

Town of Hooksett

March 2023

The Town and School Deliberative Session was held on Saturday, February 4th. Voting will take place on Tuesday, March 14th 6:00AM-7:00PM at the David R. Cawley Middle School at 89 Whitehall Road.

The Town and School Meeting Guides are available at www.hooksett.org. Physical copies of the Town Meeting Guide are available at the Hooksett Town Offices.



State Law (RSA 75:8-a) requires that cities and towns conduct a full value property reassessment at least every five years. Since the last revaluation took place in 2018, Hooksett's Assessing Department will be conducting a full value property reassessment in 2023. This is done so that property assessed values will reflect statewide current market values. As the real estate market fluctuates – up and down – our assessments may be out of sync with current market values. State law requires assessments between 90% and 110% of current market values when conducting a revaluation or update. Our 2022 assessment ratio is 63.1% of the current market value. It is strongly encouraged for taxpayers to review their PRC (Property Record Card), to verify the data is accurate, this can be done via online from the online database which is a link on the assessing page at hooksett.org. If anyone finds any discrepancies, please call the office to set up an inspection. Having better data upfront will make the update process smoother for all in the long run. Please call Jon Duhamel in the Assessing office with any questions, 603-268-0078.



HOOKSETT VILLAGE WATER PRECINCT CONSTRUCTION

Recently, the Precinct has been partnering with the Town, Sewer Commission, local businesses, committees, residents and area developers to encourage infrastructure projects that benefit the whole community by attracting new development, revitalizing blight, and/or enhancing quality of life. This can significantly expand the local tax base and provide more or easier access to services for residents, with less financial impact. We are currently working on the first of three major drinking water components of the RT3A Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District economic development initiative sponsored by the Town of Hooksett. This \$2.5M project, also known as Phase 2 of our ongoing Tank Construction Project, includes the construction of distribution system improvements in the Vista Drive / RT3A area and a new 0.3MG storage tank on the Daniel Webster Highway.

Construction in the Vista Drive / RT3A area began on January 11th. The initial work included clearing and grading a utility access easement from the south end of Vista Drive out to RT3A at the Brickyard Brook crossing. Subsequent work will include the laying of new water main down Vista Drive and within the easement, as well as the replacement of old water services along Vista Drive. All Vista Drive work is scheduled to be completed by June 2023 in order to allow the next task (tank replacement) to start at that time.

Funding for this project is being provided by NHDES' American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant program, the NH Drinking Water & Groundwater Trust Fund, the Precinct and the Town.

Approximately 48% of the project is being funded with grants secured by the Precinct.



RECYCLE AND TRANSFER STATION NEWS

2023 permits are available at the Recycle and Transfer station. All that is needed is a current non-commercial Hooksett vehicle registration.

At the curbside pickup please remember:

Trash should be bagged as to avoid blowing around when trying to empty barrels. No yard waste is accepted at our vendor. Please let's not get banned. Also items such as metal, Freon containing units, tires, paint, construction debris or furniture are not acceptable materials for curbside pickup. We do not want to damage the trash trucks, and again not be banned from our vendor.

Be sure to space barrels are at least 3' so that the Trash truck can pick without knocking the other barrel over. Also the Trash Truck driver will not pick barrels that are close to cars, fences, telephone poles and mailboxes.

Although cardboard revenue is down to \$5 per ton, let's remember cost diversion. For every ton of material not being sent to the Incinerator, we are not paying to dispose of it. So Hooksett is realizing a gain of \$80 per ton plus the \$5 per ton (revenue from cardboard). The same is true for all the recycle material at the Recycle Center. Thank you Hooksett for all your hard work!!!

UPCOMING TOWN PROJECTS

The Town is working with the State Department of Transportation to study the intersections of Hackett Hill Road/Route 3A and Main Street/Route 3A to determine what needs to be done at the intersections. Roundabouts and signalized intersections will be considered.

The Town is working with the State Department of Transportation to plan upgrades to Hooksett Road between Alice Avenue and Martins Ferry Road. The upgrades will consist of a five lane road with sidewalks and bike lanes. Also being considered is a roundabout at the intersection of Mammoth Road.

The Lilac Commons Pedestrian Bridge will be inspected in the Spring. This is a routine inspection to determine the condition of the bridge and to determine if any maintenance work needs to be done.

Bids will be taken in March for the replacement of the Donati Field Pedestrian Bridge. Macy's Industries will be donating the bridge. The Town is responsible for construction of the footings.

Martins Ferry Road – GM2 Engineering will be designing intersection improvements and an new bridge at the intersection of Martins Ferry Road and North River Road.



LOOKING FOR PROPERTY IN HOOKSETT?

The Town of Hooksett has been reviewing all town owned properties. To begin, the Town is auctioning 10 town owned properties.

When: Saturday, April 8th, 2023

Time: Registration begins at 9:00AM

Where: Fred C. Underhill School
2 Sherwood Drive

Hooksett, NH

JSJ Auctions has been contracted for this event. Additional information relative to the properties will be provided on their website at jsjauctions.com. Questions can be directed to JSJ Auctions at (603) 734-4348.



Hooksett, NH Conservation
Trail Walks
Explore. Protect. Reconnect.

Hooksett Riverwalk Trail
Head's Pond Trail
Pinnacle Park Trail
Clay Pond Conservation Area



CONSERVATION COMMISSION NEWS

Hooksett Conservation t-shirts are now on sale at the Hooksett Library for \$10. Each t-shirt sale supports conservation efforts in Hooksett and advertises our beautiful trail systems and conservation areas.

Mark your calendars for **Beautify Hooksett's Earth Day Clean-Up on April 22 10:00AM-1:00PM**. The Conservation Commission will focus on the Clay Pond Headwaters Conservation Area where an unlawful shooting range has cropped up, destroying trees, and damaging the sensitive environment. Bring the family and help restore the land to its natural state. Wear your t-shirt for a photo opportunity.

ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS



Affordable Housing is in demand. With that being the reality, the Town has seen an increased interest in adding Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) to Single Family Residential homes. They are a great way to provide an affordable solution to older family members with the rising cost of owning a single-family home. The state provided guidelines for municipalities to create their own ordinance for these ADUs. Hooksett's Ordinance can be found at www.hooksett.org > Code Enforcement > Zoning Ordinance > Article 27 (pg. 154). These units must be attached to the primary residence, stay within the allowable size, provide living facilities containing the 4 elements of sleeping, eating, cooking, sanitation and allow for parking. If the primary residence is on private septic, the increase in bedrooms may require a new septic plan be approved by the state. If the primary residence has municipal sewer and water, permitting and connection fees for those departments may apply and it is recommended that you contact them. Building permits are acquired through the Community Development office on the 2nd floor of the Town Offices. Please call with any questions at (603) 485-4117.

HOOKSETT LIBRARY NEWS

Library Events & Services

The Hooksett Library continues to provide valuable resources and services that combine to promote literacy and cultural enrichment in the Hooksett community. Community members can find something for all ages, including Crafternoons, StoryTimes, Little Movers & Open Play and so many others for children, along with knitting, photography, art, gardening, tech classes, book and writers groups and more for adults.

On March 23 at 6:30pm, come to the library for an engaging talk, *The Holocaust: Our Duty to Remember - But What?* This presentation provides historical context of the events in Nazi Germany, the reasons behind the Nazi regime's rise to power, and it sheds light on the background against which the "Night of the Broken Glass," and later the Holocaust, took place.

In April, learn how you can easily install a rain barrel at your home and be a part of local conservation efforts. Join the Hooksett Village Water Precinct, the Hooksett Garden Club, and NH's Department of Environmental Services to learn how to prevent polluted runoff with rain barrels, rain gardens, driveway trenches and other Do-It-Yourself Stormwater Solutions. As a bonus, a rain barrel, decoratively painted by Hooksett Middle School students, will be raffled off as a door prize! This event will take place on Wednesday, April 19 at 6:30pm at the Library.

This May, the Library in partnership with New Hampshire Humanities host a special community-wide read of the book *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants*, by Robin Wall Kimmerer. The first twenty people to register on the library's event calendar will receive a free copy of the book to keep. On Tuesday, May 16 at 6:30pm, Damian Costello, Ph.D., will lead a discussion about the book.

Register for these events and others at <https://hooksettlibrary.org/calendar-events-all>.

Library of Things Collection

Thanks to generous support from the Friends of the Hooksett Library, the Library's unique collection of Library of Things continues to grow. The latest addition to the collection is a Victrola Bluetooth Turntable. It can play vinyl records, and thanks to its modern features, including Bluetooth capabilities and a 3.5 mm aux-in jack, there are several playback options. Find this and other unique items available to borrow by clicking Borrow, then Library of Things at hooksettlibrary.org.

Smart Lockers

Library borrowers can now pick up their held items with our contact-free smart locker service, courtesy of a grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services' "Grants to States" program. The grant program is part of the American Rescue Act Plan of 2021 and is being facilitated by the N.H. State Library. Borrowers have only to choose the "Hooksett Smart Lockers" as their pick up location when placing a hold.

Did you know?

With your Hooksett Library card you can access the Library's digital resources from the comfort of your own home: research your family history with HeritageQuest, read product reviews and recommendations before you buy with Consumer Reports Online, read digital books with Libby and cloudLibrary, read digital magazines with Libby, find articles with Gale General OneFile, and read local newspapers with NewsBank. Visit HooksettLibrary.org for more information.