

OCT. 12 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING RECAP

On October 12, a Special Town Meeting was held at the Hawlemont School. The Select Board had approved four warrants to discontinue roads that had been out of use for decades. In reviewing over 100 years of Town Meeting records, it was discovered that two of the roads, a portion of Dodge Corner Road, and a portion of Todd Mountain Road had been discontinued by Town Meeting in the 1970s. It was also discovered that Center Heath Road is a county road, going back to the time when there was a Franklin County government. Therefore, the power to discontinue that road lies with the Franklin Regional Council of Governments. For these reasons, these three warrants were not voted on. By a majority of those present and voting at the meeting, a portion of Burnt Hill Road beginning at the end of the blacktop (6,025 feet from its intersection with West Oxbow Road) to the Town border with the Town of Heath was discontinued.

RECREATION TAX UPDATE

This spring, Annual Town Meeting voters approved pursuing special legislation that would allow Charlemont to collect a recreation tax, which would give the Town a new revenue stream to help cover rising costs. The next step is for the Massachusetts House and Senate to vote on the special legislation, and, if approved, then to be approved by the Governor. Representative Paul Mark is sponsoring this special legislation. On October 26, as this newsletter was being printed, Select Board members went to the State House to attend a hearing about the proposed recreation tax. This hearing was held by the Joint Committee on Revenue. Additional information will appear in the December newsletter.

TOWN OF CHARLEMONT NEWS

from the Select Board

November 2016

BRIDGE REPAIRS

The West Oxbow and Tower Road Bridges have been put on the State's Transportation Improvement Programs (TIP) project (for the year 2019 approximately).

The two bridges on 8A North heading to Heath that are restricted to one lane are included in a MassWorks grant the Town applied for over the summer. We should hear if we get funding by the middle of November.

Funding for the two closed Maxwell Road bridges was requested in the Town's first application for the State's Small Bridge program. The application was just submitted in October.

The Legate Road bridge repair is entering the bidding process in order to find a contractor to complete the repair that it needs.

NEARLY \$300,000 IN NEW GRANTS

Since December 2015, the Town of Charlemont has received almost \$300,000 in grants from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Federal Government and other sources. These grants have allowed the town to repair the Mountain Road bridge, conduct an engineering assessment of all town roads and our bridges. They also will allow the Town to complete a flood management and evacuation plan, purchase a new fuel monitoring system, and a portable radio for our EMD. Grant funds have been used to purchase pagers for the Fire Dept., the hard plastics container at the transfer station, and helped pay part of the cost to replace the Town Hall sign. The town administrator searches diligently for grant opportunities which bring improvements to Charlemont while not adding to the tax burden.

MORE NEWS ON THE BACK PAGE. TOWN EVENTS CALENDAR INSIDE.

NEW TREE WARDEN PHONE NUMBER

Tree Warden Stephen Reynolds can now be reached at: 413-824-5781.

Contact information for other Town officials can be found on the Town website:

<http://www.charlemont-ma.us/town/charlemont-municipal-government>

TOWN OF CHARLEMONT NOVEMBER 2016 CALENDAR

Calendar subject to change. Please see the Town website (www.charlemont-ma.us) or the Mohawk Central Office website (www.mohawkschools.org) for updates.

Tuesday, November 1

- Early voting for November 8 election, 8:00am—2:30pm, Town Clerk's office
- Tyler Memorial Library open 1:00pm—5:00pm
- Earth Removal Committee hearing, Hawlemont, 6:30pm

Wednesday, November 2

- Early voting for November 8 election, 8:00am—2:30pm, Town Clerk's office
- Senior Center program and lunch, 10:00am—1:00pm, Federated Church*
- Conservation Commission meeting, Town Hall, 6:30pm

Thursday, November 3

- Last day of early voting for November 8 election, 8:00am—2:30pm, Town Clerk's office
- Tyler Memorial Library open 3:00pm—7:00pm
- Planning Board meeting, Town Hall, 7:00pm

Friday, November 4

- Joint meeting of Select Board, Finance Committee, and Broadband Committee, Town Hall, 8:00am

Sunday, November 6

- Tyler Memorial Library Sunday Series, "Get Healthy, Stay Healthy" with Clare Pearson, at the library, 2:00pm—4:00pm

Monday, November 7

- Absentee ballots for November 8 election due to Town Clerk by noon
- Select Board meeting, Town Hall, 7:00pm
- Board of Assessors meeting, Town Hall, 7:00pm

Tuesday, November 8

- Election Day, vote at Hawlemont
- Second Tuesday Walk-in Wellness Clinic with Town Nurse, Federated Church community room, 10am—noon
- Tyler Memorial Library open 1:00pm—5:00pm
- Parks and Recreation Meeting, Charlemont Fairgrounds, 6:30pm

Wednesday, November 9

- Senior Center program and lunch, 10:00am—1:00pm, Federated Church*
- Mohawk School Committee meeting, Buckland Shelburne Elementary School, 7:00pm

Thursday, November 10

- Tyler Memorial Library open 3:00pm—7:00pm

Monday, November 14

- Town Offices and Departments closed for Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 15

- Tyler Memorial Library open 1:00pm—5:00pm
- Hawlemont School Committee meeting, Hawlemont, 4:30pm
- Broadband Information Meeting, Hawlemont, 7:00pm

Wednesday, November 16

- Senior Center program and lunch, 10:00am—1:00pm, Federated Church*
- Broadband Committee meeting, Town Hall, 7:00pm

Thursday, November 17

- Tyler Memorial Library open 3:00pm—7:00pm
- Planning Board meeting, Town Hall, 7:00pm

Monday, November 21

- Select Board meeting, Town Hall, 7:00pm

Tuesday, November 22

- Tyler Memorial Library open 1:00pm—5:00pm

Wednesday, November 23

- Senior Center program and lunch, 10:00am—1:00pm, Federated Church*
- Board of Health meeting, Town Hall, 6:00pm

Thursday, November 24

- Town Offices, Departments, and Tyler Memorial Library closed for Thanksgiving

Friday, November 25

- Town Offices, Departments, and Tyler Memorial Library closed for Thanksgiving

Saturday, November 26

- Tyler Memorial Library open 10:00am—2:00pm

* Call Site Manager Diane Gringas at 339-5720 for lunch reservations; call 625-2502 for local transportation requests.