# TOWN OF STRATHAM STRATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE



# Public Notice March 30, 2020

# Town Office Closure Extended to April 14th Updates and Reminders for Accessing Town Services

The Stratham Select Board has extended the closure of all buildings to the public including the Town Offices through April 14, 2020 in response to the ongoing public health emergency.

The Town continues to offer services telephonically, via e-mail and through online transactions. Town Office staff continue to advance projects, perform routine duties, and move forward with special projects and planning. A reduced staff continues to work at the Town Offices, with some staff teleworking (with access to phone and access to networked computing connections). Some departments are offering new programs in different modes to better serve the public in these times (including online classes and recreation activities sponsored by the Library and Recreation). Even the Spring Bunny is making changes! (read more below).

On the final pages of this Notice you will find more detailed information about the changes to the ways that the public can access the Town's services, including a listing of key contact information.

#### **Public Meetings during Emergency**

The State of NH has offered guidance to municipalities for complying with the State's Right-to-Know Requirement in the context of this emergency and a "stay-at-home" order. This guidance is being reviewed and information about future Boards and Commissions will be forthcoming. Meanwhile, the Select Board will continue to meet to perform its Executive function.

# Exemptions & Credit deadline date still April 15th

Last Friday we contacted the Department of Revenue Property Division to inquire if there has been any change or extension to the required filing deadline for the Elderly Exemption or Veteran Credit; there is no change to this deadline.

For any new applicants you can download the required applications via the Assessing webpage at <a href="http://www.strathamnh.gov/assessing-department">http://www.strathamnh.gov/assessing-department</a> and click on Tax Relief. After you have

completed the application you can either copy and mail to 10 Bunker Hill Avenue, Attn: Assessing; or scan to <u>alewy@strathamnh.gov</u> along with any December 2019 documents that are required. Any copies of bank statements, IRA's etc. will be shredded or returned to the applicant upon request. We will follow-up with a letter once it has been reviewed.

Note: All information is treated as Confidential.

#### **Updates from Parks and Recreation**

**Spring Bunny!** With this years egg hunt being cancelled, we are planning something different for this Saturday, April 4th. The Stratham Parks and Recreation Department will be partnering with Stratham Fire to bring the Spring Bunny to you and your home. The bunny will be touring through Stratham this Saturday from 9-11 AM. The bunny will be waving from the fire truck, please don't approach the truck. If you would like make sure the bunny has your address on the list, please send an email to cforest@strathamnh.gov.

# Many new Recreation Offerings are found online.

See the latest Parks & Recreation e-mail blast that includes new weekly activities we'll be offering through April. Please be sure to follow us on Facebook and check out <a href="www.stratham.RecDesk.com">www.stratham.RecDesk.com</a> for additional programming. If you have a program you want to offer, or a suggestion please don't hesitate to reach out. These programs are being offered to the community on a free video conferencing platform called Zoom. You don't need to download anything and you don't need an account. Some classes do require preregistration. Please reach out with any questions you may have!

New offerings include: Introduction to meditation and mindfulness, Senior Social, Art & Story-time hosted by Janet Riley, Visual Journaling hosted by Janet Riley and others.

The newest e-mail blast can be found here: <a href="https://mailchi.mp/strathamnh.gov/what-to-do-while-stuck-at-home?e=2809bd1e9b">https://mailchi.mp/strathamnh.gov/what-to-do-while-stuck-at-home?e=2809bd1e9b</a>

# SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO TOWN SERVICES THROUGH THE TOWN OFFICE CLOSURE

POLICE – ALL EMERGENCIES CALL 911, NO CHANGE

FIRE / EMS - ALL EMERGENCIES CALL 911, NO CHANGE

## TOWN ADMINISTRATION

• For general inquiries related to the Select Board, Finance, Human Resources and other general inquiries, please see the contact information on the following page.

# TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

- Motor Vehicle and dog renewals can be accessed on line at the Town website under the Town Clerk/Tax Collector icon. Property tax payments may be made online as well.
- For new motor vehicle registrations and transfers please contact the Town Clerk's office directly for information and direction.
- Vital Records (births, deaths, and marriage certificates) will be processed by mail from the Town Clerk's Office. Please call the Town Clerk's office for information and fees.
- Other inquiries by phone during regular posted hours.

#### TRANSFER STATION

- There are no changes to the Town's Transfer Station hours or operations at this time.
- Summer Hours (April through November): Every Saturday 9:00am to 4:00pm
- There is no change in curbside collection.

#### **RECREATION**

- All programs including after-school programs are closed indefinitely. Senior Community Room at the Municipal Center is closed.
- For more visit the Recreation Department Facebook page (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/stratham.recreation/">https://www.facebook.com/stratham.recreation/</a>), and be sure to sign up for the P&R newsletter by creating an account at Stratham.recdesk.com.

#### WIGGIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

- The Library is closed indefinitely.
- For the latest information about the Library, please monitor the Library's Facebook Page (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/WigginMemorialLibrary/">https://www.facebook.com/WigginMemorialLibrary/</a>) or sign-up for the Dewey Dispatch newsletter (<a href="https://tinyurl.com/uyblpji">https://tinyurl.com/uyblpji</a>).

#### **BUILDING INSPECTION**

- New building permits will be processed electronically.
- Inspections will be handled on a case by case basis. See last page of contact information.
- Questions during normal business hours. See last page of contact information.

# LAND USE/ PLANNING/ ZONING

• New applications will be processed electronically.

- Questions during normal business hours. See last page of contact information.
- Meetings of Land Use Boards will be "TBD" on applications and in accordance with guidance from the state for holding meetings during this emergency.



### **Town of Stratham Contacts**

# Have a question for a particular department? Please contact the following staff members via email or by phone (603) 772-4741, specific extensions noted below:

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector:** Motor Vehicle, dog licensing, and property tax questions: Town Clerk/Tax Collector Joyce Charbonneau, x 140. jcharbonneau@strathamnh.gov Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector Deborah Bakie, x 141. dbakie@strathamnh.gov.

**Fire Department**: For emergencies, call 911. For general business inquiries, Monday through Friday from 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. please call, (603) 772-9756. For business calls during off duty hours, please call (603) 583-3149.

Police Department: For emergencies, call 911. For general business inquiries, call (603) 778-9691.

Trash and Recycling: Executive Assistant Karen Richard, x 187, krichard@strathamnh.gov

Public Works: call (603) 772-5550; Public Works Director Nate Mears, nmears@strathamnh.gov.

Assessing Department: including Veteran/Elderly/Blind/Solar Credits and Exemptions: Town Assessor Andrea Lewy x 144, <u>alewy@strathamnh.gov</u> or Assessing Assistant James Joseph x 184, <u>ijoseph@strathamnh.gov</u>

**Building Department:** Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector/Health Officer Shanti Wolph x 182, <a href="mailto:swolph@strathamnh.gov">swolph@strathamnh.gov</a> Building/Code Enforcement Coordinator Denise Lemire x 180, <a href="mailto:dlemire@strathamnh.gov">dlemire@strathamnh.gov</a>

**Planning Department**: Town Planner Tavis Austin x 147, <u>taustin@strathamnh.gov</u> Land Use Project Coordinator Stephanie Gardner x 178, <u>sgardner@strathamnh.gov</u>

**Parks & Recreation**: Parks & Recreation Director Seth Hickey 772-7450 x 250, <a href="mailto:shickey@strathamnh.gov">shickey@strathamnh.gov</a> or Program Coordinator Cantrece Forest <a href="mailto:cforest@strathamnh.gov">cforest@strathamnh.gov</a>

Select Board, Town Administration, & Direct Assistance: Town Administrator David Moore x 181, dmoore@strathamnh.gov; Executive Assistant Karen Richard x 187. Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology: Finance Administrator Dawna Duhamel x 183, dduhamel@strathamnh.gov. Accounting & Benefits: Accounting and Benefits Coordinator Laurie Plantamuro x 183, lplantamuro@strathamnh.gov.

**Recreation:** please visit the Recreation Department Facebook page (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/stratham.recreation/">https://www.facebook.com/stratham.recreation/</a>), and be sure to sign up for the P&R newsletter by creating an account at Stratham.recdesk.com. Please contact Seth Hickey, Parks & Recreation Director directly with more questions <a href="mailto:shickey@strathamnh.gov">shickey@strathamnh.gov</a>.

**Library**: For the latest information about the Library, please monitor the Library's Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/WigginMemorialLibrary/) or sign-up for the Dewey Dispatch newsletter https://tinyurl.com/uyblpjj). For questions or assistance, call 772-4346 to leave a voicemail, or send an email to wigginml@comcast.net.