



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

**Board of Selectmen Minutes
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 18, 2014
Colchester Town Hall – 7:00 PM
Meeting Room 1**

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COLCHESTER, CT
2014 DEC 21 AM 10:40

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Stan Soby, Selectman Denise Mizla, Selectman Bill Curran, Selectman Rosemary Coyle, and Selectman Kurt Frantzen

MEMBERS ABSENT: none

OTHERS PRESENT: J Paggioli PW Director, Dot Mrowka Registrar, G Furman Town Clerk, Chris Ferrante P&R Commission, G Siddell Commission on Aging, Tricia Dean Clerk, and other citizens

1. Call to Order

First Selectman S. Soby called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Additions to the Agenda

S. Soby asked that the following items be added to the agenda as Item #11 Discussion and Possible Action on Joint Facilities PUA-Contract Authorization; Item #12 Setting Special Town Meeting for snow transfer of funds and supplemental appropriation FY 2013-2014, remaining agenda items to be renumbered accordingly.

S. Soby asked that Amendments be made to the following; 5e. Discussion and Possible Removal of Christopher Bakaj from the Planning & Zoning Commission.

R Coyle moved to approve the addition to the agenda and amendments as presented, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Approve Minutes of the December 4, 2014 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting

R Coyle stated that for Item #9 after Snow Transfer "and supplemental appropriation" should be added.

D Mizla moved to approve the Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting minutes of December 4, 2014, as amended, seconded by R Coyle. One abstention by Kurt Frantzen. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

4. Citizen's Comments – Paula McDowell, Chairman of Youth Football League, holds practices at Park & Rec Field R8 stated her support for action on the agenda item #8. McDowell shared instances of dog bites that involved children.

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

a. Parks & Recreation Commission

1. Eric Kundahl possible reappointment for a four year term to expire 12/31/2018

D Mizla moved to reappoint Eric Kundahl as a member on the Parks & Rec Commission for a four year term to expire 12/31/2018, seconded by R Coyle. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

2. Kristin Moody possible appointment from alternate member to regular member for a four year term to expire 11/30/2018

D Mizla moved to appoint Kristin Moody from alternate member to regular member for a four year term to expire 11/30/2018, seconded by B Curran. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

b. Ethics Commission – Daniel Henderson possible reappointment for a three year term to expire 5/30/2017

R Coyle moved to reappoint Daniel Henderson as a member of the Ethics Commission for a three year term to expire 5/30/2017, seconded by K Frantzen. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

c. Police Retirement Board – John Ringo possible reappointment for a three year term to expire 5/30/2017

R Coyle moved to reappoint John Ringo as a member on the Police Retirement Board for a three year term to expire 5/30/2017, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

d. **Fair Rent Commission – Christina Maher possible appointment for a two year term to expire 4/30/2016**
D Mizla moved to appoint Christina Maher as a member of the Fair Rent Commission for a two year term to expire 4/30/2016, seconded by B Curran. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

e. **Possible Removal of Christopher Bakaj from the Planning & Zoning Commission for Cause**

S Soby advised the board that C Bakaj has not been available for a significant number of meetings and has not been responsive. Per the Charter we did notice C Bakaj with intent and also received recommendation by the P&Z commission chair.

D Mizla moved to remove Christopher Bakaj from the Planning & Zoning Commission for cause pursuant to the Charter, seconded by B Curran. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

6. **Budget Transfers**

R Coyle moved to approve the transfer for the Highway Department in the amount of \$5,500 from Other Purchased Supplies to Professional Services for removal of trees within the right of ways (roads) that require an outside contractor as approved by the Board of Finance contingent on Board of Selectmen approval, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

7. **Tax Refunds & Rebates**

R Coyle moved to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$3.66 to Rossi Law Offices LTD, \$76.30 to Susan Hood, \$110.31 to Rossi Law Offices LTD, and \$56.31 to Aaron Cheeseman, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

8. **Discussion and Possible Action on Park & Rec Complex Dog Policy**

Questions were posed by the Selectmen to the Commission regarding enforcement of such policy, location of signage and which field/fields would be included. The commission will discuss the proposed policy with Sgt. Mercer and the Animal control officer in regards to enforcement. The field that was determined to potentially be affected by the change was identified as R8. A suggested change to the motion by the Board of Selectmen would be "No pets are allowed at the Recreation Complex Field R8 during any organized youth/adult event. At all other times pets must be leashed". The Commission agreed to formalize the enforcement piece along with the change in policy and re-present to the Board of Selectmen for review. NO ACTION.

9. **Discussion and Possible Action on Commission on Aging Bylaws**

R Coyle moved to approve the Commission on Aging Bylaws as presented, seconded by D Mizla.

S Soby expressed concern on the Executive Board wording in the bylaws, that would constitute a quorum in section 1B, 2A, and 3A. The executive board title has specific meaning that becomes a power board and other commissions do not follow this process. S Soby stated that this is not a way to collectively describe the commission. G Siddell commission chair, explained that the commission saw this wording as an artifact and it's been there for a very long time. G Siddell will take the discussion back to the commission and revise. NO ACTION.

R Coyle moved to withdraw the motion to approve the Commission on Aging Bylaws, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

10. **Discussion and Possible Action on Homeland Security Grant Program MOA**

R Coyle moved to authorize the First Selectman to sign the 2014 State Homeland Security Grant Program Region 4 Memorandum of Agreement, seconded by K Frantzen. Unanimously approved. MOTION

11. **Discussion and Possible Action on Joint Facilities PUA Contract Authorization**

J Paggioli, Public Works Director, explained the process of hiring a replacement of Joint Facilities Public Utilities Administrator. An interview panel will consist of a representative from Colchester, East Hampton Public Works Admin and Town Manger. The contingency plan in place for continuity of operations is to approve a working agreement for an interim person until a replacement can be hired. There is no indicated termination date, the end of the agreement is any point that a replacement is hired. This agreement will be revenue neutral.

R Coyle moved to authorize the First Selectman to enter into a Post Retirement Working Agreement for Vincent F. Susco, Jr. Public Utilities Administrator – Contingency Plan, dated December 2, 2014 and sign said document, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARREID.

12. **Set Special Town Meeting for Snow Removal FY 2013-2014**

K Frantzen moved to set the Special Town Meeting date on Monday, December 29, 2014 at 7pm in Town Hall to discuss

and vote upon the transfer of funds in the amount of \$87,478 from various accounts within the budget to snow removal and a supplemental appropriation of \$90,503 from the unassigned general fund balance to snow removal, both as recommended by the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved.
MOTION CARRIED.

13. Citizens Comments - none

14. First Selectman's Report

M Cosgrove CFO, J Ringo BOF and S Soby met to go over the RFP for Financial Advisor. Looked first individually at proposals separate from costs which resulted in all three selecting the same top 3. The cost was in the same general frame for all. Moving forward with interviews; KX continues, next step is the CEO meeting on Jan 8th; Dam Removal of Jeremy River going forward, met with the family, DEEP, Army Corps of Engineers, Fuss and O'Neill, and nature conservation. There is a possibility that Paper Mill Bridge project can be completed in coordination with the dam project as a cost saving measure overall. Approximate 2 year window of completion; Contract negotiations with two unions and mediation; Supervisors received sexual harassment training from CIRMA; CCM Legislative committee meeting last Tuesday and attended the MS 4 Storm Water Press Conference; Patricia Young from Salmon River Water Shed shared changes in response to municipalities; Represented the Town at the Governor's Holiday breakfast for municipal leaders; Received Federal Highway Safety program for DUI enforcement around the holidays and super bowl Sunday. Officer Labonte did the yeoman's work on putting the request together; all invited to the holiday gathering at 9am on Friday.

15. Liaison Reports

R Coyle reported on Open Space – Tony's Junkyard clean up complete aside from the approximate 20,000 tires. Town Planner and Wetlands officer have worked out a plan on how to resolve the issue of the tires. Up until this date the town has not spent any funds on this cleanup. Moroch property that abuts Cohen Woodlands received \$33,800 state grant and fee in lieu for a total of \$60,000. Land Acquisition grants are due in March.

R Coyle reported on Commission on Aging – At the last meeting discussed why current meetings take place in the morning and if it's a possibility to change the meeting time. Due to the existing members schedule and that they go out to Dublin Village for many meetings the morning time works best. Transportation spent \$1,813.

R Coyle reported on the Building Committee – Approved the invoice from Techtron for \$8,000. Architecture meeting with the Bureau of School Facilities regarding the three proposals. Nasdac group have been invited to the 1/8 meeting. The school design is based on more than the number of students but rather the design of teams and programs to make it function able.

D Mizla reported on Board of Education – Strategic plan update, all focus group meetings are half way through, wrapping up the second week in January. Will provide all the info to the steering committee once received; Searching for interim middle school Assistant Principal, target date is late Feb to early March; Don Levine, elementary school gym teacher, was recognized by the Heart Association for 20 years of service and fundraising through jump rope for heart.

K Frantzen reported on Sewer & Water – J Paggioli, PWD, provided needed information for conservation. Small permit request and one enforcement issue.

B Curran reported on Planning & Zoning – Continue to refine the new regulations; Colvest who owns 95 Linwood presented changes that they would like to make. Colvest received approval for the requests from Planning & Zoning; Loomis Rd development discussed special variations, currently it is split zoned; Sports Arena moving forward but not in original location.

16. Adjourn

R Coyle moved to adjourn at 8:32 p.m., seconded by D Mizla . Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Dean, Clerk