



Amherst Town Newsletter

November 2023

*Amherst, NH Chartered January 18, 1760
Vol. 1, Issue 10*

November

The Town Hall is decorated for Fall! Thank you to the Amherst Garden Club for their continued gardening skills to keep the grounds in front of the building beautiful. This year a Scarecrow, creatively decorated by local Girl Scouts, joins the display.

October has been filled with many exciting events and town happenings. Included in this edition are photos of the Police Department's Trunk or Treat, the signing of the latest town's land purchase, an important Energy Committee survey as well as listings for town employment and a walking program for seniors.

In October, the town said good-bye to our building inspector Scott Tenney. Scott is off to a new opportunity, and we wish him well!



The Latest News from Amherst



The first phase of the Clearview purchase (Post Road Forest) has been finalized! Due to the efforts of the Conservation Commission, the Town, Amherst Land Trust and the landowner, a significant piece of land will be conserved.

Pictured here at the closing are the landowner/seller, Amherst Land Trust President Sally Wilkins and ACC Vice Chair Rob Clemens.

The second phase of the purchase will occur in FY25.

Food Waste Recycling Update!

Recent total food scraps collected at the Transfer Station are:

September: 2280 lbs

= 1.14 tons

October: 2380 lbs

= 1.19 tons

Keep up the good work!



IMPORTANT DATES

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

November 1	Planning Board Meeting, 7 PM
November 2	Souhegan Regional Landfill Meeting, 6 PM (Hollis DPW)
November 6	Board of Selectmen Meeting, 6:30 PM
November 6	Ways & Means Committee, 6:15 PM
November 7	Energy Committee Meeting, 6 PM (Town Library)
November 7	Village Streets Study Committee, 5:30 PM
November 8	Conservation Commission Meeting, 7 PM
November 9	Heritage Commission Meeting, 6:30 PM
November 10	VETERAN'S DAY (Town buildings closed)
November 14	Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee Mtg, 7 PM
November 15	Planning Board Meeting 7 PM
November 16	Cemetery Trustee Meeting, 7:30 AM (DPW)
November 16	Historic District Commission Meeting, 7 PM
November 20	Board of Selectmen Meeting, 6:30 PM
November 21	Village Streets Study Committee Mtg 5:30 PM
November 21	Energy Committee Meeting, 6 PM (Town Library)
November 21	Zoning Board of Adjustment, 7 PM
November 23	Happy Thanksgiving Day!
November 24	Town buildings closed in observance of Thanksgiving Holiday
November 28	Village Streets Study Committee, 5:30 pm

Board of Selectmen Meeting Highlights

October 10:

- Tracie Adams, Chair of the Village streets study Committee, updated the BOS as the the committee's work
- Mercedes Olster, Chair if the Energy Committee, presented the BOS with a recommendation; the BOS voted to continue with the steps necessary to establish community power in Amherst and to work with Standard Power in these efforts
- The Conservation Commission, Office of Community Development and DPW presented their Strategic Plans
- The BOS approved the award for Town Meeting Hall Room A/V project to Unique Scientific in the amount of \$11,940
- A pavement bid award for the Honey Brook Lane project was awarded to Theriault & Sons in the amount of \$9440
- Laura Kimball was hired as the new Recreation Supervisor for Amherst Recreation

October 23:

- The BOS has begun the discussion of wage and benefits for employees including the annual COLA
- A representative from the NH Retirement System attended to provide an overview of the program
- The Capital Improvements Plan presentation was reviewed and accepted
- A bid for town building cleaning was approved (Jay McKenna Cleaning)
- A bid for the exterior painting of Buck Meadow Clubhouse to 603 Painting LLC was approved
- A DPW pilot program to award a plowing contract to Knott's Landcare in the amount of \$27,500 was approved
- A revision to the Baboosic Lake Community Septic committee charter was approved

*CONGRATULATIONS TO AMHERT'S NEW RECREATION
SUPERVISOR, LAURA KIMBALL!*

Employment Opportunities

The Town of Amherst has several exciting employment openings. 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

Emergency Dispatcher – Police Department

Winter Help/ Laborer/Driver
Department of Public Works

Winter Contractor
On-call, as needed Winter Plow Truck Driver

Finance Director, FT
Town of Amherst



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

NOW HIRING FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICERS

The Amherst Police Department, a progressive law enforcement agency, is seeking motivated, hardworking applicants for the position of full-time police officer. Applicants will be required to pass a written test, physical agility test, oral board interviews, polygraph examination, psychological testing, and medical examination with drug testing. Current starting base pay, dependent upon experience, is between \$54,288 and \$61,381 along with an excellent benefits package. Additional information is available on the Amherst Police Department webpage at www.amherstnh.gov. Interested parties should submit a resume via e-mail to:

aciampoli@amherstnh.gov, or via mail to:

Amherst Police Department, 175 Amherst Street, Amherst, NH 03031

Amherst ... Past and Present

You can't miss the large antique clock that stands guard over the Barbara Landry Meeting Room at Town Hall. Everyone recognizes its regular and distinctive ring on the hour when attending meetings or other events.

Where did it come from? Who is Perkins Nichols, Esq.? How old is it?

The clock is inscribed with the words "A Gift from Perkins Nichols, Esq." According to Secomb's History of the Town of Amherst (1883), this "elegant clock" was presented to the town on September 9, 1805, and "placed in the meeting-house directly in front of the desk." The meetinghouse was remodeled in 1837 and the clock was moved to the town hall, under the church. It remained there until the "courtroom was fitted up for a town-hall" when it was removed to the place it now occupies.



Perkins Nichols, Esq. was born in Amherst in 1773, the son of General Moses Nichols. He moved later to Boston and died in 1855. His father, Moses (1740-1790), held positions of importance in Amherst as a physician, selectman, representative and the Hillsborough Co. register of deeds until his death. He is buried in the Old Burying Ground next to the Town Hall.



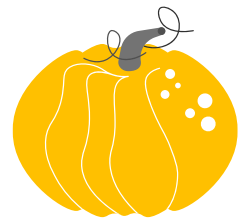
The clock must be wound regularly by hand and that duty currently is held by Town Administrator Dean Shankle. But every once in a while, someone else has the honor.

*Board of Selectmen Chairman Peter Lyon
winds and resets the hands on the clock.*

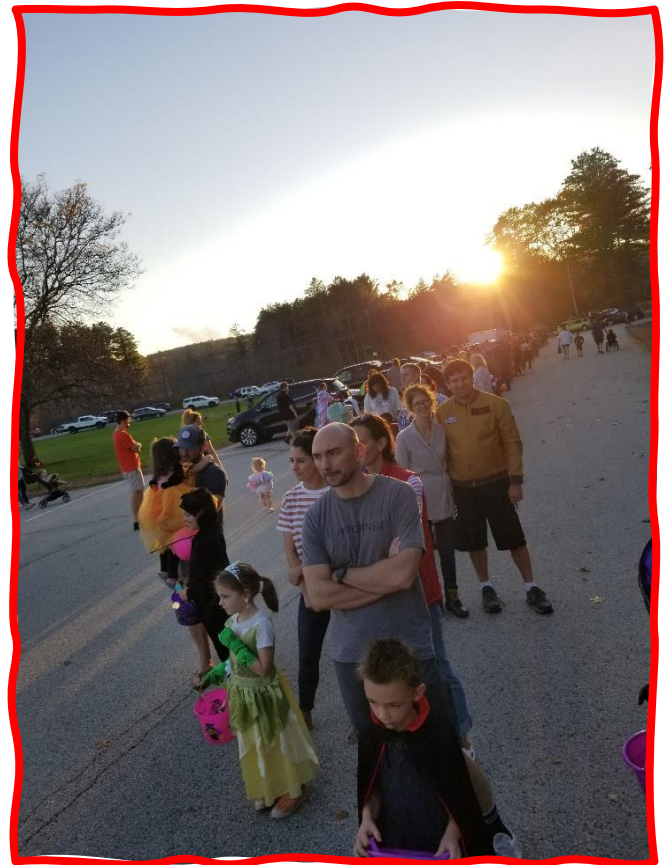
TRUNK OR TREAT 2023

The Amherst Police Department's First Annual Trunk or Treat was a huge success!

Thanks to the efforts of Police Chief Ciampoli and town departments including Fire/EMS, Public Works and Recreation, hundreds of children and their families enjoyed a beautiful evening trick-or-treating from vehicle "trunks". Many local organizations and businesses also participated in making this a memorable event.



**TRUNK
OR
TREAT
2023**



Amherst Community Power Survey

The town Energy Committee wants to hear from you about what you want in the town's community power program!

Standard Power has teamed up with the Committee to build a Community Power program with the goal of saving you money while allowing you the option to increase the amount of renewable energy in your electric supply if desired. As we develop this program, it's important to us that you have input on the town's plan. This survey is 10 questions and should only take a couple of minutes to complete. By filling this out, you are helping us to determine which components of the plan are most important to Amherst residents and businesses. We look forward to hearing from you!

Here's the link to the survey: www.surveymonkey.com/r/AmherstCP

Please let us know what's important to you!



QUICK FACTS ABOUT COMMUNITY POWER

ONLY CHANGE TO YOUR CURRENT ELECTRIC BILL IS YOUR "SUPPLY" LINE

EVERSOURCE CONTINUES GRID AND POWERLINE MAINTENANCE

OPT-IN OR OPT-OUT OF THE PROGRAM WITH NO PENALTY

NO COST TO TOWN BUDGET OR TAXPAYERS

Community Corner

The NH Wellpoint Foundation and the Amherst Recreation Department are pleased to again offer the Hampshire Dome to be available for free to Amherst residents 70 years and older of the Souhegan Valley from 11/7/23 to 4/12/24. This program will be offered weekdays, except Mondays, from 10 AM to 1PM. **(The attached poster has more details).**

Please note the following--

- * The program is opening 2-3 weeks earlier this year.
- * It does require one-time registration. Bring a driver's license or other ID the first time only.
- * Younger citizens may also walk at the specified hours all winter but with a small charge to cover the costs of the facility.
- * Souhegan Valley Rides can help with transportation, if needed.



The poster is for the NH Wellpoint Foundation Winter Walking Program at the Hampshire Dome. It features a blue border and a white background. At the top, it says "NH Wellpoint Foundation" in blue, followed by "WINTER WALKING PROGRAM" in large orange letters, and "AT THE HAMPSHIRE DOME" in blue. To the right of the text is an illustration of a person's legs in blue pants and orange sneakers. Below the title, it says "FREE Program For Residents Age 70+" in blue, followed by a list of towns: "From Amherst, Bedford, Brookline, Hollis, Lyndeborough, Mason, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, and Wilton". The dates "Nov 7-Apr 12" and times "10:00 am-1:00 pm" are listed, along with "Tuesday-Friday" and "CLOSED MONDAY". It mentions "Indoors On A Olympic Quality Cushioned Track" and "Check Daily Schedule at hampshiredome.com To Confirm Track Is Open For Walking". It also states "Registration Required In Person: Current NH License or Official ID". At the bottom, it says "The Hampshire Dome | Emerson Rd, Milford, NH" and "hampshiredome.com | 603.673.8123". There are logos for the Hampshire Dome and the NH Wellpoint Foundation.

NH Wellpoint Foundation
WINTER WALKING PROGRAM
AT THE HAMPSHIRE DOME

FREE Program For Residents Age 70+
From Amherst, Bedford, Brookline, Hollis, Lyndeborough,
Mason, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, and Wilton

Nov 7-Apr 12
10:00 am-1:00 pm
Tuesday-Friday
CLOSED MONDAY

Indoors On A Olympic Quality Cushioned Track
*Check Daily Schedule at hampshiredome.com
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