

## January 5th BoS Meeting

Michael Dubreuil <dubreuilm@gmail.com>

Wed 1/4/2023 9:58 AM

To: First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>; Rosemary Coyle <rcoyle@colchesterct.gov>; Deborah Bates <dBates@colchesterct.gov>; Denise Turner <dturner@colchesterct.gov>; Jason LaChapelle <jLaChapelle@colchesterct.gov>

All,

I think we all are aware that tomorrow night is a very important BoS meeting. I've prepared my speech on the Senior Center Building project and will link it to two pieces of information. I would like you to have an opportunity to review the information prior to me referencing it during the meeting.

The first piece of information is the Farmington high school building project. Andreas has put that information into the first page of correspondence. Thank you!

The second piece of information is the "Value Engineering" page at BRD Builders. When you review it, I would like you to note that in their definition of value engineering, it doesn't happen after awarding a contract. Therefore, I would not anticipate any savings from BRD during construction.

Link: <https://www.brdbuilders.com/services/value-engineering.html>

Thank you,

Michael Dubreuil

180 Woodbine Rd, Colchester, CT

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## 12/15/2022 Meeting Minutes

Michael Dubreuil <dubreuilm@gmail.com>

Tue 1/3/2023 7:40 PM

To: First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>; Denise Turner <dturner@colchesterct.gov>; Deborah Bates <dBates@colchesterct.gov>; Rosemary Coyle <rcoyle@colchesterct.gov>; Jason LaChapelle <jLaChapelle@colchesterct.gov>; Gayle Furman <townclerk@colchesterct.gov>

All,

I believe it's time to restore integrity in the town. One of my requests for Thursday night's meeting will be that you reject the 12/15/2022 meeting minutes.

During citizens' comments I indicated that town clerk Gayle Furman provided incorrect information to me. She was then allowed to speak directly after me and indicated that she had provided correct information. This is recorded in the meeting minutes as, "G. Furman provided clarity on an FOI related to the senior center project."

To be clear, she was incorrect, she didn't provide clarity- she misstated the truth. I emailed her back allowing her to correct her mistake, and that email is attached. As of today, I have never received a response from Ms. Furman.

The first time is an accident, after asking her to correct her mistake and failing to do so- it is now a lie. We have a town employee lying during Board of Selectmen meetings. I would humbly ask that you reject the meeting minutes so that we don't memorialize town employee lies.

Thank you,  
Michael Dubreuil  
180 Woodbine Rd, Colchester, CT

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Michael Dubreuil &lt;dubreuil@gmail.com&gt;

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## Senior Center Correspondence Question

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**Michael Dubreuil** <dubreuil@gmail.com>

Thu, Dec 15, 2022 at 9:41 PM

To: Gayle Furman &lt;townclerk@colchesterct.gov&gt;

Cc: First Selectman &lt;selectman@colchesterct.gov&gt;, "Rybacki, Glenn G." &lt;grybacki@pullcom.com&gt;

Ms. Furman,

Tonight at the board of selectman meeting you indicated you emailed me back and corrected your mistake about the resolution appearing in the RiverEast, I didn't receive any other emails from you. Are you sure?

Thanks,

- Michael

On Wed, Dec 7, 2022 at 10:20 AM Gayle Furman &lt;townclerk@colchesterct.gov&gt; wrote:

Good Afternoon Mr. Dubreuil.

In answer to your FOI request to Andreas Bisbikos here is the following

1.

- A) There is no evidence that anyone personally visited the clerk's office to examine the resolution text.
- B) The resolution text was posted to the town's website on 11-56-2022 at 4:05pm.
- C) The resolution text was not circulated via a newspaper.
- D) Per the Bond attorney, yes making the resolution available for inspection in the Town Clerk's office is legally sufficient.

2.

- A) The legality of the resolution being referenced would be decided through our bond attorney

3.

- A) The town does not have any other explanation other than the resolution
- B) No we do not have any explanatory text. The resolution serves to explain
- C) This would need to be asked of the Registrars of Voters
- D) -
- E) If asked the resolution was furnished to those who wished.
- F) The resolution was on the notice in the Rivereast and on the Colchester Website.

**Gayle Furman CCTC**

Town Clerk

127 Norwich Avenue

Colchester, CT 06415

(860)537-7215

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**From:** First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>**Sent:** Friday, November 25, 2022 1:37 PM**To:** Michael Dubreuil <dubreuil@gmail.com>**Cc:** Rybacki, Glenn G. <grybacki@pullcom.com>; Gayle Furman <townclerk@colchesterct.gov>**Subject:** RE: Senior Center Correspondence Question

Hi Michael,

Thanks for reaching out. I am cc'ing Glenn Rybacki and Gayle Furman to better answer your questions. I would also like you to call me at 860-908-2392 regarding the project.

Sincerely,

Andreas

**From:** Michael Dubreuil <dubreuil@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 25, 2022 8:20 AM  
**To:** First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>  
**Subject:** Senior Center Correspondence Question

Good Morning Mr. Bisbikos,

I saw a legal opinion from Mr. Rybacki in the correspondence for the November 28th meeting. I have questions that I hope could be answered before that meeting. In the opinion he makes the following assertion:

"The Town is not restricted to the ballot question. The ballot question is a short statement meant to simplify the referendum ballot and what the voters actually approve (or disapprove) is the Resolution."

The email chain does not provide sources for some of the information. Therefore, I believe the resolution text is from the November 4, 2021 Board of Selectmen meeting. According to the meeting minutes there were 151 participants. The meeting minutes are stamped as received by the town clerk on November 5, 2021 at 12:42PM. The referendum was held on November 16, 2021 with 2,272 citizens participating.

I'm not trained in the legal profession- I'm just a humble citizen. However, I can read fairly well and I do have some questions. So what appears below might not be in the correct format, could be worded incorrectly, but in general I hope this conveys the themes appropriately.

The meeting minutes indicate a question would be submitted to the voters in accordance with Section 7-7 of the General Statutes of Connecticut. Section 7-7, "Conduct of meeting of towns, societies and other municipal corporations. Vote by ballot or voting machine; when" makes reference to Section 9-369, "Procedure for holding referendum." Links to these sections appear below.

I have a general concern that no one voting on the ballot question was aware the ballot question was actually a question on the resolution. The text of the ballot question did not reference the resolution. I also have doubts whether the resolution text was available publicly prior to the vote.

Here are the questions:

- 1.) The resolution text was stamped as received by the clerk on November 5, 2021 at 12:42PM. Presumably the public could ask to inspect the text after that time.
  - A.) Is there evidence anyone personally visited the clerk's office to examine the resolution text?
  - B.) When was the resolution text (meeting minutes) posted to the town's website?
  - C.) Was the resolution text circulated via a newspaper?
  - D.) Is merely making the resolution text available for inspection at the clerk's office legally sufficient?
- 2.) The text of Section 9-369 states: 'The vote on such amendment, question or proposal shall be taken by a "Yes" and "No" vote on the voting tabulator, and the designation of such amendment, question or proposal on the ballot shall be "Shall (here insert the question or proposal, followed by a question mark)"'.
  - A.) If the ballot question was about the resolution and not the plain language in the question, is it legally permissible for the question to be about the resolution and never reference said resolution?
- 3.) The statutes do appear to provide some leeway in that the full text of the question may not fit on the ballot. Therefore, section. 9-369b does allow for "explanatory text." The explanatory text could presumably contain the

resolution text.

A.) The meeting minutes do not have a vote on explanatory text. Therefore, is the position of the town that the meeting minutes constitute explanatory text?

B.) Does the town have a record of explanatory text for the ballot question? Can it be provided?

C.) Were at least 3 posters of the explanatory text posted at the polling place?

D.) Was the explanatory text approved by the municipal attorney?

E.) Was the explanatory text furnished to voters who voted by absentee ballot?

F.) Was the explanatory text communicated via a community notification system? If so, when?

Section 7-7:

[https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap\\_090.htm](https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_090.htm)

Section 9-369:

[https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap\\_152.htm](https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_152.htm)

Thank you Mr. Bisbikos, answers to these questions could clear up some of my confusion.

Michael Dubreuil

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## Please stop attacking our citizens

Jason LaChapelle <jLaChapelle@colchesterct.gov>

Tue 1/3/2023 10:35 AM

To: First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>

Cc: Rosemary Coyle <rcoyle@colchesterct.gov>; Denise Turner <dturner@colchesterct.gov>; Deborah Bates <dBates@colchesterct.gov>

Andreas,

I am yet again asking you to please stop disparaging our private citizens as First Selectman of our town. In the 12/30/2022 edition of the Rivereast you wrote a letter to the editor that called anybody who criticized your actions as First Selectman nothing but a "keyboard warrior". Not only that, you insinuated that our private citizens who are not happy with your decisions are merely DTC surrogates who cannot speak for themselves. It is completely unbecoming for our First Selectman to use the office to disparage private citizens who criticize his actions as a town leader and, considering you've already filed to run in 2023, it may actually be a SEEC violation.

Criticism is normal for public figures and especially elected officials. If you cannot take the heat, get out of the kitchen. Stop using the office of First Selectman to attack, disparage, and shame citizens for your own political gain. If you cannot stop yourself from attacking our citizens then I will have no choice but to petition this board to censure you.

Please include this email as correspondence in the agenda packet for the next regular Board of Selectmen meeting.

Thank you,

Jason LaChapelle  
Board of Selectmen