

September 15, 2021

A Public Hearing was held by the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 in the Town Hall for the purpose of hearing public comments on the Town of Colchester's current Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project: 260HR301-18, Housing Rehabilitation \$500,000. The CDBG program is administered by the New York State Office of Community Renewal (OCR), and provides resources to eligible local governments for housing, economic development, public facilities, public infrastructure, and planning activities, with the principal purpose of benefitting low/moderate income persons.

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

Others present: Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., Alan Donner, Dan Pinner, Rob Hafele and Officer Cawley. Zoom Attendees: Bonnie Seegmiller, John and D. L.

Proof of Notice having been furnished, the Public Hearing was called to order by Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill.

Town Clerk explained that a total of ten projects have been completed for a total of \$410,000 and \$90,000 was administrative fees that went to Delaware Opportunities; the last reimbursement request has been submitted.

No one else spoke in favor of the proposed Community Development Block Grant Program.

No one else spoke against of the proposed Community Development Block Grant Program.

All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:08 PM. Respectfully Submitted: Julie B. Townsend, Town Clerk

September 15, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 immediately following the Public Hearing at 7:09 PM at the Town Hall.

Present: Arthur M. Merrill Supervisor
Julie A. Markert Councilwoman
Janet L. Champlin Councilwoman
Mark W. Mattson Councilman entered at 7:12PM
Gregory L. Lavorgna Councilman
Recording Secretary: Julie B. Townsend Town Clerk

Others present: Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., Alan Donner, Dan Pinner, Rob Hafele and Officer Cawley. Zoom Attendees: Bonnie Seegmiller, John and D. L.

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 01, 2021 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, Greg Lavorgna-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Mark Mattson-absent, motion carried.

GUESTS and VISITOR COMMENTS: none.

CORRESPONDENCE and REPORTS: none.

Supervisor Merrill reported that meters have been ordered for the Downsville Water District; we have \$108,000 for meters and installation under the DWSRF #17537 Project.

Supervisor reported that he is getting help from NYCDEP to log onto their system regarding the Downsville Water District Hookup Contract.

Supervisor Merrill reported that he has submitted more documents for the Downsville Park Paddle Project Permit.

Supervisor reported that he is working on the request for lower Speed Zones on River Road and Fuller Hill Road/Horton Brook Road. Board encouraged to get this done soon as the traffic on River Road is getting dangerous due to the temporary closure of the Corbett Bridge.

Supervisor Merrill reported on the Mobile Office Unit: trees being removed; materials delivered for the concrete pad; and filing cabinets and ramp being removed and transported to new site.

Supervisor reported that the EFPR Group has completed our calculation of loss revenues for the American Rescue Plan; \$45,060.00 that we can spend on anything.

Councilman Mark Mattson entered the meeting at 7:12PM.

Supervisor added the +\$155,000 could possibly be used for a SMART TV System with speakers so the ZOOM meetings can be heard better; Police Dept. needs a server for their cameras; also, a server for Town Hall to store documents instead of computers; all items must be justified.

Supervisor Merrill reported that Town Attorney Nick Cortese recommends that we do not apply for a NYSDOT work permit to remove hitching post, unless we are going to move it; NYSDOT has jurisdiction as it is in their right-of-way; to move it without a permit is illegal. Board would like Town Attorney to write a letter to the property owners.

Supervisor reminded the Board that Bid Proposal No.01-21 Fuel has been posted and bids are due October 06, 2021 by 3PM; we will approve at the next meeting.

Supervisor Merrill stated that the Teamsters would like to schedule a union contract meeting for Thursday, Sept. 30th at 10am; we need to work on language of Anniversary Date, twice a year, January 1st or June 1st; any other concerns should be addressed to the committee.

Supervisor reported that we need to discuss two issues for the transfer station: equipment and stickers. Supervisor reported that the right-hand side old hydraulic ram packer will not extend out; Transfer Station Superintendent got the left-hand side packer cleaned out and working; Supervisor tried contacting a repair service but no answer; has found another repair service out of PA; they would like some information before coming here to see if they can service the packer. Councilwoman Champlin reported that the Transfer Station Superintendent has learned who residents are and he see no need for stickers or permits; he has been advised that if he does not know them, to let them dump their trash and tell them next time they will need to show proof of residency; the Board is behind his decisions. Councilwoman Champlin stated that the C&D is costly for the Town. Board would like to keep an eye on the C&D costs and address it when needed. Supervisor added that the C&D bin is scheduled for two pickups a week; we have a limit of a 55gal drum per day, but some items do not fit in a drum. Committee recommends to leave procedures the same, without stickers or permits.

Town Clerk explained that at the General Election on November 2nd, there will be six propositions on the ballot; No.1-5 are Statewide that can be viewed on County website; Colchester's will be Proposition No.6- "Shall proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2021, entitled, A Local Law Increasing the Term of Office of the Town Superintendent of Highways from Two Years to Four Years be approved?". Supervisor added that we have discussed that we will place a legal add before October 8th, the last day to register and two weeks before the election.

Supervisor Merrill reported that the DWD is going to be short on funds; we have had two bonds to pay this year; we have difficulty in budgeting funds; we will have another billing in October, but not all water bills are paid on time; Supervisor suggests a loan of \$15,000 from the Supervisor's General Fund; we may be able to repay this before the end of the year. Board discussed.

NO. 92-2021 09/15/21 Inter-Fund Transfer to DWD

Janet Champlin 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 Loan#9101 that is in tonight's vouchers;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes 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 \$15,000.00.

Resolution was seconded by Mark Mattson.

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 Police 2014 Ford Taurus needs repairs to the exhaust system; cost is approximately \$800; exhaust is loud sounding; do we want to repair or get rid of. Board discussed and will discuss again at a later date.

Highway Supt Ken Eck reported that he has received a quote of \$25,973.75 to purchase and install 1887feet of W-style guiderail along Huntley Hollow Road; at the Board Meeting of July 7th, Ron DuPrey had submitted a petition regarding Huntley Hollow Rd and we had responded "*that we have taken out trees and there was a lot of equipment on the road last year; this fall we will shim (blacktop and level) this road and then install guide rails*". Hwy Supt asked for approval. Board discussed.

NO. 93-2021 09/15/21 Huntley Hollow Road Guiderail

Greg Lavorgna made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes Hwy Supt Kenneth Eck to proceed with the project of purchasing and installing 1887feet of W-style guiderail along Huntley Hollow Road for the cost of \$25,973.75.

Resolution was seconded by Mark Mattson, all in favor, motion carried.

Hwy Supt Eck reported that the 2021 CV515 Crew Cab 4x4 Chassis Plow Truck that we reserved per Resolution NO.80-2021 on August 4th, will not be here until March 2022.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:

- Next Regular Meeting is Wed., October 6th - Live and ZOOM.

Councilwoman Markert thanked the DWD for repairing the shut-off at Dukes.

Hwy Supt reported that the sidewalk by Community Bank has been fixed.

Councilwoman Markert inquired about guiderails or shoulder road work along River Road; since the Corbett Bridge is closed for repairs, there is more traffic on River Road and the Downsville Covered Bridge. Board discussed.

NO. 94-2021 09/15/21 Request for Temporary Closure of the D. Covered Bridge

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on August 25, 2021 the Delaware County DPW has closed the Corbett Road Bridge over the East Branch of the Delaware River in the Town of Colchester for emergency structural repairs to deficiencies found during a NYSDOT inspection on August 24th; and

WHEREAS, motorists have had to seek alternate routes, including passage through the Downsville Covered Bridge; and

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2014 the Town Board adopted Resolution No.79-2014 entitled "Proposed Ordinance Regulating Traffic on Bridge Street and the Downsville Covered Bridge"; and

WHEREAS, said ordinance states that passenger vehicles in tow, trucks, pickup trucks, vans, sport utility vehicles (SUV's), farm machinery and heavy equipment are prohibited from traveling on the Downsville Covered Bridge;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to protect our historical covered bridge from over use and abuse, the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby requests that Delaware County DPW temporarily close the Downsville Covered Bridge to all vehicular use, until the Corbett Bridge is re-opened.

Resolution was seconded by Mark Mattson, all in favor, motion carried.

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. 19-2021 Voucher No.497-532; Totaling \$155,538.07.

Janet Champlin made the motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues, seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered executive session at 8:07 PM. Hwy Supt Eck was invited to stay. Board held discussion. Greg Lavorgna made the motion to enter back into regular session, seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered regular session at 8:30PM. Board made the following two resolutions.

NO. 95-2021 09/15/21 Hire Timothy A. Smith as HEO1

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby hires Timothy A. Smith of 12859 State Hwy 30, Downsville, New York as a HEO1 provisional for one year, at a pay rate of \$18.55 per hour with benefits, effective October 06, 2021, assignments and duties at the discretion of the Highway Superintendent;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Timothy A. Smith will have the anniversary date of the first day of January 2022.

Resolution was seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, motion carried.

NO. 96-2021 09/15/21 Hire HEO-in-Training Employees

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the provisional appointments of Dayton R. Frey, Zachary M. Bertholf, and Lance M. Helms as Heavy Equipment Operator-in-Training Highway Employees at a pay rate of \$17.55 per hour, effective October 06, 2021, assignments and duties at the discretion of the Highway Superintendent;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the permanent employment of each Dayton R. Frey, Zachary M. Bertholf, and Lance M. Helms is pending upon receiving their CDL license within six months of hire date.

Resolution was seconded by Mark Mattson, all in favor, motion carried.

With no further business, Julie Markert made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Mark Mattson, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend, Town Clerk