Rd. West intersection and goes through town, turning at Mechanicville Rd., ending at Commerce Park.

12:00 pm Book Sale at Town Hall opens again.
Kiddie Carnival at HCS until 2:00 pm. Pony Rides, Bouncy Castle, Dunk Tank, carnival games, food and drinks.
Ice Cream Social sponsored by the Community Alliance Church, located in front of stone Masonic building.
Chasing 440 Bluegrass to perform at Memorial Park.

1 pm Lions Club Duck Race starting at the Post Office.

4pm Chicken BBQ at Fire Station.

Dusk - about 9:30 pm FIREWORKS!

PARADE THEME: "Made in Vermont"

GRAND MARSHAL: Barbara Bissonette & Family

Hilly Hobble Foot Race

This annual road race is held on July 3rd. Entry fee is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Trophies will be awarded in the 2K, 5K, and 10K races in men's and woman's groups. 10K starts at 6:30 pm at the bottom of Buck Hill Rd. West, 5K at 7:00 pm at bottom of Buck Hill Rd. West and 2K at 7:10 pm next to Good Times. Registration in front of HCS parking lot, across from Hart and Mead, from 6:00 pm until race time. Categories in the following age groups:

Under 12

13-18

19-35

36-50

Over 51

Parade Prizes!

Best of Parade

Sponsored by Hinesburg General Store - \$100 Gas Card

Best Business Float

Sponsored by Jiffy Mart - Sub Party

Best Float

Sponsored by Good Times Cafe - 4 pizzas

Best Theme Related Entry

Sponsored by Lantman's Best Market (\$50 Gift Card)

Best Antique/Classic Vehicle

Sponsored by Automotion - Free Oil Change!

Best Pet/Livestock Entry

Sponsored by Grateful Dog

Best Tractor

Sponsored by Aubuchon Hardware

Best Costume

Sponsored by Brown Dog Books

Best Horse and Rider

Sponsored by VT Well & Pump

Prizes to be awarded to all children participating in the parade
sponsored by Koval's and Papa Nick's.

Thank you to all of our generous sponsors!



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