

Brooklyn Newsletter



Town of Brooklyn, Connecticut

January - March 2019; Issue 15

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

Town Offices Will be Closed On:

January 1: New Year's Day

January 21: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February 18: President's Day

Upcoming Earth Day Event



The Town of Brooklyn will be holding a Town wide event in honor of Earth Day on Saturday, April 13th! We are looking for individuals, families, groups, organizations, or anyone who wants to get involved. Please contact the First Selectman's Office at 860-779-3411 x16 or m.bradley@brooklynct.org to volunteer.

Check our website for upcoming details!

ACT LOCALLY AND MAKE AN IMPACT GLOBALLY

From the Assessment Appeals Board

The next hearing of the Board of Assessment Appeals will be on **March 14, 2019**. This hearing will be for Real Estate, Personal Property, and Supplemental Motor Vehicles issues. You can print out an application from the town's website at www.brooklynct.org, then go to the Assessor's page. Also, the Assessor's office will have the forms available. The completed forms must be in the Assessor's office by February 20, 2019. They can be mailed in or hand delivered. You will be mailed a conformation of your appointment. **Please note**, it is important for you to bring to the hearing any and all information pertaining to your case including your tax bill.



Current members are: Buddy Conroy, Chairperson, Loni Wright, and Robert Simons.

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News From the Tax Collector's Office

Tax Collector
860-779-3411
Option 5
Fax: 860-779-7853
4 Wolf Den Rd
PO BOX 253

Along with the colder weather, January brings Supplemental Motor Vehicle Tax Bills. These bills are for any motor vehicles that were registered between October 2, 2017 and September 30, 2018 and covers the months that you owned the vehicle. If you had transferred a plate from one vehicle to a new vehicle during this time period, you will see the credit on your tax bill.



The third installment for real estate and personal property taxes, the second installment for sewer taxes, and supplemental motor vehicle 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:

- * January 1st – February 1st
- * April 1st – May 1st

Do you need to know what you paid in taxes last year for income taxes?
You can visit the office for a printout or you can now print out your tax information online!



INCOME TAX

Tax Bills are Online!

- Go to www.brooklynct.org
- Staying on the home page,
- 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.

INCOME TAX



News from the Assessor's Office

Please visit our website at 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

* **Supplemental Bills for the 2017 Motor Vehicle Grand List are due in January, 2019. You may be receiving a Supplemental bill because you did not receive a 2017 Motor Vehicle bill in July 2018 for a particular vehicle.**

* **Assessment Increase Notices will be mailed within 10 days of the signing of the Grand List in January 2019.**

These notices apply to changes made to your property such as building permits, new homes, renovations, sheds, decks, pools, etc.



* **Personal Property Assessment Notices will be mailed in January 2019.**



* **NEW Totally & Permanently Disabled applications (under the age of 65):** Must be received by January 31st, 2019. Proof of award is required.

* **Deadline for Disabled Veteran's Proof:** The deadline to file proof of your Veteran's Disability is March 31st, 2019 for the 2018 Grand List.

* **Additional Veteran's Applications:** The filing period begins February 1st, 2019 and runs until October 1st, 2019. Proof of 2018 income required.

* **Elderly and/or Disabled Homeowners: Filing period begins February 1st, 2019 and runs until May 15th, 2019.**

To be eligible for this tax credit:

- You or your spouse must be at least 65 years of age as of December 31, 2018 or over the age of 18 and permanently disabled per Social Security.
- You must be a permanent resident of Connecticut. You must own the property or hold tenancy for life or for a term of years, which makes the applicant liable for payment of taxes (CGS Sec. 12-48) as of October 1, 2018. The property must be the applicant's primary residence (domicile).
- Your 2018 income cannot exceed \$43,900 if you are married or \$36,000 if you are unmarried.
- You must provide the Assessor with a copy of your SSA 1099 for 2018, or it's equivalent, from Social Security and your 2018 Federal Income tax return if you were required to file. And any other interest/dividend statements and pension statements, all for 2018.

* **Board of Assessment Appeals:** Applications for Board of Assessment Appeals must be filed by February 20, 2019 for Real Estate and/or Supplemental Motor Vehicle. Forms are available on our website at www.brooklynct.org from the Assessor's Department.

Any questions or comments are always welcome and we can be reached at 860-779-3411 option 6.

Regards,
Kathleen M. Thornton CCMA II, Assessor
Maryann E. Szela, Assistant Assessor

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-5pm

Thursday: 5pm-6pm

Hours of the office:

Monday, Tuesday, and

Wednesday: 8am-5pm

Thursday: 8am-6pm

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

- * woodstoves
- * pellet stove
- * fireplace inserts
- * replacement of boilers, furnaces
- * replacement of electric heating elements
- * generators
- * mini split ac/heat pumps
- * gas wall hung units
- * gas line installation



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, opt 9.

Warmest Regards

John Berard, Building Official and Audrey Cross-Lussier, Building Office Assistant

Land Use News

Seeking Additional Input on Draft Zoning Regulations

The Planning and Zoning Commission is seeking additional public input from Brooklyn residents, businesses, groups, and commissions on possible updates to the Zoning Regulations.



The first public information session was held August 15, 2018 at the Brooklyn Middle School. After that meeting, the Planning and Zoning Commission evaluated comments and considered additional changes.

A second public information session is scheduled for **Wednesday, January 30, 2019** at 6:30 p.m. at the Clifford B. Green Meeting Center, 69 South Main Street, Brooklyn. Interested persons are encouraged to come and share their comments, concerns, and/or support. Written communications will also be accepted via email or letter. Emails may be addressed to: j.roberson@brooklynct.org.

The draft Zoning Regulations and Map are available on the Town of Brooklyn website.

Prior to adopting any regulation changes, an official public hearing will be held.

Parks & Recreation Mid-Winter Update

Parks & Recreation

860-779-3411
option 7
Fax: 860-779-9372
69 South Main St.
PO BOX 356

Happy New Year! We hope 2019 brings you and your family peace, joyful times and good health! With that in mind, why not check out our offerings in the new year to help keep you happy and healthy! Winter Warrior's Running Club and Staying Fit with Nate will help to keep some of those new year resolutions! Don't let the cold weather take you away from your fitness goals; stay active this winter.



Our Spring/Summer Brochure will be mailed out to all Brooklyn households in January. We also post it online for your convenience. Look for information about our upcoming programs such as Karen's Crafts Classes, Spring Running Club, Baton Twirlers, March Madness Basketball Clinic and more! Special events will be included in the brochure including Bunny Breakfast and Family Fun Day. Summer Day Camp and TEEN Camp will take place this summer, with Early Bird registration starting in March. Look for all the details in our brochure and online starting in January.

Looking for something to do this summer? How about a bus trip to a baseball game?! We have Red Sox at Fenway and Yankees vs Red Sox at Yankee Stadium. Details will be available in January, with a start date for ticket sales in February. Check our website for details. A day trip to NYC and a trip to the ever-popular Boston Flower Show round out our spring/summer bus trip schedule.



If you haven't had a chance to check out our new playscape at Prince Hill this past fall, bring the kids down when cabin fever sets in this winter! They can try out the 'scavenger' hunt on the larger playscape, take a turn on the swings, or just have fun pretending to defend the 'castle' for an afternoon!

All this information and more will be listed in our Spring/Summer Brochure which is mailed out each January to all Brooklyn households and listed online at www.brooklynct.org. Like us on Facebook at Town of Brooklyn Parks & Recreation!



Did you know?

Did you know that you can sign up to receive email notifications about meetings happening in Town?

Go to the Town's website, www.brooklynct.org and click on subscribe to notices. Then you can choose what you want to subscribe to: urgent alerts, news, announcements, agendas, and/or minutes.

The notifications will be sent to your email when information is added to the website.



Mortlake Fire Company

There is an employment opportunity for an Administrative Assistant at Mortlake Fire Company. For more information, please visit www.mortlakefire.com/job-opening.

MORTLAKE FIRE COMPANY

