

Town of Hinesburg

Celebrating 250 years

Weekly Update

1762-2012

May 1, 2013



Upcoming Meetings. . .

- **Affordable Housing Committee:** *Wednesday, May 1st at 7:00 p.m. (1st floor conference room)*
- **Town Forest Committee:** *Wednesday, May 1st at 6:30 p.m. (3rd floor conference room)*
- **Selectboard:** *Monday, May 6th at 7:00 p.m. (Main Hall)*
- **Development Review Board:** *Tuesday, May 7th at 7:30 p.m. (1st floor conference room)*
- **Planning Commission:** *Wednesday, May 8th at 7:30 p.m. (1st floor conference room)*

Weekly Updates from Departments:

Hinesburg Community Police

- **Drug Take Back** - Hinesburg residents “donated” 36.8 pounds of expired and unused prescriptions to the Drug Take Back day. These are medicines that will not make it into the water table or in the hands of persons who should not have the drugs. Thank you to everyone who participated.
- **Green Up Day** - A reminder to persons participating in Green Up Day to be careful what and how you pick up items. This is not meant to scare anyone from enjoying the community spirit of the event but to make sure everyone is safe. Hinesburg, as well as other local communities, has had an influx of syringes thrown alongside the road. These are best discarded by picking up in the middle of the plastic barrel and placing in a plastic water or soda bottle with a cap. Clothing and sacks should not be grasped but picked up by the edges and placed in the bag. Anyone that feels uncomfortable picking up an item can call Hinesburg Police and an officer will be sent your location. Please contact the police department with any questions.
- **Suicidal Subject** – On Wednesday, April 24th, Hinesburg Community Police officers responded to Richmond Rd. for an individual that was out of control and threatening to cut himself or take pills. The 22 year old male subject was taken into protective custody and transported to Fletcher Allen.
- **DUI Subject** – On Wednesday, April 24th, an officer responded to Starksboro to assist the Vermont State Police with a motor vehicle accident with people fighting. Hinesburg was first on scene and the 32 year old female driver from Starksboro was subsequently arrested for DUI

- Out of Control Juvenile – On Wednesday, April 24th, officers responded to St. George to assist the Vermont State Police with an out of control juvenile. The fifteen year old male was transported to Fletcher Allen.
- *Gas Leak* – On Thursday, April 25th police and fire responded to Shelburne Falls Rd., across from Jiffy Mart, for a gas line that had ruptured. Shelburne Falls Road was closed until Vermont Gas could fix the leak. A cement mixer entering the construction site ran over the curb stop which was the connection of Jiffy Mart to the gas line. There were no injuries.

Hinesburg Fire & First Response

- *Weekly Reports* - Hinesburg Fire Department and First Response have been reviewing the most effective way to communicate our respective, sometimes combined, activities in the *Weekly Update* and we're going to make some changes: in future, Fire and EMS reporting will be separate to give a clearer picture of activities. EMS calls run about 3:1 over "Fire only" calls and differ greatly with regard to reporting, in that every EMS call is subject to patient confidentiality and can only be described in a general way. However, there is plenty to report on and we will be painting a broader picture of both Fire and EMS in future weekly reports.
- *Hinesburg Fire Department - Week Ending 4/28/13* - With several of our new members finishing Fire Fighter One (FF1), the comprehensive training sponsored (and paid for) by the State, HFD had a typically busy week. FF1 is a required qualification for HFD members, to be attained within the first year of membership. While it requires many months of classes, culminating with a kind of "hell day" at the Vermont Fire Academy, the result is members that are trained in many aspects of fire-fighting, vehicle extrication and Hazmat mitigation. Congratulations are due to Michael Fuller and David Heath for course completion. About two years ago, most members on HFD took the same FF1 certification, so it's true to say HFD members are well trained, and aim to stay that way, as evidenced by several members who attended Addison County Fire School this weekend. In addition, HFD encourages "cross-training": fire members to get basic EMS training at the Emergency First Responder (EMR) level, as several have done and more will be doing. HFD already has cross-trained fire-fighters at both Basic and Advanced EMT levels, as do the Police Dept., providing a deep bench for emergencies!
- *Fire Calls this week: 6* - The week ended with a mutual aid fire call into Starksboro for a motorcycle off the road, followed by a brush fire in St George. With other agencies busy with a brush fire in Monkton, HFD Heavy Rescue and E2 were on scene for a motorcycle down, rider injured. Chief Barber added EMS to the call and HFD/HFR members assisted Bristol Rescue with the victim. Later that day, HFD responded to a brush fire in St George, which was swiftly knocked down before it could get into the woods, which would not be good with this dry and windy weather. A few days before, HFD responded to a ruptured natural gas line across from Jiffy-Mart, which necessitated closing Shelburne Falls Road for a period. Two other calls to permitted burns and another call to an un-permitted burn highlighted our dual firefighting modalities: urban and rural, add in heavy rescue

and you've got a bit of everything, you could say. Reminder for everyone to call Shelburne Dispatch for a burn permit, or for them to say conditions are not safe: 802-985-8051

- *Hinesburg First Response* - HFR is the EMS service within the fire department, and is in the middle of a state-wide transition to personnel licensing based on national standards under the NREMT (National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians) umbrella. This involves a significant amount of "transition" training to meet the new standards, and this training is ongoing thereafter in various categories of mandatory C.E. (continuing education) for bi-yearly re-licensing of EMTs.

The big picture is EMS is in an "upgrade" mode with an ever-increasing emphasis on national standards and "Quality Control/Quality Improvement". In that spirit, last year Chief Barber implemented a regular review process ongoing today. Twice a month, at training meetings, HFR carefully reviews each call to make sure we continue to meet standards and protocol and look for ways to improve response either through training or equipment upgrades. In future Weekly Updates, we will describe our ongoing training activities and changes in the EMS system, as they affect us and our patients.

- *EMS Calls this week: 4* - Kind of a light week for EMS, relatively speaking, a good thing. But we get nervous when the pager doesn't go off for a day or two, keep checking the battery! It's amazing how often, after a "lull", we'll get several calls within a few hours, and sometimes when we're already on a call, or, memorably, on two other calls. In that respect, and helping lighten the load on existing members, we're happy that an experienced EMT-I, Donna Lewis, has joined our Dept. It's true to say we could use more members and recruiting and retention are always a concern.

Our calls this week all resulted in transportation by St Mike's or Richmond Rescue ambulances to the Fletcher Allen Emergency Department, a Level One trauma facility, after appropriate treatment on scene by HFR. Our goal with every call is to have the patient treated and ready for immediate transport to the hospital, mindful of the distance and the value of delivering a patient within the "golden hour", from event to comprehensive treatment in the E.D. This is never more true than with people suffering a cardiac event or a stroke, when minutes count. A few weeks ago, HFR activated the "Stroke Alert Protocol" for a stroke victim in Hinesburg after responding EMTs determined the patient was highly likely to be suffering a stroke. This meant that by the time the patient arrived at the hospital, a full team was already waiting in the ED to begin immediate treatment and consideration of "clot-busting" drugs, brain-saving minutes saved.

- *Equipment Update* - New to the Department: "Doty Belts". These are simple and relatively inexpensive straps with handles attached to facilitate lifting a person, particularly in a confined space. We've used them a couple of times since acquiring them last year and feel they are a good option in some situations.

Highway Department

- *Goodbye Winter* - Winter was finally over for the Highway Department on March 23, 2013. Truck plows and wings have been put away for the summer.

- *Mud Season* - Roads dried quickly this year. All of the gravel roads have been graded a few times after the spring thaw. Some had gravel added to help dry them.
- *Downed Trees* - Downed trees on many of the roads from the winter have been cut and chipped
- *Bridge/Intersection Work* - Bridges have been washed and some of the intersections have been swept. The rest of the intersections will be swept next week. Replaced some of the wood deck in the Leavensworth Road Bridge
- *Tractor* - The tractor has been down with a broken rim.
- *Grader* - New tires for the grader were just put on Tuesday.
- *Equipment Preparations* - Preparing equipment for summer work
- *Culvert Replacement* - Wednesday we will be changing our fist culvert on Burritt road and doing some ditching

Town Clerk's Office

- *Dog Licenses* - Please don't forget that dog licenses were due by April 1st and that you still need to obtain a license! The fee is now \$10.00 which includes the \$2.00 late fee. You should have received a notice in the mail recently showing the expiration date(s) of the rabies certificate(s) we have on file. If yours is expired, please bring an updated rabies certificate with you. If you no longer have your pet, please give us a call at 482-2281 ext. 223 to let us know and we will remove the dog from our list. Thanks!

- *Special Meeting* - There will be a special school district meeting on May 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the Hinesburg Community School gym to discuss and vote on the following Articles:

Article I: Shall the voters of the Hinesburg Town School District adopt its school budget by Australian ballot?

Article II: Shall the Hinesburg Town School District hold its 2014 Annual Meeting on Monday, March 3, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. to transact any business not involving voting by Australian ballot?

Only the registered voters who attend the meeting can vote on these Articles. You can register to vote up until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22nd if you are not already a registered voter in Hinesburg. If Article I passes, beginning in March 2014, the HCS budget will be discussed at the meeting but voted on the following day by Australian ballot. Article II is simply to decide when to hold the HCS meeting. Please feel free to call if you have any questions!

Recreation Department

- *Tee Ball/Farm League* - Finished getting all equipment and hats distributed to coaches for start of Tee Ball and Farm League baseball.
- *April Break Horseback Riding* - program filled and ran April 22nd-26th
- *Dog Obedience* - class that begins on May 2nd still has 3 openings.
- *Little Strikers Soccer* - still has openings.
- *Driver Education* classes - full, but waiting lists have been started.
- *Town Hall Rentals* - Two Town Hall rentals for April 27th & April 28th

- *Bissonette Family Recreation Area Brochure* – discussed the Bissonette Family Recreation Area Brochure Recreation Commission and made a game plan to continue distribution.

Carpenter-Carse Library

Events:

- On the afternoon of April 16th the library was humming with activity, as families attended the reception for the Hinesburg Community School Art Show held @ Carpenter-Carse. More than 100 people enjoyed the colorful art that filled the library's Community Room and other display areas. Families were greeted by art teachers, Katie O'Brien and Ande Tagliamonte, who welcomed all and served refreshments. Library staff lent a hand as needed. The students' art pieces are on display at the library through mid-May; come and enjoy the cheery colors and designs!
- Wednesday, May 1st the VNA will offer a program at the library with a thoughtful discussion of end-of-life care. Explore your options or your family's; you will be introduced to helpful resources to help you "Start the Conversation." You will learn to talk to your family & physician about your wishes. The program begins at 6:30 p.m. at the library. Contact the VNA at 860-4419.
- Heather Purinton of Friends of Families has invited babies born in the past 1 ½ years to the Town Hall on Sunday, May 5th to celebrate our youngest Hinesburg residents at the annual "Baby Brunch and Book Dedication." Babies and their families are welcomed into the community with delicious food and a library book dedicated to each child. Youth Services Librarian Janet Soutiere will share this happy occasion and bring along the new books. It is a tradition for Carpenter-Carse to take part in this celebration. The event is sponsored by Building Bright Futures & HCRC's Friends of Families. Further information is on Front Porch Forum.
- Next Tuesday, May 7th, Janet Soutiere will offer two story times at the library. The Toddler Story Time for children 0-3 will begin at 9:30 a.m. The Preschool Story Hour for ages 3-5 will start at 11:00 a.m. Come join in the fun.

Other News:

- The library's natural gas service was interrupted on Thursday, when a pipeline at the nearby construction site on Shelburne Falls Road was broken. Gas was turned back on Friday morning.
- Routine maintenance was done this week (Vermont Mechanical) on the library's air conditioning system. We are ready for the warm weather with new filters in place!
- On Friday, April 19th, Carpenter-Carse's Assistant Director Richard Pritsky hosted the quarterly meeting of VOKAL (Vermont Organization of Koha Automated Libraries) at the library. The meeting was attended by 28 enthusiastic librarians.
- Visit the library to look at the new reference book : *The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in Vermont* by Rosalind B. Renfrew, a gift from The Vermont Center for Ecostudies and UPNE. ☺
- *Keep up-to-date on the current events happening at the library—*
http://www.carpentercarse.org/ccl_programs.html.

Planning & Zoning

- *Planning Commission Meeting* – Staff attended the April 24 Planning Commission meeting to help facilitate discussion on several items. Peter Erb was nominated for another 3-year term as Zoning Administrator. The PC makes nominations for this position for Selectboard consideration. The SB decides who to appoint. The PC discussed whether or not to participate in the Hannaford supermarket Act 250 review (state-level development review process). After much discussion, the PC decided to participate by submitting testimony regarding the project's inconsistency with the future community facilities shown for the property on the Hinesburg Official Map. The PC plans to submit the same testimony it did to the Hinesburg DRB with an additional cover letter to link this previous testimony to the Act 250 review criteria. The PC also discussed shoreline zoning revisions, and what to focus on with a planned community survey on this topic.
- *Public Trail Maps* – Staff completed several weeks of work with Lenore Budd of the Trails Committee to update and create trail maps for Geprags Park, Hinesburg Town Forest (Hayden Hill Rd), Russell Family Trails (and surrounding trails), LaPlatte Headwaters Town Forest. These four new trail maps should be up on the Town website shortly.
- *Public Safety Facility Site Planning* – Staff participated in a team/project meeting on April 26 to discuss site planning for the public safety facility project, including the future master plan for the surrounding area – e.g., fire station, town green.
- *Hannaford Act 250 Review* – Staff developed a memo to help the Selectboard understand and comment on several portions of the Hannaford Act 250 review. Selectboard to discuss this at their May 6 meeting.
- *Zoning Permit Numbers* – With spring weather, comes construction and new building. Zoning permit requests are coming in steadily, in keeping with past numbers, but ahead of the rather slow year we had in 2012.

Town Administrator

- *Public Safety Facility* – Application to the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank (VMBB) was submitted for \$1,055,200; the Public Safety Facility Committee met on April 26th and spent considerable time discussing some interior rearrangement of space to maximize the efficiencies of the building and, more importantly, reviewing storm water engineering, the master plan for the site, and snow removal/winter maintenance issues. The Public Safety Facility Committee will present the final DRB application for approval by the Selectboard on May 20th and an application to the DRB is expected by the end of May. <http://www.hinesburg.org/public-safety-building-project/>
- *Bissonette Family Recreation Area* – An agreement between Buccaneers Youth Football and the Town of Hinesburg is being drafted and is nearly complete which will formalize a joint fundraising effort for the construction of the recreation facility. Furthermore, the DRB's Preliminary Plat Approval decision was finalized and the Town will meet this Friday with its engineer and interested parties to prepare for final DRB approval later this summer. <http://www.hinesburg.org/bissonette-rec-facility-project/>

- *Vermont Gas Update* – The last correspondence with representatives of Vermont Gas suggests that changes to the submitted plans might be anticipated. Phil Pouech and I plan to meet with VGS soon to review any proposed changes and if they will impact Hinesburg. <http://www.hinesburg.org/vt-gas-project/>
- *Rte 116 Paving* – Paving of Rte. 116 will start next week (May 6). Keep up with the latest developments all summer via the Town's webpage. <http://www.hinesburg.org/route116-roadwork/>
- *Potential Fraud Against the Town* – Residents may have read in the Burlington Free Press about a former Town employee charged with fraud by the Town. Some information about this situation is public and some is protected from disclosure under the Open Records law. A great amount of diligence and effort was put into handling the situation appropriately, especially given the heightened level of scrutiny associated with events like this around the state recently. If any member of the public has a question they could contact the Town Administrator directly.
- *Green Up Day* – Green Up Day is Saturday, May 4th. Green Up bags will be available beginning Thursday, April 25th at both the Town Hall (Clerk's Office) and Carpenter-Carse Library. When you pick up your bags, please mark down which road you will be doing on the sign-out sheets. The Town Hall will be open any time after 8:00 a.m. on Green Up Day for folks looking for road assignments or to join in with an existing work group. Bags can be brought to the Town recycling center from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Green Up Day. If you prefer to leave bags securely along the roadside, just note it on the sign-out sheets. Please join us for our annual community lunch/barbeque at noon at the Town Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Phil Pouech at 482-2060 or via email at ppouech@gmavt.net

Weekly Update from Boards, Committees, and Commissions:

Conservation Commission

New Members Needed – The Conservation Commission is in need of filling some vacancies. For information about the Conservation Commission, please visit: <http://www.hinesburg.org/conservationcomm.html>

Development Review Board

Upcoming applications for DRB review:

- Andrea Morgante: (Conditional Use Review for an Accessory Apartment in an Accessory Structure) – The applicant is requesting conditional use review to build an accessory apartment above a detached barn/garage on her property. This property is located at 56 Mechanicsville Road in the Village Zoning District. *This application is scheduled to be reviewed at the May 7th DRB meeting.*
- Dennis Place/Audrey Horton: (Final Plat Review for 2-lot subdivision) – The applicants are requesting final plat review for a 2-lot subdivision on a 47.6 acre parcel located on the north side of Place Road East in the Rural Residential 1

Zoning District. *This application is scheduled to be reviewed at the May 7th DRB meeting.*

- Brian & Penny St. Cyr: (Sketch Plan Review for a 2-lot subdivision) – The applicants are requesting sketch plan approval for a 2-lot subdivision on a 9.8 acre lot on the west side of Route 116 and the north side of Tyler Bridge Road in the Agricultural Zoning District. *This application is scheduled to be reviewed at the May 21st DRB meeting.*

Economic Development Committee

- *Mission Statement Updated* – The mission statement was updated to read as follows: “The Mission of the Hinesburg Economic Development Committee is to enhance social, environmental, and economic capital by promoting healthy, inclusive, and sustainable enterprises.”
- *5-yr Economic Development Plan* – Work commenced on outlining the Town’s 5-yr Economic Development Plan which will be included with the 2016 Town Plan. The committee plans to start drafting the plan after the next meeting.
- *Next Meeting* – Thursday, May 23 at 7:00pm. <http://www.hinesburg.org/hedc/>

Town Forest Committee

- *New Committee Members* - The committee has two new members as of Jan. 1st - Chris Haviland and Mike Potvin.
- *April 3rd Meeting* - At the April 3rd meeting the committee addressed the following issues:
 - 1) Approved the placement of 6 Bat Boxes in the LHTF. This is a project that was proposed by Tom Keller for his Eagle Scout project. Tom will be constructing and placing 6 bat boxes on 3 poles in the LHTF this summer. As most people know, bats in VT have been severely declining due to habitat loss and White Nose Syndrome.
 - 2) The Town Forest Committee was asked by Police Chief Koss and Joe Colangelo at the April 3rd meeting to provide input on posting closing hours for the Hayden Hill West parking area for the HTF. After dark mischief is the chief complaint by neighbors in the area. Also the prohibition of shooting in the HTF except for hunting. There have been several troubling incidents.
 - 3) The committee has been discussing placement of informational kiosks at the trail heads for the Hinesburg Town Forests. Only one bid response was received so bidding has been extended. Kiosks are very expensive to construct and the committee has a very limited budget for this project.
 - 4) As part of the recently approved HTF Plan, the committee has been working on marking the boundaries of the HTF. Maps showing adjacent land owners property have been obtained. This is a current/future project.
 - 5) The town forest committee has placed signs on the section of the Eagle Trail/Old Economou Rd. that was filled, graded and seeded last season stating that the section is CLOSED until further notice for all use. The new

work will need time to dry and settle so we ask that people stay off of it, especially ATV's and Horses which are most damaging. Hikers and Bikers can reroute around this section on the hike/bike trails as indicated on the signs.

Green-Up Day Forecast

Sat May 4



High: 77°

Low: 51°

Sunny

Chance of rain: 0%

Wind: SSE at 7 mph

Forecast for Green-Up Day looks outstanding!!

Town of Hinesburg Contact Information:

Town Administrator: Joe Colangelo
(802)482-2281 ext. 221
jcolangelo@hinesburg.org

Buildings and Facilities: Rocky Martin
(802)482-2281 ext. 229
Pager: (802)482-8200
hinesburgpw@gmavt.net

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

Highway Dept.: Michael Anthony
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Planning & Zoning: Alex Weinhagen, Director
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