

Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

We'd like to thank everyone who participated in the Colchester-Milton Rotary Holiday Baskets to help families who are food insecure. Colchester Fire, Police and Rescue and many other organizations assisted with donations and helped deliver the baskets which brought joy to our staff and volunteers to be part of making the holidays a merrier experience for Colchester residents.



Social Media and Town Requests: You are welcome to post on social media, but if you wish for the Town staff or Selectboard to act on or consider something, please contact us directly by phone or email. We may wish to obtain more specific information or dialogue with you about the issue to understand and resolve through more direct communication.

Issues of Local Concern: Please contact the Town staff directly if you have an issue of local concern that you believe should be addressed by your Town government. Here is a directory of phone and email contact information for various Town departments: <https://tinyurl.com/Col-Town-Dir> and a link to a web page showing your Town services: <https://colchestervt.gov/35/Town-Services>. If you are uncertain who to contact, or are not satisfied with the response to a Town department, feel free to contact the Town Manager's office at 264-5509 or townmanager@colchestervt.gov.

Your Town Selectboard serves as the legislative and judicial branch of your municipal government, and oversees the Town Manager. If you have something to be shared with them at a Selectboard meeting, please send it to townmanager@colchestervt.gov, with "Citizens to Be Heard" in the heading. Please include your name and address in the body of the

email. Individual Selectboard member contact information is available here:
<https://colchestervt.gov/401/Selectboard>

Town Municipal Services Budget: The proposed FY 23 budget would result in an estimated 2.5% municipal service tax increase to maintain the current level of municipal services and address needs in expanding the library digital collection, advice from an arborist on public tree threats, Howard Community Outreach workers, employee safety, employee training, and fire vehicle maintenance. For a residential property valued at \$300,000 the increase would be \$42/year or 81 cents/week. The Selectboard is holding a hearing on the budget January 11, 2022 @ 7:15PM at 781 Blakely Road in the 3rd Floor Conference Room.

More info: <https://colchestervt.gov/349/Proposed-Budget>

Residential Assessed Value	FY 23 Tax Increase	Weekly Increase
\$200,000	\$28	\$0.54
\$250,000	\$35	\$0.68
\$300,000	\$42	\$0.81
\$350,000	\$49	\$0.95
\$400,000	\$56	\$1.08
\$450,000	\$63	\$1.22

Martin Luther King Jr, Day of observance: The Town Offices will be closed on Monday, January 17 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Colchester Historical Society: It's 1967 and the "Pony Boys" ages 9 and 11 made history traveling from Massachusetts to Montreal. During their trip they may have stopped in Colchester, if you any photos or memories please let the Historical Society know. Read more of this astonishing tale in the Historical Society's Winter Newsletter.

<https://colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/7073/Winter-2021-22-Colchester-Vermont-Historical-Society-Newsletter?bidId=>

COVID UPDATE

Vaccines for Children: Children 5 – 11 are eligible for the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccinations.

Booster Shot Update: The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Monday authorized the use of a third dose of the Pfizer and BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 12 to 15, and narrowed the interval for booster shot eligibility to five months from six. The agency also authorized a third shot for children aged 5 through 11 years who are immunocompromised.

Appointments for Free Vaccine:

<https://vermont.force.com/events/s/selfregistration>

You can also walk in at CVS, Hannaford Food and Drug, Walmart, Price Chopper/Market 32, Rite Aid, Shaw's Supermarket, or Costco or get an appointment with [Kinney Drugs](#), [CVS](#), [Walgreens](#), [Northfield Pharmacy](#), or [UVMC Outpatient Pharmacies](#).

Booster Shot information: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/getting-covid-19-vaccine> **Booster Shot Answers:** <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/faqs#boostershot>.

Booster shots available through

- your pharmacy
- your doctor
- The State Health Department: 855-722-7878, Mon - Fri 8:15 am - 4:30 pm, Sat and Sun 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Or <https://vermont.force.com/events/s/selfregistration>

Johnson & Johnson: You can get a booster shot if you received your vaccine at least two months ago.

Moderna and Pfizer: You can get a booster shot if you received your second dose of vaccine at least six months ago.

Upcoming Town Meetings

Selectboard: Tuesday, January 11, at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. The meeting will begin with an Executive Session to discuss an employee grievance at 4:00PM and other items beginning at 6:45PM. Masks are required. Alternatively, send a note to townmanager@colchestervt.gov with "Citizens to be Heard" in the Subject and your name. As with in-person Citizens to be Heard, we ask that you SHARE YOUR ADDRESS. The email will be shared with the entire Selectboard prior to the meeting and included in the information packet at the next meeting.

- Watch the Meeting Online via Live Stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>
- Agenda: www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas

Development Review Board: Wednesday, January 12, 7:00 pm at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. The Development Review Board will likely be participating remotely. Members of the public will have the option to choose either remote or in-person attendance. Masks are required for in-person attendance. Public comments can be submitted prior to the hearing by email to zmaia@colchestervt.gov or by mail to Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446. Alternatively, participate in the public comment periods during the hybrid meeting.

- Participate by Phone: 1-929-436-2866
- Meeting ID: 83271430077 (US – New York)
- Link to meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87135615437>
- Watch Meeting Online via Live Stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>
- Agenda: https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=DRBAgenda&path=DRB%2CDRB_Agendas%2CDRBAgenda%2C

Library Board of Trustees: Thursday, January 20, 4:30 pm at the Burnham Memorial Library, Burnham Room, 898 Main Street. Masks are required. The meeting will take place in-person (masks required) and over Zoom. To attend over Zoom: Dial in at (929) 205-6099, Meeting ID: 833 1816 0417, Passcode: 490014

Subscribe to the Town Newsletter:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/jkMAO2v>

For more information or to comment, call 802-264-5509 or email townmanager@colchestervt.gov