

Greetings from Colebrook Town Hall.

Colebrook Town Hall offices, the Public Works Department, and the Community & Senior Center and Food Pantry will be closed on Monday, January 20th, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Normal hours will resume on Tuesday, January 21st.

Curbside trash and recycling will operate on a normal schedule next week. A reminder regarding recycling: items placed in your recycling bin should be loose. No bagged items are permitted. Also, bulk items left curbside for pickup need to be called in by Thursday of each week.

Earlier this week, the Colebrook Planning & Zoning Commission hosted a public hearing to consider: 1) an application for a Special Exception for a resident of Old Creamery Rd. to accommodate a home-based business; and 2) a Text Amendment to allow for new uses by Special Exception in the town's General Business district (along Routes 8 and 44).

Specifically, the Text Amendment would allow for future Special Exception applications for motor vehicle, boat and equipment sales or rental; and motor vehicle, boat and equipment repair or service. Future applications would be considered by the Planning & Zoning Commission on a case-by-case basis, and would include public hearings. The proposed Text Amendment seeks to reinstate language that existed in Planning & Zoning regulations prior to 2021.

Both proposals will be considered by the Planning & Zoning Commission in the coming weeks. The Commission next meets on Monday, February 10th.

At the Board of Selectman meeting earlier this week, Sean Barry, Brad Bremer, Jeb Burrows, Tom McKeon and Becky Roy were re-appointed to the Capital Improvement Committee. John Lossin was re-appointed to the Inland Wetlands Commission, and Christopher Beaulieu was appointed to the Recreation Board.

At the January Board of Education meeting, Ashley Gawricki and Becky Roy were nominated for the Colebrook-Norfolk K-6 Educational Collaboration Exploratory Committee. They will serve with Andrew Bakulski and AJ Ruwet—and four representatives from Norfolk. Meetings are expected to begin in the coming weeks.

U.S. News & World Report recently ranked Colebrook Consolidated School 20th out of approximately 800 elementary schools in the State, placing us in the top 2%. Learn more [here](#).

The Assessor's office reports that eQuality Valuation Services has finished photographing improved properties in town, as part of our 2025 revaluation process.

The Colebrook Associates food pantry, located in the vestibule of the Community & Senior Center, is open Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m.-noon. Thank you to those who recently answered the call for donations.

In an effort to improve accessibility for the Community & Senior Center, we are exploring the opportunity to install automatic door openers through a grant. Stay tuned.

As noted last week, taxes are due. Because February 1st falls on a Saturday, to avoid penalty, payment must be made by Monday, February 3rd, 2025.

Upcoming community events and fundraisers

The Colebrook Fire Department will host its annual ice skating party on Saturday, February 1st from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Colebrook Recreation Area (behind Town Hall). Come enjoy hot cocoa, donuts and a warm fire.

Upcoming municipal board meetings

Inland Wetlands – Tuesday, January 21st, at 6:30 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall (Land Use office)

Board of Education – Wednesday, February 5th, at 7 p.m. at Colebrook Consolidated School

Board of Finance – Thursday, February 6th, at 6 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall (Upstairs meeting room)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org, or call me at 860.379.3359, extension 202.

Cordially,

Brad

Brad Bremer

Colebrook First Selectman

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