



Town of Brookfield, NH Newsletter

Volume 1, Number 29

November 2012

Selectmen's News

The new tax rates are as follows:

Town of Brookfield	\$4.42	Last year:	\$3.89
Carroll County	1.04	Last year	0.99
School District-local	9.30	Last year	8.38
School District-state	<u>2.38</u>	Last year	<u>2.47</u>
Total rate:	17.14	Last year	15.73

Tax Collector: It's fall again and a busy time for your town officials. The Selectmen are working with DRA to set our tax rate for the coming bills. The bill you will be receiving is the second bill for the 2012 billing year. The first bill due July 1 was one half of the prior year's total and this amount will be deducted from your second bill's total. Make sure you check these amounts for accuracy. We hope the bill does not increase too much, our Selectmen try to keep the town portion of the bill as low as possible but have no control over the school and county portion.

In my last "notes" I told you that I was losing Jennifer as my Deputy. I advertised for a replacement and received four resumes for the Tax Collectors position. All were very good and the decision was hard to make as I was sure each would be great at the job. I chose Rose Zacher to be my Deputy because she is so accomplished in so many respects, especially on computers; the use as well as the programming aspect. You can see this if you visit our town web site. The Zacher's have owned property in Brookfield for many years and have retired here and become very active in town and community activities. Richard is our newest Selectman and is doing a great job. I feel Rose is also a wonderful asset to the Town.

I would like to remind property owners that there are ten unredeemed properties for the 2010 levy year. These properties are due for deeding after April 11, 2013. There are also fourteen owners for the 2011 levy year that will be deeded after April 14, 2014. Please think about making payments on those unpaid bills if possible to reduce the total due prior to deeding time. Remember, the Town must pay its bills in a timely manner to avoid being charged interest or having services discontinued. We all must do our part. I will have office hours every Friday in Dec.

Town Moderator: As I write this, the national election is upcoming, of course by the time you read it the results should be known to all.

My thanks go out to Asst Moderator Bob Russo; our Supervisors of the Checklist Adeline Russo, Cheryl Perry, and Carol Leary; our Ballot Clerks Frank Frazier, Rose Zacher, Doug Vanderpool, and Susan Brown; as well as to everyone who helped count the ballots. With the new voter ID law and its challenge in court in the midst of a busy election season, we all had our hands full. Going forward, the next election will be the Town Election and Town Meeting on March 12, 2013.

Assessor Clerk: Please stop by the office to acquire and review your most recent property assessment card. It is important to make sure all the correct property information is reflected on this card as this is where your taxes are derived from. The public computer is setup in the town hall to access your assessment card. A copy of your tax card is free for all residents and \$1 for all non-residents. Copies of maps are \$3.00 for non-residents. There is helpful information on our website regarding abatements, exemptions and current use on the Assessing Page.

Heritage Commission: What should be done with the Churchill School House? Do we keep it attached to the Town House? Do we move it so it is freestanding? Do we keep it as a "museum"? Do we use it for overflow for office space? These and other burning questions are what the Heritage Commission and the Selectmen would like the town residents to think over in the coming months. We know that the School House needs work – but before we plan what work we should do we need to hear from the residents in town to know how they would like it used. We plan on having a questionnaire for voters to answer a few simple questions on Election Day – please return it to let us know what you want. We will then be holding a charrette sometime in November with the Town Moderator acting as a facilitator to help us find out what the majority of citizens would like to see done with the building. Please come and participate.

The Heritage Commission will be hosting a pot-luck dinner on Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012, at the Town House. Please bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share. We will provide beverages, plates and silverware. Time and more details will be on posters around town and in the newspaper.

Thank you to all that attended our 4th Annual Old Home Day activities and dinner in August. We fed over 100 people a delicious Memphis-style-BBQ prepared by Rick Surette and DJ of Seabrisket fame. We did find a small "charm" cleaning up – if it is yours, please contact Marilou MacLean at 522-5338 and we will get it back to you.

Conservation Commission: Brookfield is fortunate to have large forested areas. Trees prevent erosion, reduce air pollution, and give cover to wildlife. Their beauty is perhaps one reason you chose to live here. Maintaining the health of our forests is important. Should you have questions about your trees or want to know how to identify invasive insects (such as the Emerald Ash Borer or Asian Longhorned Beetle), try www.nhbugs.org. This is a new website developed by the UNH Cooperative Extension which has information ranging from pruning techniques to scheduling free visits by the County Forester.

Owners of large parcels may want to visit the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) at <http://www.nh.nrcs.usda.gov/index.html>. As part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, this agency can provide financial assistance for landowners to obtain a Forest Management Plan. The FMP is prepared by a forestry expert to help identify the best way to reach your goal for your forest land, whether it is commercial harvesting or management of the woodland for wildlife and recreation.

And as always, if you should decide to protect your land through a conservation easement (and gain a tax deduction in the process), don't hesitate to contact any member of Brookfield's Conservation Commission. Residents wishing to learn more or join the commission are welcome to attend meetings held at 6 P.M. on the first Wednesday of every month.

Brookfield Cemetery Trustees: New Town Cemetery In early summer, 2012, the Board of Selectmen appointed a committee, with Selectman Richard Zacher as the Chair. The other members are the current Cemetery Commission and Tom Hill, care-taker of the town cemetery and of the burial grounds with trust endowment. The committee has proposed a timetable to move this project along, and hopes to report to the Board of Selectmen and the Town around the time of Town Meeting with a specific plan and timetable for acquisition and installation.

The committee is looking to acquire two acres of usable land for the new cemetery. By RSA, the land must have a minimal distance of 50 feet from wetlands. Brookfield landowners who would consider a donation of acreage or a discounted price to facilitate this project, please step to the front of the line by January 1 by contacting Selectman Rich Zacher or Commission Chair Marilyn Bushman. The committee is also identifying what it considers desirable sites for possible purchase. Consideration by all landowners is appreciated on behalf of the residents of the Town.

Trustees of the Trust Funds: Aluminum Can Collection. For many years, Mr. Roland Delisle has maintained an aluminum can collection bin behind the Town Office. He sold the aluminum, donating half the proceeds to the Brookfield Scholastic Recognition Award. After donating many hundreds of dollars to the Award, he has recently announced his retirement. If you would like to continue this worthwhile practice, please contact Tom Giguere at 522-9245.

Parks and Recreation Committee: Jessica Robischeau, Chaiman. We are asking for bids on playground equipment. We have a long road ahead of us in developing the playground but with your help and support, we hope to see the beginning stages of a playground next year. We are looking for volunteers, donations, and/or ideas to make this possible. Please e-mail Jessica at assessor.clerk@brookfieldnh.org.

Brookfield/Wakefield Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open every Wednesday 10-1 and 5-7 PM. Delivery is available for those who need it. The Pantry needs your support to keep the shelves stocked. Donations of current canned and unopened dry goods are gratefully accepted and can be brought to the Pantry on Tuesdays from 8-10 AM. Please contact Martina Cyr at 522-9250.

The Food Pantry is moving. The hope is to be in before Thanksgiving and the new address is 1500 Wakefield Road (Rte. 153) between the ball fields and the NH DOT garages, in the same vicinity as the Wakefield Town Garages. If anyone has any questions they should contact Janet Miller (Food Pantry President) at 522-5058.

Coast Bus: Residents may make reservations up to two weeks in advance. The North Bus fare is \$5.00 round-trip or \$2.50 each way. Please call 1-855-736-4287 to sign up or visit www.coastbus.org/northbus.html for details and a complete list of destinations. For other transportation options, visit the Alliance for Community Transportation's website at www.SoutheastNHRides.org.

Spring Hunting Season Dates 2013:

There is no closed season for coyote or woodchuck.

Fisher: Ends January 31

Red and Gray Fox, Opossum, Skunk, Weasel, Raccoon and Snowshoe Hare: Ends March 31

Youth Turkey Hunt: April 27 - 28

Wild Turkey: May 3 - May 31

Wear blaze orange for visibility in woods. For updates on hunting season dates, check the State website at www.wildlife.state.nh.us

Reminders

Emergency care files update: Residents are responsible to advise the county sheriff's office (539-2284) and Wakefield Fire Department of any special circumstances that those responding would need to be aware of. Call the Wakefield Fire Department's non-emergency number (522-3232) to list anyone who is on a life support ventilator, uses an oxygen system or any other type of life support system that runs on electricity, is bedridden and would need to be moved in the event of power failure, or lives alone and may need to be checked on in the event of power failure.

Severe Emergencies: In case of extended power outages or other emergencies, the Town House will be open to provide water, cooking facilities, and shelter to residents in need.

Dog licenses must be renewed by April 30 or a civil forfeiture fine of \$25.00 will be incurred in addition to a late fee of one dollar a month. Renewal forms will be available starting January 1st. Rabies shots must be current. Bring a rabies certificate from your veterinarian as proof. See the Town Clerk for new licenses.

You are reminded that injury or destruction of any cemetery or burial ground including monuments, tombs, fences, gates, and other structures is a felony. RSA 635.6

Intent to Cut and Intent to Excavate forms must be signed by the selectmen and filed with the Code Enforcement Officer before work begins. Get applications from Ed Nason, our Code Enforcement Officer.

Town Driveway Permits are mandatory when putting in a driveway accessing a town road. Apply to the Code Enforcement Officer. State permits are required for accessing state roads.

Protect our town from forest fire! Get permits from our fire warden, Brad Williamson, 522-6018, for all open burning you plan.

"Good Morning, Seniors" Seniors or shut-ins who want to take part may call the Wakefield Police Department daily to let them know they are all right. Call Earleen DiPrizio at 522-3232.

ABBREVIATED BROOKFIELD CALENDAR JANUARY – JUNE 2013

Selectmen Meetings: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays 6:30 PM

Selectmen Hours: 1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Administrative Assistant: 1st, 3rd and 5th Fri 8:30 AM-12:30 PM

Assessor Clerk: Wednesdays 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Town Clerk: Mondays 12:00 PM – 7:00 PM; Tuesdays 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Tax Collector: 2nd and 4th Fridays 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Building/ Code Enforcement: Thursdays 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Agricultural Commission: 1st Tuesdays 7:30 PM

Conservation Commission: 1st Wednesdays 6:00 PM

Heritage Commission: 2nd Wednesdays 7:00 PM

Trustees of Trust Funds: 2nd Thursdays Jan, Apr, July, Oct. 6:30 PM

Planning Board: 2nd Mondays 6:30 PM

Senior Meals: St. Anthony's Church, Wakefield: Fridays 12 Noon; Greater Wakefield Resource Center, Union: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, 12 Noon

Brookfield Bloomers: 3rd Wednesdays. 6:30 PM

Wakefield-Brookfield Historical Society, Little Red Schoolhouse, 2nd Tuesdays 7 PM

Brookfield/Wakefield Food Pantry: 138 Meadow St Sanbornville. Open every Wednesday year round from 10-1 and 5-7 PM

School Board: Meetings are held on Mondays. Call 569-1658 or check www.govwentworth.k12.nh.us

Last day of school: June 18th, 2013

Kingswood HS graduation: June 15th, 2013

No school: Dec 24, 2012-Jan 1, 2013, Jan 21, Feb 25-Mar 1, April 22-26, May 27, 2013

ABBREVIATED BROOKFIELD DIRECTORY

Town Offices: 522.3688

Town Fax: 522.6245

EMERGENCIES: Call 911 for Fire, Police, and Ambulance

Website: www.brookfieldnh.org

Selectmen: Clifton Camp, **Chair** 244.0258 email: selectmen@brookfieldnh.org

William Nelson, Vice Chair 522.5279 email: nelsonfam@myfairpoint.net

Rich Zacher, 522.6651 email: rpzacher@gmail.com

Assessing Clerk, Administrative Assistant to the Selectmen: Jessica Robischeau 522-5122

email: assessor.clerk@brookfieldnh.org

Code Enforcement Officer: Ed Nason 520.3686 email: code.enforcement@brookfieldnh.org

Tax Collector: Diana Peckham 522.3688 or 522.6551 email: tax.collector@brookfieldnh.org

Town Clerk: Virginia McGinley 522.3231 email: brookfieldnhct@hotmail.com

Town Treasurer: Marilou MacLean 522.5338 email: uwmarilou@hotmail.com

Agricultural Commission: Rick Surette, **Chair** 918.6962 email: rick@seabrisket.com

Conservation Commission: Tom Giguere, **Chair** 522.9245 email: conservation.commission@brookfieldnh.org

Heritage Commission: Marilou MacLean, **Chair** 522.5338 email: uwmailou@hotmail.com

Parks and Rec Committee Jessica Robischeau, **Chair** 522-5122 email: assessor.clerk@brookfieldnh.org

Planning Board: Geary Ciccarone, **Chair** 522.8835 email: sunydogg@yahoo.com

Supervisor of Checklist: Adeline Russo, **Chair** 522.3458 email: supervisor.checklist@brookfieldnh.org

Trustee of the Trust Funds: Tom Giguere, **Chair** 522.9245 email: trustee.trust.fund@brookfieldnh.org

Zoning Board of Adjustment: Paul Tremblay, **Chair** 345.1164 email: zoning.board@brookfieldnh.org

Animal Control Officer: Wakefield Police Dept., Fred Guldbrandson 522.3232

Brookfield Archivist: Craig Evans, 522-5069 email: selectcraig@roadrunner.com

Brookfield Bloomers: Ann Prunier 539.5117 email: aprunier@aol.com

Cemetery Trustees: Marilyn Bushman 522.5099 email: brookfieldnh@hotmail.com

Emergency Management Director: Brad Williamson 522.6018 email: janbrad@roadrunner.com

Food Pantry: Martina Cyr 522.9250 email: martinadesigns@yahoo.com

Fire Warden: Brad Williamson 522.6018 email: janbrad@roadrunner.com

Moderator: Dr. William Marsh, 569.6382 email: wmarshmd@gmail.com

NH Fish and Game Region 2 (Lakes Region): 744.5740 email: reg2@wildlife.nh.gov

Road Agent: Ed Nason 520.3686 email: code.enforcement@brookfieldnh.org

School Board Representative: Dr. James B. Manning 522.9900 email: jbmanningdds@myfairpoint.net

State Police Communications: (24 hrs) 1.800.832.2100

VNA: Hospice: 569.2729 General Inquires, email: intake@vnahospice.net

Wakefield Transfer Station: Open to permit holders: Friday through Monday, 8:00AM - 3:00PM

Welfare Officer: Lynn Watts 473.8939 email: watts.lynn@yahoo.com