



### Upcoming Meetings...

- **Trails Committee:** *Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room)*

### Weekly Updates from Departments:

#### **Hinesburg Community Police**

- *Theft* – On Tuesday, January 17, a resident on Gilman Rd. reported that her vehicle had been broken into and property removed. There was no evidence and the report remains open.
- *Theft* – On Sunday, January 22, a village resident reported that several children’s items were missing from underneath a covered porch.
- *Welfare Check* – On Friday, February 3, an officer was notified by a woman from out of state looking for her son who she had not heard from since before Christmas. The officer started with an address in Hinesburg and through a series of contacts, determined that he was possibly employed by a company in Williston. The information was passed onto the woman.

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

- *50 Years of Service* - Congratulations to J Bradley Wainer for 50 years of service with Hinesburg Fire Department.
- *Call Activity (1/02/17-2/03/17)*
  - 1/02 medical
  - 1/03 medical
  - 1/04 medical
  - 1/07 residential fire alarm
  - 1/08 mutual aid to Shelburne
  - 1/08 furnace malfunction
  - 1/09 medical
  - 1/11 medical
  - 1/12 medical
  - 1/13 medical
  - 1/13 reported structure fire on Gilman Rd. - bonfire in the back yard
  - 1/14 medical
  - 1/15 two car motor vehicle crash (MVC) no injuries
  - 1/16 grease fire at Lyman Meadows - out on arrival.
  - 1/17 medical

- 1/17 trailer fire in St George
- 1/20 medical
- 1/21 assist HPD at MVC with traffic
- 1/21 reported brush fire near Postiche Ln. - attended brush pile burning
- 1/21 medical
- 1/23 medical
- 1/23 medical
- 1/23 medical
- 1/24 medical
- 1/25 carbon monoxide/fire alarm on Cattail Lane, faulty detector
- 1/26 light smoke in a barn at Taproot Farm. Unable to locate source.
- 1/26 report of a small fire on side of road at Buck Hill East and Walt's Way - embers extinguished.
- 1/27 medical
- 2/02 medical
- 2/03 medical
- 2/03 commercial fire alarm. accidental
- *Thank you* - Thank you to the owners of the property at 8472 Rte. 116 for allowing the Department to use the building for training. During the past couple of weeks, we have taken advantage of this opportunity to use the house for search and rescue, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) training, and ventilation. On Feb 6, we held our monthly medical training at the house practicing moving and lifting patients. We will be continuing to use the property through the end of February.
- *Training* - Our training this week is our annual CPR recertification.

### **Town Clerk & Treasurer**

- *Early Voting* – Ballots are now available in the Town Clerk's office if you would like to come in to vote.
- *Income Tax Return Booklets* - As most of you know, the State of Vermont no longer sends out Income Tax Return Booklets to individuals, town clerk's offices, libraries or post offices. It now requires you to call or e-mail to request that a booklet be mailed to you. If you would like to request that an Income Tax Return Booklet be mailed to your home address, you can call either of these numbers: (802)-828-2515 or (855)-297-5600 (toll free) or you can send them an e-mail at [tax.formsrequest@vermont.gov](mailto:tax.formsrequest@vermont.gov). Also, be sure to file your Homestead Declaration which you can do online anytime between now and the tax due date of April 18, 2017 at [www.myvtax.vermont.gov](http://www.myvtax.vermont.gov). You can also file it with your income tax return.

### **Recreation Department**

- *Spring/Summer Rec Programs* - Spring and summer programs have been loaded onto [www.hinesburgrec.com](http://www.hinesburgrec.com) and a hard copy of the program guide will be out by the third week of February. All spring sports, after-school programs, summer camps and activities are available for registration and viewing. Please pay close attention to spring sport deadlines.
- *Smuggs Sunday* - Don't miss the next Smuggs Sunday for 3/5! Enjoy \$25/\$20 adult/youth lift tickets, plus rentals and lessons at the same rate. Register at

[www.hinesburgrec.com](http://www.hinesburgrec.com) by noon on Thursday, March 2. If you can't make it that weekend, there's still one more on March 12.

- *Youth Basketball* - The Kindergarten - 2nd graders finished up their youth basketball season on 2/4. The 3/4 boys, 3/4 girls, 5/6 boys and 5/6 girls will all play away games on 2/11 to make room for the Annual Waffle Breakfast and Silent Auction sponsored by the Hinesburg Nursery School.



## **Carpenter-Carse Library**

### CALENDAR

- *Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting* - The next meeting of the Library Trustees will be Wednesday, February 22, 2016 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

- *Bears, Oh My!* - Join us on Saturday, February 18 @ 10:30 a.m. as we welcome Audubon VT for a *Grrreat* hour of activities and investigations. We will waddle into the world of bears; we'll walk like a bear, talk like a bear and even pretend to eat like a bear! If you're feeling furry, this program is for you! Ages 3-7. *Preregistration is required.*

### MULTI-AGE PROGRAMS

- *Friday Afternoon Movie* - Children and adults cozy into the community room for a movie and popcorn on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 p.m. All movies will be rated PG or G and admission is free. Movies will take place on the fourth Friday of every month. Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Call the library to ask what movie will be playing (482-2878).

### ADULT PROGRAMS

- *Rik Palieri Folk Jam* – Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6 p.m. ~ Join us to participate in some musical fun in our community room!
- *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> and 3<sup>rd</sup> -Tuesdays-of-the-month group, Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 7 – 9 p.m. If you can't make this session, the next

one will be on March 7<sup>th</sup>, the first Tuesday of the month. 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>, when we will discuss *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead. \*\*\*Meetings are held in readers’ homes. For more information, including directions please call Shelli @ 482-2269.

#### 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* –
  - Immigration & a Diverse America
  - Black History Month ...Read about it!
  - Valentine’s Day ~Love ~
  - Miss Sara’s Reads
- *Holiday Book Sale* - Thank you for shopping at our holiday book sale. We raised close to \$200.00 to spend on new books! Kudos to Jane Racer, who arranges the sale each year.
- *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 Vintage Featured Books:

- *Listen, brief edition* by Joseph Kerman with Vivian Kerman [Classical Music]
- *Chronicles of Lake Champlain* by Russell P. Bellico
- *Runaway* by Alice Munro
- *Refinishing Old Furniture* by George Wagoner
- *A Short Guide to a Happy Life* by Anna Quindlen
- *The Girl at the Lion D’Or* by Sebastian Faulks

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 in March. See SB Memo with FAQ regarding this project 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/> Please join us for the next Open House on Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. - noon. If you would like to make an appointment to see the current

facility before that date, please contact the Highway Foreman, Mike Anthony, at 482-2635.

## **Planning & Zoning**

- *Zoning Administrator Search Reopened* – The first round of hiring for the vacant Zoning Administrator position was unsuccessful, so we’ve reposted the job, and are again accepting applications. More information on the website at <http://www.hinesburg.org/employment.html>
- *Town Plan Forwarded to Selectboard* - The Planning Commission (PC) forwarded the Town Plan revision proposal to the Selectboard. The proposal can be found on the Town website at <http://www.hinesburg.org/townplan>. The Selectboard will review the plan, may make revisions, and will then hold two public hearings prior to adoption. The final review schedule and public hearing dates will be posted on the website once set. This is a complete rewrite of the plan based on nearly three years of work, including multiple public surveys, a series of four community forums with invited speakers on key topics, countless PC meetings, and a formal public hearing on November 9, 2016. Substantial public feedback was received in association with the public hearing, including a review by staff at the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission. The PC spent the last two months (five meetings) discussing every public comment, and making numerous revisions based on those discussions.
- *DRB Appointments* – Many thanks to Andy Greenberg and Jonathan Slason for stepping up to serve as alternates on the Development Review Board. Both were recently appointed by the Selectboard, bringing our DRB back up to seven regular members and two alternates. We still have a vacancy on the Planning Commission for anyone interested in joining our municipal team to help Hinesburg chart a course for the future. More information on the appointment process on the Town website at <http://www.hinesburg.org/vacancies.html>

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

### **Development Review Board**

- New applications received
  - *Theresa D. Giroux Revocable Trust* - Sketch Plan Review for a 2-lot subdivision and planned unit development (PUD) located at 429 and 431 Richmond Road in the Rural Residential Zoning District. The applicant is proposing to sub-divide an undeveloped 8.38-acre parcel into two parcels. One parcel will be approximately 3.0 acres and will be improved with a 3-unit multi-family residential structure. The second parcel will be approximately 5.48 acres and will be improved with a 4-unit multi-family structure.
- Applications to be heard at the February 21, 2017 DRB Hearing
  - *No applications have been scheduled at this time.*

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

**Selectboard**

- *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 Report is currently at the printers and should be available to be picked up at some point during the week of February 20<sup>th</sup>, if not before. Postcards will be mailed out when the reports are available.
- *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.

<i>“Two-and-Two”</i>	
<u>02/20/17</u>	<u>03/06/17</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Highway Garage replacement Public Hearing (hearings on 2/20, 2/27)</li> <li>▪ Review A&amp;E WW Capacity Study and begin discussion on water and wastewater allocation policies, framework, etc.</li> <li>▪ Discuss/determine review process for Town Plan update.</li> <li>▪ Haystack Crossing 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment; cont’d discussion and possible action.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b><i>Town Meeting 2017</i></b></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*.



To: The Hinesburg Selectboard  
 Cc: Michael Anthony, Highway Foreman  
 Renae Marshall  
 From: Trevor M. Lashua, Town Administrator  
 Date: January 16, 2017  
 Re: Highway Garage FAQs (updated; includes 01/09/17 construction budget revision)

*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 replacement?*

A: With a 30-year general obligation bond through the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank. The Town is using the last interest rate quote received in 2016 (2.924% per year) in its calculations, though 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: The average annual payment is \$180,975; the “high” payment is \$216,019 in year seven and the “low” payment is \$110,493 in year 30. Principal payments would remain the same each year throughout the 30-year note’s life. 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 3.34 cent increase in the municipal portion of the property tax rate required:

*Residential taxpayer “impact”*

Assessed value	\$200,000	\$300,000	\$400,000
Average cost per year	\$67	\$100	\$134
Average cost per month	\$13.40	\$8.33	\$11.17

*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 \$180,975, the pipeline revenue could generate nearly 72% of the debt service payment – leaving just less than \$51,000 to be raised in an average year.

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

Assessed value	\$200,000	\$300,000	\$400,000
Average cost per year	\$17	\$26	\$34
Average cost per month	\$1.42	\$2.17	\$2.83

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 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.





*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:** (3) 3-year term

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

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

**Energy Committee:** (4) 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:

Town Administrator: Trevor Lashua  
(802)482-2281 ext. 221  
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Town Clerk: Missy Ross  
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[mross@hinesburg.org](mailto:mross@hinesburg.org)

Special Projects Coordinator: Renae Marshall  
(802)482-2281 ext. 222  
[rmarshall@hinesburg.org](mailto:rmarshall@hinesburg.org)

Assistant Town Clerk: Cheryl Hubbard  
(802)482-2281 ext. 224  
[chubbard@hinesburg.org](mailto:chubbard@hinesburg.org)

Fire Dept. /First Response: Al Barber, Chief  
Emergencies: 911  
Non-emergency calls: (802)482-2455  
[info@hinesburgfd.org](mailto:info@hinesburgfd.org)

Police Dept.: Frank Koss, Chief  
Emergencies: 911  
Non-emergency calls: (802)482-3397  
[hinesburgpd@gmavt.net](mailto:hinesburgpd@gmavt.net)

Highway Dept.: Michael Anthony  
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