



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Board of Selectmen Minutes
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 4, 2018
Colchester Town Hall @ 7pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Art Shilosky, Selectman Rosemary Coyle, Selectman Stan Soby, Selectman Denise Mizla, and Selectman Jim Ford

MEMBERS ABSENT: none

OTHERS PRESENT: P&R Director T Quinn, PW Director J Paggiolli, Registrar D Mrowka, Town Clerk G Furman, R Goldstein, 24 students and clerk T Dean

1. Call to Order

A Shilosky called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Additions to the Agenda - none

A Shilosky asked to add #9 Discussion and Possible Action on Zambelli Fireworks Contract for Celebrate Colchester –

3. Citizen's Comments – none

4. Consent Agenda

a. Approve Minutes of the September 5, 2018 Joint Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance Meeting

b. Approve Minutes of the September 6, 2018 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting

c. Historic District Commission

1. Reappointment of Robert Kvederas for a five year term to expire 11/1/2023

2. Reappointment of Linda Akerman for a five year term to expire 11/30/2023

d. Ethics Commission

1. Reappointment of John Malsbenden for a three year term to expire 11/1/2021

2. Reappointment of Teresa Pineau for a three year term to expire 11/1/2021

e. Reappointment of Kristen Moody to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a four year term to expire 11/30/2022

f. Reappointment of Patrick Reading to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a five year term to expire 12/1/2023

g. Reappointment of Dean Hunniford as Tree Warden to expire 11/17/2019

h. Reappointment of Richard Peruta as Emergency Management Director to expire 11/19/2019

i. Tax Abatements

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

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

a. **Police Commission – John Carroll possible appointment to expire 11/1/2021** – S Soby moved for NO ACTION, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

b. **Open Space – Kris Barnard possible appointment to expire 3/31/2020** – R Coyle moved to appoint Kris Barnard as a member of the Open Space Commission to expire 3/31/2020, seconded by S Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

6. Approve Minutes of the September 10, 2018 Special Board of Selectmen Meeting

R Coyle moved to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2018 Special Board of Selectmen meeting, seconded by S Soby. Unanimously approved, with one abstention by R Coyle. MOTION CARRIED

7. Approve Minutes of September 13, 2018 Special Board of Selectmen Meeting

D Mizla moved to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2018 Special Board of Selectmen meeting, seconded by J Ford. Unanimously approved, with one abstention by S Soby. MOTION CARRIED

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Colchester Community Theatre Contract with ZFX Flying Effects Contract

R Coyle moved to approve the Colchester Community Theatre Contract with ZFX Flying Effects contract and authorize the First Selectman to sign, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

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9. Discussion and Possible Action on Request for Refund for a Building Permit

A Shilosky stated that the contractor pulls the permit and charges the customer (resident) the fee. The resident has since cancelled the contract with the Solar Company. According to Town Policy we do not issue refunds on building permits. S Soby stated that this is a matter between the two private parties and not the town. NO ACTION

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Colchester Farmers' Market Alcohol Sales on Town Green Request

A Shilosky stated that his office did research with other towns on the matter. R Coyle noted that only one is conducting alcohol sales at a Farmers' Market, and that is on private property. S Soby stated that there are legal implications in allowing this, as well as negates all the issues that were solved by creating the ordinance. He is not certain of benefits to the town by changing the current ordinance. Stated there are currently properties in town that sell and have events such as Priam and the Hop Culture Farm coming soon. He is not confident in the benefits to the town but sees quite a few downsides. D Mizla stated her concerns, including minors and liability to the town. J Ford stated controlling would be difficult and the benefits don't outweigh the potential problems. R Coyle agreed with all statements made by the Board. NO ACTION

11. Discussion on Celebrate Colchester 57 Fest

T Quinn reported that the event went very well. Received many generous donations. Only used \$422 out of the Recreation Program Fund from the revenue from banner rentals. Attendance was similar to previous years, and thinks we should continue this community event. D Mizla suggested should have more communication with the public that this event is funded by business and individual sponsors, and not funding by the town budget. Suggested notifying through a survey.

12. Update from Recreation Director on Town Employee Discount on Programs

T Quinn stated the program has been tested for six months and not used as was hoped. The administration work was more than the return. Will discontinue the program effective immediately.

13. Discussion and Possible Action on Open Colchester Policy

S Soby stated that the committee met and went through the items that the CFO had flagged. The group agreed to the language and will bring back to the BOS and other Boards once final draft complete. Clarified delegation of administrators, as well as the role of operational administrators. The group will meet one more time to clean up the draft and bring back to the Boards.

14. Discussion on Possible Ordinance Revision's for Police Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission

A Shilosky requesting a few changes to the current ordinances in place, to align with current town operations. The Park & Rec dept. is now Recreation only, with the Parks being separate duties under the Public Works dept. Spoke with the P&R commission and they had no negative feedback with the changes proposed. The Police Commission ordinance was written back when Colchester had boroughs with constables. Now the BOS authorizes the First Selectman to sign a contract with the State Resident Trooper program and the State Contract supersedes the powers of the Commission. S Soby stated that we are currently the only town with a Police Dept. that is under a Resident Trooper program that has a Police Commission. A Shilosky will bring it back to the Board once suggested revisions in wording have been made.

15. Discussion on Implementing a Noise Ordinance

A Shilosky stated that we currently do not have one in place. He talked to Sgt. Martinez and he can issue a disturbance of the peace citation. R Coyle said this reminds her of when they started the Blight Ordinance. May want to form a committee to research and address a potential ordinance. Some towns are very technical in regards to decibels, etc. Would also need to address enforcement and an appeals process. If the Board decides they want to go forward, then they should set up a committee, similar to the Blight Task Force. S Soby stated issues in regards to this have come up before. Felt it can become technical with equipment, training and due process having to be put into place. He did state he realizes that the issue is important to the person being bothered, but if there were other means to deal with the issue than may be time to do another assessment. J Ford stated that this can be a slippery slope. Have to be prepared to implement what we write. A Shilosky stated that when Sgt. Martinez finishes his research he will come before the Board and explain.

16. Citizen's Comments – D Ketner commented on the noise ordinance discussion and stated he lives on Balaban Rd. and is concerned and bothered by the cars using the road like a drag strip day and night. Anything the Board can do would be appreciated.

17. First Selectman's Report

A Shilosky reported the Fire Dept. awards night is 10/26 and he is unable to attend and is looking for one of the Board members to go in his place. The Emergency Management Director used to have a Deputy that has since been taken out of the budget. The Fire Marshall indicated that he would volunteer for the position at no cost to the town. The Board had some questions on job description and the process. A Shilosky will send more information to the Board. The town's S&P rating has gone up to AA+, with the highest rating being AAA+, so this is a very good rating. A Shilosky stated that the rumor going around that the soon to be proposed Senior Center will not be a Community Center. It has always and will always be promoted as only a Senior Center. The lot next to the daycare center across from the green on Hayward Ave, has offered the town to purchase it. He has not heard any more from them at this time. Thanked the Fire Dept. for all their hard work at the recent accident propane spill on West St. Paper Mill bridge grant has been signed and sent back to the State. The Halls Hill Rd grant has been received for \$709,000. Work on both grants will start Spring/Summer of 2019. The bond and band sale took place last Wed for the middle school. The band anticipation note has an interest of 2.05%, which is an outstanding rate. The full bond rate is 3.56% interest. The premium for the band is \$83,000 and premium for bond is \$139,000.

18. Liaison Reports

J Ford reported on Conservation Commission –approved several applications. There is a road that may need BOS approval regarding a property issue. On Paper Mill Bridge there are some concerns regarding materials and exposure. A Shilosky noted that it is being handled. R Coyle asked J Paggioli for an update on the Norton Park plans. J Paggioli stated that they have sent back document to clean up the memo from DEPA. The contractual doc is being signed off by the state.

S Soby reported on the Sewer & Water Commission is dealing with the new well and maintaining the systems.

S Soby stated that J Paggioli does a great job with it.

Public Information meeting being conducted tonight hosted by Wetlands Enforcement Officer, Jay Gigliotti regarding a grant for a trail linking two larger trail networks. One trail goes through the 8 mile river watershed, the other is the airline trail. This is a simple and elegant solution. D Mizla attended and stated there would not be a lot of foot traffic. The grand needs to be submitted by 10/31.

D Mizla reported on Park & Rec Commission– the group gave consensus to the submitting of the grant for the trails. Youth Advisory Board – next Community Conversation will be on vaping 10/24 at WJ. There have been 6 vaping incidents at the school this year to date. Holding a bake sale on Election Day. Open House at the Youth Center was yesterday. Resolution Run will be 1/1/19 and start this year at Town Hall.

S Soby reported that St. Andrew Choir held their annual 5K run. Proceeds went to the community lunch program and Food Bank. Great turn out and thanked J Paggioli for opening Town Hall.

A Shilosky thanked J Paggioli for painting, on his own time, the three meeting rooms.

19. Adjourn

R Coyle moved to adjourn at 7:50 p.m., seconded by J Ford. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Dean, Clerk