



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

**Board of Selectmen Minutes
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 7, 2017**

Colchester Town Hall, Immediately following the Town Meeting at 7pm

Members Present: First Selectman Art Shilosky, Selectman Stan Soby, Rosemary Coyle, Denise Mizla and Jim Ford.

Others Present: CFO M. Cosgrove, Town Clerk G. Furman, Tax Collector M. Wyatt, BOF R. Tarlov, A. Bisbikos, Registrar D. Mrwoka, L. Griezka, S. Shoemaker, L. Ackerman, BOE R. Besaw, M. Bylone, B. Bernier, Town Planner R. Benson, Public Works Director J. Paggioli and Clerk J. Campbell

1. Call to Order

A. Shilosky called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

2. Additions to the Agenda

R. Coyle moved to add item #12 discussion and possible action on replacement copier for assessor and tax collector and renumber the remaining items accordingly to the agenda, seconded by D. Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Citizen's Comments

A. Bisbikos spoke in favor of the opengov software. See attached statement.

4. Consent Agenda

1. Approve Minutes of the November 16, 2017 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting
2. Commission on Aging – Linda Grzeika appointment as an alternate member for a term to expire on 12/31/2019
3. Open Space Advisory – Linda Grzeika appointment for a term to expire on 3/31/2019
4. Sewer & Water – Resignation of Mike Egan
5. Economic Development Commission – Resignation of James Ford
6. Planning & Zoning
 - a. Mark Noniewicz reappointment for a three-year term to expire on 12/31/2020
 - b. Jason Tinelle reappointment for a three-year term to expire on 12/31/2020
7. Approval on 2017 Homeland Security Grant Program

S. Soby moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by D. Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Budget Transfers

D. Mizla moved to approve the 16/17 FY budget transfers, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Strategic Plan for the Department of Senior Services

S. Soby moved to approve the strategic plan (2017-2022) for the Department of Senior Services, seconded by D. Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

7. Discussion and Possible Action on Grant Purchase of Wheelchair-Accessible Motor Vehicle

S. Soby moved to approve the agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Colchester for a cash grant toward the purchase of a wheelchair accessible motor vehicle(s) for elderly and/or disabled persons transportation programs, seconded by R. Coyle. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Transfer Station Take2 Inc. Electronics Proposal

R. Coyle moved to approve the proposal and utilize Take 2 Inc. of Waterbury, CT for the electronics recycling services and other services as provided in the attached proposal dated 11-28-2017 at the Transfer Station; and that Fee structure for CFC containing appliances be changed from \$10.00 per appliance to \$0.00 per appliance, for receiving of these appliances at the Colchester Transfer Station, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

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9. Discussion and Possible Action on Well 3 Design Contract

S. Soby moved to, acting upon recommendation of the Sewer and Water Commission, award the design portion of the Well #3A replacement project, as detailed in tasks 1-6 of the fee proposal dated July 14, 2017, to Weston and Sampson in accordance with the Weston and Sampson response to RFP 2015-16 and proposal for engineering services for the permitting and design of well 3A dated July 14, 2017, in the amount of \$83,000, and authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents, seconded by D. Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Opengov

R. Tarlov spoke in favor of Opengov. The BOF is limited in ability to get data to complete their job. Many hours have been spent researching this company as well as other companies. BOF even contacted towns currently using the software to gain their opinions. R. Tarlov is asking the BOS is table this vote until further information can be presented to them. S. Soby moved to table this discussion until further information is available, seconded by R. Coyle. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Election of Vice Chair

S. Soby nominated R. Coyle for Vice-Chair of the Board of Selectmen, seconded by D. Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Replacement copier for Assessor & Tax Collector

R. Coyle moved to approve the 5 year lease agreement with Ricoh USA, Inc. under the U.S. Communities Master Lease Agreement and authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents, seconded by S. Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

13. Citizen's Comments-none

14. First Selectman's Report

A. Shilosky stated that since the board members were all present at the previous nights BOF meeting, there was no need to restate what was said there.

15. Liaison Reports

S. Soby reported on ZBA- 2 site light variances' were brought before the board. Distances the town has in regulations are greater than that of DOT. Town engineer recommended the approval of both variances'. Planning & Zoning- made adjustments to livestock in rural zones. 1 acre per animal unit beyond the lot size for the home.

D. Mizla reported on BOE- Don Levine was recognized as 2017 elementary P.E. teacher of the year. The new interim superintendent will begin 1/1/18. The search is still ongoing for a permanent hire. YSS- appointed a new chair Kathy Wonderly. Resolution race is coming up on 1/1. They are preparing for the LPC grant, unsure if they will be getting it due to the budget concerns at the state.

A. Shilosky stated that the next December meeting will be cancelled and for everyone to have a happy and safe holiday.

16. Adjourn

J. Ford moved to adjourn the December 7, 2017 meeting at 7:44 pm, seconded by D. Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanie Campbell, Clerk

Good evening to the Board of Selectmen and to all the Citizens of our Town,

My name is Andreas Bisbikos. I'm a Board of Finance member, speaking only as a private citizen. I would like to share a few thoughts on the proposed transparency software by Opengov.

- 1) The BOF invested a lot of time and energy exploring the benefit of this software for our town. States and towns with transparency websites often realize significant returns on their investment. Government wins because transparency software offers efficiency regarding data management and keeping track of public policy initiatives in real time. The software also allows for potentially more competitive bidding on public projects and significantly less staff time spent on information requests. The people can rest easy because wasteful spending and potential abuse is more likely to be avoided because easy access to information won't be concentrated with the few, but with the many.

- 2) Communities such as Darien and Madison made a commitment to OpenGov. Software in 2017.

Darien's First Selectwoman **Jayme Stevenson** recently said,

"OpenGov technology will allow Darien taxpayers to see, in real time, how their tax dollars are being invested, creating a critical accountability link between our community and local government."

Madison's budget and program evaluation manager **Laura Larson** said,

"The beauty of this is that all sorts of users have different uses for budget data and what we're trying to do is to give folks maximum flexibility to look at things in a way that's relevant and meaningful for them."

In Conclusion:

- 3) This software will modernize on how we operate as a town and make data easily available to all the people at the click of a button. We always speak of how to get more people involved in the budget process. This is an ideal opportunity. This software might have been requested by the Board of Finance, but it will be a gift that the people will forever be thankful for.

Thank you for taking the time to listen.

A. Bisbikos