

December 15, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

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

Recording Secretary:	Julie B. Townsend	Town Clerk
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Others present: Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., Thomas Zampolin- CEO, Richard Hascha- Deputy CEO, Daniel Pinner, Alan Donner and Nathan Homovich. ZOOM attendees: Randy Shephard-The Reporter, Dan Bennett, Ron MacDonald, Tim Smith, Dayton Frey, Lillian Browne and iPhone.

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 01, 2021 had been distributed earlier. Janet Champlin made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, motion carried.

VISITOR COMMENTS: none.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- NYS Dept. of Civil Service- World Trade Center Sick Leave Reimbursement Policy.
- Response letter to NYSDOH regarding nuisance complaint dated Nov. 19, 2021 and submitted to the Board on Dec. 01, 2021.
- Catskill Watershed Corp.- Nomination form for three Delaware County seats; re-nominated: James E. Eisel, Allen Hinkley and Arthur Merrill.
- Chairman Tina Mole`, Delaware County Board of Supervisors- *“Delaware County will not reallocate our already stressed resources to enforce the newest NYS mask mandate that took effect on Monday, December 13, 2021. Delaware County does not have the internal framework to enforce this mandate. However, please be aware that businesses have oversight from other state agencies, such as Ag & Markets or other professional licensing boards. These agencies may enforce the newest mandate. So, please, out of respect for our business owners and the public as a whole, wear masks in public spaces, get vaccinated and continue to be diligent with social distancing and hand washing practices. We would ask that any person feeling sick during this flu season stay home and take care of yourself. Be conscious of who you are exposing to even the common cold as many of our older residents and young children have limited immune capacity. These are basic steps we can all take to limit the impacts of not just COVID-19 but the many flu and cold viruses that spread during the winter months.”*

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

- Town Justice DeRosia- November 2021.
- Town Justice Edel- November 2021.

Supervisor Merrill reported that the mobile office unit should be getting moved in January.

Supervisor asked Hwy Supt Eck if the Removal of Obstructions from Right-of-Way on Ackerman Acres Road letter has been sent. Hwy Supt replied that the letter has been drafted.

Appropriations #8810.2 by \$60,000.00; Cemetery Supervisor Nate Homovich found a used 2021 Kabota U35 Excavator; it has 402hours on it; Mechanic Chris Biviano has also looked at the machine; this is about \$10,000 less than a new machine. Board discussed.

NO.125-2021 12/15/21 Purchase 2021 Kabota U35 Excavator

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on July 14, 2021 the Town Board of the Town of Colchester adopted Resolution No.72-2021 titled, “ Appropriation from General Capital Reserve Fund for Police Car, Mini Excavator and Mobile Office Building”; and

WHEREAS, said resolution was subject to a permissive referendum and no petition was filed; and

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2021 per Resolution No. 82-2021, the Town Board of the Town of Colchester authorized Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to amend the 2021 Budget by increasing the General Revenues Interfund Transfers #5031 by \$200,000.00 and increasing the Police Equipment Appropriations #3120.2 by \$45,000.00, increasing the Cemetery Equipment Appropriations #8810.2 by \$60,000.00, and increasing the New Building Appropriations #16204.1.10 by \$95,000.00, for a grand total of \$200,000.00 transferred from the General Fund Capital Reserve;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to purchase a used 2021 Kabota U35 Excavator from A Motors Inc of 26 Webster Street, Binghamton, NY in the amount of \$49,500.00.

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 set the Organizational Meeting for next year. Board discussed.

NO.126-2021 12/15/21 Organizational Meeting

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, (Public Officers Law, Article 7) that the Town of Colchester Town Board will hold its Organizational Meeting on Wednesday, January 05, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall, 72 Tannery Road, Downsville, New York;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the regular meeting be held immediately following the Organizational Meeting.

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

Supervisor reported that Kent Manuel, Chief Planner of Del. Co. Dept. of Planning and Watershed Affairs has stated that we need to update our Hazards Mitigation Plan; once all the Towns have done this, then the County Board of Supervisors will adopt at the County level. Board discussed.

NO.127-2021 12/15/21 Adoption of the Delaware County Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazards Mitigation Plan Update

Greg Lavorgna made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Delaware County, with the assistance of the Albany Visualization and Informatics Lab (AVAIL), has gathered information and prepared the Delaware County Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazards Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware County Board of Supervisors determined in Resolution 107 of 2003 that a multi-jurisdictional All-Hazards Mitigation Plan representing all the towns and villages in Delaware County would be more efficient to produce than each community drafting and adopting its own; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware County Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazards Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, Delaware County is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input on the Plan and the actions in the Plan; and

WHEREAS, Delaware County and the Town of Colchester have reviewed the Plan and affirm that the Plan will be updated no less than every five years;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Colchester Town Board that the Town of Colchester adopts the Delaware County Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazards Mitigation Plan as this jurisdictions Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the Plan. 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 Merrill reported that the Police Dept has three pistols in their inventory that have not been used since officers have retired; they would like to list them as surplus inventory to get them out of their inventory; once this is done Officer Cawley will contact a Federal Arms Dealer to transfer the pistols to new owners. Board discussed.

NO.128-2021 12/15/21 Surplus Inventory

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Colchester has accepted the following as Surplus Inventory of the Town of Colchester Police Department:

Sig Sauer P220 .45 cal. Semi-auto pistol serial #G341846, with three 7 round magazines.

Sig Sauer P220 .45 cal. Semi-auto pistol serial #G341847, with three 7 round magazines.

Sig Sauer P226 9mm cal. Semi-auto pistol serial #U553711, with five 15 round magazines.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby authorizes Supervisor, Arthur M. Merrill to contact Clifford L. Olsen a Federal Arms Dealer and Gunsmith operating as Catskill Sporting Goods to transfer said pistols on behalf of the Town of Colchester.

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

Supervisor submitted suggestions of wages for 2022; we will adopt these at the Organizational Meeting on Jan 5th. Board reviewed and discussed. Board agreed with recommendations.

Supervisor Merrill reported that a Civil Service Examination for Accounting Supervisor was just posted for a position at DCMO BOCES in Norwich; the salary is \$50,000-57,000; the \$10,000 raise we gave to our bookkeeper was under standards compared to this.

Supervisor reported that we received a memo from our Auditors; every employee must have a file that includes all raises, and the employee must knowledge the raise and sign the form.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:

- Next Regular Meeting is Wed., January 5th - Live and ZOOM - Organizational at 7PM
- Town Hall Offices will be Closed Dec. 24th and Dec. 31st.

Code Enforcement Officer Thomas Zampolin stated that it has been a great 15+years working for the Town of Colchester and a pleasure working with everyone, and he looks forward to continue to serve the Township in his new capacity as Deputy CEO. Supervisor thanked Tom for his service to the Township.

SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES: Greg Lavorgna 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. 24-2021 Voucher No.679-710; Totaling \$82,553.18.

Supervisor Arthur Merrill thanked Councilman Mark Mattson for his 30+years of service to the Town of Colchester and wished him well in his future endeavors.

Janet Champlin made the motion to go into executive session to Teamsters' negotiations, seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, motion carried. Hwy Supt Eck was invited to stay. Board entered executive session at 7:55 PM. Board held discussion. Janet Champlin made the motion to enter back into regular session, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered regular session at 8:05 PM. Board made no decision forthcoming.

With no further business, Greg Lavorgna made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Mark Mattson, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend, Town Clerk