

March 01, 2017

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, March 01, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Present: Arthur M. Merrill Supervisor
Janet L. Champlin Councilwoman
Julie A. Markert Councilwoman entered at 7:15PM
Gregory L. Lavorgna Councilman
Mark W. Mattson Councilman

Recording Secretary: Julie B. Townsend Town Clerk

Others present: Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., Michael P. DeGroat-Town Attorney, Joan Homovich, Alan Donner, Bonnie Seegmiller, Pat & Shaun Pattison and Mary Brawley-Faut.

The Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the last regular meeting, February 15, 2017 had been distributed earlier. Greg Lavorgna made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Janet Champlin, Greg Lavorgna-aye, Janet Champlin-aye, Mark Mattson-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Julie Markert-absent, motion carried. The minutes of the Public Hearing of February 21, 2017 had been distributed earlier. Janet Champlin made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, Greg Lavorgna-aye, Janet Champlin-aye, Mark Mattson-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Julie Markert-absent, motion carried. The minutes of the Special Meeting of February 21, 2017 had been distributed earlier. Greg Lavorgna made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Janet Champlin, Greg Lavorgna-aye, Janet Champlin-aye, Mark Mattson-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Julie Markert-absent, motion carried.

GUESTS: Shaun Pattison commented that he would like to an Eagle Scout Project of raising funds and donating an electronic message board/sign; he would like support from the Town Board to move forward with this project; a double sided permanent sign costs about \$5,000-6,000; LED sign costs is low; advertisements could help defray the electric costs. Board agreed to support and wished him well on his project. Supervisor commented that the Design Committee has considered this project; he will give Shaun their contact information.

VISITOR COMMENTS: Alan Donner commented that the Downsville Fire Commissioners have agreed to have a clothing bin supplied by Textile Recovery Services at the Cooks Falls-Horton Fire Station.

Alan Donner also asked if repairing the CFWD well pump was in the renovation project? Supervisor stated no, there are not enough funds; we are trying to use up the DWSRF Grant we have had for years; we also have a \$50,000 Bonacic Grant that DASNY has not sent yet; our second plan is to fix the pump house.

Joan Homovich commented that the Jan 18th minutes mentions a foot bridge project costing \$56,000; will this be funded by taxpayer money? What is the liability of the bridge? Will the bridge be open to pedestrians or snowmobiles? Will there be a public hearing? And is the planning of this project going through the Board or the Design Committee? Supervisor replied that the project is not approved yet; we had to have an engineer to design the plan for a bridge to be used by both, pedestrians or snowmobiles, from the end of parking lot at the covered bridge park to the property of Mark Butcher's; we needed a plan to have estimates to seek funding.

Councilwoman Julie Markert entered the meeting at 7:15 PM.

Joan Homovich also inquired about the Comptroller's Audit; the audit stated that the revenues were under estimated by 7% and the appropriations were over estimated by 18%, will taxes keep going up? Supervisor replied we have a lot of numbers to work with; we have made changes in the 2016 and 2017 budgets; we have no idea what revenue will come in for building permits, so

it was estimated low (we increased \$1,000 for 2017); we have no idea what revenues will come in for Fines & Forfeited Bail, we received \$40,000 more than estimated so we increased \$20,000 in the 2017 budget; we have to budget high for health insurance as the true numbers do not come in until Nov/Dec.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Catskill Center- March Events.
- NYSDOH- DWD all sampling complete for 2016- new Corrosion Control Treatment Proposal needs to be submitted by March 17th – new Lead & Copper Sampling Plan must be submitted and approved before next set of samples is taken.
- Selective Insurance Company of America- Settlement of Claim #21718910 (police equipment loss in fire of 01-11-2017) check in the amount of \$1,393.66 is being sent (\$500 deductible).

REPORTS- written reports on file at Town Clerk's Office:

- Cooks Falls Water District- February 2017- 17 customers balance due \$915.50; Receipts of \$300.00 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Downsville Water District- February 2017- 43 customers balance due \$2,451.62; Receipts of \$1,781.38 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Tax Collector- As of 2/3/17 1911 Transactions -Base Tax Total \$6,149,972.32- 66% Paid.
- Town Clerk- February 2017 -Total disbursed \$1,090.01of which \$1,052.01 was Town revenues.

Supervisor Merrill reported that the DWD Systems Improvements- DWSRF Project No.17537 Application has been submitted to the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation.

Supervisor reported that we are waiting for our 2016 Audit Report from Mostert, Manzanero & Scott LLP; Comptroller has made two recommendations from their audit; Supervisor presented fund balances and suggestions to satisfy the Comptroller's recommendations. Board reviewed. Supervisor commented that we need to designate funds and make a policy for future fund balances; if we establish a reserve account and designate the funds we need a permissive referendum to establish the purpose for the funds; if we establish a reserve account and **do not** designate the purpose we need a permissive referendum **to use the funds**; an action subject to permissive referendum requires us to publish and post a legal notice informing taxpayers of the Board's planned action to establish a specific capital reserve fund; the legal notice also informs eligible voters of their right to file a petition to require the matter to be subjected to voter approval (mandatory referendum). Supervisor asked the Board to review further and bring back their thoughts.

Supervisor Merrill suggests putting a pet waste station at the Downsville Covered Bridge Park; cost for a "curb your dog" display is approximately \$200.00. Board discussed and approved.

Councilman Mattson inquired to a voucher from the Town to the Downsville Water District. Supervisor replied that when we use Highway Employees to help out with water line repairs, the men's hour get reimbursed by the water district.

Supervisor recommends that we black top the first parking spot in the back of the Town Hall; we track a lot of mud and dirt inside; we will need to put in a riser for the septic system first. Board discussed and approved.

Supervisor Merrill replied that we have received four applications for a Public Facility Permit. Board discussed each.

NO. 23-2017 03/01/17 Public Facility Permit No.01-2017

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Jody Elmore on behalf of the Stuart Williams & Maxine Doig Scholarship Fund has applied for a Public Facility Permit to use the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, on Saturday, March 25th from 8:00AM to 6:30PM for parking approximately 15 cars for a bus trip/fund raiser.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to issue Public Facility Permit No.01-2017 to Jody Elmore for the use of the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, Downsville, NY on March 25, 2017.

Resolution was seconded by Janet Champlin, all in favor, resolution declared adopted.

NO. 24-2017 03/01/17 Public Facility Permit No.02-2017

Greg Lavorgna made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Alfretta Doig on behalf of the Colchester Senior Citizens has applied for a Public Facility Permit to use the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, on Saturday, June 17th, from 9:30AM to 8:00PM for parking approximately 15 cars for bus trip to Proctors Theatre in Schenectady;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to issue Public Facility Permit No.02-2017 to the Colchester Senior Citizens for the use of the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, Downsville, NY on June 17, 2017.

Resolution was seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, resolution declared adopted.

NO. 25-2017 03/01/17 Public Facility Permit No.03-2017

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Alfretta Doig on behalf of the Colchester Senior Citizens has applied for a Public Facility Permit to use the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, from Wednesday, July 26th at 7:30AM to Thursday, July 27th at 8:00PM for parking approximately 15 cars for 2day/1night trip to Lancaster, PA;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to issue Public Facility Permit No.03-2017 to the Colchester Senior Citizens for the use of the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, Downsville, NY from July 26-27, 2017.

Resolution was seconded by Mark Mattson, all in favor, resolution declared adopted.

NO. 26-2017 03/01/17 Public Facility Permit No.04-2017

Mark Mattson made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Janet Champlin on behalf of the Pepacton Park Committee has applied for a Public Facility Permit to use Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30 on seven Saturday, from May 27th to August 26th from 9:00AM to 3:00PM for vendors of agricultural producers, antiques, artisans, crafts and for parking;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to issue Public Facility Permit No.04-2016 to the Pepacton Park Committee for the use of Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, Downsville, NY.

Resolution was seconded by Julie Markert, Greg Lavorgna-aye, Mark Mattson-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Janet Champlin-abstain, resolution declared adopted.

Board discussed the budget line for Senior Citizens; two vouchers presented tonight goes over their allotted amount. Supervisor will talk with their President.

Town Attorney Michael DeGroat reported that he has reviewed the revised NYSDOT shared service agreement and he recommends approval for the Highway Supt to sign it.

Councilwoman Markert commented if there was anything we could do to promote/bring in business; we have a lot of empty buildings.

SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES: Mark Mattson made the motion, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, that the vouchers be approved, subject to any corrections or deletions, all in favor, motion carried. Abstract No.04-2017 Voucher No. 95-115; Totaling \$21,555.15.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:

- Next Regular Board Meeting Wed., March 15th at 7PM
- Town Clerk's Office Closed Tuesday, March 21st Attending Workshop

Supervisor reported that he attended a meeting with NYCDEP; also in attendance was Town of Hancock and Deposit, Del. C. emergency Services and Watershed Affairs; discussion was Emergency Action Plan and warning process; looking for warning system for those below the dams: Downsville, Hancock & Deposit; they are not in favor for a siren system; more discussions to be held.

With no further business, Mark Mattson made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend
Town Clerk