

Greetings from Colebrook Town Hall.

We now have an automated external defibrillator at Town Hall, installed in the upstairs meeting room. Thank you to the Winsted Auxiliary for Community Health for their generous donation!

This week, the Town applied for a permit with the Connecticut Department of Transportation to post two Speed Feedback Signs on Route 183, adjacent to Colebrook Center, to reinforce the current 30 MPH speed limit.

Alison Jassen and Tom Stanton represent Colebrook on the Farmington River Coordinating Committee (FRCC). Earlier this week, the FRCC met with the Army Corps of Engineers to discuss water release from the Colebrook River Lake Reservoir into the West Branch of the Farmington River, to better facilitate recreational use. (NOTE: Last year, the Metropolitan District Commission [MDC] granted a conservation easement, in perpetuity, on 5,500 acres of open space land that surrounds the reservoir, with the understanding that the MDC will still be required to pay taxes on the land that they own in Colebrook.) For more information, contact Alison Jassen at ajassen@earthlink.net.

Budget season officially begins on Thursday, February 8th, when the Colebrook Board of Finance meets at 6 p.m. at Town Hall. They will meet weekly (except for the weeks of March 25 and April 22) through Referendum Day (Tuesday May 7th). On February 8th, the Board will discuss estimates for the grand list, property tax, and state aid, as well the target mill rate and potential issues. The current operating budget for the Town is \$4,586,144, not including our Region 7 assessment of \$2,250,115.

The Town Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Commission will host a 2-hour continuing education session for its members on Monday, February 12th at 6:30 p.m. This will take the place of their regular meeting and will help to ensure compliance with state requirements. Training will be conducted by Attorney Steven Byrne, a principal at Byrne & Byrne, LLC, a law firm specializing in municipal land use.

The Colebrook Consolidated School (CCS) PTO is sponsoring an Adult Bingo Night fundraiser on Saturday, January 27th at Little Red Barn Brewers in Winsted. Doors open at 5:15 p.m. Bingo begins at 6 p.m. For more information and tickets, contact Colette Hiller at 860.469.2680. Also, please consider supporting the PTO at the Winsted Stop N' Shop. For every Stop N' Shop Bag purchased there during January, \$1 will be donated to the PTO.

The Colebrook Fire Department will host its annual ice skating party on Saturday, February 3rd from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Colebrook Recreation Area (behind Town Hall). Come skate under the lights and enjoy hot cocoa, donuts and a welcoming fire.

Please note that the Senior & Community Center follows the Region 7 snow day schedule and is closed for Tuesday breakfast and Thursday lunch when school is closed. When 2-hour delays occur on Thursday, lunch will be available.

Upcoming municipal board meetings in Colebrook:

Board of Selectmen - Monday, February 5th at Town Hall at 7 p.m.

Board of Education - Wednesday, February 7th at CCS at 7 p.m.

Board of Finance - Thursday, February 8th at Town Hall at 6 p.m.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org, or call me at 860.379.3359, extension 202. Please send news items to Karen at kodell@colebrooktownhall.org by noon on Thursdays. And, if you know of other residents who would like to be added to our email distribution list, please let us know.

Cordially,

Brad

Brad Bremer

Colebrook First Selectman

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