



# Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Gregg Schuster, First Selectman

**Board of Selectmen Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, February 21, 2013  
Colchester Town Hall**

**Meeting Room – 7:00PM**

HANCY A. BRAY  
TOWN CLERK

RECEIVED  
COLCHESTER, CT  
2013 FEB 22 PM 12:02

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Adam Turner, Walter Cox, Nancy Bray, Dot Mrowka, Tricia Coblenz, Joe Mathieu, Tom Tyler, Ryan Blessing, Melissa Roberto, and other citizens.

1. **Call to Order**  
G. Schuster called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Additions to the Agenda**  
None.
3. **Approve Revised Minutes of the January 17, 2013 Regular Board of Selectmen meeting**  
G. Cordova moved to approve the revised minutes of the January 17, 2013 Regular Board of Selectmen meeting, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
4. **Approve Revised Minutes of the February 6, 2013 Special Tri-Board meeting**  
G. Cordova moved to approve the revised minutes of the February 6, 2013 Special Tri-Board meeting, seconded by R. Coyle. J. Ford abstained. All others approved. MOTION CARRIED.
5. **Approve Minutes of the February 7, 2013 Regular Board of Selectmen meeting**  
S. Soby moved to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2013 Regular Board of Selectmen meeting, seconded by G. Cordova. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
6. **Approve Minutes of the February 15, 2013 Special Board of Selectmen meeting**  
S. Soby moved to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2013 Special Board of Selectmen meetings, seconded by G. Cordova. R. Coyle abstained. All others approved. MOTION CARRIED.
7. **Citizen's Comments**  
V. Kochuk commented on concern of speeding vehicles on Route 16.  
C. Bourque commented on Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD) and process of developing succeeding POCD  
J. Miller commented in favor of C. Bourque comments.  
J. Mathieu commented on development and approval process of POCD.  
T. Raccuia (AFSCME Council 4) commented on pending revisions to the Employee Handbook and Personnel Policy and applauded the First Selectman on their working relationship.  
D. Wasniewski commented on development process of POCD.  
O. Duska commented in favor of previous with regards to POCD and concern over P&Z Commission authority over POCD.  
D. Cugno commented in favor of previous comments with regards to POCD.

8. **Boards and Commissions – Interviews and/or Possible Appointments and Resignations**
  - a. **Commission on Aging. Alternate appointment for a three-year term to expire 12/31/2016. Gary Siddell was interviewed on 02/07/2013.**

R. Coyle moved to appoint Gary Siddell as an alternate to the Commission on Aging for a three-year term to expire 12/31/2016, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
  - b. **Police Commission. Member appointment to fill a vacancy that expires 11/30/2014. Steven Caron to be interviewed.**

Steven Caron was interviewed.
  - c. **Police Commission. Member appointment to fill a vacancy that expires 11/30/2014. Scott Ignazio to be interviewed.**

Scott Ignazio was interviewed.
9. **Budget Transfers**

S. Soby moved to approve the supplemental appropriation of \$34,000 from “Use of Unassigned Fund Balance (18501-36250)” to “Fire Department – Contractual, Temp, Occasional Payroll (12202-40105),” seconded by R. Coyle. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
10. **Tax Refunds & Rebates**

R. Coyle moved to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$40.00 to Carol Willson, \$92.21 to Francis Englehart, \$154.08 to Daniel or Susan Backus, \$104.25 to Albert Carbonell, \$59.56 to Jon or Frances Williams, \$8.35 to Tracey Wring, \$42.40 to Richard Haagensen, and \$1,503.12 to Daniel Henderson; seconded by G. Cordova. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
11. **Discussion and Possible Action on Building Committee Request**

R. Coyle moved to approve the Building Committee request for a supplemental appropriation of \$6,250 from “Use of Unassigned Fund Balance (18501-36250)” to “Building Project Capital Fund (18501-50500),” seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED. Discussion on timeline going forward.
12. **Discussion and Possible Action on Plan of Conservation and Development**

Discussion on clarification of POCD adoption responsibility is vested with Planning & Zoning Commission subject to approval of Board of Selectmen, per C.G.S §8-23 and PA 10-138 and on encouragement and inclusion of residents with development of POCD. R. Coyle moved that the Board of Selectmen as the policy making authority of this Town, encourages the Planning & Zoning Commission to start on the POCD simultaneously with the Zoning Regulations, seconded by J. Ford. Discussion on how regulations affect Agriculture community. Presentation to the Board by P&Z Chairman Joe Mathieu on Planning & Zoning Commission involvement in POCD approval and on agreement of Town POCD with States’. Discussion on concern of timeline of adoption and ability to obtain grant funding; on tracking differences between current POCD and new proposed zoning regulations; on precedence of POCD over regulations; on staff amenability to Agriculture concerns; possibly amending the motion to acknowledge that authority with regards to regulations and POCD lies with Planning & Zoning Commission per Town Charter and State statute, and on postponing the motion until a later, specified date.

Board of Selectmen recessed at 8:25 p.m.

Board of Selectmen returned at 8:34 p.m.

R. Coyle moved to postpone action on the motion until the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen meeting which is on March 7, seconded by J. Ford. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

13. **Citizen's Comments**

O. Duska commented on changing of regulations for equine properties, public lack of knowledge of agriculture, and positive step by the Town to adopt "right-to-farm" ordinance.

D. Wasniewski commented on opportunity to view state POCD along with Town and align regulations.

T. Coblentz questioned the purpose of agenda item #16.

R. Coyle commented on need for executive session discussion to be in public forum.

J. Miller commented on Planning & Zoning Commission role in POCD development and process and source of priority for regulations.

C. Bourque commented on time it took other towns to update POCD versus Colchester and lack of communication between Agriculture community and staff/commissions.

D. Cugno commented on timeline and process of development of zoning regulations and POCD.

14. **First Selectman's Report**

First Selectman G. Schuster thanked Public Works Director James Paggioli and the entire public works crew for their work during the blizzard, reported that the blizzard clean-up is eligible for FEMA reimbursement at 75% of the cost of the most expensive 48-hour period, the state budget moves money around and could have a major impact on the Town budget with the proposed Motor Vehicle tax exemption increase resulting in a possible loss of \$3.8 million in tax revenue to the Town, and the discount prescription drug card has been working very well in town with residents saving thousands of dollars in prescription drug costs.

15. **Liaison Report**

S. Soby reported that Zoning Board of Appeals has no business to discuss.

S. Soby reported that the Planning & Zoning Commission had public hearings, approved a subdivision and accessory apartment, and is dealing with ongoing enforcement actions.

16. **Executive Session to Discuss Negotiations with LOCAL 1303-254 of Connecticut Council 4, AFSCME AFL-CIO (Town Hall Employees – Clerical)**

Discussion on purpose and legality of executive session.

R. Coyle moved to adjourn at 9:16 p.m., seconded by J. Ford. S. Soby approved, all others abstained.  
MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,



Derrick M. Kennedy

Executive Assistant to the First Selectman