

August 02, 2023

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday, August 02, 2023 at 5:00 PM at the Town Hall.

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

Absent:                    Gregory L. Lavorgna   Councilman

Recording Secretary: Julie B. Townsend   Town Clerk

Others present: Lynda Dolocheck-Deputy Town Clerk, Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., The Reporter-Elizabeth DeFalco, Alan Donner, Linda Mills, Rebecca Mochel, James Noviello, Rob Hafele and Officer Cawley.

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, July 19, 2023 had been distributed earlier. Janet Champlin made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Dan Pinner, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Dan Pinner-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Greg Lavorgna-absent, motion carried.

VISITOR COMMENTS: Linda Mills inquired why the Town was still supporting Community Bank, after they took away our only bank in town? Supervisor Merrill replied that we cannot bank with a Credit Union (SFCU) and we tried to get other banks to come to Downsville or setup an ATM, it was a no go. We have many accounts and to switch them to another bank in Walton or Delhi was not feasible. We did not have any other options.

Rebecca Mochel announced that it was official that she was running for Town Clerk on the Democratic ticket.

James Noviello inquired to the status of the ATV/UTV local law. Supervisor replied that the Town Attorney has sent a draft; Supervisor read and Board discussed; some additions need to be made; James Noviello is going to research more info; Supervisor suggested that he and James should have a conference call with the Town Atty. Councilwoman Markert commented that we need to get Delaware County involved. Supervisor replied that half the county is interested. Councilwoman Markert asked when the ATV/UTV Club would be starting. James Noviello stated that there is money involved with getting the club started and they wanted to see what happened at the Town level first. Supervisor commented that the Town Board is supportive.

Alan Donner commented that he and Paul Clynes have been working on the electrical and plumbing systems at the Mobile Office Unit; the electrical system is a mess; a lot of new wiring is needed; we have a copy of lights that are working. Supervisor asked for a resolution to hire Donner and Clynes to complete the electrical and plumbing systems at \$25.00 an hour. Board discussed.

**NO. 65-2023 08/02/23       Mobile Office Electrical and Plumbing Systems**

Upon the recommendation of Supervisor Merrill, Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby hires Alan Donner and Paul Clynes to complete the Electrical and Plumbing Systems at the Mobile Office Unit located at 6292 River Road at \$25.00 per hour each with no benefits.

Resolution seconded by Dan Pinner, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Dan Pinner-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Greg Lavorgna-absent, resolution declared adopted.

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

- Cooks Falls Water District- July 2023- 25 customer balance due \$2,461.00; Receipts of \$2,460.10 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Downsville Water District- July 2023- 79 customers balance due \$10,203.42; Receipts of \$12,411.01 disbursed to Supervisor.
- Town Clerk- July 2023- Total disbursed \$2,322.37 of which \$2,275.87 was Town revenues.
- Town Justice Edel- \$5,713.00 reported for July 2023.
- Planning Board- 04-20-2023 Minutes.

Supervisor reported that he has talked with Nate Homovich in regards to completing the DWD meter installation project; Nate wants to talk with WPO Ron MacDonald first before committing.

Supervisor Merrill reported that he had a conference call with NYCDEP regarding the hookup to DWD; trying to get the passport portal up and running again.

Supervisor reported that information has been sent on the Park Paddle Project and we should be receiving a payment soon.

Supervisor Merrill suggested that we move the next meeting of August 16<sup>th</sup> (Del. Co. Fair Week) to the next week, August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Board discussed.

**NO. 66-2023 08/02/23 Reschedule Board Meeting of August 16<sup>th</sup>**

Julie Markert made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a quorum may not be met for the Town of Colchester 2<sup>nd</sup> Town Board Meeting to be held on August 16, 2023;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester reschedules their August 16, 2023 Town Board Meeting to Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at 5:00pm and hereby authorizes the Town Clerk to post such notice.

Resolution was seconded by Dan Pinner, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Dan Pinner-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Greg Lavorgna-absent, resolution declared adopted.

Supervisor reported that the Humane Society of Central Delaware County, Inc. (d/b/a Heart of the Catskills Humane Society) has sent the Humane Society Agreement for 2023 to be signed; agreement is the same as previous years and we have crossed out all references to cats. Board discussed.

**NO. 67-2023 08/02/23 Humane Society Agreement 2023**

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to sign the Agreement between the Town of Colchester, NY and the Humane Society of Central Delaware County, Inc. (d/b/a Heart of the Catskills Humane Society) of Delhi, NY to utilize the Humane Society's Shelter for the care and confinement of those stray or lost dogs which are picked up by the Town of Colchester Dog Control Officer or Police Officers. Resolution was seconded by Julie Markert, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Dan Pinner-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Greg Lavorgna-absent, resolution declared adopted.

Councilwoman Champlin inquired to the status of the road water issue in Corbett? Hwy Supt Eck reported that when it rains the water runs off the road toward a septic system; has been a problem for years; he will go talk with the landowners again.

Supervisor Merrill tabled discussion on Short Term Rentals until next Board Meeting.

Supervisor reported that he has attended conference calls regarding Clean Path Transmission Line Project; this underground line is going from Delhi to NYC and is following the Marcy South lines which goes through Colchester; we have been asked that we give authorization to Young/Sommer LLC to represent Colchester in in this project and will allow them to seek funds to cover efforts to ultimately seek intervener status/funding from the Public Service Commission. Board discussed.

**NO. 68-2023 08/02/23 Clean Path New York Article VII**

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill to sign a Party Status Request Form between the Town of Colchester, NY and Young/Sommer LLC to submit said Party Status Request Form for Case 22-T-0558, NYPA and Clean Path New York Article VII Proceeding.

Resolution was seconded by Julie Markert, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Dan Pinner-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Greg Lavorgna-absent, resolution declared adopted.

Supervisor Merrill made the following announcement:

- Next Regular Meeting is Wed., August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5PM.

Councilwoman Champlin inquired to the status of the diving board? Supervisor replied it is being delivered tomorrow.

Councilwoman Markert inquired to the status of the police car's emblems/decals? Supervisor replied that we put an order in two years ago. Officer Cawley stated he will contact Kim Reed.

Councilwoman Markert asked if the Charging Station was working? Supervisor replied we are receiving funds.

Councilwoman Markert asked if there was a line in the budget to help start the ATV/UTV Club? Supervisor stated not at this time.

Councilwoman Champlin reported that the Water carnival was held last Saturday; well attended; great time until the loose change was thrown into the pool; a lot of crying children; next year this event should be done with younger children first. Supervisor stated the pool is closing Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>.

SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES: Janet Champlin made the motion, seconded by Dan Pinner, that the vouchers be approved, subject to any corrections or deletions, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Dan Pinner-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Greg Lavorgna-absent, motion carried. Abstract No. 15-2023 Voucher No.430-461; Totaling \$26,033.66.

With no further business, Dan Pinner made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Janet Champlin, Janet Champlin-aye, Julie Markert-aye, Dan Pinner-aye, Arthur Merrill-aye, Greg Lavorgna-absent, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:12PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Julie B. Townsend, Town Clerk