

Greetings from Colebrook Town Hall.

Approximately 100 Colebrook and Norfolk residents gathered last Thursday at Botelle School. The occasion was the kickoff of a newly-formed committee to explore ways to expand social and educational opportunities for pre-K-6 students across both communities. Learn more [here](#). A recording of last Thursday's discussion can be found [here](#). The committee is expected to meet again during March.

The Board of Selectmen will be presenting its FY 25/26 budget proposal to the Board of Finance tonight (Thursday, February 27th) at 6 p.m. in Town Hall. Following a 5% cut for the current fiscal year, we are seeking to keep our overall budget flat (for Town Hall and the Department of Public Works) for the coming fiscal year, with increases proposed for fire, emergency response, ambulance services, and curbside trash pickup (as we enter into a new 5-year curbside contract this fall). Savings in other areas are making the proposed flat budget possible.

We learned recently that Colebrook was a finalist for the Connecticut Secretary of the State's Democracy Cup, awarded to towns with the highest voter turnout. For the 2024 election, the winner in the small-town category (for communities with population of less than 10,000) was Cornwall, with voter turnout last November of 90.46%. Lyme finished second with 89.26%. We came in a close third at 89.18%.

Colebrook resident Bryce Zygmunt submitted the winning bid last week for Engine Number 2, our recently decommissioned pumper fire truck.

If you missed this week's CPR class at the Colebrook Community & Senior Center, a second session is being offered on Monday, March 24th, at 10 a.m. The cost to participate is \$20. To register, please call 860.738.9521.

We have our first winner of the "Bring your Coffee Cup" to breakfast drawing. Congratulations Eileen F., you won free breakfast for the month of March. Join in on the fun and help reduce paper cup waste and expense. Each time you bring your own coffee cup to breakfast, you'll get an entry ticket. Who's going to win next month?

The Colebrook Associates food pantry (located in the foyer of the Community & Senior Center) is looking for the following donations: hygiene products; soups; breakfast food; coffee; and canned meat products. The pantry is open Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and 8:30 a.m.-noon on Friday.

Congratulations to our undefeated fifth and sixth grade basketball team on their semi-final win earlier this week! They play for the championship tomorrow night (February 28th) at 7 p.m. at Pearson School in Winsted. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

Upcoming community events and fundraisers

The Colebrook Associates are sponsoring their second annual Winter Warmer on Saturday, March 8th, from 2-4 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall, in the upstairs meeting room. This is a free event. Tea and light refreshments will be served.

Due to popular demand, the Colebrook Community & Senior Center is hosting a second, "Paint and Sip" with June Seiser on Wednesday, April 9th, from 6-9 p.m. (Next Wednesday's event is now full). The cost to participate is \$15 per person. Snacks, coffee and soda provided. Please feel free to bring your own beverage or a snack to share. RSVP by April 3rd, to seniordirector@colebrooktownhall.org, or call 860.738.9521.

The Colebrook Recreation Board is seeking billboard sponsors for the Colebrook Recreation Baseball Field for the upcoming season. Learn more here, or contact Katie Martin at colebrookctrec@gmail.com.

Upcoming municipal board meetings

Capital Improvement Program Committee – Today (Thursday, February 27th) at 5 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall (Land Use Office)

Board of Finance – Today (Thursday, February 27th) at 6 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall (upstairs meeting room)

Recreation Board – Tuesday, March 4th, at 7 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall (Selectmen's conference room)

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

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

860.379.3359 ext. 202