

November 10, 2021

A Public Hearing was held by the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 in the Town Hall for the purpose of hearing the public's comments on the Preliminary Budget for 2022. Proof of Notice having been read by the Town Clerk, the Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget for 2022 was called to order by Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill.

Daniel Pinner inquired where it showed in the budget, the increase for the bookkeeper? He also asked why a 30% raise (10,000) was given. Supervisor replied that this is under Data Processing and the board felt it was long over due for a raise. Alan Donner asked if this was a one-time increase? Supervisor replied once at this time, may increase in another year. Daniel Pinner asked if this was a forty-hour work week? Supervisor stated that this position is no longer part-time, 35-40 hours a week.

No one spoke in favor of the 2022 Budget.

No one spoke against of the 2022 Budget.

All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the Public Hearing was declared closed by Supervisor Merrill at 7:07PM.

Respectfully Submitted:
Julie B. Townsend, Town Clerk

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November 10, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 7:08 PM, immediately following the Public Hearing, at the Town Hall.

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

Others present: Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., Daniel Pinner, Alan Donner and Officer Cawley. ZOOM attendees: Randy Shephard-The Reporter, Jeremy Jenkusky, Ron MacDonald and John Bell.

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, October 20, 2021 had been distributed earlier. Janet Champlin made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, motion carried.

VISITOR COMMENTS: none.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Elizabeth Griffin- Grateful for Assessor, Joseph Gifford's help with their STAR Program; he was prompt, professional and understanding to their situation.
- Assemblyman Joe Angelino- Press Release: Angelino, Martucci, Local Officials Unveil Newly-Named "Colchester Veterans Memorial Bridge".

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

- Cooks Falls Water District- October 2021- 22 customers balance due \$3,440; Receipts of \$3,105.02 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Downsville Water District- October 2021- 78 customers balance due \$12,169.47; Receipts of \$13,042.93 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Town Clerk- October 2021- Total disbursed \$1,920.52 of which \$1,872.02 was Town revenues.
- Police- October 2021 Activity Report.
- Town Justice DeRosia- October 2021.
- Town Justice Edel- October 2021.
- Planning Board- Minutes of September 16,2021.

Supervisor Merrill reported that there is an issue with the paperwork for the last request for funds under the Water System Improvement Project DWSRF #17537; this was for the cost of the 125 meters; EFC is looking for a WMBE Waiver, Supervisor had thought this was taken care of in the first round; we had cut the check to Schmidt's Wholesale (\$49,067.62), but have been holding check until we receive Requisition No.2; therefore Supervisor is asking for a Inter-Fund Transfer from the Supervisor's General Fund to the DWD in the amount of \$50,000. Board discussed.

NO.112-2021 11/10/21 Inter-Fund Transfer to DWD

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Downsville Water District had insufficient funds to pay Schmidt's Wholesale, Inc. for the cost of 125 meters; and

WHEREAS, funds have not been received for DWSRF 17537 Requisition No. 2;

THEREFORE, 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 \$50,000.00.

Resolution was seconded by Greg Lavorgna.

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 commented that the NYCDEP Downsville Water District Contract is still at a standstill; the DEP website is a nightmare; cannot get it to work.

Supervisor Merrill reported that the NYS CDBG Project #260HR301-18 \$500,000 Housing Rehabilitation Program Project is closing up; some documents need reviewing and signing.

Supervisor reported that we have applied for an extension on the Downsville Park Paddle Project.

Supervisor Merrill reported that the company moving the mobile office unit would like a deposit; we have a voucher in for the next meeting, next week.

Supervisor asked the Board for any comments on the 2022 Budget. Councilman Mattson commented that the Bookkeeper has been here a long time and understands that the work load has increased, but he feels the large increase should be done in stages. Councilman Lavorgna commented that he had approached the bookkeeper with \$3,000 for the next 3 years and it was not accepted. Supervisor stated that we postponed last week's meeting until now, so that we could

have the full Board's view on this issue. Councilman Mattson commented are we setting a prescience for the future? Supervisor replied that we are not; we are trying to compensate for the work load; NYS Retirement System has put everything back on the Towns; County is also dealing with this. Councilman Lavorgna commented that he did some homework; found out that our Town Bookkeeper is the highest paid town Bookkeeper in the County. Supervisor replied that NYS Retirement has become more complicated and we have a lot more employees than other towns. Councilwoman Champlin commented that we didn't keep up; County just gave \$10,000 Bonus to dept. heads for Covid-19. Supervisor added that ARP money was given to those who worked through the Covid-19 pandemic. Supervisor stated that we could make the salary clear by making a resolution; we did this for Officer Cawley a few years ago. Councilman Mattson stated he would like to do a resolution. Councilwoman Markert stated that it is in the budget and a resolution is not needed. Supervisor stated if there is no more discussion, he would like to adopt the budget.

NO.113-2021 11/10/21 2022 Budget Adopted

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby accepts the Town of Colchester Preliminary Budget for 2022 as presented and that it be adopted as the Final 2022 Budget.

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 no

The resolution having received majority vote of the members of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, the 2022 Budget was declared to be duly adopted. And hereby affixed one certified copy of the 2022 Budget.

Supervisor Merrill inquired to the status of the surplus inventory going to auction. Councilman Lavorgna commented if we could use the police car for a vehicle the highway could use, possibly to get parts with, instead of using a truck. Hwy Supt Eck stated that he had spoken with Hwy Mechanic Chris, it would cost about \$400 to fix exhaust. Board discussed. Supervisor reported that we could try this and if not an advantage for us, could always go to auction later; mower could give us a better price in spring. Discussion of the office equipment that we got from the mobile office unit; it will be looked into. Hwy Supt stated that the DWD meters are also in the way at the highway garage. Supervisor will contact DWD Water Plant Operator.

Supervisor stated that we were contact about the Christmas Parade to be held December 11th. Board discussed.

NO.114-2021 11/10/21 Sponsor Christmas Parade & File Perm33c

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby sponsors the Christmas Parade to be held at 4:30PM Saturday, December 11, 2021 on NY State Highway 30 and 206, Downsville, New York and hereby authorizes the Supervisor to file the NYSDOT Special Use Permit Application (Perm33c) on behalf of the Downsville Christmas Parade Committee.

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

NO.115-2021 11/10/21 Public Facility Permit No.14-2021

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, William Reichert on behalf of the Downsville Christmas Parade Committee has applied for a Public Facility Permit to use the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, on Saturday, December 11th from 4:30PM to 6:00PM for turning around of Christmas Parade Floats to proceed back to Downsville Central School;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to issue Public Facility Permit No. 14-2021 to the Downsville Christmas Parade Committee for the use of the Pepacton Park located at 15500 State Hwy 30, Downsville, NY.

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

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcement:

- Next Regular Meeting is Wed., November 17th - Live and ZOOM at 7PM.

Councilman Lavorgna stated that residents were happy with the work done on Baker Hill Road and thanked the highway department.

Janet Champlin made the motion to go into executive session to teamster's negotiations, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered executive session at 7:37 PM. Hwy Supt Eck 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 7:53 PM. Board made no decision forthcoming.

With no further business, Julie Markert made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend, Town Clerk