

# Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Board of Selectmen Minutes  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, February 15, 2018  
Colchester Town Hall @ 7pm

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Selectman Rosemary Coyle

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Town Clerk G Furman, Town Planner R Benson, Registrar D Mrowka, Wetlands Enforcement Officer J Giglioti, Board of Finance A Migliaccio 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**

**3. Citizen's Comments – none**

**4. Consent Agenda**

1. Approve Minutes of the January 18, 2018 Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting
2. TVCCA Board of Trustees – Reappointment of Eleanor Phillips for a one-year term to expire 3/2/2019
3. Tax Abatements

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

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

1. Youth Services Advisory Board – Heide Perham possible appointment to expire 12/1/2020  
S Soby moved to appoint Heide Perham to the Youth Services Advisory Board to expire 12/1/2020, seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED
2. Economic Development Commission – Steven Durel possible appointment to expire 10/31/2021  
S Soby moved to appoint Steven Durel to the Economic Development Commission for a term to expire 10/31/2021, seconded by J Ford. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.
3. Ethics Commission– Ursula Tschinkel to be interviewed – was interviewed  
S Soby moved to appoint Ursula Tschinkel to the Ethics Commission for a term to expire 11/1/2020, seconded by J Ford. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

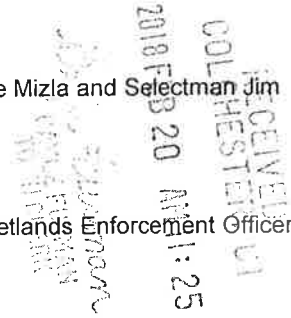
**6. Presentation by Police Commission on Proposed Parking Ordinance**

Police Commission member Sue Dubb stated that this proposed ordinance to implement parking tickets on town roads would provide a source of income to the town. Stated ticket books would need to be issued to the police officers. Would not be applicable to state roads. S Soby asked what the public safety issue identified was. S Dubb stated that potential safety issues would be fire hydrants, blocking entrances, and 57 feet (although no issues currently). S Soby stated that the Board would be looking for data that indicates a public safety issue with reference to the parking. State he has heard of moving violations but not safety issues regarding parking. Also need to look at what the revenue would be vs enforcement expense. J Ford stated any parking regulations must be posted, and they have no jurisdiction over private parking lots under 20 vehicles. Would also have to adopt regulations. Stated 'for revenue' reasons, will not be enforceable, has to be for a public safety issue. Also will need an outside individual to administer the appeal process, as well as a hearing office. He cautioned that this is a very complicated issue to adopt and enforce. S Soby suggested that speeding should be paid attention to and not parked cars. Police Commissioner Rob Parlee stated he was looking for this type of feedback from the Board and the commission has not investigated the ordinance process or identified the need fully at this point.

**7. Discussion and Possible Action on Public Act 17-231 Municipalities and Bingo Games Permit Fees**

A Shilosky stated that the State has transferred the responsibility of issuing permits to the municipalities. Need to set a fee schedule that is allowed under the act.

J Ford moved to adopt the maximum fee allowed under the act, seconded by S Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.



**8. Discussion and Possible Action on Local Option to Fund Land Conservation and Stewardship**

J Gigglioti stated the Connecticut Land Conservation Council is spear heading the effort to allow municipalities to adopt an ordinance on collection of a conveyance fee on real estate transactions over \$150,000. The first \$150,000 would be exempt from the up to 1% fee. Amy Patterson from CLCC discussed the points of the conveyance free program for open space preservation. By the town endorsing their support and to be included in the bill does not lock the town into participating in the program, but rather allows them to enact the fee if the legislation passes. If the bill passed the town determines the percentage and criteria to be considered accordingly. Would still follow the same process as any other ordinance and would go to town meeting to adopt. If the Board chooses to endorse they would need to write a letter to the chairs of the council with their support. R Benson gave examples of how the potential revenue and how it could be utilized. It would be in a defined fund to only be used for open space. R Benson made note that in the future Colchester may not be eligible for grant funding. S Soby stated the town would need to weigh the interest in preserving open space by shifting the burden on certain members of the population.

J Ford moved that the Board of Selectmen support and be included in the proposed Legislation entitled "An Act Permitting Municipalities to Impose a Buyer's Fee on the Conveyance of Real Property", seconded by S Soby. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

**9. Citizen's Comments – none**

**10. First Selectman's Report**

Two cases of lawsuits appealed to the appellate court. Snow budget about 50%. Youth & Social Services has an opening and conducting interviews now. Chatham Health potential increase of \$11,000 cost for Colchester. At the Willimantic Waste facility fire, the Colchester drone was utilized. In the near future will put together a committee to look over all ordinances.

**11. Liaison Reports**

S Soby reported on the Planning & Zoning Commission – Colvest group is looking to develop on Rte.16. One to five retail units. Moving forward.

D Mizla reported on the Board of Education – Budget presented by Superintendent. Administration proposed 1.02% increase to Superintendent. Superintendent proposed to BOE a .05% decrease. Proposal is on the website, along with budget calendar.

**12. Executive Session to Discuss a Legal Matter**

D Mizla moved to enter into executive session to discuss a legal matter, seconded by J Ford. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Entered into executive session at 8:01 p.m.  
Exited from executive session at 8:10 p.m.

**13. Adjourn**

S Soby moved to adjourn at 8:11 p.m., seconded by J Ford. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Dean, Clerk