

Town News

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Richard P. McDermott, Maryann Kasprzak, Charles P. Graham

FARMERS' MARKET

The Farmer's Market is coming to the Hampton Falls Common. Starting June 20th from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. and running through October, residents and friends will be able to purchase locally produced products such as fruits, vegetables, goat milk and meats and dairy products. Local providers of compatible products are welcome to apply.

Please visit:

<http://hamptonfallsfarmersmarket.weebly.com/index.html>

or Email to:

hamptonfallsfarmersmarket@comcast.net

for additional information.

RECREATION COMMISSION

2011 SUMMER BANDSTAND CONCERT SCHEDULE

(All concerts begin at 6:30 p.m.)

JUNE 30	JOPPI
JULY 7	WINDHAM COMMUNITY BAND
JULY 14	THEN AGAIN
JULY 21	BUCKSHOT BAND
JULY 28	SOULSVILLE
AUGUST 4	NEW LEGACY SWING BAND
AUGUST 11	EVEN STEVEN
AUGUST 18	LYNNE LYNCH & THE CLASSICS
AUGUST 25	SOUNDS OF THE SEACOAST
SEPTEMBER 1	MERRIMACK VALLEY CONCERT BAND

Dogs are prohibited from Governor Weare Park and dog waste has become a problem on the Town Common and at the Depot; please clean up after your pet.

RUBBISH/RECYCLING

Northside Carting rubbish/recycling pick-up day in Hampton Falls is Friday. Please place your rubbish and recyclables at the curb on Thursday evening or by 6:00 a.m. Friday for collection. Whenever a major holiday falls on a weekday, the scheduled pick-up will change to Saturday as follows:

Holiday (2011)	Collection Date (2011)
4 th of July	Saturday, July 9
Labor Day	Saturday, September 10
Thanksgiving Day	Saturday, November 26

HOLLY KNOWLES, TOWN CLERK

CLOSED FRIDAYS

Reminder: The Town Clerk's office is closed on Fridays during the months of June – August.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

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

-Please allow time for processing your transactions by arriving an hour or so before our closing times of noon and 4 p.m.

-We will make arrangements for you to register your vehicle(s) if you can't get in during our office hours (call or e-mail us).

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

PAYMENT OPTIONS - TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Only ONE CHECK required payable to "Town of Hampton Falls" which now includes town and state fees.

NOW ACCEPTING MAJOR CREDIT CARDS (not debit cards) with the exception of VISA which may be used for on-line renewals through EB2GOV but NOT for registrations at the window (a 2.75% fee applies to credit card transactions).

Cash payments should be as close to the amount due as possible – no large bills please (we keep limited cash).

INTERNET VEHICLE RENEWALS

Your vehicle(s) can be renewed over the internet (EB2GOV). Click on the plate link on the Town Clerk's web page (www.hamptonfalls.org) for instructions. You'll then receive your registration(s) with attached decals through the mail. Renewals over 3 months late and residents wanting to complete transfers or obtain new plates will still need to come in to the office.

NEW STATE PARK PLATES

Ask us about the new State Park Plates! For an additional \$85 per year, the vehicle will be admitted free to most NH State Parks on a day-to-day basis.

POLICE DEPT. HAS UNLICENSED DOG LIST

The list of unlicensed dogs in town has been passed to the Police Department for collection. All dogs should have been licensed by April 30 as required by state RSA 466:1. Each dog not licensed by May 31 will automatically receive an additional \$25 civil forfeiture (RSA 466:13). If you no longer own a dog(s), call or e-mail us and we will remove your name from our list.

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If you have a current rabies certificate(s) on file, you may renew dog license(s) on-line by clicking on the dog icon on the Town Clerk's web page. **NEW THIS YEAR:** rabies vaccination certificate(s) are only required if rabies expiration date has expired.

NEW – DUMP STICKERS ON-LINE

Purchase dump sticker(s) (good through the end of 2011) on-line by choosing Dump Sticker on the town web page which will take you to EB2Gov for processing.

TWO SPECIAL ELECTIONS

Our town is required to hold two special elections this year to fill a vacant State Representative Seat. The Primary will be held on July 5, and the General will be on September 6. The polls will be open for both elections from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Absentee ballots are currently available for the July 5th Primary for registered voters who qualify.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Hampton Falls Police Department is inviting any resident that is interested to participate in an email list where they will receive periodic news from the Police Department. Included in the email will be neighborhood watch style alerts, the weekly police blotter, and updates on the general “goings on” within the Department. You may send your email address to Lieutenant Thomas Boynton at tboynton@hampfallspd.com requesting he add you to the email list. We hope that by using this technology we can keep Hampton Falls residents in the loop and allow them the ability to ask questions on an informal basis.

JAY M. LORD - FIRE CHIEF FIRE DEPARTMENT

A quick reminder now that the nice weather has come, all outdoor fires *require* a burn permit. Seasonal permits (good until Dec 31st) are available for small (less than 4' diameter) campfire rings, and include chimenea fireplaces, fire pits, fire bowls, etc.

Many emergencies happen during the night or during bad weather. *PLEASE* identify your house with a 2" or larger number on both sides of your mailbox and/or a number on the front of your house. The easier it is for us to find you, the quicker we can help in an emergency.

For those of you on Facebook, Hampton Falls Fire Department has a page where you can find summer safety tips. Check us out!

KEVIN KELLEY - BUILDING INSPECTION CODE ENFORCEMENT, HEALTH OFFICER MOSQUITO CONTROL

The mosquito control program began in April after receiving a Special Permit from the State. Areas treated include salt marshes, swamps, woodland pools, ditches, and catch basins. Adult mosquitoes were controlled at Governor Weare Park, The Town Common, and the Lincoln Akerman School throughout the triple “E” season.

In 2010, New Hampshire experienced one of the driest, hottest summers on record. There was minimal arboviral activity compared to the record breaking 2009 season. There were 73 mosquito pools from 32 communities that tested positive for the disease including nearby North Hampton, Stratham, Exeter, and East Kingston. A total of 27 species of mosquitoes have been identified in Hampton Falls. None of the mosquito's collected in Hampton falls have tested positive for EEE or West Nile Virus (WNV) to date. The homeowner can have a tremendous impact by simply turning over, or covering containers which reduces or eliminates standing water on their property.

Residents who do not want their property treated must contact Dragon Mosquito Control in writing at P. O. Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. Otherwise, control measures may be done on your property if needed. Residents may call 964-8400 for more information.

This office welcomes calls from residents and business owners alike *before starting any project*. Please call my office at 926-4618, extension 5. More than one resident has spent considerable time and money on engineered plans before they realized their proposed project would fall where a structure, or other consideration, as defined by Hampton Falls Zoning Ordinances is prohibited.

Issues to consider during the planning stage that may require approval from the Zoning Board of Adjustment for relief to build in the Wetland buffer, or in the front, rear and side (s) setbacks

WETLANDS: Ordinances prohibit structures within wetland as well as the 100' buffer to wetland. *Tree removal has special guidelines-Call 926-5269*

TOWN RIGHT OF WAY: *This area of the roadway is deeded to the Town and is not owned by the property owner. The right of way for most roads is fifty (50) feet, but this does not apply to all roads.*

The paved travel portion is twenty-four (24) feet wide (12 feet in each lane) and shoulders are 13' from the edge of pavement of which (4) feet each side is to remain gravel. It allows for, but is not limited to, drainage and snow storage and *should remain clear* of any temporary or

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permanent fixtures. Items such as driveway pavers/entrance walls, landscaping, large stones, irrigation sprinklers, lamp posts, fencing, steel rods, stone walls etc. are *not* to be placed in the Town right of way. Guidelines are in place for the proper location of mailbox posts and a copy can be obtained from the Building Inspector's office.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES: Approval of a special exception by the ZBA is required in order to store commercial or industrial vehicles in the residential zone.

SIGNS: Regulations apply to signs in both the residential and commercial zones. Permits are required.

BUSINESS IN THE RESIDENTIAL ZONE: Non-agricultural commercial businesses are *prohibited* from the residential zone. Regulations are in place for certain home occupation(s)

DO YOU KNOW WHAT TIC STANDS FOR?

In May, when we were awash in knee-deep puddles and oppressed by bulbous clouds, a bright spot appeared in Hampton Falls: the beautiful plantings along the north side of the Town Hall. The introduction of rhododendron, holly, pachysandra and hosta gave rise to the optimism that spring would ultimately arrive. And it has! These horticultural additions to the Town Hall are the work of a (perhaps) little known organization: the Town Improvement Committee (TIC).

The TIC was founded on the basis of identifying, qualifying and prioritizing improvements that promote the beauty and character of Hampton Falls. Their work around the Town Hall has been extensive: approximately four years ago, this group—guided by consummate gardener Jack Fermery—began to enhance the area by planting a multitude of perennials (many from Jack's garden) around the entrance and south side of the Town Hall. A group of members and volunteers installed an irrigation system to keep the plants hydrated (and happy), and planting continued around the east side of the Town Hall, complemented by a brick walk-way installed by members of the Committee. To support the latest phase of the beautification program, Carol Fermery applied for and received a \$500 grant from the Rye Garden Club to fund the purchase of plant material needed to continue this initiative. Thanks also go to Stratham Circle Nursery for working with the Town on this project.

The Committee is an extension of a group that was originally formed to enhance the now more beautiful than ever Town Common. Improvements to the Common included extensive plantings around the monument (thanks again to Jack and his inexhaustible supply of hosta and day-lilies), repairs to the monument itself, design and installation of a brick paver walkway and an irrigation system, lighting of the flagpole and monument, and revitalization of the lawn. All of this work was done at no cost to the taxpayer -- it was entirely funded through private donations!

Looking forward, the Committee has been directed by the Select Board to identify and assess required improvements to the Town Hall structure. Because of the extensive needs of the building, the Committee will develop a long-term plan for addressing and implementing these repairs.

The Committee is fortunate to have members of diverse talents: Peter Robart, Chairman (building trade and materials); Larry Smith (insurance); Ted Tocci (masonry); Dick Robinson (site work and road construction); Jack Fermery (architect and landscaper); and Eric Small (Town

Residents are encouraged to become familiar with Hampton Falls Zoning Ordinances available for review at the Town Hall or on the web site hamptonfalls.org. This is where you will find rules and regulations as to whether the project you have in mind is permitted. Projects may require inspection, permit or approval by the Building Inspector, other town official or Board. The Highway Agent and Building Inspector will notify owners of concerns immediately once identified. The Town is not liable for damage to items placed in the Town right of way.

MARY ANN HILL, TAX COLLECTOR

Property owners should have received their first property tax bill for 2011. **Due date is Tuesday, July 5.**

If you are among the people who like to pay bills on line, please be advised that we do not receive your payment the day that you "point and click." It usually takes a few days for the bank to process and mail your payment. Those who wait until the last minute to pay on line should be aware that we may receive your payment late. Anyone seeking a receipt for payment by mail must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Also, if you are considering applying for tax abatement, please wait until after receiving the October bill.

If you have any questions about your assessment or your tax bill, please feel free to come into the office, or call us at 926-4618, Ext. 4, or send an e-mail to taxcollector@hamptonfalls.org.

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Administrator). Of course...improvements necessitate maintenance. If you would be willing to support the improvements initiated by the Committee, please contact Jack Fermery at 778-0366. The Town and Committee can use your assistance, and you may learn a thing or two about plants in the process!

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

There have been times in the past when our Town Administrator Eric Small has been able to work with Rockingham House of Correction administrators in securing the help of available young men who are able to spend a day or two helping communities with specific projects that require physical labor. Happily we were the recipients of just this kind of help this past June 9th and 10th, when three young men, Ben, Chris and Derek under the guidance of Officer Mike, arrived at 8:30AM to begin tackling the overgrowth at Old Brookside Cemetery. With tools provided and extra help, they made a huge contribution on a day when the temperature hit 96 degrees. The brush and small trees were hauled to an area where they then could more easily be loaded onto a truck and taken to the dump.

Work on New Brookside continued on Friday morning and will be a work in progress so long as your trustees can secure the invaluable volunteer help that is so critical in keeping the overgrowth of our cemeteries under control at an absolute minimum expenditure of money. Let me close by offering a public and grateful thanks to all of you who contributed time, talent, tools and vehicles: Geno Hardee, Georgi Swain, Bob Woodes, Brian Kent, Dustin Peel, Eric Small and Dick Robinson.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

What has the Energy Committee been up to? We have been developing a new Energy Chapter to the Town's Master Plan, drafting a policy to re-invest energy savings into future energy projects, and working with the Town Improvement Committee on Town Hall improvements. Here are a few more details of what we've been up to:

Energy Master Plan. The Hampton Falls Energy Committee (HFEC), along with Julie LaBranche of the Rockingham Planning Commission, developed an Energy Master Plan Chapter to be adopted by the Town. The chapter was approved by the Planning Board in May and will now need to be reviewed at a Public Hearing before formal adoption. The Energy Chapter formalizes the general goals that the HFEC has been working towards, including budgetary, capital improvements, planning, and grant applications that support energy conservation and

independence. The public hearing will be held at the next Planning Board meeting, scheduled for June 28.

Energy Savings Re-investment. The Energy Committee has been drafting a policy that prioritizes re-investment from energy project savings into future capital improvements of energy systems. The primary goals of this policy are to:

- Save tax payers money through reduced Town and/or School energy use
- Improve the performance and life span of municipal infrastructure
- Reduce the impacts of energy consumption

The policy would call for energy savings from energy efficiency projects to be tracked relative to level funded energy costs for town/school facilities. Re-use of the savings would then be prioritized for future projects that have positive attributes related to energy efficiency or renewable energy. The policy is in an early draft stage and the HFEC is looking for input to refine this concept for adoption into the budgeting processes.

Town Hall Improvement Fund. Recently, the Town Improvement Committee and the Energy Committee met to discuss possible ways to utilize the funds approved in Article 15, which passed this past March. The article calls for improvements to Town Hall including energy efficiency projects or projects that help reduce the long-term maintenance requirements of the building.

The HFEC has brought in Peregrine Energy Group, Inc., an energy efficiency engineering company, to help prioritize potential energy efficiency improvement projects for Town Hall as part of this process for Article 15. The HFEC has already been working with Peregrine regarding prioritization of energy projects for both LAS and Town Buildings. There is no cost to the Town for use of these experts, which is funded through a program called ETAP, Energy Technical Assistance and Planning, which is administered by the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning.

To help determine how best to appropriate these funds, Town representatives and Peregrine completed an additional evaluation of Town Hall in early June. In addition to research already completed by the Town Improvement Committee, a report will be provided in the near future to help the Town Improvement Committee, the HFEC, and the Selectmen decide how to prioritize the use of the funds. Example projects include (mostly the 1877 part of Town Hall): insulate exterior walls, weatherize/air seal the crawl space, repair foundation, replace lead-painted wood siding, and repair storm windows. Other no-cost options may include suggestions to make minor modifications to how the building is used and thermostat set points. The HFEC looks forward to collaborating in this process.

If you have questions about these topics, or would like to offer suggestions to the Energy Committee, please contact Tony Delano via email delanot1@gmail.com.