



# Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

**Board of Selectmen Minutes  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 15, 2015**

Colchester Town Hall, Immediately following Commission Chairmen Meeting @ 7PM

RECEIVED  
COLCHESTER CT  
2015 OCT 20 AM 11:16  
TOWN OF COLCHESTER  
CLERK T. DEAN

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** First Selectman Stan Soby, Selectman Denise Mizla, Selectman Kurt Frantzen, and Selectman John Reever

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Selectman Rosemary Coyle

**OTHERS PRESENT:** BOF A Shilosky, Public Works Director J Paggioli, P& Z G Therian, Tax Collector M Wyatt, P&R C Prescott, J Lefler, S Coyle, M Lehetinen, C Bourque, D Wasniewski, Clerk T. Dean, and other citizens.

1. **Call to Order**  
First Selectman S. Soby called the meeting to order at 7:42 p.m.
2. **Additions to the Agenda**  
S Soby asked that the following be added to the agenda #13 Discussion and Possible Action on Norton Paper Mill Sale Agreement Amendment, and #14 Discussion and Possible Action on Bright Idea Grant-Nxegen, renumber remaining items accordingly.  
  
K Frantzen moved to approve the additions on the agenda as presented, seconded by J Reever. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED
3. **Approve Minutes of the October 1, 2015 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting**  
D Mizla moved to approve the Regular Board of Selectmen meeting minutes of October 1, 2015, seconded by K Frantzen. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED
4. **Approve Minutes of the October 9, 2015 Special Board of Selectmen Meeting**  
D Mizla moved to approve the Special Board of Selectmen meeting minutes of October 9, 2015, seconded by J Reever. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED
5. **Citizen's Comments –**  
T Keller, Boy Scout Troop 109, presented his Eagle project to connect Moroch trail to Ruby Cohen trail. The Board agrees with the project and thanked him for all his work.
6. **Boards and Commissions – Interviews and/or Possible Appointments and Resignations**
  - a. **Fair Rent Commission – Christina Maher possible reappointment for a two year term to expire 10/31/2017**  
D Mizla moved to reappoint Christina Maher to the Fair Rent Commission for a two year term to expire 10/31/2017, seconded by K Frantzen. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED
  - b. **Conservation Commission – Erika Fuery possible reappointment for a three year term to expire 10/1/2018**  
K Frantzen moved to reappoint Erika Fuery to the Conservation Commission for a three year term to expire 10/1/2018, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED
  - c. **Parks & Recreation Commission – Frank Ricci to be interviewed – was interviewed**  
K Frantzen moved to appoint Frank Ricci to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a 4 year term to expire 11/1/2017, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
  - d. **Ethics Commission – Debi Marvin possible reappointment for a three year term to expire 11/1/2018**  
D Mizla moved to reappoint Debi Marvin to the Ethics Commission for a three year term to expire 11/1/2018, seconded by J Reever. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
  - e. **Police Commission – Robert Parlee possible reappointment for a three year term to expire 11/1/2018**  
D Mizla moved to reappoint Robert Parlee to the Police Commission for a three year term to expire 11/1/2018, seconded by J Reever. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
  - f. **Tax Abatement Committee – Resignation of Kevin Dalton**  
K Frantzen move to accept, with regret, the resignation of Kevin Dalton from the Tax Abatement Committee, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
7. **Budget Transfers - None**  
S Soby notified the board of upcoming redundancy basis on emergency services equipment on Co #1 and EOC, part of

a disaster training. Will also test the ability to dispatch from the fire house and backup at the EOC.

**8. Tax Refunds & Rebates**

D Mizla moved to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$35.86 to Donna Gordon, \$77.52 to Leo or Anita Vallee, \$70.86 to Gregory Lutkus, \$13.04 Nadia Svirshchevsky, \$9.78 to Debra or Mark Glover, \$105.63 to Francis Contois, \$738.90 to Toyota Least Trust, \$54.98 to Rossi Law Offices LTD, \$9.81 to Penny Geyer, \$6.98 to Kathleen Fill, \$4.42 to Robert or Beverly Winter, \$18.45 to Carmela Judd, \$2.55 to Matthew & Carlene Herboldt, and \$257.93 to Nissan Infiniti-LT, seconded by K Frantzen. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

**9. Discussion and Possible Action on Substance Abuse Counselor Agreement**

D Mizla moved to approve the agreement for Substance Abuse Counselor and authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents, seconded by K Frantzen. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

**10. Discussion and Possible Action on Ordinance Change as Presented by Planning & Zoning**

G Therian gave an overview of the proposed plan to not allow residents to build or put in new additions, pools or sheds until they pay on any back taxes owed. Statistics were given for comparison in other towns. 138 towns out of 166 required taxes being paid before additions. 127 out of 166 require a fine if there is building without a permit. The process and parameters of a fine were discussed. G Therian suggested, that if implemented, a 6 month amnesty period take place before implementing ordinance after announcing the change. Next step will be to clean up the verbiage and have town counsel look at the proposed language. TABLED TO 11/5 MEETING

**11. Discussion and Possible Action on Energy & Environmental Protection Grant Agreement**

This if for the purchase of the Moroch property.

K Frantzen moved to approve the Energy & Environmental Protection Grant agreement on the Moroch Property OSWA-481 and authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents, seconded by J Reeve. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

**12. Discussion and Possible Action on Recreation Specialist Position**

Recreation Director, C Preston, explained the proposed increase in hours to the current Recreation Specialist position. The program fund generates revenue through programs, thus the more programs that can be offered, the more people will participate and will therefore increase revenue. Biggest revenue generator is camp and adult fitness. The dept. would like to increase the specialist hours to cover the additional programs, as well as potentially have this person oversee the park Ranger position if implemented. A Park Ranger would be favorable in order to be a deterrent to vandalism occurring at the RecPlex, as well as potentially collect fees at the splash pad for non-residents. The board will look over the submitted information. TABLED UNTIL 11/5 MEETING

**13. Discussion and Possible Action on Norton Mill Sale Agreement Amendment**

Testing continues at the site and need to ensure that there is enough time for due diligence. The contract has been vetted through town counsel and agreed to by property owner.

K Frantzen moved to approve the First Amendment to Purchase and Sale Agreement for Norton Paper Mill, LLC, address 167 Marvin Rd, Colchester, and authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

**14. Discussion and Possible Action on Bright Idea Grant-Nxegen**

S Soby presented the plaque award for bronze level achievement for Clean Energy Community, the town also received a \$10,000 grant award. The grant funding will be used towards improvement of lighting at the senior center as well as a community bulb exchange program. The bulb exchange is part of an effort to give back to the public while reducing their own energy use. The bulb exchange will take place Nov 21<sup>st</sup>. The agreement is to continue energy efficiency or energy reduction projects

K Frantzen moved that the Board of Selectmen accept the Bright Idea grant in the amount of \$10,000 and to utilize the proceeds in accordance with grant criteria for two projects. The first being the Energy Efficient up-grade to the lighting at the Senior Center at 95 Norwich Avenue and to authorize the First Selectman to enter into a contract with Nxegen, LLC, for an amount of \$6,574.20, of which the cost shall be paid from the Eversource Conservation Fund Incentive and Eversource Bright Ideas Grant as described herein, and to sign all necessary documents; The second being to authorize the use of the remaining Bright Ideas Grant to be utilized for a free LED bulb exchange event for the residents of Colchester, so that they may also receive the benefits of the grant directly, and continue with energy conservation measures throughout the town, and authorize the First Selectman to sign all documents necessary for the event to occur, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

**15. Discussion and Possible Action on Ordinance Revisions**

Postponing action for more review by the Board

**16. Discussion and Possible Action on Social Media Policy**

S Soby reviewed current town policy, along with other town policies, and merged some pieces together into our policy that should cover the town in terms of use. The IT dept. would be responsible for identifying issues. K Frantzen indicated that the revised policy helps clarify intent and purpose, and should be reviewed annually. D Mizla stated that much has changed from previous years as far as technology and social media. S Soby indicated that the current personnel policy is under review in its entirety. J Reeve suggested adding verbiage to include elected officials.

D Mizla moved to approve the social media policy, as amended in discussion, seconded by J Reeve. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

**17. Discussion on Senior Center Building**

First Selectman's office is currently working on scheduling a meeting for a newly created Tri-Board subcommittee with BOS, BOF, and Commission on Aging to secure the Senior Center building

**18. Citizen's Comments**

M Lehetinen questioned the proposed ordinance and if it would go to town meeting. Also stated the opinion that the proposed ordinance would be an added burden to those in specific categories. S Soby stated that the ordinance would first need to be approved by the Board of Selectmen and then would go to a town meeting for a vote.

**19. First Selectman's Report**

Will be conducting a LED bulb swap 11/21 from the Clean Energy grant; Blight Task Force is up and going; CCM legislative committee meeting took place, where they are tweaking the focus on broader themes vs 'into the weeds'; Speaker Sharky was featured guest and indicated no interest in legislative leadership majority side for a special session as the Governors rescissions were all within the Governors rescissions authority which is granted by legislator. It was decided they don't need to review it as there is still some space within 5% cap for the Governor to make additional rescissions; The Governor was in town at Priam Vineyard discussing increased tourism numbers. An opportunity to showcase the vineyard and the new wine maker partner, as well as potential new family oriented programs coming up in the near future; Pumpkins n Pooches was a great event, judging the contest was fun and saw some interesting costumes; Federated Church Crop Walk raised money, a proclamation was given by S Soby to kick off the event; Continue with speed enforcement, Sgt. Martinez continues to respond to concerns and will continue enforcement and education; Scarecrow parade is Friday @ 5:30, sponsored by the P&R; Participating in emergency planning exercise that takes place on Wed and will involve the town and school; Redundancy planning around dispatch, will have a direct line and alternate lines to dispatch, test today on pager system from Co 1; KX Board meeting Tues. night, CEO meeting, things are moving along and preparing for however it may play out.

**20. Liaison Reports**

J Reeve reported on Planning & Zoning – big issue regarding trucking operation on Pine Rd. Contradiction in language and looking at it more deeply to clarify the number of trips allowed down the street.

Budget subcommittee – information on town budget in all avenues planned, more press releases, facebook, and twitter.

D Mizla reported on Board of Education – meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>. J Mathieu discussed the Norwich meeting potential. Bacon tuition students approx. 10 per grade available. It would fill slots from declining enrollment and keep special programs filled. Pupil Services Director gave her monthly action plan. Bacon Assistant Principal is down to two candidates. Major repairs and improvements happened through the summer at schools.

Parks & Recreation – 57 Fest went well and the event broke even. Tyler Keller's Eagle Scout project was approved. The electrical failure at the Town Green has been addressed. R8 has been seeded and fertilized. Discussion on requirements for endorsed children and adult leagues.

K Frantzen asked J Paggioli about the subdivision development and the sewer connection. J Paggioli has discussed the issue with the developer but doesn't have an actual document in hand yet.

**21. Adjourn**

K Frantzen moved to adjourn at 9:23 p.m., seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Dean, Clerk