

TOWN OF COLCHESTER
Special Town Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2009

Present: Linda Hodge, First Selectman, Selectmen: Greg Cordova, Rosemary Coyle, Stan Soby, John Malsbenden, Adam Turner, Town Planner, Nancy Bray, Town Clerk, 68 townspeople and 2 reporters.

Meeting called to order by Linda Hodge at 7:32 p.m.

Motion that Nicholas Norton be Moderator made by Stan Soby, seconded by Gregg Schuster.

Motion to close nominations made by Greg Cordova, seconded by Stan Soby.

Motion that Nick Norton be Moderator. **SO VOTED AND CARRIED.**

Moderator asks Town Clerk to read the warning of the meeting.

Motion to move Item #1: To discuss and vote upon the adoption of an amendment to the Colchester Leashing Ordinance, Chapter 10 – Animals, Article 1, Dogs at Large as follows:

10-1. Leashing required.

The owner or keeper of any dog shall be required to keep such dog on a leash or lead while within the confines of public streets, sidewalks, highways, parks and other public places and grounds within the Town of Colchester, **except within the fenced enclosure of the Town of Colchester's designated Dog Park(s).**

Motion made by John Malsbenden, seconded by Greg Cordova. No discussion; **SO VOTED AND CARRIED.**

Motion to move Item #2: To discuss and vote upon the adoption of a Right-to-Farm ordinance, which ordinance encourages the pursuit of agriculture, promotes agriculture-based economic opportunities, and protects farmland within Colchester by allowing agricultural uses and related activities to function with minimal conflict with abutters and Town agencies; made by Stan Soby, seconded by Rosemary Coyle. No discussion; **SO VOTED AND CARRIED.**

Motion to move Item #3: To discuss and vote upon the transfer of open space property, Assessor's Map 5-19 Lots 8-13A and 8-14A, by the Town to the Applicant for the expired Gavire Estates 12 lot re-subdivision located off of Bull Hill Road. This open space property had previously been transferred to the Town and the transfer of the open space property back to the Applicant has been requested by the Applicant because of the expiration of the approval for subdivision. The Planning and Zoning Commission voted to expire this subdivision at a May 20, 2009 meeting.

Motion made by John Malsbenden, seconded by Stan Soby.

Discussion: Attorney for the Applicant, Lou Wise, spoke about the circumstances surrounding the subdivision and the reasons for returning the Open Space to the Applicant.

Moderator called for a vote; SO VOTED AND CARRIED.

Motion to move Item #4: To discuss and vote upon the purchase of a 31-acre parcel of land located on McDonald Road, adjacent to the Ruby Cohen property, known as Assessor's Map 03-07 Lot 3 from the estate of Mary-Claire Fleming for the total consideration of \$182,250. with \$100,000. to come from the Town Land Acquisition Fund, \$40,000. from the Town Open Space Fund and \$42,250. to come from a donation from the Colchester Land Trust; made by John Malsbenden, seconded by Greg Cordova. SO VOTED AND CARRIED.

Motion to adjourn made by John Malsbenden; seconded by Greg Cordova at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Bray, Town Clerk