

Greetings from Colebrook Town Hall.

The Connecticut Presidential Preference Primary will take place on Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Early voting began earlier this week, and will continue through 6 p.m. today (Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>) and on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Learn more [here](#), or on the [Colebrook Registrar of Voters](#) page on our website.

Earlier this week, the Board of Selectmen approved a proposal from the Town Voter Registrars to align our May 7<sup>th</sup> budget referendum voting hours more closely with neighboring Region 7 towns. The goal is to better manage our staff and budget resources. Referendum voting hours will be 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Colebrook Board of Finance is working with the Town's Board of Selectmen, the Colebrook Consolidated School, and the Region 7 School District to establish the Town's budget for the upcoming fiscal year, beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. Please see copies of the respective budgets attached. The proposed Town budget will be presented at our annual budget hearing on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall at 7 p.m. Please feel free to contact Board of Finance Chair Duncan Wilber at [wilberfarm06021@yahoo.com](mailto:wilberfarm06021@yahoo.com) with any thoughts or suggestions regarding the proposed budget. This is an opportunity for your voice to be heard—and to make a difference in the budget planning process.

Today, we celebrated outgoing Community & Senior Center Director Debbie Crowell at a community potluck—and thanked her for her service. We continue our search for a successor(s) while Serena Brainard serves as Interim Director.

As mandated by State statute, in October of 2022 the Town adopted a 5-year [Housing Affordability Plan](#). During December, the Board of Selectmen appointed Ken Andresen, Melanie Knap, Ernie Marmer, Scott Patterson and Harry White to 2-year terms with the Town Affordable Housing Committee, with responsibility to implement our plan. The new committee will have their kickoff meeting in the coming weeks.

Aligned with this initiative—and as part of our ongoing efforts to access grants—earlier this week the Town participated in a Community Development Block Grant online workshop. This will enable us to compete for funding through the Connecticut Department of Housing's Small Cities Program.

The Colebrook Associates have established a food pantry in the foyer of the Community & Senior Center. 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. Donations can be left at the Pantry, or in the lobby of the Post Office.

Applications are available in Town Hall (just outside the Town Clerk's office) for the Colebrook Associates 2024 Scholarship Program. Deadline to apply is April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Town Hall will be closed tomorrow (March 29<sup>th</sup>) in observance of Good Friday. Trash pickup is on a normal schedule this week.

Finally, we're happy to report that Beech Hill Road has re-opened after being closed for the Winter.

#### **Upcoming Town events:**

The Colebrook Recreation Board is hosting a Pasta Dinner fundraiser in support of our youth sports program on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7 p.m. at the Colebrook Community & Senior Center. The price is \$12 for adults and \$8 for children, with multiple seatings and a to-go option. Tickets can be pre-ordered and seating times booked [here](#). Tickets purchased at the door will be \$2 more per meal.

The Colebrook Conservation Commission will be hosting Colebrook Clean Up Day on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Pick up large garbage bags at Colebrook Town Hall, second floor Meeting Room from 9 a.m. to noon. Sign up to clean a road that morning, or you can sign up in advance by emailing [kodell@colebrooktownhall.org](mailto:kodell@colebrooktownhall.org), or by calling 860.379.3359, ext. 202. Filled garbage bags will be picked up along Town roads by our Department of Public Works on Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers may pick up complementary sunflower seed packets in the Town Clerk's office.

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

[Board of Education](#) – Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at Colebrook Consolidated School at 7 p.m.

[Board of Finance](#) – Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall at 6 p.m. (Second floor Meeting Room)

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.

Happy Easter,

**Brad**

Brad Bremer

Colebrook First Selectman

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