

Website Policy

Purpose and Goal.

The purpose of the Town of Calais Official Website is to provide another source of information about the Town's governmental services. In establishing and maintaining its official Website, the Town does not intend in any manner to create a forum or other means by which public discourse, exchange of opinions or discussion on issues of any nature may occur. Rather, the sole and limited purpose of the Official Town Website and permitted external links is to provide information of a factual nature about the Town of Calais, including various town services and available town resources.

The goal of the Official Website is to increase citizen knowledge and participation in Town government by making public information available through electronic access through an official, single point of entry at www.CalaisVermont.gov.

Confidentiality.

Confidential information shall not be posted on the Town's Official Website (Vt Public Records Act, 1 VSA SS 315-320). If a user believes that the Town's Website is not protecting his or her privacy, the person should contact the Webmaster, who shall attempt to assess and, if necessary, correct the problems.

Website Contents.

The selectboard approves the inclusion of:

- names and contact information (local phone and, if the individual desires, e-mail address) of all elected Town officials
- names and contact information for all chairs of appointive boards and commissions
- names of all members of appointive boards and commissions
- text of all Town ordinances
- text of Town Plan
- text of Town Zoning Regulations, perhaps draft when proposed and then final after approved
- schedule of meeting dates, times and places for all boards and commissions
- office hours and location for Town Clerk's Office and Town Office
- downloadable forms to print off and fill in for town permits
- links to U-32, Calais Elementary School, State of Vermont, Vermont League of Cities and Towns, Vermont Secretary of State, Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission
- all Town public notices
- agendas for Selectboard, Planning Commission, Development Review Board
- minutes for same
- map of the Town of Calais
- recycling center location, hours of operation and regulations and a link to the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District
- links to all nonprofit groups to which Calais voters awarded taxpayer funds as a result of an item on the warning of the most recent Town Meeting

Amendment Approved September 12, 2005:

- other public information that a Town board, commission, committee, subcommittee or elected or appointed official (such as the Town Clerk, Zoning Administrator, chair of a committee, etc.) requests to have made available on the Town Web Site or linked to from the Town Web Site. Information shall be provided to the Webmaster in electronic format. The Webmaster shall review the material for technical feasibility to put on the site and for appropriateness. If the Webmaster is in doubt about the material's appropriateness, the request may be presented to the full Selectboard for a decision. Any decision of the Webmaster may be appealed by a Calais citizen or public official to the full

Selectboard.

End of Amendment of September 12, 2005.

The Town of Calais reserves the right to remove a link to content deemed obscene or inappropriate.

The Town of Calais will not provide links to Web sites for:

- candidates for local, state, or federal offices
- political organizations or other organizations or individuals advocating a position on a local, state, or federal issue
- corporate or other for-profit organizations unless they fit any of the criteria stated in the section above
- individual or personal home pages
- chat rooms.

Disclaimer.

The materials and information contained on or obtained from this Website are distributed "as is" without warranties of any kind, either express or implied, including without limitation, warranties of title or implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. Information contained on this Website, including information obtained from external links thereon, is provided without any representation of any kind as to accuracy of content and should be verified by the user. The Town of Calais is not responsible for any special, indirect, incidental or consequential damages that may arise from the use of, or the inability to use, the Website and/or the materials contained on the site, whether the materials contained on the Website are provided by the Town of Calais, or by a third party. Data contained on the Website are subject to change without notice.

Approved by the Calais Selectboard on October 13, 2003. Subsequent amendments included here.

Please direct submissions to webmaster@calaisvermont.gov.