



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Gregg Schuster, First Selectman

Board of Selectmen Minutes
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 3, 2013
Colchester Town Hall – 7:00 PM
Meeting Room 1

RECEIVED
COLCHESTER, CT
2013 OCT -4 PM 2:30
NANCY A. BRAY
TOWN CLERK

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Gregg Schuster, Selectman Stan Soby, Selectman James Ford, Selectman Rosemary Coyle and Selectman Greg Cordova.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Rob Tarlov, Don Kennedy, Leslie Curtis, Denise Mizla, Dorothy Mrowka, Nancy Bray, Patricia Watts, Gail Therian, and other citizens.

1. Call to Order

First Selectman G. Schuster called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Additions to the Agenda -

G. Schuster said that in item 6B should be the word "alternate" should be changed to "member".

J. Ford asked that a "discussion on a way forward for the School/Senior Center/Community Center project" be added.

J. Ford moved to make the change to item 6B, and add item 7 'Discuss a way forward on the School/Senior Center/Community Center and to renumber accordingly, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Approve Minutes of the September 19, 2013 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting

R. Coyle said that under Item #6, Citizen's Comments the comment by C. Bourque should be reworded. She felt that Mr. Bourque was not in opposition to the blight ordinance, but was just making a statement. She suggested that it be changed to read "C. Bourque commented on the blight ordinance and further commented on the Linwood Avenue streetscape project."

S. Soby moved to approve the Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting minutes of September 19, 2013 as amended, seconded by J. Ford. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Approve Minutes of the September 26, 2013 Special Board of Selectmen Meeting

R. Coyle moved to approve the Minutes of the September 26, 2013 Special Board of Selectmen Meeting as presented, seconded by G. Cordova. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

5. Citizen's Comments-

L. Curtis commented on the possible extension of hours at the Library to allow civic groups to take advantage of using the Community meeting rooms.

D. Mrowka commented on the need for a light in the Mail Room in Town Hall.

6. Boards and Commissions – Interviews and/or Possible Appointments and Resignations

a. Agricultural Commission – Member Leslie Curtis to be Appointed Alternate

R. Coyle moved to appoint Leslie Curtis as Alternate of the Agricultural Commission with the term to expire 11/30/2013, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

b. Agricultural Commission –Member appointment for a vacant term to expire 11/30/2013 – Olivia Duksa was interviewed on 09/19/2013

R. Coyle moved to appoint Olivia Duksa as a Member of the Agricultural Commission with the term to expire 11/30/2013, seconded by G. Cordova. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

The Board noted that L. Curtis and O. Duksa will not need to be re-interviewed when their term expires on November 30, 2013.

c. Conservation Commission – Member re-appointment for a three-year term to expire 10/31/2016. Kurt Frantzen to be interviewed.

R. Coyle moved to reappoint Kurt Frantzen as a member of the Conservation Commission for a three year term to expire 10/13/2016, seconded by G. Cordova. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

**d. Fair Rent Commission. Member re-appointment for a two-year term to expire 10/31/2015.
Samantha Van Zilen to be interviewed.**

R. Coyle moved to reappoint Samantha Van Zilen as a member of the Fair Rent Commission for a two year term to expire 10/31/2015, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

e. Blight Ordinance Task Force

i. William Belch, Jr.

William Belch, Jr. was not in attendance

7. Discussion regarding a way forward on the School/Senior Center/Community Center project.

J. Ford suggested that a Tri Board meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Board of Education and Board of Finance be set to discuss what the mandate was from the citizens and how to move forward. The repairs to William J. Johnston Middle School need to be addressed and there still is the need for a new Senior Center and Community Center.

G. Schuster said that in order to meet the June 30 submission deadline and have a referendum in May, Boards will need to start voting in March. All members supported a Tri Board meeting. G. Schuster said that Building Committee's charge may need to be modified or perhaps a new committee may need to be formed. A discussion followed with Rob Tarlov, Board of Finance Chairman and Don Kennedy, member of the Board of Education regarding a date for this meeting. It was decided that the Tri Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2013.

8. Budget Transfers -

None

9. Tax Refunds & Rebates -

G. Cordova moved to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$23.31 to Janet Strout or Janet Coe, \$2043.90 to Audrey & Gary Schwartz, \$99.62 to William Jr and Charlene Labruna, \$27.25 to Scott Boulanger, \$6.33 to John Hull, \$79.33 to Carol Richart, \$21.50 to Brian or Susan Mandeville, \$89.02 to Jeffrey Space, \$88.72 to Philip Liverant, \$1905.29 to Jason and Karen Beebe, \$133.53 to Carol or Kevin Richart, \$424.93 to Patrick & Allison Clark, and \$75.09 to Kellie or Scott Shanks, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Non Union Salary Increase

G. Schuster said that no action could be taken on this item at this meeting. He spoke with Town Counsel and was advised that there is a State Statute that states that any salary increases may have to go through both the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance. He will research this and advise the Board of his findings.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Veterans' Service Contact Person

G. Schuster said that the Board could appoint a volunteer or designate an employee to serve as a veterans' contact person. He said that he has three individuals who would like to volunteer for this position. Discussion followed. The Board decided to appoint a volunteer for this position. The Board will follow the same procedure for the appointment to this position as with any other volunteer Commission appointment.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Hours of Operation for Senior Center

R. Coyle moved to approve the revised Hours of Operation for the Colchester Senior Center to 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, seconded by S. Soby, Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Contract with East River Energy

S. Soby moved to authorize the First Selectmen to sign the attached contract with East River Energy for the purchase of unleaded gasoline, diesel fuel and heating oil for the contract period of September 16, 2013 through June 30, 2014, seconded by G. Cordova. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

14. Citizen's Comments

G. Bell asked for that her reappointment to the Ethics Commission be placed as an item on the next meeting's agenda. M. Caplet commented that there was no plan in place regarding the WJJMS Project/Senior Center/Community Center in the event the referendum did not pass.

G. Siddell asked if there was any indication of why the referendum did not pass regarding the WJJMS Project/Senior Center/Community Center. He asked if it was the tax increase or the combined location.

S. Van Zilen suggested that Board members check the comments on social media sites as citizens are expressing their opinions on these sites. She also mentioned that the light for the flag pole was not lit tonight. G. Schuster will check on this.

15. First Selectman's Report

G. Schuster reported that the sidewalk work in front of the Town Hall has begun and should take two (2) to three (3) weeks to complete. He updated the Board on the KX consolidation. He said three (3) RFP's have been received and follow up has been made with the three (3) submitters. He explained that this consolidation will be complex and said that they are proposing a penalty clause if a town wants to withdraw early.

16. Liaison Report

S. Soby said that the Police Commission is still working with the Sergeant and the Public Works Department about crosswalk safety in the area of the Youth Services building. He said that the Planning and Zoning Commission held their first public meeting regarding the updating of the Plan of Conservation and Development on Monday, September 30, 2013. The majority of the people who attended were from the Boards and Commissions of the Town. There will be an effort made to involve more representation of citizens and local business owners. A subdivision application was approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission to correct a Zoning non-conforming lot that pre-dated the Zoning Regulations.

17. Executive Session to Discuss Town Hall Employee

S. Soby moved to enter into executive session to discuss Town Hall Employee, seconded by G. Cordova. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

Entered into executive session at 7:46 p.m.
Exited from executive session at 8:21 p.m.

18. Adjourn

G. Cordova moved to adjourn at 8:22 p.m., seconded by R. Coyle Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Therian, Clerk