



# Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Mary Bylone, First Selectman

Board of Selectman Minutes

Regular Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, February 18, 2021 @ 7:00 PM

Members Present: First Selectman Mary Bylone, Selectmen Rosemary Coyle, Denise Turner, Denise Mizla and Taras Rudko

1. CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman called the meeting to order at 7 P.M.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA: NONE
4. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Linda Pasternak stated that she was in favor of Board members having their cameras on for Zoom meetings. Sal Tassone made sure the Board knew he was present for questions relating to the Carrier Road agenda item.
5. CORRESPONDENCE: NONE
6. CONSENT AGENDA
  - A. Approve the Minutes of the February 4, 2021 Board of Selectmen Meeting
  - B. Tax Abatements
  - C. Resignation of Jean Walsh from Economic Development Commission
  - T. Rudko motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by R. Coyle. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
7. Presentation by Chatham Health District Director Russell Melmed on the allocation of 20% of Colchester's CRF funds: R. Coyle motioned to allocate the 20% of Colchester's CRF funds in the amount of \$25,350.80 to Chatham Health District, seconded by D. Turner. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
8. Tax Assessor John Chaponis to Discuss the Grand List: J. Chaponis answered questions concerning his memo dated January 29, 2021 regarding the Grand List.
9. Town Planner Matt Bordeaux to Discuss Ad Hoc Committee to Research Using Town Funds to Support Efforts to Secure Both Conservation and Agricultural Easements: Board of Selectmen reached consensus that the Planning and Zoning Department explore what options currently exist before the Ad Hoc Committee convenes or is charged.
10. Approve Construction of a Residential Driveway within the Town Right-of-Way of Carrier Road: R. Coyle motioned to approve construction of a residential driveway within the Town Right-of-Way of Carrier Road with the understanding that the driveway will not be maintained by the Town of Colchester and pending approval by Town Code Administration and Planning & Zoning staff. The Town of Colchester has no intention, at this time, [Selectman@ColchesterCt.gov](mailto:Selectman@ColchesterCt.gov) 860-537-7220 [www.ColchesterCT.gov](http://www.ColchesterCT.gov)

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to resume maintenance of the abandoned portion of Carrier Road, seconded by D. Mizla. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-1, with T. Rudko abstaining.

11. Approve Social Services Program Coordinator Job Description: D. Mizla motioned to approve the Social Services Program Coordinator job description, seconded by D. Turner. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
12. Establish Process for Fire Chief Search: First Selectman will invite representatives from two different firms that assist municipalities with hiring Fire Chiefs to upcoming Board of Selectmen meetings to explain what they offer. Additionally, a representative from a municipality that recently went through the process of hiring a fire chief will be invited to an upcoming board meeting to discuss how they went about their process.
13. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Cathy Russi stated that she was in favor of Board of Selectmen members having their cameras on for Zoom meetings. T. Rudko responded that he was not in favor of having his camera on as he attends from his home office and stated that all things in public meetings are FOI-able. Linda Pasternak stated that there are simulated backgrounds that can be used in Zoom.
14. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT: Senior Center will be offering upcoming COVID vaccine clinics. The positivity rate for COVID in the state is at 2.02%. Budget goals are being worked on. At the next BOF meeting the Police Department is doing a presentation about vehicles and staffing needs. Novus will present on IT needs including phone system at the following Board of Finance. The price of salt will be going up, if we get more snow we may have to purchase salt at the higher price. FOI requests were received from Joseph Cahill, Josh Kelly and Art Shilosky
15. LIAISON REPORTS:
  - R. Coyle: Commission on Aging - Senior Center Director's Report Attached. Commission used the money in their budget to print the Senior Resource Guide.
  - Open Space Commission – They are working with UCONN to possibly develop a wildlife management plan. The Town has applied for two brownfield grants to do contamination assessments.
  - Senior Center Building Committee – Plan to move the referendum date to September to allow more time for the public information campaign.
  - Long Term Recovery Committee – Working on implementation of goals including intergenerational activities.
  - D. Turner: Conservation Commission – They had one pending application, one new application and the enforcement issue at Middletown Road has been resolved.
  - D. Mizla – Norton Park Committee – Director of Public Works Jim Paggioli gave an update and discussed going out to bid for remediation and restoration to get the property back to grass. The closing for 129 Westchester Road happened and the demolition of that house along with another property will go out to bid. There will be a presentation on February 25 with help from the Library as well as another one on March 25. They have raised \$7,796 in general donations and over \$11,000 for engraved park items.
  - T. Rudko: Ethics Commission – They are reviewing draft revisions to the Ethics Code.



Planning and Zoning Commission – Two additional submissions made and a conversation regarding solar, both commercial and residential.

FS: Economic Development Commission – Working on the C-TIP application

Police Commission – Preparing for BOF presentation. Working on Blood Borne Pathogen Policy, and mandates from Governor's Executive Order regarding body worn cameras, dash cameras and training.

16. ADJOURN: T. Rudko motioned to adjourn at 8:50 p.m., seconded by D. Mizla. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Please see the minutes of future meetings for any corrections hereto.

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Heide', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Heide Perham, Executive Assistant to the First Selectman