



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Bernie Dennler, First Selectman

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting

March 21, 2024 - 7:00PM

MINUTES

Colchester Town Hall Meeting Room 1 and Hybrid via Zoom

Members Present: First Selectman Bernie Dennler, Selectmen Art Shilosky, Rosemary Coyle, Denise Turner, and Cliff O'Donal.

Others Present: Joe Leone, Public Works Director, Steve Hoffman, Fire Chief, Brad Bernier, Deputy Fire Chief, Sergeant Cash, Resident State Trooper, Officer Dominic Sullivan, and Jonathan Paz, Government Affairs Manager Flock Safety (via zoom)

1. Call to Order

B. Dennler called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Dennler led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Correspondence

Email from Jason LaChapelle regarding proposed Flock Camera System

Email from Michael Dubreuil regarding proposed Flock Camera System

Email from Wendy J. Worley regarding proposed Flock Camera System

4. Citizen's Comments

Skip Starks, spoke about the need for the fields to stay at the forefront of decisions by the boards.

Michael Dubreuil, thanked J. Leone for his work, recreation, and the Colchester Crusaders travelling to play.

Shannon Rogers, spoke about the recreational fields.

Deanna Bouchard, spoke about the proposed sweeper sale to Lebanon, and Flock Camera System.

Jason LaChapelle, spoke about the proposed Flock Camera System.

5. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the Minutes from Regular Meeting March 7, 2024
- b. Approve the Minutes from Special Meeting March 14, 2024
- c. Authorize Tax Refunds

- d. Approve Colchester Sewer and Water Commission FY 23-24 operating budgets and rates/fees as recommended by the Sewer and Water Commission
- e. Reappointment of Patty Watts as Municipal Agent for the Aging with a term ending 3/1/2028
- f. Reappoint Michael Dankiw and Denise Salmoiraghi to the Housing Authority with a term ending on 5/1/2029

R. Coyle MOVED to accept the consent agenda. A. Shilosky SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

R. Coyle MOVED to amend the agenda, adding in a new item 7, moving item 11 up to item 8. A. Shilosky SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

6. Ad-Hoc Committee and Commission Interviews:

- a. Ad Hoc Recreation Needs and Coordination Committee
The Board interviewed the following Candidates: Nina Minella, David Emery, and Kyle Calash.
- b. Agriculture Commission
The Board interviewed Sam Wilson

7. Discussion and action on authorizing the First Selectman to sign a revised agreement with Firematic to change the Pierce tanker fire truck from candy apple red to yellow at no additional cost

R. Coyle MOVED to authorize the First Selectman to sign a revised agreement with Firematic to change the Pierce tanker fire truck from candy apple red to yellow at no additional cost. A. Shilosky SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

8. Discussion and action on authorizing the First Selectman to sign a proposal with New England Mechanical Services, Inc for preventative maintenance for five Modine heaters at Colchester Fire Department Head Quarters

R. Coyle MOVED to authorize the First Selectman to sign a proposal with New England Mechanical Services, Inc for preventative maintenance for five Modine heaters at Colchester Fire Department Head Quarters. D. Turner SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

9. Discussion and action on approving the Section 5310 funding application for submission and authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents

R. Coyle MOVED to approve the Section 5310 funding application for submission and authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents, pending approval from the Board of Finance. C. O'Donal SECONDED MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

10. Presentation by the Public Works Director on FY 24-25 budget proposals including fields/grounds maintenance

- a. Discussion and action on proposals

Discussion by the Board followed.

B. Dennler asked the Board to consider if they support the following: 1. Restoring the budget back to baseline 2. Agree to shift money from snow contract to a maintainer position. 3. Implementing the field

sustainability plan. The Board agreed to these items by consensus. B. Dennler stated he would incorporate this into the Board of Selectmen's budget proposal to the Board of Finance.

11. Presentation by Colchester Police regarding request to purchase of Flock Safety Camera System

Officer Sullivan, Sergeant Cash, and Jonathan Paz, Government Affairs Manager Flock Safety (via zoom) presented on the Flock Safety Camera system. Sergeant Cash proposed using the Bendas Grant funds for the purchase and installation of the system.

Discussion by the Board followed.

12. Discussion and action on authorizing the sale of a Town of Colchester used sweeper to the Town of Lebanon

Presentation by S. Sharpe, Public Works Fleet Supervisor.

B. Dennler recused himself from the discussion and vote as a former Town of Lebanon Employee.

C. O'Donal MOVED to authorize the sale of a Town of Colchester used sweeper to the Town of Lebanon
D. Turner SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

B. Dennler abstained.

13. Liaison Reports

Waived due to meeting running late.

14. First Selectman Report

Waived due to meeting running late.

15. FOIA Log update

16. Citizen's Comments

DeAva Lambert spoke about Department Head purchases that were made without Boards knowledge and the Flock System proposed.

Ron Silberman commended J. Leone and B. Dennler for articulating Public Works budget needs, new project implications on Sewer and Water, budget suggestions related to BOE, and the Flock Camera System.

Chris Helms, spoke about the Flock Camera System.

Deanna Bouchard, spoke about the Flock Camera System MOU.

Jason LaChapelle thanked J. Leone, Public Works Director, for the budget being presented to the Board beforehand and the Flock System presented.

Matt Parsons thanked the Public Works Director for his work on the recreational fields, and capital plans.

Justin Ford spoke about the leadership that has been displayed by the First Selectman and the Board all working together to move the Town forward.

Mike Hayes spoke about the Public Works budget presentation, and the Flock Camera System.

17. Adjournment

C. O'Donal MOVED to adjourn at 10:33pm. A. Shilosky SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Taryn Scott
Executive Assistant to the First Selectman