

CHESTERFIELD TOWN HAPPENINGS January 2024

Board of Selectmen Notes
January 2024

TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD, NH BUDGET COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARINGS

On Saturday, January 27, 2024, the following Budget Committee Public Hearings will be held at the Chesterfield Central School (535 Old Chesterfield Road, Chesterfield):

1:00 p.m. Budget Committee Public Hearings on the
Chesterfield School District Budget

3:00 p.m. Budget Committee Public Hearing on the
Chesterfield Town Budget and
Spofford Fire District Budget and

Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct Budget

Details can be found on the Town's Website at Chesterfield.NH.Gov

TOWN POSITIONS UP FOR ELECTION IN MARCH 2024

There are several positions up for election on March 12 including two new spots on the Board of Selectmen. The town clerk will be accepting declarations of candidacy from Wednesday, January 24th through Friday, February 2nd. You must be a registered voter in the town of Chesterfield.

PETITIONED WARRANT ARTICLES

The deadline for petitioned warrant articles is Tuesday, February 6th. They must be signed by 25 Chesterfield registered voters.

TOWN OFFICE - HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2024

The Town Offices will be closed on the following dates:

2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Monday, January 1, 2024 – New Year's Day

Monday, January 15, 2024 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, February 19, 2024 – Presidents Day

Monday, May 27, 2024 – Memorial Day

Thursday, July 4, 2024 – Independence Day

Monday, September 2, 2024 – Labor Day

Monday, October 14, 2024 – Indigenous Peoples' Day

Monday, November 11, 2024 – Veterans Day

Thursday, November 28, 2024 – Thanksgiving Day

Wednesday, December 25, 2024 – Christmas Day

Please note that the Transfer Station dates are different and listed below



Board and Commission Meetings

(Note: all meetings and updates to meetings can be found on the Town Website www.chesterfield.nh.gov)

Board of Selectmen

Wednesdays, January 3, 17 & 31 **6:00 pm** **Town Office/Zoom**
(Every other Wednesday)

Economic Development Committee

Thursday, January 11 & 25 **6:00 pm** **Town Office**
(2nd and 4th Thursdays)

Planning Board

Mondays, January 8 & 15 **7:00 pm** **Town Office/Zoom**
(1st and 3rd Mondays, 2nd Monday this month due to holiday)

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Thursday, January 18 **6:30 pm** **Town Office/Zoom**
(3rd Thursday - hearings begin no earlier than 6:45 pm)

Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Commissioners

Monday, January 15 **6:30 pm** **Center Fire Station**
(3rd Monday)

Spofford Fire & Rescue Commissioners

Thursday, January 18 **6:00 pm** **Spofford Fire Station**
(3rd Thursday)

Library Board of Trustees

Tuesday, January 16 **7:00 pm** **Chesterfield Library**
(3rd Tuesday)

Conservation Commission

Monday, January 22 **7:30 pm** **Town Office**
(4th Monday)

Budget Committee

Tuesday, January 2, 9, 16 & 23 **7:00 pm** **Town Office**
(January 23 is only if necessary)

Saturday, January 27 **1:00 pm** **Chesterfield School**
School Public Hearing

Saturday, January 27 **3:00 pm** **Chesterfield School**
Town & Fire Departments Public Hearings

Tuesday, January 30 **7:00 pm** **Town Office**
Town & Fire Departments Deliberations

Wednesday, January 31 **7:00 pm** **Town Office**
School Deliberation

Thursday, February 1 **7:00 pm** **Town Office**
Additional Deliberation if necessary

Chesterfield Revitalization Group

Monday, January 8 **5:00 pm** **Town Office**
(2nd Monday)

Watershed Committee

Thursday, January 11 **9:30 am** **Town Office**



CHESTERFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Just a reminder that eventually we will probably get some snow. When (and if) that happens, please remember that there is no parking on town roads. If we don't have time to call to have a car moved, then it will have to be towed. Thanks for keeping this in mind for the next 2-3 months.

The Chesterfield Police Department is seeking Full Time Certified applicants to fill (3) Full-Time Police Officer Positions for the Town of Chesterfield NH.

Qualifications:

- An associate degree, or higher, from an accredited college or university, is preferred.
- A physical agility test, oral board interview, background investigation, psychological evaluation, medical evaluation, and polygraph examination are required.

The Town of Chesterfield does have a residency requirement. If you are not currently a resident of Chesterfield, you must live in New Hampshire within 30 miles of the Chesterfield Police Station which is located at 490 Route 63 Chesterfield NH.

Benefits:

We are offering a competitive benefits package and starting salary of \$58,000.00. and a \$10,000.000 sign on bonus for New Hampshire full-time certified officers and \$5,000.000 sign on bonus for non-certified officers.

Applications with cover letter and resume' should be mailed to P.O. Box 231 Chesterfield, NH. 03443 or dropped off at the police department; Attention: Chief Duane Chickering.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Reminder: The town has enacted a winter parking ban effective November 15 through April 15, each year. This ban prohibits parking in or on the Town's roads or rights-of-way. The Town has the right to tow or ticket violators. The purpose of this ban is to allow winter maintenance crews unobstructed snow removal and ice control routes and, as much as possible, to maintain the maximum effectiveness of their efforts.

All cars found abandoned in the traveled portion of roads within the Town of Chesterfield between November 15th and April 15th hampering highway operations will be towed at the owner's expense.

Please be advised that there is no winter maintenance on the North Hinsdale Road between the Towns of Chesterfield and Hinsdale; this portion of the road has been closed for the winter months.

As per Town policy, the Town of Chesterfield plow truck drivers are not obligated to plow to mailboxes. However, the Town holds no financial responsibility for anything placed within Town right-of-ways that may be damaged by snow removal or normal road maintenance.

Sand Piles will continue to be located on Cady Lane, Pond Brook Road, Chamberlain Way and the intersection of Route 63 and Stage Road.



The Town of Chesterfield is now able to issue portable Transfer Station permits to property owners of short-term rentals for their renters. These permits will be affixed to plastic to be hung on a vehicle's rear view mirror. To apply for a permit, please see a Transfer Station attendant or the Town Administrator for an application. The form is also available on the town website (chesterfield.nh.gov).

TRANSFER STATION HOLIDAY SCHEDULE - 2024

The Transfer Station will be CLOSED on the following dates:

2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, January 2, 2024 – New Year's Day

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 – Presidents Day

Tuesday, May 28, 2024 – Memorial Day

Friday, July 5, 2024 – Independence Day

Tuesday, September 3, 2024 – Labor Day

Tuesday, October 15, 2024 – Indigenous Peoples' Day

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 – Veterans Day

Friday, November 29, 2024 – Thanksgiving Day

Wednesday, December 25, 2024 – Christmas Day

****Please note that the Town Office dates are different and listed above****



CHESTERFIELD DOG PHOTO CONTEST 2024-25

**MASCOT OF TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
+ OTHER PRIZES**

ENTRY RULES:

- **ELECTRONICALLY UPLOADED PHOTO**
- **DOG MUST BE LICENSED FOR 2024-25**
- **MORE INFO ABOUT HOW TO ENTER/VOTE SOON
ON TOWN CLERK WEBSITE + FACEBOOK**

**ENTRY DEADLINE:
30 APRIL, 2024**

TOWN CLERK NEWS - JANUARY 2024

Welcome 2024, we hope our residents have a wonderful year!

For those of you looking to renew dog licenses - you can do so now for 2024-2025! The licenses aren't due until April 30th, 2024 but if you want to renew early - tags are here. Stop by our office during window hours or renew online!

Think your doggie has what it takes to be the Town Clerk's Mascot? We are

finalizing entry rules & voting for our inaugural dog photo contest.

Need a reminder to register your vehicles? Let us know your email. We send e-reminders at the beginning of each month. Don't get pulled over because you forgot to register your vehicle - call or email us today to have your email added to your registration information!

We also send out dog licensing e-reminders, share your email with us to get reminders starting in February to register your dog for the upcoming year.

Mary Ewell
Chesterfield Town Clerk
490 Rt 63
PO Box 64
Chesterfield, NH 03443
603-363-8071, X 11
603-363-8049
townclerk@nhchesterfield.com

CHESTERFIELD CEMETERY COMMISSION NEWS

The Cemetery Commission is seeking to fill the Sexton's position. The Sexton is responsible for maintenance and upkeep of twenty-four (24) cemeteries in the Town of Chesterfield, as well as mowing grounds of various town-owned properties. Performs skilled labor in the operation of all types of mowing equipment, as well as the operation and use of vehicles, trailers and related equipment to transport same. Duties are varied, and include light equipment operation and manual labor assignments with lifting up to 75 pounds. Minimum qualifications required include high school diploma or equivalent plus experience in the operation and maintenance of various types of mowing equipment. Possession of a valid driver's license. Willingness to be on call and ability to work outdoors under extreme weather conditions at certain times when necessary.

Send your resume to: The Chesterfield Cemetery Commission, Post Office Box 175, Chesterfield, NH 03443-0175 or email to mwinn3028@gmail.com.



Chesterfield Public Library

January 2024 Events

Children/Youth

Lotus Flower Lantern Craft Workshop, January 27 at 11:00 am A Member of The Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project will show us step-by-step how to make a lovely lotus flower lantern using colored paper and wire frames. The craft is suitable for ages 10+ and registration is required. Please register for this program by emailing or calling the Library.

Art Workshop, Saturday, January 13, 20, and 27 at 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Anyone can do it! Learn to draw in a series of classes offered by local artist, Janet Moore. Lessons will cover composition as well as pencil and charcoal drawing from life and imagination! All materials will be provided. Open to teenagers and adults. Sign up—class is limited to 8 people!

Monday Storytime, Mondays at 11:00am Join us for stories, songs, and crafts aimed at the preschool age group.

Middle Grade Book Club, Wednesday, January 31 at 3:00pm This month we are reading the graphic novel *The Moth Keeper* by K. O'Neill. Join us for a book discussion—snacks are provided! This event is open to Middle Grade readers. Sign up for the program and pick up a copy at the front desk.

Teen Book Club, Thursday, February 1 at 4:00pm Open to ALL teens, 8th-12th Grade! Hang out and join our discussion —snacks are provided! This month we will read *Heartstopper* by Alice Oseman. Pick up a copy at the front desk!

Adult

Makers Meeting, Tuesday, January 2 at 11:00am Come talk to other creators in our community. Bring your lunch!

Lotus Flower Lantern Craft Workshop, January 27 at 11:00am A Member of The Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project will show us step-by-step how to make a lovely lotus flower lantern using colored paper and wire frames. The craft is suitable for ages 10+ and registration is required. Please register for this program by emailing or calling the library.

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Chesterfield Quilting Guild, Monday, January 22 at 1:00 pm Our quilting group meets once a month to work on projects and discuss their work. All levels are welcome! Join us to learn from the best.

Library Book Club, Tuesday, January 9 at 5:30 pm The Library's adult book club will discuss the novel *The Maid* by Nita Prose. Stop by the library to sign up or email the frontdesk@chesterfieldlibrary.org and pick up a copy of the book.

Crochet Club, Thursday, January 18 at 12:00 pm Do you want to learn how to crochet, or craft with other crochet enthusiasts? Join us to learn a new project!

The Knit Chicks, Tuesday, January 2 and Tuesday, January 16 at 1:00-3:00pm The Knit Chicks meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month to craft gear for people in the Monadnock region. Crocheters welcome!

Tech Drop-In, Wednesdays at 4pm Do you have technology questions or need help with using the internet and online resources such as Libby? Stop by the library during our drop-in hour and let us assist you.

Friends of the Chesterfield Public Library Meeting, Tuesday, January 2 at 5:30pm Join the Friends of the Chesterfield Public to help work on special projects. The Friends of the Chesterfield Public Library are instrumental in providing support to the library.

Inquire at the Front Desk for more information on any event. Reach us by phone at (603) 363-4621 or email FrontDesk@ChesterfieldLibrary.org

CONSERVATION COMMISSION NEWS

As you wander through the forest, you can find groupings of the small evergreens known as clubmoss. Keep your eyes peeled when in a more moist environment. Different varieties can be found together but often are more likely in singular groupings, perhaps due to their rhizomes or runners that connect them. The photos show princess or ground pine, bristly pine and ground or creeping cedar. Due to the rhizomes, folks would pull up strands for Christmas decorations, which is discouraged as they are slow growing plants. The plants evolved over 400 million years ago as one of the earliest vascular plants, meaning they can conduct their own food and water. Intriguingly, fossil records from 300 million years ago show clubmoss once reached heights of 100 feet. At the end of the Paleozoic period all tree forms disappeared but it is speculated that the clubmoss came back in its pint-sized version allowing for a greater chance of survival due to its self-contained watering system and a bitter taste that discouraged foragers. A true wonder of evolutionary adaptation!



Wishing you all a Happy New Year, Hopefully 2024 will be a great year for you all. I know we are all wishing for some snow this winter. We are planning on an ice skating event at Camp Spofford once we get some snow and cold weather.

Yoga is still happening at the Town Hall Tuesday Mornings from 10-11 and then on Sunday Morning from 8:15-9:15. We have 2 awesome instructors that are teaching these classes. Maybe you want to make the year 2024 a year of exercise. We would love to see you at one of these classes.

Look for activities in January to be held at the the Town Hall, we have a tentative date on January 5th for a family Bingo night, more details coming soon. We are also planning another adult Paint Night. Please like the Chesterfield Parks and Recreation Facebook Page so you dont miss any of our activities.

We are also working with Jim Larkin on drawings for our NEW Rec Building, as we get a rough draft we will have an information meeting that I am hoping many parents and community members attend. No date has been set at this time.

Thank you
Darlene Smith
Parks and Rec Director

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Chesterfield Economic Development Committee will be hosting the Business Expo on Saturday, April 6, 2024 from 9 am - 2 pm at the Old Town Hall. It is a free event for participants. We hope this event serves to build your business and help the community feel better connected and aware of the talent of our local businesses.

Please note, spots are limited and prioritized for businesses based in Chesterfield or owned or operated by Chesterfield residents. Unless otherwise specified, each vendor will share an 8' table with another non-conflicting business. Tables are available on a first come first served basis. (If there is a question about eligibility or to reserve a table, contact EDC@nhchesterfield.com).

Chesterfield Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Report – January, 2024

We hope that you had a nice Holiday Season and are enjoying our wonderful town!

Follow Chesterfield Social Media Sites to Get the Latest Safety News! Our Police Department has an active "Chesterfield NH Police Department Facebook Page" and our town has a very, very active "Chesterfield NH Facebook Page" – check them out!!

Chesterfield OEM is working diligently to support our community! As our local government prepares for everyday emergencies, the number and scope of incidents can overwhelm conventional emergency services. We always can use new volunteers!

The Flooding May Have Impacted Your Wells – Have it tested with this link! According to WMUR, the recent heavy rains may have affected your wells. Test them here: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/environmental-health-and-you/water-testing>

Canadian Smoke issues and NH Air Purifier Rebates! The State of NH offers a 2023 Rebate for all certified ENERGY STAR Certified Room Air Purifiers (and, Dehumidifiers and Room Air Conditioners. Visit: <https://nhsaves.com/nh-rebates/>

Chesterfield OEM attends HSEM Regional Training event at Keene St. College On Nov 13th, our team attended the HSEM Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop where we met with OEM teams from Gilsom, Stoddard, Swanzey and others. This matched up well with our OEM team's goal of making connections NOW to support one another's towns in the event of any area disasters. It was led by the HSEM and also included Jack Wozmak, Cheshire County Commissioner, who welcomed Chesterfield's enthusiasm for partnering locally!!

Chesterfield OEM attends Vermont Animal Safety Planning session in November As we live so far away from HSEM HQ support for animals, our own Cheryl Maibusch made the connection for us with the VDART team to collaborate on solutions to assist one another if there is an event where animals need to be protected/transported. It is up to each resident to help to ensure the safety of their own pets – and this is an OEM initiative to assist in 2024.

OEM Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) provide power & shelter for you OEM is creating a THIRD OEM site to be at the Old Town Hall to complement the primary EOC at that OEM office and the secondary EOC at the Spofford Fire Station to serve our town.

***** For info about "your" OEM Office – Please contact us at OEM@NHChesterfield.com *****

Submitted by Ralph Petti, Director – Office of Emergency Management – Cell: 908.310.6381

News from Chesterfield School - January 2024

Friday, 5th - Winter Sports Pictures

Monday, 8th - Keene High parent night for incoming Freshman (Our current 8th grade) - It will be held at Keene High School at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, 9th Keene High Staff come and meet the 8th grade

Monday, 15th - No School

Monday, 22nd - School Board Meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Friday, 26th Artist in Residence performance for the students

Saturday 27th - Public Hearing on School Budget and Town Budgets

Community Events

***Senior Lunch is on break for the months of January and February.
Our next meal will be on Wednesday, March 13 at 12:30 pm.
Hope to see you then!***

If you would like to add to the Community Happenings next month, please see the guidelines below!

Anyone can post an event so long as it is of broad public interest, is open to all Chesterfield residents and is not meant solely to enrich the individual or organization. The following criteria also apply:

No tag sales;

No "help wanted" or "for sale" ads;

No politics or religion (Churches may list suppers or bazaars so long as they are open to the general public and have no overt religious function;)

No business advertising (Businesses may list events of community interest, i.e. grand openings, blood drives, food drives, but not any event that requires a purchase or is for the financial gain of the business itself.)

All submissions must include the name, address and phone number of the person submitting the item.

Each entry is limited to a maximum of 25 words.

The coordinator and Town reserve the right to reject any submission. Items may be rejected because of incomplete information, lack of clarity, or for going beyond the word limit. Neither the coordinator nor the Town will contact the submitter for corrections. Deadline for submissions: the 22nd of the month preceding. Email to jwscott924@gmail.com with the subject line "Happenings".

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