



May 2019

TOWN OF HOOKSETT NEWSLETTER

For information on what's going on in Hooksett, visit www.hooksett.org

New Town Administrator Hired

Hooksett's Town Council is pleased to announce that André Garron has been selected as the community's new Town Administrator! He has spent over thirty years working with local governments in New Hampshire, and began his municipal career as the Community Relations Specialist in Lee's Summit, MO. In 1988, he relocated to NH and continued his municipal government career serving in capacities such as Planning and Economic Development Coordinator in Goffstown, Community Development Director in Londonderry, State Specialist, Economic Development at the University of NH's Cooperative Extension, and most recently as Community Development Director/Assistant Town Manager in Salem. He earned his Bachelor's Degree from the University of New Hampshire and Master's Degree from Southern New Hampshire University – both in Community Development. Garron commented: "I thank Town Council for selecting me and am very excited for the opportunity to serve as Hooksett's Town Administrator. I've always respected the community and think it has a very promising future. I look forward to being a part of it."

Your Community Needs YOU

Service on appointed boards is of vital importance; Call 603-485-8472 and ask how! Volunteer for an opening on one of the town public bodies.

Town Hall Preservation Committee, Heritage Commission, Planning Board, Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission, Conservation Commission, and the Route 3A TIF Advisory Board

End of Single Stream Recycling

At their regular meeting on Wednesday, April 10th, Hooksett's Town Council voted unanimously to end the Transfer Station's single stream recycling program due to escalating costs. Halting the program wasn't a hasty or easy decision, and was supported in part by the conclusion that nominally recyclable materials sold to intermediaries were being processed as trash regardless of intent.

WHY DID THIS HAPPEN?

Industry-wide, recycling programs heavily rely on selling collected materials to private companies. These entities in turn often rely on foreign entities to purchase shipments of recyclables in bulk. Over the past several years, the foreign countries that host and de facto control this marketplace have vastly increased regulatory controls on shipments from sources like the US. This has had an effect of making current industry-standard single stream systems, where cross-contamination is extremely easy, more expensive: Contaminated shipments are often shipped back to the United States at the expense of sellers, who in turn respond with unfavorable changes to local recycling rates.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR MY HOUSEHOLD?

Until further notice, materials placed in municipal recycling bins for pickup will be processed as trash and incinerated. Normal collection procedures will otherwise remain unchanged. Please NOTE: Cardboards, steel and aluminum cans dropped off at the Recycling and Transfer Station will be recycled! Monitor www.hooksett.org and official town information sources for waste disposal changes in the future: As markets, technology, and methods evolve, local curbside-to-curbside recycling programs may become viable once again.

Municipal Building

TOWN HALL HOURS MADE PERMANENT

Since January 2018, Hooksett’s municipal offices at 35 Main Street have been operating under work hours designed to better service community members who find it difficult to access those departments during normal business hours (8AM to 4:30PM). Specifically, offices have been open until 6:30PM on Wednesdays and closing on noon Fridays every week to compensate.

Although these changes have proven popular, there have been questions about long-term signage and the permanency of this arrangement. Therefore, Town Council chose to officially adopt the hours as permanent until further notice, while reserving the right to change policy in the future should sufficient cause emerge.

NOTES FROM TOWN HALL

- *Due to the location change of the summer rec program, the Gymnasium space at 35 Main Street will be available for normal usage. Previously, the summer programs precluded general access during typical work day hours. If you or someone you know is interested in reserving this space for allowable activities, go to fill out a gym usage request form, and submit it to the Public Works Department*

www.hooksett.org/parks-recreation-cemeteries-division

- *Know a young person deserving of recognition for their deeds? Contact a Town Councilor or employee and ask about how they can be recognized through the Hooksett Youth Achiever of the Month Award!*

www.hooksett.org/town-council

- *Remember! Hooksett has a free, curb-to-curb transportation option available to all residents! Call 603.623.8801 opt. #1 to reserve a ride today! Go to the town transportation page or a flyer for details.*

www.hooksett.org/transportation

- *Go to E-Alerts on the town website to sign up for minutes, news, and alerts! Stay informed!*

www.hooksett.org/subscribe

Hooksett Family Services

Spring has sprung, and so has the spirit of giving! The Family Services Department would like to get the word out early so residents can mark their calendars for the 2019 holiday season! If you would like to brighten the holidays for a Hooksett child in need, please plan to stop by the Town Hall Family Services Department during any of the following times to select a child’s profile:

***Tuesday, November 12th 9:00am-4:00pm**

***Wednesday, November 13th 3:30pm-6:30pm**

***Thursday, November 14th 9:00am-4:00pm**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Abby Reeves at (603)485-8769 or areeves@hooksett.org. Thank you!

Quick Project Updates:

Safety Center Renovation Progressing: *Going smoothly, under budget, and expected to be largely completed ahead of schedule. Look for photos!*

TIF District Warrant Article: *Engineering firm selected; contract worth approximately \$1.6 Million; second firm contracted by Sewer Commission to apply for State Revolving Fund.*

Sewer Pump Station: *Location at Tri-town Ice arena likely needs to be deeper than expected; cost will exceed estimates and are anticipated to come from TIF Funds.*

Grant Drive Work: *Completed!*

Library Columns: *Contractor selected; repairs to begin in mid-May*

Library Event

Come rock with us at the Hooksett Library on Tuesday, July 9th & Thursday, August 8th (starting at 6:30pm) for some high-energy, toe-tapping, family-friendly music, courtesy of the talented Knock on Wood and Breathe 14 music bands. Free and open to the public! Programs sponsored by the Friends of the Hooksett Library.