

Municipal Corner – May

Stowe Firefighters Passing: The Selectboard and I would like to note the passing of Former Stowe Fire Chief Wendall Mansfield, as well as Bob Beattie who served on the Stowe Fire Department. Chief Mansfield served for 58 years, 28 of those years as Chief. Bob was a 40-year member of the Stowe Fire Department and a founding member of Stowe Rescue. Both of these citizens served Stowe honorably and we all owe them a debt of gratitude for their service.

Stowe Village Sidewalks & Main Street Utility Relocations- Public Informational Meeting: At 5:30pm on May 6th at the Akeley Building (Town Hall) a public informational meeting will be held to go over the anticipated construction timeline, phasing and otherwise answer questions regarding the project. In addition, the Town will be posting regular updates on Stowe Front Porch Forum about what you can anticipate in the upcoming week. Also, we have included “Sidewalk & Overhead Utility Relocation Updates” option under Stay Connected on the Town of Stowe’s website (www.townofstovevt.org) where you can have the reports sent directly to your inbox. We highly encourage property owners and business owners to sign up, so that you receive direct information. During construction, access will be maintained to local businesses and we encourage you to patronize them. You should expect delays and seek alternative routes if possible, unless your destination is Main Street. Questions regarding the project may be directed to Abby Earle at 253-7350 or AEarle@stovevt.gov

Lower Village Sidewalk & Class 1 Highway Paving: Although the sidewalk will be locally owned and maintained, VTrans is managing the construction of the sidewalk in the Lower Village, which is anticipated to commence soon and be substantially completed by June 30, 2019. During construction, access will be maintained to local businesses and we encourage you to patronize them. Unless your destination is the Lower Village, you should expect delays and seek alternative routes if possible. VTrans has also contracted to install the overlay course to Rt. 100. Questions or concerns may be directed to Megan Savage at 860-815-0299 or megan.savage@wsp.com.

Spring Clean-up: As soon as the sun starts shining the town offices start receiving calls asking when we are going to clean the streets, paint crosswalks and road striping, fix any lawn damage or clean debris as a result of our winter maintenance activities. The Town contracts out our street sweeping and crosswalk painting. The contractors have a number of municipalities to fit in. Also, in order to paint crosswalks requires the road surface to be fifty degrees or above. The State is responsible for striping the center line and road edges. The Town will only fix lawns in very limited circumstances, typically if there is extensive damage due to the sidewalk plow. We ask others to either repair roadside damage or hire a private contractor to do so. The Town does not have the resources to do so as it would take away from road grading and other maintenance activities within the public right-of-way.

Water & Sewer Meter Replacement: Starting in May and over the next year, the Town Water Department will be installing Automated Meter Readers on all water and sewer meters that will tie into the Stowe Electric’s automated meter and billing program. You can expect to see a Water Department employee at your home or business to implement the installation which typically will take an hour or so. They will have a Stowe Water Department vehicle and will also have an ID card.

Wells and Generators: The Town installed and permitted a second well at our Village Green Water Supply and Treatment Plant, which will help meet future water supply needs and provide redundancy in the event one of the wells becomes temporarily unable to draw water. The Town is also in the process

of installing back-up electrical generators on the Village Green and Edson Hill plants. This is to ensure they are able to operate in the event of a power outage. Although the Town has nine reservoirs with storage capacity, during the October 2018 wind storm the Town risked running out of potable water due to the extended power outage. The intent of the generators is to reduce this risk.

Stowe Police EMRs: All Stowe Police Officers are certified as Emergency Medical Responders. This is important because they are often the first ones on the scene and can assist Stowe EMS when they arrive. This was made possible due to the leadership and inter-departmental cooperation aimed at effectively serving the public by our dedicated personnel. Special appreciation goes out to Stowe EMS for training the officers.

Emails: Sometimes emails from the Town of Stowe (ending in @stowevt.gov) are getting lost in the receiving persons' junk mail folder. Please be sure to check your junk email periodically, and if possible set your email preferences to know that our email address is not junk.