

# Brooklyn Newsletter



Town of Brooklyn, Connecticut

October - December 2017; Issue 10

## What building do you need?

Department phone numbers start with 860-779-3411, followed by the option number.

### 4 Wolf Den Rd

Brooklyn, CT 06234

Selectman's Office - option 2

Town Clerk - option 4

Registrar of Voters - option 4

Tax Office - option 5

Assessor's Office - option 6

### 69 South Main St.

Brooklyn, CT 06234

Parks and Recreation - option 7

Financial Department - option 8

Building Official - option 9

Fire Marshall - option 9

Land Use Department - option 9

### Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday:  
8:00am - 5:00pm

Thursdays: 8:00am - 6:00pm

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday: Closed

Highway Department, option 3

95 Rukstela Rd

Hours: Monday - Thursday:

7:00am - 4:00pm

Friday: 7:00am - 11:00am

Brooklyn Town Library

10 Canterbury Rd 860-774-0649

Monday and Wednesday: 2-7pm

Tuesday and Saturday: 11am-5pm

Thursday and Friday: 2-5pm



## Veteran's Day



Please join the Town to honor our veterans on Saturday, November 11, 2017 at 1pm at the monuments across from Mortlake Fire Department. A short ceremony will include laying of the wreaths, prayer, Color Guard, TAPS, and a three volley salute.

Please come show your support!

## Parking Ban

A parking ban takes effect from November 1, 2017 to April 1, 2018. This means that no cars are allowed to park on Town roads as snow plowing is a priority and roads have to be cleared to efficiently remove snow.

Parked cars will be ticketed. Safety is our main concern, so please be aware and careful when you see our trucks out working. If you see anything that needs to be addressed, please call or email the Public Works Department or the Selectman's Office. Hopefully winter will be mild and short, but whatever comes our way, we are New Englanders and we handle Mother Nature accordingly.



Check out the First Selectman's Facebook page for news, events, and updates!

[www.facebook.com/brooklynfirstselectman](http://www.facebook.com/brooklynfirstselectman)

Check out the last page for the Municipal Election information!

## Town Offices Will be Closed On:

October 9: Columbus Day

November 22: Closing at 12:15pm

November 23: Thanksgiving

Nov 24: Parks & Rec and Highway

December 25: Christmas

January 1: New Year's Day

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## *From the Desk of the Fire Marshal:*

### Fire Marshal

860-779-3411

option 9

69 South Main St.

PO BOX 356

As fall approaches and we think of **turning our clocks back on Sunday, November 5th**, I would like to remind everyone that it is also time to change the batteries in our smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. Also make sure that you test all the detectors in your house.

Additionally, it's the perfect time to make a fire escape plan or have a fire drill to make sure everyone remembers the plan.



For all you wood burning folks, it is a great time to have your stoves and chimneys cleaned and get them ready for the season ahead. Also, please remember to burn only seasoned wood and to put ashes into a metal container. Put the ashes outside, away from your house or other structures. If you have a pellet stove, remember to keep it clean to prevent build up and increase heat output.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 860-779-3411, Option 9.

Douglas P. Kramer, Sr.  
Fire Marshal



## *News From the Tax Collector's Office*

Falling leaves, pumpkin flavored everything, cooler temperatures, and taxes...all signs of Fall!

### Tax Collector

860-779-3411

Option 5

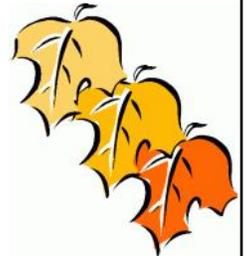
Fax: 860-779-7853

4 Wolf Den Rd

PO BOX 253

The second installment of real estate and personal property taxes are due this month. You can pay your bills three different ways:

- 🍁 You can mail in a check to PO Box 253, Brooklyn, CT 06234.
- 🍁 You can pay online with a credit card (2.50% fees for a credit/debit card, \$3.95 fee for a Visa Debit Card ONLY, and \$2.00 for an electronic check).
- 🍁 You can also come into the office and pay in person with check, cash, or card (fees still apply if you pay in the office).



### **The due dates for this year's taxes are:**

October 1<sup>st</sup> - November 1<sup>st</sup> 🍁 January 1<sup>st</sup> - February 1<sup>st</sup> 🍁 April 1<sup>st</sup> - May 2<sup>nd</sup>

### **Tax Bills are Online!**

Whether you need information for income taxes or to see what you owe, you can now view your tax bills online. Here is how:

- Go to [www.brooklynct.org](http://www.brooklynct.org)
- Staying on the home page, scroll down until you see three yellow buttons.
- Click on "Online Payments." It will bring you to a link, click on the link.
- You will be brought to the search page. Type in your last name space first initial (ex. John Doe would type in Doe J).
- You will be able to see your tax bills, date(s) of payment, and how much you paid to the Town of Brooklyn during a calendar year. You can also print out your tax bills for your records.



## News from the Assessor's Office

Please visit our website at [www.brooklynct.org](http://www.brooklynct.org) for any forms that may pertain to you.

### Assessor

860-779-3411

Option 6

Fax: 860-779-7853

4 Wolf Den Rd

PO BOX 356

During the month of October our staff will be conducting Building Permit and Sales Inspections and we may at times be out of the office. We recommend that you please call 860-779-3411 option 6 to insure someone will be available to assist you.



🍁 **PA 490 Applications** for Open Space, Farm Land & Forest Land are being accepted until October 31, 2017. Applications are available on our website.



🍁 **Annual Farm Building Exemption** forms need to be **notarized** and **filed** by November 1, 2017.

🍁 **Personal Property Declarations** deadline is November 1, 2017. If you are mailing your declaration, it must be postmarked by November 1, 2017. **Failure to file or filing late will result in a 25% Penalty assessment.**

**Note:** Real property or Connecticut registered motor vehicles do not need to be declared. Taxable personal property includes: **Unregistered motor vehicles, vehicles located in Connecticut but registered in another state**, horses, ponies, manufacturing machinery and equipment, business furniture and fixtures, farm machinery, farming tools, mechanics tools, electronic data processing equipment, telecommunication equipment, cable conduits, pipes, poles, business expended supplies and other such as billboards, video games, vending machines, leasehold improvements, etc.



🍁 **New Commercial Truck** applications must be completed and filed by November 1, 2017.

🍁 **New Totally Disabled/Handicapped Vehicle Exemption** forms must be filed by November 1, 2017. The form can be found on our website under Ambulance/Handicapped Vehicle Exemption.

🍁 **Armed Service Members:** Connecticut Resident in Military Service or Exemption for Federal Soldiers & Sailors Civil Relief Act, as well as In-Service Veteran's Exemption forms are available on our website and must be filed with the Assessor by **December 31, 2017.**

🍁 **New Totally & Permanently Disabled (under the age of 65)** must be filed by January 31, 2018. Proof of award is required.

As always we welcome any questions or comments. You may contact us at 860-779-3411 option 6.

*Best Wishes for a Pleasant Day,  
Kathleen M. Thornton, CCMA II  
Maryann E. Szela, Assistant Assessor*

## What's happening at the Brooklyn Teen Center...

### Brooklyn Teen Center

860-412-0060

Brooklyn Community Center

31 Tiffany St

Lower Level

The Brooklyn TEEN Center is back to school!! Well, back to providing after school entertainment for 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Members will stay busy with time to work on homework, a chance to relax in the reading nook, stay active with a game of ping pong, arcade style video games and more! Lisa always has them engaged in some sort of group craft project or friendly competition.



We will once again join the dozens of volunteers at the Brooklyn Parks & Recreation's Spooky Nights event held at the Brooklyn Fairgrounds on October 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>. Plan on spending an evening with us at the fairgrounds and check out our group's new location in the newest "haunted house," designed to be family friendly!

If your "teen" is interested in joining our Center, call the TEEN Center Coordinator at 860-412-0060 during program hours, to check space availability. Brooklyn TEEN Center – A World of Possibilities!

## News from the Building Department

Building Official

860-779-3411

option 9

69 South Main St.

PO BOX 356

Hours of the official:

Monday: 8am-6pm

Thursday: 5pm-6pm

Hours of the office:

Normal Town Hall Hours

Heating season is upon us once again. Please be advised that the following require a building permit. The installation of:

- ❁ Woodstoves
- ❁ Chimney liner
- ❁ Fireplace inserts
- ❁ Replacement of boilers, furnaces
- ❁ Oil tank replacement
- ❁ Replacement of electric heating elements
- ❁ Heat pumps-mini split
- ❁ Gas line
- ❁ Pellet stove
- ❁ Generator
- ❁ Water heater replacement

Once the installation is complete an inspection is required by the Building Official, John Berard. Please contact the office at 860-779-3411 Extension 12 to set up an inspection date.

Town Ordinance 8-2 Withholding Approval of a Building Application When Taxes are Delinquent:

Pursuant to the authority of Public Act 95-320, it will be the policy of the Town to withhold approval of building applications when taxes are delinquent for the property for which an application is made.

*Waiver.* In the event that a taxpayer seeking an application is contesting the underlying tax assessment, or in cases of unusual hardship, the Board of Selectmen may waive the denial of approval set forth in this section.

(Ord. No. 95-1 State Statute 1)



As always we welcome any questions or comments. You may contact us at 860-779-3411, Option 9.

Warmest Regards  
John Berard, Building Official  
Audrey Cross-Lussier, Building Office Assistant

## Parks & Recreation Summer Update

### Parks & Recreation

860-779-3411

option 7

Fax: 860-779-9372

69 South Main St.

PO BOX 356

The Brooklyn Parks & Recreation Department has been busy this fall! We hosted Concerts at Riverside Park and scheduled a Bike Safety Clinic for Kids in conjunction with our resident trooper at the Brooklyn Car Cruise this September. Before and After School Recreation is in full swing, with the After School Rec Program full to capacity. New this fall, we will be offering Youth Open Gym, to begin in November and held at the Middle School Gym. Check out the details and submit a registration form online at our website.



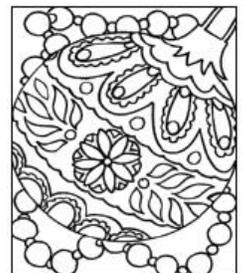
Spooky Nights, our annual Halloween event, will be held on October 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> at the Brooklyn Fairgrounds. Tickets are on sale, and can be purchased at the following locations: Parks & Recreation Office, Hank's Restaurant, Hurme TV & Appliances, Danielson Surplus, Courthouse Bar & Grille, and WINY Radio Station. There is something for everyone at this event: hay wagon ride, bonfire area with a DJ, food vendors, Not-So-Spooky Land for the younger kids, face painting, and Mr. Magic. New this year, **TWO Haunted Houses!** One for the young and young at heart visitors and one that is sure to scare everyone who dares to enter!

We are also preparing for the winter holiday programs such as our annual Toys for Giving Toy Drive. Donations are accepted throughout the year, but the drive officially starts for the 2017 year on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Unused, unwrapped toys or appropriate gifts and monetary donations are accepted. All proceeds benefit Brooklyn children in need.



Our "Letters to Santa" program also starts on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Send a letter to Santa with your child's name and address and Santa will send one back to your child! Letters should be addressed to Santa c/o Santa's Elves, 29 Canterbury Rd, Brooklyn, CT 06234.

Brooklyn Post Office and the Recreation Department will partner again to present our Holiday Coloring Contest during the month of December. **Two age groups:** Ages 6 and under or 7-12 years old. Pick up a coloring page from the Brooklyn Post Office, Brooklyn Parks & Recreation office or online at [www.brooklynct.org](http://www.brooklynct.org) and get creative! Please include your child's name, age and contact number on the BACK of the coloring pages. Coloring pages are available beginning November 27<sup>th</sup> and should be dropped off at the Brooklyn Post Office by Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Judging will take place before the 25<sup>th</sup>. Winners will be contacted and prizes are awarded for top entries!



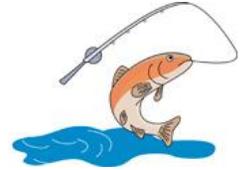
We always have something planned to keep you and your family busy and happy! Check out our upcoming and ongoing programs such as Susan's Complete Fitness, Winter Warriors Running Club and Open Gym Basketball for Adults. And don't forget to check out Karen's Adult and Youth Craft Classes throughout the fall.

Call our office, visit our website or like us on **Facebook – Town of Brooklyn Parks & Recreation**.

# News from the Town Clerk's Office

## HUNTING & FISHING INFORMATION

Hunting Season will soon be in full swing so don't forget you can purchase Hunting & Fishing licenses in our office. Remember that for those of you age 65 and over, the licenses are free!



Town Clerk

860-779-3411

Option 4

Fax: 860-774-5732

4 Wolf Den Rd

PO BOX 356

## MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2017

On Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, the Town will be conducting a Municipal Election from 6:00AM to 8:00PM at the Brooklyn Middle School. All Registered Voters will cast votes for the following local offices that serve our community. Below is a sample ballot.

<b>Brooklyn, Connecticut</b>	<b>Municipal Election</b>	<b>November 7, 2017</b>	<b>District 1</b>
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OFFICE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>PARTY</b>	<b>First Selectman Vote for One</b>	<b>Selectman Vote for One</b>	<b>Town Clerk Vote for One</b>	<b>Board of Finance Vote for Any Two</b>		<b>Board of Education Vote for Any Three</b>			<b>Board of Assessment Appeals Vote for Any Two</b>	
<b>DEMOCRATIC PARTY</b>	1A Richard Ives	2A Joe Voccio	3A Leona A. Mainville	4A Heather Allen	5A	6A Aimee Genna	7A Mae Lyons	8A Nathan Richards	9A Buddy Conroy	10A
<b>REPUBLICAN PARTY</b>	1B David Fuss	2B Wayne Jolley	3B	4B Jeffrey Otto	5B Earl Starks	6B Joan Trivella	7B Kelly Coddling	8B Keith Atchinson	9B Robert Simons	10B Loni Wright
<b>WRITE-IN VOTES</b>	1C	2C	3C	4C	5C	6C	7C	8C	9C	10C

## From the Registrars of Voters

### Registrars of Voters

860-779-3411

Option 4

4 Wolf Den Rd

PO BOX 356

#### Office Hours:

Tuesdays:

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Questions can be referred to the Town Clerk all other times.

### 🍁 **November 7, 2017 (Tuesday) – Municipal Election Day**

The Polls will open at 6:00am and close at 8:00pm at the Brooklyn Middle School for the approximately 5,443 resident voters desiring to vote in the Municipal Election. We expect a very enthusiastic group of voters all day and hope all eligible residents actually come out to vote on that day. Let's have a great turnout for the elections!

🍁 **Election Day Registration (EDR)** will be available from 8:00am to 8:00pm at the Registrar's Office at the Brooklyn Town Hall.

🍁 **General Information** – The Registrars of Voters are looking for residents of Brooklyn who would be interested in becoming a certified Town Elections Moderator. We need at least two Democrats and two

Republican affiliated resident voters to fill these positions in the election process. Anyone interested should contact the Registrars of Voters Office by either leaving a voicemail message, sending an email, or personally coming into the Registrar Office on any Tuesday between the hours of 2pm to 4pm. Our office phone is: 860-779-3411, ext. 19 or 29 and email is: [registrars@brooklynct.org](mailto:registrars@brooklynct.org).

