



Town of Brookfield, NH

Newsletter

Volume 1, Number 32

May 2014

News from Town Officials:

Selectmen's News: Well folks, we have a lot going on in town this year. Let's start with the paving project. The town owned portion of Lyford road is being reconditioned and paved this year. The work will be between Clark Road and the top on the Hill on Lyford Road. The dirt portion of Lyford will not be addressed by this project. This work was started in early May.

Work continues with the School House/Town House. A new heating system for the Town House has been installed. The structural and internal framing work in the School House has been completed. New windows should be going in as you read this article. The plumbing for the new handicap accessible bathroom and Town House kitchen will be starting next. This will quickly be followed by the new electrical work, insulation, and sheet rock for the school house.

We have accepted proposals and work is being scheduled for the painting/staining of three of our buildings. The exterior of our town office building will be power washed and the trim painted. The town maintenance building, which received new interior lights and metal roof last year, will be painted and the town salt shed is scheduled to be power washed and stained.

The selectmen have decided to move up the town wide property valuation that was scheduled for next year into the current year. NH Department of Revenue Administration and our assessing company have informed us that current property assessments are out of balance. The board felt the best way to fairly address this is to do the reevaluation a year early.

For your convenience, the Town Clerk's office is now open on the last Saturday of each month from 9 AM-12 PM.

And finally, we are planning to create a local business directory on our town website. If you are a Brookfield resident and own a local business, or if you own a business in Brookfield, and you would like your business listed in the directory, please go to our website at www.brookfieldnh.org and click on the link "**Business Directory Questionnaire**". This link will bring you to the required questionnaire. Please fill this out and mail or email it to the Town Office, ATTN: Business Directory. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Robischeau at assessor.clerk@brookfieldnh.org or Rose Zacher at web.admin@brookfieldnh.org

Tax Collector Notes: Is it just me or does time seem to fly by? It seems as though we just sent out tax bills and now it's tax time again. This winter has been one to test us all. Summer will be very welcome and lets hope it is long and sunny with few bugs!

This past tax year has been uneventful with no properties deeded to the town and a smaller than usual number going to lien. As usual the selectmen are doing a great job keeping our tax rate down and still providing the services we all need.

Rose and I attended the Tax Collectors spring workshop in Concord a few weeks ago. It's always good to interact with other collectors throughout the State to see how we compare and to exchange ideas. This year we learned that the DRA plans to update a lot of the forms we use so we plan to attend a workshop with our program providers to make sure they are on the same page and will be able to provide us with the system we need to do our job.

I am getting more owners paying throughout the year all the time. If you do not have your taxes included with your mortgage payment it is a good way to be less stressed when the bills come. My office hours will be every Friday and as usual I will be here by appointment if you call and let me know when you would like to meet with me. My home phone number is 603-522-6551 and it is not an inconvenience to me for you to call my home and leave a message so I can get back to you.

Town Moderator: This year we had a most interesting March election. Turnout reverted to the low numbers we often see in March, but voters found out that every vote counts when the Selectman's race was tied. State law does provide for this, and per RSA 669:36 our Town Clerk held a drawing to decide the election. I understand Virginia appeared on the WMUR news the following Sunday. Going forward, I hope we see better voter turnout, because your votes really do count. Also, I hope the Selectmen and the Town will consider dividing the Town Meeting per RSA 39:2-a. The recount that was held demonstrated the difficulty tired people have accurately counting votes in the short time between when the polls close and Town Meeting opens.

I would like to thank all the people who helped count: Rob Collins, Drew Collins, Pam Frazier, Tom Lavender, Ernie Brown, Alfred Cann, Emily Marsh and Gerald Ciccarone. Fortunately Town Meeting ran very smoothly once again, and no one had to stay too late despite the late start.

We have a very professional crew of election workers, and I hope the whole town joins me in appreciating them. Craig Evans is our new Assistant Moderator, and we enjoy having him on our team. Frank Frazier and Susan Brown serve as Inspectors for their parties, and also as Ballot Clerks. Doug Vanderpool continues as our most experienced Ballot Clerk. And of course I appreciate our Town Clerk Virginia McGinley,

and our Supervisors of the Checklist, Carol Leary, Cheryl Perry and Rose Zacher.

Looking forward, we have a State Primary on September 9th and a General Election November 4th. Remember to vote.

Assessor Clerk: This is going to be an exciting year! The Selectmen have decided to move the Town wide valuation from 2015 to 2014. We are in the initial stages of preparation for this large task, with our assessing contractor Avitar Associates.

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.

The tax maps are now available on the Town's website! Look under Departments and click on Assessing. There will be a choice to select the Town of Brookfield Tax Maps. Otherwise, copies of maps are \$3.00 for all non-residents during office hours. There is helpful information regarding abatements, exemptions and current use on the Assessing Page as well as other important information. Feel free to e-mail me, at assessor.clerk@brookfieldnh.org which is checked regularly. Thank you and hope to see you soon!

Board, Committee and Commission News:

Conservation Commission: The Conservation Commission did its annual reorganization at the April meeting. Tom Giguere stepped down as a member and Chairman after many years of service on the committee. Our many thanks go to Tom for all his service. The commission's annual sponsorship of the town cleanup day in April was postponed as it is normally held in conjunction with the Selectman's Breakfast which was also postponed due to the repairs being done at the School House. Watch the town website and message sign for a date when both are rescheduled.

Now that we are finally through with last winters rough weather many people are looking at their property and considering using fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides to improve their property. Please consider natural and/or organic products to help protect our environment. Water and rain runoff in Brookfield can affect not only our area and water wells but many lakes and streams in the state. There are plans to post pictures of animals, flowers and other scenic pictures of Brookfield on our web site on a rotating basis. Anyone with pictures that they think are appropriate should send them to Rose Zacher at web.admin@brookfieldnh.org.

Heritage Commission: The Town needs your help! The repairs on the Churchill Schoolhouse have reached the point where we need to replace the 10

existing windows. The cost is \$350 per window and we have the cost of 2 covered now. We are looking for 8 people or groups in Town to each donate \$350.00 for a whole window or money towards the purchase of one. Can you help? Please contact one of the selectmen or Marilou MacLean at 522-5338 if you would like to donate the cost of all or part of a window. The new windows would be energy efficient double-glazed versions of the current windows.

The Heritage Commission will be holding our 6th Annual Old Home Day on Saturday, August 16, 2014. The Conservation Commission will be leading a hike again and will be sponsoring Town Clean Up Day. That night we will be serving a Memphis Style Bar-B-Q which will be cooked by Rick Surette of Seabrisquet fame, with help from John Shaffer in the kitchen and ending with music from Clearly Related String Band, led by Larry Warren. Come enjoy the day!

Do you want to own a piece of Brookfield town history? During the renovations to the Churchill Schoolhouse project the chimney at the back of the building had to be taken down above the new ceiling. The old bricks will be sold this summer as a fundraiser for the Heritage Commission – watch the town web-site or posters around town to see when and where you can buy a piece of our town history.

Supervisors of the Checklist: After many years of service Adeline Russo has retired from the Supervisors and she has been replaced by a very capable Rose Zacher. This year we have a State Primary on Sept. 9th and the general election on Nov. 4th. We will be having a required meeting on June 3rd from 7:00 - 7:30 pm. Then we will have a meeting on Sept. 2 from 7:00 - 7:30 pm this will be the last day to accept voter registration applications before the primary. Then again on Oct. 25th we will meet at 11:00 - 11:30. This will be the last day to accept voter registration applications before the general election. You can register to vote on the day of the primary and on the day of the general election as well. In the event other meetings need to be held it will be posted on the town bulletin boards.

Town Thanks Its' Volunteers: In a town the size of Brookfield the most important people are the people who volunteer their time and energy to help out with the work that must be done to keep the town running. In every town there are those who step up and do what needs to be done, usually with little recognition. These are the people who are there when the town hall needs to be emptied for town meeting or the cemeteries need mowing or flags put on for Veterans day, all the things that need doing do not get done by themselves. Also the people who volunteer to put their names on the ballot and run for the different boards in town or just step up and join the boards when there is an opening. These people should be thanked by us all and we do thank them.

ABBREVIATED BROOKFIELD CALENDAR JUNE – NOV. 2014

All meetings and office hours will be held at the Town Office Building unless otherwise noted.
Check notice boards to verify. Changes will always be posted.

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

Selectmen Hours: Last Saturday of the month 9:00 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 11:00 PM – 6:00 PM; Tuesdays 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM; Last Sat. 9:00 AM-12:00 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 Mondays 6:30 PM

Conservation Commission: 1st Wednesdays 6:00 PM

Heritage Commission: 2nd Wednesdays 7:00 PM

Planning Board: 3rd Thursdays 6:30 PM

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

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

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

Brookfield/Wakefield Food Pantry: 1500 Wakefield Road (Route 153) 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

Graduation 2014: June 14th

Last day of school 2014: June 18th, 2014

First Day of School 2014-2015: September 2nd, 2014

No school: Oct 13, Nov. 11, Nov. 26-28, 2014

Town of Brookfield Boards, Commissions and Committees

Agricultural Commission

Ed Nason, Chair

Rick Surette

Brian Robischeau, Select. Rep

Cemetery Trustees

Craig Evans, Chair

John Nelson

Judy Lewis

Supervisors of the Checklist

Rose Zacher

Carol Leary

Cheryl Perry

Auditors

Amanda Pierce

John Nelson

Heritage Commission

Marilou MacLean, Chair

Harriet Wilson

Dave Proctor

Patricia Golden

Susan Raban, Alternate

Brian Robischeau, Select. Rep

Trustees of the Trust Funds

Richard Nordin, Chair

Tom Lavender

Peter Holland

Board of Selectmen

Rich Zacher, Chair

Brian Robischeau, Vice-Chair

William Nelson

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Paul Tremblay, Chair

Ernie Brown

David Dansereau

Janet Murfey

Richard Mauser

Bill Nelson, Selectman's Rep

Conservation Commission

Tom Hill, Chair

John Nelson, Vice Chair

Richard Peckham

Jean Jones

Terry Jones

George Yeager, Alternate

Rich Zacher, Selectmen's Rep

Planning Board

Rick Surette, Chair

Rob Collins, Vice-Chair

Geary Ciccarone,

Jim Freeman

Ed Comeau

John Merrigan

George Nick

Richard Peckham, Alternate

David Champy III, Alternate

Rich Zacher, Selectmen's Rep

BROOKFIELD DIRECTORY

Town Offices: 522.3688

Town Fax: 522.6245

EMERGENCIES: Call 911 for Fire, Police, and Ambulance

Website: www.brookfieldnh.org

Selectmen: Rich Zacher, **Chair** 522.6651 email: rpzacher@gmail.com

Brian Robischeau, **Vice-Chair** 522.5122, brian4selectman@hotmail.com

William Nelson 522.5279 email: nelsnfam@myfairpoint.net

Assessor Clerk, Administrative Assistant to the Selectmen: Jessica Robischeau 522-3688

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: brookfieldnhc@hotmail.com

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

Agricultural Commission: Ed Nason, **Chair** 520-3686 email: ednasonbrookfieldnh.org

Cemetery Trustees: Craig Evans, **Chair** 522.5609 email: selectcraig@roadrunner.com

Conservation Commission: Tom Hill, **Chair** 522.6730 email: conservation.commission@brookfieldnh.org

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

Planning Board: Rick Surette, **Chair** 918.6962 email: rick@seabrisket.com

Supervisor of Checklist: Rose Zacher 522.6551 email: supervisor.checklist@brookfieldnh.org

Trustee of the Trust Funds: Richard Nordin, **Chair** 522.0010 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

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

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

Town Thanks Its' Volunteers: Have you ever wondered how this news letter came into being? Well, many years ago, it must be sixteen now, a resident in town felt it would be a good way for us to keep in touch with each other and to inform the people about what was going on in town. She asked for and was granted permission to do a news letter and have it sent out with the tax bills and this is the 32nd one to be published. Her name is Martha Pike and she did this for many years. She passed the job on to Zina Cerrone who did it for a while before becoming too busy with three small children, it may not seem like much work but it sure is! Now and for quite a few years we have been lucky to have Sue Jalbert who does a wonderful job of collecting and organizing the data, getting it printed and ready to send. Thank you Sue. She is one example of how things get done in a small town and there are many more who will be mentioned in future issues.