Greetings from Colebrook Town Hall.

A budget hearing will be held on Thursday, April 10th, at Colebrook Town Hall at 7 p.m. This will be an opportunity for residents to discuss the proposed Colebrook Consolidated School (CCS) and Selectmen's (i.e., Town Hall and Department of Public Works) budgets, and proposed capital budget, as well as the Board of Finance's proposed mill rate for FY 25/26. Town and Region 7 budgets will then be voted on at Town referendum on Tuesday, May 6th.

As a prelude to the April 10th budget hearing, the Board of Finance will meet next Thursday, April 3rd, at Colebrook Town Hall at 6 p.m. At that time, they will consider the proposed Board of Selectmen's 0% increase budget (following last year's 5% decrease)—and the CCS proposed 1.39% increase in general expenses and mandated 4.37% increase in Special Education expenses, following last year's 2.5% decrease.

With the arrival of spring weather, the Department of Public Works reports that crack sealing of roads will take place the week of April 7th on Center Brook and School House Roads, and a portion of Sandy Brook Road beginning at the intersection with Route 183.

The Community & Senior Center is seeking candidates to succeed Dana Towers as Co-Director of the Center upon her departure in June. The position requires approximately 15 hours per week. Duties include: cooking/organizing breakfast on Tuesdays and lunch on Thursdays; creating menus; grocery shopping; coordinating volunteers for breakfast/lunch; occasional assistance with programs/events; supporting the Center's participation in the Colebrook Fair (Labor Day) and the December Holiday Fair; and helping to organize their annual tag sale. For more information, or to apply, please contact me at <u>bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org</u>.

An informational meeting will be held on Thursday, April 17th, at 6 p.m., at Colebrook Town Hall to provide interested residents with more details regarding a proposed food composting pilot program. A representative from USA Recycling will be on hand, as well as the chair of the Salisbury/Sharon Transfer Station Recycling Advisory Committee, to discuss their experience with composting.

With the recent sale of our decommissioned firetruck, we now have space available at the Forge Firehouse to park our Community & Senior Center bus indoors. This will hopefully allow us to extend the life of this vehicle.

Items currently needed at the Colebrook Associates Food Pantry (in the Community & Senior Center foyer) include breakfast items (e.g., coffee, cereal, etc.), canned fruit, juice, and hygiene products. Donations can be left in the pantry or Post Office.

Upcoming events and fundraisers

Connecticut Veterans Affairs residential staff will hold their inaugural *Veterans Coffee House* tomorrow (Friday, March 28th) from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. in the Visitors Lounge, adjacent to the main flagpole (under the awning labeled "Transportation Center") in Rocky Hill, at 287 West Street. This will be a bi-weekly event on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of every month. The event is open to Veterans to gather with other Veterans, share stories, and enjoy a supportive community.

The Northwestern Regional 7 Theatre will present "*Into the Woods*," Friday, April 4th, and Saturday, April 5th, at 7 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee performance on Sunday, April 6th. Tickets are available at the door, or <u>here</u>.

The Colebrook Lions Club will sponsor their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 12th, at 11 a.m., on the soccer field at Colebrook Consolidated School.

The annual Kids Fishing Derby, sponsored by the Colebrook Recreation Board, will be held on Sunday, May 18th, from 9-11 a.m. at the Colebrook Pond. Learn more here. Register <u>here</u>.

Upcoming municipal board meetings

<u>Capital Improvement Program Committee</u> – Today (Thursday, March 27th) at 5 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall _(Land Use Office) <u>Board of Education</u> – Wednesday, April 2nd, at 7 p.m. at Colebrook Consolidated School <u>Board of Finance</u> – Thursday, April 3rd, at 6 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall (upstairs meeting room) <u>Recreation Board</u> – Tuesday, April 8th, at 6:30 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall (Selectmen's conference room) <u>Conservation Commission</u> – Tuesday, April 8th, at 7 p.m. at Colebrook Town Hall (Land Use office)

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

Cordially,

Brad

Brad Bremer Colebrook First Selectman 860.379.3359 ext. 202 bbremer@colebrooktownhall.org