

The GAZETTE



The official newsletter produced by the Town of Starksboro

JULY 2019

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TOWN OFFICE CLOSINGS:

LABOR DAY, Sept 2nd

COLUMBUS DAY, Oct 14

The Starksboro Gazette Update

Through the budgeting planning process for the 2019/2020 fiscal year the select board, in consultation with town office staff, adjusted the line item for the Gazette to reflect a change in the publication schedule for the Gazette from monthly to quarterly. This effort was made to reduce expenses in the town office including those associated with town staff time put towards the publication. At town meeting the voters discussed and approved from the floor a motion to increase the amount in the Gazette budget line to a level that would allow external printing and mailing of the Gazette, thus reducing the impact on staff at the town office. Many individuals also voiced support and interest in assisting with the publication of the Gazette. Since town meeting the select board has worked to create a structure that will support of Gazette publication. That structure is outlined as follows:

Starksboro Gazette committee charge:

The Starksboro Gazette committee shall be composed of 5 members and shall focus on the annual production of the Starksboro Gazette using the annual budget drafted by the select board and passed by the voters and at the annual town meeting.

The Gazette shall include at a minimum: a calendar of town events, including all regularly schedule public meetings; contact information for town boards, elected officials, and employees; and contact information for in-town supported civic groups (i.e. the Library, Project READ!!, the Starksboro Meetinghouse, the Starksboro Sports Program, the Food Shelf) Any additional information/articles/advertisements shall be funded through additional revenue. At no time shall the Gazette include "opinion" pieces, commentary, or information of a partisan nature. The Gazette shall not be used for political campaigns in accordance with the town wide campaign sign policy.

The committee shall keep the select board updated on its progress by attending select board meetings two times per year, generally October and May. No contracts shall be entered, or expenses paid without the signatory

Food Shelf Hours:

Open the 2nd Wed of each month – 9:30-6:30.

permission of the select board.

The committee will have occasional access to the town office for use office supplies and resources but shall operate in a similar manner to other town committees (i.e. the energy committee, the Conservation Commission) scheduling space according to its needs in the town hall/Library.

In accordance with Vermont's open meeting law the Gazette committee shall observe open meeting regulations in accordance with the following guidelines from the secretary of state's office:

Vermont's open meeting laws apply to all boards, councils and commissions of the state and its political sub-divisions (i.e. municipalities), including committees and subcommittees of these bodies. 1 V.S.A. § 310(3). This means the open meeting law governs meetings of select boards, planning commissions, boards of civil authority, recreation commissions, municipal public library trustees, auditors, listers, etc., as well as any committee created by one of these public bodies.

If you are interested in assisting or learning more about the Gazette please reach out to select board member Keegan Tierney ktierney@starksborovt.org or the selectboard assistant Rebecca Elder rebecca@starksborovt.org

2019/20 TAXES:

PROPERTY TAX BILLS: Please keep your eye on the mail for your 2019 -2020 property tax bill. If you have not received your bill by August 8, please call the Town Offices at 453-2639. It is not too late to file your Homestead, but there will be a penalty for late filing. Go to the State of Vermont web site to file if you have not done so already. You need last year's tax bill and this year's income tax information. It is the law to file homestead, and the penalty is severe for not filing.

The Gazette will be published quarterly, and mailed to all Starksboro residents. Articles to be included must be submitted by the **20th of Dec, Mar, Jun, and Sept** to the Town Clerk. If the 20th falls on Fri, Sat, or Sun, than it is due the following Monday by **NOON**. **Anything not received by the 20th will not be included in the Gazette.**

COMMUNITY EMAIL GROUP: WWW.FRONTPORCHFORUM.COM
TOWN WEBSITE: www.starksborovt.org

TOWN OFFICE: 453-2639

Open Mon – Thu, 8:30 – 4:30

Town Clerk: Cheryl Estey starksboro@madriver.com, 453-2639

Treasurer: Celine Coon starksborotowntreasurer@qnavt.net

Zoning Administrator: Rebecca Elder rebecca@starksborovt.org

Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs mornings 453-2768

Del. Tax Collector: Amy McCormick- 453-2639

starksborotaxes@gmail.com

Listers – 453-2778 Tues & Thurs starksborolisters@gmail.com

Asst. Clerk/Asst. Zoning Admin: Amy McCormick – amy@starksborovt.org

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER:

Chuck Webber – 802-336-2141

ROAD FOREMAN: Tom Estey – 453-2319

roads@starksborovt.org

FIRE WARDENS: Please call ahead for burn permits.

Tom Estey-453-4511, 453-2319, or Tony Porter-989-5096

SELECT BOARD

Meetings 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 5:30 at Town Office.

Please call at least one week in advance to get on the agenda.

Tony Porter – tporter@starksborovt.org 989-5096

Keegan Tierney – ktierney@starksborovt.org 777-9431

Koran Cousino – kcousino@starksborovt.org 453-4352

Eric Cota – ecota@starksborovt.org 373-9763

Nancy Boss - nboss@starksborovt.org 434-7445

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Meetings 1st and 3rd Thursdays at the Town Office

Development Review Board meetings 2nd & 4th Thursdays

CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

Meetings: 4th Monday @ 7 pm at the Starksboro Public Library

Chair, Jan McCleery – 453.3755 or mccleery@norwich.edu

HEALTH OFFICER: Peter Ryersbach – 453-3597

pryersbach@gmail.com

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR: Charlene Phelps

363-4276; lutwins@qnavt.net

RECYCLING: 1st & 3rd Saturdays from 8-11 at the new Town Garage-

3904 Vt Route 116. Trash fees: \$5/bag. Recycling – by donation.

SCHOOL BOARD

Mt. Abe Unified School District Board:

Caleb Elder – 434-4805

Steve Rooney – 453-4963

See the "School Board & Committees" tab at MAUSD.org for the meeting calendar and Minutes.

ENERGY COMMITTEE: Digger Faesy – 434-4254

Pete Antos-Ketcham, Jeff Dunham, Richard Faesy, Phil Mosenthal, Megan Nedzinski

Meetings on the 1st Monday of each month, 5:30, Starksboro Town Office

STARSBORO VILLAGE WATER COOPERATIVE: 453-4034

Meetings: 3rd Wed of March, June, Sept, and Dec at 7:30 pm at the Starksboro Public Library

POST OFFICE HOURS:

Mon – Fri, 7:30 – 11:30; 12:30 – 2:30

Saturday – 7:30 – 11:00

Closed each day 11:30 – 12:30

LIBRARY: 453-3732 or starksboropl@comcast.net

Open Mon 10-6; Thurs 10-5; Sat 9-2

Library Board Meetings 2nd Monday @ 4:30 pm at the Library

REPRESENTATIVES:

Caleb Elder – celder@leg.state.vt.us

Mari Cordes – mcordes@leg.state.vt.us

BRISTOL REC DEPT WEBSITE: www.BristolVTRec.com

Zoning Reminders!

Thinking of doing a summer building project while the weather is nice? Please check to see if you need a zoning permit BEFORE starting your project. The zoning bylaws are available on the town website at www.starksborovt.org/zoning or you can call the town office for information. We're happy to answer questions and provide you with the forms you need to get your project going!

- Most **small improvement or building projects** over 10x10 or 100SF likely require a zoning permit. It is a simple form and we will walk you through the process.
- If you are an **agricultural operation**, you must file a "notification of intent" before constructing ag-related structures. There is no fee for filing this form, but it must be recorded in the town office.

The Planning Commission is completing its review of the current and interim zoning bylaws and will be presenting final edits and suggestions to the Selectboard in September. The PC meets regularly on the first and third Thursday of each month and meetings are open to the public.

Thank you and enjoy the summer,

Rebecca Elder, ZA (rebecca@starksborovt.org or 453-2768)

TOWN OF STARKSBORO
P.O. BOX 91
STARKSBORO, VERMONT 05487

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