

MAY 2024 UPDATE

Woodstock, CT

Your April Review and May Information



MAY IS THE MONTH TO PARTICIPATE

May is full of opportunities to participate in local government and in the community! Attend the **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING** for information on the budget and to voice your opinion. Topics include to approve the proposed budget of the Town of Woodstock for the FY25 in the amount of \$29,146,498.00, to adopt a Capital Improvement Plan in the amount of \$14,483,952.00 and to approve the expenditure in the amount of \$60,000 from the Capital and Non-Recurring Fund for the new roof installation at the Muddy Brook Fire Department. Be sure to **VOTE** at the **BUDGET REFERENDUM** as it is your real chance to use your voice.

Don't miss out on community events in Woodstock including Jog with Judy, the Bungay Fire Brigade Chicken BBQ, Little League Season and Memorial Day Events!

Resolve to Get Involved

May Meetings

Thursday, 2nd

Board of Selectmen @ 4 pm
Planning & Zoning @ 7:30 pm

Monday, 6th

Beautification @ 4:30 pm
Wetlands (IWWA) @ 7 pm

Tuesday, 7th

Economic Development @
6:30 pm

Wednesday, 8th

Crystal Pond Park @ 6 pm

Thursday, 9th

Open Space @ 7 pm

Tuesday, 14th

Committee on Aging @ 5 pm
**Annual Town Meeting
at WMS @ 7 pm**

Wednesday, 15th

Quasset School @ 4 pm
Arboretum Committee @ 7 pm

Thursday, 16th

Board of Selectmen @ 6 pm
Planning & Zoning @ 7:30 pm

Monday, 20th

Agricultural Commission, 1 pm
Zoning Board of Appeals, 6pm
Conservation Commission ,7pm

Tuesday, 21st

Referendum

Noon to 8 pm

Board of Finance- immediately
following referendum

Wednesday, 22nd

Historic District @ 6:30 pm

Memorial Day

Monday, May 27th

Road Race
Cemetery Ceremonies
Parade

Tuesday, 28th

Committee on Aging @ 5 pm
Water Pollution Control @
7 pm

COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

COMMISSIONS

Agricultural Commission- The AG Commission will be purchasing signs to assist Woodstock Farm Owners combat the trespass issues in town. Several animal owners are having problems with people interacting with and even feeding the animals. Please do not access private land without permission.

Conservation Commission- Information from the April Meeting is not yet available. Check next month's update for information.

Crystal Pond Park Commission- According to minutes, there are 12 confirmed rental events for 2024 at this time. Sadly, vandalism continues to be a problem at the park. Members are working hard to maintain and better the park and plan to host a booth at "Experiencing Eastford Day" to promote the park.

Green Energy Commission- No recent meetings held. Needs New Members

Historic District Commission - No Meeting Held in April/No updates.

Historic Properties Commission- No recent meetings held. Needs New Members.

RECREATION NEWS

The Recreation Commission is excited about all the great things happening in Woodstock. This commission is working with Ellis Tech to update the bathrooms at the Town Beach for use again and will be refinishing the Town Tennis Courts at the Middle School this summer! The commission has been working hard to provide great programs and are looking forward to summer events including the Town Beach Party and Summer Concerts at Roseland Cottage. None of this would be possible without Recreation Director Erin Lucas and all of our amazing community sponsors- THANK YOU SO MUCH!



**OUR RECREATION
DIRECTOR ROCKS!**

A Message from the Recreation Director

The **Summer Fun Guide** is now available on the Recreation Page! Visit to day to see all the fun activities planned- Beach Party, Summer Twilight Concerts and more!

<https://www.woodstockct.gov/recreation-department>

Also on the Recreation Page-

- Sign up for the Recreation Newsletter
- See what is happening on the Community Events Calendar
- Check out the Senior Corner
- Sign up for Recreation Programs



COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



The EDC became a member of the Northeast Chamber of Commerce at the April meeting and looks forward to working with the Chamber to promote local business. The EDC also voted on a commission logo and enjoyed a special guest from the Community Workbench.

There are currently 87 businesses represented on the Woodstock Business List and more to come.

Remember that monthly updates can be found on the EDC page of the Town Website.

COMMITTEES

Arboretum Committee- The Arboretum will host TLGV tours on May 8th, 16th and 25th at 10 am. Both Pomfret School and Woodstock Academy are scheduled to hold days of service to assist in clean up of the grounds at the Arboretum.

Beautification Committee- No recent meetings. New members needed.

Committee on Aging- The CoA voted to recommend to the BOS that the town begin steps to apply for participation in AARP Network of Age-friendly Communities. They continue to research beneficial options for Woodstock's Aging Population.

Open Space Land Acquisition & Preservation Committee- No meeting was held in April/No updates

Poet Laureate Committee- There are currently 2 poets interested in applying for the Poet Laureate position. The committee will complete the application and post it for applicants after the May meeting.

Quasset School Advisory Committee- No meeting was held in April/No updates

A Message from the Political Committees

Woodstock Democratic Town Committee

The next DTC meeting will be on Wednesday, May 1st at 6:30 pm. The meeting will take place in Room B at the Town Hall.

Woodstock Republican Town Committee

Annual Mother's Day Roses Sale- \$25 per dozen to pick up on May 9th.
email woodstockrtc@gmail.com to order!

The next RTC meeting will be on Wednesday, May 15th at 7 pm. The meeting will take place in Room A at the Town Hall.



FROM THE TOWN HALL

MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS 2024



REMINDERS FROM THE CLERK

June is Dog Licensing Month!

DOG LICENSE renewal begins June 1st at the Town Clerk's Office.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS are available by mail or in person before each primary, election and referendum. Contact the Clerk's office for more information.

FROM THE FIRST SELECTMAN

At a Special Meeting held April 23rd, the two remaining members of the Woodstock Board of Selectmen unanimously voted to appoint Selectman Chandler Paquette as First Selectman. Chandler was sworn in by Town Clerk, Judy Walberg on April 24th.

After 17 years on the Board of Selectmen, Chandler looks forward to serving the town in his new position and will continue to strive to complete the work started by his friend and colleague Jay Swan.

The Selectmen now have 30 days to appoint a person to fill the vacant Board of Selectmen seat.



Land Use Department Information



Planning & Zoning Commission

The PZ Commission has addressed scenic road activities, new business permitting and drainage on conservation land in the month of April. Short Term Rental discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Inland Wetlands & Watercourse Agency

IWWA continues to address forestry activity and previous Wetlands matters.

Zoning Board of Appeals

No new applications to address at this time.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Jay Swan

Woodstock thanks you for your dedication & service

John Vincent "Jay" Swan, Jr.

1949 - 2024

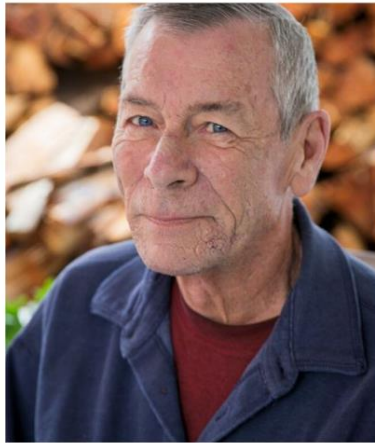
John (Jay) Vincent Swan Jr. of Woodstock, CT passed peacefully in his sleep (His last Irish goodbye) on Wednesday, April 10th 2024. He was 74 years old.

Born June 13th, 1949 in Worcester Mass. to Elizabeth (Rowe) Swan and John Vincent Swan Sr. He married Susan (Shaw) Swan on June 22nd, 1990 in Woodstock, CT after falling in love while working for the State of Connecticut in the Department of Disability Services. Soon after they welcomed two children, Elizabeth M. Swan and Allison J. Swan.

Jay was a huge advocate for education. He graduated Leicester High School in 1968 and later attended Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester Mass. gaining his Associate's Degree in 1971. He got his Bachelor's Degree in Social and Rehabilitation Services in 1973 from Assumption College in Worcester Mass. and later a Master's in Education from the University of Connecticut in 1984. Jay had many careers over his lifetime. He worked for the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health in the Rutland Rehabilitation Center from 1969 until 1971. He worked for the State of Connecticut in the Department of Developmental Disabilities from 1973 until 2003. During this time he was a Case Worker, a Special Education Teacher, an Adult Education Coordinator, Director of Staff Development, and a Contract Manager. Always one to keep busy, he began to work for the Town of Woodstock after his retirement from the state in 2003. He was a Constable, Sergeant, Deputy Chief, and later the First Selectman of Woodstock, a title he was very proud and honored to have served from 2019 up until his passing.

Jay was also very active in the Boy Scouts of America (Scoutmaster Troop 22 1973-1983; Chair of the Indian Trails Council, Scouting for the Handicapped Committee 1978-1983; Director of the June Norcross Scout Reservation 1981-1983; District Commissioner, Quinebaug District, Indian Trails Council in the 1980s). Jay was dedicated to environmentalism and firearms safety. He was a Certified Instructor in Conservation Education, Firearms Safety, and Advanced Bowhunting. He was a life member of the Pomfret Rod and Gun Club, the National Rifle Association, and Ducks Unlimited conservation group. He loved to have the windows down in his truck while blasting The Rolling Stones and The Who. "If it's too loud, you're old." He had a great, dry sense of humor and loved to quote Mel Brooks movies and Jim Morrison and The Doors, "People are Strange." He was constantly assisting others, giving advice and a listening ear to those who needed it. He left a legacy as a role model helping his community and people with disabilities. He was a leader who made people feel like they mattered. He loved telling stories that included his friends Marjorie Jones, Joe Dokes, and Joe Schmo.

He is survived by his wife Susan (Shaw) Swan; their daughters Elizabeth M. Swan (and her husband Shane W. Kegler) and Allison J. Swan (and her partner Ian Sullivan); his "third daughter" Lauren A. Johnson, his siblings Frederick Swan, Marybeth Bardot and her husband Doug Bardot, and Helen Harris and her husband Richard Harris. He is also survived by his mother-in-law Joyce Shaw, his sister and brother-in-law Lesley and Robert Goodrich and many cousins, nieces, nephews, and the Orlowskis, who are like family. He was predeceased by his mom, dad, and his beloved younger brother David W. Swan.



"Don't put that in the minutes"