

May 20, 2020

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 7:00 PM via a Zoom Meeting due to the Corona Virus Pandemic; notice was posted on Facebook, on the Colchester Community page.

Supervisor did a roll call for attendance.

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| Present: | Arthur M. Merrill | Supervisor |
| | Julie A. Markert | Councilwoman |
| | Janet L. Champlin | Councilwoman |
| | Gregory L. Lavorgna | Councilman |
| | Mark W. Mattson | Councilman entered at 7:10pm |
| Recording Secretary: | Julie B. Townsend | Town Clerk |

Others present: Kenneth Eck- Hwy Supt, Michael DeGroat-Town Attorney, Officer Ernest Cawley, Lillian Browne-The Reporter, Bonnie Seegmiller, Al Donner, Russ Williams, Rob Hafele, Jeremy, Roberta Dunker, Kenny Young, Dan Bennett, Ian, Galaxy S10 and 607-588-9498.

The Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the last regular meeting, May 06, 2020 had been distributed earlier. Greg Lavorgna made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Janet Champlin, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Greg Lavorgna-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Mark Mattson-absent, motion carried.

VISITOR COMMENTS: Lillian Browne requested a copy of the reports and resolutions.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- NYS Dept. of Taxation and Finance- Notice of Tentative State Equalization Rate for the 2020 Assessment Roll is 2.92; the 2019 Assessment Roll was 2.99.
- Town Attorney Michael DeGroat- Re-Open NY documentation; municipality can open with 50% of workforce.
- Jeff Francisco- Email inquiring about our FCC License; the new filtration system will need a radio frequency. Officer Cawley stated that he has it.
- Town Attorney- After some research the fence that was abandoned from last year's auction can be donated to the Fire Dept. Town Clerk noted that the last minutes need to be corrected. Greg Lavorgna made the motion to correct the minutes of May 6th, second by Janet Champlin, that it be noted that the fence is to be donated to the Downsville Fire Dept and not go to the auction.

Councilman Mattson and Hwy Supt Eck entered the meeting at 7:10PM.

REPORTS- none.

Supervisor Merrill reported on the following:

- DWD Filtration Project waiting to start.
- Cooks Falls Garage Project waiting for final bill from Paul Ryder.
- Tiffany Hollow/Gregory Hollow Culvert Project tearing out temporary bridge, installing guide rails and new bridge opens tomorrow.
- Both gates at swimming pool have been fixed.
- NYCDEP DWD Contract still in hands of NYC Lawyers.
- NYS CDBG more documents have been signed.
- Downsville Park Paddle waiting on funding.

Supervisor reported that our Town Swimming Pool will be in Phase 4 of Re-open NY; we may open up after July 1st or not at all. Board discussed. It takes about two weeks to get the pool ready to open; we can wait until next meeting to hire lifeguards; we need to get the word out that we are seeking lifeguard applications but may not open at all this season. Pool committee was asked to prepare guidelines for the operations at the pool for this year.

Supervisor Merrill reported that we have received three youth applications for work at the cemetery. Board discussed.

NO. 37-2020 05/20/20 Appoint 2020 Seasonal Cemetery Laborer

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town's Summer/Youth Employment Policy states that youths must be students continuing their education and must be enrolled full-time status and verification of student status is required;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby hire the following students for the 2020 Season with no benefits.

| | | |
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| Brodie Kipp | New Seasonal Cemetery Laborer | \$11.80 per hour |
| Olivia Brunner | New Seasonal Cemetery Laborer | \$11.80 per hour |
| Zack Gannett | New Seasonal Cemetery Laborer | \$11.80 per hour |

FURTHER RESOLVED, that verification of all necessary documents must be completed and filed before anyone will be allowed to start work.

Resolution seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, resolution declared adopted.

Board discussed Extra Stipend/Comp Time for the full-time employees: Cawley, Gavette and Kipp, who have continued to work and not given the option not to work during the Covid-19 Pandemic. Would be equivalent to 200 hours of pay; if comp time was given the police would need to hire part-time officers to fill their shifts. Board discussed further. Town Attorney will research and Board will re-visit at next meeting.

NO. 38-2020 05/20/20 Donate Fence to Downsville Fire Dept

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on September 04, 2019, the Town Board of the Town of Colchester adopted Resolution NO.99-2019 authorizing Supervisor, Arthur M. Merrill to advertise the Town's Surplus Inventory with Auctions International for an online auction at auctionsinternational.com; and

WHEREAS, said online auction was held October 22, 2019 to November 05, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Colchester had accepted the bid for the 326'x6' Chain Link Fence and 25" Gate and was abandoned (never picked up);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby donated the 326'x6' Chain Link Fence and 25" Gate to the Downsville Fire department.

Resolution seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, resolution declared adopted.

Hwy Supt Eck asked Town Attorney Michael DeGroat if the Town could remove trees that are in the brook on private property? Town attorney replied that we cannot use Town equipment if no benefit to the Town; this cannot be done.

Supervisor Merrill reported that two part-time Police Officers need new bulletproof vests; we can get 50% reimbursement through a Federal Grant Program; two vests from Lombardi & Assoc., LLC is \$2,156.00, so our cost would be around \$1,100. Board discussed.

NO. 39-2020 05/20/20 Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program has funds in a Matching Funds Grant Program for the purchase of Police Bulletproof Vests; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Colchester Police Dept. are in need of two updated bulletproof vests; one for each Officer Ennist and Officer Savage; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the application of the Colchester Police Dept. to apply for grant funds to the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program for the purchase of two Police Vests. Resolution seconded by Janet Champlin, all in favor, resolution declared adopted.

Councilwoman Champlin stated that the Dog Control Officer has asked for a few supplies: 2 shirts labeled with Town of Colchester DCO, all weather coat, new cage and 2 new covers for cages for approximately \$350. Supervisor authorized the DCO to purchase and then get reimbursement. Councilwoman Champlin also stated that the DCO had asked about hourly compensation for late night hours; he has been getting calls from 11pm to 7am. Supervisor replied that we can look at it in next year's budget.

Town Clerk reported that our Rabies Clinic scheduled for June will not happen due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. She also inquired to the procedure of delinquent dog licenses, since rabies clinics probably will not happen this year. Supervisor replied that it is the dog owner's responsibility to have their dog vaccinated for rabies and we should continue our normal procedures.

Supervisor reported that the courts are slowly moving forward. Councilman Lavorgna reported that the Court Clerks are required to have plexiglass between them and clients; who is responsible for getting this. Supervisor replied that if we need to hire someone we will; it may be hard finding plexiglass.

Councilwoman Markert inquired about the Memorial Day Car Parade that Colleen Griffith has organized. Supervisor replied that he told her to contact the American Legion Commander.

Councilwoman Champlin reported that this weekend is the first Farmers' Market; five out of seven vendors have backed out.

Pool Committee asked about pouring concrete at the pool. Hwy Supt stated that it will get done.

Town Attorney reported that he has talked with Jim Hartman regarding the Shaw Driveway; he would like the plans and specs for the project.

SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES: Greg Lavorgna made the motion, seconded by Janet Champlin, that the vouchers be approved, subject to any corrections or deletions, all in favor, motion carried. Abstract No. 10-2020 Voucher No.254-276; Totaling \$31,654.60.

With no further business, Mark Mattson made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend, Town Clerk