

December 19, 2018

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, December 19, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Present: Arthur M. Merrill Supervisor
Julie A. Markert Councilwoman
Janet L. Champlin Councilwoman
Mark W. Mattson Councilman

Absent: Gregory L. Lavorgna Councilman

Recording Secretary: Julie B. Townsend Town Clerk

Others present: Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., Michael DeGroat-Town Attorney, Jim Shields and Gene & Ruth Wilhowsky.

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, December 05, 2018 had been distributed earlier. Janet Champlin made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Julie Markert, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Mark Mattson-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Greg Lavorgna-absent, motion carried.

VISITOR COMMENTS: none

CORRESPONDENCE:

- CWC- NYCDEP announces revised plan to build Hydroelectric Plant at Cannonsville Reservoir.
- CWC- CWC Watershed Education Grant Applications Available.
- CWC- CWC Board updated on building progress, wastewater projects.

REPORTS- none

Supervisor Merrill reported that the Cooks Falls Highway Addition Project is moving along.

Supervisor reported that bollards are still needed for the EV Charging Station, but should be up and running by Friday.

Supervisor Merrill reported that the designs for the Walking Bridge over Downs Brook have been sent to the County for approval.

Supervisor reported that the Tiffany Hollow NFPP Grant- Gregory Hollow Road Culvert Replacement project is a go. Hwy Supt Eck stated that he needs to cut trees by March.

Supervisor Merrill reported that he received a letter from John Vickers, PE, NYCDEP Chief Water Operations in regards to the Downsville DEP Complex Connection to the Downsville Water District- Proposed Path Forward; copy was given to Town Attorney to draft a DWD Agreement.

Supervisor commented that last meeting we discussed the health insurance buy-out; we were locked at 2-2; Supervisor explained that he had stated the wrong amount when he first brought up the buy-out; last year it was 20% of the premium; yes our premium went down for 2019 but we also are funding the HRA and this was not taken into consideration. Board discussed. Councilwoman Markert commented that we are trying to save the Town/Taxpayers money, \$4,000 is a reasonable amount. Board continued to discuss. Supervisor commented that we will revisit the issue in January when we have a full Board.

Police Officer Earnest Cawley presented an application for Part-time Police Officer from Justin Mohr, who is a certified officer. Board discussed. The Town will have to supply a uniform. Supervisor added that having more part-time officers will help with scheduling. Board discussed.
NO.121-2018 12/19/18 Appoint Part-time Police Officer

Mark Mattson made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Colchester recognizes the need of continuing its Police Dept. for the safety and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Colchester recognizes the need of Part-time Police Officers for the future of the Police Dept.;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby appoints the following certified officer, Justin L. Mohr of 9110 County Hwy 2, Andes, New York, as a Town of Colchester Part-time Police Officer pending submission of all necessary forms at the pay rate of \$21.00 per hour with no benefits, effective January 01, 2019. Resolution was seconded by Janet Champlin, Janet Champlin-aye, Mark Mattson-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Julie Markert-No; Greg Lavorgna-absent, resolution declared adopted.

Supervisor reported that last week NYCDEP composed a seventeen person panel to review the impact of reservoirs on the watershed; the County recommended suspending the land acquisition program, Planning and DPW were in favor of this.

Supervisor Merrill reported that this is not official, but it looks like the \$249,000 Federal Tailwaters Project will get funded in 2019.

Supervisor reported that we have received a Consolidated Funding Grant Award in the amount of \$276,200 for the Downsville Park Paddle Trail Development Project: The Town of Colchester will repurpose the Town's former highway garage and salt storage shed into Pepacton Park; to serve as a center for community activities and information center for visitors; park amenities will include a pavilion, boat ramp, handicap accessible fishing deck and kayak dock, kayak and locker storage and public restrooms; the project also includes the installation of a pedestrian bridge at Covered Bridge Park in order to connect to both parks to the Community's Riverwalk and fitness trails, as well as to the nearby Finger Lake and NYS Trail systems. Pio Deroda sent an email stating once she hears back from the State and have an outline to see what was funded, she will report back to the Board.

Supervisor Merrill submitted an updated list of wages for 2019 to the Board to review for the Organizational Meeting.

Supervisor announced that we received a check from the NYS in the amount of \$307,000 for the CHIPS Program.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:

- Code Enforcement Office Closed through Dec. 25th
- Town Clerk's Office Closed Monday, Dec. 24th through Wednesday, Dec. 26th
- Town Clerk's Office Closing at Noon Monday, Dec. 31st
- Town Hall Offices Closed Tuesday, January 1st
- Next Regular Board Meeting Wed., January 2nd with Organizational Meeting at 7PM

SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES: Janet Champlin made the motion, seconded by Mark Mattson, that the vouchers be approved, subject to any corrections or deletions, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Mark Mattson-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Greg Lavorgna-absent, motion carried. Abstract No.21-2018 Voucher No.667-699; Totaling \$86,624.86.

Councilwoman Markert asked for a letter of support from the Town for the Snowmobile Club. Supervisor replied that we will look at it at the next meeting.

Julie Markert made the motion to go into executive session to discuss police and highway personnel issues, seconded by Janet Champlin, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Mark Mattson-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Greg Lavorgna-absent, motion carried. Board entered executive session at 8:03 PM. Officer Cawley and Hwy Supt Eck were invited to stay. Board held discussion. Julie Markert made the motion to enter back into regular session, seconded by Janet Champlin, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Mark Mattson-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Greg Lavorgna-absent, motion carried. Board entered regular session at 8:24 PM. Board made the following resolution.

NO.122-2018 12/19/18 Hire Steven M. Mattson as Highway Mechanic

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby hires Steven M. Mattson of 10361 State Hwy 30, Downsville, New York as a Highway Mechanic of the Town of Colchester Highway Dept. provisional for one year, at a pay rate of \$19.65 per hour with benefits, effective January 02, 2019, assignments and duties at the discretion of the Highway Superintendent.

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

With no further business, Mark Mattson made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Janet Champlin, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Mark Mattson-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Greg Lavorgna-absent, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend
Town Clerk