



Amherst Town Newsletter

October 2023

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October News

It's always an exciting time in Amherst in October. Many Fall events are on the calendar and the budget season for FY25 begins. Town employees and citizen representatives on the Ways & Means Committee have begun the hard work of budgeting for the town's needs. You can keep abreast of the most up-to-date information by watching video recordings (see a link later in this newsletter) and perusing minutes which are posted on the town website.

All town information is posted on the website including all town meetings, employment and volunteer opportunities, contact information for all departments, election information and forms and documents. <https://www.amherstnh.gov>. Take advantage of the wealth of information available here and sign-up for E-alerts which will automatically send alerts to your e-mail inbox!

Halloween Trick or Treat hours have been set and they are 6-8 PM on October 31. Don't miss the Police Department's new "Trunk or Treat" event on October 28 at Wilkins School along with Pumpkin Carving by the Amherst Junior Women's Association. This year's "Goldens on the Green" event will be on Sunday, October 15 with a raindate of October 22.

Have a safe and Happy Halloween!

Town News and Information

It seems very early but the Town has started the FY25 budget process. It begins with Strategic Presentations to the BOS by all Town Department Heads. Both September BOS meetings feature several Powerpoint presentations. The Ways & Means Committee plays an important role in this process as they listen to the presentations and have the opportunity to ask questions of the Department Heads. These presentations are recorded and can be viewed on the Town's Vimeo channel: <https://vimeo.com/channels/1555931>



Meet this year's Town Ways & Means Committee!

From L to R (Front Row):

Andy, Wendy, Diane, Town Moderator Peter

Back Row: Tom, Joe, Steven, Brad and Russ.

The Police Department's Body Worn Camera training and installation is complete, and all officers and police cruisers have been outfitted as well. The system is now up and running. Thank you to Chief Reams and Ciampoli for this initiative.

Welcome to Dawn who has joined the Town Clerk's staff and Anne who is the town's new Finance Department Assistant.

Also welcome two new employees to the Fire/EMS department, Daniel EMT and Brett Paramedic.

News from DPW Director Slosek

Amherst Road Paving Update:

We are currently working on several roads in Town to include Chestnut Hill Rd. (Horace Greeley to Wolfe Ln.), Mack Hill Rd. (Sprague Rd. to gravel), Martingale Rd., Sherburne Dr., and Mont Vernon Rd. (T/L to Secomb Rd.). The work, which includes paving, drainage work, and tree work, is expected to be complete by the end of October. We expect inconveniences to travel to be minimal, however minor delays may occur. Thank you for your patience as we continue to make improvements to the road network.

-Amherst DPW

At the end of September, Amherst's long-time Treasurer, Liz Overholt, retired after decades of dedicated service to the town. Thank you Liz! Deputy Treasurer Rick Katzenberg will continue to serve in the role until a new Treasurer is appointed in March.

IMPORTANT DATES

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

Town boards and committee meetings are held at Town Hall unless otherwise noted.

October 3	Village Streets Study Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM
October 3	Energy Committee Meeting, 6 PM at Town Library
October 4	Planning Board Meeting, 7 PM
October 5	Souhegan Regional Landfill District Meeting, 6 PM at Fire Station
October 10	Board of Selectmen, 6:30 PM
October 10	Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee Meeting, 7 PM
October 11	Conservation Commission Meeting, 7 PM
October 12	Heritage Commission Meeting, 6:30 PM
October 16	Library Board of Trustees Meeting, 6:30 PM at the Town Library
October 17	Zoning Board of Adjustment, 7 PM
October 18	Planning Board Meeting, 7 PM
October 18	Trustees of the Trust Funds Meeting, 6 PM
October 19	Historic District Commission Meeting, 7 PM
October 23	Board of Selectmen, 6:30 PM
October 24	Village Streets Study Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM
October 24	Energy Committee Meeting, 6PM
October 25	Conservation Commission Meeting, 7 PM
October 25	Fourth of July Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM
October 28	TRUNK or TREAT , 4-6 PM at Wilkins School

Board of Selectmen Meeting Highlights

September 11:

- The BOS appointed Elizabeth Sculley to the Fourth of July Committee
- Tracie Adams, Chair of the Village Streets Study Committee, provided an update on the committee's work
- Strategic Plans from the following departments were presented:
 - Administration/Finance
 - Tax and Assessing
 - Police and Communications
- The BOS approved the land purchase of the "Clearview" land
- The BOS approved the RFQ bids for on-call civil engineering work (VHB and Hoyle Tanner) and on-call environmental engineering work (Weston & Sampson)
- The Treasurer job description was approved
- FY23 Impact Fee report was presented
- The Use of the Town Common for various events were approved:
 - Amherst Junior Women's Club Turkey Trip – 11/24/2023
 - Girl Scouts Scarecrow Project – 10/14/2023
 - Christ's Church Family Event – 10/21/2023

September 28:

- The following Strategic Plans were presented to the BOS
 - Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee
 - Fire/EMS
 - Parks & Recreation
 - Library
- The BOS accepted the generous donation of a Trail Easement from Chris and Judy Shenk
- Halloween Trick or Treat times were approved from 6-8 PM
- The town's PILOT agreement with SNH medical center was renewed for 5 years
- The BOS approved the purchase of a new town hall server to replace the current one which has reached its useful life
- The BOS approved the hiring of a new Finance Department Assistant
- The hiring of an additional part-time EMT and Paramedic were approved
- A report on the Recreation Revolving Fund was given to the BOS
- After 23 years of dedicated service to Amherst, the resignation/retirement of Sgt. Patrick Webster was approved by the BOS, effective Nov. 1, 2023
- Police Chief Ciampoli introduced his "Trunk or Treat" event to be held on October 28 from 4-6 PM at Wilkins School; several town agencies will also be participating
- A rain date of Sunday, December 10 was approved for the Amherst Tree Lighting event

Exciting Employment Opportunities!

The Town of Amherst has several 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

Administrative Assistant, PT
Recreation Department

Winter Help/ Laborer/Driver
Department of Public Works

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

Finance Director
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

OCTOBER 28TH

4:00PM-6:00PM

**WILKINS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

SAVE THE DATE!

**AMHERST POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

TRUNK-OR-TREAT

163/183

A Sampling of Upcoming Programs at the Amherst Library!

George Washington's Mount Vernon Gardens: An 18th Century Garden Revival

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12 7:00—8:15 PM Lower Level- Johnson Meeting Room Amherst Town

Library 14 Main Street, Amherst, NH, 03031



Please join us for this presentation as Betz Golan highlights the historic nature of the Mount Vernon gardens and shares her experience as an interpreter in the lower gardens at Mount Vernon. As with most historical gardens, no one can say the specifics of the plantings but from family correspondence, dinner menus, reference books and local resources, a picture emerges of what the garden must have contained and how it functioned in Plantation life.

Betz has worn many different hats in the horticultural space. She is an ethnobotanist, managed and owned an herb farm in Maine providing products to L.L. Bean, museums, and botanical gardens for 40 years. Betz has also served as an historic herbalist to both the Shaker Community in New Gloucester, Maine and the gardens at Mount Vernon in Virginia for over 25 years. She now lives in Bedford, NH and is a board member for Joppa Hill Educational Farm. She serves as an educator and manages the community garden and high tunnel production.

Of special note: Betz will have a selection of products created for Mount Vernon available for sale after her presentation including herbal teas, seasonings, jams and artwork.

This program series is a monthly collaboration with the Amherst Garden Club.

In-Person Program. Registration Required.

50+ Job Seekers Networking Group - Resumes: Beyond the Basics

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25 6:00—8:00 PM Zoom

If you are unemployed and actively looking, underemployed, seeking a new career direction, re-entering the job market after a long employment gap, or recently retired and looking for your "Encore Career", this networking group program is perfect for you! Remember, 85% of jobs are found through networking!

Join us in a professional forum for networking with peers in a safe and comfortable environment conducive to developing new relationships and developing skills and strategies to help in your career transition. Each meeting features a new topic. Meetings include a presentation and interactive workshop on topics relevant to career transition, guest speakers, access to hiring managers, small group breakout rooms to network, and 1-on-1 coaching guidance. Participating on a regular basis will give job seekers the many tools and strategies needed for a successful job search.

Each biweekly meeting is facilitated by Deborah Hope, MBA, PCIC, an experienced executive career coach. Deborah is a former Fortune 500 executive, investment banker and entrepreneur. She transitioned to executive coaching over 12 years ago. Deborah has coached with Harvard Business School Executive Education programs and the Massachusetts Conference for Women. She has been trained or certified in a variety of coaching models and assessment tools. Deborah has facilitated 50+ job seekers networking groups since 2016.