



September 17, 2019 - *News for You*



TOWN OF FREEPORT

MUNICIPAL BULLETIN

Upcoming Town Council Meetings:

October 1, 2019
Regular Town Council Meeting
Town Council Chambers
6:30 p.m.

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



**2019 Election
Absentee Ballots
will be available
beginning
October 8th,
2019**

Flu Shot Clinic

Freeport Town Office

Monday, October 21st, 1PM – 3PM

CHANS Home Health & Hospice can bill insurance for those receiving a flu shot. Please bring your insurance card if you have one. The flu shot clinic is free; donations accepted.

Volunteer Recognition

Tuesday, October 1st, 2019

6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Town Council Chambers

As a way of recognizing each of the Town's dedicated and valued board and committee members, the Town Council cordially invites members of all Town Boards and Committees (both current and recently resigned or termed out), to attend a brief reception at the Freeport Town Council Chambers. This evening will provide the Town Council with an opportunity to show their appreciation of your commitment and contributions to the Town of Freeport.

Please RSVP to Johanna Hanselman at jhanselman@freeportmaine.com or 865-4743 x120

Town Manager's Report September 17, 2019

School Street Road Closure – Wednesday, 9/25/19

The Public Works Department will close School St. between Park Street and the entrance to Leon Gorman Park from 7am-3:30pm on Wednesday 9/25 (weather permitting). Bow Street Market and Leon Gorman Park will be accessible from the Bow Street side.



This road closure is necessary to make repairs to a drainage system underneath School Street. Flaggers and detour signs will be at both intersections to direct traffic. The Public Works Department thanks the public in advance for their cooperation and understanding.

Property Valuation & Tax Rate Update

The Tax Assessor's Office has completed an annual update of property valuations in light of the current real estate market. Average commercial values have remained steady, while average residential properties have experienced varying increases by neighborhood. While most residential property values will increase slightly with this recent update, the tax rate will drop approximately 5% from 15.05 to 14.30 per \$1,000 of valuation. The difference between the average valuation increase and the tax rate decrease will net an average tax increase of 3% for the average residential property, which is consistent with the approximate 3.6% tax increase originally predicted with the proposed FY2020 budget.

This update will take effect with the new tax bills, which will be mailed out by the Finance Department prior to the end of September. As always, the first half payment will be due November 15 and the second half on May 15. Please note that the homestead exemption remains at \$20,000, but will increase next September to \$25,000. If you have already filed for the exemption in the past with the Town Assessor, you need do nothing more to receive it. If you have not filed in the past and own a home in Freeport as your primary residence, please contact the Assessor's Office.

Continued on page two



TOWN OF FREEPORT - MUNICIPAL BULLETIN

The Town of Freeport Appointments Committee is looking for volunteers to serve on the Active Living (District 2 Rep), Shellfish and Cable TV Committees

Applications are available at the Town Hall and on the Town's website at www.freeportmaine.com under "Boards".

REMINDER!

Maine's ban of the use of handheld devices while driving takes effect on Thursday 9/19/19. More information on what you should know can be found on the town's webpage under "Municipal News".



Town Manager's Report September 17, 2019

Continued from page one

Help Wanted!

The Town is currently hiring for the following positions. For more information please contact Judy Hawley in the Town Manager's Office at 865-4743 x.119.

Public Works Department:

- 1 Full time equipment operator
- 1 Seasonal/winter help

Police Department:

Afternoon crossing guards – bus schedule/school days

Recycling Center:

Part time laborers



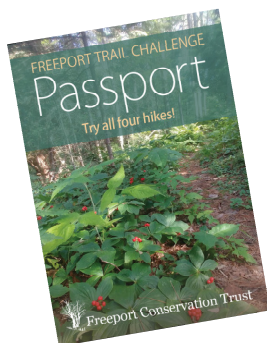
Freeport Day at the Nordica Theatre Wednesday, October 16th

Residents of Freeport are welcome to view a movie absolutely FREE! Donations for the Harraseeket Grange will be collected. Proof of residency is required.

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2019 Citizen of the Year

Each year the Freeport Town Council presents a Citizen of the Year Award to honor those who have significantly contributed to the quality of the Town.

Nomination forms are available at the Town Office, the Freeport Community Library and can be found on the Town's website at www.freeportmaine.com. Deadline for nominations for the 2019 Citizen of the Year Award is December 12, 2019.



Freeport Trail Challenge

The 5th annual Freeport Trail Challenge is underway. If you have not participated before, now is the time to see what you have been missing.

Hike four specific trails in September and October and win a prize. Passports are available at Town Hall, the Community Center, Casco Bay Y, and Wolfe's Neck Center. Or you can find out more at: freeportconservationtrust.org.



Once again, **WindowDressers** is having a Community Workshop at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Brunswick, where participants will be putting together up to 300 insulating window inserts for Bath-Brunswick-**Freeport** area residents.

The interior-mounted inserts save on winter heating costs and make your living space more comfortable when it's cold. They are removable during warm weather. The measuring season has arrived, as the Workshop will take place during **the week of November 18th**. Contact **Sam Saltonstall at 838-9843** if you would like to have volunteer measurers visit your residence for a "no obligation" visit. The cost to low income customers can be as low as \$0 for up to ten inserts.

For more information or to sign up online, visit our website, <https://windowdressers.org/>. First come, first served!