## TOWN OF ENFIELD E-NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2020

#### WELCOME MESSAGE

#### Greetings!

Municipal officials and staff in the Town of Enfield are dedicated to promoting a high-functioning and closeknit community that appeals to all our residents and visitors. To this end, we are committed to providing accurate information and quality services to members of our community at all times. In the interest of helping to keep residents informed of important "goings on" in town, we produce a town-wide newsletter that is disseminated by email on a monthly basis to all



individuals who subscribe to the mailing list. Our hope is that the number of recipients on this list will continue to grow over time to ensure that most households receive these important updates.

If you have friends or family who may be interested in receiving the electronic newsletter, please forward a copy of this newsletter to them.

Subscribing to the electronic newsletter is easy and straightforward. You simply have to:

- Go to the below page on the town's website: <u>www.enfield.nh.us/subscribe</u>
- Enter your email address in the "Your Email" field
- Check the box for "Town News & Announcements" Check the "I am not a robot" box and follow the prompts
- Click the "Subscribe me" navigation button at the bottom of the page

Thank you for being a part of our community. We hope you find this and future newsletters both informative and enjoyable. Please don't hesitate to contact Jack Wozmak, Interim Town Manager, at 603-442-5405 or

townmanager@enfield.nh.us, if you have constructive feedback on how the depth and breadth of information provided in the newsletter can be optimized to meet the needs of our residents.

Find us at <u>www.enfield.nh.us</u> and <u>Facebook</u>!



facebook.

#### INTERIM TOWN MANAGER, JACK WOZMAK

Hello Enfield!

My name is Jack Wozmak, and I am pleased to help out the town by being your Interim Town Manager. My goal is to help the Select Board, town employees and the citizens to continue to receive great, responsive service to the community. It is very clear to me that the citizens of Enfield are very fortunate to have such a great team of dedicated employees. While I have only been on the job a week, everyone has been great to work with. I have also enjoyed meeting some folks in the community as I shop around town and eat meals, etc.

I look forward to helping the town work through this management transition by continuing to help things run smoothly until the Board hires the next official to oversee the management of town affairs. My role is to maintain current policies and practices so that there is consistency and compliance with the operating standards you have all come to appreciate and expect.

I have been a public servant for decades in a variety of capacities from County Administrator to Town Moderator to being an EMT in my local fire/EMS department, so I appreciate the diverse interests and opinions within strong communities. It's a great level of energy!

I appreciate the opportunity to help the town and look forward to meeting new friends and helping Enfield. Thank you for this opportunity.

#### TOWN OFFICES TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

With rising public health concerns surrounding increased incidences of

COVID-19, due in part to gatherings during this holiday season, Enfield's Town Offices closed to the public effective November 30. Services will continue to be provided without interruption just as they did following closure of the Town offices this past spring. The opening of the Town Offices will be reviewed following the holiday season.



#### **Enfield Town Manager's Office:**

Jack Wozmak, Interim Town Manager 603-632-5026, ext. 5405 townmanager@enfield.nh.us

Alisa Bonnette, Assistant Town Manager 603-632-5026, ext. 5401 <u>abonnette@enfield.nh.us</u>

• Notary Services

The Enfield Town Offices has suspended Notary Services.

• Municipal Facilities – Events Canceled

We will be reaching out to all groups who will be affected by the following changes:

• Community Building:

Due to the need to protect our citizens from undue exposure to the coronavirus all private functions scheduled at the Enfield Community Building are canceled, effective immediately (November 16, 2020) until further notice. Limited use by local community groups will continue, however the use of the Community Building will be under constant review and use is subject to change at any time. No new reservations or applications are being accepted at this time.

• Public Works Facility & Town Hall Conference Room Use of these spaces will be available for essential Town meetings only. Private groups will not have access to the building until further notice.

• Enfield Punch Cards & Lebanon Punch Cards for trash disposal Payment for Enfield Punch Cards (\$25) and Lebanon Punch Cards (\$15) can be left in the drop box outside the Town Offices. Please include your name and mailing address and punch cards will be put in the mail at the end of the same business day.

Other Town Office Services are by appointment only. Enfield and Lebanon punch cards will be available to you if you have an appointment for other business with the Town.

#### • All Other Services

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the Town Manager's Office at 603-632-5026 or email the individual you wish to contact for assistance with any other Town Office Services.

#### **Assessing Department:**

Julie Huntley, Assessing Administrator 603-632-5026, ext. 5406 603-442-5406 (direct line) jahuntley@enfield.nh.us

#### **Exemptions, Tax Credits, Current Use Applications**

The following have an April 15th filing deadline.

- o Elderly Exemptions
- o Veteran's Tax Credits
- o Tax Deferrals
- o Current Use Applications
- o Exempt Property Applications (Charitable, Religious, Educational)

These items have no filing deadlines.

- o Timber Intents
- o Gravel Intents

Applications can be mailed, e-mailed or left in the drop box outside the Town Offices. Our Assessing Administrator can respond via phone, e-mail or by USPS mail.

#### **Property Information**

Access is available online at https://www.axisgis.com/enfieldnh/

- o Property Record Cards
- o Tax Maps
- o Deeds

Information not available online includes:

- o Septic Designs
- o Building Permit Information
- o Sales Data

The Assessing Administrator can scan and email information to customers. Contact her for records requests or help navigating the online property records. Any in-person meetings will be limited to those that are essential and will be by appointment only.

#### **Finance Department:**

Mary Ann Crandall, Bookkeeper 603-632-5026, ext. 5407 <u>macrandall@enfield.nh.us</u>

All vendors are asked to submit invoices by email to our bookkeeper, or the

specific department they are doing business with, if at all possible to limit handling of mail.

#### Tax Collector's Office:

Wendy Huntley, Tax Collector 603-632-5026, Ext. 5404 whuntley@enfield.nh.us

You can access Property Tax bills, Water & Sewer bills, and more, online. Simply go to <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/home/pages/online-payments</u> Office visits for payments are temporarily suspended. Payments can be made online using ACH (e-check) with a fee of only 95 cents. Payments online made by credit card have an additional fee of 2.95%. (Unfortunately, we are unable to waive that fee.) Payments made by check or money order can be left in the drop box outside the Town Offices. If payment is left in the drop box you must include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you'd like a receipt mailed to you. Receipts can be emailed upon request at no cost.

#### **Town Clerk's Office:**

Sandy Romano, Town Clerk 603-632-5001, Ext. 5403 townclerk@enfield.nh.us

The Town Clerk's Office is closed to in office visits except by appointment and only for those transaction which must be done in person, i.e. new vehicle registrations, marriage licenses. Vehicle registration renewals, dog license renewals and vital records requests can be done online at <a href="https://www.enfield.nh.us/home/pages/online-payments">https://www.enfield.nh.us/home/pages/online-payments</a>, sent by mail, or left in the Town's drop box 24/7. If you have any questions about documentation or payment that is required, please contact the Town Clerk.

## OFFICE OF THE TAX COLLECTOR

## 2020 Property Taxes

2020 property tax payments are due December 11, 2020. Tax bills are available online. Payments can be made by mail or left in the drop box outside the Town Office door. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like to have a receipt mailed to you. Emailed receipts are free – simply provide your email address when requesting an email receipt for your payment. Payments may also be made online as well by using the Enfield Tax Collect Internet Kiosk. Payments made by electronic check online have an additional flat fee of 95 cents. Payments by credit card have an additional fee of 2.95%. You can access the Kiosk by going to Online Payments on the Town's website (<u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/home/pages/online-payments</u>)

## **Paperless Billing**

Utilizing the paperless billing option is strongly encouraged! Some benefits of paperless billings are:

- Environmental no actual paper bill and thus no envelop necessary. No transportation required by any vehicle using gas, diesel or battery and saves wear and tear on our roads!
- No need to remember the due date Three reminders are emailed! First email sent when bills are ready to pay (no need to watch for the postal carrier!), second email sent 10 days prior to the due date and the third email sent the day prior to the due date.
- If paid online, an immediate email receipt of the transaction is sent so no worries about having to remember whether or not you actually made the payment or searching for a paper receipt. Payments made by electronic check online have an additional flat fee of 95 cents. Payments by credit card have an additional fee of 2.95%.
- It's easy to sign up for paperless billing by going to <u>www.enfield.nh.us</u>, online payments, enter your last name under owner and click the search button. Your name should appear on the right side of the screen. Choose you, add an invoice to cart and click on "check out". The very next screen will have a box to toggle stating "Yes, I am the Primary Owner for the parcel(s) I have selected and I want to sign up for Paperless Bill Notification." You will also need to enter your email address here.
- Cost savings Paperless billing also helps to keep Town spending down by reducing printing, postage and production costs associated with mailing out the paper invoices.

Of course even without signing up for paperless billing, you may view and or pay your invoices on line 24/7 at <u>www.enfield.nh.us</u>, by selecting Online Payments. If you would like assistance with any of these steps, please do not hesitate to contact me. My email address is <u>whuntley@enfield.nh.us</u> or to reach me by phone call 603-632-4201 x 5404.

#### HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

### **Town Holiday Tree Lighting**

Due to the pandemic and recent change in Town management, the annual Town holiday tree lighting listed on our 2020 municipal calendar for Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, will not be taking place as scheduled. The Board of Selectmen will be discussing the official tree lighting at their meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will be held via Zoom videoconference beginning at 6:00 PM. You can find Zoom connection information on the Town's website at <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/board-selectmen/events/36813</u>. Please keep an eye out for a future announcement!



44<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's Christmas Party

#### Sunday, December 13, 2020 from 4pm – 6pm Huse Park, 308 US Route 4 in Enfield, NH 03748

Google Maps: <u>https://goo.gl/maps/q8ufrQ3TWdXmKp9H9</u>

In conjunction with the Town of Enfield's Police and Fire Departments, we invite you to our COVID Safe, No Contact, Drive-Through Christmas Event! Santa and all your favorite characters will be on hand to celebrate the holiday season.

#### Children are encouraged to drop off notes/letters for Santa!

Rudolph, the Bumble, the Grinch, Gingee and EOC's very own Snowflake will be handing out goodies to the children. All from the safety and comfort of your vehicle! Santa and his elves will have an extra special gift for each child at the end!

Music will be provided by Enfield's own Jim Hollis as you drive through and visit all your Christmas friends! Friends of Mascoma will be there handing out individual drinks (juice boxes and hot chocolate packets)!

For more information and updates: <u>https://eocnh.com/current-events/</u>



## 2020 Hometown Holidays Decorating Contest







In light of the ongoing pandemic situation, our regular Hometown Holidays Festivities will not occur at the Enfield Community Building in 2020.

#### To celebrate this season in a responsible manner, we are sponsoring a Hometown Holiday Home Decorating Contest.

To register to participate you can access the contest form on EVA's website at www.enfieldmainstreet.org, our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/EnfieldNHEVA, or stop by our office to pick up a form in the outside bin near the doorstep. Once you fill the form out, please mail to:

EVA Holiday Decorating Contest, PO Box 763, Enfield, NH 03748.

#### We will be judging decorations as follows:

Front Door Displays Lawn Displays (could be inflatables) Light Displays Mailbox Displays Window Displays

The contest begins on December 1 and runs through December 15. Judging will be from the 16th through the 20th. We will use your name and address in a list we will create so our judges and residents can view your creative decorations. We hope you will leave your decorations up through the New Year for people to enjoy.

Any questions, please contact EVA at info@ enfieldmainstreet.org.



#### MUNICIPAL FACILITIES EVALUATION PROJECT UPDATES

On September 14, the Municipal Facilities Advisory Committee (MFAC) transmitted its final report and presented its recommendations to the Board of Selectmen regarding the conceptual designs/layouts for a renovated and expanded Whitney Hall and new public safety facility. A copy of both the final report and presentation made to the Board of Selectmen is publicly available on the Town's website: <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/home/pages/municipal-facilities-optimization-study</u>

During the joint meeting of the MFAC and Board of Selection, members of the Board of Selectmen expressed general concurrence with the shortcomings of multiple existing municipal facilities as well as the needed upgrades as identified by the MFAC, but emphasized that the Town's ability to act on the committee's recommendations may be impacted by the fiscal effects of COVID-19. The Board revisited this topic at its September 21 business meeting and ultimately decided to table a final decision on the MFAC's recommendations until after the November General Election. The Board of Selectmen will soon be scheduling special meetings to discuss how to proceed. Separate meetings will be scheduled to discuss Whitney Hall renovations and expansion and a new public safety facility. These meetings, which will be held via Zoom videoconference, will be posted on the Town's website at <u>www.enfield.nh.us</u>. These meetings will be open to the public.

Numerous public forums and other opportunities for public engagement opportunities will be arranged in the coming months pending the outcome of the Board of Selectmen's deliberations on the committee's recommendations.

## **COVID-19 & YOUR TOWN GOVERNMENT**

We continue to provide news, notices and other updates on COVID-19 and your Town government at <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/covid-19-your-town-government</u>. We will continue to add new information from the Governor's Office as well as news and announcements affecting our residents, community and municipal operations.

You can sign up to receive email notices of updated content by going to <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/subscribe</u>, enter your email address and check those items you want notices of. We have three options for COVID-19 information: Urgent Alerts, News & Announcements and Upload File. Upload File will let you know when a new Emergency Order or State update has been uploaded to this page. Be sure to check the 'I am not a robot' checkbox (and follow any prompts you may receive) and click on Subscribe Me.

## **TOWN OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSINGS**

Thursday, December 24 & Friday, December 25 - All Town Offices will be closed for the Christmas holiday.

**Friday, January 1** – All Town Offices will be closed for New Year's Day.

#### **CEMETERY DEPARTMENT**

The Enfield Cemetery Ordinance requires that all cemetery decorations and flowers shall be removed each year. Please note decorations and flowers may be replaced on May 15th. Burials are suspended after November 15th and will resume on April 15th.

Please contact the Cemetery Sexton, Bridget Labrie at 802-332-5363 (cell) or email <u>cemetery@enfield.nh.us</u> to schedule a burial or to purchase a lot. Please keep all decorations in line with the headstones to allow maintenance operations to take place. For additional information about cemetery rules and regulations please visit- https://www.enfield.nh.us/boardcemetery-trustees

A big thank you to our Grounds crew for clearing any remaining decorations and debris and keeping our cemeteries looking great.

#### FIREFIGHTERS & EMERGENCY MEDICAL PERSONNEL RECRUITMENT

If you are interested in helping to protect and care for people in your community, the Town of Enfield's Fire Department and Ambulance Service welcome the opportunity to talk with you. Both departments are "call" departments and participation requirements are flexible in recognition that members will be juggling other professional or personal obligations. Members are compensated on an hourly basis

for

time spent in training, responding to calls, or other related activities. Relevant training and certifications (i.e., Firefighter I or II, EMR, EMT, AEMT, Paramedic, etc.) are highly desired, but formal training can be provided to individuals who are willing to make the commitment.

Crises like the COVID-19 pandemic serve as a sobering reminder of just how critically important first responders are, and we hope that you will seriously consider how you can help.

Interested parties should contact the Fire Chief (603-359-5206 or <u>fcummings@enfield.nh.us</u>) or Ambulance Chief (603-304-9324 or <u>efirefighter32@yahoo.com</u>). We hope to hear from you!

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

#### **Enfield Vegetative Management Facility**

The Enfield Vegetative Management Facility is closed and will reopen May 1, 2020. Clean brush and yard waste can be recycled at the at the Lebanon Landfill during their regular hours or Hammond's Grinding and Recycling just East of Canaan Village on US Route 4 call ahead 603-523-4353.

#### Improper Leaf Disposal

Several residents are raking leaves into town roadway ditches to dispose of them particularly on Maple Street and Crystal Lake Road. This in not permitted and will cause water problems during storm events. The DPW crew has graciously removed the leaves this year but will be addressing this with individual property owners differently next year. Please compost them or use the Enfield Vegetative Management Facility, in season, or the options mentioned above November through April.

#### Toters

The trash and recycling toters are part of the Enfield trash and recycling collection program and must remain with the property upon a property transfer. The Town has had to replace many of these containers that people have taken with them after selling their properties.

#### Winter Ban

The Enfield Board of Selectmen wishes to remind citizens of Enfield that the Winter Parking Ban is in effect from November 1 through April 1. No vehicle shall at any time be parked on any public or publicly maintained street, alley, roadway or way open to the public, in a manner that hinders in any fashion the maintenance of the way.

#### **Driveway Snow Placement**

A reminder that it is unlawful to plow snow across any and all Town roads or to deposit snow within the traveled portion of a Town road pursuant to RSA 236:20, Paragraph VII, and RSA 41:11.

#### 2021 Transfer Station Stickers Available

The 2021 Transfer Station window stickers are available at the Town Office and the Transfer Station. An Enfield vehicle permit sticker must be affixed to the window of your car or truck on the side window behind the front passenger's seat, or with regular cab pick-ups in the lower corner of the rear window behind the passenger. Permit stickers are available, free of charge, at the Enfield Transfer Station & Recycling Center or Enfield Town Offices. Proof of residency or property ownership is required.

Enfield permit stickers also permit you to use the town beach parking lot on Mascoma Lake and access to the driveway sand located at the DPW.

DPW Staff will be enforcing the sticker requirement at the Transfer Station and the citizen sand pile beginning in early January. In the era of the pandemic please plan ahead and obtain your sticker before you need it.

#### **Meter Reading**

Water and sewer meter reading will be done in late December. The Public Works Department will begin installing radio reading devices in place of touch pad beginning in 2021. Customers might be contacted regarding the need to access to the meter inside in order to attached the proper communication wires.

## LAND USE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) has one hearing scheduled for December. They will hear an application for a special exception for the installation of solar panels on the roof of the salt storage shed at the Town's DPW facility on Lockehaven Road. This will allow the Town to purchase renewable electric power at a price discount through what's known as a power purchase agreement (PPA) with the contractor. This hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00 pm. Zoom login information, meeting agendas and previous meeting minutes are all available on the ZBA section of the Town's website at: <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/zoning-board-adjustment</u>

The Planning Board (PB) will meet on Wednesday, December 9th at 7:00 pm. They will be discussing the Master Planning project. Along those lines, the PB has put together a new Master Planning Task Force to help facilitate a completely new Master Plan for the Town. The last update to this important document was done in 1995, so we are long past due to get started. The members of the Task Force are: Bridget Labrie, Daniel D. Affeldt, Ashley Wood, Lindsay A. Smith, Dolores Struckhoff, Brad Rich, Maynard Southard, David Fracht (Planning Board Rep.), Erik Russell (Planning Board Rep.) and Phil Vermeer (Planning Board Rep.). The Planning Board would like to thank all who volunteered to serve on this committee. It was hard to narrow it down to seven members of the general public. For those that were not selected, please don't be discouraged, as there will be lots of opportunities to be involved. As always, Zoom web meeting login information, meeting agendas and previous meeting minutes are all available on the Planning Board section of the Town's website at: <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/planning-board</u>

If you have an idea for your property, feel free to reach out to the Land Use Department of the Town for a discussion. You can contact Rob Taylor, Monday to Friday at 603-442-5427 or by email at: <u>planning@enfield.nh.us</u>. You may also have an in person meeting at 74 Lockehaven Road, however due to COVID19 protocols, you must schedule these ahead of time.

## RECREATION

## **Enfield Recreation**

Information and Registration for Enfield Recreation opportunities can be found at <u>www.mvpr.recdesk.com</u>

Any questions about Enfield Recreation, please contact Ed Winters, Enfield Recreation Director, at <u>recreation@enfield.nh.us</u>

## Chair Yoga & Exercise

The Enfield Recreation Department continues to offer the highly attended Chair 12 Yoga/Exercise classes at the Enfield Community Building. These classes are low impact and focus on stretching, balance, strength and meditation. The classes are only \$5.00 and open to ALL levels!! No RSVP required. 9:30 am - 10:30 am. Facemasks are required.

## DECEMBER

- Wed, Dec 2
- Monday, Dec 7
- Monday, Dec 14
- Monday, Dec 21
- Wed, Dec 23
- Monday, Dec 28
- Wed, Dec 30

## Line Dancing

Have you tried out our Thursday evening line dancing class yet? Grab a friend and join professional dance instructor Jamie Orr on Thursdays from 1:15-2:15pm at the Enfield Community Building. This is a fun and friendly class and they dance to ALL types of music. Facemasks are required.

#### **Mascoma Valley Parks & Recreation**

After several dedicated years of service, our part-time Regional Recreation Coordinator, Kati Jopek, has stepped down. Kati has been incredibly committed to recreation programs in our region and will be missed. Bridget Labrie has been hired as the new Regional Recreation Coordinator.

MYSL basketball is currently working with the Mascoma District's administration to hold the youth basketball program. Please complete the survey if you have a child interested in playing. The program will likely start in January unless there are changes due to COVID. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DVM9FGV?fbclid=IwAR1ZAmTCp05I7XoLk uNgjM2x9pXQmGfaacXCNCeSSSyX\_snwV7gXOSRbMfc

Mascoma Recreation is also working with the school and Whaleback to have the after-school ski program. More details will be coming once they have been formalized.

COMING SOON! The Mascoma and Enfield Recreation departments are looking at creating a survey for our community to see what activities you currently enjoy and what you may want to see in the future. Please be on the lookout for the survey so we can collect as much input as possible.

For any questions about the Mascoma Valley Parks & Recreation please contact Bridget at <u>mvalleyrec@gmail.com</u>.

#### WANT TO TEACH AT THE WHALE?

Do you love skiing and want to get paid for it?

The Whaleback ski school is looking for ski instructors! If you are interested in working in a fun environment, with great people, at a whale of a ski area...and enjoy free skiing and riding as well, then give us a call or email!

**Responsibilities:** 

• Love skiing & the outdoors • Like working with all ages • Have good communication skills • Teach both group & private lessons • Demonstrate safe and proper ski techniques • Adhere to the policies of the Mt. Qualifications: • 16 years or older • The desire to commit to being a trained instructor. We'll provide the training through clinics and mentoring, you provide the enthusiasm to learning the trade. • Applicants must have some prior skiing experience (no previous teaching is ok)

Contact: <a href="mailto:learning@whaleback.com">learning@whaleback.com</a>

### ENFIELD COMMUNITY BUILDING

Due to increased incidences of COVID-19 during this fall season, we are again restricting use of the Enfield Community Building. The building will not be available for private rentals until further notice. Use is limited to local groups and Town sponsored activities only. We will continue to monitor the situation and make changes as deemed appropriate.

A revised scheduling policy and revised Building Rental Rules were approved by the Board of Selectmen on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. You can see the updated policy and rules on our website at <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/administration-townmanager/pages/community-building-rental</u>. Please note, however, that under the current circumstances we are not doing the normal year end scheduling. When the Community Building is open for more regular use we will be sure to post a notice to that effect.

#### 

#### UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS (SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Due to COVID-19, for as long as it is permissible in the State of New Hampshire, Board and Committee meetings will continue to be held via Zoom video conference, with a few exceptions. Meeting notices are included on the calendar on the Town's website at <u>www.enfield.nh.us</u> and specifics on location, including joining the meeting via Zoom, if applicable, will be posted there. Once the need for social distancing has been lifted, meetings will once again be held at a physical location.

- December 1 @ 3:30 PM (via Zoom) Mascoma Lakeside Park
- December 3 @ 7:00 PM (via Zoom) Conservation Commission due to connection difficulties this meeting will be rescheduled
- December 7 @ 6:00 PM (via Zoom) Board of Selectmen
- December 8 @ 7:00 PM (via Zoom) Zoning Board of Adjustment
- December 9 @ 7:00 PM (via Zoom) Planning Board
- December 10 @ 4:30 PM (via Zoom) Heritage Commission
- December 10 @ 7:00 PM (via Zoom) Budget Committee
- December 14 @ 4:30 PM (Town Hall) Trustees of Trust Funds
- December 15 @ 7:00 PM (via Zoom) Budget Committee
- December 21 @ 6:00 PM (via Zoom) Board of Selectmen
- January 4 @ 6:00 PM (via Zoom) Board of Selectmen

- January 5 @ 3:30 PM (via Zoom) Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee
- January 12 @ 7:00 PM (via Zoom) Zoning Board of Adjustment
- January 19 @ 6:00 PM (via Zoom) Board of Selectmen

#### **ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING**

The Town continues to hold board and committee meetings using the Zoom video conferencing app. To join a Zoom meeting simply go to the Town's website at <u>www.enfield.nh.us</u>, find the meeting you want to attend on the calendar on the home page, click on the meeting heading and it will open up with all of the details. Simply click on the Zoom meeting link and it will open a video window. (You may need to download the Zoom app, but it won't take long.) You can also join with audio only by calling one of the numbers provided. Join us at one of our upcoming Zoom meetings listed below. Click the meeting listed below and it will bring you to our website posting where the Zoom information will be posted in advance of the meeting date. When a meeting begins, if you have problems connecting simply call the local number provided for assistance.

#### 

In lieu of the Community Bulletin Board on the Town's website we now use a Community & Business Calendar of Events which you'll find on the Community & Business main page: <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/community-businesses</u>. Previous posts on the Community Bulletin Board that were informational in nature, but not events, can be found under the appropriate department page. For instance, Friends of Mascoma Food Pantry information can be found on the Human Services page under Food Assistance.

Do you have a Community Event to share? Send all of the particulars, and a digital photo or poster to <u>abonnette@enfield.nh.us</u> and we'll post it for you.

#### TOWN MANAGER DEPARTURE MESSAGE

Dear Enfield,

As has been previously reported, I will be stepping down as Enfield's Town Manager at the end of this month to become the Town Manager in Mansfield, Connecticut.

I really can't put into words how much I have enjoyed serving as Enfield's Town Manager. The last several years have been incredibly fulfilling. My family and I have very much come to think of Enfield as "home" in every sense of the word. When we moved to Enfield approximately three-and-a-half years ago we envisioned growing deep roots in the community, and this made the decision to pursue another position enormously difficult. I ultimately accepted the Town Manager position in Mansfield only because it represents a unique opportunity to lead and manage a larger (but still rural) community that features a major institution of higher education (University of Connecticut main campus) in a region that promotes open space protection and responsible economic development.

I cannot describe how honored I am to have been able to serve Enfield as its Town Manager. Enfield is everything I hoped it would be for both me professionally and for my family as a whole. On a personal note, as the father of a kindergartener, I want to take a moment to express tremendous respect and appreciation for EVS Principal Harrison Little, Mrs. Amy Stewart (Kindergarten Teacher), and the other faculty and staff at EVS. The Coronavirus pandemic has been incredibly difficult in so many ways, EVS has been nothing short of amazing in its ability to make lemonade from the proverbial lemons. The folks at EVS are such a caring, competent and compassionate group. Our entire family is going to miss EVS more than words can convey.

When I arrived in July of 2017, the Town was facing many unique challenges and opportunities, and we have significantly improved the Town's financial condition and successfully navigated many other issues to the betterment of the Town in the time since. The Town has many dedicated department heads, employees, elected and appointed officials, and volunteers. While I am very proud of all that has been accomplished during my tenure as Town Manager, the reality is that these successes are a result of the combined efforts of many individuals in Town Hall and beyond. The municipal staff, local officials and residents I have worked with and served over the past several years will always hold a special place in my heart. I hope the residents of Enfield know that they are fortunate to have so many dedicated people working on behalf of the Town.

I want to thank the Board of Selectmen for the faith and confidence they placed in me to help lead Enfield in the right direction. Doing this job effectively routinely required a willingness to make personal/familial sacrifices, but the benefits that going the extra mile conveys to our residents and visitors always made it worthwhile. I believe that the past few years are just the beginning of many great years to come for this special community, and I stand ready to help the next Town Manager and other local officials through the transition in any way that I can.

Very respectfully, Ryan J. Aylesworth

## TOWN OF ENFIELD SUBMITS ADDITIONAL GRANT REQUEST FOR MASCOMA LAKESIDE PARK

The Town of Enfield has submitted an application for grant funding under the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which is administered by the NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, to complete "Phase 2" of the Mascoma Lakeside Park improvements. This work would focus primarily on complete reconstruction and enhancement of the Park's parking lot and a number of other ancillary improvements. The total amount requested was \$125,000. This amount will be matched on a 1:1 basis with privately raised funds for a total project budget of \$250,000. The Town Manager wishes to extend a special thanks to Rob Taylor, Land Use & Community Development Administrator, for his willingness to take the lead on coordinating with Mr. Mirski (architect), appropriate Town departments, and external stakeholders on the preparation of this grant application. The Town's application was aided by letters of support from the Enfield Village Association, Mascoma Lake Association, NH Lakes Association, Executive Councilor Mike Cryans, NH State Representative Roger Dontonville, and the White River Junction VA Medical Center.

#### **NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES (RSA 72:81)**

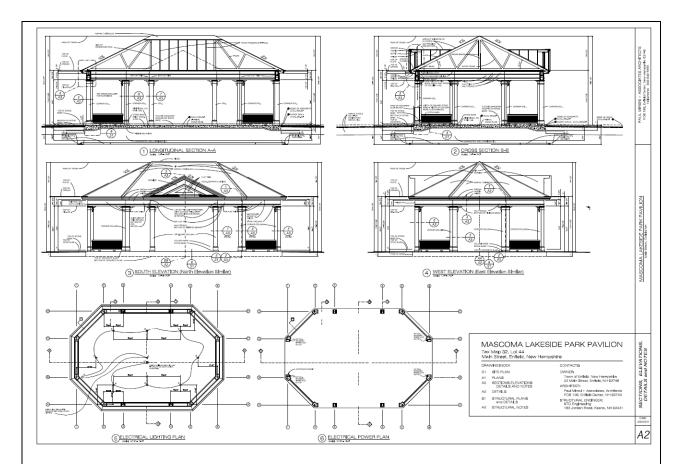
The Town has implemented a new economic development program known as the "Commercial and Industrial Construction Exemption" (RSA 72:81). This is a new construction property tax exemption for commercial and industrial uses (as defined in RSA 72:80). The intent of the exemption is to provide incentives to businesses to build, modernize, or enlarge within the Town. The details are

as follows: the exemption shall apply only to municipal and local school property taxes assessed by the Town. State education and county taxes are excluded from the exemption. The exemption shall be granted for a maximum of fifty percent (50%) of the increase in assessed value attributable to the improvements, and shall remain in effect for a maximum period of ten (10) years. As adopted by Town Meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup>, the exemption shall apply to all properties within the municipality for which a proper application is filed. The percentage rate and duration of the exemption shall be granted on a case by case basis related to the amount and value of public benefit provided, as determined by the Enfield Selectboard. In order to satisfy the "public benefit requirement" of this program, a minimum of one of the following must be provided: a) enhance economic growth and increase the Town's tax base; b) creation of needed services or facilities not currently available in the Town; c) redevelop and revitalize commercial or industrial area; d) prevent or eliminate blight; or, e) retain local jobs, increase local job base, and/or provide diversity in the job base. As approved, this exemption program shall remain in effect for a maximum of five (5) tax years.

#### **MASCOMA LAKESIDE PARK – PAVILION CONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

We are very excited to report that the site work (which will be performed by Steve Patten Excavating) associated with the construction of the open-air pavilion at Mascoma Lakeside Park will begin in the coming days! We ask for everyone's patience and understanding during this time as it will likely be necessary to temporarily close down a portion of the parking lot while heavy equipment is being brought onto the site. Once the site work is completed, construction of the pavilion will begin in earnest. In fact, portions of the pavilion's steel frame have already been assembled off site to help expedite construction once the site work is completed. Upper Valley Building and Remodeling (Sean Lacey, Proprietor) is the general contractor for this construction project. At this time, we anticipate the project will be fully complete and open to the public by late-November 2020.

The Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee wants to extend its most sincere thanks to Paul Mirski, for the professional architecture and design services he volunteered in support of the project.



Although the committee has officially raised the additional \$135,000 in private funds needed to match (dollar for a dollar) a \$135,000 matching grant from the Northern Borders Regional Commission to help fund improvements to the park property (which is a major achievement), private fundraising efforts are still needed to ensure that we have the financing required to complete all the planned improvements.

An online version of the pledge agreement can be accessed here:

http://www.enfield.nh.us/sites/enfieldnh/files/uploads/mlppledgeagreement. pdf

You may enclose a check with your completed pledge agreement, but if you'd rather pay later you may do that. Send in your donation when it's convenient, with the words "Mascoma Lakeside Park" clearly noted in the memo field. Or you can choose to wait, and a member of the Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee will contact you for payment on the date or dates you specify in your pledge. Thank you for your support! This is an incredibly important effort for our community.

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Please don't hesitate to contact the Interim Town Manager at 603-442-5405 or <u>townmanager@enfield.nh.us</u> if you have related questions or interest in lending your support to this important community project.

## HIGH-SPEED/FIBER OPTIC CABLE INTERNET ACCESS

In recent months, an ad hoc committee comprised of local residents with interest and expertise in the telecommunications industry has been formed to identify and advance ways in which access to high-speed internet can be improved in the Town of Enfield. The Land Use & Community Development Administrator is serving as the staff lead on this effort. Although the NH FastRoads initiative resulted in a major build-out of



"middle mile" fiber optic cable throughout a majority of public roads in Enfield several years ago, the current owner of the fiber optic infrastructure (FirstLight) has signaled a lack of interest or willingness to connect new residential customers. Improving residential access to high-speed internet is essential for the Town of Enfield as it will help us attract and retain residents. The working group is exploring a variety of possible solutions, some of which may involve state or federal legislative active.

Interested in learning more about this effort? Contact Rob Taylor, Land Use & Community Development Administrator, at 603-442-5427 or <u>planning@enfield.nh.us</u>.

## **OFFICIAL TOWN WEBSITE – SUBSCRIBE TO NEWS & ALERTS**

Many receiving this e-newsletter have already done so, but for those who get the link from other sources, we encourage you to subscribe to News & Alerts on our Town website. <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/subscribe</u> Enter your email address. For general News & Announcements, which includes notice of this newsletter) check the box for **Town News & Announcements**. Check boxes for any other information you want to receive directly to your email address, such as meeting agendas or minutes. Check the box **I'm not a robot**, then click "Subscribe Me." It's as easy as that.

We plan during the coming year to more fully utilize the News & Announcements for various departments. This year we began with updates on the Assessing Department page of the progress of the full town-wide revaluation of property. Community news items appear on the Community & Businesses page – check it out!

#### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!**

Do you want to become more involved in your community? Then you're in luck! Several volunteer positions are still open. You can access our Application for Committee Membership here: http://www.enfield.nh.us/sites/enfieldnh/files/uploads/membershipapp\_0.pdf

Do you love our wide selection of recreation programs for children and adults alike? Then join our **Recreation Commission**! We currently have four openings. This group works with the Enfield Recreation Director to develop a wide variety of recreation programs for residents of all ages. The Recreation Commission meets the third Tuesday of each month (meetings typically take place in the Whitney Hall conference room in the Enfield Town Offices, but these meetings are being postponed due to COVID-19). You can see what the committee has been up to on their webpage here: http://www.enfield.nh.us/parks-recreation

Do your interests lie in economic development? Then the **Tax Increment Finance District Advisory Committee** may be for you. This committee currently has three openings for a five-member committee. Applicants for this committee must live within the Enfield TIF District or immediately adjacent to it or own a business in the TIF District. This committee, advisory to the Board of Selectmen, is charged with maintenance and implementation of the District Plan. The TIF Committee meets on an as needed basis, generally less than once a month, at the convenience of its members.

Or perhaps your interests lean toward Planning or Zoning. The Planning Board reviews and makes determinations on site plans and the **Planning Board presently has openings for alternate members**. Meetings of the Planning Board are on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. The Zoning Board of Adjustment is a quasi-judicial body that has the responsibility for special exceptions and variances of the Town Zoning Ordinance. We have openings for **Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) alternates**. Meetings of the ZBA are the second Tuesday of each month (as needed).

Release your inner party planner! Join our **Old Home Days Committee**! Many hands make light work! This group organizes our annual Old Home Days Celebration which takes place the last full weekend of July. The Old Home Days Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month from February – July at 5:30 PM, with a couple of additional meetings in June and July as needed to prepare for the festivities. Regrettably, we have canceled 2020 activities due to COVID-19, but the Committee looks forward to planning events for a 2021 celebration. 2019 was a successful weekend of Old Home Days! Check out the events held in 2019:

https://www.enfield.nh.us/sites/enfieldnh/files/uploads/ohdflyer2019.pdf And check out the Enfield Old Home Days Facebook page! https://www.facebook.com/EnfieldOldHomeDays/

## Find us at <u>www.enfield.nh.us</u> and <u>Facebook</u>!

# facebook

