



# Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

**Board of Selectmen Minutes  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, March 6, 2014  
Colchester Town Hall – 7:00 PM  
Meeting Room 1**

RECEIVED  
COLCHESTER, CT  
2014 MAR 10 PM 12:2  
NANCY A. BRAY  
TOWN CLERK

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** First Selectman Gregg Schuster, Selectman Stan Soby, Selectman Denise Mizla, and Selectman Mike Caplet, Selectman Rosemary Coyle

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Sal Tassone, Adam Turner, Nancy Bray, Don Lee, Walter Cox, Dot Mrowka, Robert Parlee, Edward Fusco, Bryan Kowalsky, Goldie Liverant, GiGi Liverant, Tricia Dean, and other citizens.

**1. Call to Order**

First Selectman G. Schuster called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**2. Additions to the Agenda - None**

**3. Approve Minutes of the February 20, 2014 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting**

R. Coyle said that under Item #6, Budget Transfers, Addition Appropriation should be changed to read Additional Appropriation. Under Item #10, Discussion and Possible Action on Selectmen Operations Committee Recommendations, second paragraph, last sentence should be changed to read A \$16,000 place holder in the budget is to help the Bacon Academy Board of Trustees with the operational deficit and this financial help will help to get to the next step. (add period and remove "of a lease purchase agreement.")

R. Coyle moved to approve the Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting minutes of February 20, 2014 as amended, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

**4. Approve Minutes of the February 25, 2014 Special Board of Selectmen Meeting**

M. Caplet moved to approve the Special Board of Selectmen Meeting on February 25, 2014 as presented, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

**5. Citizen's Comments-**

Charles Jackter, citizen, stated that he contacted the Fair Rent Commission regarding a complaint in which tenants are being charged by the landlord for a portion of an insurance policy. Jackter feels the amount charged to tenants does not match the actual cost of the policy to the landlord. First Selectman Schuster will speak to the Chairman of the Fair Rent Commission and find out what the disposition is of his complaint.

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

a. **Chatham Health District – Russell Melmed to be Interviewed.**  
R. Melmed was interviewed

b. **TVCCA Board of Trustees - Eleanor Phillips Reappointment to a Three Year Term to expire 3/6/2017**

1. R. Coyle moved to reappoint Eleanor Phillips to the TVCCA Board of Trustees to a Three Year Term to expire 3/6/17, seconded by D. Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

c. **Economic Development Commission – Bruce H. Fox Possible Appointment for a Five Year Term to expire 10/1/2014**

1. B. Fox to be appointed to a Five Year Term to Expire 10/1/2014

S. Soby moved to appoint Bruce H. Fox as a member of the Economic Development Commission to a Five

Year Term to Expire 10/1/2014, seconded by M. Caplet. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

- d. **Ethics Commission – Denise Ward Possible Appointment for a Three Year Term to Expire 11/1/2015**  
1. D. Ward to be appointed to a Three Year Term to expire 11/1/2015  
R Coyle moved to appoint D. Ward as a member of the Ethics Commission for a Three Year Term to expire 11/1/2015, seconded by D. Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

**7. Budget Transfers -**

R. Coyle moved to approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$3,900 to Anchor Engineering Services, Inc to fund the Paper Mill Road Bridge Feasibility of Improvements Study, seconded by M. Caplet. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

**8. Tax Refunds & Rebates**

R. Coyle moved to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$76.67 Honda Lease Trust, \$21.31 Rossi Law Offices LTD, \$6.31 Jayson St. John, \$15 Kimberly Raia, \$326.29 Nicole Souza, \$49.58 Roy & Linda Glenn, \$45 Jonathan & Rebecca Liebich, \$189.07 Kevin Long, \$231.23 Laurene Chapman, \$217.96 Patrick Fenton, \$5.05 George & Claudia Maistrelis, \$4305.82 Michael & Hanrahan, \$6.15 Richard & Barber, \$10 Marie Ingram, \$20.14 Michael or Audrey Bis, \$148.31 Michael Lucco, and \$12 Peter & Lura Rafala, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

- 9. Discussion and Possible Action to accept the final design and bid specification package for the Linwood Avenue Streetscape Project and permit the First Selectman to execute such documents to complete the project**  
Selectmen discussed various points on solar lighting, species of trees, and curbing.

Adam Turner thanked Sal Tassone for executing all the necessary Engineer work.

M. Caplet moved to accept the final design and bid specification package for the Linwood Avenue Streetscape Project and permit the First Selectman to execute such documents to complete the project, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

- 10. Discussion and Possible Action to authorize the Selectman to appoint Nancy A. Bray, Town Clerk, as applicant for the Historic Documents Grant Application FY 2015**

R. Coyle moved to appoint Nancy A. Bray, Town Clerk, as the applicant for the Historic Documents Grant Application FY 2015, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

- 11. Discussion and Possible Action on UTMC Contract**

G. Schuster stated that the Board of Finance had no objections.

D. Mizla moved to approve Services Agreements for the periods 4/1/14-6/30/14 and 7/1/14-6/30/15 with the Town and authorization for First Selectman to sign all necessary documents, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

- 12. Discussion and Possible Action on Historical Society Reimbursement Request**

Goldie Liverant, Representative of the Historical Society, stated that the Society is asking the Board of Selectman to consider their plight for financial compensation of work done by a contractor in the amount of \$2,500 for major structural repair to the bricks in the basement. Made note that they currently do repairs for all other aspects of maintenance, however due to this being structural repair are asking for financial assistance. G. Schuster pointed out in the Lease Contract (99 Year Term, commenced in 2003) Section C that the landlord (Town of Colchester) responsibility is limited to the grounds.

The Selectmen were not opposed to providing assistance but would like to consider waiting to make a decision after further discussion and research on the matter.

NO ACTION

- 13. Discussion and Possible Action on Memorandum of Agreement with CEC, Inc. (KX Dispatch)**

Don Lee, Deputy Fire Chief, explained the importance of the Agreement. The agreement is to bind the existing towns in KX in a tighter financial arrangement in order to give KX time to complete their merger without any towns moving to a different dispatch service. The agreement only goes forward if all towns execute. D. Lee pointed out that if KX were to be dissolved Colchester would see an impact because the town is dependent on the service. Towns involved: Colchester, Salem, East Hampton, East Haddam, Marlborough, Bozrah, Lebanon, and Haddam.

S. Soby moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with Colchester Emergency Communications and authorize the First Selectman to execute said agreement, seconded by R. Coyle. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

- 14. Discussion and Possible Action on 2014- 2015 Budget**

G. Schuster said that he presented his 2014-2015 budget to the Board of Finance on 3/5/14. The proposed budget is on the Town Website.

G. Schuster also stated that his budget includes adding a new officer in January 2015

D. Mizla recognized that the proposed budget put forth was very lean and looks good

a. Police Commission Presentation

Police Commission Members Robert Parlee and Edward Fusco, and Officer Bryan Kowalsky did a presentation on adding 24/7 police coverage which would include coverage for a 11pm to 7am shift. A proposal of a five year plan was handed out to Selectmen members. Discussion followed on current State Police overnight coverage and potential issues.

R. Coyle thanked Officer Kowalsky for his passion in this initiative

**15. Citizen's Comments**

Eleanor Phillips said that she was appalled that we don't have overnight coverage in town. She said that residents need to be made aware of this lack of coverage.

**16. First Selectman's Report**

G. Schuster reported on MIRMA meeting to the Board of Finance. Member towns met again. Discussed cost of loss portfolio transfer and that it is in the budget for next year, it was approved by the members.

G. Schuster made a statement on a police incident.

**17. Liaison Report**

D. Mizla, reported the Park and Rec meeting was Monday 3/3. They have revised the RFP, collecting interested parties in running concession stands. The Green is reserved for Concert on the Green 6/26-7/31. Youth Services is planning the Tie Dye Fest Fundraiser for 6/14/14. Community Clean Up Day at the youth center under coordination.

No other Liaison Reports

**18. Executive Session to Discuss negotiations with Clerical Union Local 1303-254 of CT Council**

S. Soby moved to go into Executive Session to discuss negotiations with Clerical Union Local 1303-254 of CT Council, Seconded by M. Caplet. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

Entered into executive session at 9:16 p.m.  
The Board exited from executive session at 9:34 p.m.

**21. Adjourn**

M. Caplet moved to adjourn at 9:34 p.m., seconded by D. Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Dean, Clerk

**Attachments:**

1. First Selectman's Gregg Schuster's statement on police incident

In today's Norwich Bulletin, there was a story about an alleged sexual assault of a 12 year old girl by a 16 year old male at the Colchester RecPlex. The alleged incident occurred in September.

It is a tragic case and I hope that justice will be served. I do want to voice some concern with the lack of communication by the State Police in this matter. The first time that I learned of this incident was yesterday when I was contacted by a reporter.

I want to express my extreme displeasure that I was not notified by the State Police of such a horrible incident which occurred on town property. It should be noted that Colchester Police were also not told of the incident nor was our Resident Trooper Supervisor. It is not acceptable to withhold this information from the town officials who are responsible for the safety of the public.

I sincerely hope that in the future, the State Police will ensure that the First Selectman is informed of these matters. I look forward to working with the State Police and the Colchester Police to review what occurred and determine if any security improvements should be made.