



DIGITAL BUDGET BOOK

The Town has acquired a user friendly Digital Budget Book designed for effortless navigation and comprehension. The process of formulating the operating budget, along with its historical data, will be accessible through a link on the Finance Webpage. This innovative Digital Budget Book amplifies transparency, automatically generates charts and graphs, enabling staff to prioritize content over formatting. Additionally, for those who prefer a hard copy, the digital budget book can be effortlessly printed.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Administrative Assistant (part-time) Town Clerk Office
- Laborer (part-time) Recycling & Transfer
- Heavy Equipment Operator/Truck Driver (full-time) Recycling & Transfer
- Driver Laborer (full-time) Public Works Highway
- Custodian (part-time) Safety Center
- Firefighter/Paramedic (full-time)
- Police officer (full-time)

Visit www.hooksett.org and click on Employment/Volunteering for more information

E-ALERTS



E-Alerts

Stay up to date on what is happening in town by signing up for E-Alerts. Receive notifications when News and Announcements are posted along with agendas and minutes. Visit www.hooksett.org and click "E-Alerts" on the right side.

NFPA ANNOUNCES "COOKING SAFETY STARTS WITH YOU! PAY ATTENTION TO FIRE PREVENTION" AS OFFICIAL THEME FOR FIRE PREVENTION WEEK, OCTOBER 8-14, 2023

July 10, 2023 – The [National Fire Protection Association® \(NFPA®\)](https://www.nfpa.org/) – the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week™ for more than 100 years – has announced "[Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention TM](https://www.nfpa.org/fire-prevention-week)" as the theme for Fire Prevention Week, October 8-14, 2023. This year's focus on cooking safety works to educate the public about simple but important steps they can take to help reduce the risk of fire when cooking at home, keeping themselves and those around them safe. According to NFPA, [cooking](https://www.nfpa.org/fire-prevention-week) is the leading cause of home fires, with nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment; cooking is also the leading cause of home fire injuries. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cooking fires and related deaths. In addition, [NFPA data](https://www.nfpa.org/fire-prevention-week) shows that cooking is the only major cause of fire that resulted in more fires and fire deaths in 2014-2018 than in 1980-1984. "These numbers tell us that more public awareness is needed around when and where cooking hazards exist, along with ways to prevent them," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of the Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA. "This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign will work to promote tips, guidelines, and recommendations that can help significantly reduce the risk of having a cooking fire."

Following are cooking safety messages that support this year's theme, "Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention":

- Always keep a close eye on what you're cooking. For foods with longer cook times, such as those that are simmering or baking, set a timer to help monitor them carefully.
- Clear the cooking area of combustible items and keep anything that can burn, such as dish towels, oven mitts, food packaging, and paper towels.
- Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove. Keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner.
- Create a "kid and pet free zone" of at least three feet (one meter) around the cooking area and anywhere else hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

"Staying in the kitchen, using a timer, and avoiding distractions that remove your focus from what's on the stove are among the key messages for this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign," said Carli.

Fire Prevention Week is celebrated throughout North American every October, and is the oldest public health observance on record in the U.S. Entering it's 101st year, Fire Prevention Week works to educate people about the leading risks to home fires and ways they can better protect themselves and their loved ones. Local fire departments, schools, and community organizations play a key role in bringing Fire Prevention Week to life in their communities each year and spreading basic but critical fire safety messages.

To learn more about Fire Prevention Week and this year's theme, "Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention," visit www.fpw.org. Additional Fire Prevention Week resources for children, caregivers, and educators can be found at www.sparky.org and www.sparkyschoolhouse.org.

ASSESSING STATISTICAL UPDATE

SCHEDULED FOR 2023

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.

UPCOMING TOWN PROJECTS

The Town is working with the State DOT 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.

State DOT is also working on plans to upgrade 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.

The Donati Field Pedestrian Bridge will be replaced this Fall. Macy Industries will be donating the bridge. The Town is responsible for construction of the footings.

GM2 Engineering Firm is currently designing intersection improvements and a new bridge at the intersection of Martins Ferry Road and North River Road.

PLANNING BOARD NEWS

Since May 1st, the following plans have been approved by the Planning Board:

- Park Place Commercial Suites & the Residences at Park Place – Mixed Use Site Plan
- Chester Woods Commercial Suites & City to Mountain Estates – Mixed Use Site Plan
- Pramuhk Realty, LLC – 1663 Hooksett Road – Site Plan for Retail Motor Fuel Outlet
- American Asphalt – Commercial Site Plan including 40x60 Garage
- 28 Cross Road – 3 Lot Subdivision
- 18 Hunt Street – 2 Lot Subdivision

CONSTRUCTION

CONSERVATION COMMISSION NEWS

The fourth and final phase of the Hooksett Riverwalk Trail will be well underway this fall. This phase takes hikers to the Allenstown border, where it meets up with the Allenstown trail system. The complete trail provides nearly 1-1/2 miles of trails and 750 linear feet of bridges and boardwalks over streams and wetlands.

This exciting achievement began in 2015 with the opening of Phase I. This conservation area provides a beautiful landscape for visitors to enjoy along the Merrimack River, while protecting state-endangered and threatened species.

NEWS FROM THE HOOKSETT TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 8am-4:30pm
Wednesday 8am-6:30pm and Friday 8am- 12 noon
Located in room 100 (first door on the left)

Things that you can do in the Tax Office:

Car registrations

Boat Registrations

Property tax payments/ Inquiries



As of September 1st 2023 per HB2 the following surcharges will be implemented by the State of NH
\$100.00 will be added to registrations for Electric vehicles
\$50.00 will be added to registrations for PLUG-IN Hybrid vehicles.

For more information please call the NH DMV 603-227-4030

HERITAGE COMMISSION UPDATES

The Heritage Commission had a very busy summer, and fall is looking to be just as exciting. Current projects include ongoing demolition requests, researching the viability of a Neighborhood Heritage District, seeking funds to restart the restoration at Old Town Hall, and making plans for Light Up the Village 2023.

There has been an increased interest in preserving the areas of the village as well as those areas that abut the district. Tony LaCasse, commission chair, has read through several studies dating back to 2003 that interviewed townspeople to determine how best to preserve the village. In those studies he found that historically the town has sought a variety of ways to protect the character and charm.

In 2008, the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources created a handbook that provides the framework to create a district of protected areas that are much more flexible than traditional neighborhood conservation districts. Mr. LaCasse will continue his research efforts and gauge interest with property owners in the village area.

Additionally, the group hosted a weekly book club at the library to discuss "Hooksett Historical Sketches" by Charles R. Hardy. The book was published in 1969 by Mr. Hardy who served as town clerk for Hooksett from March 1929 to March 1966. It is truly incredible to see the stories that he pulled together without the internet! If you don't have a copy, this is definitely one you don't want to miss. Pick up your own for \$20 at the Hooksett Public Library.

Did you know that Part Two is currently being written? Several members of the Heritage Commission are actively compiling stories, or "sketches" as Mr. Hardy referred to them. If you've got stories to tell about what Hooksett was like back in the good ole days, please contact Tony at hooksettheritagecommission@gmail.com.

The Head School Marms provided an update on their new "scholars." New mannequins in period costume are now located in the one-room schoolhouse at Head School. These will make a great addition to their school programs and open houses.

A new bench is now located on the Veteran's Park side of Lilac Bridge in honor of the late Kathie Northrup. Ms. Northrup will forever be remembered for her dedication to the preservation of Hooksett's history. Members of the commission strive to continue work in her honor so that her efforts live on for many generations into the future.

NEW AND RELOCATED BUSINESSES IN HOOKSETT

- Atlantic Wireless Communication @ 1279 Hooksett Road
- Goodwill Industries @ 1328 Hooksett Road
- Cue & Cushion @ 1292 Hooksett Road
- Tips to Toes Nail Salon @ 1160 Hooksett Road
- Anything Appliance @ 1238 Hooksett Road
- Cellular Freedom @ 1330 Hooksett Road
- The Spot Eatery @ 1461 Hooksett Road
- State Farm Insurance Offices @ 1345 Hooksett Road
- Elm Grove Companies LLC @ 200 Technology Drive
- Glo Spa @ 1160 Hooksett Road
- American Freight @ 1328 Hooksett Road
- Planet Fitness @ 1292 Hooksett Road
- Empire Beauty School Expansion @ 1328 Hooksett Road

COMING SOON

- Hooksett Best Afterschool Program @ 1271 Hooksett Road
- Bad Dog Club @ 1123 Hooksett Road

HOOKSETT'S HISTORY AND A NEW BUSINESS COLLIDE



The Robie's Country Store at 9 Riverside Street is now open 7:00AM-6:00PM for all your farm fresh needs as well as serving Breakfast and Lunch 7:00AM-2:00PM, Closed Sunday's.

Visit Robie's Country Store and step back in time to Hooksett's history while enjoying farm to table food.

"Since 1822 a general merchandise market has operated at the present site of Robie's Country Store on Riverside Street. What stories the property could tell. Just consider what it has experienced. In its early years, the store was part of a thriving social and business community in the village area. Guests of a nearby inn probably sampled its wares. It heard horse-drawn carriages rumbling through the adjacent wooden covered bridge. It saw the building of our town hall and our first library. It was witness to river traffic, the Isle of Hooksett canal system, and the advent of the railroad that carried passengers and freight to and from the Hooksett Village Depot just across the road. From 1887-1997 it was run by a member of the Robie family. Four generations, 110 years – quite a legacy!" - robieshistoricpreservation.wordpress.com.

HOOKSETT LIBRARY NEWS FOR TOWN OF HOOKSETT NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

THE BIG READ COMMUNITY BOOK DISCUSSION: THE BEAR

Hooksett Library is participating in The Big Read community book discussion of *The Bear* by Andrew Krivak. The Big Read invites us to explore how we share stories, understand our world, and envision a better future for New Hampshire. The Library will host a Community Read Book Discussion for “The Bear” with facilitator Mohamed Defaa on Tuesday, October 24th, at 6:30 PM. This event is free and open to the public. Registration is encouraged, but not required. Please register if you wish to attend online via Zoom and/or want to receive a copy of *The Bear* to keep (you will be contacted when it is available for pickup at the library). NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest. This program was also made possible by NH Humanities and the Center of the Book at the NH State Library, and co-sponsored by Hooksett's Ash Street Group Photography Club. For more information, and to register for our Community Read Book Discussion visit discover.hooksettlibrary.org/bigread.

TRUNK-OR-TREAT:

Join the Hooksett Library for its annual Trunk-or-Treat event! With the help of the Friends of the Library, there will be popcorn, music, and lots of fun. Cars will be set up in the parking lot on Saturday, October 21st from 3:30-5:00 P.M. where kids can walk from trunk-to-trunk and collect treats. Costumes are encouraged! Volunteers needed to decorate the trunks of their cars and hand out treats. If you'd like to participate, reach out to Miss Heather (hdresser@hooksettlibrary.org) and ask about volunteering.

SMART LOCKER 24/7 PICKUP SERVICE

The Library's smart lockers provide you with contactless, click-and-collect, porch-pickup service so that you can pick up your held items when it's convenient for you, even when the library is closed.

SAVE THE DATE! Annual Book Sale on Sat/Nov 4th!

The Friends of the Library will be hosting their annual Book Sale on Saturday, November 4th from 9:00 - 2:00pm. Lots of quality books sorted by author, age group and subject for ease of browsing.

NEW: HOOKSETT DIGITAL HISTORY

The Library has partnered with the Hooksett Heritage Commission and Hooksett Historical Society to initiate an extensive digitization project, starting with digitizing scrapbooks of historical photos of Hooksett. Browse collection at discovery.hooksettlibrary.org.

LIBRARY OF THINGS @ YOUR LIBRARY

You can borrow telescopes, hotspots, metal detectors, trail cams, LEGO kits, science kits, Nintendo Switch consoles, yard games, party equipment and so much more!

NEW ONLINE CATALOG

We're very excited to announce that we've launched a new online catalog. The catalog's fresh, new look will make it even easier to find what you're looking for, as well as discover new materials that may also be of interest to you. Explore more at discover.hooksettlibrary.org

GRANITE VNA FLU CLINIC:

The Library will be hosting a flu clinic on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, from 9:00—10:30 AM. The standard quadrivalent influenza vaccine will be available. Granite VNA does not offer the high-dose vaccine. Immunizations are \$30 each (cash or check); however, if a participant has Medicare Part B, Medicaid, Harvard Pilgrim, Tufts, or Anthem, Granite VNA will bill for the immunization. It is necessary for each person to bring their insurance card to the clinic. For individuals who are uninsured or underinsured, Granite VNA will provide the vaccine at no charge.

ONGOING EVENTS:

- Ash Street Group Photography Club | 1st & 3rd Weds | 10:00am
New members are always welcomed!
- Library Art Group | Wednesdays | 10:00am
New members are always welcomed!
- Library Knitting Group | Every Friday | 1:00pm
New members are always welcomed!
- Merrimack Writers Group | Tuesdays | 7:00pm (virtual via Zoom)

