

TOWN HALL MONTHLY: July

The Select Board action that affected the most Acworthians in June was signing the warrant for collection of the spring property taxes. Although we vote for the Town and for the school district budgets in March, it is not until the fall that the State's Department of Revenue makes the final calculation of our 2026 tax rate. As a result, the spring bills use the rates from the previous year and the amount due will be pretty close to your last fall bill. The Select Board, the Planning Board and the Budget Committee have a shared goal of avoiding spikes in our Town budget and resulting taxes from year to year. Those Town boards cannot control the County or the Education share of our bills. All bills are public information and are posted on the website for everyone to determine whether their bill looks equitable to similar properties. If you have any questions about your bill, please let us know by calling the office. It never hurts to check.

The building season is busy in Acworth and the Select Board reviewed six building permit applications in June. Four were approved right away and two were recommended to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a hearing with property abutters. This can be disappointing when the start date of a project is looming. Nevertheless, the Acworth Zoning Ordinance which we all voted for requires the Select Board to uphold various building standards. If a requirement is not met it is the job of the Zoning Board of Adjustment to consider other options and most importantly, the public good. Most often this system of decisions and appeals results in a workable solution for everyone including owners, neighbors and future owners and neighbors. If you're considering a project, give yourself time to work through the process we all voted for.

I'm privileged to work with a few of Acworth's nonprofit, citizen groups including the Historical Society. At the June meeting Mike Aron described plans for a celebration of our country's 250th Anniversary on July 4. Members of the nonprofit Acworth Community Project have organized a pot luck and remembrance event on the Town Common; posters are all around Town. The Library is organizing book and historic photo displays that reflect our history and the Historical Society will offer copies of the Town history for sale. It feels so important that whatever is going on outside our borders, Acworthians can come together and share our enthusiasm for this little hill town we call home.

For more information about meetings and events please check Town bulletin boards or our website.

See you soon, Kathi