

Town of Hinesburg

Celebrating 250 years

Weekly Update

1762-2012

July 11, 2012



Upcoming Meetings...

- **Planning Commission:** *Wednesday, July 11th at 7:30 p.m. (1st floor conference room)*
- **Trails Committee:** *Wednesday, July 11th at 7:00 p.m. (3rd floor conference room)*
- **Conservation Commission:** *Monday, July 16th at 7:00 p.m. (3rd floor conference room)*
- **Selectboard:** *Monday, July 16th at 7:00 p.m. (Main Hall)*
- **Development Review Board:** *Tuesday, July 17th at 7:30 p.m. (Main Hall)*

Weekly Updates From Department Heads:

Hinesburg Community Police

- On June 30th at 11:00 pm, the Hinesburg Community Police began twenty-four hour law enforcement responsibility by initiating after hours call-out. Four hours and 3 minutes later, we received the first call out, a vehicle off the road on Vermont Route 116 and Tyler Bridge Rd. We have since responded to two other calls, a loud party on Texas Hill and an alarm at CVU.
- July 4th was as successful for the police department as it was for rest of the town. The road closures for the parade worked well and the fireworks, other than a short period of torrential downpour also went well. Unlike last year, there were no disturbances in the crowd and everybody had a good time. The traffic was moved through town without much delay at the conclusion of the event.
- On July 5th, the police department had three dogs at the station, none of which had any identification tags. It became clear that the department and the town will need to reevaluate its animal control policies and procedures. We will not call Animal Control for an animal that we can identify and contact the owner, so again, it is important to make sure your dog can be identified.

Buildings and Facilities

- Rec Path construction continues on CVU Rd-sub-base installed from 116 almost to Pond Rd. Crew has encountered a few unknown buried utilities and needed to work around them. Second crew to start on Mechanicsville Rd soon.

Mechanicsville Rd. will need to be closed at times during construction; 4 days advance notice will be given.

- Walk through/final inspection of Creekside roads, sidewalks and street trees.
- Prep for and clean up from fourth of July activities.

Water/Wastewater Department

- Quarterly meter readings are currently underway.
- Monitoring construction at the Thistle Hill Project
- Responded to water quality concerns after July 4th.

Recreation Dept./Commission

- Another successful July 4th Celebration!! Assisted with clean-up from fireworks and with transporting leftover books from July 4th book sale.
- Forecasted July 4th trash/recycling & clean-up needs for 2013.
- Received information that Craft Show coordinators will work to increase participation for next year.
- Prepped for Hershey State Track Meet held on 7/7 at Essex Jct. H.S. There were 32 athletes from the program who ended up competing.

Highway Department

- Spent much of this past week cleaning up from the storm that passed through the evening of July 4th. Considerable damage occurred on Magee Hill Rd, Swamp Rd, and Sherman Hollow Rd.
- Shelburne Falls culvert located just east of O'Neil Road is scheduled to be replaced July 31-Aug 2. Shelburne Falls Rd will be closed to thru traffic during that time.
- New excavator has been paid for through a five year lease. It is now in use by the department and is expected to last at least 20 years. First payment will be next July of 2013.
- ***Congratulations to Mike Anthony for 30 years of service to the Town of Hinesburg—Thank you Mike!***

Planning & Zoning

Development News:

- Two new restaurants approved by the DRB at their July 6th meeting. A lunch/dinner restaurant to be called the “Hinesburg Public House” to go in the front building (near Canal) on the Cheese Factory property, and a breakfast/lunch café to go in the first floor of the building under construction next to Kinney Drugs (corner of Route 116 and Farmall Drive). At that same meeting, the DRB also approved a minor expansion to the Jolley Mobil station, and began reviewing a proposal by Burnett Scrap Metal (on Route 116) to build a 13,000 square foot building to bring some of their existing operations inside. The final public hearing on the Hannaford supermarket proposal will be on July 17th.

Planning News:

- The Planning Commission is wrapping up work on the rural area zoning project. A public hearing has not yet been scheduled, but will likely be in August/September.

Bike Racks – Maybe:

- We worked with Rocky and the folks at CVU last week to apply for a VTrans grant for some new bike racks – some for the Town and some for CVU.

Planning & Zoning Office Changes:

- Renae Marshall took over as our Administrative Assistant and is now learning the planning & zoning ropes. Renae has worked part-time for the Town Administrator for several years, and is now joining us full-time with her hours split between the Town Administrator's office and the Planning & Zoning Office.
- Last week we bid a fond farewell to Freeda Powers who served as our Admin. Assistant on a temporary basis for the past six months. Be sure to visit the Farmers Market to sample Freeda's incredible baked goodies!

Weekly Updates from Boards, Committees, and Commissions:

Selectboard

- Tax Rate was set for FY2013. Selectboard applied \$108,000 from fund balance to balance revenues with expenditures. See Town webpage for new tax rate information and specific property tax figures and information on the impact to each tax payer.
- Property tax bills will be sent out at the beginning of August and will be due November 15th.
- Public Safety Facility will move onto the master planning phase. The Town will contract with consultant architects Vermont Integrated Architecture to study three alternatives. The master planning phase will endow the Town with rudimentary costs and site plan work that will assist in the decision making process and help the Town decide the best alternative to pursue as a final project.

The three alternatives that will be studied are as follows:

1. A co-located police and fire station at the site of the current fire station
 - Phase 1 – police station addition only
 - Phase 2 – fire station additions TBD
 - Phase 1 & Phase 2 completed concurrently.
 2. A new stand-alone police station
 - With additions to current fire station for fire department
 3. Rehabilitation and improvement to current police station
- The Selectboard held a site visit and Public Hearing for the proposed Town take over of Fredric Way and Farmall Drive in the Creekside development.
 - The Town is poised to take over the roads, street trees, water, sewer, and storm sewer infrastructure, and street signs within 60 days.

- Signed final bond documents for the Mountain View Mobile Home Park Wastewater Improvement Project—Phase 2
- Finalized Thistle Hill Phase 3 escrow agreement with developer; approved by Selectboard.
- Approved contract to edit Impact Fee Ordinance. We expect a presentation from the consultants on October 15th regarding his findings and recommendations.
- Approved final bond payback schedule for ARRA wastewater upgrade.
- Reviewed expired Wastewater allocations, presented to Selectboard and renewals approved.
- Closed out wastewater treatment plant upgrade loan, correspondence with bond bank and final repayment schedule.

Conservation Commission

- The Conservation Commission continues to look for new, enthusiastic members.
- CC has been doing 'final' revisions to the long term project of drafting a Greenspace Plan to aid the Planning Commission and other town regulatory bodies in fulfilling the mission of the Town Plan to maintain Hinesburg's 'rural character'.
- The CC encourages a wider community involvement in important future development issues in the town, such as the current discussions by the Planning Commission on new proposed rural zoning, and major development proposals that could impact the town and the entire region of southern Chittenden county.

Carpenter-Carse Library

- The Friends of the Carpenter Carse Library held their annual Independence Day Book Sale at Town Hall on the July 4th holiday. Over 1,000 donated books were sold raising over \$1,800 for special projects that benefit the library and its patrons. Local residents donated books throughout the year culminating in a 3-day event that turns the main room at Town Hall into a temporary book store.
- The Independence Day Book Sale has become an annual Hinesburg tradition, getting books into the hands of local readers. Hardcover and trade paperback books were \$1 and mass market and children's books were 50 cents. Many leftover books were donated to other book sales and nonprofits, although some books in less readable condition were sent to the recycling center.
- Donations for next year's sale will be accepted after January 1st of 2013.
- Many thanks to everyone who donated their quality books, and to the Hinesburg Food Shelf, which generously allows a space for donated books prior to the sale.

Village Steering Committee

- The Village Visualization Project is underway. This project is a major project for the VSC this year, and one of its main goals is to help as a planning tool in developing a coherent physical plan for the Village Growth Area. This project of the Village Steering Committee is just getting started, with the consultant (TJ Boyle Associates) now working to gather information/data. Next step is to have focus meetings with landowners, local developers, and other stakeholders. This will be followed by a larger public forum in the fall.
- The committee has also celebrated the recent installation of two "Hinesburg Village" signs that were placed at the north and south entrances to the village. The creation, funding, and realization of which were direct results of this committee's work.
- Other significant items on the committee's agenda at this time include submitting final comments on the Hannaford application as the DRB wraps up their public hearings next week, discussing and preparing site improvements at Memorial Park, and the continual advocacy for Complete Streets policies and implementation within the village.

Town Forest Committee

- The draft of the Town Forest Management Plan was introduced to the public at the July 9th Selectboard meeting. There will be a discussion of the draft plan at the August 6th Selectboard meeting and a scheduled public hearing at the September 10th Selectboard meeting. The document is available on the Town's webpage and feedback is encouraged.

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