



Amherst Town Newsletter

March 2023

Amherst, NH Chartered January 18, 1760

March Message

Thank you to everyone who attended the Town Deliberative on February 8. The night was long, but the discussion was lively and serves a vital role in the functioning of our town. The highlight of March will be the Town elections on March 14. Amherst is fortunate to have many willing folks ready to take on the task of serving their community. There are links in this newsletter which will direct you to additional information regarding the warrant articles and additional voter information.

If you haven't heard, the latest edition of the annual Town Report 2022 has been printed. Copies are available at Town Hall and the Library. It contains information on budgets, a review of town divisions, committees and commissions, vital statistics, and other financial reports. An electronic copy is available at this link: https://www.amherstnh.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif4116/f/uploads/2022_annual_town_report_amherst_nh_final.pdf

We wish to express our deepest appreciation and gratitude to retiring Senior Patrolman Michael Knox (29+ years' service) and Detective John Smith (20+ years' service). Amherst is a better place because of you!



Recent Events/Happenings in Town



Amherst Town Deliberative

The Town held the 2023 Deliberative Session on February 8. If you were not able to attend, the presentation is available here for your review:

https://www.amherstnh.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlf4116/f/uploads/fy24_bos_deliberative_presentation_final_for_posting.pdf

More Photos from Town Deliberative



Ways & Means Chair Lori Mix chats with Finance Dir. Deb Bender, Town Administrator Dean Shankle and Deputy Town Clerk Lavern Fucci



Police Chief Reams, Fire/Rescue Chief Conley, Library Dir. Amy Lapointe, Recreation Dir. Craig Fraley, Community Development Dir. Nic Strong, Assessor/Tax Collector Gail Stout and DPW Dir. Eric Slosek

**CONGRATULATIONS TO FIRE RESCUE CAPTAIN KEVIN HEVEY UPON
HIS PROMOTION TO DEPUTY CHIEF!
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW DPW FLEET MECHANIC TENZIN!**

Planning Board

The PB agenda for it's meeting on March 1 includes:

CASE #: PZ16895-013023 – Nelson Realty Trust (Owner & Applicant); 64 Route 101A, PIN #: 002-086-002 – Non-Residential Site Plan Amendment - Extension Request. To show a proposed 2-story, 46,800 SF manufacturing, office & storage facility with associated parking. Zoned Industrial

CASE #: PZ12161-121319 - Robert H. Jacobson Revocable Trust, Laurie Stevens, Trustee (Owner) & TransFormations, Inc. (Applicant), 17 Christian Hill Road, PIN #s: Tax Map 005-148-000 & 005-100-000 - Conditional Use Permit - Design Review. To depict a 60-unit Planned Residential Development per the Integrated Innovative Housing Ordinance (IIHO). Zoned Residential Rural

All Planning Board agendas, minutes and current application materials can be found on the PB link on the town website: <https://www.amherstnh.gov/planning-board>

Zoning Board of Adjustment

There was no February meeting of the ZBA and no applications were received for March.

All ZBA agendas, minutes and current application materials can be found on the ZBA link: <https://www.amherstnh.gov/zoning-board-adjustment>



Did you know that Amherst Parks and Recreation and the Amherst Town Library publish their own newsletters? You can sign up to receive information in your inbox by signing up at these links:

Parks & Recreation: <https://amherstnh.myrec.com/info/default.aspx>

Library: <https://tinyurl.com/2e57wmbd>



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.

DATE	Description
March 1	Planning Board Meeting, 7 PM (Souhegan HS)
March 2	SLRD (Landfill), 6 PM (Brookline DPW)
March 6	Public Information Session NHDOT Rt. 101, 6:30 PM
March 6	SAU39 Board Meeting, 6 PM (SHS Learning Commons)
March 8	Conservation Commission, 7 PM
March 9	Heritage Commission Meeting, 6:30 PM
March 9	Souhegan Coop School Board, 6 PM (SHS Learning Commons)
March 13	Board of Selectmen, 6:30 PM
March 14	Town and School Elections! 6 AM to 8 PM (Souhegan HS)
March 15	Planning Board Meeting, 7 PM
March 16	Historic District Commission Meeting, 7 PM
March 21	Zoning Board of Adjustment, 7 PM
March 22	Conservation Commission Meeting, 7 PM
March 23	4 th of July Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM
March 23	Amherst School Board, 6 PM (SHS Learning Commons)
March 27	Board of Selectmen, 6:30 PM
March 28	Recreation Commission 6 PM (Recreation Dept)

Board of Selectmen Meeting Highlights

February 6:

- Congratulations to Mark Bender on his appointment as an Alternate to the Conservation Commission!
- Welcome to Cameron as a part-time dispatcher to the Public Safety Communications Center
- the BOS authorized the purchase of a Ford 550 truck for DPW; the purchase is part of the DPW vehicle replacement plan and replaces a 2011 truck
- the BOS agreed to reduce a Comstar invoice by \$720 upon recommendation and determination of need
- the BOS approved the Finance Dir. to hire an assistant for the department; this follows the inability of the town to find a qualified Assistant Finance Dir., as previously approved
- the Amherst Junior Women's Club was approved for the use of the Town Green for the annual Easter Egg Hunt
- a Hawker and Peddler's License was approved for Samich, LLC

February 21:

- the Town has engaged the law firm of Drummond Woodsum as new town counsel
- the focused site investigation of PFAS in the fire station area has been completed and sent to NHDES for their review
- a proposed updated town employee sick leave policy was discussed and will be further evaluated
- Finance Dir. updated the Selectmen as to current budget to actual status
- Job descriptions for Fire Rescue Deputy Chief of Operations and Deputy Chief of Prevention were updated
- BOS approved the repair of the damage at the Recreation Dept office (burst pipes)
- BOS approved the removal of a pine tree in the Common due to extensive rot (recommended by tree warden and contractor)
- Atlas Fireworks was given approval for retail sales

Amherst Public Works

Pilot Food Waste Composting Program

The Town of Amherst has embarked on a pilot food waste program which will directly reduce the cost of tonnage that the town pays for food waste/trash removal. A reduction in cost equates to cost savings for the town. You can help by separating your food waste items and placing in a separate container and disposing at the collection point at the Amherst Transfer station.

Kickoff was February 2! Visit the town website for more information and see below.



YES

ALL FOOD WASTE

- Meat & Bones
- Food Scraps
- Milk, Cheese, Dairy
- Fruit & Vegetables
- Condiments & Dressings
- Coffee Grounds/Filters
- Seafood & Shells
- Fats, Oils, Spices
- Liquid Drinks & Soups
- Powdered Drinks
- Napkins

NO

NO GLASS

- Plastic Service Ware
- Aluminum Cans
- Water Bottles
- Yard Waste
- Diapers
- Chemicals
- Cat Litter
- Hygiene Products
- Medication
- Latex Gloves



**FROM THE DESK OF
TOWN CLERK NANCY DEMERS**

- **DOG LICENSES ARE DUE ON APRIL 30. YOU CAN RENEW ONLINE AT THIS LINK:**

<HTTPS://PAY.EB2GOV.COM/SERVICE/DOGLICENSING/247?TOWNCODE=602&SOURCE=DL&TOWNCODEMASTERID=175>

- **ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR THE MARCH ELECTION ARE NOW AVAILABLE AND CAN BE REQUESTED AT THIS LINK:**

HTTPS://WWW.AMHERSTNH.GOV/SITES/G/FILES/VYHLIF4116/F/UPLOADS/2023_TOWN_ABSENTEE_BALLOT_APPLICATION_-_FILLED_IN.PDF

- **COMPREHENSIVE VOTER INFORMATION, INCLUDING SAMPLE BALLOT, VOTER'S GUIDE AND THE 2022 ANNUAL TOWN REPORT CAN BE ACCESSED THROUGH THIS PAGE:**

<HTTPS://WWW.AMHERSTNH.GOV/TOWN-CLERK/PAGES/MARCH-14-2023-LOCAL-ELECTION-INFORMATION>

Community Corner

Several local programs are available to Amherst seniors. Here are a few. If you visit Facebook, check out this page for more opportunities – [Activities for Seniors in Amherst](https://www.facebook.com/groups/856692751921687) (not Town sponsored)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/856692751921687>

NH Wellpoint Foundation

**SENIOR ACTIVE HEALTHY LIVING
WINTER WALKING PROGRAM
AT THE HAMPSHIRE DOME**

FREE PROGRAM Starts Nov 15
For Residents Age 70+

Amherst, Bedford, Brookline, Hollis, Lyndeborough,
Mason, Milford, Mont Vernon, and Wilton

Registration Required In Person:
Current NH License or Official ID

Offered 10:00 am-1:00 pm / Tuesday-Friday
CLOSED MONDAY

Indoors On A Olympic Quality Cushioned Track
*Check Daily Schedule at hampshiredome.com
To Confirm Track Is Open For Walking*



 The Hampshire Dome | Emerson Rd, Milford, NH
hampshiredome.com | 603.673.8123 

Would you like a delicious meal while enjoying the walking program?

Join us on Tuesday's for a nutritious lunch before or after your walk!

Beginning February 21st
Meals on Wheels of Hillsborough County is proud to sponsor free lunches for participants of the Hampshire Dome Winter Walking Program.

Lunch Available on Tuesdays
11:30AM -12:30PM

Suggested donation to Meals on Wheels of \$3 per meal



 **MEALS ON WHEELS** HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

See You Next Month!