

April 19, 2017

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Present:	Arthur M. Merrill	Supervisor
	Janet L. Champlin	Councilwoman
	Mark W. Mattson	Councilman
	Julie A. Markert	Councilwoman
	Gregory L. Lavorgna	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, Bill Reichert, Larry Guglielmo, Maureen Pedersen and John Soran.

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, April 05, 2017 had been distributed earlier. Greg Lavorgna made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Janet Champlin, all in favor, motion carried.

VISITOR COMMENTS: Bill Reichert spoke against the Del. Co. DPW new building proposal; very costly for an 80,000 square foot building. Joan Homovich added that cleanup of the old buildings will also be costly. Bonnie Seegmiller stated that the proposed property is in the flood plain; purchasing 175 acres of farm land when only 25 acres is needed and other concerns. Supervisor Merrill explained that they wanted to keep in the center of the county and route of escape was a part of the justification; they want to stay within the Town of Delhi and have investigated three properties.

Bonnie Seegmiller announced that a Peoples Climate Rally will be held Sat., April 29<sup>th</sup> from 11am to 1pm at the Square in Delhi.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

- Catskill Watershed Corp. - Annual Report for 2016.
- NYS Office of the Tate Comptroller- Receipt of Town's corrective action plan to their Report of Examination 3016M-376 entitled Financial Condition.
- Wayne Reynolds, Commissioner of Del. Co. DPW- Resurfacing County Route 7 this year; will be one lane traffic at times.
- Response on a traffic ticket- Police Officer Baxter was very courteous and professional.
- NYS Office of Information Technology Services- Cyber Security Tips.
- Town of Colchester Benefits Notices- on file at Town Clerk's Office and Highway Dept.; new employees will be given a copy.

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

- Town Justice DeRosia- March 2017.

Supervisor Merrill reported that he received an e-mail from Donald Reynolds in regards to the removal of the cemetery shed that is on his property. Board discussed and agreed to move the small cemetery shed down next to the DWD water building across from Paige Cemetery.

Highway Supt. Kenneth Eck asked the Board to consider purchasing a backhoe loader from the unassigned fund balance (reserve fund); he would like a 2017 Caterpillar off the NYSOGS; this has a swivel bucket for the price of \$110,713.00; we could have within 30days. Board discussed.

NO. 33-2017 04/19/17 2017 CAT 420F2 Backhoe Loader

Greg Lavorgna made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, General Municipal Law 103 Subdivision 16 authorizes governments to purchase apparatus, materials, equipment and supplies through the use of contracts let by United States or any agency thereof;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby accepts the Bid Reference NY SOGS PC66988 NJPA032515-CAT of MILTON CAT for a 2017 Cat 420F2 IT HRC Backhoe Loader for the price of \$110,713.00;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the purchase of one 2017 Cat 420F2 IT HRC Backhoe Loader for the price of \$110,713.00 from Southworth-Milton, Inc., 500 Industrial Park Dr., Binghamton, New York.

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

Highway Supt. Eck also commented that he would like to order 150ton instead of 100ton of road salt for the 2017-2018 winter season. Board discussed.

NO. 34-2017 04/19/17 NYS OGS Procurement Services Group Road Salt Contract

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorize Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to sign and file Requirement Letter No. 171 of the NYS Office of General Services to be able to participate in the NYS OGS Procurement Services Group Road Salt Contract for the period of September 01, 2017 to August 31, 2018 for 150ton of road salt.

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

Supervisor Merrill reported that we need to revise our water rates; last revision was in November 2006 for 01/01/2007; we are using up the reserve funds for DWD due to more costly water testing; new project stated that a \$19.00 increase per year per user would be necessary; looking at a \$5.00-15.00 increase to the flat rate per quarter; a public hearing is not required to change the water rates; we will continue to discuss this further.

Board held discussion on reserve accounts: Hwy Supt Eck would like another line in budget for excessive CHIPS funds or a contingency for CHIPS, we are not sure what extra funds we will get until the end of the year; Assessors stated that we should have funds available for a re-valve; Supervisor would like to get the Sidewalk Project completed along Maple-Lindsley-Union, some of the bluestone can be reused; Town Attorney would like to research further. Discussion was held regarding issues of parking on sidewalks; there is a V&T law that addresses this and can be enforced; information will be given to our Police Dept. Discussion was also held on what to do with the sidewalk on Union where there are no driveways. Board will discuss further.

Supervisor Merrill reported that our cemeteries are now open and that JR MacDonald and Justin McAdams have transferred to the cemetery dept.; we have received one application for summer employment for the cemetery; Cemetery Supervisor JR MacDonald has recommended this applicant, Kevin Doig, to be hired as a returning cemetery laborer, as soon as possible, so that when his college semester is over he can start work. Board discussed.

NO. 35-2017 04/19/17 2017 Seasonal Cemetery Laborer

Upon the recommendation of the Cemetery Supervisor, Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town's Summer/Youth Employment Policy states that youths must be students continuing their education and must be enrolled full-time status and verification of student status is required;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby hires Kevin W. Doig as a Returning Seasonal Cemetery Laborer at the rate of \$10.65 per hour with no benefits for the 2017 Season.

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

Supervisor stated that we are still accepting applications for summer help at the cemetery and pool; we will also be looking for someone to help out with mapping our cemeteries.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:

- Next Regular Board Meeting Wed., May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM
- Town Clerk's Office Closed Thurs., April 20<sup>th</sup>

Board held discussion on tree removals. Town Attorney stated that the Town is responsible for safety on Town highways and right-of ways; on March 16, 2016 the Town adopted a Prior Written Notice of Defect Policy; forms are available at Town Hall.

Councilwoman Markert inquired about our Police K-9. Supervisor replied that the K-9 was involved in an arrest last week. Councilwoman Markert also inquired about the trash left outside the transfer station. Supervisor replied that the Police contacted them and they came and took care of it. Discussion of permits and/or tags for use of the transfer station was held.

Councilman Mattson asked if there was a plan to set/straighten up base stones. Supervisor replied they are a little behind, they have just started and we have had a lot of rain.

**SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES:** Janet Champlin made the motion, seconded by Mark Mattson, that the vouchers be approved, subject to any corrections or deletions, all in favor, motion carried. Abstract No.07-2017 Voucher No.173-195; Totaling \$44,658.20.

With no further business, Janet Champlin made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Mark Mattson, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend  
Town Clerk