

Greetings from Colebrook Town Hall.

Town Hall and the Community & Senior Center will be closed tomorrow, Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, for Independence Day. Curbside trash and recycling pickup will be pushed back one day this week.

Paving on Old Forge, Robertsville and Eno Hill Roads will be completed today. The Forge Firehouse parking lot will be paved on Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup>—and Pine Road on Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, and Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, with traffic on Pine Road confined to one lane for the duration. Also, work on driveway aprons will begin next week.

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, we completed our 2023/2024 fiscal year (FY). While year-end expenses are still being finalized, we will end the year with a surplus. This will help with our goal of funding the Town's share of the Colebrook Consolidated School HVAC project without borrowing money.

Local taxes are due—and are considered late if not paid by August 1<sup>st</sup>. The new mill rate for FY 2024/25 is 32.00, down 3.6% from last year. If you've not received a motor vehicle bill—or received an invoice from the wrong town—please contact the Colebrook Town Assessor at 860.379.3359, ext. 206, or [assessor@colebrooktownhall.org](mailto:assessor@colebrooktownhall.org).

Bear sightings continue. Bear populations are governed by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). According to DEEP, bears have been spotted in every Connecticut town in recent years. In 2023, bears were reported from 165 of the State's 169 towns and cities. Learn more here (or see attached).

Use this DEEP [form](#) to report bear sightings. Data collected is used for research, management and educational purposes. Personal information collected by DEEP will not be shared publicly. We have also reached out to USA Recycling to determine if volume discounts are available for bear-proof garbage cans, and will let you know what we learn.

As referenced earlier, we are getting two additional solar-powered speed monitoring signs, which will be loaned to us by the State. We are applying to the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) to place these signs contiguous to 40-mile-per-hour speed limit signs on Route 8, entering Colebrook from Sandisfield and from Winchester.

At the July Selectmen's meeting on Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, the contractor for the Prock Hill Road project will provide an update. The public is invited to attend and ask questions.

On Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, from 8-9:30 a.m., the Colebrook Associates will be offering a technology support session at the Colebrook Community & Senior Center. Bring your cell phone, laptop, tablet—and your questions.

More than 60 people gathered at the Town Pond last Sunday for our annual baseball awards picnic. Colebrook and Norfolk have combined teams in recent years, taking the name "Norbrook." At the picnic, Mia Ferrante from the Norbrook Royals and Luke Dubrule from the Norbrook Rockies were honored as recipients of the Colebrook Lions Club Russell Green Sportsmanship Award. Coach Ryan Farrell also reported that the Norbrook Rockies, our Minor League level team, finished the season undefeated. Congratulations to all!

### **Upcoming Town events:**

Tomorrow, the Colebrook Associates are sponsoring a Spoken & Musical Program in celebration of Independence Day. Festivities begin at 10:45 a.m. with the Bike Parade, starting from Colebrook School (line up at 10:30 a.m. to participate). The main program, beginning at 11 a.m. at the Colebrook Congregational Church, will include an Armed Forces medley, a patriotic sing-a-long, stories from Colebrook's past, and "Coming to Colebrook," a video showcasing some of our residents and their thoughts on our Town. The ceremony will be followed by an ice cream social on the lawn in front of the Colebrook Historical Society.

### **Upcoming municipal board meetings:**

Board of Selectmen – Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall (upstairs meeting room)

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.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy Independence Day.

Cordially,

**Brad**

Brad Bremer

Colebrook First Selectman

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