

December 15, 2023

Greetings from Colebrook Town Hall.

Earlier this year, the Town received a grant from the [Draper Foundation Fund](#) at the Northwest Community Foundation for a new well at Town Hall. Jim and Shirley Draper were Colebrook residents well known for their philanthropy. At our December meeting, the Board of Selectmen approved a bid from Canton Well Drilling LLC. Work will commence once the necessary approvals are in place from the State and Farmington Valley Health District.

Last week, the Boards of Finance and Selectmen held a Special meeting to discuss options for resolution of the Wind Colebrook South tax appeal. As a joint body, the Boards agreed to participate in non-binding mediation with Wind Colebrook South, at no cost to the Town, contingent upon agreement by both parties on a mediator. Minutes from the Special meeting can be found [here](#).

Representatives from the Boards of Finance and Selectmen met with officials from Northwestern Regional #7, as well as representatives from Barkhamsted, New Hartford and Norfolk, this week to kick off the annual budgeting process for our shared Middle School/High School. This will culminate with the annual budget referendum in May.

Last night, the Capital Improvements Committee met and discussed various ongoing, previously approved capital investments, including: an HVAC/water mitigation project at the school; a new firetruck, which will be delivered in mid-2024; other investments in the Fire Department; Public Works allocations, and the purchase of a new vehicle, replacing one of our smaller Town trucks, which is past its useful life.

Town Emergency Management Director Rick Tillotson is spearheading the development of a Local Emergency Operations Plan, as mandated by the state. The plan will be shared publicly once finalized.

IQS, the service the Town uses for digital land records has instituted a fraud alert program that can help you by sending you an alert whenever a deed or mortgage is recorded under your name. The Colebrook Town Clerk is providing residents access to this free, new tool to help property owners protect one of their most valuable assets. To enroll, click [here](#).

And, if you've not done so, be sure to check out our website at https://link.edgepilot.com/s/a7abbd2/SLtyZU1koEeh_RAfZtX5Tw?u=http://www.colebrooktownhall.org/. It's a one-stop resource for learning more about your Town's government in action.

Colebrook holiday events this weekend include:

Christmas on the Farm—Pinney Stables invites you to join them for some holiday cheer on Friday, December 15th from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Walk-through the lights and the Holiday Story starts at 6 p.m., followed by hot cocoa and s'mores by the fire. Get your pic taken with Santa's helpers. Pay what you can. All proceeds go to the care of their animals.

Carol Sing!—Everyone is invited to a Carol Sing on Sunday, December 17th at 4:30 p.m. featuring “The Greenwoods Consort” and the Colebrook Congregational Church Choir. The event will take place in the Church Fellowship Hall (471 Smith Hill Road).

Following are upcoming municipal board meetings in Colebrook:

Inland Wetlands—Tuesday, December 19th at 7 p.m. at Town Hall

Congratulations to Colebrook’s own Fred Williams who recorded his 705th career win last night as the varsity girls basketball coach at Northwestern Regional High School! Fred is now the winningest coach in Connecticut girls high school basketball history.

Town Hall will be closed on Friday, December 22nd and Monday, December 25th for Christmas.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org, or call me at 860.379.3359, extension 202. Selectmen Ernie Marmer and AJ Ruwet can be reached at emarmer@colebrooktownhall.org and ajruwet@colebrooktownhall.org, respectively.

Please send news items to Karen Odell at kodell@colebrooktownhall.org, by noon on Thursdays.

Cordially,

Brad

Brad Bremer

Colebrook First Selectman

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