

June 03, 2015

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

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

Recording Secretary: Julie B. Townsend Town Clerk

Others present: Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., Michael P. DeGroat-Town Attorney, Paul Sweeney-Town Labor Attorney, Jeff Francisco-Delaware Engineering, Lillian Browne -Walton Reporter, Joan Homovich, Stephen Burnham, Pio Deroda, Greg Lavorgna and Jim Shields.

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, May 20, 2015 had been distributed earlier. Janet Champlin made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Gilbert Close, Janet Champlin-aye, Gilbert Close-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Mark Mattson-absent, motion carried.

Janet Champlin made the motion to go into executive session upon recommendation of the Supervisor to a discuss labor issue, seconded by Julie Markert, Janet Champlin-aye, Gilbert Close-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Mark Mattson-absent, motion carried. Board entered executive session at 7:05PM. Town Attorney, Highway Supt and Town Labor Attorney were invited to stay. Board held discussion. Janet Champlin made the motion to enter back into regular session, seconded by Gilbert Close, Janet Champlin-aye, Gilbert Close-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Mark Mattson-absent, motion carried. Board entered regular session at 7:13PM. Board made the following resolution.

NO. 56-2015 06/03/15 Settlement Agreement

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby accepts the terms of the Settlement Agreement presented in executive session concerning a particular labor issue.

Resolution was seconded by Julie Markert, Janet Champlin-aye, Gilbert Close-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Mark Mattson-absent, resolution declared adopted.

Councilman Mark Mattson entered at 7:15PM

VISITOR COMMENTS: Jeff Francisco of Delaware Engineering reported that we did not receive a grant for either of the water districts from the NYS 2014 Catskill Smart Growth Implementation Grant; could not find in the US a float valve, so they have revised the CFWD plans for a spring loaded valve; he suggests that we apply to the New York State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for the Downsville Water District Project; he has talked with Matt Currey of DOH, who is on board with this proposal; grant application deadline is July 31<sup>st</sup>; a public hearing is needed before submitting application; need to contact Ron MacDonald for other equipment that might be needed. Board discussed further.

NO. 57-2015 06/03/15 CDBG Grant Application for DWD

Gilbert Close made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Office of Community Renewal administers the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the NYS CDBG program provides financial assistance to eligible cities, towns and villages with populations under 50,000, in order to develop viable communities by providing decent, affordable housing, and suitable living environments, as well as expanding economic opportunities, principally for person of low and moderate income; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Colchester deems it to be necessary and in the public best interest to apply to said grant program for the implementation of the Downsville Water District Water System Rehabilitation Project;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to sign all necessary documentation for said grant application subject to review and approval of the Town Attorney.

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

Jim Shields inquired if the Board ever looked into the ultra-violet process for water. Councilman Mattson replied that we had looked into it and it was very expensive. Supervisor added that the well water is very corrosive; we have purchased two pumps within the last four years.

Stephen Burnham commented that he was here on behalf of the Downsville Youth Baseball Program; we need funds for insurance and equipment; insurance is approximately \$570 for the 30 youths that have signed up and 6-8 T-Ballers from June 4<sup>th</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup>. Councilwoman Champlin asked if the insurance could be combined with other youth programs; this was suggested when the indoor soccer group came to us last winter. Mr. Burnham added that we are having a hard time keeping up with the maintenance on the field, is there anyway the Town could help out mowing; we do fund raisers and we would like to install chain-link fences and new dugouts. Board discussed. Town Attorney will look into the issue of donating a lawn mower. Supervisor commented that we have an issue that the ball field is on the firemen's property; he added that if we give generously to one group we may not have funds to give to other groups. Supervisor suggested giving a donation now and researching their other issues. Board discussed.

NO. 58-2015 06/03/15 Financial Support Downsville Youth Baseball League

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby approves financial support to the Downsville Youth Baseball League and authorizes Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to disburse \$600.00 to said league.

Resolution was seconded by Gilbert Close, all in favor, resolution declared adopted.

Mr. Burnham thanked the Board for their support and Supervisor Merrill thanked Mr. Burnham for his great service to the youth and our community.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

- NYCDEP- Future Land Use and Zoning Information Request- Water for the Future Project- land use and development projects, initiates, and proposals that are expected to be completed by the 2023 build year of the proposed WFF projects. Supervisor commented that we don't have any proposed projects in the watershed area.
- Shantz & Belkin Attorneys at Law- Bazaz File No. 7285DLH is closed; Plaintiff failed to appear for a 50-h hearing.
- CWC- Notice of Preliminary Decisions as of June 3, 2015.
- NYS Senator John J. Bonacic to NYSDOT- In support for funding for bridge replacement project for County Route 26 over Telford Hollow Brook; PIN#9753.00, Contract #D022344, BIN #3351950; Request to consider it in list of funded projects.
- NYSDOH- 2015 Pool Permit.

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

- Cooks Falls Water District- May 2015- 16 customers balance due \$1,410.50; Receipts of \$505.01 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Downsville Water District- May 2015- 47 customers balance due \$4,122.58; Receipts of \$2,504.61 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Town Clerk- May 2015- Total disbursed \$1,592.00 of which \$1,491.00 was Town revenues.
- Supervisor- Operating Statement for the Period Ending 05/31/2015.
- Town Justice Arthur C. Edel- May 2015.

Supervisor reported on the following:

- FEMA#1710-PW123-COL14-Holiday Brook Road – road resurfacing-waiting for funds.
- In the process of renewing Bond Note with CWC.
- FEMA#4031-PW2238- Holiday Brook Road- Bridge Project-completed.
- FEMA#4031-PW2240- Cooks Falls Road- Embankment Project - waiting for funds.
- Still waiting to hear from DASNY on other grants.
- We heard from Jeff Francisco that those within the Blue Line were awarded grants from the Catskill Smart Growth Implementation Grant.

Highway Supt. Eck reported that we can rent a tractor and mower off the OGS from Tracey Road Equipment for \$6,500 a month. Board would like to review and discuss further.

Supervisor Merrill read a draft letter to the Roscoe/Rockland Fire District in regards to the new contract for the Colchester Fire Protection District; new contract starts in 2016; and increase of \$500 for a total of \$12,000 each year for the next five years (2016-2020). Board approved letter.

Supervisor reported that June 13<sup>th</sup> is “Get Out Doors Day”; we are still looking for bike donations; we have four bikes; posters and banners have gone out to print.

Supervisor Merrill reported that we have an issue with three of the stone pillars at Paige Cemetery; the two front entrance pillars and one of the Butcher Section pillars; Cemetery Supervisor Dan Bennett has spoken with a Gary Stumiller, who quoted \$500 to fix the three; he was also recommended by Sonny & Sons Stone Company. Board discussed and approved.

Supervisor reported that the pool is being prepped (flushing and cleaning) for painting. Councilwoman Champlin commented that five kids have signed up for the WSI class in Walton.

Councilwoman Markert commented that last meeting it was brought up about the Highway Crew stopping at the local convenience stores after they have clocked in; we are responding to complaints that we get; we forget about the hours they put in during the winter months and forget to praise our crews; we have a great group of guys and I appreciate their efforts. Supervisor Merrill agreed. Sometime our emotions get the best of us and sometimes employees need to be careful of what they do and say; we have a great group of employees.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:

Next Board Meeting-Wed., June 20, 2015 at 7:00 PM

Julie Markert made the motion to go into executive session upon recommendation of the Supervisor to discuss personnel issues, seconded by Janet Champlin, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered executive session at 8:06 PM. Board held discussion. Janet Champlin made the motion to enter back into regular session, seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered regular session at 8:28 PM. Board made no decision forthcoming.

SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES: Mark Mattson made the motion, seconded by Gilbert Close, that the vouchers be approved, subject to any corrections or deletions, all in favor, motion carried. Abstract No.10-2013; Voucher No.288-313; Totaling \$38,336.48.

With no further business, Janet Champlin made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Gilbert Close, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend  
Town Clerk