

July 05, 2017

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, July 07, 2017 at 7:05 PM at the Town Hall.

Present: Arthur M. Merrill Supervisor  
Janet L. Champlin Councilwoman entered at 7:09pm  
Mark W. Mattson Councilman  
Julie A. Markert Councilwoman  
Gregory L. Lavorgna Councilman

Recording Secretary: Julie B. Townsend Town Clerk

Others present: Michael P. DeGroat-Town Attorney, Joan Homovich, Alan Donner, 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, June 21, 2017 had been distributed earlier. Greg Lavorgna made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Mark Mattson, Greg Lavorgna-aye, Mark Mattson-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Janet Champlin-absent, motion carried.

VISITOR COMMENTS: Maureen Pedersen inquired to the status of the solar farm on State Hwy 30; sign is down. Supervisor replied that he has not heard anything.

Councilwoman Champlin entered the meeting at 7:09pm.

Joan Homovich inquired to the balances of the police force expenditures. Supervisor replied that as of June there is 54% left in personal services, 61% left in equipment and 42% left in contractual expenses.

Ms. Homovich commented that she had stopped by the Town Clerk's Office for a copy of the application for a grant under the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program for a park, recreation trail, and paddle trail project that the Board approved last meeting. Supervisor replied that the application is not complete; the authorizing resolution was only one part; Glenn Nealis, Director of Economic/Industrial Development is working on the application, should be done by next week; our \$200,000 part of the project will be in-kind services; we want to get grant first, then hire an architect to design plan; no sense to set aside money if we don't get the grant. Ms. Homovich commented that residents of Cooks Falls should look into something for them. Supervisor replied that in preliminary discussions he had asked for suggestions, there were none for Cooks Falls. Ms. Homovich asked about building being taken down and problems with disturbing the soil of the old highway garage. Supervisor replied that we are not sure how many structures will be taken down and the soil contamination should already been taken care of; once we know we have the grant we will have a public hearing and the Board will adopt a resolution to accept the project.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

- Teamsters Local 317- Agreement expires 12-31-2017; re-open negotiations.
- NYS Ag & Markets- Municipal Shelter Inspection Report as of 6/23/17, rated satisfactory.
- NYSDOT- Request Speed Limit Reduction on Jug Tavern Road-approved 35mph between Campbell Mt Rd and State Hwy 206-County Hwy 7/Cat Hollow; Town responsible for installing new speed limit signs.

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

- Cooks Falls Water District- June 2017- 17 customers balance due \$1,460.50; Receipts of \$200.00 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Downsville Water District- June 2017- 31 customers balance due \$3,047.43; Receipts of \$623.57 disbursed to Supervisor plus prepayment of \$6,000.
- Town Clerk- June 2017 -Total disbursed \$4,180.81 of which \$4,150.81 was Town revenues.
- Town Justice DeRosia- June 2017.
- Town Justice Edel- June 2017.
- Police Report- May/June 2017.

Supervisor Merrill reported that we have received a request from FEMA to return previous paid funds in the amount of \$202,062.85; this is for FEMA 1710DRNY (July 2007) PW150- Holiday and Berry Brook Drainage System; NYS had sent a check in June 2015 for four PWs, including PW150 that was a prepayment; we had not received the blue book prior to payment and bids came in lower than estimated, therefore we knew there was an over-payment, but we had to wait until we received written notification from NYS Homeland Security and Emergency Services; a voucher is in tonight's bills in the amount of \$202,062.85 to be paid from the surplus Highway/FEMA account.

Supervisor asked the Board for suggestions for a new SAM Grant; Supervisor reminded the Board that this project would not get the funds for a few years. Board discussed options. Board agreed to update equipment for this SAM Grant; Supervisor will write letter to Senator Bonacic.

Supervisor Merrill reported that it is time to renew the Humane Society Agreement; same agreement as in the past; \$40 fee for each dog taken to the Heart of the Catskills Humane Society. Board discussed.

NO. 56-2017 07/05/17 Humane Society Agreement 2017

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to sign the Agreement between the Town of Colchester, NY and the Humane Society of Central Delaware County, Inc. (d/b/a Heart of the Catskills Humane Society) of Delhi, NY to utilize the Humane Society's Shelter for the care and confinement of those stray or lost dogs which are picked up by the Town of Colchester Dog Control Officer or Police Officers.

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

Supervisor reported that we received notification that NYSEFC has acknowledged and approved Requisition No.2 for CFWD DWSRF #16601 Project in the amount of \$5,818.75; this is the amount paid to Louie Banker at the last meeting; wire transfer should be here tomorrow.

Councilman Lavorgna inquired to the status of the CFWD tank leak. Supervisor replied he is not sure of the status; he will look into it.

Councilman Mattson inquired about leaks of the DWD. Councilwoman Markert asked if that is why the water was off on Saturday. Supervisor replied that WPO MacDonald was working on the pool pump when he noticed the water pressure was low; the two found leaks had gotten ahead of the pump and he had to shut off the water for about 30 minutes to get the pump to catchup; the pump is on an automatic timer. Water Clerk reported that a 3rd leak has been found.

Councilwoman Champlin asked if Trout Unlimited had contacted the Supervisor. Supervisor replied that the next day after the last meeting he received an email, stating that TU did not support NYSDEC's "no kill" proposal; TU was very upset that they were rumored that they had proposed this. Councilman Mattson commented that when he was a kid, you could catch many kinds of fish, now only trout are in the streams.

Councilwoman Markert commented that she saw the Police Tahoe Vehicle on a rollback the other day. Officer Cawley reported that the serpentine belt frozen up and the vehicle would not run; it is repaired.

Councilwoman Markert commented that the street light near the corner of Union and NYS 206 is out. Councilman Mattson commented that we need a street light on Knox Ave. near Murphy & Flannery; almost hit a baby stroller the other night; it is very dark in that area.

Councilwoman Markert commented that she was told that a highway guy was on his cell phone when driving; also heard that the summer help at highway was driving a town truck. Councilwoman Champlin commented that this young man was going to summer school. Supervisor replied that the guardian had talked with Highway Supt. Eck; we're not sure this is going to work out; as the Highway Supt. is not sure someone will be in the building when the young man returns from summer school.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:

- Next Regular Board Meeting Wed., July 19<sup>th</sup> at 7PM (Supervisor will not be here)
- Town Clerk's Office Closed Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>

**SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES:** Janet Champlin 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.12-2017 Voucher No.303-328; Totaling \$303,969.38.

Janet Champlin made the motion to go into executive session to discuss police personnel issues, seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered executive session at 8:01 PM. Board held discussion. Mark Mattson made the motion to enter back into regular session, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered regular session at 8:15 PM. Board made no decision forthcoming.

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

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend, Town Clerk