



# Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Andreas Bisbikos, First Selectman

Board of Selectmen Special Meeting Agenda

Thursday, March 2nd, 2023, at 6 PM

**Hybrid:** Town Hall - Meeting Room 1 & Via Zoom

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

**Also Present:** P. Watts (Senior Center Director), A. Migliaccio (Board of Finance Chair), S. Hoffmann (Fire Chief), Jon Lupachino (Scholar Painting)

1. Call to Order – A. Bisbikos called the meeting to order at 6 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Executive Session
  - J. LaChapelle made a motion to enter executive session for the public works director interview. 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Coyle.  
*Motion carried unanimously 5-0*
  - Board of Selectmen enter executive session at 6:02 PM.
  - Board of Selectmen exit executive session at 7:19 PM
4. Possible action regarding the Public Works Director
  - R. Coyle made a motion to appoint Joseph Daniel Leone to the Public Works Director position contingent on a background check, a reference check, and the salary agreement that the Board of Selectmen determined contingent upon the signing of the offer letter. 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Turner. *Motion carried unanimously 5-0*
5. Correspondence
  - Board of Selectmen had a discussion on the Senior Center Project.
6. Citizens Comments
  - M. Dubreuil spoke about the senior center referendum. D. Bouchard spoke about the senior center referendum. C. Russi spoke about the senior center strategic plan and fundraising. V. Rose spoke about collaboration this budget season. J. Rose spoke about working on the senior center referendum and the budgets at the same time. M. Hayes spoke about the polling of the Board of Finance in relation to the Senior Center referendum. K. Kardys spoke about conversations and emotions. B. Dennler spoke about working on the senior center referendum and the budgets at the same time. J. Farrell spoke about the senior center project referendum and emotions. G. Transue spoke about the senior center referendum.
7. Consent Agenda
  - R. Coyle made a motion to remove C & D from the consent agenda & rename C 7.1 and D 7.2 and rename the remaining letters A, B, and C as part of the consent agenda. 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Turner. *Motion carried unanimously 5-0*
  - D. Turner made a motion to move the consent agenda. 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Bates. *Motion carried unanimously 5-0*

7.1

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- R. Coyle made a motion to allow permission to apply for the FEMA grants for the 800 megahertz radio system and the direct source vehicle capture system for a \$153,660 in grant submission. 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Bates. ***Motion carried unanimously 5-0***

## 7.2

- R. Coyle made a motion to approve the contract with Hiding Tennis Courts Repairs for tennis court repairs in the amount of \$5,884 and have the First Selectman sign all necessary documents as corrected. 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Bates. ***Motion carried unanimously 5-0***

## 8. Conversation with Scholar Painting on the Youth Center Roof

- J. Lupachino updated the Board of Selectmen on the status of the Youth Center Roof. A. Bisbikos will approve \$13,500 to hire a structural engineer to assess roof conditions and overall safety.

## 9. Boards & Commission Interview

- Sarah Smith-Levine was interviewed with the Open Space Committee

## 10. Senior Center Fundraising & Strategic Plan

### A. Senior Center Fundraising Proposal Review

- P. Watts discussed a potential fundraising idea with the Board of Selectmen.

### B. Senior Center Strategic Plan Review

### C. Move to approve the Colchester Senior Center Strategic Plan (2023-2027) for the Department of Senior Services, as submitted.

- D. Turner made a motion to approve the Colchester Senior Center Strategic Plan (2023-2027) for the Department of Senior Services, with the corrections stated. 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Coyle. ***Motion carried unanimously 5-0***

## 11. Budget Preview

- A. Bisbikos presented Town Budget initiatives for the Town.

## 12. Citizens Comments

- D. Bouchard spoke about the senior center fundraising proposal, the town budget, and ARPA. L. Pasternak spoke about the Friends of the Senior Center and potential fundraising ideas. C. Russi spoke about potential fundraising ideas for the Senior Center. R. Silberman spoke about meeting decorum and the maintainer position. M. Dubreuil spoke about the senior center referendum. K. Kardys spoke about ARPA and the town budget. B. Dennler spoke about the facilities maintainer position. M. Egan spoke about the Board of Finance weighing in the needs of both the town and school. J. LaChapelle spoke about fiscal conservatism and ARPA funds to be utilized for the citizens.

## 13. First Selectman's Report

### First Selectman's Report

1. The Town and Board of Education Budgets will be presented to the public and Board of Finance on Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. This will be a hybrid meeting and the zoom link will be made available tomorrow.
2. On April 23rd, our legendary hometown coach, David Shea will be inducted into the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. Coach thank you for your dedication to our community. This town loves you.



3. The Town of Colchester would like to send its condolences and prayers to the family and loved ones of Nicholas Norton. Nick Norton was a not only a titan in our community, but also well loved and respected person. I am personally glad to have known him. His legacy is an inspiration to us all.
4. A special shout out to Tim Angell, Jim Goselin, and the Colchester Public Works Department for a job well done this winter storm. Channel 3 joined them Tuesday night.
5. Operation Fairytale Dress Event will be Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at Town Hall from 3 pm – 7 pm. Kidsignments is collecting prom dresses for those in need in New London County. Please consider supporting them.
6. The Friends of Cragin Memorial Library are holding a book and bake sale beginning Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4 pm to 7 pm. The book sale will extend until Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> during normal library hours.
7. This month we honor the women who have changed our nation through their perseverance, ingenuity, and unrelenting spirit. Our American life, culture, government, family, and traditions have been shaped by their spirit, beliefs, and determination. This month represents so much to so many, and the Town of Colchester is committed to supporting today's women as they embark on shaping their legacy.
8. Great job to The Colchester Community Theater for their presentation of Young Frankenstein. It was an honor to be a small part of the production.

#### 14. Liaison Reports

- R. Coyle – ARPA concluded its recommendations; Chatham Health passed their budget with 4.6% increase to Colchester's per capita which is \$9,600; BRD, CSG, and representatives from the Senior Center Building committee held a meeting on value engineering, and groundbreaking for the new senior center is tentatively scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup>.
- J. LaChapelle – BOE budget saw an increase of 9.83%

15. Adjourn – D. Turner made a motion to adjourn. 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. LaChapelle. Meeting adjourned at 9:19 PM

Submitted by F. Brown