Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services

February 22, 2019

It is with great pride and honor that I inform the citizens of Colchester that on Thursday evening February 21st, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to include the proposed paramedic program into the upcoming budget plan (2019/2020). This decision was the result of a presentation to a Joint Board Meeting (Board of Selectman & Board of Finance) given on Wednesday night February 20th, where data was presented on how a *fire department based paramedic program* will benefit Colchester residents in need of emergency medical care. Information was also presented on how the cost of the CFD providing advanced life support can be offset with additional revenue generation, and how adding advanced life support to the services already provided by the Colchester Fire Department, can potentially reduce financial liability for patients receiving this care.

Over the upcoming days and weeks, we will be scheduling information sessions throughout the community to share information and answer questions concerning the proposed program. If you belong to an organization or group that would like us to present this information, please contact us at 860-537-8437, so we can add you to our schedule. This information will also be available on *various social media outlets*.

Finally, to our citizens, First Selectman Art Shilosky, members of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance, the members, auxiliary, and staff of the Colchester Fire Department, I give a heartfelt thank you. It is your dedication and support that is bringing this futuristic dream to reality, which will result in advanced levels of emergency care being delivered to Colchester residents earlier, resulting in more lives saved.

As a reminder, *you the voters* will have the final decision on whether this program becomes a reality when you cast your vote on the FY 2020 Budget Referendum in June 2019.

Proudly and respectfully,

Chief Walter Cox
Colchester Fire Department
Phone # 860-537-8437

52 Old Hartford Road ● Colchester, CT 06415 ● (860)537-2512 ● Fax (860)531-9393