

Greetings from Colebrook Town Hall.

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee is developing recommendations for our fiscal year 2025/26 capital budget. The CIP committee is comprised of representatives from the Board of Education, Board of Finance, Board of Selectmen, the Fire Department and a representative from the public-at-large. Municipal capital items are assets intended to benefit the community for more than a single fiscal year.

The 2024-2025 fiscal year capital budget of \$380,000 includes: improvements for Colebrook Consolidated School (including funds toward our new HVAC system for the school); gear for the Colebrook Fire Department, and matching funds for gear washing equipment; matching funds for grant-funded paving projects; and money set aside toward the purchase of our next Community & Senior Center van, and Department of Public Works snowplow truck.

The Town is preparing its annual application for a Small Town Economic Assistance Program grant from the State, which helps to fund paving projects, matched by our capital budget. On this year's list, we are requesting funds for paving of the Colebrook Fire Department Center House parking lot and sections of Deer Hill, Gaylord, Phelps and Millbrook Roads.

To maximize interest income on Town funds, we routinely sweep monies into the State Treasurer's Short-Term Investment Fund, a Standard & Poor's AAAM rated investment pool of high-quality, short term money market instruments managed by the Cash Management Division of the Office of the State Treasurer. Through the first half of the current fiscal year, interest earned by the Town was approximately \$88,000, roughly \$40,000 ahead of mid-year last year, which complements our tax revenues.

As noted recently, real estate taxes are due. To avoid penalty, payment must be made by Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025. For more information, contact Tax Collector Laura Bartlett at 860.379.3359, ext. 204, or at [lbartlett@colebrooktownhall.org](mailto:lbartlett@colebrooktownhall.org).

Earlier today, at the January birthday lunch at the Community & Senior Center, former First Selectman Tom McKeon was recognized—on the occasion of his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday earlier this week—with a citation from the State of Connecticut for his many years of service to our community. The presentation was made by State Representative Jay Case.

The Community & Senior Center hosts bingo every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. Thank you to our team of volunteer bingo callers which currently includes: Judy Hayes; Michael Judge; Mel Johnson; Sheila Postlethwait; Kathy Riberdy; and Chip Woodman. If you would like to volunteer, please contact [seniordirector@colebrooktownhall.org](mailto:seniordirector@colebrooktownhall.org).

Following its successful season last year, the Recreation Board reports that nearly 40 players are participating in youth basketball this winter. Looking ahead to baseball season, the Board anticipates having sufficient numbers to field our own Majors team (for our older youth) for the first time in several years.

As reported recently on social media, representatives from Frontier Communications are canvassing door-to-door to make residents aware of their phone and internet services available locally.

### **Upcoming community events**

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

### **Upcoming municipal board meetings**

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

Capital Improvement Program Committee – Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, at 5 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall (Land Use office)

Board of Finance – Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org), or call me at 860.379.3359, extension 202.

Cordially,

**Brad**

Brad Bremer

Colebrook First Selectman

860.379.3359 ext. 202

[bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org](mailto:bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org)