



The Town of Newington E-Newsletter includes information about Town-sponsored events, projects and special announcements. Visit www.newington.nh.us to join the distribution list, or to be removed.

Board of Selectmen

Timothy “Ted” Connors, Chair
 Kenneth Latchaw
 Michael Marconi

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Upcoming Meetings:

8/3/2020	Board of Selectmen	4pm	Town Hall Under Tent
8/4/2020	Police Commission	4pm	Police Station
8/5/2020	Pease RAB Virtual Meeting	4pm	
8/5/2020	Board of Fire Engineers	6pm	Fire Station
8/6/2020	Economic Development Committee	6pm	Town Hall Under Tent
8/10/2020	Planning Board	5:30pm	Town Hall Under Tent
8/13/2020	Conservation Commission	6:30pm	Town Hall Under Tent
8/13/2020	Library Trustees	1:30pm	Town Hall Under Tent
8/17/2020	Zoning Board of Adjustment	5pm	Town Hall Under Tent
8/18/2020	Sewer Commission	9am	Waste Water Treatment Plant

SAFETY LANE DRAFT PLANS



The Safety Lane Committee has posted draft plans for the Nimble Hill Road Safety Lane on the inside front window of town hall. Please stop in as your schedule allows to review them and leave a comment or e-mail comments to mroy@townofnewingtonnh.com. March Town Meeting approved a 20% grant match (\$140,000) with the remainder (\$560,000) to be funded through a Department of Transportation- Transportation Alternatives Program grant. Learn more about the federal grant at: <https://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/planning/tap/>. You can also access the plans on line at this link: <https://www.newington.nh.us/safety-lane-committee>. The Committee has a vision of having safety lanes on all Newington roads.

RECREATION

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic the Town's Recreation programs, including Septemberfest, are cancelled for 2020. We look forward to programs in 2021 when restrictions are released and it is safe to continue. Thank you for your support and understanding.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!



The New Hampshire State Primary will take place on Tuesday September 8th, 2020 at the Newington Town Hall located at 205 Nimble Hill Road, Newington from 8am to 7pm.

Police Department

Come on August!! We are hoping everyone has been staying safe and healthy during the summer and continues to be diligent in the fight against COVID-19.

In last month's E-News Letter, I wrote about the current unrest in the country and how we police in the Village of Newington. I hope everyone had the opportunity to read and understand why we do what we do.

I had the opportunity to meet with three residents and Selectman Connors to discuss this exact issue. This gave me the opportunity to talk about the police department, our policies and procedures and National Accreditation. Give me the opportunity to talk about our profession and I can talk forever!! I know we are going in the right direction with our hiring practices, background checks, mandatory trainings, and community relations. I also know there is always room for improvement. I am only human as are your officers in town. We will make mistakes for sure, but will learn from our mistakes, making us a better department.

I thought this meeting was very informative on both sides regarding perceptions. I would like to have another sit down with more residents, to talk about issues concerning the community. A healthy discussion develops understanding, abolishes false acuties, and builds bonds. If this is something you are interested in being involved in, please give me a call and we can set up a date and time. With the recent hot temperatures, we have had numerous complaints of trespassing and illegally parked vehicles on Fox Point and Carter's Lane. Town property is posted for Permit Parking or

Resident Only. When you register your vehicle, you can obtain a free permit from the Town Clerk to be affixed to your windshield. A guest pass can be obtained by the resident from Town Hall for your guest to park in posted areas. Adhering to the town ordinance; 86-02, helps the officers identify who are allowed to be in posted areas, without confusion.

We are in the process of developing a parking ticket program to enforce the town ordinance. So, if you do not have a decal, please obtain one as soon as possible.

Let us talk about the speed trailer. We have had numerous requests to have the trailer set up on roads throughout town recently. We try to set up the trailer a week at a time, so we have a base (starting and ending time). The program will calculate volume and speeds within the base and provide us with an average speed. I know it can be tempting, but please do not try to see what your top speed can be on the trailer display. Officers have been known to be parked out of sight near the trailer!!!

If you have any questions, concerns or want to get involved in discussions, please do not hesitate to give me a call 431-5461 or email me at; mbilodeau@newingtonnhd.com.

Hoping to see the kids in the fall!! Be safe!!
Michael Bilodeau
Chief of Police

Coast Bus Has Added a Bus Stop in Newington



The new bus stop (#4410) is located at the Town Hall, 205 Nimble Hill Road. This bus stop is an 'ON CALL SERVICE' by request only. The times you can be picked up or dropped off at the Town Hall are between 9:00am-1:00pm and then from 6:00pm-8:00pm at :28 past those hours. If you would like to be picked up at the Town Hall, just text or call 603-743-5777 and COAST will set up a time to pick you up.



Goats, Sheep and Pigs are at Fox Point Clearing Invasives

Over the past year the Board of Selectmen has received emails from concerned residents about the invasive plants on Fox Point. The Town has hired a company to remove the invasive plants. This company uses goats, sheep and pigs. They use three types of animals because the sheep eat the tops of the plants, the goats eat the middle part and the pigs eat the roots. The city of Lebanon has had great results with this company. This treatment is being paid out of the Fox Point Capital Reserve fund, not the 2020 town budget. The owner of the animals camps with them overnight. You will see them by the parking area on the left just as you enter the Point.

Fox Point Sign Vandalized and Repaired!

Many of you may have noticed that the Fox Point "Residents only" sign had been vandalized recently, breaking it in to multiple pieces. Portsmouth Sign graciously repaired it at no charge! It looks like new! **A hearty thanks is extended to Portsmouth Sign!!**

ECONOMY, PROPERTY VALUES & POTENTIAL BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Due to current economic concerns, property abatement requests and potential for November tax revenue to be significantly reduced, the Selectmen have asked all of the departments to identify a **potential** 15% in reductions, if it is necessary, to keep the town financially stable. They are preplanning for a very unknown future.

The town has received a large amount of property abatement requests that is in part driven by the economy. Collectively, these requests exceed 150 million dollars. This includes power plant assessed value reductions as we have been reporting in previous Newsletter articles.

The Selectmen thank the departments that have worked with them to identify budget items that can be potentially delayed or eliminated if need be. We are hoping it will not be necessary to implement the reductions however, should it be unavoidable we want to be prepared.

Library Reopening by Appointment Starting Tuesday, August 4

New library hours:

We are glad to announce we are opening the library building by appointment on Tuesdays from 1 PM to 7 PM, and Fridays from 9 AM to 3 PM, starting the first week of August. You may call 436-5154 to request an appointment. Appointments are for 30 minutes for a maximum of 4 patrons at a time. Access is reserved to the lobby area, with materials from the stacks available to be retrieved by staff on request. Browsing the stacks, computer use other than the catalog computer, Children's room and meeting rooms, and on-site programs are not available until later reopening phases. Copies may be made by staff upon request. Curbside lending appointments remain available on Thursdays from 1 to 4 PM, and regular community events such as Lady Bug Bedtime Stories, Friday Family Hour and our Morning & Evening Book Groups will continue to be held virtually. *Note: the Friday morning book group will temporarily move to Thursday mornings at 10:30, to accommodate the library hours.*

Safety precautions:

Patrons are required to wear a mask or scarf as face covering in order to enter the library. This will be enforced with the cooperation of the Newington Police Department should it be necessary. Masks will be provided if they are needed. Patrons will be asked to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer upon entering the library. A pair of gloves will be provided if desired. Patrons should utilize good hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, and cough etiquette. In between appointments, staff will clean shared surfaces. Items handled during appointments will be held for 24 hours before reshelving. Items checked out will be quarantined for 96 hours and disinfected and allowed to dry before reshelving. *Please continue to return library materials using the exterior book drop rather than bringing into the building.*

Changes:

We know that libraries are familiar and comforting, and that change is hard! As we reopen the library building to the public, we ask that everyone have patience and flexibility to adapt to temporary changes in the library environment and operations, for the purpose of health and safety of both employees and visitors.

Lara Berry, Library Director and Langdon Library Board of Trustees



Newington Fire & Rescue

I hope everyone is healthy and safe and having as good a summer you can under the current circumstances. Things at NF&R are still busy on many levels. We recently hired a new full time Firefighter, Andrew Belair to fill one of our 2 vacant positions. Andrew has been a part time member for a couple years and was previously full time with Pease ANG Fire Department before joining us. Interest with joining NF&R was high as we originally had 21 applicant put in. Of the 21 applicants, 14 met the minimum qualifications. Of those 14 applicants 6 were lateral transfers which means that they a currently full time with another Department. A smaller Department, such as NF&R, receiving 14 qualified applicants speaks highly of its members and the dedication they have to Newington and

making it a great place to work. NF&R recently completed a Lieutenants promotional process as the 2 vacancies were both Lieutenants positions. We were fortunate enough to have 3 members that met the minimum qualifications and were interested in the position. Those promotions will be forthcoming in the very near future. The second vacant position will be filled once the promotion process is complete.

Call volume has picked back up to pre COVID levels as more people are returning to work and are just out and about. Fire inspections and Permit of Assembly (POA's) inspections have also resumed. In doing our part for the environment, we are proud to say that we are currently approximately 85% paperless and are continuing with steps to increase that percentage.

For residents that may be concerned about NF&R not being able to gain access to your residence will you are not home, Knox Corporations (www.knoxbox.com) offers a residential lock box that mounts to your house. It's called the Knox HomeBox and it can hold up to 2 keys and/or a card with door codes on it. The boxes are extremely secure and are required on every commercial occupancy in Town. They come in several colors and can also be painted. The system works only with a special key that is locked in all NF&R apparatus that can only be accessed with a special code that each member is assigned and the Knox lock system records every time the key is removed and by who. The HomeBox can also be wired into your homes alarm system to notify you that access was made to it. The cost is around \$170 which is far less than replacing a door or window. If you are interested or have any questions, feel free to reach out to Assistant Chief Pat Moynihan at 436-9441 x5 or pmoynihan@newingtonfire.org. We also have several loaners that can be placed over the door while you are out of town or on vacation.

As always, we are here and available if you have any needs or questions. Stay safe.

EJ Hoyt

Fire Chief

GRILLING STATISTICS



from **NFPA**

10,600 home fires are started by grills each year, on average

July is the peak month for grill fires, followed by June, May, and August





19,700 patients went to the ER per year because of injuries involving grills, including **9,500** thermal burns



64% of U.S. households own at least one outdoor BBQ, grill or smoker

Gas grills contribute to a higher numbers of fires than charcoal grills.

61% of households own a gas grill



Sources:
NFPA Research, Data & Analytics
Hearth, Patio and Barbecue Association
Consumer Product Safety Commission's National Electronic Injury Surveillance System

When the warmer weather hits, there's nothing better than the smell of food on the grill.

Seven out of every 10 adults in the U.S. have a grill or smoker, which translates to a lot of tasty meals. But it also means there's an increased risk of home fires.

In 2014-2018, fire departments went to an annual average of 8,900 home fires involving grills, hibachis or barbecues per year, including 3,900 structure fires and 4,900 outside or unclassified fires.

Grilling fire facts

- July is the peak month for grill fires (18%), including both structure, outdoor or unclassified fires, followed by June (15%), May (13%) and August (12%).
- In 2014-2018, an average of 19,700 patients per year went to emergency rooms because of injuries involving grills.** Nearly half (9,500 or 48%) of the injuries were thermal burns, including both burns from fire and from contact with hot objects; 5,200 thermal burns, per year, were caused by such contact or other non-fire events.
- Children under five accounted for an average of 2,000 or 39%, of the contact-type burns per year. These burns typically occurred when someone, often a child, bumped into, touched or fell on the grill, grill part or hot coals.
- Gas grills were involved in an average of 8,900 home fires per year, including 3,900 structure fires and 4,900 outdoor fires annually. Leaks or breaks were primarily a problem with gas grills. Ten percent of gas grill structure fires and 22% of outside gas grill fires were caused by leaks or breaks.
- Charcoal or other solid-fueled grills were involved in 1,300 home fires per year, including 600 structure fires and 600 outside fires annually.

Additional helpful tips

- Safety tip: grills should be placed well away from home/deck railings & out from under eaves & branches <http://ow.ly/kMfq300fumf>
- Read all of NFPA's grilling safety tips & download the free safety tip sheet: <http://ow.ly/lrAl300fszr>
- In this @NFPA video, tips on staying safe when grilling your tasty meals are reviewed. Check it out: <https://youtu.be/65RCHLNIKa8> #grilling
- Want a simple test to check your gas grill for leaks? @NFPA has a great one: <https://youtu.be/mpDhUssEgP0> #grilling
- Fire safety tip: Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from grills & in trays below the grill <http://ow.ly/kMfq300fumf>
- Share this infographic on grilling stats from @NFPA to inform your friends/family/neighbors: <http://ow.ly/gDEi300fv5l>
- ESPN @SportsCenter anchor @HannahStormESPN urges others to learn from her accident & grill safely: <http://ow.ly/cjH5300fvgs>
- When using portable grills (beach, park) away from home, follow @NFPA's safety tips to reduce injury: <http://ow.ly/KxnO300fCqK>

Sprague Noxious Fumes Update:

Many residents and neighboring town residents have been complaining about the noxious fumes emanating from Sprague Industries over the last two years. The town has been reporting these complaints to the NH Dept of Environmental Services as well as to Sprague. Recently the Selectmen learned of a proposed settlement between the USEPA, Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Sprague Industries to limit emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC's) from oil storage tanks at seven facilities across New England, one of them being the Newington NH site. The Selectmen are working with their Air Quality Engineer to propose protective language to the USEPA for inclusion in the settlement documents. For more information on the Sprague and USEPA settlement click on this link: <https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/sprague-clean-air-act-settlement-information-sheet>.

Ladybug

New Hampshire State Insect



New Hampshire designated the ladybug (also called ladybird or lady beetle) as the official state insect in 1977.

Ladybugs help gardeners and farmers by eating tiny insect pests that damage plants. A ladybug can consume up to 60 aphids per day and will also eat a variety of other harmful insects and larvae (including scales, mealy bugs, leaf hoppers, mites, and other types of soft-bodied insects), as well as pollen and nectar.

There are about 5,000 species of ladybugs, with about 450 species in the United States.

Ohio, New York, Massachusetts, Tennessee, and Delaware also recognize the ladybug as an official state symbol.

Fire Station Addition Awarded

This year's town meeting approved funds to build a Fire Station clean room addition for the health and safety of the firefighters. This is a separate room to decontaminate firefighting gear. The incidence of cancer in firefighters has been linked to some of the toxins that collect on gear and breathing apparatus. The Selectmen have awarded the Fire Station Addition of a clean room to Solid Roots Construction of Manchester, NH. The project is expected to start by the end of August.

Hours of Operation: Town Offices - Mon - Fri. 9 - 4:30pm

NEW HOURS: Town Clerk/Tax Collector Tuesday and Wednesday 9am-1pm, Thursday: 12noon-4:30pm

Building Dept. - Mon - Thurs 6:30am- 4:30pm

Planning Dept. - Monday & Thursday 9 - 4:30pm (Planner by appointment)

Langdon Library - Tues 3 - 8pm, Wed 12 - 7pm, Thurs 10 - 5pm, Fri 10 - 5pm, Sat 10 - 4pm,

Transfer Station Wed 5 - 7pm, Sat 9 - 3pm

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Newington Town Hall 603-436-7640