



January 2018



WELCOME 2018! We gratefully pause to wish you a healthy and happy New Year!

Town Budget Process in January

The town's budget process begins shortly, with town departments and agencies submitting their budget requests.

Board of Selectmen Meeting - Please Note Change of Meeting Time to 6 p.m.

The next regular Board of Selectmen Meeting is Monday, January 8, at 6 p.m. at Town Hall, Meeting Room 133. You may view the attachments to the meeting packet on the town's [website](#).

Special Town Meeting - New Library Project

A Special Town Meeting has been scheduled on Monday, January 8, at 7:30 p.m., at Town Hall, Meeting Room 133. Please refer to the town's [website](#) for the Notice of Special Town Meeting and Resolutions for the two items which will be voted on at the Town Meeting. The Town Meeting will discuss and consider an appropriation of \$300,000 to pay for the possible relocation and replacement of the athletic field at the Municipal campus, located at 100 Pocono Road. The campus is a possible site of the New Public Library Project, if approved by the Town. The athletic field then would be relocated on the Municipal campus, or another location determined by the Town.

The Town Meeting will also discuss and act upon setting Tuesday, February 27, 2018 as the date for a Referendum to consider appropriating \$14,775,000 for planning, design, acquisition, construction, furnishing and equipping of a 35,000-square-foot new Municipal Public Library. Please join us at the Special Town Meeting for further discussion.

Selectmen "Meet and Greet"

Meet the Selectmen events are held on the last Saturday of each month. Our next Meet and Greet is Saturday, January 27, from 9 - 10:30 a.m. at Dunkin Donuts, 270 Federal Road. Please feel free to stop by with any questions, or to let us know what's on your mind.

For more news, announcements and activities, please sign up for Brookfield

Matters on the Town's [website](#).

Steve Dunn
First Selectman
Brookfield, CT

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Tax Collector

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

LAST DAY TO PAY WITHOUT PENALTY FEBRUARY 1, 2018

Payment must be *received* or U.S. **postmarked no later than** February 1, 2018 for the Supplemental Motor Vehicle taxes and the second installment of the Real Estate and Personal Property taxes. If taxes are unpaid by that date, the interest penalty in February will be 3% with a \$2 minimum. Failure to receive a tax bill does not invalidate the tax or interest.

You can make payments [online](#), but please note that there is a fee for this service.

To pay in the office, our collection hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Thursday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Please check our [website](#) for holiday and weather-related office hours.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 203-775-7304 or to email us at tax@brookfieldct.gov.

Delinquent Taxes

Delinquent Motor Vehicle and Personal Property Tax bills from the 2014 Grand List and older are currently with TaxServ, a collection agency. If you receive a letter from them, please contact them for payment options. The toll free number is 866-497-2427.

Brookfield Social Services

As we begin a new year, we want to thank everyone who helped make life a bit brighter for our Social Services clients. We appreciate your generous donations to the Brookfield Emergency Fund and your ongoing support of the Brookfield Food Pantry. The Pantry serves over 140 families on a regular basis.

Thank you to all who contributed to Brookfield Social Services holiday program, which helped more than 65 households and, more than 100 children. It was a huge success and the clients thank you from the bottom of their heart for making their children's holiday merry and bright!

We are grateful for the extraordinary kindness and support shown by the Brookfield community. Neighbors helping neighbors. Thank you, Brookfield!

Brookfield Fire Department

The Brookfield Fire Department asks that each property owner display their number on their house or building for health and safety reasons:

Ordinance § 99-6 Display of numbers.

A. When street numbering has been completed, the owner, occupant or agent shall place or cause to be placed upon each house or building controlled by him the number or numbers assigned.

B. Such number or numbers shall be placed on existing buildings within 30 days. The cost of the numbers shall be paid for by the property owner. The numbers used shall not be less than three inches in height and shall be made of a durable and clearly visible material. Failure to install the proper number or numbers on existing buildings on or before the 30-day limit provided herein will subject violators to a fine of \$25.

C. The number shall be conspicuously placed above, on or at the side of the proper door of each building, so that the number can be seen plainly from the street line. Whenever a building is set more than 75 feet from the street line, the number shall be placed near the walk, drive way or common entrance to such building and upon a gate post, fence, post or other appropriate place so as to be discernible easily from the street line.

Public Works

Winter has gotten into full gear this month. We are doing our best to keep the roads clear and safe. It is particularly challenging this year considering the sub-zero temperatures when salt becomes ineffective. If you see a plow coming down the street, please keep back. Snow and ice is thrown from the plow with great force and can injure or kill somebody if they are struck. Do not let your children play in the snow piles along the road; they are particularly dangerous since the plow driver will not see them.

Brookfield Library

At the beginning of this newsletter, Steve Dunn explained there will be a Special Town Meeting on the new Library Project. Please read an important statement from the Library Board of Trustees regarding the new library:

<https://www.brookfieldlibrary.org/statement/>.

Adult Programs

Facilitating, Plain & Simple: A Series

January 17, 24, and 31, 1 - 3 p.m.

This three-part course, led by Loretta Donovan, is an introduction to facilitation for community leaders, librarians and nonprofit volunteers. It will equip participants with the skills and tools to lead group discussions. They will experience and learn how to:

- Create a welcoming environment
- Choose methods, such as Socratic Dialogue and World Café, to meet goals
- Use a few, easy tools to maintain focus
- Help people to engage with each other
- Encourage trust and openness
- Bring a conversation to a meaningful close

Loretta Donovan has 28 years of experience as a facilitator and has taught inquiry-based facilitation at Columbia University. Registration is required. You may register [online](#) or by calling the library at 203-775-6241.

Digital Downloads Class

January 11 at 3 p.m. or January 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Come learn about all of the free digital download services our library provides! You will learn about OverDrive audiobooks and eBooks, Zinio magazines, and hoopla streaming movies and music. All of these services can be accessed from your desktop computer or mobile device (iPad, iPhone, Android, Kindle Fire, etc.). Please note: Our downloadable services are only available to Brookfield residents with a valid Brookfield Library card. Register online for [January 11](#) or [January 23](#).

Machine Embroidery Class

January 30 from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

We will be embroidering a project of your choice on the library's embroidery machines! This could be a t-shirt, towel, napkin or place mats. You can choose from one of our many embroidery patterns. This program is free; you just need to bring what you would like to embroider on. Limit of four attendees. Register [online](#).

Movie Matinees: Free Showings, Popcorn & Soda!

***Battle of the Sexes*: Saturday, January 13 at 1 p.m.** Directed by Jonathan Dayton and starring Emma Stone and Steve Carell. Rated PG-13, 121 minutes.

***Marshall*: Saturday, January 27 at 1 p.m.** Directed by Reginald Hudlin and starring Chadwick Boseman and Kate Hudson. Rated PG-13, 119 minutes.

Children's Programs

Registration for Children's Winter Story times is underway. Visit our [website](#) for information and to see all of our exciting children's programs for January!

Health Department

January is National Radon Awareness Month

As we put the holidays behind us and look forward to spring, we should understand that our homes and businesses will be tightly secured from winter cold for the next few months. This means there is very little outside ventilation and the possibility of radon gas seeping into our homes through our foundations and through our water supply.

January is National Radon Awareness Month. Why is radon so important? It is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. Radon is an odorless, invisible and tasteless gas, which may be a natural breakdown product of other radio-nucleides inhabiting our soils and waters. It typically enters closed-up homes through openings and cracks in foundations and walls. Or, it can be aerosolized when one takes a shower.

The Brookfield Health Department has a limited quantity of free radon test kits, available to Brookfield residents. These kits come with easily understandable instructions and a postage-paid, mail-in envelope to be sent to the Connecticut State Lab in Rocky Hill, for testing. Reports are returned to the Health Department and in turn, to the homeowner.

Play it safe this winter. Get your home tested and stay healthy!

Brookfield Police Department

The Department hosts car seat installations and checks on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month from 8 a.m. - noon. You can schedule your appointment today by calling 203-740-4192 or emailing carseats@brookfieldct.gov.

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