



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1, MAY, 2018

GOVERNOR SAMUEL ALLEN'S TOWN NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN, 16 SCHOOL STREET, ALLENSTOWN, NH

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

RECYCLING SAVES US ALL MONEY 2

2018 YARD WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE 2

WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY UPDATE 3

YOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT 4

FD PUMPER ON THE WAY 4

BUDGET PROCESS 5

HOW TO VOLUNTEER 6

TOWN NEWSLETTER IS BACK! WHO'S EXCITED?!?!

We are happy to start the Town Newsletter up again in order to get important information out to the people of the Town. We hope to publish it quarterly and if there is anything you would specifically like to see discussed or written about, please don't hesitate to contact the Town Administrator at ta@allenstownnh.gov or 485-4276 x112.

Our webpage is update almost daily and you can sign up to receive news and announcements, so you won't miss a thing. See the main page at www.allenstownnh.gov.

Only by working together and communicating effectively can will make the Town a better place than it was when we found it. Check the site, give us a call, and ask your neighbors about how they would like to serve the Town as a volunteer board member or commissioner.

TWO NEW FACES AT TOWN HALL

In February we brought our new Finance Director on board when we hired **Debbie Bender** from Amherst. She brings years of accounting and municipal budgeting experience and has been absolutely great to work with. She is up to speed and is schedule to work with the auditors for our 2017 books in June.

Our new Town Administrator was put the through the ringer and came out as the clear top candidate. **Derik Goodine** is scheduled to start work on June 4th. He is a hands on leader and has been working in municipal government for over 20 years. He has worked since college in Maine and comes to us hoping to live in the area and make this his home. Everyone who has worked with him has described him as dynamic and caring. We hope that he will feel welcome and find himself up to the challenge of leading Allenstown in the next stage of development. **Come meet him on June 4th at 5:00 PM** at the Old Allenstown Meeting House on Deerfield Road before the BOS Meeting at 6!

SENIOR CENTER 2ND ANNIVERSARY!

Thursday, June 14th 2018

9:00-10:00 Get to know us, have coffee ... meet your friends

10:00-11:00 listen to country hymns and old time country by Don Smith

11:00-12:00 Be inspired by Guy Despres and his artistic carvings!

12:00-12:30 lunch, Make sure you make your reservations early

12:45 raffling off quilt, a beautiful creation by our very own quilt club.

1:00-2:00 Klunk anyone? A fun card game

EVENTS

BOS MEETING AT OLD MEETING HOUSE JUNE 4TH, 6 PM

SENIOR CENTER ANNIVERSARY JUNE 14TH

OLD HOME DAY AUGUST 25TH

OLD TIME BASEBALL GAME AUGUST 26TH

2018 YARD WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

The Allenstown Highway Department has established a schedule for the collection of yard waste.

Yard waste must be separated from trash. Never sweep yard waste into the street. It can slow street sweeping equipment and clog critical storm drain inlets.

To receive collection service, place yard waste at the street-edge of your property, without blocking sidewalks or access to your recycling cart or trash carts, by 7 AM of your collection day. Acceptable methods of placement are:

- **Bags** (biodegradable paper only; plastic bags will not be picked up)
- **Bundles** (no more than 3 feet long and 2 feet in diameter; ties should be biodegradable)

Please keep in mind the following limitations:

- **Size Limit** – No individual branch or stump greater than 3 inches in diameter or 3 feet in length will be collected. (This restriction does not apply to Christmas trees during the January collection period.)
- **Weight Limit** – No individual bag, barrel or bundle exceeding 40 pounds will be serviced.

During the summer and through to **November 5th, 2018** yard waste will be collected twice per month on the following dates;

June 4th & 18th; July 9th & 23rd; August 6th & 20th;
September 10th & 24th; October 15th & 29th; November 5th



RECYCLING SAVES US ALL MONEY!



Road Agent Ronnie Pelissier wanted to take a moment to remind everyone that recycling is not only mandatory, but it saves us money! We pay by the ton for our trash to be hauled away, we pay ZERO for recyclables. So when one throws recyclable material into the waste bin, then we all pay more.

When I doubt, just ask. Call the Highway Department, 485-5460, to see what they can recycle and what can be taken at the Transfer Station. No need to live with your trash, make sure it goes to the right place.

ALLENSTOWN WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT NEWS

It has been busy at the Wastewater Facility this year with the new pump station construction design in our future. With the winter months finally behind us, septage dumping has picked up and getting busy. Earlier this year the staff overhauled #2 Huber press with minimal disruption to the process. We replaced our double doors on the second floor where the presses are located. This will definitely be a huge help when removing the equipment for repair. Most of the staff will be concentrating on getting their wastewater certificates in June, so studying and training is a daily task. We had two operators take the NH Wastewater exam and passed with flying colors.



The Assistant Superintendent and an Operator, Dan Chagnon, participated in the Elementary School's annual Earth Day celebration. It was a big fun educating the students and faculty on storm drains. They were featured in the [Concord Monitor](#) with an article. Going into the spring and summer months, tours are always a big part of educating the community.

As always, if you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to give us a call at 485-5600. If your issue is related to your water supply rather than the sewer lines, you can call Pembroke Water Works at 485-3362.



YOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

At the Allenstown Police we really believe that we are here to serve the people of Allenstown. So please don't ever hesitate to call us should you need us or not know who you should call. The number at the station is 485-9500. You can also receive updates and news through the department's Facebook page. With that said, please, please remember that that page is not monitored 24 hours a day and requests for immediate help should not be left there. If you call the station and no one is there, you will be forwarded to Merrimack County Dispatch who will get an officer in touch with you. We can't express it enough that if you don't call us, we may not know about the situation. You can't bother us, please let us know if you need assistance at all.

We're sure you have seen the Ford F-150 Pickup truck on the road. This truck was purchased last year to replace the Chevy Tahoe and serves as the supervisors' cruiser as well as the Command Post for incident management. Switching to a pick up truck saved the Town almost \$5,000 and we can now transport found bikes, barricades, and training materials much easier than we did before.



2017 Ford F-150 in front of the Old Meeting House

Our newest officer graduated the NH Police Academy last month and is in training right now. Officer Hannah Higgins grew up in Massachusetts and proudly serves in the Air Force Reserve as a Security Police Airman. We are happy to have her on board and hope you will say hi when you see her out and about.

We were sorry to see Officer Warburton move on to the Belmont Police Department, but we wish him all the best in his career. That gives us one opening to fill. So if you know anyone you would like to see as a police officer, send them our way!

And lastly, Lt. Michael Stark will be coming back to the Police Department from serving as the Interim Town Administrator for the last few months. He wanted to take a moment to say how proud he was of your police department. They stepped up to help the Town through this transition and did it admirably and without complaint or gripe. His daily duties were spread out and each member of the department lent a hand in order to make sure no one was left behind and no task was left unfinished. He's happy to be coming home!

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESCUE PUMPER ON ITS WAY

The Fire Department's 2017 Ford F550 Super Duty Rescue/Mini-pump will be on the road to New England and to the Allenstown Fire Department at the end of the week of May 25, 2018. It has been just 9 months for the manufacture of the vehicle.

A Rescue / Mini-pump is a vehicle which has many features of a full size fire engine but at half the size (and ½ the cost). The concept of the Rescue/Mini-pump is to be able to have a quick response

vehicle to medical emergencies, respond to motor vehicle accidents, small fires such as bark mulch, trash, and illegal burning and other emergencies which do not require the service of the larger fire engines. There is a high cost for operating time, service, and maintenance of a fulltime fire engine each time it is driven on the road. Experience in the fire industry has shown that a significant costs savings is realized when the Rescue/Mini-pumper type of vehicle is used for the lower severity calls.

Our new Rescue/Mini- pumper was built by Warner Bodies, Inc. www.warnerbodies.com in Elwood Indiana. Warner bodies also manufactures various types of service bodies, platform bodies, hauler bodies, and Fire/Rescue vehicles. The Rescue/Mini-pumper carries 300 gallons of water, 15 gallons of foam and has a Hale 1,000 gallon per minute pump. The vehicle holds four personnel. This vehicle will also carry our extrication tool and light rescue equipment. We hope to have the vehicle in service by mid to late June.



AFD's New Rescue Pumper

BUDGET PROCESS

The budget process is less of a beginning and ending process as it is cycle. In June the Board of Selectmen issue guidance to department heads and the various boards. The guidance has varied from year to year but usually sets the amount of annual salary increases and other criteria.

Budgets are usually required to be submitted to the Board no later than the end of August. The submitted budgets are generally in two forms, an excel spreadsheet and a narrative explanation. The excel spreadsheets are integrated into one master budget spreadsheet. A budget overview is created and the entire budget is made available to the public on the website. The Board reviews the proposed budgets at the end of September and through October. The Board makes adjustments and submits a recommended budget to the Budget Committee. The Board also reviews proposed warrant articles. The Board determines which articles it will place on the warrant and submits those warrant articles which propose appropriations to the Budget Committee.

The Budget Committee reviews the proposed budgets submitted by the Town, the Sewer Commission and the School District. This process usually occurs in November and December. The Budget Committee votes to recommend a budget to the voters for the Town, Sewer Dept. and the School District. The budget which appears on the warrant articles for the Town, Sewer Dept. and the School District are the recommended budgets of the Budget Committee. This can be different than that which was proposed by the Board of Selectmen, Sewer Commission and School Board. The Budget Committee will also make recommendations on the proposed warrant articles which contain appropriations.

The Budget Committee holds a public hearing prior to the Deliberative Session. The hearing will be in January of 2019. The Budget Committee presents its proposed budgets for the Town, Sewer Dept. and School District to the voters. This is an informational session for voters to learn more about the budget and ask questions. No changes can be made by the voters at this hearing.

The Deliberative Session of Town Meeting is the next step in the process which will be held in February. At this meeting voters in attendance have the power to amend some warrant articles including the amounts of the proposed appropriations. The changes made at this session will be included in the warrant to be voted on at the Voting Session of Town Meeting in March. Voters cannot amend the articles at this session they can only vote yes or no on each warrant article.

The Town has a calendar year budget with begins each year on January 1st, and ends on December 31st. Voters in March are voting on a budget which actually began in January. The School District budget begins on July 1st, and ends on June 30th of each year. In this case the voters are deciding on a budget in March which begins several months later in July. The respective warrant articles for the Town and the School District follow their budget years unless otherwise indicated.

Although rare, additional town meetings can be held to address budget issues. The Selectmen or School Board may call one additional town/school meeting if the budget is not approved by the voters. The Selectmen or School Board can also request additional meetings through the Superior Court to address budget crises which occur between town meetings. These rarely occur however they are permissible when those circumstances occur.

GOVERNOR SAM ALLEN'S TOWN NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN

Town Hall
16 School St.
Allenstown, NH 03275
Phone: 603-485-4276 x112
Email: ta@allenstownnh.gov



WHERE NEIGHBORS AND RIVERS MEET

The Town of Allenstown was incorporated in 1831 as a Town.

- ◆ Population **4,300**
- ◆ Median age of **39**.
- ◆ Land mass **20.4** sq. miles.
- ◆ **33** miles of roadway.
- ◆ The Town employs **23** FT and **47** PT people.
- ◆ Assessed value **\$288,823,373**
- ◆ Tax Rate **\$32.11**
Town \$10.04
School \$19.33
County \$2.74

TOWN/SCHOOL REPORTS

The Town Report will be placed on the website where it can be viewed and downloaded. The Town/School reports contain reports from the various departments, boards and officials from the Town and the School District.

HOW DO I VOLUNTEER FOR THE TOWN/SCHOOL

Both the Town and the School District rely upon volunteers to serve on the various boards, committees and commissions. Some of these positions are elected however many are appointed by either the Board of Selectmen or the School Board. The various board positions which are appointed are as follows; Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Economic Development Committee, Conservation Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission, Old Allenstown Meeting House Committee and the Public Works Facilities Space Needs Committee.

We need your help to make the Town of Allenstown as great as it can be. There are openings on the **Parks and Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and the Budget Committee** to name a few. Stop by, call, or email and we'll be happy to give you more information.