

Contacts

Selectboard:

Steve Dupoise: 349-9233
Kathy Barrett: 453-4232
Taborri Bruhl: 802-353-9912
John Roleau: 802-316-6125
Jim Walsh: 989-9368

**Town Administrator /
Zoning Administrator /
Road Commissioner:**
Aaron Brown: 453-3516

Town Clerk:

Pam Kingman: 453-3516

Town Treasurer / Assistant Town Clerk:

Danielle Cummings:
453-3516

Town Shed: 453-3397

Beeman Elementary
453-2331

Mt. Abe High School
453-2333

Superintendent's Office
453-3657

Community Library
Deborah Lundbech:
453-4015

Fire Chief

Alan Mayer: 453-5129
377-0475 (cell)

Burn Permit: Fire Warden
Dean Gilmore:
802-373-4198(cell)

Planning Commission:
Rob Litch: 453-4840 /
Benj Putnam: 453-5824

**Development Review
Board:**
Charlie Roy: 453-3054

Animal Control Officer:
Wayne Marcelle:
1-802-233-9534

Health Officer:

Carol Charbonneau:
453-5059

Deputy Health Officer:
Kathy Cahill:
1-262-298-0865

Any non-profit group event that is open to all members of the community can be listed in the Community calendar.

**Contact:
Town Office: 453 - 3516**

Selectboard News:

Just a short report this month. Hope you've all made a trip to see the new span over Beaver Creek, it looks great. The Road Crew is working on getting winter sand and prepping for fall/winter. We're getting bids for striping a couple of town roads. Just so you know, River Road was NOT done by us. That was the State. If you have yellow paint on your vehicle call 802-522-7385, Mark Macintosh, District 5.

The Select Board is finalizing the Town Hall de-humidification contract. We also discussed the War Memorial Park; where you'll be seeing some curbing and re-planting of grass.

By the time you read this you should have already paid you taxes, I hope. The Town Office is prepping for the November election. Please vote either by absentee or on election day. It's our duty and a valuable right to exercise.

Till next time, Steve Dupoise

Zoning Update:

An updated and potentially final working draft of the Town Energy Plan is now available on the New Haven website, as is a summary of revisions (shortened link: <https://bit.ly/2OpKTzC>). This version will likely be taken up for a vote by the Energy Subcommittee. Many thanks to members Margaret Benn, Maggie Eaton, Larry Maier, Pam Marsh, and Gary Sundstrom for getting the plan to this stage, as well as the many other residents who contributed to this process over the past several years. Stay tuned for announcements about future meetings for Planning Commission and Selectboard approval and, ultimately, a town vote. Please submit comments to Maggie Eaton at MaggieEaton@me.com or mail them to 78 North Street, New Haven, VT 05472.

The Planning Commission is also looking for a new member. This is an exciting time to join as the group is working to update zoning and subdivision regulations as well. Please contact me at newhavenzoning@gmavt.net if you are interested.

Aaron Brown

Town Administrator's Update :

The return of students, faculty, and staff to Beeman Elementary has been a particularly welcome sign of fall this year. While many people are rightfully nervous about the return to school this year, good cautious practices have given our state a steadily low Covid rate and allowed us to return to some normalcy in a good place. Let's continue to be safe out there!

As cooler weather arrives, I am also happy to report that the Town Garage and Fire Department now have new heating systems that will improve indoor air quality, lower energy costs, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. If you've brought used oil for the Garage to burn in the past, you will need to find a new location to recycle your oil.

Aaron Brown

Clerk News: I am going to sound like a broken record until this election is over...

The November 3, 2020 General Election is on the fore front of everyone's mind. The Secretary of States Office mailed an absentee ballot to every registered voter on or about September 21, 2020. I encourage you to fill out your ballot and return it to the Town Office by October 24, 2020. This will give the postal workers time to process the ballots. If you prefer not to mail your ballot to the Town Office, there is a secure drop box by the front door of the Town Offices. We will be checking the drop box multiple times a day.

Due to COVID-19, and trying to limit everyone's exposure, I encourage you to use the absentee voting process. If you have not received an absentee ballot by October 15, 2020; please call the Town Office at 453 - 3516.

If you are new to Town, I encourage you to register to vote by going to: <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us> If you register to vote in New Haven after August 31, 2020, you will NOT receive an absentee ballot from the Secretary of States Office. Your absentee ballot will come from the Town Office.

If you receive an absentee ballot in the mail from the SOS Office, but prefer to vote in person; please bring the absentee ballot to the polls with you. If you don't bring in it, you will be required to sign an Affidavit of No Ballot Cast.

Also, if you chose to vote in person during the Election, be advised masks are required and please adhere to social distancing to keep you and others safe.

The Town Offices will be closed on Monday, October 12, 2020 in Honor of Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples Day.

Respectfully, Pam Kingman

New Haven Community Library News:

Things continue much the same at the library, but I am very happy to help people, by phone or email, to enroll as patrons, to navigate our website at nhcl.org, to choose books or other materials for you to pick up on our Front Porch, or just to chat! We are not open to the public or hosting programs at this point. The Friends of the Library will meet again once we re-open. (Although we are always happy to talk about welcoming new members.)

My hours at the library continue to be Tues: 10-5pm, Wed. and Thu. 1-8pm, and Sat. 10-1pm.

Happy fall!

Deborah Lundbeck, Director New Haven Community Library 453-4015 / nhl@gmavt.net

Conservation Commission:

The New Haven Conservation Commission continues to look for videos and workshops that will be of interest to us in New Haven. We are also exploring the issue of forest fragmentation and what might be done to improve wild life corridors. Our next meeting will be held November 4, 2020 at 7:00 on zoom. Please do contact any member of the Commission before then if you have questions or ideas of issues you would like us to explore.

Cheryl Mitchell cheryl.w.mitchell@gmail.com

This is an update about the ongoing discussions that the **Mt. Abraham Unified School District (MAUSD) Board** has had regarding the intersection of student programming, the school budget and our current school facilities in the context of declining student enrollment.

As you might be aware, the Board has worked hard to engage the community over the last year through various surveys and in-person forums. We've been very curious to hear from the community their thoughts and values on the future of our schools given enrollment projections and what it takes to educate our children successfully. As a result, and to gather more independent information, the Board commissioned a study to help us understand what that might look like in the future. The results of that study confirmed what we've already experienced: enrollment will continue to decline over the next ten years by another 200 students.

The problem we're facing is this: the cost to run a school system divided by less and less students each year means a higher cost per student. The state provides a spending cap per student that we have to stay under if we want to avoid a tax penalty. Assuming that most taxpayers want to avoid this penalty, the Board has historically chosen to keep our budget underneath the cap, which means cuts to staffing (or through attrition) and ultimately educational programming.

One factor in the costs to run our school system are the school buildings we own. Our current enrollment is such that we could fit every MAUSD student from the five towns into Bristol Elementary and Mt. Abraham Union Middle/High School buildings. In effect, the five town taxpayers are paying for the maintenance, heating and cleaning of the equivalent of four empty school buildings. Because we can't trim square footage off of any school each year in proportion to what we lost in students, we have a tough decision ahead of us. Do we keep school buildings in each town open (operating far below capacity), and hold the line on spending to achieve taxpayer support, meaning the Board has only one area in which to control spending (setting a budget target that will result in cuts to staff and educational programming)?

In essence, since it's not possible to have taxpayer affordability, robust educational programming and all of our schools open due to declining enrollment, which two of the three would you want adults to pick for you if you were a 5th grader at Beeman, Robinson, Bristol Elementary, Lincoln Community School or Monkton Central? You can now see our dilemma.

As we move ahead, it's becoming clear that the time for action is upon us. The Board will soon have to make a recommendation to be warned and voted on in March of 2021. I urge you in the months ahead to also assess the situation as realistically as possible – all of our kids are counting on it.

Andrew Morton, MAUSD Board member

*****6th Annual New Haven Town Wide Halloween Event***** newhavenvtevents@gmail.com or reach out to Sara - (802)-877-3080 or Vicki - (802)989-1334.

Save the date - October 23rd & 24th

Halloween is NOT cancelled! Due to COVID-19 guidelines, we will not be decorating inside the church this year. Instead, we invite you to decorate your front yard, driveway, porch, or business along with us for the community to enjoy a drive-by Halloween experience. If you don't have an outdoor space, but want to participate, we have space available to offer, just contact us. We hope that you will join us in the spirit of fun this year.

We will be sharing a map of places in town that are decorated for drive by viewing. The maps will be available starting on October 23rd at the Village Green Market, Vermont Food Collaborative or on-line. If you have questions or want to get on the map, please contact the New Haven Events Committee at



Tax Information

Taxes are Due October 1st!

If you have not paid your taxes yet, please do so.

Please remember we do not accept post marks; **allow several days for mail deliveries.**

You may drop off your payment in the drop box at any time. (No cash please)

Please do not send postdated checks. We will deposit your check when we get it. If you are worried about missing the date you can use online bill pay to schedule your payment on a specific date.

We hate to see people become delinquent because they forgot or something happened on the day they thought they were going to pay their taxes. Please plan ahead and give yourself enough room for the unexpected.

The town will continue to receive property tax adjustment info from the State and we will mail corrected bills as soon as we get new or changed information.

If you have land in the use value program/land use; The State has not completed their process and you may receive a corrected bill if and when they do so.

We are strongly encouraging mailing or putting your payment in the drop box to practice social distancing. If you would like a receipt just leave a note on payment and I will be happy to mail one back. The town office is currently open by appointment only and apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. The town office will be open until 5pm on October 1st, if you wish to pay your taxes in person, please wear a mask.

Thank you,

Danielle Cummings

Town Treasurer

October 2020 New Haven Community Calendar

Location of Events Key: Town Hall= TH Town Offices= TO Town Garage= TG Cafeteria= C Gym= G Beeman= S MAUHS= HS Village Green =VG Village Green Market= VGM Congregational Church= CH Library= L Fire Station= FS * Recycling at Town Garage Saturday Mornings 8-12 *

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
** Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic - Please call ahead to be				1 Taxes are due by 5:00 PM	2	3 Trash & Recycle 8AM - 12PPM TG
4	5 DRB Mtg 7PM TO	6 Selectboard Mtg 7PM TO	7	8	9	10 Trash & Recycle 8AM-12PM TG
11	12 Planning Commission Mtg 7PM TO Town Offices closed- Columbus / Indigenous Peoples Day	13	14	15	16	17 Trash & Recycle 8AM-12PM TG
18	19 DRB Mtg 7PM TO	20 Selectboard Mtg 7PM TO	21	22	23	24 Trash & Recycle 8AM-12PM TG
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween Trash & Recycle 8AM - 12 PM TG
		Rent the Town Hall for your own events or parties, or to teach classes.	time to review and process the application. Applications are available	If your town group or club would like its meetings or events listed in the Town Newsletter	newhaven-clerk@gmavt.net, by the 15 th of the	To register in any town group or club, please call one of the

Town of New Haven
78 North Street
New Haven, VT 05472
453-3516

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www.newhavenvt.com

Recycling on Saturday mornings 8-12 at Town Garage. Trash drop-off at the same time for a fee.

Town Office Hours:

Monday 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Tuesday 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Wednesday 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Thursday 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Town Offices closed:

**Monday, October 12, 2020 in Honor of
Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples Day**

Library Hours

Tuesday 10:00 - 5:00
(10:30 Story Hour)
Wednesday 1:00 - 8:00
Thursday 1:00 - 8:00
Saturday 10:00 - 1:00

The newsletter is an open forum for New Haven residents with appropriate reports, articles, & letters about town matters. Letters of 500 words or less should be courteous & concern town events, news, & issues. One letter per person on a topic per year. Please include your name, address, & phone number. (Only your name will be published.) Submit in electronic form by the 15th of the month to newhavenclerk@gmavt.net or newhavenassistant@gmavt.net

*****No Historical Society Meetings
until further Notice*****

**** Please be advised - Some of the information
within the newsletter may have changed due to
COVID-19. Things are changing daily****

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