



the

Farmington Town Letter

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1 Monteith Drive • Farmington, CT 06032
www.farmington-ct.org

A NOTE FROM OUR TOWN COUNCIL CHAIR

I am sure that you are all just as relieved as I am that this winter proved to be one of the mildest winters on record. With the exception of April, temperatures remained above normal for much of the season, often with sunny skies and with noticeably less snowfall than in years past.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Town employees who continuously go above and beyond their respective duties to ensure that Town residents continue to receive exceptional services. For instance, the Public Works Department continues to oversee projects to improve Farmington's infrastructure. Our Rails-to-Trails system is in its final stage of completion with the expansion of the trail from Red Oak Hill Road to the town line of Plainville. Many local roads were paved or reconstructed during the recent paving season, and additional roads are scheduled for paving as soon as the weather permits. The construction phase of the Water Pollution Control Facility upgrade has begun. This is one the largest projects undertaken in the Town of Farmington and will help meet regulatory requirements. After more than a decade of planning and fundraising, ground was broken at the beginning of March for the Farmington and Avon Live Fire Training Facility. This project is a true collaboration on every level. Fire Fighters, Town and State Elected Officials, Town Employees, and Community Members from both Farmington and Avon worked together to secure the land, plans, approvals, and funding to make this project a reality. The pre-fabricated building is currently scheduled to be shipped to Farmington in early summer, with completion of the facility scheduled in the fall of 2016.

Thanks to our favorable business environment, Farmington continues to have a robust diverse business community, attracting Fortune 500 headquarters' relocations, creative entrepreneurs, independent retail shops, national retailers, and six new restaurants in Town. We also continue to move forward on key development planning initiatives. The Town was awarded three grants totaling \$795,000 to replace and repair sidewalks in downtown Unionville and Route 177, and to design an attractive gateway into Town that encourages small business and pedestrian connectivity. I encourage everyone to review the information regarding the Farmington Center Planning Project that 500 Farmington residents participated in, which can be found on the Town's website at www.farmington-ct.org.

This year's Annual Clean-Up Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 30. Last year's Clean-Up Day generated a total of 2,302 pounds of trash thanks to the wonderful volunteers and their hard work. I also hope everyone appreciated the beautiful holiday balls from the Beautify Farmington Flower project in Unionville and Farmington, and we look forward to the soon to be displayed summer flowering baskets. I would like to extend a huge thank you to our sponsors and local businesses for continuing to support this great program.

Lastly, I encourage you to stay informed and involved during this year's budget process, particularly during the Annual Town Meeting on April 25, and the Referendum Vote on May 5. I speak for the entire Town Council in saying that we welcome your input and hope that you will actively participate in the budgetary process.

Sincerely,

Nancy W. Nickerson

Town Council Chair

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE
COLLECTION DAY
SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2016
LOCATION: Farmington High School
10 Monteith Drive - 8:00am – 1:00pm
See page 2 for details**

TOWN OF FARMINGTON
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS FOR 2016

The Town of Farmington is happy to announce that we are now working with the Towns of Simsbury, Avon, Canton, and Granby to provide Household Hazardous Waste Collections. The collections will run from **8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** and will be open to all residents from Simsbury, Avon, Canton, Granby, and Farmington. Farmington residents will no longer be able to participate in any of the MDC household hazardous waste collections.

There will be three (3) collection dates that Town of Farmington residents can attend:

- ◇ **April 30, 2016 – at Farmington High School, 10 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT**
- ◇ **June 18, 2016 – at Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Road, Simsbury, CT**
- ◇ **November 5, 2016 – Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Road, Simsbury, CT**

On the same day, the Town of Farmington is also offering FREE to residents:

- ❖ Electronic Recycling drop-off at Farmington Town Hall Parking Lot
- ❖ Used Motor Oil collection

Below are some frequently asked questions related to Household Hazardous Waste disposal. For more specific information, please contact Farmington Highway & Grounds at (860) 675-2550.

Acceptable items:

- ☉ Fluorescent and compact light bulbs
- ☉ Batteries – common household batteries including rechargeable batteries & car batteries
- ☉ Lawn care chemicals – fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, fungicides
- ☉ Switches or items containing Mercury – thermometers, thermostats, motion detectors
- ☉ Household cleaners – acids, adhesives, aerosol cans, ammonia, drain cleaner, disinfectants, moth balls, etc.
- ☉ Chemicals from the garage or workshop – antifreeze, ant/bug spray or bait, brake fluid, old gasoline, oil based paints, lighter fluid, polyurethane, pool chemicals, road flares, transmission fluid, power steering fluid, wood stain, etc.

Unacceptable items:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☉ Ammunition and/or explosives (including gunpowder) ☉ Asbestos ☉ Business Waste – (collection is for residential waste only) ☉ Cement ☉ Empty Containers – A container is considered empty when no more than one inch or 3% (by weight) of material is left in the container, these can be disposed of in the regular trash. ☉ Fire extinguishers ☉ Freon ☉ Marine Flares – Pyrotechnic flares cannot be accepted at the Collection because they are categorized as explosives. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☉ Ice melt – Ice melt is not hazardous and can be disposed in the regular trash ☉ Latex Driveway Sealer (Genite) – Driveway sealer is not hazardous; solidify, then throw in the regular trash ☉ Latex Paint – can be recycled through <i>PaintCare</i> (see below) ☉ Medicine/Drugs/Needles/Syringes ☉ Propane Tanks for gas grills ☉ Appliances ☉ Smoke detectors ☉ Tires ☉ Used Oil Filters |
|---|--|



How can I get rid of latex and oil-based paint?

Recycle your leftover paint through *PaintCare* – it's **FREE**

Starting 7/1/13, Connecticut Law requires the paint and coating industry to develop a financially and environmentally sustainable solution to manage postconsumer architectural paint. Under the new program, the paint industry will make paint recycling more convenient by setting up drop-off sites throughout the state where consumers can take their paint. *PaintCare* will also conduct outreach and education about buying the right amount and using up remaining paint.

For drop off locations and program information, go to <http://www.paintcare.org/connecticut/index.php>



“Pitch In” at the Town-Wide Clean-Up

SATURDAY, April 30th, 8am to 1pm

Register your group and pick up trash bags, gloves, and refreshments at...
Farmington Firehouse – 76 Main St., Farmington
Farmington Main Library – 6 Monteith Dr., Farmington
Tunxis Hose Firehouse – 11 School St., Unionville
Tunxis Mead Playing Fields

Sponsored by: The Town of Farmington Green Efforts Committee
 With contributions from: * David Salon * Dunkin’ Donuts of Unionville *
 George’s Pizza * Gallery Salon * Highland Park Market * Naples Pizza *
 Parsons Hardware * Stop & Shop of Unionville * Whole Foods *

For more information and suggestions call: 860-677-6094

Enter a team and compete in the **“Heaviest Haul” Competition.** Winners will be recognized in four categories:

- Families & Individuals
- Civic Organizations
- School Groups, Youth Sports Teams and Scout Troops
- Businesses

Competition Rules:

- Only trash that is brought to official Clean-Up centers on 4/30/16 8am-1pm will be weighed & posted
- Trash may be collected from 4/22-4/30
- Any single item weighing more than 25 lbs will be counted as 25 lbs.

To volunteer to clean one of the many “dirty spots” in town go to Sign Up Genius at:

<http://tinyurl.com/FarmingtonCleanup>

PRE-ORDER A COMPOST BIN

Have you always wanted to try composting and not sure where to start? There will be samples on April 30th at any of the Clean-Up Day check-in locations (see above) that can help you get started!! There



will also be pamphlets on composting, and more information on purchasing your own Compost Bin. See the link to get started now.
 The last day to pre-order a Compost Bin is May 29, and delivery will be June 4.
 To pre-order a Compost Bin for only \$50, go to <http://enviroworld.us/farmington>

“Outdoor Celebrations” Garden Tour & Preview Party

The Farmington Garden Club will host “Outdoor Celebrations” on June 10th and 11th, when visitors can enjoy a self-guided tour of eight of Farmington’s most beautiful gardens. The ticket/program will include a map and information about the featured gardens. Tickets will be available late April at Hill-Stead, Haworth’s, Stanley-Whitman, Monarch Jewelers, Main & Barney Libraries; check only, \$25 in advance; \$30 on tour days.

FARMINGTON ELDERLY and TOTALLY DISABLED TAX RELIEF PROGRAMS

Applications for the Elderly HOMEOWNER and Totally Disabled HOMEOWNER Programs are available in the Assessor’s Office now through May 15, 2016. Applicants must be 65 by December 31, 2015 or totally disabled to qualify. Income levels are as follows: State Program: \$35,200 for a single person; \$42,900 for a married couple. Local Program: \$41,200 if single; \$48,900 if married.

Please be sure to bring your Federal Tax Return, if you file one, and your Social Security Statement (SSA1099). If you do not file a tax

return, you must provide proof of all forms of income, including your 1099 statement, pensions, interest, dividends, etc.

ADDITIONAL VETERAN PROGRAMS: The qualifications are the same as the elderly programs; however if 100% disabled, the income maximum is \$18,000, for a single person, and \$21,000 for a married couple, excluding Social Security.

If you have any questions regarding this, or any other benefit program, please feel free to call the Assessor’s Office at 860-675-2370.



the Farmington
Town
Letter

Town Hall
Farmington, CT 06032-1053

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Farmington, CT
Permit #17

NOTES FROM PAULA RAY, TOWN CLERK

TOP DOG CONTEST:

The Farmington Town Clerk's office will be holding a "Top Dog" drawing. Join the fun by entering your best friend for a chance to wear Farmington Dog License Number 1 free of charge for 2016-2017.

To participate:

- ✓ The dog must be currently registered in Farmington or under 6 months of age.
- ✓ A photo of your dog no larger than 4x6 inches is required.
- ✓ On the back of the photo list the name of the dog, and the owner's name, address and phone number.
- ✓ Send the photo to the Farmington Town Clerk, 1 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT 06032 between May 1st and June 3rd.
- ✓ A drawing will be held on June 17, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Town Clerk's Office to determine Farmington's Top Dog.



DOG LICENSING INFORMATION:

The Town Clerk's Office reminds dog owners that renewal and new licenses are issued during the month of June. License renewal post cards will be mailed at the end of May to all dog owners currently licensed. If you have any questions regarding dog

licensing, please call the Town Clerk's Office at 675-2380.

REMINDER:

Opening day for fishing is April 9, 2016 by the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. Licenses are available online from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection www.ct.gov/deep/fishing and at the Town Clerk's office.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR THIS FALL:

The date of the Presidential Election this fall is November 8, 2016. College students and anyone that will be out of town at election time are encouraged to fill out their absentee ballot applications before leaving town. Applications will be kept on file in the Town Clerk's office and ballots will be issued on October 7, 2016, which is the first day regular absentee ballots are available.

Email ballots are available for military and citizens traveling overseas at election time. Please call the Town Clerk's office for information on electronic ballots.

THE FARMINGTON VILLAGE GREEN AND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION IS HOSTING A SPRING FLING!



Drinks - Hors d'oeuvres - Comedian Performance at 7:30pm - Basket Drawing
Wednesday, April 27th, 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Farmington Gardens, 999 Farmington Ave., Farmington, CT 06032
Tickets \$65.00 per person

(Ticket includes entrance to Comedian's performance, hors d'oeuvres and two drink tickets)

RSVP to (860)677-9222 x.309 or mmckeown.fvгла@gmail.com

Payments can be made by check or by PayPal at our website: www.fvгла.org. If paying by check, please mail payments, made payable to the FVGLA, Attn: Melinda McKeown, c/o Stanley-Whitman House, 37 High St., Farmington, CT 06032. Proceeds benefit the Farmington Village Green and Library Association

A 501(c)(3) Community Association

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDED BUDGET FY 2016/2017

	FY15/16 Adopted	FY16/17 Town Council Recommended Budget	Dollar Change	% Change
EXPENDITURES				
Education	\$60,391,209	\$62,686,075	\$2,294,866	3.80
Town	27,118,908	28,229,371	1,110,463	4.09*
Debt Service	6,818,620	6,827,369	8,749	0.13
Capital Improvements	3,234,000	2,856,900	(377,100)	(11.66)
Total	\$97,562,737	\$100,599,715	\$3,036,978	3.11
GRAND LIST				
Real Estate	\$3,103,366,310	\$3,129,962,090	\$26,595,780	0.86
Personal Property	200,261,295	213,845,102	13,583,807	6.78
Motor Vehicles	228,822,400	231,013,836	2,191,436	0.96
Total	\$3,532,450,005	\$3,574,821,028	\$42,371,023	1.20
REVENUES				
Other Property Taxes	\$1,079,000	\$1,175,000	\$96,000	8.90
Licenses and Permits	843,500	694,500	(149,000)	(17.66)
Fines and Penalties	39,200	40,000	800	2.04
Interest	75,000	85,000	10,000	13.33
Grants	6,471,275	5,850,171	(621,104)	(9.60)
Service Charges	1,288,834	1,327,543	38,709	3.00
Other	178,000	30,000	(148,000)	(83.15)
Westwoods Contribution	-	332,990	332,990	
Total	\$9,974,809	\$9,535,204	(\$439,605)	(4.41)
TAX & MILL RATE				
Tax Levy	\$88,299,928	\$91,776,511	Every \$100,000 of assessed value = \$2,578 in taxes	
Mill Rate	25.10	25.78		
Mill Rate Change	0.66	0.68		
% Change	2.71%	2.70%		
Avg Residential Assessment	\$232,074	\$232,074		
Real Estate Taxes	\$5,824.92	\$5,981.97		
Dollar Increase	153.46	157.05		
Percent Increase	2.71%	2.70%		

* Includes the transfer in of the Westwoods Golf Course Grounds function at a cost of \$376,021. Without this transfer the increase to the Town Budget would be \$734,442 or 2.71%.

IMPORTANT BUDGET DATES	April 25 Monday	7:00 p.m. Annual Town Meeting
	May 5 Thursday	Referendum Vote
	May 6 Friday	4:00 p.m. Special Town Council Meeting (if needed)
	May 9 Monday	7:00 p.m. Second Town Meeting (if needed)
	May 19 Thursday	Second Referendum Vote (if needed)
	May 24 Tuesday	7:00 p.m. Town Council Meeting - set tax rate

WHERE TO VOTE IN TOWN (POLLING PLACES)

District 1, Precinct 1, 2, 3, 4 - Irving Robbins Middle School, 20 Wolf Pit Rd., Farmington
 District 1, Precinct 5 - West Woods Upper Elementary School, 50 Judson Lane, Farmington
 District 2, Precinct 6 - Community/Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville
 District 2, Precinct 7 - Municipal Campus (High School, Library or Town Hall), Monteith Dr., Farmington

See other side for Voting Resolutions and Explanatory Text

MAY 5, 2016 REFERENDUM VOTE

TOWN OF FARMINGTON EXPLANATORY TEXT -- MAY 5, 2016 REFERENDUM VOTE

1. "SHALL THE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF FARMINGTON PRESENTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL AND RECOMMENDED BY THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 BE APPROVED?

YES

NO"

2. "SHALL THE TOWN OF FARMINGTON APPROPRIATE \$4,000,000 FOR REPAIRS TO AND RECONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS TOWN ROADS AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS, AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION?

YES

NO"

3. "SHALL THE TOWN OF FARMINGTON APPROPRIATE \$600,000 FOR ACQUISITION OF A PUMPER FIRE ENGINE TO BE STATIONED AT THE SOUTHWEST FIRE STATION AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION?"

YES

NO"

Resolutions adopted by the Farmington Town Council at meeting held March 12, 2016, and to be presented and discussed at the Annual Town Meeting to be held Monday, April 25, 2016, shall be submitted under the ballot headings above to vote on voting machines of persons qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Farmington on Thursday, May 5, 2016, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. in conjunction with the referendum on the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget to be held on that date.

If approved, resolution #2 will appropriate \$4,000,000 for costs related to repairs to and reconstruction of such various Town roads and drainage systems as may be determined by the Town Manager and the Town Engineer from time-to-time, and will authorize the issue of bonds, notes and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000 to finance the appropriation. The appropriation may be spent for design, installation and construction costs, engineering fees, materials, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project.

If approved, resolution #3 will appropriate \$600,000 and authorize borrowing for costs related to acquisition of a pumper fire engine to replace Engine #3 at the Southwest Fire Station, and related equipment. The appropriation may be spent for acquisition and commissioning costs, equipment, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project.

The full text of each resolution as approved by the Town Council is on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Town Clerk.

Electors shall vote at their regularly assigned polling places, as follows: Electors residing in the First Voting District and assigned to polling places 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, and 1-4 shall vote at Irving A. Robbins Middle School, 20 Wolf Pit Road, Farmington, Connecticut; and those assigned to polling place 1-5 shall vote at West Woods Upper Elementary School, 50 Judson Lane, Farmington, Connecticut. Electors residing in the Second Voting District and assigned to polling place 2-6 shall vote at the Community & Senior Center, 321 New Britain Avenue, Unionville, Connecticut; and those assigned to polling place 2-7 shall vote at the Municipal Complex, Monteith Drive, Farmington, Connecticut. Voters qualified to vote at town meeting who are not electors shall vote at their respective polling place at Irving A. Robbins Middle School, West Woods Upper Elementary School, the Community & Senior Center or the Municipal Complex. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's office.