



Amherst Town Newsletter

September 2023

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September News and Updates

This month heralds in a new era in Town as we say Good-bye to our long-time Chief of Police, Mark Reams. His 30-year honorable and dedicated service to Amherst is highly commendable and he will be missed!

Taking over the reins at the Police Department will be another long-serving officer, Anthony Ciampoli. Chief Ciampoli has also served the town for 20+ years and will continue as Chief.

The Fisher Cats celebrated “Amherst Night at the Fisher Cats” on August 24. Long-serving Selectmen Tom Grella was honored to throw out the first pitch.

The Town has commissioned a study through NRPC in efforts to determine the effects of a potential No-Thru trucking ordinance through the Village. The newly formed Village Streets Study Committee meets regularly to address traffic and safety issues in the village.

The Recreation Department soccer program begins on September 9 with over 400 players! Baboosic Lake Town Beach will no longer be staffed as the season has come to a close.

September brings the start of the town budget process. Department Heads will be presenting their strategic plans to the BOS and the Ways & Means Committee will be joining the BOS at these meetings. You can review all recordings and minutes at the town webpage.

Town News

CONGRATULATIONS TO AMHERT'S NEW CHIEF OF POLICE, ANTHONY CIAMPOLI, WHO BEGAN HIS DUTIES EFFECTIVE AUGUST 31, 2023.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AMHERST'S NEWEST FIREFIGHTERS TYLER BARTELS, JONATHAN GRAHAM AND STEPHEN ELWIN!



Town Clerk Nancy Demers swears in new Police Chief Anthony Ciampoli.

A great photo of 3
Amherst police chiefs!

BOS Chair Peter Lyon,
retiring Chief Mark
Reams and incoming
Chief Ciampoli.

(Left to Right)



Board of Selectmen Selects Town of Amherst Energy Committee

- * William Stoughton, Ex-Officio
- * Bill Maddocks
- * Zach Olster
- * Susan Deschenes
- * Mercedes Olster, Chair
- * Martin Rowley

The purpose of the committee is to investigate whether the Town should establish a community power organization to obtain optional lower electricity rates for town residents. Many NH communities, including Wilton and Nashua, already provide lower cost electric power to their residents through a community power organization.

The Board of Selectmen also asked the Energy Committee to investigate the possibility of installing solar power on town-owned land or buildings. Finally, the committee was asked to address the reliability of electric service in Amherst, including the frequency and length of power outages as compared to adjacent communities.

Meetings are posted on the town webpage and residents are encouraged to attend.

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.

September 1	Board of Selectmen, Public Hearing, 3 PM
September 5	Village Streets Study Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM
September 6	Planning Board Meeting, 7 PM
September 7	Capital Improvement Plan Committee, 4 PM
September 7	Souhegan Regional Landfill District Meeting, 6 PM
September 9	FIREWORKS and FUN by the 4 th of July Committee, 5:30 PM
September 11	Board of Selectmen Meeting, 6:30 PM
September 12	Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee, 7 PM
September 13	Conservation Commission Meeting, 7 PM
September 14	Capital Improvement Plan Committee, 4 PM
September 14	Heritage Commission, 6:30 PM
September 14	DPW Director Eric Slosek Composting Presentation, Library at 7 PM
September 19	Zoning Board of Adjustment, 7 PM
September 20	Planning Board Meeting, 7 PM
September 21	Capital Improvement Plan Committee, 4 PM
September 21	Historic District Commission Meeting, 7 PM
September 25	Board of Selectmen Meeting, 6:30 PM
September 26	Village Streets Study Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM
September 27	Conservation Commission Meeting, 7 PM

Board of Selectmen Meeting Highlights

August 14:

- The BOS approved the hiring of Anthony Ciampoli as the new Chief of Police
- The updated Impact Fee Schedule was approved
- A draft of the FY25 Budget timeline was presented
- The BOS renewed the Economic Revitalization Zone (ERZ) in Amherst
- The police cruiser bid and cruiser upfit bid for FY24 were approved; only one bid was received from Northwest Hills Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram for the cruisers even though 3 dealers were directly solicited. The cruiser bid was in the amount of \$85,748.40
- The Bicycle/Pedestrian Cmte updated the BOS as to the Baboosic Greenway 02 project; town project has been moved up in the state schedule; more questions and discussion is needed
- Fin. Dir. Deb Bender presented a resolution to the IRS back taxes due
- A draft for the Town Treasurer position was presented; changes proposed; will be updated and presented again. BOS will also be discussing stipend at future meeting.
- Boy Scout Troop 613 was approved for use of the common on Halloween
- A Hawkers and Peddlers license was approved for Lindsey Buchanan for the German Christmas Market

August 28:

- The BOS recognized retiring Police Chief Mark Reams for his many dedicated years of service to the Town of Amherst
- A Badge pinning ceremony was held for incoming Police Chief Anthony Ciampoli who was pinned by his daughter
- Deb Polatchek was re-appointed to the Fourth of July Committee
- Kim Ayers of the Fourth of July Committee provided the BOS with an update to the costs of Fireworks. The price is increasing greatly, a lower cost is possible but still an increase over the current amount, would not be held in the days before the 4th of July and would require a 3 year contract. The BOS provided some thoughts and would like the Committee to return with a recommendation and seek public input.
- Tracie Adams, Chair of the Village Streets Study Committee presented an update to the committee's work
- The BOS approved the hiring of three call firefighters
- Capital Reserve Withdrawal requests were approved from DPW Vehicle & Equipment Fund (Grapple loader and tractor attachments), \$84,233.20; Fire Rescue Vehicle Fund (ambulance), \$357,057.18; Multimodal Fund (update concept plans for Baboosic Greenway), \$1500, and Recreation Fields Fund (Buckmeadow Master Plan), \$6500.00

- The BOS approved the amended request of the Amherst German Christmas Market to close Main St. between Middle St. and Courthouse Rd during the Christmas Market hours
- The BOS approved the MS-1 form to be submitted to the Department of Revenue, Summary of Valuation Report for 2023

The Village Streets Study Committee (VSSC) is meeting Tuesday, September 5, and Tuesday, September 26, at 5:30 PM. October and November meeting dates are October 3 and 24 and November 7. The VSSC started assessing our Village Road network and will review streetscape design options next.

Please join us in Town Hall or by Zoom.

The Town of Amherst, DPW, continues the successful food waste composting program. DPW Director Eric Slosek will be part of a panel presentation at the Library on September 14 on “Composting Options and How-To's: An Amherst Garden Club Side Shoots Event”

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 7:00—8:15 PM

Registration is through the library.

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

Saturday PT Solid Waste Position
Department of Public Works

Library Assistant II
Amherst Town Library

Assistant Clerk, PT
Town Clerk's Office

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