



March 2018



### **Town Budget Process in March**

The Town's budget process for 2018 - 2019 is underway. The Board of Selectmen held numerous budget workshop meetings in mid-February deliberating on the First Selectman's recommended budget. The Board of Selectmen finalized its budget and forwarded it to the Board of Finance. A budget presentation is scheduled on Tuesday, March 6 at 7 p.m. at the BHS Media Center.

### **Board of Selectmen Meeting**

The next regular Board of Selectmen meeting is tonight (March 5) at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall, Meeting Room 133. You may view the attachments to the meeting packet on the town's [website](#).

### **Strategic Steering Committee Schools Ad Hoc Committee**

On Tuesday, March 27 at 7 p.m. in the Brookfield High School Auditorium, The Strategic Steering Committee Schools Ad Hoc Committee, in conjunction with its architects, Tecton Associates, will be presenting its initial findings to the public. Everyone is invited to attend. This is the first of several public forums to be held. This meeting will consist of reviewing initial observations, in addition to listening to community input.

### **Chapter 168 Parking**

The BOS held a public hearing in February and at its regular meeting voted to adopt section 168-2 Restriction on all-night parking and the amended section now reads as: *No person shall park any vehicle on any public street or highway for a period of time longer than one hour between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. This section shall not apply to a professional call, vehicles parking in designated parking spaces in the Town Center District, or to the operations of police, fire or other emergency vehicles.*

### **Selectmen "Meet and Greet"**

Meet the Selectmen events are normally held on the last Saturday of each month. Due to Passover and Easter, our next Meet and Greet will be held a week earlier on Saturday, March 24, from 9 - 10:30 a.m. at Chick-fil-A located at 156 Federal Road. Please feel free to stop by with any questions, comments or concerns to address to

the Selectmen.

For more news, announcements and activities, please sign up for Brookfield Matters on the Town's [website](#).

Steve Dunn  
First Selectman  
Brookfield, CT

## In This Issue

[\*\*Tax Collector\*\*](#)

[\*\*Tax Collector\*\*](#)

[\*\*Economic & Community Development\*\*](#)

[\*\*Public Works\*\*](#)

[\*\*Brookfield Library\*\*](#)

[\*\*Health Department\*\*](#)

[\*\*Brookfield Police Department News\*\*](#)

[\*\*American Legion Post 202\*\*](#)

## Tax Assessor

**Town Elderly Tax Relief Benefit requirements for the 2017 GRAND LIST (2018/2019 tax bills) are as follows:**

1. An applicant or their spouse was 65 years of age or older as of December 31, 2017.
2. A person has resided in and paid real estate taxes on their Brookfield residence for a period of five years immediately prior to application for tax credit. Applicants must be current on their tax payments.
3. The net assessment of an applicant's property shall not exceed the median assessment of \$237,090 for the current 2017 Grand List year.
4. A property must be the legal residence of an applicant and occupied by the applicant more than 183 days of each calendar year.
5. Applicant income must not exceed \$49,420 unmarried and \$60,200 married. "Income" is defined as total income from the 2017 IRS Form 1040 PLUS Social Security and tax exempt income. If an applicant is not filing an income tax return, copies of all income statements for 2017 must be submitted with an application
6. Applicant must be the record owner of a property as of October 1, 2017.
7. Applications must be filed between February 1 and May 15 annually.

## **Town Additional Veteran Exemption requirements for the 2018 GRAND LIST (2019/2020 tax bills) are as follows:**

1. Must have form DD214 Discharge filed with the Town Clerk's Office by September 30 of the Grand List year in which a veteran is applying.
2. Veteran must have served during an eligible war period and have been Honorably Discharged.
3. Income must not exceed \$52,700 unmarried and \$58,900 married for the calendar year 2017. "Income" is defined as total income from the 2017 IRS form 1040 PLUS Social Security and tax exempt income.
4. Filing period is from February 1 to September 30.

## **State Elderly Tax Relief Benefit and State Additional Veteran Exemption requirements are as follows:**

1. Applicants must be the owners and legal residents of Real Property as of October 1 of the filing year. Elderly Tax Relief applicants or their spouse had to be age 65 as of December 31, 2017. There is no age limit for the State Additional Veteran Exemption.
2. Income cannot exceed \$35,300 unmarried and \$43,000 married. "Income" is defined as total income from the 2017 IRS form 1040 PLUS Social Security and tax exempt income. If an applicant is not filing an income tax return, copies of all income statements for 2017 must be submitted with an application.

## **Tax Collector**

If you need your 2017 tax payment information, go to the [Tax Collector's page](#) on the town [website](#).

Click on the *View or Pay Tax Bills* button. Click on *For All Online Payments and Payment History*. Enter your last name and first initial. (NO punctuation) or you may change the "search by" to whatever you wish. Next click on IRS Payment Records for Year 2017 and then click on Search.

This will bring up the payment records for 2017. Place a check mark in the IRS box located on the right side above the payment information on the blue/green bar and then click on View IRS. This will show the amount of the payment and the date the payment was made. You can print out this information for your records.

## **Real Estate Bill**

If your Real Estate taxes are escrowed, the bank should request your Real Estate bill.

If you change banks or pay off your mortgage, please call the office at 203-775-7304 to let us know where your Real Estate bill should be sent.

### **Attention Not for profit and Civic organizations in Brookfield:**

If you have a community event you'd like to promote, feel free to post it on Brookfield's Community Calendar on the Town's website. This is a NEW feature offered by the Town of Brookfield to help local organizations promote their events and activities. It also provides residents a place to learn about what is happening in Brookfield. Here's the link to upload your event/activity: [www.brookfieldct.gov/ccform](http://www.brookfieldct.gov/ccform).



## **Brookfield's Community Calendar**

Do you have an event you'd like to promote on  
**Brookfield's Community Calendar?**



On Brookfield's Town website, there's an opportunity for  
non-profit and civic groups to display noncommercial events on  
Brookfield's Community Calendar.



The calendar will help residents find out what is  
happening in Brookfield!

Submit your event for the calendar today, here's the link:

[www.brookfieldct.gov/ccform](http://www.brookfieldct.gov/ccform)

The Town of Brookfield reserves the right to refuse or discontinue posting of any submission at any time, for any reason. Submission by way of this form does not guarantee the item(s) will be posted. ALL submissions will be reviewed for content and appropriateness before posting. Submissions should be made with enough advance time to allow for review and in consideration of staff's schedule. The Town of Brookfield, it's staff and webmaster are not responsible for typographical errors in dates, times or content. Nor are they responsible for damages of any kind as a result of typographical error, omissions or inclusions.

## Public Works

As winter winds down, and in between storm responses, the Department of Public Works is beginning preparations for our paving season and upgrading drainage systems. In the coming month, we will begin posting our 2018 paving list. Roads will only be listed when we have the funds available to complete that road, although a longer term plan does exist.

## Brookfield Library

**Book Collection!** The Friends of the Brookfield Library will be accepting donations on Sunday, March 11 and Sunday, March 25 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the lower level of the library parking lot.

*Score: A Four-Part Business Workshop Series*, March - May. Social Media Success for Small Business, Presented by Mike Brooks, Nuclear Chowder Marketing, on Monday, March 12, 7 - 8:30 p.m. Social media is an important part of your marketing mix. Not only can new customers discover you on social media, prospects and customers expect you to be there. In this workshop, you will learn how to implement a social media marketing plan that will work for your business. This program is part of a SCORE Business Workshop series, sponsored by the Western Connecticut chapter of SCORE, a national nonprofit association dedicated to helping small businesses get off the ground, grow and achieve their goals through education and mentorship, The Brookfield Library and the Brookfield Economic Commission. Light refreshments will be served by Newtown Savings Bank. Please call the library at 203-775-6241 to register.

*Saving with Coupons 101: Stretch Your Dollars*, Presented by Lauren Ellard, Extreme Couponer, on Tuesday, March 27, at 7 p.m. Have you ever left the grocery store staring at the total on your receipt wondering, "What did I buy that cost so much?" The truth is, it doesn't have to be that way. You can literally save thousands of dollars a year just by using coupons. Attend our upcoming coupon class to learn how to shop savvy. Please call the library at 203-775-6241 to register.

### **Oscar Film Series: Free showings, popcorn & soda!**

*Lady Bird*: Saturday, March 17 at 1 p.m. Christine "Lady Bird" McPherson fights against but is exactly like her wildly loving, deeply opinionated and strong-willed mom, a nurse working tirelessly to keep her family afloat after Lady Bird's father loses his job. Set in Sacramento, California in 2002, Lady Bird is an affecting look at the relationships that shape us, the beliefs that define us, and the unmatched beauty of a place called home.

*Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*: Saturday, March 24 at 1 p.m.



After months have passed without a culprit in her daughter's murder case, Mildred Hayes makes a bold move, painting three signs leading into her town with a controversial message directed at William Willoughby, the town's revered chief of police. When his second-in-command Officer Dixon, an immature mother's boy with a penchant for violence, gets involved, the battle between Mildred and Ebbing's law enforcement is only exacerbated.

## Parks & Recreation

### **19th Annual Flashlight Egg Hunt: Friday, March 23**

Just for students in grades 3 - 5! The hunt will be held on the grounds of Town Hall at 8 p.m. sharp, and will last approximately 20 minutes. All participants must bring their own flashlights. Bags will be provided for collecting. Call the Parks & Recreation Office to pre-register. Cost is \$1 per student. Pay on the evening of the hunt in the lobby of Town Hall.

### **22nd Annual Egg Hunt: Saturday, March 24**

Join the Parks & Recreation Department on the grounds of Town Hall on Saturday, March 24. Additional features include a jellybean counting contest and a special appearance by a well-known bunny. Bags will be provided for egg collecting. Call the Parks & Rec Office to pre-register. Cost is \$1 per child. Pay on the day of the hunt in the lobby of Town Hall. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes before your child's scheduled time. Rain date is Sunday, March 25.

#### **Age Divisions:**

Under 3 at noon

3- 4 year olds at 12:15 p.m.

5 - 6 year olds at 12:30 p.m.

7 - 8 year olds at 12:45 p.m.

## 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](mailto:carseats@brookfieldct.gov).

Like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) to get the latest news and updates

## Brookfield Historical Society

Tonight (March 5) at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Gerald Brooker will present a multimedia

program on North Korea based on his trip to that nation. The presentation will take place at the Brookfield Museum located at 165 Whisconier Road (Junction of Routes 25 and 133) in Brookfield Center

Brooker will share his experiences and show screen photos of his diplomacy visit to North Korea, at the moment a most dangerous country.

Brooker is a renowned author who has published four novels and more than 350 articles and poems, mostly about social issues. He has spent his life as an educator and organizer of humanitarian programs and has been inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame. He has given multiple presentations around the world at peace and educational development conferences.

Among his many honors Dr. Brooker received an Award for Outstanding Humanitarian Service from Iona College in 1998, and was also the recipient of the Mahatma Gandhi-Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace Award, in 1997. In 2007 he was bestowed the recognition as an Honorary Iwo Jima Marine by the government of Guam.

The program is free and complimentary refreshments will be available.

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