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TOWN CLERK

**Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 2, 2008
Colchester Town Hall**

Meeting Room 1 – Immediately Following town Meeting at 7:15 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Linda Hodge, Stan Soby, Greg Cordova, Rosemary Coyle, John Malsbenden

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Pamela Scheibelein, Adam Turner, Ryan Blessing, Bruce Hayn, Siobhan Grogan, Maggie Cosgrove, Art Standish, Bill Offinoski, Paul Catalano, Tearice Peters, Henny Markiewicz Simon and other citizens.

1. **Call to Order:** First Selectman L. Hodge called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.
2. **Additions to the Agenda:** S. Soby moved to move item #6 - Recognition and Presentation of Proclamation to Henny Markiewicz Simon, to directly follow item #2, seconded by R. Coyle. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
3. **Approve Minutes of the September 18, 2008 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting.** J. Malsbenden moved to accept the minutes of the September 18, 2008 regular Board of Selectmen meeting; seconded by R. Coyle. MOTION CARRIED. Greg Cordova abstained.
4. **Approve Minutes of the September 23, 2008 Special Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, and Elderly Tax Relief Task Force Meeting.** J. Malsbenden moved to accept the minutes of the September 23, 2008 Joint Special Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, and Elderly Tax Relief Task Force Meeting, seconded by Stan Soby. MOTION CARRIED.
5. **Citizen's Comments:** none
6. **Recognition of Henny Markiewicz Simon.** Linda Hodge presented Ms. Simon with a certificate proclaiming her an *Outstanding Citizen of Colchester*.
7. **Boards and Commissions**
 - a. Christine Edwards resigned from Planning & Zoning Commission effective October 16, 2008: R. Coyle moved to accept Christine Edwards's resignation from the Planning & Zoning Commission with regrets, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
 - b. **Discussion and Possible Action to extend the Elderly Tax Relief Task Force until September 30, 2009 and reappoint existing members – Rosemary Coyle, Ron Goldstein, Bill Wagner, Neil Gervais, Jerome Blume, Eileen Fazekas, Brenden Healy, John Novak.** G. Cordova moved to extend and reappoint existing members of the Elderly Tax Relief Task Force until September

30, 2009, seconded by Stan Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
R. Coyle abstained.

8. **Tax Refunds & Rebates:** After review, J. Malsbenden moved to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$219.06 to Peter & Virginia Reneson, \$6.67 to Teri Davis, \$5.75 to Pamela Olson, \$5.52 to Chad & Stephen Barnes, \$249.00 to Millard & Victoria Campbell, \$8.75 to Paul Szaban, \$38.43 to Leonard Lapsis, \$22.77 to Yaroslava Yerman, \$15.65 to Susan Schroeder, \$49.71 to Rebecca Hunt, \$51.63 to Stephen Klusek, \$54.07 to William Salisbury, \$16.33 to Deborah & Paul Schnackerberg, \$33.67 to Honda Lease Trust, \$15.84 to Leanne and Johannes Liebenberg, \$179.47 to Craig Marsh, \$9.00 to Robert Komoroski, \$78.46 to Daniel Klusek, \$470.00 to Wells Fargo Real Estate Tax Services, LLC, seconded by R. Coyle. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
9. **Discussion and Possible Action Authorizing the First Selectman to Submit a Grant Application in the amount of \$50,000 to the Office of Policy and Management to Undertake a Study of Needs, Regulations, and Possibilities Regarding Affordable Housing in Colchester.** J. Malsbenden moved to authorize the First Selectman to submit a Grant Application in the amount of \$50,000 to the Office of Policy and Management to Undertake a Study of Needs, Regulations, and Possibilities Regarding Affordable Housing in Colchester and to sign all necessary documents; seconded by Stan Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
10. **Discussion and Possible Action on the Agreement for Engineering Services from Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc. for the Flatbrook Wastewater Booster Pump Station.** S. Soby moved to authorize an Agreement for Engineering Services from Weston & Sampson Engineers, Inc. for the Flatbrook Wastewater Booster Pump Station as recommended by the Sewer and Water Commission and authorization for the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents; seconded by J. Malsbenden. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
11. **Discussion and Possible Action regarding the Town of Colchester's Participation in the 2008 United Way Campaign.** John Malsbenden moved to approve the First Selectman's request for the Board of Selectmen's support in participating in the 2008 United Way Campaign.
12. **Discussion and Possible Action regarding Addition of "Discussion of Possible Freeze on Town Spending" to Special Tri-Board Meeting Agenda for October 20, 2008:** Bruce Hayn, Chairman Board of Finance, requested the Board of Selectmen add "Discussion of Possible Freeze on Town Spending" to the Tri-Board Meeting Agenda for October 20, 2008. He suggests a small freeze would send a message to the community that we are being fiscally responsible. Greg Cordova questioned the need for the freeze, and questioned where the money would not be spent. Maggie Cosgrove advised that the Board of Education did not implement a freeze, managed the bottom line of their budget. Linda Hodge advised the Town is managing their budget well within budget constraints and is being very austere. She and Maggie Cosgrove are reviewing all expenditures. Maggie Cosgrove advised that all research with various professional organizations on the Town, BoE, and financial fronts say the State is not touching their municipal aid to towns. If aid were cut, the problem would be in the next fiscal year. The Colchester tax collection rate has increased. There was general agreement that while a freeze may not be necessary that a discussion would be positive. R. Coyle moved to add "Discussion and Possible Freeze on Town Spending" to the Special Tri-Board Meeting Agenda for October 20, 2008, seconded by Greg Cordova. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Moved by Stan Soby, seconded by John Malsbenden to add item #12a.
Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

- 12a. Siobhan Grogan, Director Cragin Memorial Library,** reported on the scheduling of room requests. In general most meetings are finished at 8:00 p.m. Ms. Grogan would like to extend Friday and Saturday hours to 5:00 p.m. A full report will be scheduled for the October 16, 2008 Board of Selectmen meeting.
- 13. Citizen's Comments:** Bruce Hayn asked where we stood on submission of the CDBG Grant. Adam Turner, Town Planner, replied that a full presentation had been given to the Board of Selectmen at their last meeting and that the grant would be submitted in the next round of submissions.
- 14. First Selectman's Report:** First Selectman L. Hodge reported the opening of White Oaks, an energy efficient community. There will be a full exercise on a "Chlorine Spill Incident" on October 18th. L.Hodge will be meeting with the Lebanon First Selectman in regard to developing an evacuation plan. There will be a meeting for United Community Family Services on Monday, Oct. 6th. The Fire Department is again having problems with ET328.
- 15. Liaison reports:** Greg Cordova advised the Youth Services Advisory Board has a new middle school student member. John Malsbenden had no meetings. Rosemary Coyle reported on the joint meeting of the First Selectmen, the Board of Finance and Elderly Tax Relief Task Force. Stan Soby had no meetings.
- 16. Executive Session Regarding Personnel Matter -- William Otfinoski:** John Malsbenden moved to go into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m., seconded by Stan Soby. The Board of Selectmen came out of executive session at 8:28 p.m.
- 17. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela A. Scheibelein
Recording Clerk