



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
 Michael Marconi
 Bob Blonigen

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Upcoming Meetings:

3/1/2022	Police Commission	4pm	Police Station
3/2/2022	Board of Fire Engineers	5:30pm	Fire Station
3/7/2022	Board of Selectmen	5: 00pm	Town Hall
3/8/2022	Town Election	11am-7pm	Town Hall
3/10/2022	Conservation Commission	6:30pm	Town Hall
3/12/2022	School & Town Meeting	10am	Town Hall
3/14/2022	Planning Board	6pm	Town Hall
3/16/2022	Sewer Commission	9am	Wst. Water Trtmt. Facility
3/21/2022	Board of Selectmen	5: 00pm	Town Hall
3/28/2022	Planning Board	6pm	Town Hall
3/31/2022	Economic Development Committee	6pm	Town Hall

BALLOT CLERKS NEEDED!!! PLEASE HELP!!!!!!!!!!

We're looking for ballot clerks for the upcoming election and for future elections. Please contact Laura Coleman at Lcoleman@townofnewingtonnh.com if interested.

*****CAMP NEWINGTON SURVEY*****

Please follow the link below and fill out this one question survey. Thanks!

<https://forms.gle/yaGKZA5rfpxSs7up8>

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The principal role of the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) is to review and rule on zoning ordinance relief applications seeking variances, special exceptions, or appeals of decisions made by administrative officials. Training will be provided! Email the Board of Selectmen at selectmen@newington.nh.us if you are interested.

Who is running for office? What are the zoning amendments recommended by the Planning Board? Find out the answers here:

<https://www.newington.nh.us/home/news/town-election-sample-ballots>



**Town Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday April 9th (11 AM)
Old Town Hall**

(Rain date Sunday April 10th)

Planning Board

At Town Meeting, the voters of Newington will be voting on four (4) Articles which would amend the Zoning Ordinance in several ways, from modifying the review process for ground-mounted solar arrays to streamlining certain wetland permits to modifying the Historic District at Bloody Point.

This Article will focus on Article 5 (Zoning Amendment #4) which would change the permitted uses in the Bloody Point Historic District from Residential to Office uses. The current District has been in place for decades, although there's a strong likelihood that it was too small (part of a single lot) to meet the standards for the creation of a zoning district, rendering it unlawful.

The legal definition of Spot Zoning is:

The granting to a particular parcel of land a classification concerning its use that differs from the *classification* of other land in the immediate area.

Spot zoning is *invalid* because it amounts to an arbitrary, capricious and unreasonable treatment of a limited area within a particular district and is, therefore, a deviation from the master plan.

The Bloody Point Historic Zoning District was never a significant concern to the Town or the Planning Board, as the property has been owned by the State of New Hampshire for over 50 years and unused during this period of time. However, the State of New Hampshire announced in 2021 that the property was going to be sold, and while the State offered it to the Town (with many conditions and financial obligations) the Board of Selectmen unanimously decided against pursuing the acquisition of the former railroad depot.

The sale of the property caused the Planning Board to study the situation and examine the current uses allowed in the district. This district is approximately two acres in size upon which sits the former railroad depot and is residentially zoned. All of the property surrounding this two-acre area is zoned Industrial or Office, and after careful consideration, requests for input from the Historic District Commission, the public at-large, and after multiple public meetings and a Public Hearing, the Board voted to advance Article to Town Meeting 2022.

Why is this Amendment important? Why now? What affect will it have, and will it preclude the property from being used at it was in the past? The State of New Hampshire has begun the process to sell this property; the time to correct the Zoning District and permit uses allowed in the immediate

surroundings is now. The Planning Board considered waiting another year to allow for further study, but determined that any potential purchaser of the property should know how the property is zoned in advance of the sale. Finally, this property was never built or intended to be used as a single family-residence, rather, it has always been a railroad depot with a caretaker’s residence attached. The current Newington Zoning Ordinance *allows* for a caretaker’s residence as part of a commercial business, so the historic use of this property may continue as a business with or without a caretaker’s residence. The Town of Newington has written and adopted many Master Plans over the decades, most recently adopting a Master Plan in 2020 which have all stressed the importance of separating different land uses geographically, which is how Newington has developed and preserved our residential areas while allowing a myriad of uses from heavy manufacturing to offices to retail well-separated from our residential zones.

The Planning Board works tirelessly to plan for today and tomorrow, and this Amendment was not placed on the 2022 Town Meeting Warrant without very careful consideration and study – we would appreciate your support of this, and the other zoning amendments at Town Meeting.

Len Thomas Retires from Providing Newington Trash Disposal After 40 Years

Please join us in extending our heartfelt thanks for the many years of service Len has given the town in this capacity. See the following link for his retirement letter:

<https://www.newington.nh.us/home/news/leonard-thomas-retires-from-trash-pick-up-see-attached-letter-from-leonard-thomas-the-town>

Newington Fire & Rescue

Although March is here and spring is right around the corner, February proved that winter is not quite ready to loosen its grip just yet. As it starts to warm back up during the day, remember to watch for icing from the melting snow during the overnight hours on walkways and roadways.

We recently found out the Department was awarded a GOFERR grant from the state to upgrade our existing Ambulance power cot to a new power loader system. The grant request was for nearly \$32,000 for the equipment and installation. This equipment will be able to dramatically reduce the potential for back injuries while loading patients into the ambulance.

While on the topic of good news, the new command truck that was ordered last March has finally been delivered and is currently being outfitted at New England Vehicle Outfitters (NEVO) here in Town. It should be going into service in the very near future.

As March is the time for Town elections (3/8) and Town meeting (3/12), if you should have any questions, looking for clarification or would like to discuss any part of the FD budget or warrants, please feel free to reach out to me at the contacts below or swing by the station.

Don't forget on March 13th to "spring ahead" with your clocks. Please make sure to check your smoke and CO alarms as well to make sure the batteries are fresh and in proper working condition. Should you need any assistance with your alarms please let us know.

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

EJ Hoyt
Fire Chief
436-9441 x6
ehoyt@newingtonfire.org

Change Your Clocks / Check Your Smoke & CO Detector Batteries

When it's time to "spring forward" or "fall back" and change your clocks, make sure to change the batteries in all of your smoke alarms. If batteries were recently changed, it's still very important to conduct your monthly test of your smoke alarms. It could save a life!



Did you know that having a working smoke alarm reduces a person's chance of dying in a fire by half?

For the best protection, install smoke alarms on every level of your home, outside every sleeping area, and in every bedroom. Smoke alarms should be mounted high on walls or ceilings and tested monthly. You should also have a properly working Carbon Monoxide detector on each level of your home.



It's important to replace smoke alarm batteries at least once a year, unless they're 10-year lithium batteries. Even if your smoke alarms are hardwired, replace the batteries in case of a chirping sound or a power outage.

Reminder: Smoke alarms do not last forever. The maximum life span is 10 years. After that time, the entire unit should be replaced. If the unit does not respond

properly when tested, it should be replaced immediately.

Help your smoke alarm remain sensitive and ready to protect you by gently using a vacuum cleaner once a month to remove dust and cobwebs. If your Smoke Alarms have been accidentally painted or contaminated, replacement may be necessary.

As always, if you have a question, concern or need a hand, give the fire station a call or swing by.

[What is on the Saturday, March 12th Town Meeting docket?](#)

See this link for the warrant and budget:

<https://www.newington.nh.us/home/news/budget-and-warrant-articles>

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE HOURS FOR ELECTIONS

OPEN 3pm-5pm

Monday March 7, 2022

FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT DROP OFF

WILL BE CLOSED ON

Tuesday & Wednesday

March 8 & 9, 2022

FOR ELECTIONS

OFFICE WILL BE OPEN

Thursday, March 10, 2022

From 9am – 2pm



POLICE DEPARTMENT

March is here. "Comes in like a lion, goes out like a lamb." You winter folk like this saying because March is still officially a winter month, expanding your outside winter activities. Others want spring right now, which goes against the saying. Either way, we at the police department still work 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to serve you.

March is a busy time for everyone to make essential decisions for the town. The following are important dates to remember.

Virtual Zoom Meet the Candidates: Wednesday, March 2nd, starting at 6:30pm. Sponsored by the Langdon Library.

Town Elections: Tuesday, March 8th at town hall, 11am-7pm.

School District deliberative session: at town hall: Saturday, March 12th, at town hall, 10am.

Town Meeting: Saturday, March 12th at town hall, 10:30am.



On Monday, March 21st at town hall, starting at 6pm, The Newington School in conjunction with the police department, have invited the New Hampshire International Crimes Against Children Task Force, to present Internet Crimes Against Children. This is a highly informative presentation and valuable to parents not only to navigate social media networking, gaming systems, and internet blogs your children participate in, but to also know the dangers your kids could inadvertently be inviting into your home.

The police department will be putting on a presentation for Internet Crimes Against Seniors. We did a presentation in 2018 at the Langdon Library, which was very informative. A time, date and location has not been determined. If interested, give me a call, or send me an email.



Do you know what the Ukrainian Flag symbolizes in her colors? She consists of two horizontal colors, blue above yellow. The blue band represents the vast blue skies, and the yellow band represents the countries wheat fields. Spiritually the blue signifies calm, and the yellow denotes joy. I'm a flag and map nerd guy, so I find this interesting.

With the current affairs with the Russian invasion into Ukraine, I want to warn residents of potential SCAMS, which will inevitably be coming from this conflict. I have come to know Newington as a

generous community when it comes to monetarily supporting a cause. Be cautious. The police department will help you in vetting any charitable organization.

In 2010, I had the opportunity to meet and learn with ranking members of Ukrainian police departments at the FBI National Academy, before the police departments were disbanded and Ukraine went to a National Police Force. The Ukrainian Officers I spent over 10 weeks with, are dedicated and ethical leaders in their fields, looking to make positive changes in their country.

“Leaders are made they are not born. They are made by hard effort, which is the price which all of us must pay to achieve any goal which is worthwhile.”

Vince Lombardi

Statistics as of February 28, 2022.

Motor vehicle stops	200	Summons/warnings issued
Accidents	7	Reports taken
Incidents/calls for service	27	Reports taken
Arrests	16	Felony/Misdemeanor offences
Field Interviews	0	Suspicious person(s)
Warrants	3	Felony/Misdemeanors

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to give me a call 431-5461 or send me an email; mbilodeau@newingtonhpd.com

Be safe and healthy!!

Chief Michael Bilodeau

**** **TOWN REPORTS ARE IN! STOP BY TOWN HALL TO PICK UP A COPY** ****



**LANGDON
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

March Programs at the Langdon Library

Zoom Candidates Night

The Langdon Library will host our sixth annual, second virtual Meet the Candidates Night for the town of Newington on **Wednesday, March 2, 2021 at 6:30 PM in Zoom**. The aim of this event is to provide voters with a forum to hear and learn about the candidates. Each candidate will have a maximum of five (5) timed minutes to give an introduction and summary of their interest in running, followed by a question and answer period for voters to ask their individual questions. Zoom meeting details may be found here:

<https://www.langdonlibrary.org/candidates-night/>

Anders Morley: Rescheduled for March 22, 5 PM

Anders Morley, winner of the 2021 National Outdoor Book Award for travel writing, joins us to present *This Land of Snow*, the story of his four-month journey through the wilds of northwestern Canada on cross-country skis. Note: An RSVP is required for this event, as space is limited. Call 603-436-5154 or email info@langdonlibrary.org

Morning and Evening Book Group for Adults and Teens

March's Book Group title is *The Measure of a Man: A Spiritual Autobiography* by Sidney Poitier. Books are available for pickup at the library. There is an e-book copy available on [New Hampshire Downloadables](#) and audiobook and e-book copies are available on [Hoopla](#). Join us for discussion on Tuesday, March 15 at 6:30 PM or Friday, March 18 at 10:30 AM. New participants always welcome.

Imagination Bags (Ages 4+): Welcome, spring!

Pick up 3/1 - 3/31

There's a saying that March "comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb." This month, we have just the craft kit! Inside your Imagination Bag there are supplies to make a lion and a lamb puppet, some spring activity ideas, and a coloring page.

Outdoor Pre-K Storytimes (weather permitting)

FRI 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25 at 10:30 AM

Join Miss Amanda for the return of outdoor storytime on the library lawn! We'll read a book together, sing along and dance with Miss Amanda's ukulele, and celebrate springtime. Babies, toddlers, preschoolers, older siblings, and caregivers are welcome. Please check our Facebook page for updates about weather cancellations.

Spring Booklists in the Library Catalog

We now have spring 2022 recommendation lists in our catalog: picture books, juvenile fiction, and young adult fiction. Check out what Miss Amanda recommends and what's popular with Newington kids and teens. Click this link and scroll down: <https://langdonlibnh.booksys.net/opac/lplnh/#menuBookLists>

NEW! Sprouts Early Learning Backpacks

Thanks to our grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the American Rescue Plan Act, we have purchased 3 Sprouts Early Learning Backpacks to check out from the library and **they will be available soon - stay tuned!** Words, Musical Words (ages 3-8), What's That Sound? (ages 1-3) and Get Up And Go (ages 3-8) all include themed toys, activity ideas, and books to help children build early literacy skills through play. A caregiver must be present and sign a borrower agreement for any child who wishes to check out a kit. Kits will go out for two weeks and may be renewed once.

For more activities and information, visit our website at www.langdonlibrary.org

See you at the library!

Lara, Theresa, Amanda and Deb



Tuesday, March 8th 11am-7pm (Election and Zoning Voting)
Saturday, March 12th 10am (School and Town Meetings)

Hours of Operation: Town Offices - Mon - Fri. 9 - 4:30pm
Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Tuesday through Thursday 9am-2:00pm
Building Dept. - Monday - Friday 7:30am- 3:30pm
Planning Dept. - Monday & Thursday 9 - 4:30pm (Planner by appointment)
Langdon Library - Mon & Tues 12-8pm, Wed. 9-7pm, Thurs. & Fri. 9-5pm, Sat. 10-2pm
Transfer Station - Wed. 5 - 7pm, Sat 9 - 3pm
Subscribe or *Unsubscribe* at this link: <http://www.newington.nh.us/subscribe>
Newington Town Hall 603-436-7640