



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Andreas Bisbikos, First Selectman

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 4th, 2023, at 7 PM

Hybrid: Town Hall - Meeting Room 1 & Via Zoom

Present: A. Bisbikos (First Selectman), D. Bates, J. LaChapelle, R. Coyle, and D. Turner

Also Present: S. Hoffmann (Fire Chief), D. Sorrentino (Town Planner), S. Tassone (Town Engineer), J. Leone (Public Works Director), E. Nelson (Silver Brook Solar)

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TOWN CLERK

1. Call to Order – Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Correspondence

- D. Bates made an added motion for a Hearing of the Board of Selectmen to discuss an employee personnel issue involving the Sewer & Water Department. 2nd by R. Coyle. 3 in favor (D. Turner, R. Coyle, and D. Bates) and 2 against (A. Bisbikos, J. LaChapelle). 2/3rd of all members needed to be added to the agenda. **Motion denied.**
- A. Bisbikos asked R. Coyle and D. Turner to recuse themselves from the employee's termination hearing and provided reasoning. J. LaChapelle concurred and provided reasoning. R. Coyle and D. Turner disagreed with the reasoning.

4. Citizens Comments

- J. Scherff raised concerns regarding a property on Skyview Drive. L. Scherff raised concerns regarding a property on Skyview Drive. M. Millington asked that the BOS hold the BOE Budget from being sent to referendum. J. McKenzie spoke about the concerns about the BOF in relation to the BOE Budget. D. Bouchard spoke about the BOE Budget and raised concerns related to the Sewer & Water employee and the entire situation. E. Kaiser spoke against the BOF's current position on the BOE Budget. J. Seigny asked the BOS to send the BOE Budget back to the BOF. R. Silberman spoke about recusals. T. Moroch spoke about decorum. J. Farrell discussed reviewing personnel matters.

5. Consent Agenda

- R. Coyle a motion to move E and make it 5.1. 2nd by D. Bates. **Motion carried unanimously 5-0**
- D. Turner made a motion to move the consent agenda. 2nd by R. Coyle. **Motion carried unanimously 5-0**
- 5.1: R. Coyle made a motion to approve Colchester Sablitz Property Resolution as defined in the paperwork OSWA 599 Grant and Easement Agreements and allow the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents. 2nd by J. LaChapelle. **Motion carried unanimously 5-0**
- A. Approve the 4/20/23 Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting minutes.
- B. Accept the Tax Collector's Refunds
- C. Motion to accept that the CORE Commission establishes an informational Facebook page.
- D. Motion to allow the Town to apply for the FY24 School Readiness Grant as recommended by Cindy Praisner

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- E. Motion to approve the Colchester Sablitz Property OSHA 599 Grant and Easement Agreements and allow the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents.

6. Green Energy Initiatives

- A. Program presentation by TitanGen (Titan Energy) regarding lease of Town landfill for ground-mounted solar installation.

- D. Sorrentino discussed the project with the Board of Selectmen. J. Leone answered questions.

- B. Non-residential Renewable Energy Solutions (NRES) program service agreement solicitation from Silver Brook Solar

- E. Nelson provided a presentation to the Board of Selectmen.

- C. Electric Vehicle (EV) Chargers at Town Hall

- D. Sorrentino discussed the project with the Board of Selectmen.

- D. Energy Audit for Town Buildings

- J. Leone discussed the project with the Board of Selectmen.
- R. Coyle made a motion to authorize the Director of Public Works to do a free energy audit for the town buildings. 2nd by J. LaChapelle. ***Motion carried unanimously 5-0***

7. Motion that the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance approve the \$30,900 from account 20019690-48734 Facility & Maintenance Grounds Reserve to help pay for necessary Town Green Gazebo Repairs and that the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance approve the contract award for “Colchester Town Green Gazebo Repairs” to the apparent low bidder, General Builders, LLC in the amount of \$51,800 and allow the First Selectman to sign any necessary documents associated with said contract as recommended by the Town Engineer.

- D. Turner made a motion that the Board of Selectmen recommend to the Board of Finance approve the \$30,900 from account 20019690-48734 Facility & Maintenance Grounds Reserve to help pay for necessary Town Green Gazebo Repairs. 2nd R. Coyle. ***Motion carried unanimously 5-0***
- D. Turner made a motion that the Board of Selectmen award the contract for “Colchester Town Green Gazebo Repairs” to the apparent low bidder, General Builders, LLC in the amount of \$51,800 and allow the First Selectman to sign any necessary documents associated with said contract as recommended by the Town Engineer. 2nd by J. LaChapelle. ***Motion carried unanimously 5-0***

8. Motion to approve the Recreation Specialist Job Description as recommended by Tiffany Quinn and the Park & Recreation Commission.

- R. Coyle made a motion to approve the Recreation Supervisor Job Description as recommended by Tiffany Quinn and the Park & Recreation Commission and add a date of approval. 2nd by D. Turner. ***Motion carried unanimously 5-0***

9. Motion to dissolve the ARPA Ad-Hoc Committee – No action.

10. ARPA Discussion

- A. Motion to approve \$100,121.62 of a New Apparatus equipment for the Colchester Hayward Fire Department as recommended by Fire Chief Steven Hoffmann

- R. Coyle made a motion to approve \$100,121.62 of New Apparatus equipment for the Colchester Hayward Fire Department as recommended by Fire Chief Steven Hoffmann. 2nd D. Bates. ***Motion carried unanimously 5-0***

B. Possible action on the ARPA Projects and the associated costs

11. Citizens Comments

- S. Van Zilen spoke on the personnel issue, Skyview Dr., and meeting decorum. J. Vinci wanted clarity on the consent agenda. R. Silberman spoke about the Town Gazebo and the personnel matter.

12. First Selectman's Report – None

13. Liaison Reports - None

14. Adjourn – J. LaChapelle made a motion to adjourn. 2nd by D. Turner. Meeting adjourned at 9:47 PM

Minutes submitted by F. Brown