



Update from the Town Hall

Town of Hingham • www.hingham-ma.gov

Who do I ask?

For any question about the town, from Animal Control to Zoning call the "Help Desk" at:

781-741-1411

We will connect you to the source!

DPW Recycling Tips:

Sort out cardboard and paper

Recycling two bags of paper keeps 8 trees in the forest, saves 100 gallons of fuel, and keeps 4 tons of CO₂ out of the air.

Compost

Compost vegetable cuttings and yard waste at home. In a backyard compost box, they produce a valuable rich dirt for your garden. At the landfill, with restricted air, this same waste creates methane gas, 23 times more harmful than CO₂.

Leave the clippings

Leave grass clippings on the lawn. They decompose quickly and act as a natural fertilizer.

Collect rainwater for gardens

Use cisterns or rain barrels with a mesh fabric lid or add drops of baby oil to prevent mosquito breeding.

The Newly Elected :

Selectmen:

Lawrence Bruce Rabuffo

Sewer:

Andrew J. Spath

Recreation:

Scott H. Bosworth

Hannah Lincoln Whiting Fund:

Louis Belknap

Revitalizing Schools Brick by Brick

The Hingham Public Schools look ahead to a busy summer of infrastructure improvements.

June 6, 2008 marked the official groundbreaking of the new elementary school on the site of the former East School, although CTA Construction, Inc began fence installation, staging and site work several weeks before. Building Committee Chair Alan Macdonald introduced speakers who included School Committee Chair Christine Smith, State Senator Robert Hedlund, State Representative Garrett Bradley, MSBA Executive Director Katherine Craven, and State Treasurer Tim Cahill. With the sound of backhoes in the background, Treasurer Cahill presented the ceremonial check for \$10,370,000 to Superintendent Dorothy Galo. This figure represents about 40% of the cost of the

school, which is scheduled for completion next summer in time for a September 2009 opening.

Midland Construction Corporation is the successful low bidder for the first phase of major renovation work that will take place this summer at Foster and Plymouth River Schools. Funded entirely by the Town, the scheduled work began immediately upon the closing of school for the summer. In September, students will return to new corridor floor tiles and other interior and exterior finishes, roof work at Foster, repaving of the PRS driveway, and enhanced technology at both schools. The planned redesign of classroom and specialist spaces at the two buildings will occur in Summer 2009.

The modular classroom project at Hingham Middle School is well

underway, with completion expected before the start of school in September. Vanguard Modular is the successful low bidder for the five-classroom addition. The Building Committee will pursue continued collaboration with the MSBA towards the design of a reimbursable project that will resolve both physical conditions and long term space issues at the middle school. However, the town's willingness to fund the \$700,000 modular project has mitigated temporarily the most immediate overcrowding at grades 6-8.

Redistricting and Extended Kindergarten Day committees are hard at work in developing recommendations in connection with opening of the fourth elementary school. Their reports are due to the School Committee for its review and action in late fall.

DPW Complex Begins to Materialize

A new Department of Public Works building and athletic fields have begun to emerge in a section of Bare Cove Park. Work on this project began this past October under the supervision of Projects Engineer/Construction Manager Roger Fernandes and the DPW Building Committee, chaired by Bob Garrity. The project will consist of a new DPW complex, cold storage building and salt shed along with

playing fields including a new baseball field, softball field and two lacrosse/soccer fields. Work, funded largely by the town, remains on schedule with plans to open the new DPW complex in late November of 2008 and tentative delivery date for the fields in Fall of 2009.

Updating the existing infrastructure required extensive work. Project workers had to install new water, sewer and gas

services to the area. In order to prepare the site, they blasted over 30,000 cubic yards of rock ledge and installed thousands of linear feet of drainage pipe along with a new drainage basin. They also demolished portions of the abandoned WWI and WWII era buildings and underlying foundations. Much work remains, but the project coordinators look ahead with confidence.



BE HEARD...

Citizen Involvement Survey

In order to serve you more effectively, the Hingham Board of Selectmen invites you to complete and return this survey to share your thoughts about our town's government. If you prefer, you can complete it on-line at www.hingham-ma.gov.

1. What town issues are most important to you as a citizen?

2. Do you feel the Town approaches these issues effectively? Yes / No

Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

3. What would get you more involved with town affairs?

Demographics

Age: ___ under 40 ___ 40-65 ___ 65 and over ___

Civil status: ___ single ___ married/partnered ___ divorced/widowed

Do you have children Yes / No do they attend town schools? Yes / No

Thank you so much for your time and help. We value your input!

Voluntary Check-Off for Contributions to Local Funds

1. Real Estate Amount Due: _____

2. Voluntary Contributions:

Scholarship _____

Education _____

Seniors/Disabled _____

3. Total (Add all Lines): _____

Central Fire Station Re-opens

In February, Central Fire Station re-opened its doors and commenced operation after a 14 month renovation and expansion. The Central Fire Station Building Committee, working with the Fire Department, provided Hingham with an improved facility that should serve the needs of the town for many years to come.

In 1942, when the station was originally built, fire vehicles measured significantly smaller than they do now. In addition, fire stations had yet to take on the medical emergency tasks they provide today. Up to these renovations, Hingham had to order specially designed fire and emergency vehicles to fit the smaller garage.

The new station relieves these issues and provides even more benefits. Functions of the new facility include administrative offices, a training facility, a maintenance facility, a secondary or back-up dispatch, and the community's emergency operations center. The project was completed ahead of schedule and under budget. The committee deserves credit for their excellent work, and we can also thank the members of the fire department who contributed a considerable amount of labor and expertise to the project.

Please cut off survey and check-off to send in **with your taxes** or send separately to:

Office of the Selectmen
Hingham Town Hall
210 Central Street
Hingham, MA 02043

