

Brooklyn Newsletter



Town of Brooklyn, Connecticut
January - March 2023; Issue 29

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 2: Observing New Year's Day

January 16: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 20: President's Day

From the Assessment Appeals Board

The next hearing of the Board of Assessment Appeals will be on **March 9, 2023**. 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 (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, 2023.

They can be mailed in or hand delivered. You will be mailed a confirmation 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:

Joanne Eiler, Justin Phaiah, and Susan Wasstrom



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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, 2022 and September 30, 2023 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 for the months you did not have the old vehicle.

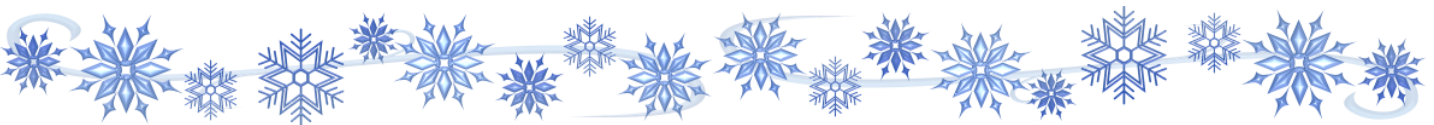


The third installment for real estate and personal property taxes, the second installment for sewer taxes, and supplemental motor vehicles are also due this month. You can pay your bills four different ways:

- ❁ 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). The same fees apply if using the card in office or over the phone.
- ❁ You can use the drop box located at the Town Hall.
- ❁ You can pay in the Tax Office.

The due dates for this year's taxes are:

January 1st – February 1st
April 1st – May 1st



Tax Bills are Online!



❁ Go to www.brooklynct.org and click on "Online Payments."

❁ You will be brought to the search page. Type in your last name space first initial (ex. John Doe would type in Doe J). Click on the circle saying IRS Payment Records for Year 2022 and click search.

INCOME TAX

TAX BILLS

SEWER/WATER/MISC

Click on Sewer/Water/Misc if you want to search Sewer/Water/Misc bills only.

Click on Tax Bills if you want to search your Real Estate, Personal Property, Motor Vehicle or Supplemental Bills.

SEARCH BY

Name

Enter the search criteria below.

Search

Enter Last Name then space then 1st Initial (example SMITH J) or Business Name (No comma, & or -)

All Due Now Balance Due IRS Payment Records for Year 2020

Check the applicable accounts, then click on the View IRS button for a listing of payments made in 2020

View IRS

IRS

❁ You will be able to see your tax bills, date(s) of payment, and how much you paid to the Town of Brooklyn during the calendar year. You can also print out your tax bills for your records by clicking on the box next to "IRS" and click on "View IRS."

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 2021 Motor Vehicle Grand List are due in January, 2023. You may be receiving a Supplemental bill because you did not receive a 2021 Motor Vehicle bill in July 2022 for a particular vehicle.**

❄️ **Assessment Increase Notices will be mailed within 10 days of the signing of the Grand List in January 2023. 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 2023.**



❄️ **Deadline for Disabled Veteran's Proof:** The deadline to file proof of your Veteran's Disability is March 31, 2023 for the 2022 Grand List.

❄️ **Additional Veteran's Applications:** The filing period begins February 1, 2023 and runs until October 1st, 2023. Proof of 2022 income required. **ALL**

APPLICATIONS ARE BY MAIL OR OUR DROP OFF BOX.

❄️ **Elderly and/or Disabled Homeowners:** Filing period begins February 1, 2023 and runs until May 15, 2023. Please Note: The Town Hall is closed on Fridays. **APPLICATIONS ARE BY MAIL, BY USING OUR DROP OFF BOX OR CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT.**

To be eligible for this tax credit:

You or your spouse must be at least 65 years of age as of December 31, 2022 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, 2022. The property must be the applicant's primary residence (domicile).

Your 2022 income cannot exceed \$49,100 if you are married or \$40,300 if you are unmarried.

You must provide the Assessor with a copy of your SSA 1099 for 2022, or its equivalent, from Social Security and your 2022 Federal Income tax return if you were required to file. And any other interest/dividend statements and pension statements, all for 2022.



❄️ **Board of Assessment Appeals:** Applications for Board of Assessment Appeals must be filed by February 20, 2023 for Real Estate and/or Supplemental Motor Vehicle. Forms are available on our website at www.brooklynct.org from the Assessor's Department. BAA is scheduled to meet Thursday March 9, 2023 & March 13, 2023 if needed.



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

Regards,

Stephanie M. Kosoff, CCMA I, Assessor
&
Maryann E. Szela, Assistant Assessor

Parks & Recreation Mid-Winter Update

South Street Park – Neighborhood Park Survey

Parks & Recreation

860-779-3411

option 7

Fax: 860-779-9372

69 South Main St.

PO BOX 356

The Brooklyn Parks and Recreation Department wants to know your thoughts about South Street Park so we may plan park improvements. South Street Park is located at the corner of South Main Street and South Street in East Brooklyn. The park currently has a playscape, picnic table, a little library, a basketball court, and an open grass area.



We would like to hear how you use South Street Park today and what you would like to see in a new park design. As we continue in the park renovation process, we will consider different types of playgrounds that meet today's safety standards and the needs of the community. A final plan will utilize the suggestions given in this survey as well as recommendations from industry professionals and the Parks and Recreation Department staff.

Who can take part in the survey?

This survey is for everyone. We want to hear from: adults, children, parents, grandparents, caregivers, and other people in the neighborhood.

Please visit the Recreation Department's page for a link to the survey or [click here](#). It will take approximately 7 minutes to complete.



Ever wonder what goes on in the Town Clerk's Office?

The Clerk's office is one of the most visited offices in the Town Hall. Daily, we see residents, attorneys, title searchers, realtors, builders, genealogists and visitors looking for various information on our town. You probably know that the Clerk's office holds all the land records in town. But what does that mean? Every day, different types of documents are recorded on the land records for properties in town. This includes deeds, mortgages, liens, releases, maps, and many more. Think of all the properties in town and you can imagine the volume of records that come across our desks! Land records are kept forever and in our vault we have records dating back to 1786. All our land records are open to the public so feel free to stop in and take a look!

Town Clerk
860-779-3411
Option 4
Fax: 860-774-5732
4 Wolf Den Rd
PO BOX 356

Our second largest collection of records is our Vital Records collection. If you were born, married or died in Brooklyn, a record of the event will be in our vault. If you lived in Brooklyn at the time you were married or passed away, but the event occurred in another town in CT, we will have a resident copy of that vital record. If your mother was living in Brooklyn at the time of your birth, we'll have that record as well. Certified copies of vital records can be obtained at any time from either the Town Clerk or the Assistant Town Clerk, both of whom are sworn-in Registrars of Vital Statistics appointed by the State. We also offer a way to request and pay for your vital record on our website at www.brooklynct.org.



The busiest month of the year in the Clerk's office is June—Dog License month! Did you know that by state statute, any dog over six months of age must be registered with the Town Clerk? Dog licenses renew every June and we'll process over 400 renewals throughout the month! The process is simple, bring your dog's up-to-date rabies certificate to the Clerk's office (along with a copy of the spay/neuter certificate if that applies), pay the fee and we'll give you a dog tag. If you find a lost dog that has a Town of Brooklyn tag on its collar, please call us so we can help locate its owner! Last year we partnered with our Dog license company to offer a way to renew your dog's license online, check it out at www.brooklynct.org.

Need to register to vote? Can't make it to the polls on election day and need an absentee ballot? The Clerk's office can help you! We have voter cards in our office that you can fill out anytime. We also process all absentee ballots for elections, primaries and referendums. During the 2020 Presidential election, we processed over 1200 absentee ballots! If you have a question about any election-related item, chances are the Clerks can answer it for you.

Fishing season starts in April! Get your fishing & hunting licenses and permits in the Clerk's office. Remember, if you're over 65, the licenses are free!



There are many miscellaneous duties the Clerk's office can help you with. If you need a Notary, both the Town Clerk and the Assistant are Notaries Public. Our office records all Trade Name Certificates for those individuals doing business in town. We record copies of liquor permits, and index Notary Public registrations. We hold the meeting minutes and agendas for all Boards and Commissions. The Clerk takes the minutes at all town meetings and we maintain the Town Meeting book in our vault. Veteran's Discharges (DD-214s) are indexed and kept in our vault for the Assessor's tax exemption requirements. We also perform bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly and yearly administrative and clerical duties.

We hope this helps you, as a resident, understand what goes on in the Clerk's office on any given day. Please feel free to stop in anytime.

News from the Registrars of Voters

There were two elections held in Brooklyn during 2022.

Registrars of Voters

860-779-3411

Option 4

Ext. 19: Nancy Ives

Ext. 29: Jo Ann Gerardi-Voccio

registrars@brooklynct.org

4 Wolf Den Rd

PO BOX 356

Office Hours:

Tuesdays:

8am to 11am

And

4pm to 7pm

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

❄️ August 9, 2022 Primary ❄️

Voters chose candidates to represent the Democratic and Republican parties in anticipation of the General election on November 8, 2022. There were 2679 total eligible voters. 352 voted (13% turnout); 343 in-person; 9 absentee. Broken down further, 1297 total eligible Democrats; 128 Democrats voted (9.87% turnout); 119 in-person votes and 9 absentee votes. 1382 total eligible Republicans; 224 Republicans voted (16.2% turnout); 224 in-person and 0 absentee votes.

❄️ November 8, 2022 General Election ❄️

There were 5391 total eligible voters. 3,236 voted (60% turnout); 2,944 in-person; 292 absentee.



❄️ Thank you! ❄️

The Registrars would like to thank everyone who participated as voters and/or worked as poll workers. The elections were conducted with professionalism, civility, and politeness by all involved. Our electoral system works successfully in Brooklyn.

❄️ Up-Coming Events-Beginning in 2023 ❄️

CANVASS: Registrars will conduct the annual canvass beginning in January and ending on April 30, 2023. The purpose of this activity is to update existing voter records as well as to purge voter registrations for those voters who have either moved out of the town and/or state or have not voted within the last 4 years. If you are a registered voter in Brooklyn and receive our canvass mailing, please review the documents, and return the canvass notice back to the Registrars with any changes and/or corrections noted so that you will not be removed from the Active Voter List.

❄️ General Information ❄️

Registrar's Office Hours are Tuesdays 8am to 11am and 4pm to 7pm. Our office phone is: 860-779-3411, Ext 19 for Nancy Ives and Ext 29 for Jo Ann Gerardi-Voccio. Email is: registrars@brooklynct.org.



News from the Building Department

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

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

- ❄ 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. The Building's Official's schedule fills up fast, please plan accordingly.

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

- A. 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.
- B. *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.
- C. (*Ord. No. 95-1 State Statute 1*)

The Building Department is in the process of streamlining the inspection process, details to follow in the Spring Newsletter.

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

Warmest Regards,

John Berard, Building Official

Lisa Lindia, Building Office Assistant E-mail: l.lindia@brooklynct.org

Jean Bolin, Building Office Assistant E-mail: j.bolin@brooklynct.org

