



# Amherst Town Newsletter

## February 2024

*Amherst, NH Chartered January 18, 1760  
Vol. 2, Issue 2*

The Town says farewell to several dedicated volunteers who are “retiring” from boards and committees. They have all contributed countless hours of dedicated service to the Town of Amherst and their work does not go unnoticed.

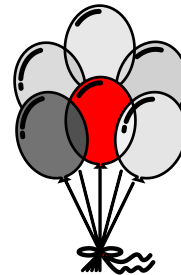
Leaving us from the Planning Board are Chris Yates and Cynthia Dokmo. Also retiring from the Zoning Board of Adjustment is longtime Chair Doug Kirkwood and Tracy McInnis. Trustee of the Trust Funds Chair Lori Mix will also be leaving her elected position. We thank them for their years of volunteer time spent making Amherst a better place.

Town Meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 7 beginning at 7 PM. This is your chance to learn the details of the proposed FY25 budget and warrant articles and to convene with your neighbors to ask questions of the Board. The school districts will also present their FY25 budgets, Amherst School District on Monday, February 5 and Souhegan Cooperative School District on Tuesday, February 6 both beginning at 6 PM. Many important budgetary items are on the ballot in March – come and learn what the boards have been working on!

## Amherst Anniversary Celebration 2024



Amherst celebrated its 264<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on January 18 with cake and refreshments at Town Hall. Here are a few photos. Join us next year for the 265<sup>th</sup>!



## **Amherst Elderly/Blind/Disabled Exemptions and Tax Credits Information**

Elderly and disabled or blind Amherst residents may apply for an exemption for the property taxes on their primary residence, providing that they meet all State requirements and the Town's income and asset criteria. Veteran's tax credits are also available.

The Town has prepared this handy chart to assist residents in determining their eligibility for applying for the various tax credits and tax exemptions available.

Further information is available at [www.amherstnh.gov](http://www.amherstnh.gov) or by contacting the Assessing Office at [mboudreau@amherstnh.gov](mailto:mboudreau@amherstnh.gov) or 603-673-6041 Ext. 202

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 15<sup>th</sup> FOR THE UPCOMING TAX YEAR**

EXEMPTIONS OFF ASSESSED VALUATION			
Apply 2023 Tax Rate			
Elderly Exemption: RSA 72:39-a	Reduces Valuation	Reduces Annual Tax	Basic Qualifying Criteria for Primary Residence
Age 65 to 74	104,120	2,278	NH Resident 3 Years Prior to April 1st
Age 75-79	156,180	3,417	Annual Income Max: Single Person 54,300 and Married Couple 73,325
Age 80+	206,870	4,526	Net Asset Maximum: \$165,000 Excluding Home and Up to 2 Acres
Blind Exemption: RSA 72:37	50,690	1,109	Legally Blind In Accordance With RSA 72:37
Disabled Exemption: RSA 72:37-b	89,050	1,948	Totally and Permanently Disabled in Accordance with RSA 72:37-b
Solar Energy Exemption: RSA 72:62	Tax Neutral	Tax Neutral	100% of the Added Value With a \$30,000 Maximum (Ex. Batteries)
TAX CREDITS OFF ANNUAL TAX			
Optional Veterans' Tax Credit: RSA 72:28	n/a	500	NH Resident 1 Year prior to April 1st/Honorably Discharged
All Service Veterans' Tax Credit: RSA 72:28-B	n/a	500	90 Continuous Days of Service in the Armed Forces
Service-Connected Total Disability: RSA 72:35	n/a	4,000	Total and Permanent Service-Connected Disability RSA 72:35
Certain Disabled Veterans: RSA 72:36-a	n/a	Totally Exempt	In Accordance with RSA 72:36-a
Surviving Spouse: RSA 72:29-a	n/a	700/4000 or Exempt	Spouse of Veteran Qualifies Until Remarried



## **IMPORTANT DATES**

*Mark your calendar for these upcoming meeting dates (Subject to change)*

<b>February 5</b>	Board of Selectmen Meeting, 4 PM
<b>February 7</b>	<b>Deliberative Session/Town Meeting, 7 PM, Souhegan HS</b>
<b>February 8</b>	Souhegan Regional Landfill District, 5 PM
<b>February 8</b>	Heritage Commission Meeting, 6:30 PM
<b>February 12</b>	Board of Selectmen Meeting, 6:30 PM
<b>February 13</b>	Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee Meeting, 7 PM
<b>February 14</b>	Conservation Commission Meeting, 7 PM
<b>February 15</b>	Historic District Commission Meeting, 7 PM
<b>February 19</b>	Presidents' Day – Town Offices Closed
<b>February 20</b>	Zoning Board of Adjustment, 7 PM
<b>February 21</b>	Planning Board Meeting, 7 PM
<b>February 26</b>	Board of Selectmen Meeting, 6:30 PM
<b>February 28</b>	Conservation Commission Meeting, 7 PM



## **Board of Selectmen Meeting Highlights**

### **January 8:**

- Public Hearing on the proposed FY25 Budget was held in accordance with RSA 32:5, I to take public input
- The 2024 Warrant was reviewed including the FY25 Operating Budget, FY25 Revenue, FY25 Baboosic Lake Community Septic Operating Budget and FY25 Default Budget
- A public hearing was held for the sale of Map Lot 25-28, assessed value \$1100. No public comment was received.
- A public hearing was held re: unanticipated revenue from the NH Dept of Safety in the amount of \$15,194.08 for body worn cameras. No public comment was received. The BOS voted to accept and expend the unanticipated revenue.
- The BOS accepted the unanticipated bridge aid revenue in the amount of \$71,975.65.
- The BOS approved the sale of Map Lot 25-29 in the amount of \$2750
- TA Shankle explained that Sanborn Head has quoted the town \$10,400 for a work plan related to the proposed work at the Fire Station to deal with the remediation of the PFAS issue. Sanborn Head has estimated that remediation at the site may cost approximately \$500,000 to 1M.
- Roger Landry 's hire was approved as Parks and Recreation Groundskeeper
- The hire of Bob Clark as the town's new building inspector/code enforcement officer was approved.
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### **January 22:**

- BOS held discussion on the recent German Christmas Market with reports from Police, Fire and DPW
- The Town's Investment Policy was updated
- A donation to the ACC has been received

- Wage adjustments to EMS personnel were approved to recognize longevity and retain personnel
- A withdrawal from the Computer System CRF was approved to pay for the replacement of the town server at the cost of \$22,507
- Det. Justin Gerome's promotion to Patrol Sergeant was approved
- Patrolman Kevin Kelly's promotion to Patrol Sergeant was approved
- The BOS approved the hire of Kyle Cordero as an APD Patrolman
- The resignation of dispatcher Christine Fowler was approved along with the change in status of dispatcher Noemi Goohs from FT to PT

**Link to this most recent Town Budget Information:**

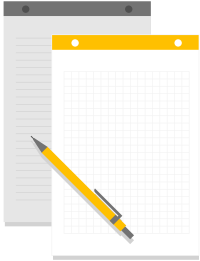
[https://www.amherstnh.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf4116/f/agendas/2023.12.29\\_bos\\_meeting\\_agenda\\_packet.pdf](https://www.amherstnh.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf4116/f/agendas/2023.12.29_bos_meeting_agenda_packet.pdf)

*WELCOME TO THE NEWEST TOWN EMPLOYEES: BOB  
CLARK, BUILDING INSPECTOR/CODE ENFORCEMENT;  
KYLE CORDERO, PATROLMAN AND ROGER LANDRY, REC.  
DEPT GROUNDSKEEPER  
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PROMOTIONS OF:  
SGT. GEROME AND SGT. KELLY*



## **Employment Opportunities**

The Town of Amherst has an exciting employment opening. Please take a look and pass along to anyone who may be interested in working for the town.



### **Town Planner, FT** **Office of Community Development**

### **Transfer Station, PT**

Amherst NH Department of Public Works is accepting applications for a part-time transfer station attendant. This is a 29.5-hour position. We are looking for someone who likes to interact with residents and willing to educate them about recycling and solid waste. The “Application for Employment Package” is available at the DPW office, 22 Dodge Road between 7:00 am and 3:00 pm Monday through Friday. Position is open until filled. The starting rate depends on qualifications (DOQ). The Town of Amherst is an equal opportunity employer.

For more information and to locate the town employment application, click here:  
<https://www.amherstnh.gov/human-resources/files/employment-pportunities>

### **Mark your calendars!**

**February 7 – Town Deliberative Session (Souhegan HS, 7 PM)**

**March 12 – Town Meeting/Local and School Elections (Souhegan HS)**