

October 04, 2017

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, October 04, 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, Jeff Francisco-Del. Eng., Lillian Browne-The Reporter, Tara Donadio-Cornell Cooperative Extension, Bonnie Seegmiller, Mary Brawley-Faut, Alan Donner, Bill & Linda Reichert, Pio Deroda, 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, September 20, 2017 had been distributed earlier. Janet Champlin made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, motion carried.

GUESTS: Tara Donadio, Clean Energy Communities Coordinator of Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Delaware County gave a presentation on Clean Energy Communities Program: NYSERDA Grants for County, Town of Village Municipality in NYS; Hamden & Meredith have been approved for Delaware County; there are ten High Impact Action Items, you need four items to be eligible for funding; we compete against other municipalities for a grant of \$50,000 (ten grants to be given in the Southern Tier REDC); 1st come 1st serve basis a three year project; three months until application deadline; Tara will help or do our application if we decide to move forward; Town must appoint energy Coordinator to work with Tara and name a project. Supervisor inquired about HVAC and LED Lights, both are eligible. Supervisor commented that we will discuss this further and thanked Tara Donadio for her presentation.

Jeff Francisco of Delaware Engineering reported that Louie Banker needs to get the CFWD DWSRF #16601 Project finished; Jeff will call Louie every day to get him moving. Mr. Francisco added that we are waiting on the survey for the DWD DWSRF Project No.17537.

VISITOR COMMENTS: Bill Reichert commented that he read in the paper that the Town had a lending/loan contract/agreement for the eagles; how long is the agreement for? And shouldn't we keep them in our Township? Supervisor replied that the term is for one year and we did not have any public places/businesses that wanted an eagle in Town; the eagles will not go back into the streets. Pio Deroda commented that we have two eagles repaired; we would like to repair more but it takes a lot of time (filling, drying, filling, drying) and money (approx. \$200 each); we signed contract with the artists and they need to be named as the artist when the eagles are lend out; we need volunteers. Mr. Reichert was willing to help and gave his contact information.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- NYSDOT- Response to our letter and resolution about pavement conditions on NYS Route 30; the pavement from Shinhopple to Downsville was last rehabilitated around 2001 and requires more than a lower cost, simple maintenance treatment; will continue to work to identify funding to complete a project at this location.
- NYS Dept. of State- Thank you for applying through the 2017 Consolidated Funding Application for funding made available by the Dept. of State, under Title 11 of the

Environmental Protection Fund Local Waterfront Revitalization Program; after review your application CFA#73208-Downsville Park Paddle Trail Development was determined to be ineligible due to design and construction project without an approved LWRP or relevant LWRP component substantially completed.

- Senator John J. Bonacic- NYS has announced the launch of Round 5 of the Restore NY Communities Initiative; the Intent to Apply form deadline is October 13th applications are due December 15th.

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

- Cooks Falls Water District- September 2017- 15 customers balance due \$1,911.05; Receipts of \$150.00 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Downsville Water District- September 2017- 26 customers balance due \$4,033.69; Receipts of \$1,079.91 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Town Clerk- September 2017 -Total disbursed \$1,483.01 of which \$1,450.01 was Town revenues.
- Town Justice Edel- September 2017.
- Planning Board- August 17, 2017 Minutes.
- Police Report- September 2017.
- Dog Control Officer- September 2017.

Supervisor Merrill that plans have been drafted for the Cooks Falls Highway Garage Project; going out to bid soon.

Town Attorney Michael DeGroat reported that he and the Supervisor have been discussing Reserve Accounts; the State Comptroller's Office wants us to put our surplus funds into designated accounts; we need to make sure we enough reserve funds for emergencies; the Town has a General Capital Reserve Fund, Highway Capital Reserve Fund and Police Car Fund; there are two different reserve accounts: Specific – must do a permissive referendum first, then a Board resolution to come out (to buy a police car or building fund), Type – do not specify once created, but need a permissive referendum when we identify project and want to take funds out; we can add funds to our General & Highway Capital Reserve Funds. Town Attorney stated there is a Repair Reserve Fund that is for road and equipment; a Public Hearing is needed and notice must be given at least five days prior; once created, Board can declare an emergency to use the funds but needs to be paid back within the next year; we need to discuss the amount we want to reserve; we do not need to put all the surplus funds into reserve accounts; we should have some funds to hold us over to the beginning of the next year (tax money comes to us in February). Supervisor commented that our concern is “when will the next disaster happen”; FEMA will not reimburse interest if we should need to borrow money for disasters; discussion will continue.

Supervisor Merrill stated that last meeting it was stated that he and Tom Zampolin were going to install new back steps; since then we have received a quote of \$1,050.00 from Paul Ryder 3rd Construction to replace the back staircase of the Town Hall. Board discussed.

NO. 85-2017 10/04/17 Accept Quote of Paul Ryder 3rd Construction

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby accepts the quote from Paul Ryder 3rd Construction of 4029 Horton Brook Road, Roscoe, NY in the amount of \$1,050.00 for the removal and disposal of existing stairs at rear entrance of Town Hall Building and the construction of new staircase and hereby authorize Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to enter into contract with Paul Ryder 3rd Construction.

Resolution was seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, resolution declared adopted.

Supervisor reported that we want to pave the back parking lot first before putting in the new staircase; the highway dept. dug up the septic, it was further back under the pavement; a new 4.5ft riser was added to the septic system; it was then pumped out; crusher run was added; we will remove the air-conditioner units and then pave up to the building.

Supervisor Merrill reported that he is working on the Sidewalk Right-of-Enter Permit.

Supervisor reminded the Negotiating Committee that they are meeting with the Teamsters on Friday, October 20th at 9:30AM at Town Hall.

Supervisor Merrill reported that at the last meeting the Town Board decided to sell the 2009 Chevrolet Tahoe (Police Canine Vehicle); we are using it until the 2014 Ford Taurus is repaired; the repairs are under warranty.

Supervisor reported that last meeting the Town Board approved the Bond Payment of the DWD that was due October 1st; the DWD did not have enough funds to pay this payment before the due date; we have talked with our Auditors and they have suggested an inter-fund transfer; Supervisor added that water bills were sent out this month and we should be receiving some payments. Board discussed.

NO. 86-2017 10/04/17 Inter-Fund Transfer to DWD

Greg Lavorgna made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Downsville Water District had insufficient funds to make their October 1st Principal and Interest payments to the USDA/Rural Development that we approved at the September 20, 2017 Board Meeting (Abstract 17 Voucher 490);

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorize Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to make an Inter Fund Transfer from the Supervisor's General Fund to the Downsville Water District Fund in the amount of \$13,845.15.

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

Town/Water Clerk submitted a list of delinquent water bills: 15 accounts for the CFWD totaling \$2,852.16 and 25 accounts for DWD totaling \$4,033.69; and asked that they be placed on the 2018 property tax bills if not paid by October 31st. Board discussed.

NO. 87-2017 10/04/17 Delinquent Water Bills Added to Property Taxes

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorize Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to submit a list of all delinquent water bills of the Downsville and Cooks Falls Water Districts to the County to be added to the property owners' tax bills for 2018, if these bills are not paid by October 31, 2017.

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

Supervisor Merrill reported that we have sent paperwork to County Personnel to have another full-time Police Officer; at this time Supervisor Merrill recommends appointing Keith Gavette as a Full-Time Town of Colchester Police Officer. Board discussed.

NO. 88-2017 10/04/17 Permanently Appoint Keith Gavette as Full-time Police Officer

Greg Lavorgna made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2014 the Town Board of the Town of Colchester appointed Keith Gavette as a Part-Time Police Officer; and

WHEREAS, on November 19, 2016 Keith Gavette took and passed the Police Officer Exam for Delaware County Residents, placing him on the Civil Service List;

WHEREAS, on August 02, 2017 the Town Board appointed Keith Gavette as a competitive permanent part time police officer off the Delaware County Certified Civil Service Police Officer Certification of Eligibles List.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby permanently appoints Keith Gavette a Full-Time Town of Colchester Police Officer at the pay rate of \$22.00 per hour with benefits upon completion of all required documents.

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

Supervisor Merrill read a Letter of Resignation from Krista Baxter as a Part-time Police Officer due to conflict of schedules; She thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve the residents of the Town of Colchester. Board discussed.

NO. 89-2017 10/04/17 Accept Letter of Resignation Krista Baxter

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on October 04, 2017 a letter of resignation was presented to Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill from Krista Baxter as Police Officer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby accepts said Letter of Resignation from Krista Baxter as a Town of Colchester Police Officer effective October 18, 2017;

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby thanks Krista for her service to the township and wishes her well in future endeavors.

Resolution was seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, resolution declared adopted.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcement:

- Next Regular Board Meeting Wed., October 18th at 7PM.

SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES: Janet Champlin made the motion, seconded by Julie Markert, that the vouchers be approved, subject to any corrections or deletions, all in favor, motion carried. Abstract No.18-2017 Voucher No.493-524; Totaling \$23,310.36.

Town Clerk submitted the 2018 Tentative Budget. Board reviewed. Supervisor reported that our tax cap is 1.84%; the Budget was increased by \$39,800.00 which is an increase of 1.82%. Since the Board reviewed the 2018 Tentative Budget and had no issues, Supervisor Merrill canceled the Budget Workshop that was scheduled for tomorrow, October 5th.

Supervisor Merrill asked the Board to think about dissolving the Downsville Lighting District; this would not until the 2019 Budget Year.

With no further business, Janet Champlin made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend
Town Clerk