

## Town of Boscawen

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## September 2023 Monthly Newsletter

Economic Development: The EDC met on September 5<sup>th</sup>. The EDC discussed the planning of the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Pumpkin Walk & Run. The event will be free to residents and will take place on October 14<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm starting at the Boscawen Town Park. The list of events will include a costumed bike ride, a bike repair workshop, pumpkin painting and scarecrow craft build workshop, Rail Trail History walk, kids costumed rail walk, tail gate party and vendor booths. Please see the Town of Boscawen's website for more details.

Planning Board: The Planning Board met on September 5<sup>th</sup>. The Board discussed the changes to the upcoming Capital Improvement Plan. There will be one more meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> where changes may be requested, before the October 3<sup>rd</sup> Public Hearing. The Visioning Session for Commercial Street will be Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup>. Changes to the Land Development Regulations submitted by Central NH Regional Planning Commission will need to be reviewed by the Board before the Public Hearing in November or December. A partial bond release was requested by Riveredge Properties LLC for the Eagle Perch Drive Project. The release was approved by a unanimous vote. A Public Hearing for a 31-Lot Major Subdivision for Cluster Development application was reopened to hear a new waiver request by the applicant. The waiver request was denied by a unanimous vote. New comments were submitted by Underwood Engineers, CNHRPC and the Public Works Director and reviewed by the Board. The Public Hearing was continued to a date certain of October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.

Energy Committee: The Energy Committee met on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Energy Committee held a Public Hearing to hear the proposal for establishing the Boscawen Community Power Program along with joining the Community Power Coalition of NH. The Committee presented the draft Boscawen Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan and asked for public input. The second Public Hearing will be Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Agricultural Commission: The Agricultural Commission met on September 21<sup>st</sup>. The AgComm attended a tour of Fresh Start Farms located at Pustizzi's Fruit Farm, 148 Corn Hill Road. Emma Richmond-Boudewyns, Market Manager of Fresh Start Farms, and Joe Pustizzi, owner of Pustizzi's Fruit Farm, led the tour. Fresh Start Farms is the name of the collective farm that is operated by the non-profit Organization for Refugee and Immigrant Success. ORIS works to resettle refugees in NH and Massachusetts. There are many different programs offered including housing, job placement, and healthcare. There are currently about 25 different farmers from 9 different countries including Rwanda, Burundi, and Somalia. At Pustizzi's Fruit Farm there are 3 farmers and their partners. Some of the crops grown are African Eggplant, Japanese Eggplant, Italian Eggplant, Barelaa, Lauki Squash, Luffa Gourd, and Bitter Melon.

<u>Conservation Commission:</u> The Conservation Commission met on September 19<sup>th</sup>. A Timber Sale & Harvesting Agreement was signed in August and an Intent to Cut was filed in September

for the Weir Road Town Forest. The CC discussed the Walker Pond land and the discussions about it being designated as Town Forest. They did not move forward to Town Meeting to do that. They may want to discuss this in the fall. The CC would like to meet with a planner from Fish & Game. There has been a house built on Queen Street that blocks the trail to the northeast of Hurst Marsh. There is no way to get from the Boscawen Village Town Forest to the Weir Road Town Forest. The snowmobile club met about moving the trail and they are in negotiations with the landowner. Ross Express purchased the Whyte land next to the Boscawen Village Town Forest. The CC would like to talk with President Steve Brown about whether he is agreeable to convey some portion of the property for the Town Forest consolidation or a trail easement.

<u>Old Home Day Committee:</u> The OHDC met on September 18<sup>th</sup>. The parade went very well. The kids loved the waterslides. They will be ordered earlier next year. The dunk tank was cancelled due to the weather predictions. The OHDC discussed feedback from the Flashy Flock Contest. The OHDC decided to not do the fall Yard Sale this year.

Beautification Committee: The Beautification Committee last met on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Zoning Board of Adjustment:** The ZBA last met on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

<u>Fire Department Advisory Committee:</u> This Committee will join forces with the Police Advisory Committee and EMS to become the Public Safety Advisory Board.

**Police Advisory Board:** The PAC last met on August 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Planning Board TRC:** The TRC last met July 14<sup>th</sup>.

**<u>Hazard Mitigation:</u>** The HMC last met December 20<sup>th</sup>.

Joint Loss Mitigation: The JLMC met September 27<sup>th</sup>. The Fire Department will be painting the stairs with slip-resistant paint and will be replacing the 30-year-old rug. The Facilities Department has installed a Knox Box with individually labeled keys for all town buildings, boarded up the broken windows at Torrent Station, and installed bollard lighting in the back of the building. The Backpack Program racks have been secured to the wall for the Community Services Department. The Municipal Office performed a Fire Drill, and a procedure will be added to the Safety Manual.