

April 03, 2019

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, April 03, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

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| 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, Jeff Francisco-Delaware Engineering, Bonnie Seegmiller and Alan Donner.

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 20, 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.

GUESTS: Jeff Francisco of Delaware Engineering reported that the Bid Opening for the Downsville Water System Improvement Project DWSRF #17537: Contract #TC1-G-2019 is next week, April 10th at 10AM at Town Hall; he will review the bids and make a recommendation at the April 17th Board Meeting; at least ten contractors have picked up bid packets and four contractors attended the pre-bid meeting on March 27th.

VISITOR COMMENTS: none.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Catskill Watershed Corp- CWC provides stream clean-up supplies; Earth Day is April 22nd.
- NYS Association of Town Superintendents of Highways, Inc.- NYS Legislature adopted the 2019-20 Budget without restoring the request for Emergency Winter Recovery funding and CHIPS was held to a flat \$438M; asking that letters and phone calls be made to NYS Legislators asking that these funds be restored.
- NYSEG- Since we installed your energy-efficient lighting upgrades (Cooks Falls Highway Garage), new LED interior and exterior lighting options are now available to help save even more. Supervisor stated that Rosemary from NYSEG called today and wanted to know if Colchester was still interested in LED Street Lights; held told her to order them for us.

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

- Cooks Falls Water District- March 2019- 17 customers balance due \$850.00; Receipts of \$100.00 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Downsville Water District- March 2019- 36 customers balance due \$2,632.80; Receipts of \$160.00 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Town Clerk- March 2019- Total disbursed \$1,254 of which \$1,206.50 was Town revenues.
- Police- March 2019 Activity Report.
- Town Justice DeRosia- March 2019.

Supervisor Merrill reported that there is a voucher in tonight to Principle Design & Engineering for the walking bridge over Downs Brook; no NYSDEC permit is needed; now we just need to decide when to build.

Supervisor reported that Jeff Francisco of Delaware Engineering has given a cost estimate for the DWD NYCDEP Line Extension Project; this estimate has been forwarded to DEP for their review and decision.

Supervisor Merrill reported that the Bid Opening for the 2020 4x4 Pickup Truck will be April 17th at 7PM.

Supervisor added that a Public Hearing for the Local Law to change from elected Board of Assessors to a single appointed Assessor will be April 17th at 7:10PM; so far, no one has picked up a petition to run as Assessor; we could have one sole elected Assessor. Town Attorney commented that we could revoke one elected Assessor, but once we go to appointed it would stay that way (no more elected). Supervisor commented that he will look into salaries of appointed Assessors throughout the County; we have budgeted around \$22,000 in this year's budget for all three Assessors.

Supervisor reminded the Board Members to get their thinking caps on for ideas for shared services with Downsville Central School.

Supervisor Merrill reported that the 3500 Chevrolet Dump Truck that was ordered last April is going to be delivered tomorrow; there is a voucher in tonight for this truck; we will need to do a Budget Amendment to take funds from General Surplus and put into the Cemetery Equipment line. Board discussed.

NO. 40-2019 04/03/19 Budget Amendment

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on April 18, 2018 the Town Board adopted Resolution No.42-2018 authorizing the purchase of a 2019 3500 Chevrolet Dump Truck off the Bid Reference NY Thruway CT-16017 Piggy Back Contract Trucks & Truck Equipment of Robert Green Truck Division for the use of the Town Cemetery Crew; and

WHEREAS, said truck is being delivered tomorrow and payment in full is needed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to transfer \$53,707.50 from General Surplus to Cemetery Equipment and hereby authorized to amend the 2019 Budget by increasing General Appropriation 8810.2 Cemetery Equipment by \$53,707.50.

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

Supervisor reported that we have received an application for Use of Public Facilities from Sarah Hood to use sections of River Road and Bridge Street and the Covered Bridge Park located at 48 Bridge Street on Saturday, July 27th from 8:00AM to Noon for the Best Dam 5K Color Run and Awards Ceremony. Board discussed.

NO. 41-2019 04/03/19 Public Facility Permit No.06-2019

Greg Lavorgna made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Sarah Hood on behalf of the Best Dam Race, have applied for a Public Facility Permit to use sections of River Road and Bridge Street and the Covered Bridge Park located at 48 Bridge Street on Saturday, July 27th from 8:00AM to Noon for the Best Dam 5K Color Run and Awards Ceremony;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to issue Public Facility Permit No. 06-2019 to Sarah Hood for the use of River Road, Bridge Street and the Covered Bridge Park located at 48 Bridge Street, Downsville, NY.

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

Supervisor also reported that we have received an application for Use of Public Facilities from Janet Champlin so that the Downsville Churches may have Sunrise Services at the Covered Bridge Park on Easter Sunday. Board discussed.

NO. 42-2019 04/03/19 Public Facility Permit No.07-2019

Mark Mattson made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Janet Champlin on behalf of the Downsville Churches has applied for a Public Facility Permit to use the Covered Bridge Park located at 48 Bridge Street, on Sunday, April 21st from 6:00AM to 8:00AM for Sunrise Service for Easter Morning;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to issue Public Facility Permit No. 07-2019 to Downsville Churches for the use of the Covered Bridge Park located at 48 Bridge Street, Downsville, NY on April 21, 2019.

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

Supervisor Merrill reported that Rich Bell graduated last Saturday from the Police Academy and has completed all his field training; we need to adjust his pay rate to a Part-time Police Officer. Board discussed including the Police Budget.

NO. 43-2019 04/03/19 Pay Rate Adjustment for Police Officer Bell

Greg Lavorgna made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Richard J. Bell has completed the Police Academy on March 30, 2019 and has completed his Field Training;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby approves a pay rate change for Part-time Police Officer Richard J. Bell of \$21.00 effective immediately.

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

Supervisor commented that John Bogart is no longer working at the transfer station, but does not retire until the end of the year; we need to do something for all of his years of service; Supervisor suggests doing now instead at the end of the year; Supervisor asked for suggestions. Board discussed and suggested that the Supervisor talk with John first.

Town Attorney Michael DeGroat commented that he feels there is no Conflict of Interest with being on the Planning Board and the Board of Assessment Review. Supervisor asked for a letter in writing to the affect.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:

- Next Regular Board Meeting Wed., April 17th Bid Opening at 7PM;
Public Hearing at 7:10PM; Meeting immediately following.

Councilwoman Champlin commented that a stone cutter/quarryman asked if the Town was putting in a weigh station; rumor was that new cop had asked for one. Supervisor replied that we are not doing this as the NYS Police does this.

Councilwoman Markert inquired if anyone had turned in a petition for the position of Assessor. Supervisor replied that as of today no designating petitions have been turned in for Assessor.

Councilwoman Markert inquired if seniors from other towns were going on the bus trips planned by Colchester Senior Citizens, are they paying their share for the bus expense? She added that she is in full support of the Town funding the bus trips. Supervisor replied that we were told if others were riding the bus, they were also paying toward the bus expense.

Councilwoman Champlin reported the Senior Meals program will start in July. She also reported that the DCS Back Pack Program is going well.

Councilwoman Markert inquired if Colleen Griffith was working on other projects; she was appointed FEMA Clerk? Hwy Supt Eck replied that she is doing more projects; next month going back on FEMA work; FEMA pays us for administration costs.

Councilman Lavorgna asked if we should rent a street vacuum. Hwy Supt Eck replied that we sweep the streets on rainy days, to keep the dust down; main roads are NYSDOT.

SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES: Janet Champlin made the motion, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, that the vouchers be approved, subject to any corrections or deletions, all in favor, motion carried. Abstract No.06-2019 Voucher No.180-206; Totaling \$105,084.31.

Supervisor commented that he, Officer Cawley and CEO Zampolin have been discussing a police building; we would like to get the police vehicles inside for the next winter; a pre-fab 42'x60' building would cost around \$115,000; a concrete pad would need to be install; there is room behind the highway building at 6292 River Road; we would have to do the electric, plumbing and office. Supervisor asked the Board if they were interested in continuing the research. Board agreed to research further.

Bonnie Seegmiller commented that an article "Cutting Costs and Reducing Energy Consumption – Colchester Earns Clean Energy Designation" was in the Mar 2019 edition of the A Time and A Place; copies were distributed to the Board.

Upon recommendation of the Supervisor, Janet Champlin made the motion to go into executive session to discuss highway personnel, seconded by Mark Mattson, all in favor, motion carried. Highway Supt was invited to stay. Board entered executive session at 8:01 PM. Board held discussion. Mark Mattson made the motion to enter back into regular session, seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered regular session at 8:07 PM. Board made no decision forthcoming.

With no further business, Mark Mattson made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Janet Champlin, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend
Town Clerk