

February 21,2024

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Colchester, Delaware County, New York was held on Wednesday February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 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       Absent

Recording Secretary: Allison R. Gill       Town Clerk

Others present: Kenneth R. Eck, Jr.-Highway Supt., Rob Hafele, Alan Donner and Officer Cawley.

The Meeting was called to order at 5:03pm by Supervisor Arthur M. Merrill, and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the February 7, 2024 meeting had been distributed earlier Janet Champlin made the motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, motion carried.

#### INTRODUCTION OF GUEST:

No comments from guests.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

Supervisor Merrill read an email sent to him in regards to our meeting procedure. He had received an email stating that we are one of the Towns in the state of New York that does not allow our guests time to speak. This is not true. Supervisor Merrill returned an email and told them that this was false information, and that guests are always asked if they have business to discuss. Often guest will be asked their opinions even during the meeting. .

Supervisor Merrill read the mail that was from MTC, in regards to rate changes in their billing.

REPORTS: written reports on file at Town Clerk's office

- Planning Board Minutes- January 18, 2024 meeting
- Colchester Town Court- January 2024 Report \$6797.00
- Cooks Falls Town Court- January 2024 Report \$32,968.00

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- DWD- Supervisor Merrill will speak with Paul to see if he is interested in taking on the role of installing the new water meters. If he is not, we will advertise for this to be completed.
- Public Safety Building- Once police side is completed; they will resume work in the judge's side. No finish date given to anyone yet .
- NYCDEP project – Received an email stating that the next step would be to hire to have the work completed. We would then put it to bid. Not to exceed \$747,500 total.
- Park Paddle Project- will resume in the spring.
- Short Term Rental-Transient Rental Regulations- Workshop held tonight before the meeting and will schedule a public hearing on March 20<sup>th</sup>. @ 5pm with regular scheduled meeting directly after the public meeting.

#### **NO. 23-24    02/21/2024    A Resolution Introducing A Proposed Local Law**

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a local law entitled “Short Term Rental- Transient Rental Regulations was introduced at a prior meeting and workshops were held prior to tonight's meeting and

WHEREAS, the Town Board desires to hold a public hearing with respect to the adoption of said Local Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Colchester on Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5PM at 72 Tannery Road, Downsville NY 13755.

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause public notice of said hearing to be given as provided by law.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the regular monthly meeting of the Town Board will be held immediately following the Public Hearing.

Resolution was seconded by Julie Markert, all in favor, resolution declared adopted.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

No new Business to discuss.

#### PERSONNEL:

Highway Superintendent Eck expressed that the High Power washer at the highway garage is not working. Superintendent Eck stated that they use this to keep the fleet of 15 cars/trucks washed and maintained. The Police Department also washes their vehicles with the same power washer. Superintendent Eck gave the Board 2 quotes from NAPA for a new high power washer. The quotes were \$5564.00 for the first one and \$7457.17. Board discussed.

#### **NO. 24-24    02/21/2024    Purchase of new High Power Washer for Town Garage.**

Janet Champlin made the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the board has decided that the purchase of the \$7457.17 power washer was essential for the maintenance of their vehicles.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Colchester hereby authorizes the purchase of the power washer. The funds for this will come from the Highway Department funds only. Julie Markert seconded this resolution. Resolution was put to vote by roll call. Roll call was as follows.

Art Merrill-aye

Janet Champlin- aye

Greg Lavorgna- aye

Julie Markert -aye

Resolution declared adopted.

#### GENERAL DISCUSSIONS

The May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Town Board meeting was discussed. Supervisor Merrill will be away during this meeting. The Board discussed if they wanted to only hold one meeting that month or if they thought they should do both meetings with Janet Champlin. Deputy Supervisor to take over that night. It was decided that the Board would go ahead as scheduled with the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Greg Lavorgna stated he had spoken with Ed DeRosia, from our Cooks Falls Water District, who complained of dirty water and ice cubes. Ed's home is at the end of the water line. Years ago the flush out by his home broke and at the time Ed did not allow the Water District to come in to fix the break. The flush system was then just turned off. Supervisor Merrill stated that the Cooks Falls Water District Manager, Bill Klinegardner, did all necessary tests around Mr. DeRosias home. All test came back within the normal range. Supervisor Merrill suggested that Mr. DeRosia should try to run a regular garden hose for a while to see if that helps to clean up the lines. Greg Lavorgna will get back in touch with Mr. DeRosia to discuss this.

Janet Champlin questioned why there was a bill from Home Depot with sales tax added on it as we are tax exempt. The carpenters had picked up the paint and supplies from Home Depot and then submitted the bills to the board for reimbursement. Supervisor Merrill will contact Home Depot and see about getting the sales tax dropped.

Julie Markert inquired about what still remains to be completed to finish the Public Safety Building. She also requested a print out of all expenses so far on this project. A report was given to each Board member for their review. The budget has been surpassed by quite a bit. They are waiting on Endwell Rug to come in to install the carpeted areas. There will be some of the plywood that needs more reinforcement, where the high traffic areas are. Painting needs to be completed. Once all is complete on the police part, the construction will commence on the judge's chamber.

Supervisor Merrill announced the need to go in to Executive Session due to personnel issues. Janet Champlin made a motion to go in to Executive Session, and Greg Lavorgna seconded her motion.

Executive session began at 5:32PM

Executive session ended at 5:44.

Regular Meeting commenced at 5:44

Next regular meeting is Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### SUBMISSION OF BILL/EXPENSES:

Janet Champlin made the motion, seconded by Greg Lavorgna, that the vouchers be approved, subject to any corrections or deletions, all in favor, motion carried. Abstract No. 4-2024 Voucher No. 120 - 157 Totaling \$397,574.44.

With no further business, Janet Champlin made the motion for adjournment, seconded by Julie Markert all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:47PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Allison R. Gill, Town Clerk