

Greetings from Colebrook Town Hall.

The results are in. In the Connecticut Presidential Preference Primary this past week, 122 Colebrook residents voted, with 24 of those casting their votes early, according to the new State-mandated provisions. As this was a primary, voting was restricted to registered Republicans and Democrats. Our turnout was 20% of all party-affiliated voters, approximately double the statewide average. Thank you to our poll workers for their dedicated service during Early Voting and on Election Day, making this primary a success.

The Town Capital Improvement Plan committee voted last week to recommend to the Board of Selectmen a budget of \$300,000 for Capital projects during fiscal year 2024/25. At tonight's Board of Finance meeting, we anticipate adding \$80,000 to that amount, allocated specifically for the Colebrook Consolidated School HVAC project.

Be sure to join us next Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, at Town Hall at 7 p.m. for our Town Budget Hearing, to discuss the budget we'll be voting on at referendum on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Our search process for a new Director for the Colebrook Community & Senior Center is complete. We are very pleased to report that Danamarie Towers and Serena Brainard will be serving as Co-Directors.

A Colebrook resident, Serena has served two stints in an interim capacity and will be handling the administrative and financial reporting aspects of the job, while Dana (who hails from Barkhamsted) will be managing the kitchen and working with our Volunteer Committee to plan and implement meals and programs. Dana and her husband have been running the Riverton Inn (and the Royal Coachman Tavern) for the past five years. Dana has also served as Chair of Christmas in Riverton. Dana and Serena will begin working together in mid-April.

According to Town Building Inspector Bill Volovski, approximately twenty years ago the increased prevalence of tornados, hurricanes, and other natural disasters caused the insurance industry to begin evaluating municipalities nationwide for building code compliance. The Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluates municipalities every five years. The information collected is then used by insurance companies to rate properties. We will be meeting with a representative from the ISO in the coming weeks. In preparation for this meeting, Bill gathered the following data points for 2023 that we thought might be of interest.

- During 2023 our Building Department issued 138 permits of all types.
- The constructed value of all permits was \$3,158,753.
- No construction of new houses commenced (which was an anomaly).
- Approximately 20% of all construction was either solar- or energy-related projects such as electric car chargers.

#### **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 at the door is \$14 for adults and \$10 for children with a to-go option.

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:**

Planning & Zoning – Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, at Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. (Land Use Office)

Board of Selectmen – Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, at Town Hall at 7 p.m. (Selectmen's Meeting Room)

Recreation Board – Tuesday April 9<sup>th</sup>, at Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. (upstairs 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.

Cordially,

**Brad**

Brad Bremer

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