



# Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

**Board of Selectmen Minutes  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 19, 2017  
Colchester Town Hall**

**Immediately following the Commission Chairmen Meeting @ 7pm**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** First Selectman Art Shilosky, Selectman Stan Soby, Selectman Rosemary Coyle, Selectman Denise Mizla and Selectman John Jones

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** none

**OTHERS PRESENT:** PW Director J. Paggioli, Town Clerk G. Furman, Tax Collector M Wyatt, Chief Cox, L. Steinmeyer, Peters, L Shoemaker, J Novak, S Dubb and Clerk T Dean.

RECEIVED  
COLCHESTER, CT  
2017 OCT 23 AM 11:4  
TOWN CLERK  
G. FURMAN

**1. Call to Order**

A Shilosky called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**2. Additions to the Agenda**

A Shilosky asked to remove #6 Presentation by Officer Edwards on Pistol Range and remove "Public Hearing" from agenda item #8 and renumber remaining items accordingly.

S Soby moved to remove items as presented, seconded by R Coyle. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

**3. Citizen's Comments – none**

**4. Consent Agenda**

1. Approve Minutes of the October 5, 2017 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting
2. Action on 2018 Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule
3. Action on 2018 Commission Chairmen Meeting Schedule
4. Tax Refund and Rebates

R Coyle moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by J Jones. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

**5. Presentation by Dr. Kyle McClaine from Backus Hospital on ALS/Paramedic Program**

Chief Cox stated there has been ongoing conversations of enhancing the life support program in the Colchester Fire Dept. Dr McClaine stated that 75% (1300) of our calls are medical that involve paramedic interception. He explained the difference between an EMT and Paramedic. The average response time in town is twice as long as the average with a paramedic program. Discussion on mutual aid to other towns and the legality on how the crew is made up. Discussion on other towns and models they use. S Soby inquired as to state and national standards in terms of response time for service and criteria, and also quality standards. Dr. McClaine stated that there is a large variability of response time which is dependent on the city. State does not set one time standard due to variability. The program would move from a two-step process to a one-step process. Discussion on how many paramedics Colchester would need. C Cox stated that there are currently two firefighter/EMT's that are licensed paramedics that currently work for the town. Also stated that the department has already initiated the process for qualifying steps.

**6. Discussion on 129 Westchester Road**

A Shilosky stated that the town has been approached to purchase the house next to the Norton Mill site. No sale price has been made. There is currently some contamination on site. S Soby stated that the question "why" would need to be answered for the town to purchase. R Coyle also agreed it is hard to make a decision without having a clear "why" and that currently there is no clear framework and only a tentative agreement but still no state budget. The town doesn't know the ECS and municipal aid funding yet. Also not able to leverage any funding sources similar to Norton Mill to purchase the house. TABLED

**7. Discussion and Possible Action on Sewer and Water Proposed Ordinance**

S Soby moved to approve the proposed ordinance concerning the Sewer and Water Commission subject to vote on the Charter Revision, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

**8. Discussion and Possible Action on Decommissioning of the Charter Revision Commission**

R Coyle moved to decommission the Charter Revision Commission, with a thank you for service, seconded by S Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

**9. Discussion and Possible Action on Town Procedures for Return Checks**

A Shilosky stated that it is not his intent to change the seriousness of the issue regarding return checks, but would like a uniform letter for all offices. R Coyle suggested to put a committee together with offices involved in return checks and create one uniform letter. S Soby agreed that should be an internal work group with specific procedures.  
NO ACTION

**10. Citizen's Comments - none**

**11. First Selectman's Report**

Board of Finance set the mill rate for motor vehicles on 10/18 at 32.37. Bills to go out soon. Incor met on Monday proposing three buildings to start in the spring. SCOGG meeting talked about fracking waste. Colchester can't store that material so would be redundant and possibly contradictory to put a policy in place in Colchester. Back tax collecting going well by the tax department.

**12. Liaison Reports**

R Coyle reported on the Commission on Aging – report attached

Fire Dept – RFP for ambulance bid went out, EMS paramedic program only ordering supplies as needed due to current budget. Certified drone in place. Tax exempt commission is full.

Building Committee – approved invoices. Discussing plantings. Ahead of schedule. GM contingency has not changes. Under budget. 4.4 million drawdown payment from state.

S Soby reported on Agriculture Commission – work between town staff and P&Z going on regarding signage improvements to help businesses with better promotion and visibility, while also reducing clutter.

D Mizla reported on Board of Education – interim superintendent updated at the 10/10 meeting the impact of the budget freeze. Positions will not be filled, class sizes have increase, and some classes no longer offered (attachment). C Praisner, C3, was recognized for her work. Programming doubled this year. Town Clerk found 1799-1954 historical information in the vault and the BOE approved the transfer of documents to the Historical Society.

**13. Adjourn**

J Jones moved to adjourn at 8:20 p.m., seconded by R Coyle. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Attachment: Commission on Aging report  
Colchester Public Schools Budgetary Decision-making Framework

Respectfully submitted,



Tricia Dean, Clerk

## COA Meeting-October 10, 2017

The Strategic Planning Team will be holding their final meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup> to review the Strategic Plan, for 2017-2022. After final edit, it will be submitted to the Board of Selectmen for approval. I am very proud of the work of this committee, who have met regularly since October 2015. I will share with the CoA once approved by BoS.

We are running a Caregiver Course Series, sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association.

Chatham Health District will be holding two Flu Clinics on 10/10 & 10/24.

Our local chapter of AARP will be hosting a Meet the Candidates Forum, with all candidates running for election on Tuesday, October 24 in our Dining Room.

The Fire Marshal, Sean Shoemaker, will lead a program on October 26, for Fire Prevention Month called "Remembering When: Fire & Fall Prevention.

Renter's Rebate season ended on October 1, however due to the lack of approved State budget, we have been notified through OPM that checks will be delayed until the budget passes. Energy Assistance will begin September 20, the first day of deliverable fuel will be November 15.

Medicare Open Enrollment begins on October 15-December 7. We are hosting 2 Open Enrollment Events on Fridays, November 3 & December 1, by appointment.

The Colchester Senior Center will hold its annual Holiday Fair & Open House on Saturday, November 18 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. If the CoA would like to donate a theme basket, as in years past, we would be very grateful.

### **Attendance & Meals Served:**

- Meals served in August: meals served on site: 216 MOW: 401
- Monthly Transports in August: 904
- Monthly Attendance in September: 1371
- Active membership in September: 1063

Colchester Public Schools  
 Budgetary Decision-making Framework  
 Revised 10-10-17

**Overall Strategy:** School and district leaders will determine resource allocations in accordance with the following principles:

- Health and safety needs must be addressed
- Mandated services and programs must be provided
- The goals of the Colchester Public School's adopted Strategic Plan will drive decision making as prioritized below:
  - a. **Student learning** is supported by relevant curriculum
  - b. Students use academic, technical, social, and creative skills to **innovate and problem solve**
  - c. **Innovative instruction** is enhanced with 21st century learning environment
  - d. **Facilities and technologies to support innovative teaching and learning** are enhanced
  - e. **Partnerships** with parents, caregivers, and community members are embraced
  - f. **Educators are known as leaders** for distinguished practice
- Through the work of the Board's Ad-hoc Consolidation Committee, the district will investigate ways to partner with other districts to best serve student needs and/or reduce operational costs.
- School leaders will individually and collaboratively use the responses to the following guiding questions as the basis of their decisions:

**For Educational Programs:**

1. Is the program/practice central and essential to our mission?
2. Is the program/practice providing measurable result(s)?
3. Is the program/practice supported by research/evidence?
4. Is there a more cost-effective way to obtain similar or better results?
5. Can we offer the service/program to other districts to generate revenue?
6. Does the decision support equitable educational opportunities?

**For Operations:**

1. Is the program/practice essential to the operation of our schools and district?
2. Is the program/practice providing measurable results?
3. Is there a more cost-effective way to obtain similar or better results?
4. Can we offer the service/program to other districts to generate revenue?

Considerations for programs/practices the district can no longer support financially:

- Does the decision result in other costs (retraining, management, etc.)?
- For those programs/practices we can no longer sustain, can other partners or entities support the program/practice?