



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Mary Bylone, First Selectman

**Town of Colchester
Board of Finance Regular Meeting
November 18, 2020 – Virtual Meeting – 6:30 PM**

MINUTES

***All members and citizens were present via Zoom webinar

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Rob Tarlov, Michael Hayes, Mike Egan, Andreas Bisbikos, and Andrea Migliaccio

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bernie Dennler

OTHERS PRESENT: CFO Maggie Cosgrove, Selectman Rosemary Coyle, Town Clerk Gayle Furman, Tax Collector Michele Wyatt



1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Tarlov called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.
2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Meeting 11/04: A. Bisbikos motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 04, 2020, seconded by M. Hayes. A. Migliaccio abstained from the vote due to being absent from the previous meeting. Motion carried.
4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS: None
5. CORRESPONDENCE: See attached.
6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:
 - a. Tax Collector – M. Wyatt reported the tax collection rate is 57.56% which is similar to this time last year. Enforcement on collecting delinquent taxes is being worked on. A large tax refund was made in October to EAN Holdings.
 - b. Finance – M. Cosgrove discussed budget revenues and expenditures. CARES Act money has been received to cover 50% of the cost of unemployment. Investment earning is lower. The first quarter tuition payment from Norwich not yet received. Expenditures reflect open positions, many which have recently been filled.
7. FIRST SELECTMAN
 - a. Transfers - None
 - b. First Selectman's Report – R. Coyle reported 225 COVID tests were completed at the testing clinic at town hall on 11/18. Current infection rate is 14.8 per 100,000 residents which is level Orange. Town Hall is open at this time but the status will be reevaluated as needed. There is an increased interest of outside businesses coming into Colchester. There will be a presentation on the Rec fields on 12/10 at 6 pm. The Food Bank has been receiving a lot of donations from the Boy Scouts food drive as well as from local businesses and is working to prepare it for distribution.
8. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Memorandum of Understanding – There was a discussion at the recent BOS meeting and a list of questions was developed.
 - b. Fund Balance Policy – Discussion of changes to the policy are ongoing.
 - c. Capital Plan – Maggie will provide additional information at the next meeting.

d. Rec Fields – As previously stated, a presentation will be held on 12/10.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Debt Service Plan – M. Cosgrove discussed the debt service on the Fire Apparatus and the Senior Center.

10. 2021 – 2022 BUDGET DISCUSSION

a. Survey – Survey results from last year are nearly the same as the previous year. The list of questions will be changed to reflect residents' needs during the current economic conditions due to the pandemic. The recent survey done by the Long Term Recovery Committee can be referred to for help with developing some new questions.

b. Calendar – Calendar dates are similar to 2019 and earlier and are agreed upon by those present.

11. BOARD OF FINANCE 2021-2022 DISCUSSION PRIORITIES

a. Review and Update – It was agreed that priorities are Rec Fields, Capital Plan, Fund Balance Policy and the Debt Service Plan.

12. LIAISON REPORTS – M. Egan reported Superintendent Burt will make a late-February budget presentation. There have been 16 COVID cases within the school system. There has been no student to student transmission. There was some discussion on funding for the Title 1, 2, 3 and 4 grants. Cafeteria fund will be at a loss for the remainder of the year. Opening of the Senior Center continues to be delayed. Chatham Health is being consulted for guidance. CSG was selected for the Senior Center building project. A. Bisbikos reported there are applications for the Parks & Rec Commission. The EDC has a possible medical marijuana business that is interested in coming into town.

13. CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

14. ADJOURNMENT: M. Egan motioned to adjourn. Seconded by M. Hayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.

Submitted By,

Stacey Schweighoffer, Clerk