

June 7, 2023

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 5:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Present: Arthur M. Merrill Supervisor
 Janet L. Champlin Councilwoman
 Gregory L. Lavorgna Councilman
 Julie A. Markert Councilwoman
 Daniel J. Pinner Councilman

Recording Secretary: Kirstie Mattson Town Clerk

Others present: Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., Al Donner, Ron McDonald- Elizabeth DeFalco- The Reporter, James Noviello and Jeremy Jenkusky

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 17, 2023 had been distributed earlier. Dan Pinner made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Janet Champlin, all in favor, motion carried.

VISITOR COMMENTS: James Noviello and Jeremy Jenkusky asked The Board to consider allowing ATVs and UTVs on Town Roads. They stated that the use of the town’s roads could positively impact our local economy by allowing riders to not only utilize our trails but also stop along the roads, bringing business to our local gas stations and restaurants. Noviello and Jenkusky are interested in joining with the 607 Riders club that is located in Stamford and work with other townships to make riding more accessible in our area, much like snowmobiling has been for years. The board asked many questions and held a discussion with Noviello and Jenkusky. There are currently petitions requesting the Town Board to approve this- Noviello and Jenkusky urged anybody who is interested to stop by our local businesses and sign the petition.

CORRESPONDANCE:

Supervisor Merrill received a mailing from Excellus stating that the current insurance premiums will be raised 14.8% if approved.

The Supervisor also received an email on the Town’s website complimenting the work done on Paige Cemetery so far this season.

Councilman Lavorgna then spoke about some complaints that he has received about the Cooks Falls Cemetery. The complaint stated that there have been chickens running around and making a mess of the cemetery, as well as the grass needing to be mowed.

REPORTS- written reports on file at Town Clerk’s Office:

- Town Clerk report- Total State, County and Local Revenue \$3,852.13
- Cooks Falls Water District- \$855.02
- Downsville Water District- \$4,883.94
- Justice Edel- \$8,043.00
- Justice Conrow- \$21,915.00

The supervisor spoke to the board about Downsville Water District paying back the inter-fund transfer to the General Account from last September. The board Discussed.

NO. 47-2023 06/07/2023 DWD Payback Loan to Supervisor’s General Fund

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Downsville Water District had insufficient funds for the Downsville Water District Improvement Project, D0-17537 to pay the final invoices to NYSEFC Loan #5713 ; and

WHEREAS, on September 07, 2022, per resolution No. 85-2022, the Town board of The Town of Colchester authorized Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to make and Inter Fund Transfer from the Supervisor’s General Fund to the Downsville Water District Fund in the amount of \$13,000.00;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to payback the Supervisor’s General Fund the said loan of \$13,000.00. Resolution was seconded by Daniel Pinner.

This resolution was put to a vote by roll call and resulted as follows:

Town Supervisor, Arthur M. Merrill	voting aye
Councilperson, Janet Champlin	voting aye
Councilperson, Gregory L. Lavorgna	voting aye
Councilperson, Julie A. Markert	voting aye
Councilperson, Daniel J. Pinner	voting aye

The resolution was declared to be duly adopted by the members of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester.

Supervisor Merril reported that The Mobile Office Unit is still underway- however, the steps at Town Hall needed to be replaced immediately so Scott is working on that for now.

The supervisor stated that we are still waiting on the lumber for the dock at the Paddle Park.

Councilwoman Markert and Councilwoman Champlin spoke about the updates at the pool. The new building is in place for the lockers. The roof of the pumphouse still needs to be replaced but the board agreed that it should wait for the fall to avoid any of the old roof falling into the pool. They reported that after looking at other options for the diving board, they think that it may be best to work on the one that we have. It can be cleaned and painted to keep it usable and safe. They also stated that the ceiling in the bathhouse is an issue and would like to start discussing different ideas for how that may be fixed or replaced.

The supervisor then told The Board that the Historical Society is interested in working with DCMO Boces on the 2024 calendar. Boces sent over a contract for The Town to complete after getting the Board’s approval.
NO. 48-2023 06/07/23 DCMO BOCES Print Shop Service

Greg Lavorgna made the following Resolution:
WHEREAS, the Town of Colchester Historical Society will require printing services for their 2024 calendar;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes Supervisor Arthur Merrill to execute an Agreement for printing services and to enter into contract with DCMO Boces in accordance with the scope of services to complete the historical Society’s 2024 Calendars. Resolution was seconded by Janet Champlin. All in favor, resolution declared adopted.

Councilman Daniel Pinner then asked to talk about the Town’s interest in water Engineering. He asked if the Board would be interested in having a representative from Lamont Engineers, from Cobleskill, Ny, to come speak to The Board about what services they offer.

The supervisor then reported that we have received more employment applications for the Cemetery. The board discussed those applications.
NO. 49-2023 06/07/23 Appoint 2023 Cemetery Personnel

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby hires the following cemetery personnel for the 2023 Season:

Skylar Odell	New Seasonal Cemetery Laborer	\$14.20 per hour
Elijah Odell	New Seasonal Cemetery Laborer	\$14.20 per hour

Resolution seconded by Janet Champlin, all in favor, resolution declared adopted.

+application received for Deputy Town Clerk. The board discussed.
NO. 50-2023 06/07/23 Hire Lynda Dolocheck as Deputy Town Clerk

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby appoints Lynda Dolocheck as Clerk for the term of 06-01-2023 to 12-31-2026 at the hourly rate of \$17.50 per hour with no benefits, assignments and duties at the discretion of the Town Clerk. Resolution seconded by Greg Lavorgna, all in favor, resolution declared adopted.

Highway Superintendent Eck reported that he spoke with Joanne Humphries from Trout Unlimited. She asked if the Town would be willing to work on a project in Gregorytown. The Board discussed and asked for more information on the project.

Councilwoman Julie Markert asked if there was an update on the meter replacement project. The board talked about the GPS mapping of the water district to locate all of the meters, pipes and valves.

Supervisor Merrill received a list from the Colchester Senio Citizens with a list of all of the residents that will be attending the trip. After some discussion, the board decided to reimburse the cost of the bus fare for each citizen. The bus fare was \$60.00 per person and there are 24 Colchester residents attending, the board has approved the payment of \$1,440.00 to The Colchester Senior Citizens.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcements:
• Next Regular Meeting is Wed., June 21, 2023 at 5PM.

SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES: Greg Lavorgna made the motion, seconded by Julie Markert, that the vouchers be approved, subject to any corrections or deletions, All in favor, motion carried. **Abstract No. 11-2023 Voucher No. 297-335 ; Totaling \$160,309.31**

Julie Markert made the motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel, seconded by Janet Champlin, all in favor, motion carried. Board entered executive session at 6:22PM. Board held discussion. Janet Champlin made the motion to enter back into regular session, seconded by Greg Lavorgna. All in favor, motion carried. Board entered regular session at 6:43PM.
With no further business, Daniel Pinner made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Julie Markert, All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:44PM.
Respectfully Submitted: Kirstie Mattson, Town Clerk