

August 17, 2022

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Present: Arthur M. Merrill Supervisor
Janet L. Champlin Councilwoman
Gregory L. Lavorgna Councilman
Julie A. Markert Councilwoman
Daniel J. Pinner Councilman

Recording Secretary: Julie B. Townsend Town Clerk

Others present: Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., The Reporter-Elizabeth DeFalco, Alan Donner, Vidas Stankevicius and Officer Cawley.

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, August 03, 2022 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: Vidas Stankevicius commented that he has property on Baxter Mountain Road and it is inaccessible because only half of the road is taken care of; all property owners gave easements. Hwy Supt Eck replied that the road past the STOP sign is not a Town Road. Supervisor added that easements may have been given as a right-of-way road and suggested that he produce his easement.

Vidas Stankevicius also commented that the Town installed an EV Charging Station with a Clean Energy Communities Grant; no charge for years and now charging the most in the area. Supervisor replied that for three years we did not charge a fee for using the EV Charging Station; now that we are paying around \$200 a month for electricity, the Board decided it was time for users to pay; it will take many years to break even; Board investigated the costs and found a reasonable fee to charge users; there are other charging stations outside of the township.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Downsville Little League 2022- Thank You for your support; picture of the four teams.
- Catskill Recreation Center- CRC and Overlook Mountain Bicycles hosting the Catskill Mountain Cycling Challenge; non-competitive event will be held Sunday, September 4th; Colchester route is around the Pepacton Reservoir.

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

- Town Justice Conrow- \$9,730.00 reported for July 2022.

Supervisor Merrill reported that the skirting on the Mobile Office Unit is scheduled to be finished on Monday, August 22nd. Hwy Supt added that the septic is in.

Supervisor reported that a NYSDEC conference call is scheduled for tomorrow regarding the boat launch for the Pepacton Park Paddle Project; we are looking to do a smaller walkway and pave the parking lot; we may need to look for extra funds for the pavilion as building material prices have risen. Hwy Supt suggested to put the electric lines in before paving.

Hwy Supt Eck reported that the compactor has been removed at the transfer station.

Supervisor Merrill read a Letter of Resignation from Zachary Bertholf as an HEO1/Cemetery Laborer; his last day of work is August 25th; he is moving upstate with his family and will not be able to maintain his employment with the Town. Board discussed.

NO. 80-2022 08/17/22 Letter of Resignation from Zachary M. Bertholf

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2022 a Letter of Resignation was presented to Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill from Zachary Bertholf from the Highway Department;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby accepts with regret said Letter of Resignation from Zachary M. Bertholf as a Town of Colchester HEO1 effective August 31, 2022.

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

Supervisor reported that we have received one application for Cemetery Laborer; he does not have a CDL but is interested in getting one; Supervisor advised him to contact the Hwy Supt in regards of how to obtain a CDL. Board discussed and reviewed application.

NO. 81-2022 08/17/22 Part-Time Cemetery Laborer

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby hires Francis Scott O'Brien as a Part-time Cemetery Laborer at the rate of \$13.20 per hour with no benefits.

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

NO. 82-2022 08/17/22 Advertise for HEO

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to advertise for the position of HEO (Heavy Equipment Operator). Applicants must have a valid Commercial Driver License (CDL); Class B minimum; free and clear of convictions; with air brake endorsement. Applications are due Tuesday, September 21st.

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

Councilman Pinner inquired to the rate of pay for the DWD Water Plant Operator Assistant? Supervisor replied that we were going to give Ron MacDonald \$200 a meter; Peter Heimbuecher has installed a few meters.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:

- Next Regular Meeting is Wed., September 7th at 7PM.

Councilwoman Markert inquired if the Town could pass a resolution for a derby season, from May 1st to October 31st? Councilwoman Champlin added that demolition derbies start mid-May and go through the end of October; we have talked with those who participate in these derbies and the time frame is acceptable. Supervisor replied that he will contact the Town Attorney to see what kind of ordinance or Town Law we can come up with; the State does not recognize derby cars as a hobby.

Councilwoman Champlin commented that she has received another call regarding large trucks on Clark Street; resident stated that the water leak has not been fixed; also, that the ten-foot residential road is getting abused by large trucks and cannot sleep at night due to hearing "air brakes." Supervisor replied that the water gushing out of the ground was not a water leak; DWD has been losing water and we had NY Rural Water here helping to find a leak; went to Clark Street Extension heard leak; came back yesterday and heard nothing; they found a leak at Devin Dunphy at 14956 State Hwy 30. Councilmen Lavorgna and Pinner stated that they also received phone call. Board discussed.

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. 14-2022 Voucher No.440-464; Totaling \$48,059.05.

With no further business, Daniel Pinner made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend, Town Clerk