

Municipal Corner

July Fourth Fireworks Cancellation: Due to the Governor's Stay Home / Stay Safe Executive Order limiting the size of social gatherings, the Stowe Selectboard has cancelled the Stowe Independence Day Fireworks as well as revoked all other special event permits. While this was a difficult decision, this is a time when protecting the public health and safety of our community must take precedence.

Stowe Free Library Curbside: The Library has begun steps towards an eventual reopening. At this time, the Library remains closed to the public, but material returns are being accepted. On **Monday, June 8th**, the Library will begin curbside service. Library patrons can request items through email, circulation@stowelibrary.org, or by phone, 802-253-6145, during the hours of 9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. The materials will be packaged up and available for pick up on the Library's front porch for 15 minutes on the even hour, 10am, 12 pm, 2 pm, and 4 pm. See the library's website www.stowelibrary.org for more details.

Summer Rec Camp Registrations Open: Planning continues for the Stowe Parks and Recreation Summer Camp program as more information regarding restrictions and requirements are released from the state. The Summer Camp program is an eight-week program being offered June 22 – August 14 and due to COVID restrictions the Camp will be separated into groups of no more than 25 people (including staff). Registration for the Summer Camp and TREC Camp program are open and can be found at <https://secure.rec1.com/VT/stowe-vt/catalog>. The following programs have been cancelled for this year: The Kick-Off week programs, Club electives, and the CIT program.

Face Coverings: An executive order from Governor Scott requires employees to wear a face covering when in the presence of others. It also permitted local governing bodies to take broader measures. To help protect public health in Stowe, the Selectboard adopted a Resolution Regarding Face Coverings that requires all people entering buildings to wear face coverings when in the presence of others. You should also wear them outside while in the presence of others. The Selectboard's intent is to make it the norm to wear a mask when in the presence of others until the pandemic's threat to public health dissipates. Please be community minded and wear a mask when in the presence of others.

Selectboard Packets: The Stowe Selectboard packets are online at the Town's website. If you go to www.townofstowevt.org, click Selectboard, then click Agendas you will have access to the same packet that the Selectboard receives to prepare for their meeting. Each agenda item has a staff report that outlines the topic, how it relates to the Town Plan, the fiscal impact, and a recommendation. It also includes any background information that was submitted or otherwise provides context along with any written testimony submitted in advance of the meeting. If you are interested in a topic, please avail yourself to any of the information, contact me if you have any questions (253-6868 or csafford@stowevt.gov), and participate in the meetings, in person when we can, and virtually in the interim.

Construction Updates: Construction Updates for the Main Street Overhead Utility/Class 1 Sidewalk project are available weekly on Front Porch Forum, the Town website (www.townofstowevt.org, then News & Announcements) and are sent out via email if you sign up using the Stay Connected option on the website. Updates on VTrans road construction projects are posted weekly on Front Porch Forum and can be found online at <https://vtrans.vermont.gov/projects>.

Stowe Economy: The local economy has taken a hit due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. To help local businesses during the economic recovery the Stowe Selectboard has adopted interim zoning to allow greater flexibility towards signs, outdoor seating, and outdoor displays. A copy of the Interim Zoning can be found on the municipal website (www.townofstowevt.org). Questions may be directed to Tom Jackman, Stowe Town Planner, at tjackman@stowevt.gov.

Municipal Budget & Capital Plan: The COVID-19 shutdown has also had an impact on our municipal revenues due to a decline in non-property tax revenues including local option taxes. As a result, The Selectboard may need to reconsider the timing of capital projects and make other adjustments to the FY'21 operation budget over the next few months.

COVID-19: These are challenging times, but Stowe is a strong community with good people. Together we can meet these challenges. *Stowe Strong.*