

# Winchester Weekly

Report from Winchester Town Manager, Lisa Wong



The colder weather will mean that people are indoors more, potentially driving transmission rates up. The Flu Vaccine is an important step in reducing flu symptoms and respiratory illness that can complicate the impact of COVID-19. The Town held a successful Senior Flu clinic with about 240 seniors signing up to get their doses at The Jenks Center. There are 2 more community flu clinics scheduled for October 21 and November 5. Both shots and FluMist nasal sprays (FluMist is for people ages 2 through 49 who are healthy, not pregnant and with no chronic medical conditions) are available. Registration is required for each person getting a dose. The Oct 21 is booked but there have been cancellations. Registration for the Nov 5 clinic will be open about 2 weeks prior.

For more information, go to [www.winchester.us/556/Vaccination-Clinics](http://www.winchester.us/556/Vaccination-Clinics).

## SELECT BOARD

The next meeting will be Oct 19th at 7:30pm. Woodside Rd, The Vale & Halloween hours on agenda. Click on the Government Calendar at [winchester.us](http://winchester.us) for link.

## VOTE

Early Voting is Oct 17-30 in Town Hall's Winchester Room. The schedule can be found at [Winchester.us](http://Winchester.us) under "early voting". Election Day is Tuesday, Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> 1

## TOWN MEETING

Fall Town Meeting will begin on Thur, Nov 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm virtually and be viewable live on WinCam. The meeting may continue to Mon, Nov 9 & Thur, Nov 12

## TOWN MEETING

The Select Board will host virtual precinct meetings on Oct 20 and Oct 28. The Town Manager virtual public hearing will be held on Oct 29 at 6pm.

## UPDATES – The State of Reopening

As Town officials watch the public health trends locally and regionally, various town buildings and departments have begun to expand services. Here is a list of non-school Town Buildings and the current status of re-opening:

**JENKS CENTER:** The building remains closed until further notice. Check the website at [JenksCenter.org](http://JenksCenter.org) for updates. The Jenks Center staff are available Mon-Fri from 9am-4pm to support older adults in Winchester. Please call 781-721-7136 for assistance. There is a full calendar of virtual events, and the Jenks hosts socially distanced events such as a drive-by ice cream social and the recent senior flu clinic.

**LIBRARY:** The library is open to the public by appointment only. Check the website at [WinPubLib.org](http://WinPubLib.org) for updates. Staff are available Mon-Fri from 9:30am to 5:30pm. Contactless pickup, virtual programs and digital collections are available. Appointments are also available at 10am, Noon and 2pm for one hours slots Mon-Thur. Call ahead or booking online recommended.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** The building is open by appointment only. Walk-ins can speak to a staff in the lobby and be directed to further services. Non-emergency requests can be made directly to the Police or Fire Departments.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** The building is open by appointment only. Walk-ins can speak to a staff in the lobby and be directed to further services.

**RECREATION:** The building is open by appointment only. Staff are available Mon-Fri during normal business hours. Some in-person afterschool, sports and recreation programs have returned. Check the website at [WinRec.com](http://WinRec.com) for updates.

**SCHOOLS:** School buildings are open for staff and students only in a hybrid in-person/online model. Check the website at [WinchesterPS.org](http://WinchesterPS.org) for updates.

**TOWN HALL:** The building is open by appointment only. Staff are available Mon-Fri during normal business hours. Walk-ins can speak to a staff by calling the appropriate department and be directed to further services. Appointments can also be made online at [Winchester.us](http://Winchester.us). The Town has received funding to install a “doorbell” system which will allow walk-ins to call directly up to the Town Manager’s office for services without having to use their own phones or make an appointment ahead of time. Drop-off boxes are also available at the exterior of the building for various services such as Mail-In Voting and Building Permits.

**TRANSFER STATION:** The transfer station is open during normal hours for socially distanced waste drop-off and recycling. The swap shop is being expanded and currently under construction, and will be open in the Spring of 2021 subject to public health guidance.

GOING GREEN! Congratulations to the newly appointed 7 members of the town’s Climate Action Advisory Committee! This week, the photovoltaic arrays at the High School are now online and producing energy. The Town has also submitted a Commonwealth Compact IT grant to pay for an online permitting system for the Building Department.