

Town of Hinesburg

Weekly Update

January 22, 2014



Upcoming Meetings. . .

- **Planning Commission:** *Wednesday, January 22nd at 7:30 p.m. (1st floor conference room)*
- **Economic Development Committee:** *Thursday, January 23rd at 7:00 p.m. (3rd floor conference room)*
- **Selectboard:** *Monday, January 27th at 7:00 p.m. (Main Hall)*
- **Conservation Commission:** *Tuesday, January 28th at 7:00 p.m. (3rd floor conference room)*
- **Route 116 Committee:** *Wednesday, January 29th at 7:00 p.m. (1st floor conference room)*

Weekly Updates from Departments:

Hinesburg Community Police

- *Family Fight* - On Sunday, January 12th, officers responded to Hollow Rd. for a family fight. It was determined that there was no physical violence so no action was taken.
- *Driving Under the Influence* - On Friday, January 17th, an officer responded to a business for a report of a driver who stumbled when he exited his vehicle. As the officer arrived, the subject ran to a neighbor where he was found by the officer with the help of the residents. The 21 year old male from Starksboro was subsequently arrested and taken to Shelburne PD for processing. Due to the level of intoxication, he was transported to ACT 1 for detox.

Hinesburg Fire & First Response

- *Calls* - We've had 3 EMS calls and 5 Fire calls this week.
- *Training* - Members that took the EMR class took their practical exams at UVM this weekend. Members that were not in the class also went as evaluators to help in the examination process. This week we plan on practicing obtaining a water source from frozen ponds.
- *Officers Meeting* - The officers will hold their meeting on Tuesday.

Buildings & Facilities

- *Water Leak* – It appears that some of the water leak issues have been resolved on Richmond Road. The department continues to search for smaller leaks on Richmond Road as well as throughout the system. These issues are due to the cold weather causing pipes to break.

Carpenter-Carse Library

CALENDAR

- *Carpenter-Carse Library Board of Trustees Meeting* - 7:00 p.m. January 22, 2014
Regular monthly meeting open to the public

Adult Programs

- *Using Listen Up! Vermont* - Presented by Virgil Fuller, Library Director, Chelsea Public Library and former Listen Up! Vermont Coordinator - Are you looking for a free, convenient way to access library e-books? Join us for this workshop on Thursday, January 23 at 6:00 p.m. and learn how to download and use Listen Up! Vermont. The class will cover basic set-up and downloading to access library e-books through Listen Up! Vermont and Project Gutenberg via the Carpenter-Carse website. - For all types of devices. Bring your Kindle or Nook along! This is a free program with class size limited to 15. Call 482-2878 to register.
- *Stave Off Cabin Fever* - Film Discussion Group with Larry Parker, former associate of the Savoy Theater and Green Mountain Film Festival - First meeting: Tuesday, February 11th 7 p.m. 482-2878 - Movie enthusiast Larry Parker invites you to join him at the library to lay the groundwork for the film group. This is a free program with great entertainment and thought provoking conversation. What better way to stave off "cabin fever?"

Youth Programs

- *Weekly Preschool Story Time ~ January 28* ~ for children 3-5 years of age
This hour long story time starts at 11:00 a.m. every Tuesday! Preschoolers can join Sara for stories, songs, and games.
- *Come to our Superhero Story Time! - Wednesday, February 5th, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.* - Join new Children's Services Librarian Sara in saving the day! We will read books about superheroes and make masks for you to bring home. Snacks and materials will be provided.
- *Next Toddler Story Time ~ February 4* ~ For children up to 3 years of age - This half hour story time starts at 9:30 a.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Sara welcomes walk-ins!

OTHER NEWS

- *DVD Order* - Now that Academy Award nominees for best film have been chosen, the Library is preparing a DVD order....Much to look forward to!
- *Free Audio Book Service Provided by Special Services Unit* - Readers who have arthritis so severe that it is difficult to turn the pages of a book may be pleased that they qualify for the Vermont Department of Libraries free audio book service provided by the Special Services Unit. Any folks who cannot handle books easily due to a physical condition are eligible. Go to their website: <http://libraries.vermont.gov/ssu> to find the application for numerous exciting items available to Vermonters. Feel free to contact Sue at the library if you need help, 482-2878.
- *Keep up-to-date on the current events happening at the library* – http://www.carpentercarse.org/ccl_programs.html.

Recreation Department

- *3/4 Boys Basketball Games Held* - Both 3/4 boys basketball teams hosted two Christ the King teams on Sat. 1/18.
- *Smuggs Sundays* - HRD is gearing up for its first Smuggs Sunday on 1/26. Adult lift tickets are \$25 and youth are \$20. Rentals and lessons are an additional \$25/\$20. Sign up by noon on Thursday 1/23. Meet Coordinator Darcie Thorburn between 8:30-9:30 am to pick up your tickets. Forms available at HRD, on website or can be e-mailed to you. hinesburgrec@gmavt.net or 482-2281 ext. 230. Call with questions. THINK SNOW and maybe some warmer temperatures.
- *New Tai Chi Class* - A new Tai Chi class taught by Janet Makaris began on Thursday 1/16 in the main room at Town Hall. Class runs each Thursday from 5:30-6:30 pm. \$15 per class. Please register with HRD - checks are payable to the instructor.
- *Driver's Education with Kevin Browne* - Currently enrolling for the next March/April Driver Ed class taught by Kevin Browne. Class runs 4-6 pm in the main room at Town Hall, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, from March 6 - April 10. \$675. Please register with HRD. Call or e-mail with any questions.

Town Clerk & Treasurer

- *Tax Booklets* - Now that January has arrived, many people turn their thoughts to filing of their income tax returns. The State of Vermont is no longer sending out booklets to former outlets like the town clerk's offices, libraries or post offices. Instead, they are asking people to obtain the tax forms they need by either going to the tax department website at www.tax.vermont.gov and ordering them, sending an e-mail request to taxforms@state.vt.us, or calling the Department of Taxes at (802)828-2515. You can file your taxes electronically beginning in late January. As an additional reminder, don't forget that you are required to file your HS-122 or Homestead Declaration every year! The State returned to the annual filing format for the 2012 tax return.
- *Dog licenses are due on or before April 1st* - The fee is \$8.00 and if we already have your rabies certificate on file, you needn't bring anything with you other than payment for the fee and your dog for a visit! We have dog biscuits! We love dogs! Actually, bringing your dog in to get the license is optional. We just enjoy seeing them!
- *Deadline for Filing Petitions* - The deadline for filing petitions to run for office is Monday, January 27th at 4 p.m. Petitions require 30 signatures of registered voters and are available in the town clerk's office or from the Vermont Secretary of State. The deadline for filing petitions to place an article on the warning is January 23rd at 4 p.m. Petitions for articles require signatures of 5 percent of the registered voters in the town. In Hinesburg's case, that amounts to approximately 185 signatures, though it is always better to get several extras in case some of them are invalid. Please call the clerk's office at 482-2281 ext. 223 for more information.

Town Administrator

- *St. George Police Services* – Chief Koss and I met with the St. George Selectboard last Thursday, at their request, to discuss the possibility of providing St. George with a few hours per week of traffic enforcement services. St. George's Selectboard has budgeted a few thousand in their proposed FY2015 budget to contract with a neighboring community for this type of service and a partnership between Hinesburg and St. George appears to be a natural fit. Once budgets are set for FY2015 further conversations will take place between the two communities.
- *Heath Insurance* – Town employees are now anticipating an April 1st transition into Vermont Health Connect (VHC).
- *Lot 31* – Some neighbors in the Creekside Development have expressed interest in purchasing Lot 31 – a 5.36 acre parcel of land on the western edge of Creekside – from the Town of Hinesburg. We're looking at a possible closing date of March 30, 2014. The Selectboard and purchasers will need to agree on the terms of the sale. Any real estate transaction completed by the Selectboard is subject to recall by citizen petition.
- *Planning Commission Vacancy* – One (1) seat is still open on the Planning Commission. Applications for that vacant seat are due by February 14th and the Selectboard will hold interviews and make an appointment at the February 17th Selectboard meeting. Those interested in this position are encouraged to fill-out an application and submit it to the Town Administrator.
<http://hinesburg.org/vacancies.html>
- *FY2015 Budget* – Hinesburg's Selectboard is expected to set their proposed budget for Town Meeting on January 27th. After the proposed budget is set, a detailed budget explanation will be made available on the town website, The Citizen and The Record, and in the Town Report. Also, all budget information will be available on the town webpage: <http://hinesburg.org/budget/>

Weekly Updates from Boards, Committees, and Commissions:

Selectboard

- *FY2015 Budget* – The Selectboard deliberated for an hour before the start of the 7pm agenda and then resumed deliberations at the end of the meeting. Upon completion of the meeting, the Selectboard did come to an agreement on the direction of the FY2015 budget and appears prepared to adopt a budget for the Town Meeting Warning next week. The proposed budget shows a 1.4% increase in total expenditures (\$3,072,060 compared to \$3,029,860) and would require a tax-rate increase of 0.85¢. If the proposed budget was adopted at Town Meeting as presented, Hinesburg's municipal tax bill would increase by \$9 per each \$100,000 of assessed homestead value. <http://hinesburg.org/budget/>
- *FY2013 Audit* – Don Murray from the accounting offices of Fothergill, Segale, & Valley presented the Selectboard with the draft FY2013 audit. Some of the highlights include the net assets of the town's general government activities increased by \$1.7 million and net assets of the business activities increased

\$100,000. The final audit will be available for public consumption when it is completed.

- *Final Recreation Path Invoice* – The Selectboard passed the following three (3) motions: 1) authorized Change Order #1 in the amount of \$21,271; 2) authorized Pay Request #8 in the amount of \$26,023; 3) authorized the Town Administrator to sign the Certificate of Final Completion of Work.
- *Planning Commission Appointment* – On a 5-0 vote, the Selectboard appointed Dennis Place to a four (4) year term on Hinesburg’s Planning Commission. Dennis will take the seat held by Johanna White who recently resigned from the commission. <http://hinesburg.org/planningcomm.html>
- *Town Administrator Job Description* – The Selectboard discussed possible edits to the Town Administrator’s job description. Potential edits include granting the Town Administrator greater authority over personnel issues and greater authority over financial matters. No final decisions were made; discussion will continue at a later date.
- *Economic Development Plan* – On a 5-0 vote, the Selectboard authorized \$3,000 be used from the fund balance in support of the Economic Development Committee’s work to complete an economic development plan for the Town of Hinesburg. The Economic Development Committee’s goal is to hand-off a draft economic development plan to the Planning Commission by January 1, 2015 for insertion into the 2016 Town Plan update. <http://hinesburg.org/hedc/>
- *Water/Wastewater Operator* – The Selectboard passed a motion offering CJ Hinchman full employment with the Town of Hinesburg as an operator in the water/wastewater department. CJ was on probation for his first three (3) months of employment and, with a recommendation from staff, his probationary status was lifted.

Town of Hinesburg Contact Information:

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