

December 02, 2015

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, December 02, 2015 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
Gilbert D. Close Councilman

Recording Secretary: Julie B. Townsend Town Clerk

Others present: Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., Justin Harper & Lillian Browne-Walton Reporter, Bonnie Seegmiller, Mary Brawley-Fuat, and Greg Lavorgna.

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, November 18, 2015 had been distributed earlier. Janet Champlin made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Mark Mattson, all in favor, motion carried.

VISITOR COMMENTS: none

CORRESPONDENCE:

- NYS State Police- hosting a community policing meeting at the Stamford Fire Dept. on Dec. 2nd from 7-9 PM.
- Selective Insurance Co – Risk evaluation survey and recommendations.
- Governor Andrew M. Cuomo- Citizen Preparedness Corps Training Program, Wed., Dec. 9th at 6PM, Delaware Academy, Delhi.
- Roscoe/Rockland Fire Dist. - Notice of Special Election- Jan. 05, 2016 from 6-9 PM.
- Office of the NYS Comptroller – Webinar “Just Elected- What To Do Now” on Dec. 10th.
- Association of Towns- New Town Officials Schools- Jan.6-8 Rochester or Jan.13-15 Albany.

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

- Cooks Falls Water District- November 2015- 8 customers to County Taxes \$1,741.51 - 5 customers balance due \$250.00; Receipts of \$550.01 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Downsville Water District- November 2015- 24 customers to County Taxes \$6,353.41- 11 customers balance due \$551.65; Receipts of \$2,608.59 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Town Clerk-November 2015-Total disbursed \$878.00 of which \$853.00 was Town revenues.
- Planning Board- September 17, 2015 Minutes.
- Police Arrests and Tickets Report for November 2015.

Supervisor Merrill reported that we have received Payment Application No. 2 for R. DeVincentis for the Holiday Brook Road Bridge Replacement Project, Contract No. TC-2015-01 Structure H4 in the amount of \$136,813.28; Cedarwood Engineering is getting ready to closeout this project. We also have vouchers in tonight for Cedarwood for both projects through October. Supervisor added that guiderails still need to be installed on the Berg Brook Road Bridge Replacement Project, Contract No. TC-2015-02 Structure H5.

Supervisor reported that he has not heard back from Sarah Antonacci regarding the SAM Grant.

Supervisor Merrill reported that Delaware Opportunities has sent us a project to approve for the NYS CDBG Project #260CRF-HR113-14 Program, Housing Rehabilitation Grant; Del. Opp. has approved bid for File No.CTRCD-05 to D&N Improvements in the amount of \$8,600 and to LaFever Water Wells Inc. in the amount of \$5,885; the Community Development Specialist estimated the total cost of the project at \$16,876; total approval is for \$14,485; Supervisor reminded the Board that the maximum is \$25,000 for each property. Board discussed.

NO.124-2015 12/02/15 CDBG #260CRF-HR113-14 Board Approval No.CTRCD-05

Upon recommendation of Delaware Opportunities Inc., Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby approves File No.CTRCD-05 for the CDBG Project #260CRF-HR113-14, Housing Rehabilitation Grant and hereby authorize Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to sign said grant approval in the amount of \$14,485.

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

Highway Supt. reported that Tracey Road Equipment delivered the Tractor/Brush Machine last week; there were a couple of minor issues but Tracey Road is going to take care of them.

Supervisor Merrill reported that one document is lacking for the proposal of the NYSEG- Small Business Energy Efficiency Program.

Supervisor reported that we are still researching GIS Solutions and looking at other options.

Supervisor Merrill reported that the Police Dept. have been looking at a new vehicle for next year; they are putting together figures. Town Clerk commented that since only \$10,000 was budgeted under equipment and we have a reserve fund for police vehicles, we have a procedure to follow for a permissive referendum: Town Board makes a resolution to appropriate funds from Capital Reserve Fund in an amount not to exceed \$\$; notice is posted in paper and on bulletin board for thirty days; within the 30 days voters may petition the Board not to purchase the vehicle; if 5% of the voters object then a special election would have to be held. Town Clerk added that if the notice goes in the paper on Dec. 9th, the 30 day period would end Jan. 8th, if no petitions were received by 5% of the voters, then at the January 20th meeting the Board would adopt a resolution to purchase a specific vehicle from a specific vendor and the order would be placed. Supervisor added that the police wanted to order now to get sooner, possibly May instead of June or July. Councilwoman Markert asked if we needed a new police vehicle. Supervisor replied to keep us on a four year rotation for each vehicle, we would order a new vehicle every two years; we will continue to run the 2009 Chevy Tahoe until the new arrives; we have put a lot of money into the Tahoe and it has around 67,000 miles on it. Councilwoman Champlin asked why the police vehicles are left running and how good is this for the vehicle? Supervisor replied that if they are called out in a hurry, the vehicle is warmed up and the computer is running; when the car is turned off and then on again, the computer does not boot up quickly; if they leave the computer on it runs the battery down. Officer Pagillo added that all the police agencies leave their vehicles running. Board discussed further. Councilwoman Markert stated that she feels that we do not need another police vehicle now.

NO.125-2015 12/02/15 Appropriation from General Capital Reserve Fund for Police Car
Gilbert Close made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Colchester adopted Resolution No. 38-2000 establishing a General Capital Reserve Fund to pay the cost of capital improvements and equipment for the Town of Colchester; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to expend the sum not to exceed \$45,000 from the said fund for the purpose of replacing a vehicle in the Town of Colchester Police Department;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that pursuant to the provisions of Section 6-c of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York that the Town Supervisor of the Town of

Colchester be hereby authorized and directed to transfer from the General Capital Reserve Fund of the Town of Colchester duly established on May 17, 2000, the sum not to exceed \$45,000 of the principal and accumulated interest in said reserve fund for the purpose of purchasing a replacement vehicle for the Town of Colchester Police Department.

This resolution shall be subject to a permissive referendum as permitted by law.

Resolution was seconded by Mark Mattson, Gilbert Close-aye, Mark Mattson-aye, Janet Champlin-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Julie Markert-no, resolution declared adopted.

Supervisor Merrill presented a Health Insurance Policy for the Board to consider adopting. Board discussed.

NO.126-2015 12/02/15 Health Insurance Policy

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby approves and authorizes the implementation of the new Health Insurance Policy, annexed to this resolution and presented at this meeting, with a review of said policy to be made on an annual basis by the Town Board at the Organizational Meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such Policy shall take effect January 01, 2016.

Resolution was seconded by Janet Champlin .

This resolution was put to a vote by roll call and resulted as follows:

Town Supervisor, Arthur M. Merrill	voting aye
Councilperson, Janet Champlin	voting aye
Councilperson, Julie A. Markert	voting aye
Councilperson, Mark W. Mattson	voting aye
Councilperson, Gilbert D. Close	voting aye

The resolution was declared to be duly adopted by the members of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester.

HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY

Per Resolution No. 126-2015

Adopted 12/02/2015

The Town of Colchester offers Health Insurance coverage to its employees according to the following schedule:

All full time Highway personnel receive full paid coverage as they choose (Union members in Teamster's Local 317 contribute 6% toward the cost).

Full time Transfer Station operator receives full paid coverage of his choice.

Full time Police officers receive full paid coverage of their choice.

The following full time elected officials receive full paid coverage for a single subscriber:

- Highway Superintendent
- Town Clerk
- Supervisor

All other elected officials may receive full coverage for a single subscriber by contributing 50% of the cost.

The following contracted employees receive full paid subscriber and spouse coverage:

- Town Attorney
- Downsville Water District Water Plant Operator

All employees not covered are eligible to purchase coverage through the Town of Colchester's insurance plan at full cost to them.

All full time employees who elect not to take the Health Insurance benefit may, upon proof of coverage from another source, sign a waiver (to be renewed annually) and receive a payment of 20% of the cost of the eligible coverage. Such payment will be made in June and December of that calendar year (50% in June; 50% in December).

Open enrollment for insurance coverage is done annually during December. All changes must be done during that period.

All payments towards Health Insurance must be done by personal check by the 10th of each month.

Supervisor reported that the question of Domestic Partner came up and does the Town recognize this; Excellus BC/BS does recognize Domestic Partner. Board discussed.

NO.127-2015 12/02/15 Recognize Domestic Partner

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby recognizes Domestic Partner relationship for identification purposes.

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

Supervisor Merrill reported that we have reviewed our files and bank accounts and have determined that four FEMA Accounts could be closed and transfer the funds into another existing account at Community Bank. Board discussed.

NO.128-2015 12/02/15 Close Community Bank, N.A. FEMA Accounts

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes and directs Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to close the following FEMA Bank Accounts and transfer the funds into the Town's Highway FEMA Funds Account#10458417 at Community Bank, N.A. and any interest earned:

Acct#10458654	-Chiloway Road & Bridge-	\$136,444.99
Acct#10458808	-FEMA #1710	\$314,961.79
Acct#10875832	-FEMA Large Projects-	\$ 21,848.79
Acct#10876812	-Holiday & Berry Brook-	\$146,755.31

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

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:

- Aflac Open Enrollment-Agent visiting Thursday, Dec. 10th Town Hall 9-10am- Hwy Garage 10-11am
- Town Clerk's Office Closed Friday, December 11th
- Next Regular Board Meeting Wed., December 16th

Councilman Mattson inquired if the highway dept. was ready for snow? Hwy Supt replied yes.

Councilwoman Markert inquired about the cell phone policy? Supervisor replied that he has not doing anything at this time. Councilwoman Markert also inquired about the lighted caution sign at Horton Brook? Hwy Supt replied that the new sign is up and they are still seeking solar lights. Councilwoman Markert also inquired to the status of the eagles and the drawing? Supervisor replied that the eagles should be coming down with the next two weeks and the drawing may be held Dec. 12th.

Supervisor Merrill reported that at the last regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, the "Bed Tax" was approved; 2% effective January 01, 2016.

Supervisor submitted the proposed salaries & hourly wages for 2016; Board reviewed/ discussed; no changes were made at this time; this will be adopted at the 2016 Organizational Meeting.

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.22-2015; Voucher No.646-671; Totaling \$305,842.40.

Julie Markert made the motion to go into executive session to discuss police personnel issues, seconded by Janet Champlin, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered executive session at 8:15 PM. Officer Pagillo was invited to stay. Board held discussion. Janet Champlin made the motion to enter back into regular session, seconded by Mark Mattson, 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 Gilbert Close, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend
Town Clerk