Important Dates:

August 31,2022

Last day for Broadband Subsidy

September 1,2022

Planning Board public meeting for bylaw revisions

7pm Hawlemont School Cafeteria

Town of Charlemont Newsletter September 2022

September 6, 2022, State Election in person early voting hours

The in person early voting location is in the Town Clerk's office located in the Town Hall. Days and hours for in person early voting are:

Saturday, August 27 9:00 A.M. to 11 A. M. & 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Tuesday, August 30 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Thursday, September 1 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

The Special Voter Registration hours will be held on Saturday, August 27 from 9am to11 am and 3pm to 5 pm in the Town Hall Clerks office.

If you have questions, please contact Kathy Reynolds at <u>kathy.reynolds@townofcharlemont.org</u> or call 413-339-4335 ext. 7

Planning Board News

The planning board will be holding a public meeting to review proposed zoning amendments on September 1, 2022, at 7 pm at the Hawlemont School Cafeteria, after the public meeting the planning board also holds a hearing. Both the meeting and the hearing are chances for the public to give input on the proposed amendments. The zoning amendments are available on the town website. Once input is received the next step is voting on the amendments at a special town meeting in October.

Select Board News

Town Recall Bylaw Committee

At the Spring 2022 Charlemont Town Meeting the Selectboard was chartered to form a balanced committee with at least one signatory to the citizen petition to put a recall bylaw on the warrant of the next town meeting. The Charlemont Selectboard is soliciting volunteers to participate on this committee. We are targeting 5 total members. Selectboard will not be participating as to ensure the independence of the proposed bylaw committee. We anticipate members on this committee to spend between one and four hours a month with one meeting a month at a time to be determined by the committee. Please email administrator@townofcharlemont.org to indicate your interest in volunteering for this committee.

Town Coding Committee

The Charlemont Selectboard is forming a committee to perform a formal review of town bylaws to ensure the town will have a complete and organized set of bylaws to improve the accessibility and readability of these bylaws. This will not modify the bylaws as passed by Town Meeting.

The Selectboard is soliciting volunteers to participate on this committee. We are targeting 5 total members including one member from the Selectboard. We anticipate members on this committee to be able to spend between one- and eight-hours a month reading previous town meeting warrants and comparing with existing bylaws. Activities include documenting gaps between as written and as passed bylaws, identifying possible typos, and consolidating language for amended bylaws. Most activities for this committee can be performed at home outside of committee meetings. Please email administrator@townofcharlemont.org to indicate your interest in volunteering for this committee

Final Reminder: Broadband Subsidy Deadline is August 31, 2022

In order to receive up to \$1,400 on the one-time installation costs to connect a home, apartment or business to the municipal fiber network, the Charlemont location must be subscribed for service **no later than August 31**! There are additional deadlines that need to be met as outlined in the <u>Charlemont Connect Service Connection and Installation</u>

<u>Policy</u>. To ensure that the construction account can be fully closed out this fall, deadlines have been added to the policy to make the subsidy contingent on activating service by November 30.

The subsidy program is designed to provide an incentive to connect to the network during network construction while the installation crews are in town. **Eligibility for all subsidies will end on August 31, 2022.** Eligibility for any subsidy requires that the following schedule must be met by the subscriber and/or property owner:

- 1. Subscription request must be placed by August 31, 2022
- 2. Installation must be scheduled by September 30, 2022
- 3. If underground construction is required, all underground construction must be completed by October 30, 2022
- 4. Service must be activated (or for a cold drop, installation must be complete) by November 30, 2022

To schedule an installation, please contact Whip City Fiber at 413-485-1251 or email customerservice@wgeld.org.

Volunteers Wanted:

As several members have moved on, the Broadband Committee needs new members to work with us as the broadband project transitions from the construction phase to a functioning Network. If interested in joining the Broadband Committee, please contact us at broadband@charlemontconnect.org or (413) 337-1199.

Newsletter Sign Up

Did you know you can get the newsletter sent to you electronically? If you would like the newsletter emailed to you each month, please email administrator@townofcharlemont.org