



January 21, 2020 - News for You



# TOWN OF FREEPORT

MUNICIPAL BULLETIN

## Upcoming Town Council Meetings:

*Regular Town Council Meeting*  
February 4, 2020  
6:30 p.m.

*Town Council Workshop*  
❖ February 11, 2020  
6:30 p.m.

A full listing of upcoming Town meetings and agendas is available on the Town's website at:

[www.freeportmaine.com](http://www.freeportmaine.com)



## Arbor & Land Management Issues Public Information Session

Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
5:00 – 6:00 PM, Town Council Chambers

Mike Hughes, ISA Board Certified Master Arborist, will begin holding quarterly seminars on Arbor & Land Management Issues. The Winter Session will cover the latest information on insect pests – in particular the **Browntail Moth, Hemlock Wooly Adelgid and Emerald Ash Borer**. The presentation will cover life-cycles, identifying characteristics, control possibilities, and outlook.



## Annual Chocolate Bash Freeport Community Library

Wed., Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Freeport Community Library's Annual Chocolate Bash will take place on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM. You can taste test the chocolate goodies, enter the raffle to win chocolate desserts, and enjoy live music by the Cul-de-Sax. Chocolates are priced at \$2 a plate and all proceeds will benefit the library.

## Sand Bucket Brigade!

The Sand Bucket Brigade program has started as part of *Aging in Place*. If there is a Freeport resident who could benefit from a bucket of sand, Brigade volunteers will deliver the bucket of sand to help residents keep their paths safer this winter. If anyone would like a bucket, they should contact Tawni Whitney at 774-212-0269.

## Town Manager's Report January 21, 2020

### GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award -

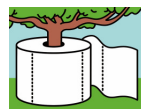
I'm proud to announce that the Town of Freeport has received the GFOA "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award" for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2019. This award represents a significant achievement by the entity and reflects the commitment of the Town Council and Town staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity has to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as:

- A policy document
- A financial plan
- An operations guide
- A communications device

When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted to a government, a certificate of recognition is also presented to the individual or department designated as being primarily responsible for having achieved this award. I am very pleased to announce that Freeport's Finance Director, Jessica Maloy, has received this distinction each year she has worked for the Town of Freeport, since 2015. The Town has also received the recognition every year since 2013.

**Streetlight Update** – As part of last year's LED streetlight conversion project, the Town of Freeport has taken over the responsibility for street lights that are located on public roads, while private roads remain the maintenance responsibility

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## This Week's Tip from the Freeport Sustainability Advisory Board

The average 4-person household in the U.S. uses over 100 pounds of toilet paper a year, far outpacing the rest of the world and driving a "tree-to-toilet pipeline" whereby trees (primarily from the Canadian boreal forest) are converted into pulp, turned into toilet paper, and flushed away. The NRDC and Stand.earth have developed a scorecard to inform consumers which brands lead on sustainability. By following this scorecard, you can minimize the environmental toll of your everyday toilet paper use. Read more here:

<https://www.nrdc.org/experts/jennifer-skene/issue-tissue-how-us-flushing-forests-away>





## TOWN OF FREEPORT - MUNICIPAL BULLETIN

### 2020 Freeport Town Council Guidelines & Goals

The Freeport Town Council is committed to engaging our residents, and one another, in respectful, constructive dialogue about issues facing our community. Freeport is a wonderful place to live, work and visit, and has a reputation for inclusiveness and kindness. It is within this organizing principle that we adopt these guidelines:

1. The Council will prioritize, evaluate and control expenditures in operating and capital budgets to mitigate the impact on the tax payers and maintain a stable tax rate, while providing the highest quality services possible within the resources available.
2. The Council will promote accountability, transparent intercommunication, information exchange and collaboration on direction and process between Councilors, while conducting town business in a fair and efficient manner. The Council will prioritize: (a) transparency of decision-making and of Town government operations; and (b) attendance at Town Council and assigned Committee meetings.
3. The Council will promote efforts to engage Freeport residents and businesses in the governance, operation and activities of the Town of Freeport, and acknowledge those efforts and accomplishments.
4. The Council will be active in maintaining a strong relationship with the RSU5 Board and neighboring municipalities.

In addition to the guidelines set forth above, the Council will work on the following goals in 2020:

1. The Council will pursue solutions related to recycling for reducing contamination and costs.
2. The Council will explore infrastructure and policy opportunities that will promote active lifestyles for Freeport's residents and visitors.
3. The Council will explore and undertake two initiatives to facilitate aging in place.
4. The Council will create an Aging Calendar for items and issues brought before Council until their resolution, including referrals out to committees, commissions and boards.
5. The Council will coordinate with Freeport Economic Development Corporation (FEDC), other committees, and other local partners to identify and undertake efforts to encourage the continued vitality of the downtown district.
6. All committee, commissions and boards will have a Councilor visitation during the year.

Adopted by order of the Town Council 01/07/20

### Town Manager Report

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of Central Maine Power (CMP) and are paid by the private property owner. To report any issues with street lights that are located on town roads, please contact the Freeport Public Works Department at 865-4461. Any issues with lights located on private roads should be reported directly to CMP customer service. When reporting any issues to CMP, please identify the light as being located on a private way, so that it is clear that it is the responsibility of CMP to perform maintenance.

### Freeport Community Library



**Marvelous Mobiles** – Friday, Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>, 3:45 – 4:30 PM, Ages 8 & up\*, sign up required, limited to 20. Come make a marvelous mobile at the Library! Bring your imagination and create something spectacular to decorate your room!

**Monster Mittens** – Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 3:45 – 4:45 PM, Ages 4 and up\*. Sign up required, limited to 20. The Maine winter is just getting started Scare away the winter blues by decorating a pair of monster mittens to keep your hands safe and warm until the snow melts.

**Troll Hair** – Tuesday, February 11, 3:45 – 4:30 PM, Ages 5 and up\*. Sign up required, limited to 20. Choose from lots of fun colors and make a silly troll hair headband. We can't wait to see the crazy hairstyle you'll create.

### Family Events Coming in February.....

**Book Bingo – FAMILY EVENT!** Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 – 1:00 PM

**Lunchtime Vacation Movie –Abominable (2019).** Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 – 2:00 PM.

For more on these and other great Library programs, go to <http://www.freeportlibrary.com>\*Children 11 and under must be accompanied by an adult for all programs.

### AARP Foundation Tax-Aide - Free Tax Help!

*For taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those age 60 and older.*

**Please note the following change in AARP's Tax Assistance Program for 2020.**

This year AARP tax assistance volunteers will be available at the Freeport Community Center for **walk-in appointments only**. AARP volunteers will be available at the Freeport Community Center on **Wednesday mornings only, from 8:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m.** Assistance will be available Feb 5<sup>th</sup> thru April 15<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to find other AARP tax assistance sites, you can call 1-888-227-7669 or visit [www.aarp.org/taxaide](http://www.aarp.org/taxaide).