

# Town News

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Michael J. Farinola, Chairman,  
Shawn C. Hanson, Richard P. McDermott



### 2010 TOWN BUDGET & TOWN

**REPORT:** On January 19, a public hearing was held by the Board of Selectmen to review the proposed 2010 budget and to allow the public to voice their opinions and ask questions. The 2010 operating budget of \$2,372,100 represents a decrease of \$161,100 over last year's budget. The 2010 default budget totals \$2,442,500.

The 2009 Town and School Report has been forwarded to the printer. Watch for delivery of your copy, with sample ballots, around the first week of March. This report provides information from Departments to include statistical and financial reports. It also has handy reference information such as contact numbers and hours for Town departments and officials, schedules of fees, board and committee activity and includes similar information pertaining to schools as well. If you do not receive a copy of the Town Report, you may pick up one at the Town Clerk's office.



**BRUSH DUMP REOPENS SOON:** The brush dump, located at the corner of Drinkwater and Parsonage Roads, will reopen April 1 on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**GOVERNOR WEARE PARK:** Governor Weare Park is closed for the winter months. No snowmobiles are allowed nor playing on wet fields.



### RECYCLING / RUBBISH:

Hampton Falls has a mandatory recycling program. Residents are encouraged to continue the every other week, single stream recycling effort; the less trash sent to

the landfill, the lesser fees charged for disposal. *Residents using the cardboard recycling container located at the Brush Dump are requested to flatten the cardboard before disposing into containers and to not leave cardboard, boxes, etc. outside the containers.* Another option to recycling cardboard is to bundle flattened cardboard, tied with string, in a size no greater than manageable 2' x 2' bundles, for weekly pickup at the curb with other recyclables. Handouts outlining what is allowed to be disposed of at the curb as well as permitted recyclable items are available from the Town Clerk or can be viewed on line at [www.hamptonfalls.org](http://www.hamptonfalls.org) (Solid Waste link). Solid waste collection and recycling information is also provided in newsletters mailed to residents (and posted to the web site) six times per year.

The solid waste pick-up day remains Friday (with the exception of weeks where a major holiday falls on a weekday). ***Please place your rubbish at the curb on Thursday evening or before 6:00 a.m. Friday for collection...recyclables being picked up every other Friday.*** Whenever a major holiday falls on a weekday, the scheduled pick-up will change to Saturday as follows:

Holiday (2010)	Collection Date (2010)
Memorial Day	Saturday, June 5
Labor Day	Saturday, September 11
Thanksgiving Day	Saturday, November 27

*Clip and save...*



**TOWN CLERK**  
**Holly E. Knowles**

### VEHICLE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Please bring 2 checks if you want to obtain state plates and/or stickers at our office
- An extra \$3.00 per registration for state stickers will be added to the town amount due
- State fees require exact cash or check (the state doesn't provide change)
- Town fees paid by cash should be as close to the amount due as possible – No large bills please (we keep limited cash).
- Please allow time for processing your transactions by arriving as far in advance of our closing times of noon and 4 p.m. as possible.

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-Renewals and transfers require the original, current registration(s) (RSA 261:168) (copies are to be kept in your vehicle(s))

-A notarized Power of Attorney is required when signing a title application for another person (even your spouse)



## VEHICLE RENEWALS

To save time in line, and for a small added fee, we recommend completing your vehicle renewal(s) over the internet (E-Reg). In addition to completing the town portion of your registration(s), you will also receive your state stickers through the mail. Click on the plate link on the town clerk's web page ([www.hamptonfalls.org](http://www.hamptonfalls.org)) for instructions. Late renewals and residents wanting to complete transfers or obtain new plates will still need to come in to the office.



## 2010 DOG TAGS

The 2010 dog tags are now available at the Town Clerk's office. All dogs in town should be licensed by April 30 each year as required by state RSA 466:1. Starting this year each dog not licensed by May 31 will automatically receive an additional \$25 civil forfeiture (RSA 466:13). Please remember to bring the NECESSARY rabies vaccination certificate(s) (required EVERY year regardless of rabies expiration date) to license your dog(s). If you no longer own a dog(s), call 926-4618; Ext. 1, and we will remove your name from the list. We are working toward being able to license dogs over the internet starting this year – watch for upcoming details.

## VOTER REGISTRATION

Residents who wish to register to vote for the March 9<sup>th</sup> town election may do with the Town Clerk through February 26<sup>th</sup>. After that date, residents will need to wait to register to vote with the Supervisors of the Checklist on Election Day. Proof of identity, age and domicile are required.

## ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee ballots will be available approximately two to three weeks prior to the March 9<sup>th</sup> town election from the Town Clerk for voters who qualify (absent from town or physically unable to come to the Town Hall to vote). A

signed, written request is required; and distribution and return of absentee ballots must be done in person by the voter or sent through the mail prior to the election. The Town Clerk's office hours are Monday, Tuesdays, and Thursdays 8:30 a.m. - noon and 1 -4 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m.-noon.



## ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS

Town and School elections will take place on Tuesday, March 9, at the Town Hall with the polls open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The following registered voters have filed for the Town election:

<u>Town Official</u>	<u>Name Signed Up</u>	<u>Term</u>
Selectman	Maryann Kasprzak	1 for 3 yrs
Library Trustee	Armida M. Magnarelli Beverly P. Mutrie	2 for 3 yrs
Cemetery Trustee	Lillian A. Walker	1 for 3 yrs
Planning Board	Roger W. Spoerry Anthony W. Franciosa III Roland W. Janvrin	2 for 3 yrs
Trustee of Trust Funds	Doreen Kelley	1 for 3 yrs
Supervisor of Checklist	Maureen Hastings	1 for 6 yrs
Treasurer	Elizabeth H. Riordan	1 for 3 yrs
Moderator	Alexander Dittami	1 for 2 yrs

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## ENERGY COMMITTEE

Did you know there are Federal and State funds available for residential renewable energy systems?

**Federal Tax Credits Extended through 2017:** The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, which was signed into law on October 1, 2008, contains renewable energy legislation, which is great news for anyone interested in a renewable system. Not only was the 30% commercial solar investment tax credit extended through 2017, but the same tax credit was also extended to residential installations. Under this legislation the previous \$2,000 cap for residential solar installations was eliminated. This means that, as of January 1, 2009, the purchase of a residential solar electric system makes you eligible for a tax credit equal to 30% of the cost of your solar system, including installation. See full information at: <http://www.dsireusa.org/> (click on the “Federal Incentives” link).

If the federal tax credit exceeds your tax liability, the excess amount may be carried forward to the succeeding taxable year. If you do not earn enough to pay taxes to the U.S. Treasury, you may apply for 30% of the cost of the solar or wind system in the form of a renewable energy grant. Get full details at the website below:

**State of NH renewable incentives:** New Hampshire enacted legislation (H.B. 1628) in July 2008 requiring the state's Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to establish and administer a rebate program for certain renewable-energy systems. The current rebate application period applies to systems placed into operational service on or after September 30, 2009. There are two steps to the application period: step one is the pre-approval application and step two is the final application. Both steps are required to receive the incentive. The rebate is equal to \$3 per watt of nominal generation capacity per residential owner of an eligible facility, up to \$6,000 or 50% of system costs, whichever is less. Equipment must meet applicable safety standards, and facilities must meet local zoning regulations. For more information go to: <http://www.dsireusa.org/> Click on the State of NH. The program is funded by alternative compliance payments from the state's renewable portfolio standard (RPS).

Rebates will be awarded to the extent that funding is available.

If you have questions about renewable energy systems, or how to start your research, please contact Shawn Hanson by phone 929-4152 or email [shawn.hanson@comcast.net](mailto:shawn.hanson@comcast.net).

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

by JP Pontbriand

The community of Hampton Falls recently completed a land conservation campaign which secures the 40+ acre parcel of land known locally as “The Raspberry Farm.” The success of this undertaking reflects a cooperative effort involving many organizations plus dedicated individual volunteers. Likewise, the funding required to complete the project, totaling approximately \$1.6 million, came from a combination of local conservation capital, a federal grant, foundation grants, and vital individual gifts from many within our community. Completing an undertaking of this scale in such a small community would be quite an accomplishment in the best of circumstances, and was made all the more so given the financial strains of a struggling economy.

In the coming months, the next stage of this conservation project will begin to unfold. These efforts will be aimed at making the field, pond and forested areas accessible to the public for recreation. The natural and agricultural characteristics will be preserved, and the improvements to access will be limited to providing some off-road parking, and potentially other minor works, such as a trail to the Janvrin Natural Area (aka the “Town Forest”). To that end the Conservation Commission is looking for volunteers to work on a land management sub-committee. If you would like to get involved, please call Karen Ayers (580-1551) or David Gandt (773-5676).

As our town grows the importance of evaluating and selectively pursuing opportunities to conserve our natural environments increases as well. The community engagement and the partnerships with outside organizations in the Raspberry Farm project demonstrated how cooperation between stakeholders can produce positive results. We would like to recognize the Town of Hampton Falls, the Trust for Public Land, the Natural Resource Conservation Service (the Federal Ranch and Farmland Protection Program), and the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance for a job very well done.

# Town News



*Dates to add to your calendar:*

**Saturday, April 17**  
**EARTH DAY ROAD-SIDE CLEAN UP**  
Rain date: Sunday, April 18

Please keep this date available to help pick up trash that has collected along our roadways over the winter. As always, we will have a dumpster available at the Brush Dump for two weeks to allow for flexibility in your schedule.

**Saturday, May 15 “Give Your Stuff Away Day”**  
formerly “Curb Day.”

Visit [giveyourstuffawayday.com](http://giveyourstuffawayday.com) for further details. On this day, bring your unwanted (but still valuable) items to your curb for others to cart away for free. We all have “stuff” we don’t need but that others could put to good use. This is a great way to begin to clean out storage areas. Items that are not picked up can be taken to the Town’s Spring White Goods Day.

**BUILDING INSP/CODE ENF/HEALTH**  
**Kevin C. Kelley**

**PLACEMENT OF ELECTION SIGNS:** The Hampton Falls sign ordinance provides regulations for placement of election signs as follows:

- They are not erected more than thirty (30) days before Election Day and are *removed within seven (7) days after the election*;
- They are at least ten (10) feet back from any street or right-of-way;
- They are no larger than four (4) square feet in total area;
- They are not placed in trees, on rocks, or other natural features along the roads;
- For signs meeting the above requirements, no building permit is required;
- For state elections, see RSA 664.17 as may be amended.



**TAX COLLECTOR**  
**Mary Ann Hill**

**Form PA-28, Inventory of Taxable Property** questionnaire will be mailed to all property owners the last week of February. It is important that you fill in this questionnaire completely and **return it to us by April 15<sup>th</sup>** in order to retain your rights in the abatement process, such as appeal rights on property tax or other exemptions and considerations to which you may legally be entitled. RSA 74:7-a. A few of the questions on the **PA-28** consistently give property owners some difficulty:

**Step 1.** The **map and lot number** for your property is printed with your address on this form and has the format 00 000 00.

**Step 3. “Is any portion of the parcel assessed under Current Use?”** You are not being asked if you live there. Land in Current Use is unimproved land over 10 acres in size.

**Step 5. Census Requirements.** This is asking how many people **actually reside at the parcel**. **Please complete this part.**

**Step 7. Signatures:** **Sign the form** or it will not be valid for the appeal process.

**Notices of tax delinquencies** were mailed February 5 to all those with a balance remaining on their tax bill. Thank you to the property owners who have responded. We are willing to make up a payment schedule for anyone who finds it difficult to pay their entire bill at one time.

For those who continue to have outstanding balances on taxes in March, we will be sending out the **Notices of Impending Lien** and **Notices of Impending Deed** by March 5th per RSA 80:60 and RSA 80:77 respectively.

If you have any questions regarding the inventory form, your taxes, **interest**, or need copies of your paid receipts for the IRS, please call Mary Ann Hill at 926-4618, ext. 4.

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