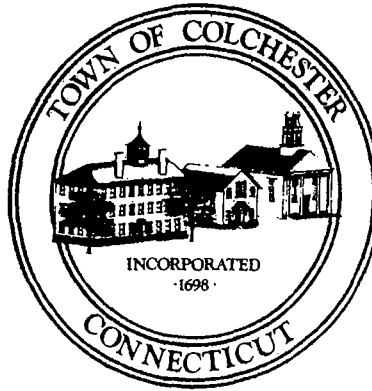


Linda M. Hodge



First Selectman

2008 DEC -5 PM 3:54

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COLCHESTER, CT

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**Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 4, 2008
Colchester Town Hall
Meeting Room 1 – 7:00 p.m.**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Caplet, Greg Plunkett, Nancy Cordova, Sue Durb, William Beer, Sal Tassone, Jay Gigliotti, Wendy Mis, Ryan Blessing, Don Herbert, Evan Evans, Eric Kundahl, and other citizens

1. **Call to Order:** First Selectman L. Hodge called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
2. **Additions to the Agenda:** J. Malsbenden moved to add a new item #17 "Discussion and Possible Action on Approving the Sewer & Water Commission's Action to Fund a New Capital Line Item – Well 5/5A Repairs – by Appropriation of \$39,587.⁰⁰ from the CL&P Energy Rebate from the VFD Purchase" to the agenda, and to renumber the remaining items consecutively starting with #18, seconded by G. Cordova. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
3. **Approve Minutes of the November 20, 2008 Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting:** J. Malsbenden moved to accept the minutes of the November 20, 2008 Regular Board of Selectmen meeting minutes as presented, seconded by R. Coyle. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED
4. **Amend Minutes of the October 20, 2008 Special Joint Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, and Board of Education Meeting:** G. Cordova moved to amend the minutes of the October 20, 2008 Special Joint Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, and Board of Education meeting by adding Karen Loiselle to the list of attendees, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
5. **Citizen's Comments:** Eric Kundahl spoke regarding the last Parks & Recreation meeting on Monday. They thought of other items that should go to the Board of Finance along with the track "potentially to include other sites and projects" in the referendum. First Selectman L. Hodge told Mr. Kundahl that all potential bonding projects will be part of the budget process.
6. **Boards and Commissions – Interviews and/or Possible Appointments and Resignations**
 - a. **Open Space Advisory Committee (member; term expires 03/01/11): William Hochholzer (interviewed on 11/20/08):** R. Coyle moved to appoint William Hochholzer as a member of the Open Space Advisory Committee with a term to expire on 03/01/11, seconded by S. Soby. Following discussion, all members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

12. **Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Energy Conservation Projects (Greg Plunkett):** Greg Plunkett presented on possible projects that could be initiated through the CL&P Rebate Program related to the conservation of energy. The Board of Selectmen agreed that it would be interested in reviewing ideas and options for energy cost reductions. Greg Plunkett will present a proposal at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.
13. **Discussion and Possible Action on Repair of Bacon Academy Fire Alarm System – Scheduling of Town Meeting:** J. Malsbenden moved to forward the appropriation request for \$81,050.⁰⁰ for the repair of the Bacon Academy Fire Alarm System to a Town Meeting to take place immediately before the next available Board of Selectmen meeting as per the warning requirements, seconded by S. Soby. Following discussion, all members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
14. **Discussion and Possible Action on Colchester Police Cruiser Parking Area:** First Selectman L. Hodge reported on the status of security concerns at the parking area for police cruisers that was raised at the last Police Commission meeting. Greg Plunkett will be addressing corrective options for this issue.
15. **Discussion and Possible Action on DEMHS Disaster Recovery Center Memorandum of Agreement:** S. Soby moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement for the DEMHS Disaster Recovery Center as presented, and to authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents, seconded by J. Malsbenden. Following discussion, all members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
16. **Discussion and Possible Action on Recreation Complex Fees for Tri-County Baseball School:** The Board of Selectmen agreed that they would like a recommendation from the Parks & Recreation Commission regarding 2009 Recreation Complex Fees for Tri-County Baseball School.
17. **Discussion and Possible Action on Approving the Sewer & Water Commission's Action to Fund a New Capital Line Item – Well 5/5A Repairs – by Appropriation of \$39,587.⁰⁰ from the CL&P Energy Rebate from the VFD Purchase:** J. Malsbenden moved to approve the Sewer & Water Commission's Action to Fund a New Capital Line Item – Well 5/5A Repairs – by Appropriation of \$39,587.⁰⁰ from the CL&P Energy Rebate from the VFD Purchase, and to authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents, seconded by S. Soby. Following discussion, all members present voted in favor. MOTION CARRIED.
18. **Citizen's Comments:** None
19. **First Selectman's Report:** First Selectman L. Hodge reported on last week's Police Commission Meeting, the development of an employee wellness program through the Health & Safety Committee, the increase in worker's compensation claims, a grant opportunity through the Salmon River Watershed Compact, the opening of the Little B Barn this past weekend, her attendance at the COG Legislative meeting, Don Favry's concerns about liability issues related to the proposed dog park, the All Hazards Local Emergency Planning & Safety Commission and COOP progression included a successful NIMS training during this past week at the Fire Department, the grant award for open space preservation to Norwich Utilities, the inspection report on the Town Clerk vault performed by the State of Connecticut, her meeting with the DOT today regarding land development, and the raising of the holiday tree on the town green.
20. **Liaison Reports:** Selectman Coyle reported on the Historic District Commission. Selectman Malsbenden reported on the Planning & Zoning Commission.

21. **Executive Session Regarding Strategies for Collective Bargaining for Police Union AFSCME Council 15 Local 2693T and for Administrators Union MEUI Local 506, SEIU, AFL—CIO, CLC:** S. Soby moved to go into executive session to discuss Strategies for Collective Bargaining for Police Union AFSCME Council 15 Local 2693T and for Administrators Union MEUI Local 506, SEIU, AFL—CIO, CLC, seconded by R. Coyle. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

The selectmen entered into executive session at 8:27 p.m. and came out of executive session at 8:43 p.m.

22. **Adjourn:** G. Cordova moved to adjourn at 8:45 p.m., seconded by J. Malsbenden. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Attachments

1. Memorandum dated December 4, 2008, from Greg Plunkett to Linda Hodge, regarding "heating/AC issues at Town Hall"
2. Memorandum dated November 7, 2008, from Salvatore Tassone to the Colchester Board of Selectmen, regarding "Reduction of Subdivision Cash Bond for Subdivision for #612 Westchester Road LLC., Westchester Road -- CT. Route 149 Colchester CT -- Veccadola Drive - Owner/Developer -- Claudio Vecchiarino"
3. Letter dated November 25, 2008, from Gary Avery, regarding the "storm water detention basin that has been constructed on the 10-lot subdivision known as 612 Westchester Rd."
4. Memorandum dated November 25, 2008, from Sgt. Hassett 133 to Linda Hodge, regarding "Cruiser Parking Area"

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Caplet
Executive Assistant to the First Selectman

Town of Colchester
127 Norwich Avenue
Suite 202
Colchester, CT 06415

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December 4, 2008

TO: Linda Hodge
FROM: Greg Plunkett
RE: Heating/AC issues at Town Hall

Now that the heating season is underway I want to enumerate for you the persistent problems with the heating system at Town Hall. Several times each day we hear about problems with temperatures in various offices at the Town Hall. These are not just slightly higher or lower temperatures but extremes which make it very difficult if not impossible for employees to do their work. For example: The temperature on the Water Department will be fine for several days and then suddenly and inexplicably rise to 89 or 90 degrees. The same is true in the Planner's office. The temperature in the Health Department is frequently so low employees have been wearing gloves. The same can be said for the Recreation Department. The meeting room temperatures have to frequently be adjusted. Other areas are likewise affected.

The only alternative people have is to call Facilities to come and "fix" the problem. Since there is no custodian on maintainer in the Town Hall until 3:00 p.m. each day, Tony Gallicchio is the main "temperature fixer". Despite the fact that he attempts to adjust the system before there is a problem he get calls at least twice a day and frequently more often during the heating season to come and adjust the heat. In addition to this being a poor use of his time he is not always immediately available which results in extreme temperatures for hours before they can be modified.

An additional difficulty is on weekends in the police department. No custodian is assigned for the entire weekend except for Sunday Morning for church services. The police come in by 7:00 a.m. and the heat frequently does not come up in their offices resulting in 55 degree temperatures for the entire day.

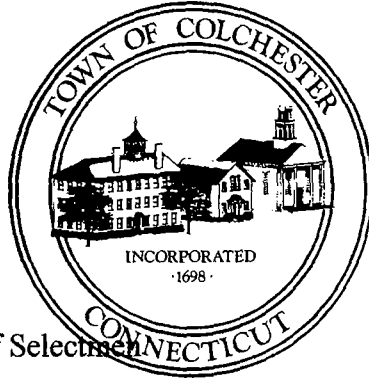
The bottom line is that unless someone is watching the heating system constantly, there will be too much or too little heat in some part of the Town Hall several times a day. Our frustration is

that we are unable to provide a consistent level of heating for the employees at Town Hall or to accurately predict when an area will be too hot or too cold.

If the improvements to the heating system which have been recommended by two separate contractors and confirmed by a member of the Board of Finance as the way to address the issue can not be afforded at this time we have to provide funding for someone who can adjust the heating system to be present at Town Hall whenever it is occupied. We will keep looking for other solutions but at this time have no others.

November 7, 2008

Code Administration
Building Official
Fire Marshal
Wetlands Enforcement



Planning and Zoning
Planning Director
Zoning Enforcement
Town Engineer

To: Colchester Board of Selectmen
From: Salvatore A. Tassone P.E. – Town Engineer

Re: Subdivision for # 612 Westchester Road LLC., Westchester road –
CT. Route 149 Colchester CT - Veccadola Drive
Owner/developer – Claudio Vecchiarino.

The owner of the referenced Subdivision has requested a bond reduction to reflect the public improvements that have been completed to date. As of November 7, 2008, the following items are incomplete:

Item No.	Item	Cost
1	Clearing and grubbing	\$ 3,500
7	Cut bituminous pavement	200
19	Sedimentation control system	7,500
21	Bituminous concrete class 2	25,600
22	Tack coat material	1,440
31	Lawn drain	300
40	Modified riprap	1,320
54	Furnishing and placing topsoil	10,800
57	Turf establishment	1,440
58	Temporary turf establishment	400
59	Maintenance and protection of traffic	800
61	Stop sign & post and stop bar	400
62	Road sign and post with " No Outlet" sign	300
63	Speed limit sign & post	300
65	Monuments and iron pins	2,500
66	As-built plans	3,000
67	Underground utilities	10,000
69	Clean sediment from catch basins	450
72	Grass swale (lot 10)	2,000
73	Driveway and berm (lot5)	15,000
75	Street trees	14,700

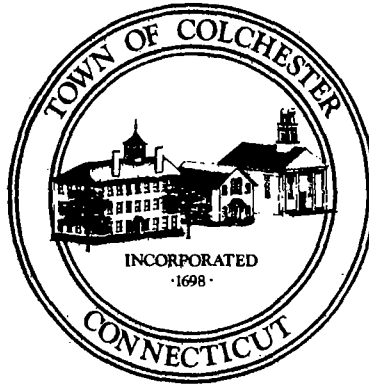
Total cost of remaining incomplete items = \$ 101,950.00

The town is currently holding a Subdivision cash bond in the amount of \$344,617.00. It is therefore recommended that the bond be reduced by \$242,667.00, thus leaving a bond balance of \$101,950.00

Code Administration
Building Official
Fire Marshal
Wetlands Enforcement

November 25, 2008

Conservation Commission
Members
127 Norwich Ave.
Colchester, CT 06415



Planning and Zoning
Planning Director
Zoning Enforcement
Town Engineer

At their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, The Colchester Conservation Commission (CCC) again expressed concerns related to the storm water detention basin that has been constructed on the 10-lot subdivision known as 612 Westchester Rd. This detention basin services all of the road drainage, footing drains for houses and the doubled sided road underdrains that carry water away from the road. Concern centered around the fact that the pond appears to retain water *all of the time* and does not drain totally. It is the commissions understanding that such detention ponds are designed with dry bottoms (within 72 hours of a rain event). Members of the CCC stated that this detention basin should not have standing water in it.

The Town Engineer has inspected the pond throughout it's construction. The CCC is also aware the Town Engineer feels that the basin has been constructed properly and is functioning as it is supposed to, via the Inlands Wetlands Officer oral reports and that field grades appear consistent with approved plan. Jay Gigliotti, WEO, and I inspected 612 Westchester and Brookstone subdivision's on November 14, 2008 with subsequent meeting with Jay, Sal Tassone; Town Engineer, and I after the inspection. At 612 Westchester Rd. there was 12" TO 14" of water in the basin's bottom low point. Jay and I reviewed the plan which has the hydrologic data. The plan does show that the lowest point of the basin is very close to the estimated high water mark. Jay said he has requested an "as-built" survey with topographical information from the developer of the constructed basin. Sal suggested that even if the "as-built" proves compliance with the plan he is willing to suggest to the developer to install "low-volume leak offs" to drop the level to an acceptable depth of a few inches.

As to the Brookstone subdivision retention basin which is different design than 612 Westchester Rd., which has approx. 4-5 inches in depth. Sal will review.

Sal did mention that a wet bottom basin will attract obligate wetland plants to establish and provide improved water quality to surrounding ground waters.

The CCC members are concerned that the town will inherit these basins and be required to maintain them. The concern is that the majority of these ponds are constructed in residential areas and even with a wet bottom of less than 2 feet could be a drowning potential for small children. Also by allowing wet bottomed detention basins creates a haven for mosquito reproduction. With West Nile virus a health concern, treatment of these much larger wet surfaced areas will increase the Town's maintenance expense.

Now is the time to make corrections before the Town is liable for any design and construction issues.



Gary Avery
Chairman
Colchester Conservation Commission

Cc: John Malsbenden
Sal Tassone, Town Engineer



Resident Trooper Supervisor
Sgt. Shane Hassett 133

State of Connecticut



Colchester Police

Connecticut State Police Colchester Resident Troopers' Office

To: Linda Hodge
Colchester 1st Selectperson

From: Sgt. Hassett 133
Colchester Resident Trooper Supervisor

Date: November 25, 2008

Subject: Cruiser Parking Area

Ma'am,

As was discussed at last night's Police Commission meeting, I believe there is a real and valuable need for the security of the town's Police Cruiser fleet. The cruisers are housed in a garage at the Public Works facility on Old Hartford Rd. Other than a chain link fence that surrounds the property the lot and garage is not secured in any other way leaving the town open for the possibility of gross vandalism and or larceny to its cruisers.

I realize that suggestions to build a properly secured facility may be costly and budget prohibitive but the need will still exist. One possible solution may be to fix or repair the existing garage doors that currently will not go down and are not lockable. Approximately eight (8) cruisers would fit into the existing garage and could be secured. The three garage doors/bays are currently in need of this repair and this could be one viable solution.

Please let me know what you think.

Respectfully submitted,


Sgt. Shane Hassett 133

127 Norwich Avenue
Colchester, Connecticut 06415
Phone (860) 537-7270
FAX (860) 537-7252