

Greetings from Colebrook Town Hall.

At last week's Town Budget Hearing, the Board of Finance presented its recommendation to establish the town's mill rate at 25 for Fiscal Year 2026/27. This is down from the current rate of 33.7 for real estate. The decline is due to the increase in assessed real estate values following the state-mandated Reval process.

In Colebrook, post-Reval, the median home assessment is now \$262,430. Residential taxes can be calculated by multiplying the assessed value of your home by the mill rate and dividing by 1,000.

The mill rate for personal property, including motor vehicles, will also drop to 25, and residents will experience a break on their motor vehicle taxes from the prior year mill rate of 32.46.

At last week's town Hearing, budgets for the Board of Selectmen, Capital Improvement Program and Colebrook Consolidated School were presented. If you weren't able to make it to the meeting, copies are available in the Town Clerk's office.

A Budget Hearing for Regional School District No. 7 will be held next Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m. at the high school. Copies of this budget are also available at Town Hall.

The referendum on the Colebrook and Region 7 budgets will be held on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at Colebrook Town Hall from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Absentee ballots will be available. Contact the Town Clerk at [dmckeon@colebrooktownhall.org](mailto:dmckeon@colebrooktownhall.org), or call 860.379.3359, ext. 203 to learn more.

During May, residents will also consider two ordinances. One is to accept the Town of Colebrook Code, as presented (and as discussed in previous issues).

The other ordinance being considered in May is to authorize the town to join the Northwest Regional Recovery Authority. This will enable us to collaborate with other municipalities in the northwest corner to explore options for managing solid waste. This has become increasingly important as the state winds down its ownership/management of the Torrington transfer station.

Voting on the proposed ordinances will take place at this year's Annual Town Budget Meeting on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, at Colebrook Town Hall at 8 p.m. (the night before our budget referendum, which we'll adjourn to at the meeting's conclusion).

This week, we welcomed Colebrook resident Patrick Parisi as our new part-time custodian at Town Hall.

The Colebrook Conservation Commission is looking for volunteers to be regular and alternate members. Conservation Commission meetings are held quarterly on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. If you're interested in being appointed to the Commission by the Board of Selectmen, please contact me at [bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org](mailto:bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org).

Colebrook Associates scholarship applications are available at Town Hall (and attached to this newsletter) and are due April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Applications for the Colebrook Associates Small Business Start-Up Grant program will be accepted through April 30<sup>th</sup>, and the grant recipient will be announced by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Learn more in the attached application.

The Community & Senior Center is hosting a Kentucky-Derby-themed Spring Tea on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 9-11 a.m. Tea, sandwiches, and treats will be served. Cost to attend is \$15. RSVP by contacting the Center at 860.738.9521, ext. 400.

The Center is sponsoring a Fabric & Craft Supplies Sale on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. If you would like to purchase a table to sell your fabric/craft supplies, please contact the Center at 860.738.9521, ext. 400, or email [seniordirector@colebrooktownhall.org](mailto:seniordirector@colebrooktownhall.org). Tables can be purchased for \$15.

Bingo is held every Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the Center. New players are always welcome, and if you'd like to volunteer to call Bingo, please let me know.

Stay up to date with programming and events at the Community & Senior Center on [Facebook](#).

With bears having emerged from hibernation, please take care with your curbside garbage. Learn [here](#) about bear-resistant rollout carts available through USA Recycling, our waste hauler.

Participation in our food scrap recycling program is another way to make your garbage less attractive to bears. Food scrap recycling kits are free and available at Town Hall. Our food scrap collection stations are located at Town Hall and the Forge Firehouse. We currently have approximately 60 households participating in this pilot initiative, and we average 1,200 lbs. of food scraps collected each month.

Baseball season kicks off next week in Colebrook. The Norbrook Cardinals (our Minors team in collaboration with Norfolk) host the New Hartford Rockies on Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. The Colebrook Yard Goats (our Farm team) host the Barkhamsted Diamondbacks on Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. First pitch at Colebrook Field on both days is at 5:30 p.m. Come out and support our teams!

### **Upcoming events**

This Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, at 3 p.m. the Colebrook Historical Society will host its Annual Meeting at Colebrook Town Hall. A brief business meeting will be followed by a presentation discussing what the American Revolution meant to the people of Connecticut. The program will feature artifacts and documents from the Connecticut Museum of Culture and History.

Next weekend, on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, the Colebrook Conservation Commission is hosting Colebrook Cleanup Day. Trash bags will be available from 9 a.m. to noon outside the Town Hall second floor meeting room. To sign up in advance for a specific road (or portion of a road) contact Karen Odell at [kodell@colebrooktownhall.org](mailto:kodell@colebrooktownhall.org).

Next month, our annual Kids Fishing Derby, sponsored by the Colebrook Recreation Board, will be held on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, at the Colebrook Pond. Details to follow.

### **Upcoming meetings**

Board of Finance – Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> (tonight), at 6 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall (second floor meeting room)

Inland Wetlands – Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall (Land Use office)

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**

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