

September 21, 2016

A Public Hearing was held by the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York on Wednesday, September 21, 2016 in the Town Hall; the purpose of the hearing was to obtain public input in the planning and development of the application to be sent to New York State for funding under the Small Cities, Community Development Block Grant Program. The Town intends to submit said application for financial assistance to replace some mobile housing units within the Town of Colchester. Proof of Notice having been furnished, the Public Hearing was called to order by Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill.

Lynda Hitt of Delaware Opportunities Inc. explained the grant program and process. Questions were asked by the audience.

No one spoke in favor of the proposed application.

No one spoke against of the proposed application.

All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:23 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend, Town Clerk

September 21, 2016

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held immediately following the Public Hearing on Wednesday, September 21, 2016 at 7:23 PM at the Town Hall. Present: Arthur M. Merrill

Supervisor

Janet L. Champlin

Councilwoman

Julie A. Markert

Councilwoman

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, Abby Butler-Walton Reporter, Joan Homovich, Alan Donner, Bonnie Seegmiller, Bill & Linda Reichert, Jim Shields, Amy Brown and Maureen Pedersen.

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, September 07, 2016 had been distributed earlier. Julie Markert requested that a statement she made be corrected: *Councilwoman Markert suggested that we buy blowers for the cemetery* should be corrected to ***Councilwoman Markert inquired if we had blowers for the cemetery.*** Greg Lavorgna made the motion to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Mark Mattson, all in favor, motion carried.

VISITOR COMMENTS: Joan Homovich commented that in the local newspaper article, Supervisor Merrill was quoted that the police budget was over \$25,000; is that due to the hourly rates and fringe benefits? Supervisor replied that the overage is in all three lines: personnel, equipment and contractual. Ms. Homovich also commented that the article stated that in the past we only had coverage five days a week; she made a few phone calls to retired police personnel and their coverage was seven days a week. Supervisor replied that over the twenty-five years that he has been involved with the Town, there were days when no one was on. Ms. Homovich added that she has asked for police schedules, some months double coverage during the week; maybe we should spread out the hours and have more coverage on the weekends; article stated

that fines makeup the overage. Supervisor reported that last year we collected an overage of \$44,000; we are over as of last month for this year.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- NYC Environmental Protection- Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Impact Statement- <http://www.nyc.gov/dep/upstatewatersupplyresiliency>.
- EZ Pass Notice of Violation- plate number of our 2016 Freightliner, but we believe this is an error, our trucks have not been in the Albany area; Supervisor is looking into this. Plate number was wrong- not ours.

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

- Planning Board- August 18, 2016 Minutes.
- Town Justice DeRosia- August 2016.
- Town Historian- Colchester History Connections Newsletter Sept. 1, 2016 issue.

Supervisor Merrill reported that the CFWD- Water System Improvements Project- Contract #TC1-G-2015 was awarded to Louis Banker at the last meeting; the Notice of Award and the Agreement have been signed; Delaware Engineering is sending to the State for final approval.

Supervisor reported that he did send a letter to Senator Bonacic regarding the status of the Downsville Water District- Filtration of the DWD Spring System Grant application.

Supervisor Merrill reported that Delaware Opportunities is wrapping up the CDBG-Housing Rehabilitation Program Project; Deadline is November 11, 2016.

Supervisor submitted a draft Garcia Agreement to the Board for review.

Supervisor Merrill reported that he has spoken with Mr. Reynolds regarding the property lines at Paige Cemetery; Mr. Reynolds would like us to move the small shed off the property line; Supervisor talked with JR and Ron MacDonald to put the small shed that houses an extra mower, behind the DWD well house. Board discussed options.

Supervisor reported that he has researched the recent fuel bid; he has talked with both bidders; Journal of Commerce Albany gives daily; he thinks Vestal OPUS is weekly. Highway Supt. Eck commented that we own the propane tanks. Board discussed and suggested that we look at NYS Bid. Board tabled awarding bid and may want to re-bid.

Supervisor Merrill commented that last meeting we tabled the Delaware County Firefighters Association Clothing Bin Consent Form from Textile Recovery Services Inc. Board discussed and agreed not to get involved with this project; the Community Church has a clothing bin and we want to support them.

Supervisor Merrill reported that we have received an Application for Use of Public Facilities from Sandra Shaver; she is planning a Mohegan Sun Casino Bus Trip in Wilkes-Barre, PA; proceeds go towards the Grand Canyon Adventure Trip and would like to use the Pepacton Park for parking of approximately 20 cars on Saturday, October 29th. Board discussed.

NO.115-2016 09/21/16 Public Facility Permit No.11-2016

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Sandra Shaver on behalf of the Grand Canyon Adventure Trip Committee has applied for a Public Facility Permit to use the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, on Saturday, October 29th from 8:00AM to 6:30PM for parking vehicles to go on a Mohegan Sun Casino Bus Trip in Wilkes-Barre, 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.11-2016 to the Sandra Shaver for the use of the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, Downsville, NY on October 29, 2016.

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

Supervisor reported that Bill Reichert has asked that we complete the NYSDOT Special Use Permit Application (Perm33b) on behalf of the Downsville Christmas Parade Committee for the annual Christmas Parade to be held on Sat., Dec. 10th. A Public Facility Permit is also needed. Board discussed.

NO.116-2016 09/21/16 Sponsor Christmas Parade & File Perm33b

Mark Mattson made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby sponsors the Christmas Parade to be held at 4:30PM Saturday, December 10, 2016 on NY State Highway 30 and 206, Downsville, New York and hereby authorizes the Supervisor to file the NYSDOT Special Use Permit Application (Perm33b) on behalf of the Downsville Christmas Parade Committee.

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

NO.117-2016 09/21/16 Public Facility Permit No.12-2016

Mark Mattson made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, William Reichert on behalf of the Downsville Christmas Parade Committee has applied for a Public Facility Permit to use the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, on Saturday, December 10th from 6:30PM to 7:30PM for parking of Christmas Parade Floats after the parade has ended;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to issue Public Facility Permit No.12-2016 to the Downsville Christmas Parade Committee for the use of the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, Downsville, NY.

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

Supervisor reported that Frank & Judith Stroehlein would like to sell 10 graves of their 12 grave plots, Lot #74 in the Butcher Section of Paige Cemetery; they would like to keep graves #7 & #8 for themselves and their son, Stephen Stroehlein. Board discussed.

NO.118-2016 09/21/16 Purchase Back Cemetery Plot

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby agrees to purchase back the vacant cemetery plot of Frank & Judith Stroehlein, Paige Cemetery-Butcher Section- Lot No.74, Grave No. 1-6 and 9-12 for a the price of \$300.00.

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

Supervisor Merrill presented two Letters of Resignation from the Colchester Police Department; Tahir Haqq has realizes that due to his current full time work schedule, it is hard to do part time work; Shaun Ryba stated that he no longer has time to patrol and serve the Town of Colchester.

NO.119-2016 09/21/16 Accept Letter of Resignation Tahir Haqq

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2016 a letter of resignation was presented to Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill from Tahir Haqq as Police Officer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby accepts said Letter of Resignation from Tahir Haqq as a Town of Colchester Police Officer effective immediately;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby thanks Tahir for his service to the township and wishes him well in future endeavors.

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

NO.120-2016 09/21/16 Accept Letter of Resignation Shaun Ryba

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2016 a letter of resignation was presented to Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill via e-mail from Shaun Ryba as Police Officer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby accepts said Letter of Resignation from Shaun Ryba as a Town of Colchester Police Officer effective immediately;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby thanks Shaun for his service to the township and wishes him well in future endeavors.

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

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:

- Next Regular Board Meeting Wed., October 05, 2016 at 7PM

Supervisor reported that the County is busy with the 2017 Budget.

Councilman Lavorgna commented that the newspaper stated that Colchester has two commercial solar sites; have seen the one on Route 30. Supervisor replied not sure where another site is.

Councilman Lavorgna reported that he has researched picnic tables; new picnic tables made out of tires are very heavy and expensive (\$800 each); did find some others at \$140 each. Supervisor replied that we have removed the broken ones at the Covered Bridge Park. We will look into replacing next spring. Councilwoman Champlin inquired if we could store over the winter the benches that are at Pepacton Park; the ones with the cast iron legs will break easily in the cold weather. Supervisor replied that we will find room in the back garage for the winter.

Highway Supt. Eck reported that we are getting a paver off County Bid; the plan for the Transfer Station is to seal the holes and cap with 1½ inch of payment.

Councilwoman Markert inquired if we could widen the barriers at the Covered Bridge to allow snowmobiles across this winter. Supervisor replied that we will figure something out.

Councilwoman Markert inquired if Southern Tier Police Canine Association Inc. is giving the Town an accounting report? Supervisor replied not any more, they had some issues. Supervisor reported that he has about \$700 in donations, is using some to pay a bill in tonight's vouchers. Amy Brown stated that we are up and running with Protect & Vest NYK9s Inc. out of Burnt Hills, NY; she encouraged everyone to visit their Facebook page.

SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES: Mark Mattson made the motion, seconded by Janet Champlin, that the vouchers be approved, subject to any corrections or deletions, all in favor, motion carried. Abstract No.17-2016; Voucher No.454-482; Totaling \$36,982.57.

Julie Markert made the motion to go into executive session to discuss highway personnel issues, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered executive session at 8:20 PM. Highway Supt Eck was invited to stay. Board held discussion. Julie Markert made the motion to enter back into regular session, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered regular session at 8:35 PM. Board made no decision forthcoming. With no further business, Janet Champlin made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend, Town Clerk