

March 20, 2019

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Present: Arthur M. Merrill Supervisor  
Mark W. Mattson Councilman  
Julie A. Markert Councilwoman  
Gregory L. Lavorgna Councilman  
Janet L. Champlin Councilwoman  
Recording Secretary: Julie B. Townsend Town Clerk

Others present: Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., Michael DeGroat-Town Attorney, Bonnie Seegmiller, Alan Donner and Jim Shields.

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, March 06, 2019 had been distributed earlier. Janet Champlin made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- William H. Beers- Letter of Resignation from the Board of Assessment Review due to health issues. Board accepted with regret and thanked Bill for his 19 years of service.
- Assemblyman Clifford W. Crouch- Thank you for copy of Town's Resolution asking that Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) funding be restored in the 2019-2020 NYS Budget; he also opposes the 4se cuts.
- CWC- Watershed Currents March 2019 Issue.

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

- Tax Collector- As of 2/28/18- 2169 Transactions -Base Tax Total \$6,664,764.50- 74% Paid.
- Town Justice DeRosia- February 2019.
- Town Justice Edel- February 2019.

Supervisor Merrill reported that we have paid a few bills on the Tiffany Hollow NFPP Grant- Gregory Hollow Road Culvert Replacement Project; we have submitted and received our reimbursements also.

Supervisor reported that the Town Clerk has participated in a few webinars for the NYS CDBG Project #260HR301-18 Housing Rehabilitation Project.

Supervisor Merrill reported that we need to name ourselves as Lead Agency for the Downsville Park Paddle Trail Waterfront Park Development Project. Board discussed.

NO. 32-2019 03/20/19 Lead Agency for SEQR Review

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Colchester proposes to redevelop the former Town highway garage property into a community park, including the demolition of existing structures and the construction of a pavilion, boat ramp, and dock/fishing pier; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Colchester has been awarded a matching grant of \$276,200 from the Consolidated Funding Application under the Environmental Protection Fund Grant Program for Parks, Preservation and Heritage; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Colchester has accepted said funding and move forward the Downsville Park Paddle Trail Waterfront Park Development Project; and

WHEREAS, the State of New York requires an environmental review of such projects,  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester does hereby designate itself as lead agency as required by the State Environmental Quality Review Act and shall by this act commence the required review.

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, Gregory L. Lavorgna	voting aye

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

Supervisor reported that we need to complete a Short Environmental Assessment Form Part 2- Impact Assessment also for the Downsville Park Paddle Trail Waterfront Park Development Project; Part 1- Project Information was completed and submitted with our application. Supervisor read the Part 2 Form and Board discussed.

NO. 33-2019 03/20/19 Resolution Determining that there are No Adverse Impacts on the Environment from Construction of the Downsville Park Paddle Trail Waterfront Park Development

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town has been awarded funding from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, & Historic Preservation; and

WHEREAS, this funding is intended for the redevelopment of the former Town highway garage property into a community park, including the demolition of existing structures and the construction of a pavilion, boat ramp, and dock/fishing pier; and

WHEREAS, the project is considered an Unlisted Action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act; and

WHEREAS, the possible environmental impacts of the Downsville Park Paddle Trail Waterfront Park Development construction have been considered by the Town Board;

NOWTHEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board has determined that the Town of Colchester Waterfront Park construction will not have significant adverse impacts on the environment.

Resolution was seconded by Julie Markert.

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, Gregory L. Lavorgna	voting aye

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

Supervisor reported that the Bid Opening for the 2020 4x4 Pickup Truck is April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.

Supervisor Merrill reported that we have talked about going to a Sole Appointed Assessor; Supervisor would like to wait until petitions are filed before making a decision; petitions are to be filed the first week of April; we also need to have a public hearing for the local law. Board discussed.

NO. 34-2019 03/20/19 Notice of Public Hearing

Mark Mattson made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Colchester on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 7:10 PM in the Town Hall, 72 Tannery Road, Downsville, New York regarding the adoption of a Local Law to change from elected Board of Assessors to a single appointed Assessor; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that copies of said proposed Local Law are available for review during normal business hours at the Office of the Town Clerk located at 72 Tannery Road in Downsville, New York;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the regular monthly meeting of the Town Board will be held immediately following the Public Hearing.

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

Supervisor commented that there is a voucher in tonight to the Colchester Senior Citizens for their three trips this year; they are asking for \$2,290 to cover the bus expense; we have \$3,000 in the budget line, but also give to senior meals and others; last year we gave \$2,000.; they have also submitted three Public Facility Permits to use the Pepacton Park for parking for the trips. Board discussed and agreed to give the same as last year, \$2,000.

NO. 35-2019 03/20/19 Colchester Senior Citizens

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the Supervisor to issue reimbursement of \$2,000 to the Colchester Senior Citizens to help defray the cost of their bus expenses of the three trips they have planned for 2019.

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

NO. 36-2019 03/20/19 Public Facility Permit No.03-2019

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Alfretta Doig on behalf of the Colchester Senior Citizens has applied for a Public Facility Permit to use the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, on Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00AM to 7:00PM for parking approximately 15 cars for bus trip to the Villa Roma for a show and lunch;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to issue Public Facility Permit No.03-2019 to the Colchester Senior Citizens for the use of the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, Downsville, NY on June 18, 2019.

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

NO. 37-2019 03/20/19 Public Facility Permit No.04-2019

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Alfretta Doig on behalf of the Colchester Senior Citizens has applied for a Public Facility Permit to use the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, on Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, from 7:30AM to 8:00PM for parking approximately 15 cars for bus trip to Kingston, NY for a boat ride and dinner;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to issue Public Facility Permit No.04-2019 to the Colchester Senior Citizens for the use of the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, Downsville, NY on August 08, 2019.

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

NO. 38-2019 03/20/19 Public Facility Permit No.05-2019

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Alfretta Doig on behalf of the Colchester Senior Citizens has applied for a Public Facility Permit to use the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, on Wednesday,

September 25<sup>th</sup> , from 9:00AM to 7:00PM for parking approximately 15 cars for bus trip for lunch and entertainment in Silver Birches, 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.05-2019 to the Colchester Senior Citizens for the use of the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, Downsville, NY on September 25, 2019.

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

Supervisor Merrill reported that he has spoken with John Evans, DCS Superintendent; they, Downsville, Roscoe and Livingston Manors School Districts, have submitted Shared Service Grant applications for \$200,000 each; a match of 10%; Towns of Colchester and/or Rockland could also apply for \$200,000 each; we could share with DCS like IT (through BOCES), they could move around the pool, we could plow snow around bus garage, buy products together for better deals, share equipment, are some examples. Supervisor asked the Board if they were interested in looking at this further. Board discussed and agreed to research further.

It was announced that Nathan Homovich has passed his road test for his CDL License.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:

- Town Clerk's Office Closed Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>
- Next Regular Board Meeting Wed., April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM

Councilwoman Champlin reported that she has received notification from Del. Co. Office for the Aging that Senior Meals will start in July for Colchester; food will be prepared in Walton and Councilwoman Champlin will go to Walton on Tuesdays and Thursdays to pick the food up and deliver to the Downsville Fire Hall; new equipment has been purchased at the fire hall and she has volunteers lined up; Councilwoman Champlin needs to complete a CPR class to be certified.

Councilwoman Champlin reported that she and Councilwoman Markert applied to the 2019 Delaware County Tourism Promotion & Development Grant Program of the Delaware County Dept. of Economic Development for a \$1,000 matching grant to promote their Farmers' Market Events and they have been awarded the \$1,000 grant.

Councilwoman Champlin also reported that she has been given permission to start up a Back Pack Program at DCS; this program helps kids who are hungry on the weekends; on Fridays students who are selected through the program, only known by the School Nurse and Principal, will received a back-pack filled with nutritional items to help get them through the weekend; next step is to get sponsors and then apply for grant from the O'Connor Foundation.

Supervisor recommended appointing Bonnie Seegmiller to the Board of Assessment Review to replace William Beers, who has given his letter of resignation effective immediately; this is a five year term and grievance day is the fourth Tuesday in May each year. Board discussed.

NO. 39-2019 03/20/19 Appoint Bonnie Seegmiller to Board of Assessment Review

Upon recommendation from the Supervisor, Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby appoints Bonnie R. Seegmiller of 946 Bull Run Road, Hamden, New York to the Board of Assessment Review for the term of 03-20-2019 to 09-30-2023.

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

Councilwoman Markert applauded Bonnie Seegmiller for having the Cornell Cooperative "On the Road" Succulent Workshop last; it was well attended.

Councilwoman Markert commented that she is concerned with the potholes at Pepacton Park. Supervisor replied that Pepacton Park will get paved through the Downsville Park Paddle Trail Development Project. Councilwoman Markert inquired if the walking path was also included in this project. Supervisor replied yes and that the foot bridge will be going in.

Councilman Mattson inquired if NYSDOT was going to do State Hwy 30? Highway Supt Eck replied that it was on the list starting at Shinhopple.

Councilwoman Markert commented that since the digital sign is not working, could it possibly be worked on and taken to the Cooks Falls Court/Highway Garage. Board discussed.

Supervisor reported that Pio Deroda was awarded a Roxbury Arts Grant to install seven historic painting billboards throughout the Township; one being of the Eagle Hotel.

**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.05-2019 Voucher No.147-179; Totaling \$45,744.92.

With no further business, Mark Mattson made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend, Town Clerk