

Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Ave, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Board of Finance

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 @7:00 pm

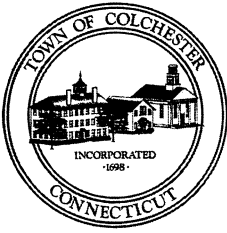
Town Hall- Meeting Room 1 & Via Zoom

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COLCHESTER, CT
2024 MAR 14 PM 3:33
Gayle Furman
TOWN CLERK

BOF Members Present: S. Chapman, K. Belding, T. Vaillancourt, M. Egan, M. Hayes, J. Thomas

Also Present: B. Dennler- First Selectman and other citizens.

1. CALL TO ORDER- Chair, Scott Chapman called meeting to order at 7:13pm
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –2/28/24 Regular Meeting and 2/28/24 Budget Forum #2. Motion to approve minutes made by M. Hayes. 2nd by M. Egan. **Motion Carried 6-0**
4. CITIZENS COMMENTS
 - a. M. Gignac: Thanked the board for their work and spoke about field study.
 - b. B. Hayn: Spoke about frustration with field conditions at Bacon Academy.
 - c. T. Martin: Spoke about wanting turf on the fields.
 - d. C. Prates: Spoke about fields being unsafe.
 - e. T. Gillman: Spoke about Bacon Academy having the worst fields in ECC.
 - f. A. O’Neal: Spoke about personal injury as a result of the current field conditions and explained what other schools have turf fields.
 - g. Unknown speaker: Spoke about frustration and embarrassment of the field conditions.
 - h. T. Crowel: Spoke about field conditions.
 - i. Jacob: Spoke in favor of turf fields and gave comparison of other fields.
 - j. Unknown speaker: Spoke about the budget process regarding the fields
 - k. Dan: Spoke about injury from the fields and wants them to be safe.
 - l. A. Smith: Spoke about needing support from the BOF regarding needs for the fields.
 - m. D. Ford: Spoke about underfunding of fields due to other projects in town.
 - n. K. Walsh: Spoke about other towns that have nice fields and how new fields at Bacon Academy can draw people into Colchester for events which could benefit other businesses in the area.
 - o. M. Ashley: Spoke about talk of magnet school coming to Colchester which could generate more money from out-of-town students to attend if the fields are updated.
 - p. P. Walsh: Spoke about the sustainability of turf compared to grass maintenance and safety of the fields.



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- q. K. Paul: Spoke about the finance office and spending money on other projects that could have been less money. Some of that money could have been spent on the schools.
- r. J. LaChapelle: Spoke about bill for senior center and BOF liaison unable to attend executive session at last BOS meeting.
- s. D. Bouchard: Spoke about length of citizens comments from the room, study previously done on the fields, expressed disappointment with BOF liaison unable to attend executive session at last BOS meeting, senior center van and driver, transfers and current fund balance.
- t. M. Parsons: Spoke about capital improvement plan for BOE and need for town to have plan for grants to lessen tax burden.

5. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA- None

- S. Chapman requested the meeting be adjourned due to technical difficulties with the hybrid room.
- B. Dennler requests the board to vote on agenda item *9a -EV Charing Station* before adjourning.
- 9a CAPITAL RESERVE REQUESTS
 - M. Egan motioned to pay \$9625.00 from the Equipment Reserve Account for the EV project per packet included in the agenda, invoice # 1223 dated 1/22/2024 2nd by M. Hayes
 - Discussion was had on whether to pay the bill or pay the penalty to cancel the project.
 - **Motion Carried 4-2**

ADJOURMENT-Motion to adjourn by M. Egan 2nd by M. Hayes. **Motion carried 6-0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm

Submitted By:

Kayla Fortier, Clerk