



# Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

**Town of Colchester  
Board of Finance Meeting Minutes  
June 8, 2020 – Virtual Meeting – 6:30 PM  
SPECIAL MEETING**

(All items on this agenda are subject to possible action.)

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Rob Tarlov, Michael Hayes, Mike Egan, Andreas Bisbikos, and Andrea Migliaccio, Bernie Dennler

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** CFO Maggie Cosgrove, First Selectman Mary Bylone, Superintendent Jeff Burt, J Morozowich (BOE)

\*\*\*All members and citizens were present via Zoom webinar

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Tarlov called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting 6/3, Public Hearings on 5/26, 5/28:**  
M. Hayes motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes from June 3, 2020, seconded by B. Dennler. Vote was unanimous. **MOTION CARRIED.**  
M. Hayes motioned to approve the Public Hearing minutes from May 26 & 28, 2020, seconded by B. Dennler. Vote was unanimous. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- 3. CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** Citizens spoke in favor of the BOE budget expressing a concern for available funds to purchase Covid related items when available and the BOF only being able to vote on the bottom line of the BOE budget, not line items.
- 4. BOF BUDGET DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:** M. Egan requested a motion be made on the Town budget as agreed at the last meeting. B. Dennler motioned to endorse and post the Town budget funding the Youth Services position for 10mths, not 12, and reduce the road repair budget by \$50,000, taking the money from TAR, seconded by M. Egan. M. Cosgrove explained the motion should only be for the overall bottomline. B. Dennler moved to amend his original motion and motioned to endorse and post the budget as presented in the amount of \$15,155,865, seconded by M. Egan. Vote was unanimous. **MOTION CARRIED.**

M. Cosgrove was asked to speak regarding the revenue portion of the budget. She reiterated the reimbursement process from the previous meeting and added that the reimbursement process for Covid related expenses states that FEMA reimbursement items must not be something previously budgeted for. As soon as an appropriation is made for an expense it is considered budgeted for. More instructions will be given tomorrow on the reimbursement process. She supplied members with an update on revenues highlighting changes such as those mentioned at the last meeting.

M. Egan spoke in favor of the BOE budget at a .4% increase over last year in order to meet the needs of the town. He felt it had already been reduced from 2.99% and the BOE has done a lot of work to lower it

and is using savings from this year to make purchases for next year. R. Tarlov questioned M. Cosgrove on where incurred Covid expenses would come from prior to reimbursement. M. Cosgrove does have some concerns that there could be many unfunded mandates. FEMA funding goes through December 31st. R. Tarlov asked where incurred expenses come from. M. Cosgrove said they would be charged to the budget and then apply for the reimbursement. If there is no other funding, BOE would need to come to BOF and request appropriation.

M. Egan motioned to put forward the BOE budget with a \$165,488 increase and post, seconded by M. Hayes. M. Egan then amended his motion to reflect a budget of \$41,402,610 be put forward and posted, seconded by M. Hayes. Chairman Tarlov asked if there was any discussion. He then asked for clarity on the purchasing of Chromebooks and when they are being purchased. J. Burt explained that \$149,000 of IT hardware will be purchased prior to the end of this fiscal year using savings from this year. Another \$105,000 of IT hardware will be purchased out of next year's budget. Chairman Tarlov asked for a vote on the motion. M. Hayes, B. Dennler, and M. Egan voted in favor. A. Bisbikos, A. Migliaccio, and R. Tarlov voted against. **MOTION FAILED.**

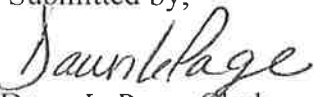
M. Hayes motioned to reduce the budget by \$86,000 and put forth and post the BOE budget in the amount of \$41,316,610, seconded by M. Egan. Discussion was called for. Members held a discussion of the current BOE budget and funds remaining. A. Bisbikos said he still believes there should be a 0% increase during a crisis and people not being able to vote. We need to think about the future as well and the current year-end budget shows a significant amount will be remaining. A. Migliaccio said she doesn't feel that reducing the budget by an additional \$86,000 makes a difference. We are facing the unknown and will support the BOE no matter circumstances arise. She is concerned about taking money out of the general funds now not knowing what the need will be next year. R. Tarlov said he has wanted to get to a zero increase all along and has been concerned over how to get there. He knows that having a zero increase in the mill rate this year will create a bigger hole for next year. He had originally thought that the \$105,000 in the IT hardware line item was in the budget but was not going to be spent in the 2020-21 year and was having a hard time with that money being budgeted for but not used. He now understands that it will be used for purchases of equipment next year and therefore is not unallocated. He said he was going to support the motion as significant reductions had been made and we needed to move forward. Chairman Tarlov called for a vote. A. Migliaccio and A. Bisbikos voted against. M. Hayes, M. Egan, B. Dennler, and R. Tarlov voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

M. Cosgrove questioned if she was to post reflecting the revenue.

B. Dennler motioned to post the budget with revenue, seconded by M. Egan. Members then agreed that the budget should be posted with the revenue projections noting that the revenue portion has not yet been addressed by the Board. B. Dennler withdrew his motion. M. Egan withdrew his second.

5. **CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** Citizens spoke in favor of the budget and the need to support teachers through programs and incentives.
6. **BOF BUDGET DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:** Members agreed to combine Wednesday, June 17th regular meeting with the budget meeting scheduled for June 15th at 6:30. The June 17th meeting will be cancelled.
7. **ADJOURNMENT:** M. Hayes motioned to adjourn, seconded by A. Bisbikos. Vote was unanimous. **MOTION CARRIED.** Chairman Tarlov adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Submitted by,

  
Dawn LePage, Clerk

Attachments:

Proposed Budget with Revenue

**TOWN OF COLCHESTER  
FY2020-2021 PROPOSED BUDGET**

	<b>FY 2017-2018 Actual Revenues</b>	<b>FY 2018-2019 Actual Revenues</b>	<b>FY 2019-2020 Adopted Budget</b>	<b>FY 2019-2020 Projected Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget</b>
<b>REVENUES:</b>					
<b>Property Taxes:</b>					
Current taxes	38,810,079	39,110,431	40,304,659	40,118,516	40,785,675
Delinquent taxes	371,693	575,624	550,000	450,000	375,000
Interest & lien fees	357,284	342,189	330,000	280,000	250,000
Total property taxes	39,539,056	40,028,244	41,184,659	40,848,516	41,410,675
<b>Intergovernmental:</b>					
In lieu of taxes - PILOT	0	74,928	74,928	74,928	74,928
Mashantucket Pequot/Mohegan Fund	65,420	23,167	23,167	23,167	23,167
Municipal Stabilization Grant	207,276	134,167	134,167	134,167	134,167
Distribution to Towns	4,900	5,677	5,000	6,550	5,000
Disability Exemptions	1,682	1,454	1,674	1,610	1,888
Additional Veterans Exemptions	7,770	7,082	7,211	7,357	7,255
Local Capital Improvement	213,497	136,187	116,454	116,454	116,454
Youth Services Grant	17,408	17,732	17,000	17,732	17,732
Emergency Management	0	7,404	0	8,065	8,065
Total	517,953	407,798	379,601	390,030	388,656
<b>Intergovernmental - Education:</b>					
ECS	11,733,946	12,660,380	12,359,179	12,359,177	12,040,218
Special Education - Excess Costs	688,712	539,115	500,000	624,553	500,000
Total	12,422,658	13,199,495	12,859,179	12,983,730	12,540,218
Total intergovernmental	12,940,611	13,607,293	13,238,780	13,373,760	12,928,874

**TOWN OF COLCHESTER  
FY2020-2021 PROPOSED BUDGET**

	<b>FY 2017-2018 Actual Revenues</b>	<b>FY 2018-2019 Actual Revenues</b>	<b>FY 2019-2020 Adopted Budget</b>	<b>FY 2019-2020 Projected Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget</b>
<b>Charges for Services:</b>					
Ambulance Fees	582,728	629,052	575,000	519,000	500,000
Recreation Fees	11,765	12,140	12,000	3,337	6,000
Total charges for services	594,493	641,192	587,000	522,337	506,000
<b>Revenues from use of money:</b>					
Investment interest earnings	272,088	348,258	225,000	298,400	196,200
<b>Licenses/permits/fees:</b>					
Vendor permits	1,520	1,245	1,200	990	1,200
Copier fees	16,770	15,313	17,400	17,197	17,850
ZBA fees	1,250	350	700	1,350	700
Conservation Commission fees	4,953	7,447	5,500	6,420	5,500
Zoning and Planning fees	11,290	17,590	13,000	10,000	13,000
Building fees	278,638	350,726	245,000	360,000	245,000
Fire marshal inspection fees	360	0	240	60	100
Conveyance tax	181,592	179,773	185,000	185,719	186,000
Town Clerk fees	83,141	87,421	87,000	101,187	102,000
Sports licenses	460	392	470	250	250
Land Records - Town	1,823	1,757	2,000	1,706	1,800
Pistol permits	8,960	7,186	8,500	5,160	5,000
Road inspection fees	7,349	12,067	3,900	28,867	17,750
Transfer Station fees	139,958	134,162	127,500	136,762	130,000
Library fines & fees	9,201	6,704	7,600	7,250	7,000
Dial-A-Ride	3,414	2,896	3,150	3,500	3,500
Total licenses/permits/fees	750,679	825,029	708,160	866,418	736,650

**TOWN OF COLCHESTER**  
**FY2020-2021 PROPOSED BUDGET**

	<b>FY 2017-2018 Actual Revenues</b>	<b>FY 2018-2019 Actual Revenues</b>	<b>FY 2019-2020 Adopted Budget</b>	<b>FY 2019-2020 Projected Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget</b>
<b>Other revenues:</b>					
Tuition	344,894	426,778	402,038	468,300	329,400
Telecommunication property tax	29,377	27,723	27,000	26,915	26,000
Elderly Housing/Dublin Village	14,689	14,416	14,350	14,350	14,350
Miscellaneous	20,802	11,602	5,000	5,000	5,000
Insurance Reimbursement	2,685	9,765	0	125	0
Recovery	0	0	0	57,902	0
State Fund for Building Inspection fees	1,069	1,747	1,000	1,200	1,000
CCM/CIRMA Member Equity Distribution	44,723	46,727	0	0	4,326
	<u>458,239</u>	<u>538,758</u>	<u>449,388</u>	<u>573,792</u>	<u>380,076</u>
<b>Other financing sources:</b>					
Use of Fund Balance	0	0	0	414,089	314,000
Total other financing sources	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>414,089</u>	<u>314,000</u>
 Total revenues	 <u>54,555,166</u>	 <u>55,988,774</u>	 <u>56,392,987</u>	 <u>56,897,312</u>	 <u>56,472,475</u>

Dated: June 8, 2020