



“NEW GLOUCESTER TOWN NEWS”

2016 Spring Edition

www.newgloucester.com

(207) 926-4126

Town Manager

The Town of New Gloucester will hold Annual Town Meeting on Monday, May 2nd at 7:00 pm in the Memorial School gymnasium. Please come and join us. Registered voters attending Town Meeting will have an opportunity to discuss the warrant articles and to vote on the FY17 Annual Town Budget.

Town Meeting booklets will be available for pick-up in Town Hall the week prior to Annual Town Meeting, and the Town Meeting Warrant will post at least one week prior to Annual Town Meeting.

The FY17 municipal budget has been completed. Based on what is known at this point regarding projected revenues and reimbursements, we are anticipating an approximately 2.3 percent tax increase to fund the municipal portion of the budget. Expense increases are due primarily to increases in the budgets for buildings and grounds, EMS, Fire, cemeteries, and employee health care. Most of our other budget areas have either stayed flat or expenses have been further reduced.

This year's Town Meeting Warrant includes an article to fund the reconstruction of the Morse Road from the railroad tracks, past Pineland Campus and the Dunn School, to Route 231 -- Phase III. The project would be constructed this summer. The article seeks \$825,000 in TIF funding for road reconstruction and paving. Engineering has been

completed and contractor bids have been received by the Town.

Our low level of municipal debt and fund balance indicate a history of conservative fiscal management. The funding of future capital projects, and operating budgets related to education, emergency services and public works, represent areas where we will continue to carefully evaluate and prioritize our investments.

The Town of New Gloucester welcomes Deputy Clerk Kim Getchell as the newest member of the Town Hall team. Kim, a New Gloucester resident, formerly worked for the Town as Assistant Clerk, and most recently was employed by the Town of Falmouth. She is a familiar face for many of you. Please join me in welcoming Kim Getchell!



*Paul First
Town Manager*

Clerk's Office

Is it really spring? It will be nice to see daffodils, crocus and tulips – a sure sign of spring!

ELECTIONS/VOTING: Elections for Selectmen, SAD #15 School Board Members, NG Water District Trustee, and School Budget referendum along with State Elections, will be voted on June 14th, at the New Gloucester Fire Station, 611 Lewiston Road.

Please Note
VOTING HOURS CHANGE

Polls will open at **6:00 a.m.**
and close at **8:00 p.m.**

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: Monday, May 2nd, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at Memorial School, Route 231/Intervale Road in New Gloucester.

ATV REGISTRATIONS: All ATVs expire June 30th. **2017** ATV Registrations are available beginning May 1st. Re-registrations are \$34. New registrations are \$35.

Please remember, if the ATV is bought through a private sale or out of state, a sales tax of 5.5% must be paid on the purchase price when registering for the first time.

Please visit the Town's website for announcements or information www.newgloucester.com or the Town's cable access TV Channel 3. Please call us at (207) 926-4126 ext. 1 with any questions.

Sharlene Myers
Deputy Clerk

Kimberly Getchell
Deputy Clerk



Fire/Rescue Department

Let me begin by thanking everyone for the warm welcome I have received from the residents of New Gloucester. I am fortunate to be a part of the Fire & Rescue Department and the Town of New Gloucester. We have an excellent department and I am excited about the future and direction of the department.

We are looking to increase the number of members in our department, especially for Rescue. If you or someone you know once was a member or has been interested in becoming a member, please contact the department at 207-926-4142 to schedule a visit. I look forward to welcoming you as a member to our outstanding staff. If you have some time to devote to your community and would like to help out please come by.

Thank you again,

James Ladewig
Fire/Rescue Chief

220th Annual Report

The 220th Edition of the New Gloucester Annual Report is now available at the Town Office. This year's report is Dedicated to William "Bill" Kiley.

Parks & Recreation

We are proud to announce that we have received a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant. If the voters pass the match at town meeting we will be able to start upgrades to the fairgrounds. The Parks and Recreation Committee along with the Town Planner, Will Johnston, worked very hard to get this grant. If you would like more information about this project or view our “Action Plan”, please go to the Town website.

I would also like to thank Coach Becky Norton and her staff for a great competitive cheering season.



Final awards performance team pyramid

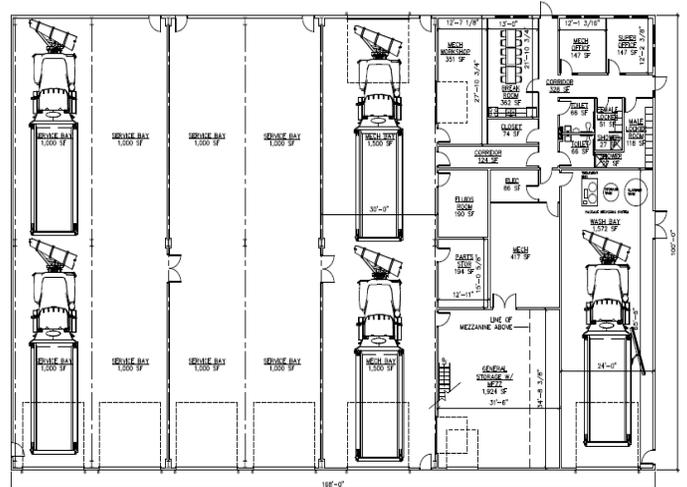
*Harvey Price
Parks & Recreation Director*



Planning

Since last August, a Public Works Design Committee has been meeting to plan for the construction of a new public works facility. The committee has been exploring options for a new facility that can meet current and future needs. With the help of Oakpoint Associates, a consultant hired with support from a CDBG planning grant, the committee has moved forward on site selection and the development of conceptual plans. Based on a site assessment conducted by Oakpoint, the Selectmen last November selected the 25-acre town-owned parcel at 611 Lewiston Road – the location of the fire station – as the location for the new facility (please visit our website for a copy of the consultant’s site assessment report). The Town plans to retain the services of a hydrogeological consulting firm to address any issues concerning groundwater impacts of a new facility.

In order to contain costs, the committee has endorsed a downsized plan that would allow room for future expansion. The current concept plan entails a compact 12-bay 16,800 square foot building, and a reduced site footprint from the original plan.



While there will be no warrant articles regarding the public works facility at the upcoming Town Meeting in May, there will be an informational display that includes architectural renderings of the concept plan. The current schedule is to hold informational workshops over the summer and early fall while pursuing a “design-build” approach to contractor selection, to assure a cost-efficient construction process. The Selectmen may be asked to schedule a Special Town Meeting later in the fall to seek public support for a funding package.

If you have questions concerning the project, feel free to contact me.

*Will Johnston
Town Planner*

Public Library

April is when the library thanks its volunteers for the work they have done. We have a gathering where we serve light refreshments and reveal what we have purchased in their honor. We also have a wild game of Library Jeopardy. The Trustees have won 3 years running. Will this year be the Volunteers?



Carla and I want to give a big **thank you** to all of our volunteers. You make our lives much easier

Deb Chandler	Kathleen D’Amboise
Lila Littlefield	Ceci Keddy
Robb Cotiaux	Grace Christian
Anne Domas	Tim Rice
Susan Simpson	CeCe Rohrbach
Allison Kostovick	Paul Morin
Tim Terranova	

Have you started thinking about your garden? The library has lots of books on plants, landscaping and gardening. Also, the Friends of the Library will be doing an informal plant sale this Mid-May. They are looking for donations for the sale. The aim is to start mid-April, weather permitting.

Watch our calendar (found on the web site www.newgloucesterlibrary.org) and our Facebook page for information on the Summer Reading Program and all of our other programs. As of right now, I would say to expect sign up to start June 7.

For more information, please call the Library at (207) 926-4840.

*Suzan Hawkins
Library Director*

*Carla McAllister
Assistant Librarian*

Public Works

I do believe winter is over, and because of the short winter the Public Works Crew is beginning the spring cleanup work a little early. That will also allow the crew to do a few small ditching and culvert jobs early.



Street sweeping will begin soon, probably the week of April 11th and continuing until done, and hopefully be completed before May 1st.

We also have a very busy summer planned with our FY17 budgets, there are several roads slated for ditching, culverts and repaving. A few of these roads, but not limited to, are North Pownal Road, Dougherty Road, Mayall Road and Meadow Lane.

After the paving is done the crew will then continue ditching our gravel roads, such as, Meadow Lane, Ayer Road, Durham Road and Quarry Road.

One big project that the Town has proposed for this year is Phase III of the Morse Road. If this job is approved by the taxpayers at the Annual Town Meeting, the Morse Road will be completed from the rail Road Tracks up to Route 231. This section of the road will be closed for a few weeks this summer (July and August) so the job can be done cost effectively. Hopefully the paving will be done before Labor Day.

Thanks for your help and support to the Public Works Department and have a safe summer season.

Public Works Summer Hours
Monday – Thursday
6:30 am – 5:00 pm

Always remember to report any road hazards to the Public Works Department at 207-926-4574, such as trees in the road, pot holes, deceased animals, and high snowbanks that you can't see over, and even damaged shoulders of the road.

Ted Shane
Public Works Director

Transfer Station

New Gloucester Transfer Station

Spring Clean-up Week

- May 17th (9am – 7pm)
- May 19th (9am – 7pm)
- May 20th (9am – 2pm)
- May 21th (9am – 5pm)

Spring Clean-up Week allows residents to bring Bulky Waste items to the Transfer Station at no charge (a bulky waste sticker is not necessary)

Stumps, leaves, pine needles, large drums or closed metal containers are NOT accepted at any time.

All types of oil including Clean Waste Oil, is accepted (year round).

(Did you know when you recycle Clean Waste Oil at the New Gloucester Transfer Station, the oil is being used to heat the Public Works Garage, saving taxpayers' dollars)