

Greetings from Colebrook Town Hall.

Spring is here—and with that comes road maintenance. Weather permitting, Monday, May 6th, through Friday May 10th, Seymour Sealing Service will begin chip sealing the following roads: Old Creamery; Ruth Cross; Riverton; Bricklemaier; Smith Hill; Church Hill; Chapin; Shantry; and Pinney Street. Expect some delays, with traffic confined to one lane.

Earlier this week, the Planning & Zoning Commission hosted the Board of Selectmen and Zoning Board of Appeals for a workshop to discuss positions that towns like ours may choose to adopt regarding the municipal regulation of cannabis establishments. [Cannabis was legalized in Connecticut in 2021](#).

The workshop was led by a municipal planning consultant who worked with Norfolk and Litchfield as they considered regulatory options. Our Planning & Zoning Commission will continue to explore, and discussed hosting a public informational meeting in the Fall to provide an update to the community and solicit public input.

Tonight, the Boards of Finance and Selectmen will meet at 6:30 p.m. to vote on whether or not to approve the bid from Sav-Mor Cooling and Heating to proceed with the Colebrook Consolidated School HVAC project.

Next week, voters will consider the proposed fiscal year 2024/25 Town and Region 7 budgets at referendum. Our [Annual Budget Meeting](#), a public forum, will be held on Monday, May 6th at 8 p.m. The Meeting is legally required. Its purpose is to consider and act upon a proposal to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and expend any Federal and State grants for use by the Town. **On Tuesday, May 7th, polls will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.** for the referendum vote.

To improve safety on our roads, solar powered speed monitoring signs have been posted on Colebrook Road, on either side of Colebrook Center. (Note: These are still being implemented, and may appear to be non-working until fully operational.) Last week, we learned that the State will loan us 2 additional speed monitoring signs for a 60-day period (likely beginning in late-June). We plan to accept the loan and post the signs on Route 8 in Colebrook to encourage adherence to the speed limit there. If it appears to be helping, we will explore the feasibility of purchasing signs to place there permanently.

Thursday lunches are back at the Community & Senior Center. The cost is \$6. RSVP by 1 p.m. on Tuesday. Thank you to those of you who have signed up to call Bingo at the Center on Tuesday afternoons from 1-3 p.m. If you'd like to volunteer, you can sign up [here](#).

In recent weeks, we've gotten reports of increased bear activity. Please avoid leaving garbage out for any longer than necessary. You can learn more about best practices to avoid attracting bears [here](#).

Thank you to everyone who volunteered for Colebrook Cleanup Day this past Saturday. According to the Colebrook Conservation Commission, which sponsored the event, 23 volunteers participated—plus Camp Jewell—and 21 Town roads were covered. Thank you to the Public Works Department for their contribution in picking up the filled trash bags left by the side of the road. Extra packets of sunflower seeds are available as a thank you for volunteers in the Town Clerk's office.

The Conservation Commission is also sponsoring a Colebrook Nature Photo Contest. Open to all Colebrook residents, there are divisions for youth and adults. Please see attached for more details.

Earlier this week, the Colebrook Fire Department honored [George “Obie” O’Brien, Jr.](#), with a color guard at his visitation and funeral. Obie, who passed away on April 23rd, was an active member of the Colebrook Volunteer Fire Department for over 30 years—and served as Chief of the Fire Police for many years.

Upcoming Town events:

The Colebrook Board of Recreation and the Town will host a Kids Fishing Derby on Sunday, May 19th, at the Colebrook Town Pond. Registration is at 8 a.m. Lines in water at 9 a.m., with fishing from 9-11 a.m.

Upcoming municipal board meetings:

[Board of Education](#) – Wednesday, May 8th, at 7 p.m. at Colebrook Consolidated School.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org, or call me at 860.379.3359, extension 202.

Cordially,

Brad

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