

Greetings from Colebrook Town Hall.

Tonight, the Board of Selectmen will present its fiscal year 2024/25 proposed budget to the Board of Finance. Key components of the Selectmen's budget are funding for Town Hall, the Department of Public Works, Fire Department, Community & Senior Center, and curbside trash/recycling pickup.

We are currently projecting a year-over-year decrease of approximately 5 percent in the Selectmen's budget, as we work closely with the Board of Finance and the Board of Education in our quest to achieve a level overall Town budget, and keep the Mill rate flat.

Approximately one-third of our total Town budget is our share of operating Northwestern Regional 7 Middle School/High School. Each of the towns in Region 7 pay their portion of the total budget based on the number of students they have enrolled. Our budget assessment is currently expected to be .5 percent less than last year. In the coming weeks, the Region 7 Board will host public meetings in each of the member towns, including Colebrook on Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, at Colebrook Town Hall. Colebrook representatives on the Region 7 board are Lisa Fragale and Terri Kenneson.

Last week, we opened bids for the Colebrook Consolidated School HVAC project. The School Building Committee met Tuesday night to review bids—and discuss how to prioritize the project to address our most pressing needs. More to come.

The Colebrook Associates will be opening a food pantry in the foyer of the Community & Senior Center on Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, and 8:30 a.m. to noon on Fridays. This is intended exclusively for Colebrook residents and visitors to the Community & Senior Center. Donations can be left at the Pantry, or in the lobby of the Post Office. For after-hours Pantry needs, please call the Associates at 860.469.2208.

We are delighted that Tyler Rae is the newest member of our team at Town Hall. Tyler is a student at the Highlander Transition Academy at Region 7 and works after school as our custodian four afternoons a week.

As noted last week, registration for the Colebrook Recreational Baseball League closes March 8<sup>th</sup>. Details can be found [here](#).

### **Upcoming Town events:**

The Colebrook Community & Senior Center is hosting a Leap Year Community Bingo tonight (Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>) from 6-9 p.m.

This Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Colebrook Associates will host its first Winter Warmer in the Town Hall meeting room from 2-4 p.m. All are welcome and there is no cost to attend.

On Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. at Town Hall, the Colebrook Land Conservancy will host a presentation on creating backyard pollinator habitats. Learn more at [colebrooklandconservancy.org](http://colebrooklandconservancy.org).

### **Upcoming municipal board meetings:**

[Board of Education](#) – Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at Colebrook School at 7 p.m.

[Board of Finance](#) – Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall at 6 p.m.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at [bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org](mailto:bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org), or call me at 860.379.3359, extension 202.

Cordially,

*Brad*

Brad Bremer  
Colebrook First Selectman  
860.379.3359 ext. 202  
[bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org](mailto:bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org)