



### Upcoming Meetings...

- **Selectboard(Highway Garage Replacement Project Public Hearing)** *Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. (Main Hall)*

### Weekly Updates from Departments:

#### **Hinesburg Fire & First Response**

- **Call Activity (2/15/17 - 2/20/17)**
  - 2/15 residential CO alarm. Faulty detector
  - 2/15 medical – difficulty breathing
  - 2/15 medical – back pain
  - 2/15 residential CO/fire alarm. Faulty out of date detector
  - 2/16 medical – difficulty breathing
  - 2/16 MVC no injuries
  - 2/16 residential fire alarm. Nothing found
  - 2/18 medical – chest pain
  - 2/18 medical – chest pain
  - 2/19 medical – general malaise. Difficulty breathing
  - 2/20 medical – difficulty breathing
  - 2/20 medical – lift assist
- **Patient Reporting** - We split up for our training on Wednesday. EMS members worked on reviewing patient reporting and becoming more efficient with entering the reports into Siren which is the state reporting system.
- **Water Supply/Pump Operations** - Fire members practiced setting up water supply at the canal by the post office with Engine 2. Engine 1 and 3 were in the HCS lower lot performing pump operations using the portable pond.
  - When we set up at a fire for tanker water supply, Engine 2 arrives at the scene, sets up the portable pond and dumps their water into the pond. E2 then proceeds to the water source to set up a supply line. W1, our tanker, backs up to the pond and dumps their water to keep the pond filled. When emptied, W1 goes to the supply site to be filled.
  - During a fire, a tanker task force is dispatched to the scene. As mutual aid tankers arrive, they line up at the drop site and as needed, back up to the portable pond, drop their water load and proceed to the fill site. Tankers rotate through the drop and load process, keeping a constant water supply for the engines.

- *Fire Training* - Sunday morning, 2/26 we will be having training at the house on Rte. 116. Training signs will be posted on Rte. 116 while we are on site.

### **Town Clerk & Treasurer**

- *Early Voting* - Ballots are here and available for early voting! Come in to the Town Clerk's office anytime to vote early or you may request to have a ballot mailed to you by calling 482-2281 x 2 or by e-mailing me at [mross@hinesburg.org](mailto:mross@hinesburg.org). Town Meeting Day is Tuesday, March 7, 2017 and the polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. on that day. We will be voting for the election of town officers as well as the newly consolidated Champlain Valley School District budget. There will also be a bond vote for a proposed Town Highway Garage.
- *Dog Licenses* - Dog licenses are required annually and the deadline for obtaining a license each year is April 1. Please bring a copy of a current rabies certificate for each dog. The fee is \$10.00 per license. Dogs are welcome to come visit and get a biscuit while getting their new jewelry! Just a reminder that we can't issue dog licenses on Election Day as we will both be busy at the polling place. Enjoy this beautiful snow!

### **Recreation Department**

- *Literature & Arts* - Susan Lepple's Literature & Art class had their final class and presentation on Wed. 2/15. Next session will run March 8 - April 12. Register at [www.hinesburgrec.com](http://www.hinesburgrec.com)



- *Youth Basketball* - The 5/6 girls basketball team participated in the end-of-the-season CVRA tournament in So. Burlington on 2/18. Congratulations on a successful season and thanks go to Coach Ed Gordon!
- *Spring/Summer Offerings* - The Spring/Summer offerings can be found online at [www.hinesburgrec.com](http://www.hinesburgrec.com) and a copy of the guide will be mailed next week.
- *Spring Sports Registration* - Spring Sport registration is OPEN! Please note there are deadlines for various shared programs - baseball, softball & lacrosse. DON'T WAIT. Go to [www.hinesburgrec.com](http://www.hinesburgrec.com) or call 482-2281 ext. 230 or email questions to [hinesburgrec@gmavt.net](mailto:hinesburgrec@gmavt.net)
- *Smuggs Sunday* - There are two more Sundays available for discounted lift tickets, rentals, and lessons at Smuggs. Don't miss March 5 and 12. Register and pay by noon on Thursday at [www.hinesburgrec.com](http://www.hinesburgrec.com)
- *Indoor Flag Football* - Indoor Flag Football for Grade 2-7 will run each Sunday, starting March 5 and go through April 30 from 3:30-5 pm. No charge! No experience necessary. Program will be coached by Redhawk players and supervised by Redhawk coaches. No pre-registration required. You may complete a signed waiver at the first practice.

## **Carpenter-Carse Library**

### CALENDAR

- *Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting* - The next meeting of the Library Trustees will be Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at the Carpenter-Carse Library. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise warned, and are open to the public.
- *Youngsters Story Time* – Join Librarian Sara Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-10 a.m. at the library's community room for stories, movement, songs and snacks.

### OTHER YOUTH PROGRAMS

- *Mr. Ethan Concert* – Mister Ethan joins us at the library for music and musical activities on Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 4 p.m., appropriate for ages 0-6. You may know Ethan from Music for Sprouts and from playing with local musician, Mister Chris. We are very excited and lucky to have him! We hope you and your little ones can join us for this special concert. Free.
- *Preschool Spanish* – [FULL] Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 1:30 p.m.: A reminder for those who have already signed up.
- *Lego Club* – [FULL] Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup> @ 3 p.m.: a reminder for those who have already signed up. **Please note: Lego Club will not meet on March 2<sup>nd</sup>!**

### ADULT PROGRAMS

- *Vermont Song Farmers Gathering* - The Carpenter-Carse Library in Hinesburg welcomes the Vermont Song Farmers gathering, planting musical seeds to help our community grow, hosted by Rik Palieri. The first session on 2/16 was *very* well attended and amazing! If you play an acoustic instrument such as: guitar, banjo, Mandolin, fiddle, ukulele or hand drums - or just enjoy singing along, come join us for our second gathering on Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. This is a free library event and we look forward seeing you there!
- *Hinesburg Community Writers' Group: The Craft of Writing* - Local writers: get your literary juices flowing in the Library's Community Room at our 1<sup>st</sup> -Tuesday-of-the-month group, Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 7 – 9 p.m. There will be creative writing prompts and stimulating discussions about the “how’s” of writing, from style to technique to breaking through the

dreaded block. To submit a topic or prompt suggestion or for further details, email Laura Wisniewski at [bhy@beecherhillyoga.com](mailto:bhy@beecherhillyoga.com)

- *Book Discussion Group* – The next discussion will be on Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. The book selection is *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead. The April gathering is scheduled for Thursday, the 6<sup>th</sup>, when we will discuss *The Gift of Rain* by Tan Twan Eng. \*\*\*Meetings are held in readers' homes. For more information, including directions please call Carrie @ 482-4565.

#### EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS AT THE LIBRARY

- *In the Community Room* - We are pleased to welcome the art of Hinesburg Nursery School kids in March. The reception will begin on March 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m. and the exhibit will run through the month of March.
- *Mural* - A Vermont children's authors and illustrators' mural brightens the Carpenter-Carse children's area, thanks to the former Brown Dog Books & Gifts. ☺
- *Book Displays* –
  - Staff Picks
  - We are Americans
  - Maple Sugaring
  - Miss Sara's Reads
  - Snow!
- *Vintage Book Sale* – Blue Dot Dollar Sale! All volumes with a blue dot are now \$1.00. Come discover the charm of old books. We have many books, but select a few to promote each week.

#### This Week's Featured Vintage Books:

- *Mythology* by Edith Hamilton
- *The Green Fairy Book* edited by Andrew Lang
- *The Hudson River And Its Painters* by John K. Howat
- *Ehret: Flower Painter Extraordinary* by Gerta Calmann
- *The Greek Conquerors; Treasures of the World* series by Lionel Casson
- *Summer of '49* by David Halberstam
- *Art & Music/Childcraft, volume 14; 1949 printing*
- *Oh Canada! Oh Quebec!* By Mordecai Richler

Prices range from \$1.00 - \$20.00. All books on our bargain shelves are \$2.00 each. Proceeds always are used to purchase new books.

- *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)

#### **Highway Department**

- A proposal for a new Highway Garage is being considered for a bond vote on March 7<sup>th</sup>. See Highway Garage FAQ and Highway Department informational page near the end of this Weekly Update. Please visit the Town website to see a time lapse video in order to get a better understanding of the safety and operational challenges that our Highway Department is faced with each day due to the current space. The video shows how the vehicles are strategically returned to the garage at the end of each work day in order to

just fit within the space. <http://hinesburg.org/> If you were unable to attend either of the Open Houses and would like to make an appointment to see the current facility, please contact the Highway Foreman, Mike Anthony, at 482-2635. Please attend the **Highway Garage Project Presentation and Public Hearing on Monday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hinesburg Town Hall** to learn more about this project and get answers to any questions you may have.

HIGHWAY GARAGE

REPLACEMENT PROJECT

PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC  
HEARING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 7:00 PM

HINESBURG TOWN HALL

**BOND VOTE – Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

## Weekly Updates from Boards, Committees, and Commissions:

### **Development Review Board**

#### New applications received

- *Gary & Mary Thibault* - Minor revision to a 2-lot final plat subdivision originally approved on 10/4/16. The applicants are proposing to modify the building envelope for Lot 7. The property is located to the southwest of the Burritt/Baldwin Road intersection in the Agricultural Zoning District.

#### Applications to be heard at the March 7, 2017 DRB Hearing

- *Richard & Jennifer Winegar* - Revision to a final plat subdivision in order to make a boundary line adjustment. The applicants are proposing to purchase a strip of land from their neighbors, Roger and Heather Trembley. The properties are located at 136 and 231 Brookside Lane in the Agricultural Zoning District.
- *Gary & Mary Thibault* - Minor revision to a 2-lot final plat subdivision originally approved on 10/4/16. The applicants are proposing to modify the building envelope for Lot 7. The

property is located to the southwest of the Burritt/Baldwin Road intersection in the Agricultural Zoning District.

- *Wind NRG Partners, LLC* - Revisions to a final plat subdivision and planned unit development (PUD) originally approved on 10/20/15. The applicant is proposing to modify several internal lot lines. The property is located on the east side of Route 116, north of Patrick Brook, south of CVU Road, in the Village Northeast Zoning District.

*For more information please contact the Planning & Zoning office at 802-482-2281 or [lbudd@hinesburg.org](mailto:lbudd@hinesburg.org).*

## **Selectboard**

- *Public Hearing* – Please plan to attend the public hearing on Monday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hinesburg Town Hall regarding information on the Highway Garage Replacement Project. A Bond Vote for the proposed new Highway Garage is scheduled for Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. More information is available on the main page of the Town website at [www.hinesburg.org](http://www.hinesburg.org)
- *FY18 Budget Information* – In preparation for Town Meeting, please review the FY18 proposed budget information at the following link: <http://hinesburg.org/budget/>
- *Town Report* – The Town Reports are here! Please stop by the Town Clerk’s office to pick up your copy. They will also be available at Carpenter-Carse Library and the Hinesburg Post Office. Post cards were mailed out notifying all residents that the Town Reports are now available to be picked up. If you are unable to pick up a copy at the above locations, please contact Renae Marshall at 482-2281 ext. 222.
- *Cover Art* – We would like to extend a big thank you to Hinesburg resident and professional photographer, Karen Pike, for her willingness to share her artistic talent in the form of photography with us. The beautiful photo on the cover of this year’s Town Report is a composite image shot by Karen of the super moon over the United Church in Hinesburg. Thank you Karen!
- *Meeting Agendas* – Selectboard meeting agendas are posted on the bulletin boards at the following locations:
  - In hallway outside of Town Clerk’s Office
  - Carpenter-Carse Library
  - Hinesburg Post Office

In addition to these three physical locations, agendas are available on-line at the following link:

<http://hinesburg.org/select.html> - click on link and then scroll down near bottom of page for meeting agenda/packet.

- *Potential upcoming agenda times*: The following items may be discussed at the following Selectboard meetings. Please check the meeting agendas within 48 hours prior to each meeting:

<http://hinesburg.org/select.html> - click on link and then scroll down near bottom of page for meeting agenda/packet.

*"Two-and-Two"*

<u>03/06/17</u>	<u>03/20/17</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Town Meeting 2017</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Discussion on Emergency Medical Services (with 1<sup>st</sup> responders, St. Michael's rescue, etc.)</li><li>▪ Selectboard Organizational Meeting</li><li>▪ Town Meeting "Re-cap"</li><li>▪ Water/wastewater allocation discussion, continued</li><li>▪ Appointments/Reappointments to Various Statutory Positions</li><li>▪ Bonding for Public Officials</li><li>▪ Designation of Newspaper(s) of Record</li><li>▪ 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Liquor Licenses</li><li>▪ VTrans 116 Culvert project presentation/local concerns meeting</li></ul>

- *Open Seats Available* – Are you looking for a way to become more invested in your community? Currently there are many seats available on various Boards, Committees and Commissions. Please see more information near the end of this *Weekly Update*.
- *Town/School Meetings* – Hinesburg's Meetings will be held on Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at the CVU Auditorium. The HCS Annual School Meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Hinesburg Town Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Recognizing that many of you will be coming straight from work, a variety of soup and baked goods will be offered free of charge to make it easier for more of you to attend the evening's meetings. It is also a great opportunity to connect with other friends, neighbors and community members. Donations will be accepted to benefit the Hinesburg Food Shelf. If you are interested in helping with this, please contact Sally Reiss at 922-2915 or Stevie Spencer at 482-3518.

*HINESBURG TOWN MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup>, 7:00 P.M.  
CVU AUDITORIUM*

SOUP & BAKED GOODS WILL BE AVAILABLE FREE OF  
CHARGE. ANY DONATIONS WILL BENEFIT THE  
HINESBURG FOOD SHELF



To: The Hinesburg Selectboard  
 Cc: Michael Anthony, Highway Foreman  
 Renae Marshall  
 From: Trevor M. Lashua, Town Administrator  
 Date: February 10, 2017  
 Re: Highway Garage FAQs (updated; includes 01/09/17 construction budget revision and 02/10/17 Bond Bank estimated debt service schedule)

***Q: What is proposed and what will it cost?***

A: Replacement of the existing, antiquated, functionally-challenged highway garage with an 11,500 square foot replacement on Town-owned property on Beecher Hill Road (where the garage is currently located). The project includes a fabric-domed salt and sand shed capable of storing nearly a season’s supply of material. The total project cost, updated on 01/09/17, is an estimated \$3.1 million. The estimate includes construction, permitting, site work, architectural and engineering fees, and a variety of other “soft” costs.

Here’s a breakdown:

- Construction (includes site work, general conditions, mechanical, electrical, estimating contingency, general contractor mark-up, performance bond, etc.): \$2,618,068
- Permitting (state and local): \$38,200
- Architectural and engineering (includes misc. reimbursement): \$231,500
- Equipment and appliances: \$37,000
- Survey: \$4,500
- Project contingency (6%): \$175,726
- TOTAL: \$3,104,494

***Q: How is the Town proposing to finance the project?***

A: With a 30-year general obligation bond through the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, with an interest rate of 3.523% per year. Projecting interest rates is difficult given national and international uncertainty in the bond market. The Federal Reserve approved the first rate increase in a decade in December, with three “modest” rate increases scheduled for 2017.

***Q: What would the average annual payment be, and what would that cost residential property taxpayers?***

A: Based on a debt service schedule provided by the Bond Bank, the average annual payment is an estimated \$158,418. An earlier version of the analysis, using an interest rate from the Bond Bank and a generalized amortization schedule, had the average annual payment at \$180,975. The “high” payment, using the more accurate schedule from the Bond Bank is \$201,078 and the “low” payment is \$105,307. Principal payments would remain the same each year throughout the 30-year note’s life (\$103,333). Assuming that the grand list grows at its recent annual average (1.1%) for FY18, here is what the impact would be on residential property taxpayers based on the 2.96 cent increase in the municipal portion of the property tax rate required:

*Residential taxpayer “impact”*

Assessed value	<u>\$200,000</u>	<u>\$300,000</u>	<u>\$400,000</u>
Average cost per year	\$59.20	\$88.80	\$118.40
Average cost per month	\$4.93	\$7.40	\$9.87

***Q: Is there any other way property tax revenue can or is projected to increase, other than growth in the grand list?***

A: The Addison Natural Gas Pipeline will generate annual property tax revenue once installed and operational. During discussions on the stipulated agreement and easement deed, the total estimated tax payment to be made by Vermont Gas



was estimated at \$465,000 (January 2016). The majority of that payment pays the school portion of the tax rate (75% of the total rate). The town would see an estimated \$130,000 in municipal taxes (based on the adopted FY17 tax rate). The taxes paid will vary with the tax rate (an increase in the rate for FY18 would increase the revenue received from the pipeline). With an average annual payment of \$158,418, the pipeline revenue could generate nearly 82% of the debt service payment – leaving \$28,418 to be raised in an average year.

*Residential taxpayer “impact” after applying pipeline property tax revenue (to raise remaining \$50,975)*

Assessed value	<u>\$200,000</u>	<u>\$300,000</u>	<u>\$400,000</u>
Average cost per year	\$10	\$15	\$20
Average cost per month	\$0.83	\$1.25	\$1.67

This revenue source carries some uncertainty with it. The pipeline, if no improvements, maintenance, or upgrades were made, would depreciate in value during the course of its lifecycle. Obsolescence (where the pipeline is taken out of service prior to the expiration of its 40 to 50 year expected life) is another variable to consider.

There is also no mechanism to dedicate the revenue – the choice to do so would be supported through continued decision-making in the budgeting and expenditure processes.

***Q: What would grand list growth, beyond the 1.1% per year average used in budgeting, generate?***

A: Using the current (FY17) grand list as a baseline, the list below shows what grand list growth at 1.5%, 2.0%, and 2.5%, would net. Since FY07, grand list growth only met or exceeded the 2.0% threshold once (2.73% in FY08); the next largest annual increase was 1.52% (FY09).

- 1.1% = +\$58,210
- 1.5% = +\$79,378
- 2.0% = +\$105,837
- 2.5% = +\$132,296

***Q: What effect does any inflation in construction costs have on the overall project cost?***

A: Using a 4% annual increase in construction costs is considered safe based on recent data (the period from 2013 through 2015), and is not far from the long-term annual average (3.5%, 1993 through today). Using the 4% inflationary metric, the building becomes \$378,078 more expensive (\$3,487,078) in three years if no other adjustments are made. Using a three year window matches what would likely to be the “quickest” time between identification of a new water source, allocation of water and wastewater capacity, permitting and any appeals, and the beginning of construction in the village core that could generate a level of sustained grand list growth. It is important to note that grand list growth cycles move with the larger economy, so a few years of sustained growth is a good outcome – and not a certain one even with the requisite infrastructure in place.

***Q: Can the safety and liability costs of the current facility be quantified?***

A: Not at this time. Further analysis can provide examples of what fines may be for the items identified in prior voluntary inspections.

***Q: Can the repair and maintenance costs be broken down on the current building to compare with a new one?***

A: Not easily. For decades Town personnel have performed most of the functions that might otherwise be outsourced. While using staff resources in place is preferable, it is not always possible, practicable, nor sustainable. That being said, it is known that the Town spent a total of \$9,731 in FY16 on what could be considered operations and maintenance costs. The costs are pulled from budget lines for repairs and maintenance, supplies, and utilities; there is no way to independently pull the staff hours used to complete the various tasks. The budget for FY17 called for \$13,500 in operations and maintenance costs. At 11,160 square feet, the new building will be more expensive to operate. What that cost is was not part of the earlier scoping study and would need to be commissioned separately at this time (the Town spent the \$9,000 in scoping funds, and likely received additional “free” service along the way).

***Q: Is there a long-term debt service schedule showing all outstanding bonds and the respective terms?***

A: This document is planned, but does not exist as of this writing.

***Q: Have alternative locations been considered?***

A: Not at this time. The Town already owns the land, which is home to the gravel pit.



To: The Hinesburg Selectboard  
 Cc: Michael Anthony, Highway Foreman  
 Renae Marshall  
 From: Trevor M. Lashua, Town Administrator  
 Date: February 23, 2017  
 Re: Additional Highway Garage FAQs

*These additional FAQs are designed to answer and/or clarify questions that have been asked during the course of the past month. The original FAQs are available on the Town's website ([www.hinesburg.org](http://www.hinesburg.org)).*

***Q: The Town of Starksboro built a highway garage recently for a little more than \$1.3 million. Why does the Town of Hinesburg's proposed project cost more?***

A: There are multiple reasons why. The Town's project cost (\$3.1 million) is an "all-in" figure that includes the construction of the building, site work, architectural and engineering services, permitting, equipment, and contingencies for estimating and the project overall.

The table below shows the common components -- sitework, building, and salt/sand shed. The Starksboro project was bid in 2015; the middle column presents a simplified 2017 set of costs using 4% annual construction inflation.

<u>Comparison – Starksboro garage project vs. Hinesburg garage project</u>			
<u>Category</u>	<u>Starksboro (2015)</u>	<u>Starksboro (2017*)</u>	<u>Hinesburg</u>
Sitework	\$259,486	\$280,660	\$711,581
Building	\$885,758	\$958,036	\$1,760,142
Salt/sand shed	\$183,968	\$198,980	\$146,345
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,329,212</b>	<b>\$1,437,676</b>	<b>\$2,618,068</b>

*\*Column adjusts for 4% annual inflation per category*

The sitework is more expensive at the Hinesburg site because it is much more extensive. The work includes stormwater and river corridor elements aimed at improving water quality. As has been mentioned, there is the potential to offset some of the sitework costs with grants.

Hinesburg's proposed garage is also 26% larger than Starksboro's. Taking the 2017 estimated cost per square foot and equalizing the building sizes, Starksboro's building would cost nearly \$1.3 million. Starksboro also chose a pre-engineered, rectangular structure, an option reviewed by the project team early in the planning process. Pre-engineered structures can be more difficult to expand and cannot hold solar equipment on the roof – two things the proposed Hinesburg structure can do.

One other big difference is the inclusion of a 10% estimating contingency in the Hinesburg number as presented. That alone accounts for nearly \$262,000 of the cost shown in the table above.

***Q: Did the project team consider whether or not work can be performed by the Highway Department, and if so, is that factored into the cost?***

A: Yes, having Highway Department personnel perform some of the work has been considered, and will be done where practical. The project budget includes the costs associated with the contractor performing the necessary work. The Town may look to use its personnel to perform sitework tasks, excavate utility trenches, and demolish and remove the existing garage.

***Q: What is the school tax rate doing this year, and is there any way to predict future impacts?***

A: The estimated homestead portion of the school tax rate is projected to decrease nine cents per \$100. The decrease has its roots in the school district merger currently in progress. Act 46 provides a five-year tax rate incentive for districts that merge and are “fully operational” on July 1, 2017. For FY17, the incentive is 0.10 per \$100 of assessed value. The incentives decrease by 0.02 cents annually (0.08 for FY18, 0.06 for FY19, 0.04 for FY20, and 0.02 for FY21) during the five-year incentive window. While the incentives do factor in to the tax rate eventually set, so do a variety of other factors that are less easily forecast.

*Q: The materials and hearings to date have talked about operational challenges – can the Town discuss what the department’s mission is and what those challenges are?*

A: Highway Foreman Mike Anthony compiled a document that provides more detailed operational information that is attached to these FAQs.

## Hinesburg Highway Department

The Hinesburg Highway Department consists of 4 full-time and 2 part-time seasonal employees. The department maintains 54 miles of roads, 32 miles of gravel road and 22 miles of paved road. It operates out of the town owned 36 acre gravel pit on Beecher Hill road. It is currently housed in a 1500 square foot garage that was built in the late 60's early 70's. In 1985 a 1500 sq. ft. Addition was added on and in 1991 an office and break room were added. In the mid-90s a 1000 sq. ft cold storage shed was built then added onto in the late 90's and a salt shed only able to store 80 tons of salt at a time using 800 tons a season

The department's trucks and equipment consist of the following:

- 2010 single axle dump truck with plow and wing
- 2013 single axle 4x4 dump truck with plow and wing
- 2015 tandem dump truck with plow and wing
- 2014 tandem axle dump truck with plow and wing
- 2009 Ford F-350 pick-up with plow and sander
- 2006 Volvo bucket loader
- 2008 John Deere grader with wing and roller
- 2012 John Deere excavator
- 1985 Ford tanker
- 2000 Case-Intl tractor and roadside mower /York rake and broom

The department also has a wood chipper, air compressor, trailered pressure washer, 3 equipment trailers plus numerous other tools and equipment.

The highway crew performs a wide variety of tasks: truck drivers, equipment operators, laborers, mechanics, licensed flaggers, etc. They are responsible for all road related maintenance, grading, hauling gravel, dust control, brush and tree cutting, ditching, seeding, mulching, hydro seeding, rip-rapping, culvert replacement, rebuilding roads, installing under drains, roadside mowing, sweeping intersections, washing bridges, installing signs, snow plowing, salting, sanding, paving, pot hole patching, cross walk and intersection stripping, responding to flooding, assisting other town departments, Vermont state inspections on all town owned vehicles, and responding to town emergencies, repair and maintenance of trucks and equipment ranging from flat tires to oil and filter changes, hydraulic hose and leaks and repairs, and many other repairs to Trucks and Equipment

The department has out grown the current facility for the town's current and future needs. Although in the past 5 years the town has only added 2 miles of road in the village, the demand for maintenance has increased. A new facility would give the Highway Department the ability to respond more efficiently and quickly to the needs of Hinesburg. The current facility is so cramped for space we spend almost a third of our time moving trucks and equipment around to do our job. Repairs being made to trucks and equipment have to be done in a manner to allow the repairs to be completed that day or strategically placed to allow the return of the other equipment. An

appropriately sized building would give a much needed safer environment for our employees to perform their duties. Currently employees are climbing over trucks and equipment to access them and to use some of the facilities. The proposed structure would give an adequate space for employees to have a break at times after working very long hours during snow storms and emergency events. With the addition of the Sand/Salt shed we will be able to store our winter supply of salt. Winter sand will be covered and less likely to freeze. Currently winter sand is screened from the Town Gravel Pit and stock piled outside, during the winter months we try to remove as much snow from the pile as possible then every loader bucket full is rescreened before being loaded to the trucks to eliminate the frozen chunks. This is very time consuming especially during the bad weather when time is of the essence. Remember the road is not safe in front of us it is safe behind us.

The larger facility would give the department the ability to perform more maintenance on more Town owned vehicles, Police cruisers, Fire/EMS vehicles, Water and Waste Water and Sidewalk Equipment saving the Town many dollars of outside work, down time and travel. It will also allow us to continue doing Vermont vehicle inspections.

The new facility will be moved back in the pit allowing room for storm water collection and filtration, reducing the negative affect the current facility is having on Beecher Brook. This would also allow CSWD to continue to operate on a different foot print but still here at the Gravel Pit.



*Looking for a way to become more invested in your community? ...  
Volunteer to be on one of the various Town of Hinesburg Boards,  
Committees, or Commissions!*

The following seats are currently open:

**Affordable Housing Committee:** (3) 3-year term

**Agency Request Review Committee:** (4) 3-year term

**Chittenden County Transportation Authority Alternate:** (1) 3-year term

**Conservation Commission:** (5) 4-year term

**Energy Committee:** (2) 3-year term

**Planning Commission:** (1) 4-year term

**Village Steering Committee:** (4) 2-year term

Applications are available on the Town website or can be picked up in the Town Administrator's office. To access the application form and further information about each of these groups, please see the following link: <http://hinesburg.org/vacancies.html>

Any questions, please contact Renae Marshall at 482-2281 ext. 222 or by e-mail at [rmarshall@hinesburg.org](mailto:rmarshall@hinesburg.org).

## Town of Hinesburg Contact Information:

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