

COMMITTEE DATES and TIMES

****Selectmen's Meetings** : 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, at 6:00 PM at the Bradford Community Center. Holidays dates subject to change check the website, Bradfordmaine.org

****The Planning Board**– 3rd Monday of the month at 6:00PM at the Bradford Community Center.

**** Recreation Committee** meets the 1st Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. By Zoom

****Bradford Days Committee** will be meeting on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 PM at the Bradford Community Center.

****Bradford Heritage: Museum & Historical Society**- Hours, Thurs 6 - 8pm, Sat 9 -11am.

By appointment: Peggy Nevells 327-1532

****Bradford Snow Blazers Snowmobile Club** meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7PM at the Bradford Community Center, September through April.

****MSAD 64 School Board meetings** are usually the 4th Monday of each month at 7PM at the CHS cafeteria. Subject to change

****Penobscot Ridge Riders ATV Club** meets the first Tuesday of the month at the office of RJ Heating at 7:00PM.

Town Office Hours

Tuesday - Wednesday – Thursday

8:00am - 5:00pm

CLOSED Monday and Friday

Library Hours

Monday and Wednesday

5:00-7:00 PM

Saturday – 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Library Phone – 404-3951

Librarian Phone – 327-2111

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TOWN OF BRADFORD

March 2021 Newsletter

NEWS FROM THE TOWN OFFICE:

TOWN MEETING – The Governor’s Executive Order for indoor gathering number is set at 50 people. Due to this number will we need to change how town meeting is held this year to accommodate that number. The warrant calling for the election by secret ballot will still be held March 12th at the Community center. **Voting hours will be from 11 am to 6pm.** Absentee ballots will be available if you prefer to vote by absentee. The easiest way to request an absentee ballot is by calling the Town Office, each individual needs to make the phone request for themselves; a spouse cannot request for their spouse or a child cannot request for their parent or vice averse. Another option is you can come to the Town Office an fill out an application for an absentee ballot for yourself or a family member to bring home the ballot to complete. The ballot will consist of 3 questions; question 1- election of 1 Selectman for a term of 3 years, question 2- election of 1 School Board Director for a term of 3 years and question 3- to authorize the Board of Selectmen to not to exceed spending 6/12 of the 2020 budget amounts until the 2021 Annual Town Meeting can be held.

If the indoor gathering number is not lifted this spring, we are planning to hold the meeting outdoors. Not all logistics for this to happen have been worked out but there will be another newsletter sent containing the information for that warrant. We are hoping to be able to hold the meeting before black fly season arrives.

Mask Wearing- is now required in all public areas in the municipal building and on the grounds. We would like to thank all those who have been coming on to Town property wearing their mask. It is greatly appreciated by the employees of the Town. Appointments are not needed but we are still entering the office through the door on the left side of the building and exiting through the front doors. Please use the electronic hand sanitizer before stepping up to the counter. The gym is still not available for rental.

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TOWN VOTE MARCH 12th MEET CANDIDATE ERROL HANSON

To the Town of Bradford Residents,

I am a candidate for the open position on our select board. In the past I have been involved in many functions of the town including the recreation committee, select board, baseball coach (my favorite), fire department, building committee, Bradford Day's committee. Currently I am a member of the Historical Society and also on the Budget Committee.

Looking forward I see several important issues that need to be addressed:

1. The Fire Department will soon require some tough decisions and we are fortunate to have a dedicated group of volunteers working on options for the town.
2. Emergency Medical Services for the town is another area of concern that needs attention.
3. If elected I will work on a better communication policy for our town hopefully notification by text similar to the one the school district and State of Maine currently uses.
4. Last but not least if elected I am committed to implementing some measures for lowering expenses in the town.

Sincerely,
Errol S. Hanson

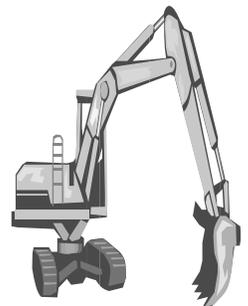
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MESSAGE FROM CENTRAL PENOBSCOT WASTE FACILITY

Most important things first...What days are we closed in 2021... Sat. May 29th, Sat Jul 3rd, Sat Sep 4th, Wed Nov 24th, Sat Dec 25th and Sat Jan 1, 2022.

Hopefully, in the next year you will see a new reuse barn going up. We applied for and received a grant to build it and then this virus hit (you may have heard about it) and we lost the help of the folks from Charleston Correctional. We have revised the grant and hope to get the thing up and running this year.

Recycling has been a challenge during the pandemic this year (yeah, you've heard) as covid protocol recommends that we be just a "drop off" facility. We have tried a no touch approach where the customer throws the separated items into the individual bins. Proper separation sounds easy but most people goof it up. We ask that you try your best to maintain the high quality of the recycling. Proper separation is key but if you have any questions we don't mind if you hunt us down and ask. Unless you're like me, once you have the answer you will have the information forever. One way you can make an impact with recycling is to go online to <https://nrcm.salsalabs.org/recyclingreform/index.html> and sign the petition. It doesn't matter if you're a "burned out hippie" or a "I wanna die in my treestand sportsman", I think we all agree that packaging that you need a chainsaw to get into and then is not recyclable needs to go. This bill will motivate the manufacturers to make packaging that is easily recycled and will save you money by not having to pay to dispose of "their" poorly designed packaging but rather get paid to recycle it. Read the bill. If you agree, sign it. If you don't, be that way.

As always, the Directors are doing what they can to keep costs down but the operational costs continue to go up while any income from materials keeps going down. We aren't the Federal government, whatever it costs to run the place is what has to be charged.

The big news (for us anyway) is that a couple of the folks that work here (Supervisor and Assistant) are getting closer to their expiration date. We have decided to spend more time doing less. The Treasurer jumped on the bandwagon to have a few hours a week to herself. Retirement? No, not really, but we are cutting back on stuff we have to do and doing more of what we want to do. Personally, I kinda like doing this job, but for me 22 years is a nice round number to end on. In spite of any Dunning-Kruger syndrome, I think that this place will be fine without me. There may be growing pains but there was 22 years ago too. As many of you know, my other job is as a cemeterian, which, (as Professor Marvel put it in the Wizard of Oz) "in the vernacular of the peasantry", means I am a gravedigger. In that capacity I often think that the cemetery is full of people that the world couldn't continue without. It does go on, it's not always easy, but it does. Emerson said "The years teach much which the days never know". That may be true. (That last two sentences almost make a haiku!) But the years have also forgotten a lot and the days may have some fresh ideas for this place, so here's hopin'. For most of you it's been a "pleasure" to take care of your solid waste, for others...not so much. I bet most of you know which category you fall into. I hope that you are as nice to the next group that runs this place as you have been to us.

Respectfully,
Allan Lord

For the Board of Directors:

Stan Bean, Corinth

Rusty Weymouth, Charleston

Edward Nevells, Bradford

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RECREATION NEWS

**BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR BASEBALL SIGN UP
IN LATE MARCH OR EARLY APRIL**

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TOWN VOTE MARCH 12th MEET CANDIDATE AMBER HINES

Amber for Selectman:

Bradford has been home for fifteen years for my family and before that we lived close by in Corinth and Charleston. Seven of my ten children were born here. My oldest son bought a house just down the road three years ago and he and his wife just had their first child. With this background you can understand that I am invested in the present and future direction of our town. Having a big family has also taught me how to listen to many voices and to look for reasonable solutions for many needs.

I would like the opportunity to serve the people of Bradford as a selectman. I have been attending selectman's meetings and planning board meetings for a while now and I enjoy the opportunity to understand and address the needs and concerns of our town. Others tell me that I am good at helping people feel understood, looking for common ground, and reducing the drama in a situation.

After graduating I was the assistant teacher for the transportation mechanics classes at the Southern Aroostook Vocational school. I also have my commercial driver's license, class A, so I am familiar with maintenance of vehicles and operation of larger equipment. This experience helps me understand what is involved with maintenance of our roads and other infrastructure. I went to farrier and blacksmith school so dealing with some manure and a little heat hopefully have prepared me for the challenges of politics.

I have been working with some of my family and friends at a store in Brewer. Mostly my job involves customer service and keeping the books and dealing with all the services and suppliers and regulatory agencies. This has been good training for bringing a team together and solving problems. Thankfully I can do half of my job from home, but I do know first-hand the need for maintaining our roads especially in the winter so that people can safely get to work. Please support me for selectman for Bradford.

Sincerely, Amber Hines

COUNTRY JUNCTION GREENHOUSE & GARDENS

1204 Main Road
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Phone # 207-327-1398

www.CountryJunctionMaine.com

Open Greenhouse Week will start Saturday, May 1st with giveaways every day. Door prize drawings will be Saturday, May 8th. We are excited about 2021 and looking forward to seeing you.

Future Fire Station Committee Update

The Future Fire Station Committee began an effort in 2019 at the request of residents to explore options and develop recommendations to renovate or build a new fire station in town. The committee continued to meet in 2020 following the relaxation of COVID restrictions. Committee members worked with the Ames Engineering to develop a more economical building design that would meet the needs of the town and fire department personnel. The latest design is budgeted to cost \$950,000 or less; – far more affordable than the \$1.5 million structure discussed at the 2020 Annual Town Meeting last March.

The committee conducted an informal survey of voters during November's 2020 election cycle. The survey form was available to voters on election day, and provided to those who voted absentee. It was also published in the *Town of Bradford Newsletter*. There were 382 residents who completed the survey.

Results of the survey demonstrated strong community support for a municipal fire department with 75% of respondents wanting both fire protection and first responder services. Almost 70% of Town residents were concerned about emergency response timeliness from surrounding communities if Bradford did not have its own fire station.

Given that a major renovation of the current fire station or replacing it with a new fire station would require funding that would impact property tax rates, 66% of those responding were willing to accept a property tax increase. The amount of an acceptable property tax impact ranged from 3% or less, to as much as a 6% increase. The majority of those willing to accept a 3% or less increase was 44%; 22.3% were willing to accept a property tax increase of over 3%, up to 6%. With this information, the committee worked with Ames Engineering to develop a design that would minimize the project's impact on property taxes.

The location of the fire station was also considered. Almost 47% of respondents indicated a preference to correct the structural deficiencies of the current station and add a new high bay garage *only if the cost were less than a new facility*. Another 5% of respondents supported improving the current facility and adding a new high bay garage *regardless of cost*. Support for a new facility came from 27% of those participating in the survey.

The committee discussed the options, costs and expert opinions from both engineering studies and contractors. Building a new facility near the Bradford Community Center was recommended to the Selectmen as the option representing the best value and the most predictable costs for the following reasons:

- A new facility at the Community Center location would allow fire station personnel to utilize the kitchen and meeting space at the Community Center building rather than incorporate that space into the design. This would greatly reduce project costs with minimal impact to essential fire station operations.

LETTER FROM THE BRADFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT

Are you looking to get involved in your community? We are looking for firefighters and EMT's. No experience necessary. We will provide the training you need. We are a paid volunteer department which means members receive a stipend every 6 months. The stipend amount will depend on the amount of calls and trainings you show up for. There is something for everyone to do and we have a junior firefighter program where you can join at 14. If you have any questions or are interested in joining, please feel free to stop by any Tuesday night or give Chief Knight a call at 943-1147.

We would like to remind everyone to check their smoke detectors on a regular basis. Smoke detectors should be replaced every 10 years and the batteries should be replaced every year unless you have a 10-year battery life detector. Please contact us if you need detectors or batteries.

We would like to remind everyone that burn permits are required whenever you are doing open burning. This includes when snow is on the ground. Permits are not required for outside cooking fires. If you have any questions about needing a permit or not, contact Town Fire Warden Dusty Kelley at 576-0001, Deputy Warden Cody Knight at 943-1147, Deputy Warden Zack Kelley at 402-0248 or Deputy warden Carlene Oakes at 327-2121. Burn permits can be obtained from any of the town wardens. You can also get a burn permit online at <http://www.maineburnpermit.com> for a fee of \$7 with \$2 going to back to the town.

TOWN VOTE MARCH 12TH POLLS OPEN 11 AM TO 6 PM

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Bradford, ME 04410

Phone ~ 327-1110

9:30 AM Sunday School
11:00AM Morning Worship
5:30 PM Jr High Club
5:30 PM Teen Club
6:00 PM Kid's Club
6:00 PM Evening Service
6:30 PM Wed. Prayer Meeting

www.facebook.com/bradfordmechurch



Covid- 19 Vaccine FAQs

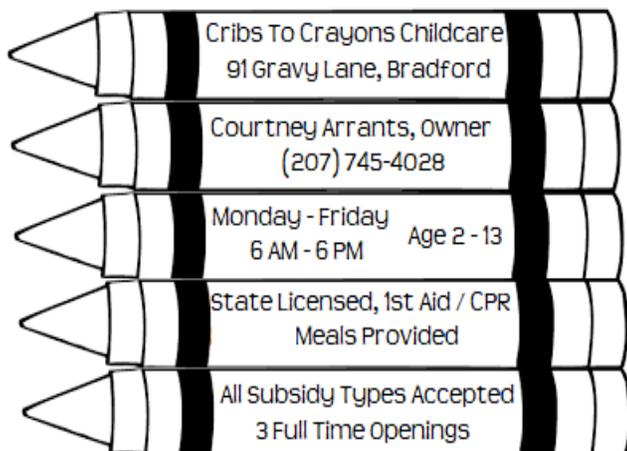
Important information about scheduling your vaccination:

- **Vaccine Appointment Slots will be limited:** At this time the supply of vaccine in the state of Maine is very limited.
- **You must register to receive the vaccine.** To register, patients should visit covid.northernlighthouse.org/publicvaccine or call 204-8551
- **You must be 70 years of age or older to be vaccinated at this time.** Please bring some form of identification confirming your age with you to the vaccination clinic.
- **Please print your appointment confirmation and bring it with you.** Vaccination candidates will receive an email confirming their vaccination location and time. If you do not see this email, you should check your spam folder.
- **If you have insurance information, please bring it with you.** The state of Maine is unable to cover the cost of administration of the vaccine at this time. Because of this we need to **bill your insurance provider to help staff the vaccination clinics.** The vaccine itself is provided at no cost.
- **If you are unable to make your vaccination appointment, please use the cancellation link in your confirmation email** to free up that time for another person.
- **If no appointments appear as available,** please know that appointments are added as soon as we have confirmation of vaccine shipment, this prevents the risk of scheduling appointments that may not have vaccine available. Appointments are added every week on Monday
- **Can the vaccine give me COVID-19?** No, there is absolutely no actual virus in the vaccine and thus you can not get COVID-19 from the vaccine.
- **If I have already had COVID-19, do I still need to get the vaccine?** Yes, the CDC recommends that all individuals receive a COVID-19 vaccine.
- **To learn more about the vaccine.** Visit the CDC website at [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for more information about the COVID-19 vaccines.

Make sure you have the following information ready when scheduling your appointment:

Contact Information – Information for a next of kin or other emergency contact.

Insurance Card - If you have insurance, bring your card along with you.



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- Correcting the structural deficiencies of the current fire station would reduce available space making it inadequate as a garage for the large fire trucks. This was the conclusion of Ames Engineering as well as the original 2007 Engineering Study identifying the building as structurally deficient. Consequently, correction of the structural deficiencies of the current fire station would still require building a new high bay garage.
- Adding a high bay garage building next to or behind the current fire station would require that the adjacent ball field be relocated due to building site constraints. Because the ball field was installed with federal grant money, the cost for its relocation would range from \$16,000 to \$20,000 for the “Yellow Book Appraisals,” plus the costs of landscape design and improvements needed to establish an equivalent recreation area in Town. The total cost for this process is unknown.
- If a high bay garage is built at the site of the current fire station, it would need to be similar in size to the proposed new building at the community center site in order to house gear storage, provide for a gear laundry and showers. This is essential to avoid tracking potential debris, blood-borne pathogens and other hazardous material from the garage area into the kitchen/administrative space in the renovated building.
- In addition to correcting the structural deficiencies of the current fire station building, there are a number of other unknowns including: needs and costs for rewiring, redesign of the interior (kitchen and public bathrooms on the first floor) to make it ADA compliant, additional insulation needs, and potential issues with the foundation, i.e., whether or not it would need replacement.
- The costs of the engineering and site work are similar and necessary for both options. Maine State law dictates that any public work project involving engineering with a contemplated expenditure exceeding \$100,000 for the completed project requires a registered professional engineer (32 M.R.S.A. §1254). Also, any facility that is a place of employment or public accommodation with a cost of construction or alteration of at least \$50,000 requires a Maine-licensed, certified or registered design professional (an architect, professional engineer, certified interior designer or landscape architect) to certify compliance with the barrier-free standards of construction contained in the federal Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines. The builder must provide this certification to both the State Fire Marshal’s Office and the municipality.

The current fire station is housed in a building originally built in 1848 which has served as the Town Office, a schoolhouse and a fire station. Although it would be gratifying to see continued use of the building in some form, the committee felt that the structural deficiencies and the unknown costs of renovating a building that age would not provide the best value for tax payer dollars.

There will be public hearings on the future fire station project in the spring. Hopefully, voters will be asked to approve the project in June.

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**TOWN ELECTION VOTE
MARCH 12TH
POLLS OPEN 11 A.M. TO 6 P.M.**

News From Your Library

Hope you are all well and enjoying your winter. The lack of snowfall and warmer than usual temperatures have been very unusual but it's good to see the snow sleds out and know that plants are still protected. We at the Library are so glad to be open again. We are still maintaining regular hours: Wednesday 5-7 and Saturday 10-3. We are still requiring masks and limiting numbers in the library to 5 at a time, but it doesn't seem to keep patrons away.

We don't yet know what the Spring will bring, but we are really hoping that we will be able to hold our Summer ABC Read-to-me Program. Our young patrons were very disappointed last summer when we had to cancel. Keep your eyes and ears open and watch for future information. We will put up notices at Bradford General and the Town Hall as well as our sign at the bottom of the steps. We won't start until late May if we can. Be sure to check out our Facebook page for updates.

Our Book Sale is still an ongoing event and we are constantly adding books to our basement sales area. We are not currently taking any more donations as we have a backlog of boxes to go through. We will get them out as soon as we have space. We still have a few of our bookbags left that cost \$15 but they include a free fill up of Book Sale books and can be filled at any future date for just \$5.

One of our other ongoing fund raisers are our CLYNK bags. With many of the local redemption centers closed down, maybe you have an overflow of returnables. Just swing in at pick up CLYNK bags from us, fill them up, get them to a Bangor Hannaford and we get the funds for them. If you are not going to Bangor these days, just drop them off at the library and we will take them in.

And now for our

New Arrivals

The Return by Nicholas Sparks

Maine Bicentennial Cookbook

Elsewhere by Dean Koontz

Deep End (Diary of Wimpy Kid) by Jeff Kinney

Noel Letters by Richard Paul Evans

Gift of the Magpie by Donna Andrews

The Maine Birthday Book by Tonya Shevenell

Active Defense by Lynette Eason

Piece of my Heart by Mary Higgins Clark

Hidden in Plain Sight by Jeffrey Archer

Spin by Patricia Cornwell

Daylight by David Baldacci

Law of Innocence by Michael Connelly

Two Reasons to Run by Colleen Coble

The Fork, the Witch & the Worm by Christopher Paolini

A Time for Mercy by John Grisham

Tower of Nero by Rick Riordan

A Dog's Perfect Christmas by Bruce Cameron

Detective in the Dooryard by Timothy Cotton

Pretty Rugged by Ali Ferrill

Gone to the Woods by Gary Paulsen

American Traitor by Brad Taylor

Marauder by Clive Cussler

Burden of Proof by Davis Bunn

Garfield Goes Hogwild by Jim Davis

Before She Disappeared by Lisa Gardner

DVDs

Case for Christ

Sarah's Choice/Hidden Secrets

Emma

Lion King (live action)

Hours: Wednesday 5-7, Saturday 10-3, Phone: 404-3951 and 327-2111(Librarian)

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