Town of Newington, NH E-Newsletter

July 2020



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

To Newington residents:

Our country and community is going through trying times right now in so many ways. The COVIDpandemic has affected us emotionally, socially and economically. It is important that our town continues to support one another, look after each other, recognize, embrace and accept our differences, no matter what race, gender identity, religious beliefs, or our ages. When we work together it can only make us a stronger community committed to working towards a better future. Sincerely,

Board of Selectmen

Ted Connors, Ken Latchaw & Mike Marconi



Welcome to Newington, Aldi Grocery Store!

We are glad you have joined our business community!

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Upcoming Meetings:

7/1/2020	Board of Fire Engineers	6pm	Fire Station
7/7/2020	Board of Selectmen	5pm	Town Hall
7/9/2020	Planning Board	5pm	Town Hall
7/9/2020	Conservation Commission	6:30pm	Town Hall
7/13/2020	Planning Board	6:30pm	Town Hall
7/15/2020	Sewer Commission	9am	Waste Water Treatment Plant
7/16/2020	Library Trustees	1:30pm	Library
7/20/2020	Board of Selectmen	5pm	Town Hall
7/30/2020	Economic Development Committee	6pm	Town Hall

An Uncertain Future

On behalf of our town we made the decision in March to closely monitor all expenditures. At that time we asked all departments to spend only what was absolutely necessary. In May we asked each department to review their budget and develop a list of priority items that could be delayed or eliminated. We expect a difficult third and fourth quarter this year. For this reason we want to position the town to be able to fiscally respond to any unforeseen event. We based our decision on the following factors:

1. We anticipate an economic downturn in the third and/or fourth quarter of this year. This could be a financial challenge for our town.

 The federal payroll protection act expires in August and it remains to be seen what happens to those workers currently protected. Will they have jobs or will the unemployment rate skyrocket.
The Congressional budget office has forecast a 300 billion to 370 billion reduction in consumer spending. Because of this many small businesses and companies have closed permanently. Newington is experiencing some of this.

4. Should schools remain closed or be forced to close, many parents will have to provide childcare. This will affect their jobs and ability to pay their bills.

5. A second wave of virus could force a second shut down and shelter in place order further impacting revenues.

We hope the recovery will continue and look forward to an improved economy and more normal times.

The welfare of our town remains our primary concern. We will post new information as it becomes available.

Board of Selectmen Ted Connors, Ken Latchaw & Mike Marconi

LIBRARY NEWS:

No-Contact Curbside Lending continues at the library and Summer Reading Starts Monday, June 29

We have checked out 138 books, audiobooks, DVDs and BluRays in our first three weeks of No-Contact Curbside Lending. Instructions on how to utilize curbside lending are here:

- 1. You will need your library card number and login information to place reserves. If you haven't logged in to our catalog before and need your information, please email <u>info@langdonlibrary.org</u> or call and leave a voice mail at 603-436-5154.
- 2. A limit of five (5) items may be checked out via curbside per week, and a limit of ten (10) pages may be printed per week. Please send an email with your print jobs attached to <u>info@langdonlibrary.org</u>
- 3. Curbside pick-up hours are on Mondays and Thursdays from 1 PM to 4 PM, with appointments spaced 15 minutes apart. Library staff call to make appointments when your items are ready. Appointees are called in order of reserve placement.
- 4. Staff wear masks and gloves and practice good hand hygiene while finding reserved items, checking them out, and placing them in a paper bag. Bags are marked with library card numbers and time of pick-up appointment. Names are omitted both on and in the bags to protect library user confidentiality.
- 5. Bags are placed on a folding table outside before curbside hours begin. Signage with instructions and the library phone number will be placed on the table as well, for any questions that arise.

Answers to some FAQ:

I've never reserved a book in the catalog before. Where do I find the catalog, and how do I log in and place reserves?

You can visit the catalog by clicking here: <u>https://langdonlibnh.booksys.net/opac/lplnh/#menuHome</u>

You may also find it by going to <u>www.langdonlibrary.org</u>, clicking on "What to Check Out," and then "Search the Catalog/Log In." This navigates you away from our website and to the "OPAC," our library's Online Public Access Catalog. There is a link to instructions on how to place reserves in the "News and Messages" section of the main page of the OPAC.

You stopped lending in March due to safety concerns for patrons and staff. Is it safe to lend now?

Since we closed the library in March, we put a procedure in place to quarantine and disinfect returned materials using CDC recommendations for shared surfaces. We have now acquired PPE for staff such as KN-95 masks and gloves, which were not available when we first closed. We took time to study "best practices" for curbside procedures, which is how we came up with the idea of a table

outside and using paper instead of plastic bags. We will continue to monitor safety concerns and adapt our practices accordingly.

When will the library building re-open?

Libraries are the most complex municipal building to re-open. The very thing that makes libraries vital to their communities, bringing people together, makes them risky during this crisis. Though Newington has a small number of COVID 19 cases, the library re-opening would draw people from out of town and increase risks for both library staff and patrons. Each re-opening stage is being carefully planned with safety as our highest priority.

Imagine Your Story Summer Reading:

This year ALA's Summer Reading theme is "Imagine Your Story." See below for the full list of online or remote events Miss Amanda has created in keeping with this theme. "Summer Reading" is of course really about reading. The more you read, the more chances you have to win prizes. This year, you will keep track of your reading on a virtual platform, <u>ReadSquared</u>. *Children should keep track of each day they read* to earn virtual raffle entries for gift cards to Dover Bowl, Sweetened Memories Bakery, Hilltop Fun Center, Lago's Ice Cream, and more. *Teens and adults should keep track of each book they read* for a chance to win a gift card to the Library Restaurant, Gas Light Pizza Company, or a Trader Joe's gift basket. Each day read, or each book read, will earn you a raffle ticket to win one of these prizes **You may sign up for Summer Reading anytime after Monday June 29 until August 15. Instructions for logging in and signing up are available on our website at** <u>https://www.langdonlibrary.org/srp/</u>

You may sign up for more updates about library services by clicking here: <u>https://www.langdonlibrary.org/langdon-letter/</u>

Happy Reading! See you online,

Lara, Theresa, Amanda and Deb

FOX POINT ROAD- Dirt Portion to Dock-Drainage Work Donated

A special thanks to TM Marine Construction and Bourassa Construction for the man hours and equipment recently **donated** to reconfigure the Fox Point road drainage on the dirt road section to the dock. We thank the Highway crew for all of their work on this project as well. This will insure residents do not slip from incorrect water flow in the future.



The NH State Primary will be held on Tuesday September 8th, 2020 at the Town Hall, for the nomination of Candidates for the following offices:

Governor, United States Senator, Representative in Congress, Executive Councilor, State Senator, County Officer, State Representative, Delegate to the Republican State Convention

Voting Information

On April 10, 2020, a memorandum was issued concluding that "in light of the current public health state of emergency, Emergency Orders #16 and #26, and current public health guidance on social distancing and avoiding being in public in groups of 10 or more, all voters have a reasonable ground to conclude that a 'physical disability' exists within the meaning of RSA 657:1." Even if a person does not consider themselves a person with disability in other circumstances, the term applies for registering and voting in 2020. RSA 654:16. Therefore, all New Hampshire citizens may apply for voter registration by mail. Obtain an Absentee Voter Registration Form, affidavit, and instruction package by emailing Town Clerk Laura Coleman at loceman@townofnewingtonnh.com or mailing your request to 205 Nimble Hill Road, Newington, NH 03801.

For more information see this link: <u>https://www.newington.nh.us/home/news/covid-19-related-absentee-voting-registration-instructions</u>

Official State Flower of New Hampshire-Pink Lady Slipper

The pink lady's slipper (cypripedium acaule) was designated the official state wildflower of New Hampshire in 1991.

The lady slipper is a unique member of the orchid family. It may also be called the moccasin flower. The lady slipper thrives in moist, rich soil. It has a symbiotic relationship with a certain fungus in the forest.

Police Department

The death of George Floyd has torn the fabric of our nation and has brought attention to policing all over the world. Minneapolis Police Officer Derek Chauvin's actions have damaged the Law Enforcement Profession and the community trust we have worked so hard to build. We as a profession denounce officer Chauvin's actions and do not condone the tactics used.

Days and weeks following May 25th, I have been asked, as the chief, what have I done to change policing in our community. I answer that question with what we do and how we police, so we limit the probability of an unnecessary injury or death under our control.

In February of 2017 I was hired as the Chief of Police for the Town of Newington, by the Newington Police Commission. One of my goals going forward for 2018 was to have the police department nationally accredited through CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies), a four-year process.

Accreditation means greater accountability and transparency of the police department through industry accepted written directives, professional training, and comprehensive reporting; as well as a system of reviews, inspections, audits, and analysis of high-risk operations. This step was necessary to overcome a fairly wide deficiency in outdated department policies. We are now better able to protect the community from liability associated with operating a police department in today's climate.

CALEA is a credentialing authority using best practices in developing directives and policies and procedures. The best practices are established through the comprehensive efforts of leading executive associations: International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP); National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE); National Sheriffs' Association (NSA); and the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)

In 2019, I was appointed to the Education and Training Committee with IACP. In this position, we are tasked with developing best practice principles to be used throughout the world.

Through the accreditation process, we not only have to have policies and procedures through best practices, but we must prove that we are following those policies. This is done by CALEA Managers who review our incident reports, arrest reports, as well as review our annual mandated reporting on use of force and citizen complaints for full transparency.

The following are the steps we take to make sure we are compliant with standards and hire the best officers.

In our hiring requirements, we exceed the minimum requirements set by the state for hiring officers. Next to establishing comprehensive policies, hiring the best candidate is one of the top priorities within a department. We focus on education or military equivalent, a written test score of a minimum of 80%, and physical and mental fitness testing. Once a candidate meets our requirements the candidate will go through an oral board process. The oral board is comprised of a Newington patrol officer, a Newington Police supervisor, a resident, a member of the business community and a member of the Air National Guard. My belief is the officer is serving the community and the community should have a voice in the selection process.

Officers go through extensive training and yearly policy review regarding use of force/response to resistance and de-escalation. Updated policies, policy reviews and annual trainings are also audited annually by CALEA managers.

The department has been involved with New Hampshire Listens; a group of law enforcement, community leaders and community members who discuss current affairs issue related to community relations, biases and discrimination.

Our policies focusing on the use of force/response to resistance have extensive follow up. Once force is used, a report and a Response to Resistance form must be completed within 24 hours. The reports are reviewed by a supervisor and then reviewed by an instructor of the discipline of the force used. The reports are approved by the captain and then the chief. If there is a violation of policy, we determine if there is a deficiency in policy or training for corrective measures.

We utilize a progressive discipline and track officers' compliments, complaints, and policy violations, through an in-house database system. Three or more disciplinary incidents within a 6-month period are "red flagged" and reviewed. Progressive discipline can stem from verbal, written reprimand, suspension, or dismissal from duty. If an officer is terminated, documentation is sent to the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council and the officer is placed in the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training data base. This is to track officer de-certifications for future hiring's.

Times change quickly and there is always room for improvement and reform but at what cost. I reject knee jerk reactions in solving problems. I like the analytical aspect with discussion in developing a comprehensive solution to a problem.

Just like any profession we are accountable for our actions. We constantly strive to be the best we can be for the community and profession. We are human and make mistakes. It is how we learn from our mistakes that make us better to serve you.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me at 431-5461 or send me an email: <u>mbilodeau@newingtonnhpd.com</u>

Thank you for your continued support. Be safe!!!

Michael Bilodeau, Police Chief

Newington Fire & Rescue

Summertime Safety Measures

As spring has come to an end and summer appears to be ratchetting up quickly with the heat and lack of rain, spending more time outdoors will most likely be the plan. With the continued concern of the COVID-19 virus, many families are opting for a staycation over the traditional vacation. As comfortable as you can be at, you still need to remain diligent in protecting yourself and family members. Below are a few things to look out for and as always, if you or a neighbor have any questions or need assistance, just give us a call. Stay safe and have a great Forth of July.

Heat Exhaustion

When the body loses excessive water and salt, usually due to sweating, heat exhaustion can occur. According to the <u>free</u> <u>NSC First Aid Quick Reference app</u>, signs and symptoms include:

- Sweating
- Pale, ashen or moist skin
- Muscle cramps (especially for those working or exercising outdoors in high temperatures)
- Fatigue, weakness or exhaustion
- Headache, dizziness or fainting
- Nausea or vomiting
- Rapid heart rate

Uncontrolled heat exhaustion can evolve into heat stroke, so make sure to treat victims quickly:

- Move victims to a shaded or air-conditioned area
- Give water or other cool, nonalcoholic beverages
- Apply wet towels, or have victims take a cool shower

Heat Stroke

Seek medical help immediately if someone is suffering from heat stroke. Signs include:

- Body temperature above 103 degrees
- Skin that is flushed, dry and hot to the touch; sweating has usually stopped
- Rapid breathing
- Headache, dizziness, confusion or other signs of altered mental status
- Irrational or belligerent behavior
- Convulsions or unresponsiveness
- Immediately take action:
 - Call 911
 - Move the victim to a cool place
 - Remove unnecessary clothing
 - Immediately cool the victim, preferably by immersing up to the neck in cold water (with the help of a second rescuer)
 - If immersion in cold water is not possible, place the victim in a cold shower or move to a cool area and cover as much of the body as possible with cold, wet towels
 - Keep cooling until body temperature drops to 101 degrees
 - Monitor the victim's breathing and be ready to give CPR if needed
- DO NOT:
 - Force the victim to drink liquids
 - Apply rubbing alcohol to the skin
 - Allow victims to take pain relievers or salt tablets



The best way to avoid a heat-related illness is to limit exposure outdoors during hot days. According to <u>the Centers for</u> <u>Disease Control and Prevention</u>:

- Air conditioning is the best way to cool off
- Drink fluids, even if you don't feel thirsty, and avoid alcohol
- Wear loose, lightweight clothing and a hat
- Replace salt lost from sweating by drinking fruit juice or sports drinks
- Avoid spending time outdoors during the hottest part of the day, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Wear sunscreen; sunburn affects the body's ability to cool itself
- Pace yourself when you run or otherwise exert your body

Drowning: It Can Happen in an Instant

Not including boating incidents, on average about 10 people die from drowning every day in the United States, according to <u>Injury Facts®</u> the annual statistical report on unintentional injuries produced by the National Safety Council. **Pool Safely This Summer; Take the Pledge**



NSC and the Consumer Product Safety Commission are encouraging everyone to keep water safety top of mind and reduce child drowning in pools and spas. The <u>Pool</u> <u>Safely</u> campaign reminds everyone to follow five simple steps to stay safer in and around water.

More than 75,000 adults and children have signed the Pool Safely Pledge last summer. <u>Take the Pledge</u> today and get a free Pool Safely Toolkit.

The USA Swimming Foundation reports nearly 90 children younger than 15 drowned in a pool or spa from January through May 2018, and every year about 19 children drown during the July 4 holiday. CPSC also reports:

- 74% of drowning incidents for children younger than 15 between 2015 and 2017 occurred in residential locations
- Boys younger than 15 die from drowning at twice the rate as girls
- <u>351 children younger than 15</u> died in pools and spas in 2015
- Emergency departments treat about 6,400 pool and spa injuries in children younger than 15 every year

Teens and Young Adults Often Don't Think About Water Safety

While drowning deaths peak among 1 and 2 year old's, drownings continue to be the second leading cause of preventable death through age 15. According to <u>NSC research</u>, 353 people ages 5 to 24 drowned in 2017. Swimmers should keep a <u>few safety precautions</u> in mind:

- Don't go in the water unless you know how to swim; swim lessons are available for all ages
- Never swim alone
- Learn CPR and rescue techniques
- Make sure the body of water matches your skill level; swimming in a pool is much different than swimming in a lake or river, where more strength is needed to handle currents
- If you do get caught in a current, don't try to fight it; stay calm and float with it, or swim parallel to the shore until you can swim free
- Swim in areas supervised by a lifeguard
- Don't push or jump on others
- Don't dive in unfamiliar areas
- Never drink alcohol when swimming; alcohol is involved in about half of all male teen drownings, according to KidsHealth.org

The Younger the Child, the Greater the Risk

Most parents think water safety is first and foremost on their minds whenever they are enjoying summer activities with their young kids. But when the unthinkable happens, caregivers often say, "I only looked away for a second."

NSC statistics point to drowning as a leading cause of death for young children – mostly due to children falling into a pool or being left alone in the bathtub. Of the 3,709 drownings in 2017, more than 12% were children age 4 and younger, according to <u>Injury</u> <u>Facts</u>. Bathtubs, toilets and even buckets also can pose a danger for very young children.

Distractions Make for Tragedies

Parents are cautioned all the time about water safety, but drownings still occur. Always be aware and be in the present moment with your children. Following are a few water safety precautions:

- Never leave your child alone; if you have to leave, take your child with you
- Find age-appropriate swim lessons for your child, but keep in mind that lessons do not make your child "drownproof"
- Lifeguards aren't babysitters; always keep your eyes on your child
- Don't let children play around drains and suction fittings
- Never consume alcohol when operating a boat, and always make sure everyone is wearing U.S. Coast Guardapproved life jackets
- Don't underestimate the power of water; even rivers and lakes can have undertows
- Always have a first aid kit and emergency contacts handy
- Get training in CPR
- If a child is missing, check the water first

Every pool, every lake and every warm summer day holds the possibility of new, fun summer experiences. All you need to add is your undivided attention.

EJ Hoyt, Fire Chief



Town of Newington

Fireworks Ordinance No. 15-01

A. Fireworks Generally – Statement of Purpose

1. The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish standards for the control of New Hampshire Permissible Fireworks within the Town of Newington. It is the intent of the Town of Newington to promote an



environment free from danger or excessive noise which unnecessarily jeopardizes the health and welfare of the citizens of the Town and degrades the quality of life in this community, without unduly prohibiting, limiting or otherwise regulating the function of certain noise producing equipment which may be essential to the quality of life in the community.

B. Fireworks Regulations

- 1. The use of Permissible Fireworks in the Town of Newington is regulated by Town Ordinance. Fireworks permits are required and issued by the Newington Fire Department under the conditions specified in the ordinance. There is no fee for the fireworks permit. Permits will be issued 24-48 hours prior to the fireworks display and shall be valid only for the display date listed on the permit.
- 2. The sale of fireworks within the Town of Newington is prohibited.
- 3. Applicants for fireworks permits must be 21 years of age and the owner of the property, or have written permission for the display from the owner of the property where the display is being held. The applicant shall provide a valid photo identification upon request of the issuing authority.
- 4. Permits will not be issued in conditions of high fire danger when outside burn permits would not be issued or when the Fire Chief or his designee determine that conditions are not appropriate. Fireworks displays shall only be allowed on Saturdays, Sundays or federal holidays between the hours of 10:00 am and 10:00 pm. No fireworks display shall be ignited within 100 feet of any structure, overhead utilities or woodlands. Any fireworks display shall be restricted to the property listed on the permit unless written permission of the adjoining property owner is obtained prior to the display. Persons under the age of 21 are prohibited from igniting fireworks and any person igniting fireworks shall not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- 5. <u>Fireworks shall not be ignited when aircraft approaching or departing Pease Airport can be seen or heard.</u> (See Pease Airport section below)
- 6. The permit applicant shall be required to have a means of fire extinguishment readily accessible.
- 7. Only New Hampshire Permissible Fireworks purchased from a licensed fireworks retailer in New Hampshire shall be permitted to be displayed and a copy of the sales receipt is required for permitting.

C. Town Property

1. Fireworks displays on or over property owned by the Town of Newington is prohibited without the written permission of the Board of Selectman and the issuance of a Fireworks Permit.

D. Enforcement

- 1. The Fire Chief or his designee reserves the right to inspect the permitted location and the fireworks to be discharged at any time during the period for which the permit is issued. Failure to allow such inspection shall result in the immediate revocation of the permit.
- 2. The applicant shall be responsible for reimbursing the Town of Newington for any costs associated with the mitigation of any fire or other emergency which is the result of the applicants use of fireworks.
- 3. Failure to comply with any provision of this ordinance is a violation punishable by:
 - First Offense: \$50.00 fine and revocation of permit, if applicable
 - Second Offense: Up to a \$1,000.00 fine and revocation of permit, if applicable
- 4. Persons found guilty of a second offense will be prohibited from obtaining any further Permissible Fireworks Permits.
- 5. Any sworn law enforcement officer shall be empowered to enforce this ordinance.

E. Pease Airport Fireworks Restrictions

- 1. The ignition/display of fireworks within the common path of approach and departure to Pease Airport is strictly prohibited. No fireworks permits will be issued for properties within this restricted space. A map of the restricted space will be maintained by the Fire Department and referred to at the time a fireworks permit is requested.
- 2. No fireworks shall be ignited when aircraft approaching the Pease Airport can be seen or heard.

F. Other

1. No permit issued under this ordinance shall relieve the permit holder of any responsibilities or liabilities associated with any other rule, ordinance or law governing the conduct of the permit holder, and no permit issued under this ordinance shall provide for any exemptions to any other rule, ordinance or law.

WHY DO WE HAVE A TENT AT TOWN HALL?



The town office has rented a tent for the months of June and July. This tent is used to have board and committee meetings. According to CDC guidelines outdoor gatherings are a much lower risk for contracting Covid-19 than indoor gatherings. The tent is located on the front lawn of the town hall. The cost of the tent rental will be covered by the CARES Act Covid-19 grant that is available to the town through the state

Reminder: You can now make appointments to visit personnel at Town Hall See this link for details: https://www.newington.nh.us/home/news/town-hall-limited-reopening-june-15th

Power Plant Disputes

Half of the town's assessed valuation is made up of utility/power plant value. This is declining nationally as solar and wind energy become more prevalent and other power generation sources compete with us. Newington's two power plants- EP Newington and Newington Station are disputing their assessed values.

Following is a link to a more detailed news article on this subject: https://www.newington.nh.us/sites/g/files/vyhlif966/f/news/may_newsletter.pdf



May Photo of Little Bay at Sunset

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 Subscribe or Unsubscribe at this link: <u>http://www.newington.nh.us/subscribe</u> Newington Town Hall 603-436-7640