



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Mary Bylone, First Selectman

Board of Selectman Agenda

Regular Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, January 7, 2021 @ 7:00 PM

(ALL ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA ARE SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE ACTION)

Please use the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86897485699?pwd=VDFGTi9xcTMvWjZqOXdnT2tDNjlyUT09>

Or Telephone:

US: +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833

or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799

Webinar ID: 868 9748 5699

Passcode: 990454

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA
4. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS
5. CORRESPONDENCE: ATTACHED
6. CONSENT AGENDA
 - A. Approve the Minutes of the December 17, 2020 Board of Selectmen
 - B. Amend Reappointment for Jason Radacy to ZBA for a five-year term to end 12/31/2025
 - C. Amend Reappointment for Bob Setschinsky to ZBA for a five-year term to end 12/31/2025
 - D. Accept Jean Stawicki's Resignation from the Commission on Aging
 - E. Tax Abatements
7. Presentation by Novus on ePortal for Freedom of Information Requests
8. Charge for Ad Hoc Committee to Research Using Town Funds to Support Efforts to Secure Both Conservation and Agricultural Easements
9. Norton Park Grant
10. Approve Section 5310 Funding for Procurement of 14 Passenger Bus for Senior Center
11. Memorandum of Understanding for Section c-601 c of the Town Charter
12. Amount of Detail Listed in the Liaison Reports
13. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS
14. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT
15. LIAISON REPORTS:
16. ADJOURN

RECEIVED
TOWN OF COLCHESTER
2021 JAN - 6 PM 12:50
Mary Bylone
FIRST SELECTMAN

Heide Perham

From: First Selectman
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2020 10:33 AM
To: Katherine Kosiba
Cc: Heide Perham; Stacey Schweighoffer
Subject: Re: Problem - unsightly/unsafe overflow donations, and two suggestions to improve situation.

Hi Katherine

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. I think the first line of approach would be to get the collection agencies to pick up in a timely manner or have the bins removed. Moving them to the area you are referencing will increase dumping I think. I will include your email in the correspondence section of the agenda for the BOS in the January meeting. We can certainly send out some email reminder about the topic and post some of the links on the webpage that you have provided.

Mary Bylone
First Selectman, Colchester
127 Norwich Avenue
Colchester, CT 06415
860-537-7220 office



From: Katherine Kosiba <kmk178@att.net>
Sent: Monday, December 28, 2020 8:29 PM
To: First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>
Cc: Denise Turner <dturner@colchesterct.gov>; Denise Mizla <dmizla@colchesterct.gov>; Rosemary Coyle <rcoyle@colchesterct.gov>; Taras Rudko <trudko@colchesterct.gov>; Jeff Burt <jburt@colchesterct.org>
Subject: Problem - unsightly/unsafe overflow donations, and two suggestions to improve situation.

Dear First Selectman Bylone,

This view (photo at end of email) is becoming more common place in downtown Colchester with a few of the many charity donation bins.

Might the town consider taking some of the property before the entrance to the transfer station to put in a row of donation bins for various charities to then get them out of the downtown area? This would also make it easier for townspeople to donate without leaving items outside the bins with multiples available in one location. I read an article some time back that a town on the shoreline did this at or near their transfer station (I seem to recall it being Branford, but cannot relocate the online reference I read)

There have been times over the years when the Colchester Garden Club is doing garden maintenance at the Cragin Memorial Library where things blow over to the library's entrance from the Salvation Army Bins behind Noels' Market, as well as into Noel's vacant lot behind bins. If we did not pick up, I don't know who else would.

At the present time our downtown area has many collection bins at these locations (This may not be a complete list, I would be willing to do a fuller inventory)

Cragin Court:

- Cragin Memorial Library – 2 bins (Salvation Army) (Currently there is a set of golf club's outside the bin in the library parking lot)
- Behind Noel's Market – 2 bins (Salvation Army) Above is the current appearance which is worse from before the last storm; a friend of mine contacted several days ago but no action yet taken.
- Behind Merchants Row - bin (Red Cross)

Linwood Avenue

- St Mary's Church
- Stop and Shop Parking Lot

South Main Street

- CVS Parking lot – 2 bins - (front by street)
- Citgo Gas Station - 2 bins (front by street)

Additionally,

- Greenwich has a volunteer organization <https://www.wastefreegreenwich.org/> that has put a page on their web site to help people redirect items to local/area charities rather than throw away. <https://www.wastefreegreenwich.org/where-to-donate>
- Hebron has created a list of things that the transfer station does not accept <https://www.hebrongoesgreen.com/recycling-uncommon-goods> and <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/591a44596a4963482c69e466/t/59e1622acd39c37ad08f07ce/1507942954603/Potential+Donation+Locations.pdf>

It would be nice to do something similar for the town of Colchester on the town's Transfer Station web page to do (or maybe Bacon Academy students do as a project to develop an expanded resource on the town web page <https://www.colchesterct.gov/transfer-station/pages/proper-waste-disposal-procedures>) to further reduce trash and encourage townspeople to recycle/reuse/donate more.

Thank goodness for the FB page Buy Nothing Colchester <https://www.facebook.com/groups/115738705526851> which has many people posting to give things away daily.

I hope the Town of Colchester/Board of Selectmen will consider further expanding our town's promotion/education of Recycle/Reuse/Donate philosophy <https://www.epa.gov/recycle/reducing-and-reusing-basics> to help provide a single source document/site to direct townspeople on how/where to direct their unwanted items and keep our town beautiful.

Warm regards

Katherine M. Kosiba

178 Bull Hill Road, Colchester, CT 06515

Cc: Board of Selectman (by email and town's online submission form)

Jeff Burt, Superintendent of Schools.



John Sellick

10h · 🌐



Donations or trash ?

Anyone know who to call about this ?

If the snow hasn't already hit it

It'll be worthless in another week or two....

I'm really trying not to berate the folks who decided to do this.... based on  all the different colored bags and boxes etc

This is clearly a bunch of you

but come on people

You can care a little

Save the planet ...till it comes to me having to drive this to an actual donation center



Heide Perham

From: Fatu, Natasha A <Natasha.Fatu@ct.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 9:37 PM
To: kmk178@att.net
Subject: RE: Bicycle/Pedestrian Issues (11/13/2020 2:48:59 PM)

Hello Katherine,

The Department of Transportation's (Department) Division of Traffic Engineering has received your concern below regarding installation of crosswalks on Route 16 at the Stop & Shop Plaza and Route 16 at Route 149 in the town of Colchester. Requests of this nature should first be reviewed by the Town's Local Traffic Authority (LTA) since they are generally more familiar with local issues. If they are in agreement that the request should be studied, they will contact the Department for an official study.

Please see the following link for the LTA contact information.

[Directory of Local Traffic Authorities](#)

With respect to speeding and distracted drivers, as you are aware, there are motorists who choose to ignore traffic rules and signs. Driver behavior on the roads in many circumstances, is not ideal and is in violation of traffic laws. The "rules of the road" are designed to regulate driver behavior in such a fashion that motorists are safe and traffic flows efficiently. Speeding - or the speed of a car - is a driver behavior issue, as a car only goes as fast as the individual driver directs it to.

The Department's Highway Safety Plan incorporates the "4 E's" - Engineering, Education, Enforcement and Emergency Medical Services. The Department strives to provide the safest Engineering solutions within federal guidelines and standards for the state roadways and to provide Educational resources to the towns. Enforcement is considered the most effective means of addressing speeding and distracted driving concerns, as the Department has limited jurisdiction in this role. The safest roadway will be those where all four E's are effective. Therefore, the Department recommends routine police enforcement of this area and the local enforcement agency should be contacted to help monitor speeding and distracted driving.

Thank you for taking the time to expressing your concern,

Natasha Fatu, P.E., PTOE
Transportation Engineer
Division of Traffic Engineering
Connecticut Department of Transportation
2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06111
Phone: (860) 594-2731
Fax: (860) 594-3376
Email: Natasha.Fatu@ct.gov

From: Katherine M. Kosiba <kmk178@att.net>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 2:49 PM
To: Nursick, Kevin J

Cc: WebMaster.ConnDOT; Young, Cynthia A.; Steeves, Anita
Subject: RE: Bicycle/Pedestrian Issues (11/13/2020 2:48:59 PM)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Name: Katherine M. Kosiba
Contact phone number: 860-267-4471
Contact E-mail address: kmk178@att.net
Reported Town: Colchester
Topic: Bicycle/Pedestrian Issues
Route: rte 16
Location Description: Rte 16 and rte 149 AND rte 16 at Stop and Stop entrance
Direction of Travel: Rte 16 heading into Colchester
Time:

Comment: To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to know whether there is a reason for the lack of painted crosswalks across rte 16 where are there pedestrian electronic signal crossings. The two locations I noticed today in Colchester are:

- Westchester Center at the corner of rte 16/rte 149, and
- Linwood Avenue - At the entrance of Stop and Stop on the opposite street corner from Gano's Equipment.

I have noticed people using the crosswalk signal on Linwood Avenue, then are reluctant to cross when it signals them to cross, as cars are taking right on red illegally because the signal is in effect. Having a crosswalk painted on the road will help with this as vehicles have to provide right of way to pedestrians who are in the crosswalk. With the COVID 19 pandemic there seems to be more distracted drivers, and drivers in a hurry creating unsafe conditions. I hope you will consider making these two state roads with pedestrian crossings safer for those who choose to walk by painting the crosswalks. Thank you. Warm regards, Katherine M. Kosiba

This was submitted via the comment page

Heide Perham

From: Brault, Angela R <Angela.Brault@ct.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:30 PM
To: Katherine Kosiba
Subject: Re: State Highway Signs (11/17/2020 2:04:08 PM) Second issues re: rte 16 crosswalks...

Crosswalks could've went to another section in the Department. I will forward this to our traffic Department

From: Katherine Kosiba <kmk178@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:27 PM
To: Brault, Angela R
Subject: RE: State Highway Signs (11/17/2020 2:04:08 PM) Second issues re: rte 16 crosswalks...

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Here is the copy I sent to our Colchester Public Works Dept and First Selectman on my notice to CT DOT on the missing painted crosswalks on rte 16. Thank you.

From: Katherine Kosiba <kmk178@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:25 PM
To: 'Brault, Angela R' <Angela.Brault@ct.gov>
Subject: RE: State Highway Signs (11/17/2020 2:04:08 PM)

Dear Angela

Thank you very much. I sent another notice via the web site last week about the lack of painted crosswalks on rte 16 where there are pedestrian cross signals and I have not yet received an acknowledgement. I am very concerned before both locations are heavily trafficked, and drivers are not heeding pedestrians trying to cross when signal is inforce because no painted crosswalks.

From: Brault, Angela R <Angela.Brault@ct.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:21 PM
To: Katherine M. Kosiba <kmk178@att.net>
Cc: McClure, Eoin <Eoin.McClure@ct.gov>; Santoro, Michele E <Michele.Santoro@ct.gov>
Subject: Re: State Highway Signs (11/17/2020 2:04:08 PM)

Ms. Kosiba;

Thank you for informing us of your observation. I have forwarded your email to the appropriate District to inspect the area and handle, if necessary.

Thank you again for your email.

Sincerely,

Angela Brault
CTDOT

From: Katherine M. Kosiba <kmk178@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 2:06 PM
To: Brault, Angela R
Cc: Nursick, Kevin J; WebMaster.ConnDOT; Young, Cynthia A.; Steeves, Anita
Subject: RE: State Highway Signs (11/17/2020 2:04:08 PM)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Name: Katherine M. Kosiba
Contact phone number: 860-267-4471
Contact E-mail address: kmk178@att.net
Reported Town: Colchester
Topic: State Highway Signs
Route: Rte 16 / Linwood Avenue Colchester
Location Description: Rte 16/Cragin Court
Direction of Travel:

Time:
Comment: To Whom It May Concern, the Rte 16 WEst sign and post has been laying on the grass on rte 16/Linwood Ave for more than 2 weeks (near Cragin Memorial Library and Colchester Historical Society Museum. When will it be put back into place? Thank you.

This was submitted via the comment page

From: [First Selectman](#)
To: [Heide Perham](#)
Subject: FW: Request for BOS action - Lack of painted crosswalks in Colchester across state highways where electronic pedestrian crossing signals are located.
Date: Monday, January 4, 2021 2:27:49 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Mary

Mary Bylone
First Selectman Colchester CT
860-537-7220 office



From: Katherine Kosiba <kmk178@att.net>
Sent: Monday, January 4, 2021 2:07 PM
To: Sal Tassone <townengineer@colchesterct.gov>
Cc: First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>; James Paggioli <JPaggioli@colchesterct.gov>
Subject: RE: Request for BOS action - Lack of painted crosswalks in Colchester across state highways where electronic pedestrian crossing signals are located.

Dear Mr Tassone,
Thank you so much for the town's pursuit of this important public safety measure. I am very appreciative and look forward to when the State DOT's work may be completed.
Happy New Year.
Warm regards
Katherine M. Kosiba

From: Sal Tassone <townengineer@colchesterct.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2021 12:16 PM
To: Cieri, Antony <Antony.Cieri@ct.gov>
Cc: Fatu, Natasha A <Natasha.Fatu@ct.gov>; Carlos.Wimberly@ct.gov; Chapman, Richard J <Richard.Chapman@ct.gov>; First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>; James Paggioli <JPaggioli@colchesterct.gov>; Resident Trooper Sergeant <SGT@colchesterct.gov>; debimarvin@msn.com; Katherine Kosiba <kmk178@att.net>

Subject: Fw: Request for BOS action - Lack of painted crosswalks in Colchester across state highways where electronic pedestrian crossing signals are located.

Good morning Tony,

In accordance with the following request from Colchester concerned citizen, Katherine Kosiba and the attached response received from Natasha Fatu of Conn. DOT, I would like to request the installation of crosswalk pavement markings at the following locations:

- Rte 16/Linwood Avenue at Stop and Shop entrance
- Rte 16/ Middletown Road and Rte 2 Westbound entrance
- Rte 16/Middletown Road and Rte 2 Eastbound entrance
- Rte 16 / Middletown Road and Rte 149/Westchester Road (New sidewalks/sidewalk ramps and pushbutton crosswalk signals recently installed as required by DOT for the recently completed Dunkin/Henny Penny site development at this location).
- Route 85/Broadway and Route 85 Amston Road. (The State DOT recently upgraded sidewalk ramps and pushbutton crosswalk signals at this location).

Having visited all of the above sites earlier today, I can confirm that while all five noted locations have pushbutton crosswalk signals, none of the five locations have pavement markings at the crosswalks. Also, with the ongoing and increased development and recent installation/improvement of public sidewalks in the vicinity of these crosswalk locations, there is increased pedestrian traffic utilizing the existing pushbutton crosswalk signals. Accordingly it is requested that the State DOT also install crosswalk pavement markings at these locations to enhance visibility/detection by the motorist, thereby helping to provide for safer pedestrian crossings.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks for your help.

Sal Tassone P.E.
Town Engineer/ LTA Designate
860-537-7281

From: First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2020 12:49 PM

To: Sal Tassone <townengineer@colchesterct.gov>

Subject: Fw: Request for BOS action - Lack of painted crosswalks in Colchester across state highways where electronic pedestrian crossing signals are located.

Thoughts?

Mary Bylone

First Selectman, Colchester

127 Norwich Avenue

Colchester, CT 06415

860-537-7220 office



From: Katherine Kosiba <kmk178@att.net>

Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2020 12:27 PM

To: First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>

Cc: Denise Mizla <dmizla@colchesterct.gov>; Denise Turner <dturner@colchesterct.gov>; Rosemary Coyle <rcoyle@colchesterct.gov>; Taras Rudko <trudko@colchesterct.gov>; Heide Perham <hperham@colchesterct.gov>; James Paggioli <JPaggioli@colchesterct.gov>

Subject: Request for BOS action - Lack of painted crosswalks in Colchester across state highways where electronic pedestrian crossing signals are located.

Dear First Selectman Bylone,

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION:

I would like to request the Town of Colchester seriously consider taking action to improve pedestrian safety in conjunction the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation to have pedestrian crosswalks painted at several locations on rte 16 where there are electronic pedestrian crossing signals but no painted crosswalks.

BACKGROUND:

With the pandemic having more people walking in town, as well as people walking along rte 16 from homes and residential areas from Cabin Road Road onto rte 16 into town, I have also noticed cars not giving the pedestrians the Right of Way to cross at certain intersections with electronic Pedestrian Crossing Signals because there is no crosswalk painted NOR crossing beeping and the driver is not aware of the signal in use.

Colchester has several of these electronic pedestrian crossing locations with no painted crosswalks on rte 16.

The locations are:

- Rte 16/Linwood Avenue at Stop and Stop entrance (see photo attached)
- Rte 16/ Middletown Road and Rte 2 Westbound entrance
- Rte 16/Middletown Road and Rte 2 Eastbound entrance
- Rte 16 / Middletown Road and Rte 149/Westchester Road

I myself have walked down rte 16/Linwood Ave from the Cragin Memorial Library to the pedestrian crossing signal at Stop and Shop to cross the street then walk back up to the town green. There was an occurrence this year while crossing Linwood Ave with the cross signal a car pulled in front of me taking a Right on Red disregarding the active walk signal (I'm thinking likely because he did not see the signal/ there was no crossing sound/beeping AND because there was no cross walk painted to reinforce the pedestrian crossing) Photo attached of this intersection.

I contacted the CT DOT to bring this matter to their attention. Their response was the local government has to assess and request this type of improvement (see attached emails). So I am requesting the Board of Selectmen look into taking action on this important safety issue for the very busy rte 16 locations where electronic crossing signals are in place without the accompanying painted crosswalks. If we can have painted crosswalks on our Colchester country roads for the Airline Trail crossings, it is just as critical to have in more heavily traveled areas to keep pedestrians safe.

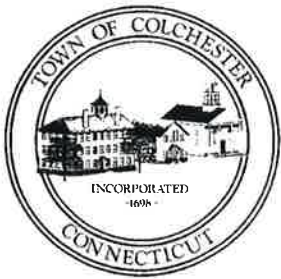
Thank you.

Warm regards

Katherine M. Kosiba

178 Bull Hill Road

Colchester, CT 06415



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Mary Bylone, First Selectman

Board of Selectman Minutes

Regular Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, December 17, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

Members Present: First Selectman Mary Bylone, Selectmen Rosemary Coyle, Denise Mizla, Denise Turner and Taras Rudko

1. CALL TO ORDER: First Selectman called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA: R. Coyle motioned to move item G within the Consent Agenda to 7B, and renumber accordingly seconded by D. Mizla. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
D. Turner motioned to add discussion of Governors Executive Order 9 R regarding Tax Deferral Program as number 15 and add Authorization for Municipal CRF Funds as number 16 and renumber accordingly, seconded by R. Coyle. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
4. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: John Barnowski identified himself as President of the Land Trust.
5. CORRESPONDENCE: ATTACHED
6. CONSENT AGENDA
 - A. Approve the Minutes of the December 3, 2020 Board of Selectmen
 - B. Reappointment of Jason Radachy to Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to end 12/31/2023
 - C. Reappointment of Bob Setschinsky to Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to end 12/31/2023
 - D. Reappointment of Mark Noniewicz to Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to end 12/31/2023
 - E. Reappointment of Jason Tinelle for Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to end 12/31/2023
 - F. Reappointment of Theodore Fuini for Open Space Commission for a term to end 3/31/2023
 - G. Tax Abatements
R. Coyle motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by D. Turner. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
7. Boards and Commissions – Interviews and/or Possible Appointment and Resignations
 - A. Resignation of Beverly Seeley from the Planning and Zoning Commission: D. Mizla motioned to accept, with regrets, Beverly Seeley's resignation from the Planning and Zoning Commission, seconded by R. Coyle. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
 - B. Appointment of Ian Lilly from Alternate to Member for the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to end 12/1/2022: R. Coyle motioned to appoint of Ian Lilly from Alternate to Member for the Planning

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TOWN OF COLCHESTER
MAYOR'S OFFICE

and Zoning Commission for a term to end 12/1/2022, seconded by D. Mizla. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Possible Appointment of Stephanie Smith as Alternate to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to expire 11/5/2023: D. Turner motions to appoint Stephanie Smith as Alternate to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term to expire 11/5/2023, seconded by R. Coyle. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-1 with T. Rudko abstaining.

8. Creating Ad Hoc Committee to Research Using Town Funds to Support Efforts to Secure Both Conservation and Agricultural Easements: R. Coyle motioned to approve the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee to Research the concept of permitting the use of municipal funding to support efforts to Secure Both Conservation and Agricultural Easements with a representative from the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, Planning and Zoning Commission, Conservation Commission Open Space Advisory Commission, Agriculture Commission, Land Trust and Jay Gigliotti as a Town Hall staff representative, seconded by D. Turner. MOTION CARRIED 4-0-1 with T. Rudko abstaining.

9. Presentation on Collaborative for Colchester's Children (C3) by Cindy Praisner

10. Fund Balance Policy: R. Coyle motioned to accept the Unassigned Fund Balance Policy as written by the Board of Finance, seconded by D. Turner. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Five Year Lease for Copiers with Prism Office Solutions: D. Turner motioned to approve the five-year lease agreement for copiers with Prism Office Solutions and authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents, seconded by D. Mizla. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. Approval of the Purchase of 129 Westchester Road: D. Mizla motioned for the Board of Selectmen to recommend to the Board of Finance for the approval of the purchase of 129 Westchester Road for the consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00), in accordance with the Purchase and Sale Agreement and Colchester Charter provision C1107a (B), and further the Board of Selectmen authorizes the First Selectman sign all documents related to the closing of the property, subject to approval by the Board of Finance, seconded by R. Coyle. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut Grant Proposal for Norton Park: The Norton Park Committee is researching grants and will come back in January.

14. Resolution with Sustainable CT: R. Coyle motioned to authorize the First Selectman to sign a Resolution with Sustainable CT, seconded by D. Turner. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15. Governor's Executive Order 9 R Tax Deferral Program: T. Rudko motioned to continue the program that was initiated by first Executive Order and augmented by 9 R to exclude the requirement of the form, seconded by M. Bylone. MOTION FAILED 1-4-0 with T. Rudko in favor. R. Coyle motioned to institute Executive Order 9R continuing the same application procedure that must be submitted by February 1, 2021, seconded by D. Mizla. MOTION CARRIED 4 -1-0 with T. Rudko Opposing. R. Coyle motioned to continue with the low

interest rate as part of Executive Order 9R through March 31, seconded by D. Turner. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. Authorization for Municipal CRF Funds: D. Mizla motioned to authorize the CFO to submit and certify the Town of Colchester's request to receive the funding awarded through the Office of Policy and Management's Municipal Corona Relief Fund Program, seconded by R. Coyle. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: NONE

18. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT:

- We had meetings prior to the snowstorm and were well prepared, there was only one reported power outage, which was resolved in under two hours. FS rode with Tim Angell on the snowplow for part of the evening.
- COVID – Colchester is at 43/100,000 cases positivity rate. There have been 96 new cases in the last two weeks. There are only 3 towns in the state not in the red.
- Youth and Social Services received a grant for \$625,000 for Drug Free Communities.
- There have been two formal FOI complaints filed against the town from Mr. Bisbikos.

19. LIAISON REPORTS:

- D. Turner – Not able to attend the Board of Assessment Appeals
 - Conservation Commission – One pending application that was tabled. Ongoing enforcement issue at Middletown Road. They elected their officers; Faulk remains the Chair.
 - Diversity and Inclusion – Had two guest speakers, Chuck Maynard and Shannon Ramsby. Continue to have discussion on recommendations.
- R. Rudko – Zoning Board of Appeals – An appeal was issued on behalf of Einhorn and Bowen, issue resolved during the meeting.
 - Planning and Zoning Meeting – Very brief meeting with no official business.
- D. Mizla – Parks and Recreation – Four new members were present. They are selling Christmas Ornaments for \$6 that feature the School for Colored Children and Cookbooks for \$18. Mailbox for letters for Santa is in front of Town Hall
 - Board of Education – They want to meet monthly with Board of Finance to update as they work on their budget. There are 254 voluntary home learning students. They voted on the completion of the WJJMS Building Committee which functioned for 8 years to complete the project. They saved \$4.8 million and came in 9.8% below budget.
 - Norton Park – They discussed the sale of the house at 129 Westchester Road. There will be an RFP put out for demolition of the house. They continue to fundraise and hope to have another informational session with the library in the new year.
- R. Coyle – Commission on Aging –Senior Resource Guide and Senior Center Directors report attached.

- Long-Term Recovery Committee – They will begin meeting twice a month instead of weekly. They had guest speaker Patty Watts to discuss mental health and technology.
- Open Space Advisory Committee – Jay has been assisting Norton Park. 2019 there was a 37-lot subdivision on Lebanon Ave. part of open space fee in lieu \$85,400. Two other subdivisions on Stanavage Road for \$20k fee in lieu, two payments away from collecting. Salmon River Watershed long term goal, federal wildlife and scenic designation, working on that with a consultant that worked with 8-mile River watershed.
- Senior Center Building Committee – There will be no town fees when it's built, but will have to pay state fees, pay \$.26 per \$1,000. Established subcommittee for public education plan. Architect and CSG had a joint meeting and an independent estimate should be done before end of year.
- Chatham Health – substantial increase of COVID. One out of every 100 people is either infected or infectious. 300 cases every two weeks, straining contact tracing. Now prioritizing youth and people over 65 and refer the rest to the state. Environmental Health is very busy, two and three times the land use permits. Trying to use up flu vaccines. Hired a new person with the grant to help with the contact tracing. The state will work with vets, dentists and other providers to help with distribution of vaccine. Chatham will likely only offer Moderna vaccine because it only needs to be stored in a regular freezer.
- FS Added that free COVID testing being offered on Mondays at the old Citizen's Bank.
 - Board of Finance – Discussion after the field presentation that money should come out of the general fund to be able to pay for the projected costs to irrigate and refurbish the fields. FS expressed concern that items were taken out of budget to get to a zero increase, and there are several items we should look at before we take money out of the general fund for any one particular concern. The Board of Selectmen should also be part of that conversation.

20. ADJOURN: D. Turner motioned to adjourn, seconded by R. Coyle. MOTION CARRIED

UNANIMOUSLY

Zoning Board of Appeals-5 Members, 3 Alternates, 5 year terms

<i>Position</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Party</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>E-mail</i>	<i>Expiration Date</i>
Chair	Laurie Robinson	D	860-917-5642	robinson@snet.net	12/1/2022
Vice Chair	Patrick Reading	R	860-705-8398	pmreading@yahoo.com	12/1/2023
Member	Jason Radachy	U	860-537-6532	jason.radachy@gmail.com	12/31/2020
Member	Michael Solis	D	860-537-2535	arcangelct@yahoo.com	12/1/2023
Member	Bob Setschinsky	D	860-608-4488	bsetschinsky@snet.net	12/31/2020
Alternate	VACANT				12/31/2020
Alternate	VACANT				12/31/2020
Alternate	VACANT				12/31/2023

e-mail: stawickilaw@snet.net

JEAN M. STAWICKI
39 Caverly Mill Road
Colchester, CT 06415

Phone: (860) 461-2325

Telefax: (860) 537-2013

December 22, 2020

Commission on Aging
124 Norwich Avenue
Colchester, CT 06415

Attn: Ms. Margorie Mlodzinski

Re: My membership on Commission on Aging

Dear Margorie,

It is with regret that I am submitting my resignation from the Commission on Aging. At this time I do not feel that I can give the Commission the time which it deserves.

I want to tell you that under your leadership the Commission has made great strides in tackling important issues, including approving the new senior center, and becoming a more significant force in the community. It has also made sure to be inclusive, welcoming and a source of facts for the community to draw on as senior issues affect a continually greater percentage of our population.

Sincerely,



Jean M. Stawicki

cc: Patty Watts
Rosemary Coyle



Date: 12/30/2020
To: Board of Selectmen
From: Kevin Byrne, Norton Park Committee Member
Subject: Application for the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut grant

The Norton Park Committee seeks the Board of Selectman's approval of the attached grant application from the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut. The committee is seeking a \$20,000 grant to "Create Safe Public Access to Norton Park – Phase 1" from CFEC. The grant is due January 13, 2021 and we should know the grant recipients by 2Q2021.

The Norton Mill property is located dead center in a CT DEEP area designated as Natural Diversity Database (NDDDB). This Greenway achieved its State designation as it helped connect the Airline Trail State Park System with other open space and included unsegmented blocks of undeveloped land. The greenway is an area where federal, state, local and environmental groups focus conservation efforts. The removal of the Norton Mill dam was the largest dam removal project to date in the state. The creation of Norton Park will be a valuable addition to these multi-level environmental efforts and it will also provide a successful template for other dam removal projects.

The requirements of the grant stipulate "Environmental Grants must benefit the health of our natural world and the health and well-being of the residents of any of the 42 towns in our region." We are confident we meet this requirement, but we also are in competition with other important environmental projects for these funds. The Norton Park Committee will continue applying for grants as they become available. This grant application is an important first step and the application will provide information that will be used on future grants. This grant application could not have been completed by the deadline without the support of the First Selectman's Office, Denise Mizla (our Board of Selectman Liaison) and specifically - Keri Rowley in the Finance Department. I am personally grateful for her effort during this very busy time of year and amidst a pandemic.

Please let me know if you have any questions on this grant application or the committee's grant application work. If there are no questions, please approve this grant application

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, CT 06415 Phone 860-537-7229 Fax 860-537-7231

2021 Environmental Grant Cycle

Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut



Community Foundation
of Eastern Connecticut

Applicant Tutorials

For more detailed instructions on the new grants system, click on the links below:

Applicant Tutorials:

- [Written Tutorial for the Online Grants Center \(printable\)](#)
- [Video Tutorial 1: Site Access & Account Creation \(3:13\)](#)
- [Video Tutorial 2: Applying for Funding \(5:27\)](#)
- [Video Tutorial 3: Your Applicant Dashboard \(2:56\)](#)

Collaborate Feature

The Collaborate button at the top of the page can be used to invite other people to work on this request.

- From the Collaborate pop up, enter the email address of the person you wish to help you with the request.
- Set the Permission to either Edit (the collaborator can only edit the request) or Submit (the collaborator can submit the request)
- Include a message about what you are asking your collaborator to do for you and select Invite.

An email will be sent to the collaborator containing your message, their username, and a link to the log-on page. After clicking this link, they will be brought to the log-on page. If this is their first time logging onto the system, they will be asked to create a password.

After logging onto the system, the collaborator will see this request under the Collaboration Requests tab of their Applicant Dashboard. Here they can select the Edit Application link and complete your instructions.

Collaborate Video Tutorial (1:37)

General Information

Environmental Grants must benefit the health of our natural world and the health and well-being of the residents of any of the 42 towns in our region.

Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations with a 501(c)(3) IRS designation or organizations using a nonprofit fiscal agent; municipal or government agencies; and other charitable organizations that serve the region.

All grant applications must be submitted by **5 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 2021.**

Questions should be directed to Jennifer O'Brien, program director, at 860.442.3572 or JennOB@cfect.org.

To view a full description of the Environmental Grant Cycle, visit our website www.cfect.org or click Environmental Grant Cycle.

Please confirm that you wish to apply to the Environmental Grant Cycle*

YES confirms that this project is for the benefit of the residents of any of the 42 towns in our region.

Organization Information

Organization Mission*

The Town of Colchester is dedicated to continuing to enhance the quality of life in the community by focusing and adapting to the needs of the future. The Town of Colchester is committed to the following core values in support of this vision:

- maintaining historical value
- acquiring, protecting, conserving and managing open space and farmland
- preserving farmland and protecting natural resources
- promoting sustainability and resiliency
- continuing excellence in education
- facilitating and supporting economic growth

Annual Operating Budget*

FY 2021 Town of Colchester Budget Summary By Function

General Government	\$3,780,915
Public Safety	\$3,100,775
Public Works	\$3,686,622
Community & Human Services	\$1,691,056
Debt	\$2,075,164
Transfers	<u>\$ 821,336</u>
Total Town	\$15,155,865
Board of Education	<u>\$41,316,610</u>
Total Budget	\$56,472,475

501(c)(3) IRS Designation Letter*

The Town of Colchester is a municipality and therefore is not required to have a 501(c)3 IRS designation letter

Equity Information

The Community Foundation is interested in understanding your organization's to racial equity and economic inclusion. For the purposes of this application, please use this definition: Equity is just and fair inclusion in a society in which all can participate, prosper and reach their full potential.

Does your organization work with any of the population below?*

- Girls and Women of Color - **Yes**
- Boys and Men of Color - **Yes**
- Differently Abled People - **Yes**
- Immigrants, Including Naturalized Citizens - **Yes**
- Incarcerated/Formerly Incarcerated People - **Yes**
- LGBTQ+ - **Yes**
- Low Wage Workers - **Yes**
- Opportunity Youth (ages 16-24, not working and not in school) - **Yes**
- Refugees - **Yes**
- Underemployed Workers (part-time workers who would prefer to be full-time) - **Yes**
- Undocumented Immigrants - **Yes**
- Unemployed People - **Yes**

Choices

Yes

No

About these Populations:*

If you answered yes to the question above, what percentage of the people impacted fall into these categories?

The Town of Colchester does not have a process in place to measure and track this information.

Organizational Equity Work:*

What has been one of your organization's most significant contributions to advancing racial and economic equity in Eastern Connecticut within the last three years?

The Board of Selectman approved the formation of an exploratory Ad Hoc Committee for Diversity and Inclusion to determine the state of the culture in our community and whether or not there is a need for a more permanent committee. This group has begun the work of identifying the current state and will make recommendations to the Board of Selectman later in 2021.

If your organization has not engaged in this work, briefly describe plans to integrate racial and economic equity in your work, if applicable.

Community Voice:*

How does your organization work with and learn from the families/youth who have been systemically oppressed and excluded?

The Town of Colchester places a strong focus on early childhood development through our Collaborative for Colchester Children program. This program offers supportive interaction with parents and children to help identify the challenges they are facing. In addition, the School Readiness program provides thirty-one families with low economic income access to high quality learning. (<https://www.colchester3.org/>)

Colchester also offers support through the Department of Youth & Social Services by providing programs and services designed to improve the quality of life for youth, families and individuals so that they may reach their full potential.

The Ad Hoc Diversity and Inclusion Committee will continue to help the Town of Colchester identify ways to work with and learn from anyone who has been systemically oppressed and excluded. The intent is to review the town's programs, practices and procedures for unintended bias and work to eliminate these disparities.

Character Limit: 7000

Project Information

Project Name*

"Create safe public access to Norton Park, Phase 1". The town of Colchester is seeking assistance in funding the Phase 1 opening of Norton Park.

Project Summary*

Provide a brief summary of grant request and anticipated impact (*1-3 sentences*).

The Norton Park Committee was formed on August 15, 2019 by the Board of Selectmen to serve as an advisory committee for design elements of the future Norton Park, once all restoration is complete. The park will be built in two phases, the first phase will open public access to the site. The second phase will add the passive recreation amenities.

Project Start Date*

August 15, 2019

Project End Date*

Estimated Phase 2 completion by 2023

Amount of Request*

\$20,000

Project Budget*

Attach your project budget showing income and expenses.

We estimate that Phase 1 opening will require approximately \$121,000. Cost estimating is complicated by the fact that the town is completed certain remediation tasks first.

Funding Sources*

To date, we have collected over 55 donations from individuals totaling \$14,951. We have commemorative items available, which many families with ties to Westchester village have contributed. For example, our \$650 granite bench commemoratives have sold out.

We plan to apply for grant requests as we progress through this project. Future grants will likely focus on components of the park. We plan to apply for a grant from the state's Water Conservation Fund, along with other grants to philanthropic organizations supporting the environment, bird watching, fishing and other activities that appeal to their organization's mission.

Project Demographics

Geographic Area Served within the Foundation's 42 Towns*

Check all or as many towns as apply for your project

Choices

Colchester

Other

If you answered "Other" above, please identify the other town(s).

Norton Park will draw nature enthusiasts from many surrounding towns. Access is open to the general public.

Population Served*

The population of the Town of Colchester was just over 16,000 in the 2010 census. The park will surely benefit all residents of Colchester by promoting clean waterways. The larger population service would be fishermen, cyclists, and others who enjoy scenic natural environments.

Number of beneficiaries to be served by this project.

Gender Breakdown*

Choices

Both Male &

Female

Population Age Group*

Check as many as apply

Choices

All ages

Proposal Narrative

Project Description*

Describe the project for which you are requesting this funding. What are the key issues or opportunities? Include relevant data.

Norton Park is the former site of the Norton Paper Mill Dam. The US Fish & Wildlife and Nature Conservancy funded the dam removal in the fall of 2016. The Norton (Wasniewski) family owned the dam and sold the ruins of the mill to the Town of Colchester for \$1. This sale was conditioned on the creation of a park. The Norton family also sold an adjacent property to the town for \$1. These two properties will form the basis of Norton Park, which is expected to be built in two phases.

Phase 1 of the project can be viewed on this town web page:

<https://www.colchesterct.gov/parks-facilities/pages/norton-park>

Phase 2 of the project can be view on this town web page:

https://www.colchesterct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhliif4286/f/uploads/7-9-20_norton_park_-_phase_ii_c1.pdf

The Norton Paper Mill was razed in a fire in July 2012 after a long and successful history of paper manufacturing since the mid 1800's. The Nature Conservancy successfully approached the dam owners, the Wasniewski family, about removing the dam. Information about the Nature Conservancy's dam removal program and this particular dam is best described in the following articles:

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/price-of-dams-180962844/>

<https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/connecticut/stories-in-connecticut/a-river-restored-at-last/>

The key issue for the Town of Colchester is our ability to turn a liability (a fire ruined mill) into an asset (Norton Park). For the Nature Conservancy and larger environmental community, the key issue is to demonstrate a successful dam removal story, which to date, was that largest dam removal in the state. It is our hope that the Nature Conservancy can bring other dam owners to the site and demonstrate the virtue of preserving and enhancing our environment through dam removal.

Colchester was “founded” in 1698 with the creation of Jeremiah’s Farm on land purchased by Nathaniel Foote from the Sachem of the Mohegan Indians. Industry on the Jeremy River soon followed. Early settlers in the 1700’s selected this site to dam the river and bring the industry required to create a village community. It is that same sense of community spirit that motivates us to rebuild this site for public enjoyment, while bringing awareness to the site’s environmental significance and rich history.

Beneficiaries*

Who are the beneficiaries of this project? Describe their key socio-economic, racial and ethnic characteristics.

The two main beneficiaries of this project are the public at large and the environment. The benefits to these two group are as follows:

Norton Park will be a passive recreation location available to the general public. This will benefit fishermen, bird enthusiasts, kayakers, cyclists and other people who enjoy scenic nature. We plan to build a pavilion along the river for quiet reflection. The pavilion will be handicap accessible to allow people of all abilities to enjoy the solitude of the park. We hope the nearby Airline Trail and our agricultural corridor on Cato Corner will bring in additional visitors who are not familiar with this area. We expect the commemorative aspect of the pavilion will bring the involvement of families who have a history with Westchester village or were employed at the mill. The nearby Salmon River forest state land will also hopefully bring more distant travelers to Norton Park. Exceptional fishing in this area draws visitors from all over the state.

The Jeremy River has a Class A designation for surface water quality by CT DEEP and is designated as Aquifer Protection Zone. The removal of the Norton Paper Mill dam opened up 17 miles of river to migratory fish. This waterway was dammed in one way or another for nearly 300 years. Since the dam has been removed, DEEP Fisheries believes that species have recolonized in Pine Brook, just as they have in the Jeremy River. These species include Blacknose & Longnose Dace, Fallfish, White Sucker, Common Shiner and possibly stocked Atlantic Salmon. The removal of the dam (and the installation of an eel pass at the Babcock Pond dam by CT DEEP Fisheries Division) has also provided for better access to Pine Brook for American Eel. This allows for a higher production of mature female eels that migrate to sea,

Pine Brook converges with the Jeremy River immediately upstream from the former dam. The fish community of Pine Brook has seen significant recovery from years of degraded water quality from an upstream landfill. In the years since the landfill ceased its operations, the water quality has rebounded. Sampling of Pine Brook conducted by CT DEEP Fisheries indicate Pine Brook supports Native Brook Trout, as well as Americana Eel and Tesselated Darter. Sampling has also indicated the presence of Largemouth Bass and Redfin Pickerel, which clearly are drop downs from Babcock Pond.

The mill property is located dead center in a CT DEEP area designated as Natural Diversity Database (NDDDB). This Greenway achieved its State designation as it helped connect the Airline Trail State Park System with other open space and included unsegmented blocks of undeveloped land. The greenway is an area where conservation efforts are focused.

The Salmon River Watershed Partnership has been conducting baseline water quality monitoring in Pine Brook and the results have indicated that Pine Brook has excellent quality in a number of areas.

This is an area CT DEEP has identified to contain state & federal listed species, as well as significant Natural Communities. This area receives significant attention from our state agencies and other environmental groups. The success of transforming a ruined paper mill into a scenic park could provide a model and encouragement to other groups considering dam removal.

The Salmon River Watershed Partnership has been conducting baseline water quality monitoring in Pine Brook and the results have indicated that Pine Brook has excellent quality in a number of areas. Pine Brook, Judd Brook, Meadow Brook, Mint Brook, Raymond Brook & Hope Valley Brook drain into the Jeremy. Judd Brook passes right through the center of town, beginning just southeast of the Lions Pond on Halls Hill Rd. Approx. 3/4 of Colchester's land drains into the Salmon River Watershed.

This is an area CT DEEP has identified to contain state & federal listed species, as well as significant Natural Communities. This area receives significant attention from our state agencies and other environmental groups. The success of transforming a ruined paper mill into a scenic park could provide a model and encouragement to other groups considering dam removal.

Activities*

What are the specific activities you will undertake?

Norton Park is being designed as a passive recreation area. We expect nature enthusiasts to enjoy the area through self-directed means. The Colchester Land Trust collaborated with the Colchester Fish & Game club to sponsor a hike through the larger area. While the collaboration between the two groups was positive, the hike was ultimately postponed due to the pandemic. We hope to encourage civic groups to use this park's pavilion as a potential

meeting place or for other civic activities. We also hope the Lions Club can expand their fundraiser for opening day of the fishing season to include Norton Park.

Anticipated Outcomes*

What results are you committed to achieving?

We expect the Norton Park Committee will continue to design and fund the park over the upcoming two years. We will continue seek out public comment and adjust our plans based on citizen feedback. We hope Phase 1 can be completed by the end of 2021, but the pandemic has slowed many activities such as obtaining bids and even simple things like meeting in person.

Program Evaluation*

What factors will you use to determine if you are making progress over time?

Our main metric for determining progress will be citizen involvement. The Norton Park Committee held a virtual public forum on December 14, 2020:

<https://www.colchesterct.gov/home/news/field-educational-forum-monday-december-14>

We expect citizen involvement to increase over time, through increased contributions and continued engagement at public forums. We also are contacting local businesses and civic groups for support. All this civic engagement should increase as the project progresses.

Key Individuals & Partners*

Who are the key individuals and/or partners who will implement this project, and what are their roles?

The Norton Park Committee has been collaborating with numerous groups and individuals to obtain information or help promote the creation of the park. They are:

Wasniewski Family, prior Dam & Property Owners

Sally Harold, Nature Conservancy

Steve Gephard, CT Dept of Fisheries

Jay Gigliotti, Wetland Enforcement Officer, Town of Colchester

Jim Paggioli, Director of Public Works, Town of Colchester

Colchester Fish & Game Club, project advocate

Colchester Garden Club, project advocate

Colchester Historical Society, research historical information

Colchester Land Trust, project advocate

Character Limit: 10000

Letter(s) of Agreement or of Support

Letter(s) of agreement are required if this is a collaborative proposal.

Attached in PDF

Supporting Materials - Optional

You may attach up to two supporting documents for your proposal. Only one file may be attached for each document.

Supporting Document #1

Background article from the Hartford Courant:

<https://www.courant.com/community/colchester/hc-marteka-norton-papermill-dam-removal-1106-20161105-story.html>

Supporting Document #2

<https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/connecticut/stories-in-connecticut/a-river-restored-at-last/>

Video of dam removal:

https://www.google.com/search?safe=active&ei=jjTrX5v3KOaI5wLA2aDoBQ&q=Norton+paper+mill+colchester+ct&oq=Norton+paper+mill+colchester+ct&gs_l=cp=CgZwc3ktYWIQAzIFCAAQyQM6BQgAEJECogUILhCRAjoECC4QQzoOCC4QsQMogwEQxwEQowl6CaguEMcBEKMCogQIABBDOgUILhCxazoCCAA6BwguEEMQkwI6CwguEMkDEJECEJMCOgUIABCxAzoICC4QxwEQrwe6CwgAELEDEIMBEMkDOggIABCxAxCDAToLCC4QsQMogwEQowl6BwgAELEDEAo6BwgAELEDEEM6CAgAELEDEMkDOgyIABAWEB46CAgAEByQChAeSgUICBIBMVDemg9Y0sITYMTDE2gFcAB4AYABkAWIAZQxkgELMC4xOS4xMC41LTGYAQcGAAQgqAQdnd3Mtd2I6wAEB&scient=psy-ab&ved=0ahUKEwib9teVq_PtAhVmxFkKHcAsCF0Q4dUDCA0&uact=5

INTERNAL CODING

Request Type

Choices

CapB – Capacity
 Building GO – General
 Operating Prog –
 Program Funds PubP
 – Public Policy Scho –
 Scholarship
 Othr - Other

Program Area

Choices

AC – Arts & Culture
 AS – After School

Application
Program AW – Animal
Welfare

Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut

CEDH – Community/Economic Devel./Housing
CIVI – Civic
EDUC – Education
ENVI - Environment
GEN – General
HEAL – Health
HR – Human Rights
PS – Public Safety
RELG – Religion/Spirituality
SOCS – Human Services
YOUTH – Youth Development

Sub ProgramArea

Choices

ACHIST – Historical Activities (Commemorations, Genealogy, Historic Preservation, War Memorials)
ACMUSM- Museums (Art, Children’s, Ethnic, History, Maritime, Science)
ACPFM – Performing Arts (dance, theatre, music)
ACVISL – Visual Arts
AGCOOP – Food Cooperatives
AGED – Agricultural Education
AGFDSEC – Food Security (not Food Banks/Soup Kitchens – see SSAID)
CEDHSD - Housing Development (Foreclosure prevention, housing rehabilitation or loss prevention)
CEDWFD – Workforce Development (Job training, job security)
DAARR – Domesticated Animals Adoptions, Rescue & Rehab
DAPC – Domesticated Animals Population Control
DAVM – Domesticated Animals Veterinary Medicine
EDADLT – Adult Education (literacy, high school equivalency, continuing education, ESL)
EDART – Arts Education
EDEL – Experiential Learning
EDELCH – Early Childhood Education
EDSEC – Elementary & Secondary Education
EDSTEM – STEM Education
EDVOC – Vocational Education
ENVCC – Climate Change
ENVED – Environmental Education (environmental studies, nature education, outdoor education)
ENVFP – Forest Preservation
ENVNENG – Natural Resources: Energy
ENVNLD – Natural Resources: Land
ENVNWTR – Natural Resources: Water
ENVWL- Wildlife Biodiversity (aquatic wildlife protection, bird preservation, rehab & sanctuaries)
HMENT – Mental Health Care (addiction svcs, crisis intervention, counseling, behavioral disorders)
HNC – Nursing Care (Home health, hospice, palliative care)
HPHY – Physical Health (Med care-in/out patient, diseases & conditions, pub health (fitness, hygn)
HREP – Reproductive Health (fam planning, maternal/perinatal care, youth preg prevent, sex ed)
HRHB – Rehab Health (animal therapy, art/music therapy, play therapy, speech/hearing rehab)
ICLIB – Libraries (Public Libraries, archives & special collections)
ICMED – Media (Communications, Web Media, Radio, TV)
OTHR - Other

PHILNP – Philanthropy/Non-profits
 PSABPV – Abuse Prevention (Bullying, Child, Domestic, Elder, Sexual)
 PSLAID – Legal Services (child advocacy, legal aid, juvenile justice)
 SSAID – Basic & Emergency Aid (Food Aid, Food Banks, Free goods)
 SSCWLF – Child Welfare (adoption, child care, child development)
 SSFS – Family Services (Parent edu, Adult day care, Family counseling, Family disab resources)
 SSHOUS – Shelter & Residential Care (Supportive, Homeless, Special population housing services)
 YDAS – After School Programs
 YDDEV – Youth Development
 YDMEN – Youth Mentoring
 YDSC – Summer Camp/Recreation

Project Code

Choices

AgEn – Agency Endowment
 CAW – Animal Welfare Competitive
 CENV – Environmental Competitive
 CNY – Norwich Youth Competitive
 CSE – Southeast Competitive
 CWWB – Willimantic Welfare Bureau Comp.
 Desg – Non-Competitive/Designated
 FOI – Non-Competitive/Field of Interest
 IF – Interfund Transfer
 Nonc – Non-Competitive/Donor Advised
 Nonc-capac – Non-Competitive/Capacity Building
 Other – Non-Competitive Other
 Scho – Scholarship
 WGne – Women & Girls Northeast
 WGno – Women & Girls Norwich
 WGse – Women & Girls Southeast
 WGwi – Women & Girls Windham

Strategy Area

CFECT Strategic Plan - Choose One
 Axxx = Animal Welfare
 Bxxx = Promote Basic Needs & Rights
 Exxx = Preserve the Environment
 Yxxx = Empower Youth

Choices

AWOA-Encourage responsible pet ownership & adoptions of abandoned animals
 AWPC- Make positive connections between humans & animals (therapeutic riding, inmate rehab, etc.)
 AWVC-Provide assistance for veterinary care for domestic aand/or wildlife, especially apsy & neuter
 AWWR – Rehabilltate wildlife for return to natural habitats
 AWO – Animal Welfare – Other
 BNAC – Utilize arts & culture experiences to education & improve quality of life

BNDV – Promote healthy relationships & address domestic violence
 BNES – Promote individual & family economic security
 BNFS – Increase food security & access to nutritious food
 BNHC – Improve access to healthcare & human services
 BNHM – Decrease homelessness through diversion & intervention programs
 BNO – Basic Needs & Rights – Other
 EEDU – Engage youth in environmental education
 EENV – Preserve & protect land, waterways & wildlife habitats
 EHLT – Make connection between mental & physical health & exposure to the natural world
 ENVO – Preserve the Environment - Other
 YECE – Enhance early childhood education & intervention
 YEDJ – Support post-secondary education access & job readiness
 YEDU – Enhance edu opportunities in science, literacy, arts & culture, esp experiential learning
 YHLT – Support mental & physical health programs as well as programs for disconnected youth
 YMEN – Support mentoring programs
 YO- Empower Youth – Other

Region Served

Choices

ASHF – Ashford
 AWID – Area Wide – 42 Towns
 BOZR - Bozrah
 BROO - Brooklyn
 CANT - Canterbury
 CHAP - Chaplin
 COLC - Colchester
 COLU - Columbia
 COVE - Coventry
 EAFD - Eastford
 ELYM - East Lyme
 FRAN - Franklin
 GRIS - Griswold
 GROT - Groton
 HAMP - Hampton
 KILL - Killingly
 LEBA - Lebanon
 LEDY - Ledyard
 LISB - Lisbon
 LYMA- Lyme Towns (East, Old & Lyme)
 LYME - Lyme
 MANS - Mansfield
 MONT – Montville
 MYST - Mystic
 NLAR – New London Area (Groton/NL+)
 NLCN – New London County
 NLON - New London
 NoEZ – Northeast Zone
 NORA – Norwich Area

NORW – Norwich
NORZ – Norwich Zone
NSTN – No. Stonington
OLYM - Old Lyme
PLAI - Plainfield
POMF - Pomfret
PRES - Preston
PUTN - Putnam
SALM - Salem
SCOT – Scotland
SoEZ – Southeast Zone
SPRA - Sprague
STAF - Stafford
STER - Sterling
STNA – Stonington Area (Ston, N. Ston)
STON - Stonington
THOM - Thompson
TLCN – Tolland County
UNIO - Union
VOLU - Voluntown
WATF - Waterford
WILL - Willington
WIND – Windham
WNCN – Windham County
WNDA - Windham Area
WNDZ - Windham Zone
WOOD – Woodstock
ZCON – Connecticut (Statewide)
ZOFA – Out of Area/in CT
ZOIN - International
ZOUT – Out of State

Ages Served

Choices

A1 – Early Childhood (Birth – 5YR)
A2 – Youth (6YR – 18YR)
A3 – Children (6YR – 12YR)
A4 – Adolescent (13YR – 18YR)
A5 – Adult (19YR & above)
A6 – Elderly (60YR & above)
A7 – All Ages
A8 - Young Adult (19YR – 24YR)*
NA – Not applicable

Gender Served

Choices

F0 – Female (predominately)*
M0 – Male (predominately)*

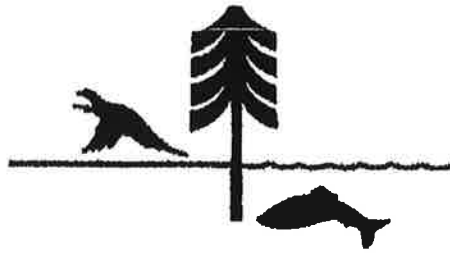
Application

Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut

MF – All genders
NH – Non-Human

**Norton Park Estimated Budget
Phase 1 Implementation**

Revenue	Amount	
Donations	\$ 18,302.38	
Picnic Table Donation	\$ 1,500.00	
Potential Grants and Future Donations	\$ 80,853.12	
Local Grants	\$ 20,000.00	
	\$120,655.50	
Expenses	Amount	
<u>Material</u>		
Site Construction		
Clean Fill	\$ 33,600.00	
Topsoil @ 4"	\$ 2,485.00	
Retaining wall	\$ 5,600.00	
Wall Infill - Block/Brick	\$ 12,800.00	
Granite wall cap	\$ 41,280.00	
Gravel road and Parking surface	\$ 10,437.50	
Concrete car stop	\$ 306.00	
<u>Site Furniture</u>		
Picnic Tables 5 std, 1 HCA - to be donated	\$ 1,500.00	Donations
Temporary fencing 250 lf	\$ 412.50	
Timber Guardrails 270 lf	\$ 10,800.00	
<u>Planting Materials</u>		
Seed 29000 sf	\$ 1,000.00	
Native establishing plantings	TBD	
<u>Signage</u>		
Double faced Norton Park Sign	\$ 200.00	
signs - various (fishing area, Pedestrian, etc)	\$ 234.50	
	\$120,655.50	



Colchester Fish and Game Club
Old Amston Rd, Colchester CT 06415
P.O. Box 257

Norton Park Committee
Town of Colchester
127 Norwich Avenue
Colchester, CT 06415
December 28, 2020

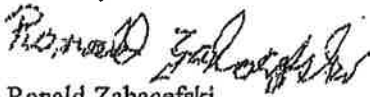
Dear Norton Park Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Colchester Fish and Game Club to offer our support for the Norton Park project on Westchester Road (Rt.149) in the North Westchester section of Colchester.

As neighboring landowners, we are happy to see the ruins of the C.H. Norton Paper Mill developed into a passive use park for all to enjoy. As stewards of fish and wildlife we recognize the importance of the dam removal and remediation of the site to the future of native species of birds, fish, reptiles, plants, and mammals in the area. As outdoor recreationalists we see the value of keeping land and waters in the state open to fishermen, bird watchers, kayakers, bicyclists, and others. Norton Park will be a welcome addition to the area.

The Norton Park Committee has the complete support of the members of the Colchester Fish and Game Club in the development of the park.

Sincerely:


Ronald Zahacefski

President, Colchester Fish and Game Club

Stephen Gephard
7 High Street
Deep River, CT 06417

January 1, 2021

Support for Grants for Norton Park, Colchester, CT

To Whom It May Concern,

I write in support of the effort to develop a park on the land formerly occupied by the Norton Papermill, Rt. 149, Colchester, CT. This project has wonderful potential. I have spent over 40 years managing natural resources for public benefit—ecological restoration, recreation, and education—and also played a role in the removal of the old mill dam on this property. That project transformed the river and has set the stage for the creation of a very special park.

The site was an important prehistoric fishing spot for Native Americans and later was an early location for industrial development with the advent of hydro-mechanical power for mills. The story of a pristine landscape giving way to degradation (the dam) and then recovery (dam removal) is compelling and has relevance throughout the Northeast. The Jeremy River is a high quality stream that offers good habitat, fishing opportunities, and a notable whitewater feature for paddlers. It provides access to the Jeremy River and ultimately the Salmon, River, which is a regional treasure but offers few locations from which to launch a canoe or kayak. This spot offers opportunities for birdwatching, examining fascinating geological formations, and simple family picnicking. It is remote enough to provide tranquility yet close enough to Routes 2 and 149 to be convenient to visit.

The plans that are being developed by the Town and its committee will lead to a park that has something for many interests, will be scenic, and draw people from near and far. It will not only entertain, but educate. It will certainly be an amenity for Colchester but it will be a park of regional significance. I support the Town's efforts to raise funds to create this park and look forward to celebrating its success at this historic site along the Jeremy River.

Sincerely,



Stephen Gephard
Supervising Fisheries Biologist
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
(RETIRED)



Norton Park Committee
Town of Colchester
127 Norwich Avenue
Colchester, CT 06415
December 24, 2020

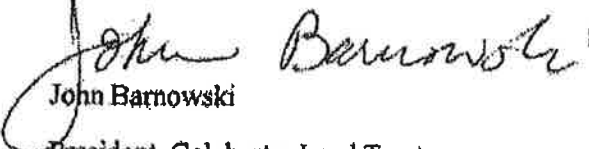
Dear Norton Park Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Colchester Land Trust to offer our support for the Norton Park project on Westchester Road (Rt. 149) in the North Westchester section of Colchester.

As involved citizens, we are happy to see the ruins of the C.H. Norton Paper Mill developed into a passive use park for all to enjoy. As stewards of forests and open space we recognize the importance of the Norton site reclamation. The mill property is located entirely within the Pine Brook Greenway, which helps connect the Airline Trail State Park System with other open space and contiguous undeveloped land. The greenway is an important focus area for local conservation efforts. As conservationists we see the value of keeping land and waters in the state open, to support environmental health and provide its own small contribution to mitigating climate effects. Norton Park will exemplify that and be a welcome recreation addition to the area.

The Norton Park Committee has the complete support of the members of the Colchester Land Trust in the development of the park.

Sincerely,


John Barnowski
President, Colchester Land Trust



River Work, LLC
265 S. Benson Road
Fairfield, CT. 06824

Norton Park Committee
Colchester, CT. 06415

December 30, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support the Norton Park Committee's effort to secure funding to develop a park at the Norton Paper Mill property on the Jeremy River in Colchester, CT. The Town of Colchester has a unique opportunity to create a public, streamside park. Since the 1720s, when the first dam was built to harness the power of the Jeremy River, various industries operated at this site. For three hundred years this was a place of industry where local farmers could take a factory shift to help make ends meet. The last mill, shuttered in the 1960s, was The Norton Paper Mill.

The property was donated to the town as part of a restoration project. The land was to be used as a park and the free running river restored. The Nature Conservancy's Connecticut Chapter, with funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, removed the dam and the Town of Colchester secured funds and removed the mill buildings (which had partially collapsed) and remediated the site to allow future use of the land as a public park.

This is a beautiful site where the Jeremy River runs free. As the project manager for the Norton Dam removal, our team shared a vision with those seeking to create a park. We hoped, that when the dam removal was complete, efforts would begin to transform this former industrial site to a park where a picnic could be shared, a fish caught, a book read or a kayak launched. Removing the dam created a free running river where migratory fish now have access to over 17 miles of historic habitat upstream. Removing the mill buildings created the canvas for the park.

A park at this site will provide much needed respite, but will also provide the chance to celebrate the history of this part of town, tell the stories of the industries that operated here and teach about how dams changed our rivers. I sincerely hope you will give serious consideration to the Norton Park Committee's appeal for support.

Sincerely,
Sally Harold
RiverWork, LLC
(former Director of River Restoration and Fish Passage, The Nature Conservancy, CT Chapter



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

95 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Patricia A. Watts, Director of Senior Services/Municipal Agent

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Selectmen
From: Patricia A. Watts, Director of Senior Services
Date: 12/29/2020
Re: Section 5310 Funding Award

Section 5310 funding is used to fund the replacement of vehicles which have exhausted their useful life. Our 10 passenger 2010 Ford mini-bus is slated for retirement. The grant application for CTDOT requesting Section 5310 funding has been approved and will be utilized for the procurement of a new 14 passenger mini-bus, equipped with a wheelchair lift. This vehicle will be used to provide transportation services for seniors and disabled individuals ages 18 and older through the operations of the Colchester Senior Center in the Department of Senior Services. The cost of the bus will be up to but not exceeding \$75,000, with \$60,000 (80%) of the funding provided through the DOT and \$15,000 (20%) provided through the Town of Colchester's Vehicle Reserve Fund, as approved by the Board of Finance at their meeting on June 3, 2020. Notification is enclosed.

Recommended Motion

Motion to approve the Section 5310 funding and authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Watts

Patricia A. Watts



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



2800 BERLIN TURNPIKE, P.O. BOX 317546
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06131-7546

Phone:

(860) 594-2834

December 15, 2020

Ms. Patricia Watts
Director of Senior Services
Town of Colchester
127 Norwich Avenue
Colchester, CT 06415

Dear Ms. Watts:

Fifty (50) organizations throughout the state applied for vehicle grant funding under the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) federal fiscal year 2019 Section 5310 Program. The Regional Council of Governments (RCOG's) and the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) reviewed and prioritized all eligible applications.

As a result of the coordinated review and prioritization process, your organization has been selected to receive a cash grant from the Section 5310 program. The grant will pay for up to 80% of the cost of a wheelchair accessible vehicle, not to exceed the amount estimated in the application or 80% of the actual vehicle cost, whichever is lower. The remaining vehicle cost must be funded by your organization.

This grant must be used towards the purchase of one (1) new wheelchair accessible vehicle(s) for the transportation of the elderly and/or persons with disabilities.

CTDOT will begin the implementation of this project as soon as FTA awards the grant.

Enclosed with this letter is a certification for acceptance of the grant. The signature of an authorized official will confirm that your organization has sufficient resources available to provide the funding needed to pay the balance of the vehicle(s) cost and to maintain and operate the vehicle. **The information requested on the acceptance certification form will be used to construct your agreement with the State.**

Please return by email the Acceptance Certification form to Ellen Lawrence ellen.lawrence@ct.gov no later than Friday, January 29, 2021.

No procurement activities can begin until an agreement is in place between CTDOT and your organization. Information about the vehicle procurement and the documentation required will be included with your agreement.

The purchase of these vehicles must follow an FTA compliant process. There is an FTA compliant vehicle contract available from which your organization can purchase a vehicle(s). If your organization chooses to procure a vehicle(s) without using the above-mentioned contract, you must request authorization in writing from CTDOT prior to beginning the vehicle procurement. You will be contacted in the near future regarding procurement information.

As recipients of federal funds, you are required to comply with the requirements under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Tiffany Garcia, Associate Title VI Coordinator in the Office of Contract Compliance, will be contacting you with dates for a required Title VI training session. The training session will provide an overview of the Title VI requirements for recipients of Section 5310 funding, and a question and answer period.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Ms. Lawrence by email or at (860) 594-2912.

Sincerely,

Lisa Rivers

Digitally signed by Lisa Rivers
DN: cn=US, E=lisa.rivers@ct.gov,
O=Connecticut Department of
Transportation, OU=Office of Transit
and Ridesharing, CN=Lisa Rivers
Date: 2020.12.15 13:36:33-0500

Lisa Rivers
Transit Manager
Bureau of Public Transportation

cc: James Butler – Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments

**ACCEPTANCE CERTIFICATION
SECTION 5310 GRANT
Federal Fiscal Year 2019**

This certifies that the **Town of Colchester through the Colchester Senior Center** will accept a Section 5310 grant from the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) and has sufficient resources available to provide the local match for the purchase of the vehicle(s) as well as for operation of the vehicle(s).

CTDOT must be listed as first lien holder on the motor vehicle registration(s) for the vehicle(s). During the useful life of the vehicle(s), titles will be retained by CTDOT, appropriate insurance levels must be maintained, and the vehicle(s) must be registered in accordance with all of the rules and regulations of the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles.

DO NOT take any action toward ordering a vehicle at this time. Once an agreement between CTDOT and your organization is executed, you have ninety (90) calendar days from receipt of the agreement to forward to CTDOT a written confirmation that the bid process for purchase of a wheelchair accessible vehicle has been initiated, or that your organization will procure the vehicle through an open option on an FTA compliant procurement.

Once your organization has accepted delivery of the vehicle, the following must be submitted to CTDOT within 3 - 5 business days:

- 1) CTDOT Invoice Summary & Processing form (ISP)
- 2) Dated manufacturer's or dealer's invoice naming your organization as the recipient of the vehicle
- 3) Vehicle Acceptance form
- 4) Post-delivery Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) certification
- 5) Post-delivery Purchaser's Requirements certification
- 6) Post-delivery Buy America certification
- 7) Two (2) copies of the Certificate of Origin(s), and
- 8) Acord Certificate of Liability Insurance form

If these conditions are not met, your organization acknowledges that this cash grant will be returned to CTDOT.

In order to expedite vehicle delivery, a recipient may order a vehicle in advance of receipt of a fully executed agreement; however, this action must follow an FTA-compliant procurement process and shall be taken entirely at the risk of the organization.

TYPE THE FOLLOWING, AS YOUR AGREEMENT WILL BE WRITTEN USING THE INFORMATION EXACTLY AS IT APPEARS BELOW: This information must match the Secretary of State's Concord records for your organization or an agreement will not be executed.

Legal Organization/Business Name: Town of Colchester		
Address: 127 Norwich Avenue		
City/Town: Colchester	State: CT	Zip code: 06415
Name of Authorized Official: Mary Bylone		
Title of Authorized Official: First Selectman		
Federal Employer Identification Number: 06-6001974		
DUNS Number*: 177899317		

*Information on how to obtain a DUNS number may be found on the following page.

Signature of Authorized Official

Date

*** PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS ***



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

**Town of Colchester
Board of Finance Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2020 – Virtual Meeting – 6:30 PM
Regular Meeting**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: CFO Maggie Cosgrove, First Selectman Mary Bylone, Superintendent Jeff Burt, Director of Public Works Jim Paggioli, Director of Youth and Social Services Val Geato, BOE members speaking: J Morozovich, A Domieka

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Tarlov called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting 5/21, Budget Workshops 5/19:**

M. Egan motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes from May 21, 2020, seconded by M. Hayes. Vote was unanimous. **MOTION CARRIED.**

B. Dennler motioned to approve the budget workshop minutes from May 19, 2020, seconded by A. Bisbikos. Vote was unanimous. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. **CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** There were citizens that spoke in favor of the additional firefighters as well as the education budget. Opinions were mixed on the use of general funds to offset a budget increase.

4. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Attached

5. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

- a. **Tax Collector:** Provided the 2nd meeting of the month
- b. **Finance Department:** Provided the 2nd meeting of the month

6. **FIRST SELECTMAN**

a. **Transfer requests: Authorization of funds for matching grant to purchase Senior Center van.**

Discussion and Possible Action: M. Egan motioned to authorize the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$15,000 from the Vehicle Reserve Fund (FY 2021-2022) for the local match requirement for the acquisition of a 14 passenger wheelchair lift mini-bus, seconded by M. Hayes. Vote was unanimous. **MOTION CARRIED.**

b. **First Selectman's report:** Town Hall will be opening back up on June 8th. Most all staff will be back. There will be a desk in the lobby to log visitors in and take their temperature. Day camp has been cancelled as it was going to be difficult to create a safe environment and there was a lack of enrollment. Park & Rec and Youth Services are working on one-day activities that families can sign their kids up for. The Halls Hill project is starting. The sewer line has been repaired. Gas lines for the fuel cell are behind on the airline trail portion.

RECEIVED
COLCHESTER, CT
2020 JUN -5 PM 1:03
Maggie Cosgrove
CFO
TOWN OF COLCHESTER

7. **BOF BUDGET DISCUSSION:** R. Tarlov and M. Egan want to make sure all the town meets the guidelines of the Governor's order which stated that a draft of the complete budget be posted for citizens to view. The revenue side of the budget with a mil rate calculation has not been posted. The BOE latest budget also needs to be posted. In order to have a longer time for information to be posted, the meeting that was supposed to be June 10th will be moved up to either the 8th or 9th. Members worked to establish consensus on the Town budget. All members agree there is a need for the two firefighters. The First Selectman was asked if there will be savings from this year to offset costs next year. She said while there is uncertainty as to what will be reimbursed in relation to Covid expenses, and there have been some unplanned IT expenses, she believes there are some definite opportunities for some savings this year that could be spent on items for next year. M. Cosgrove urged the board to remember there are no guarantees on reimbursements for Covid. She also stated that using the General Fund to offset the budget for one year would not affect the Town's credit rating. When this becomes common practice multiple years in a row is when it becomes an issue. She sees some areas for possible increased revenue. CCM has said they will give back 50% of membership and tuition from Norwich students could go up \$30,000 due to a miscalculation in the number of students. M. Egan requested the paving budget be looked at and asked if it could be reduced by \$50,000 with the money then being taken out of TAR. He also asked if there would be savings in asphalt due to lower oil prices. A. Bisbikos asked if the \$3200 from the Dog Pound could be removed as we do not use the building, if there was savings from the parade, as it was not held, and from the training that was not attended due to Covid. First Selectman Bylone said the electric might be able to be turned off to the building in the summer but in the colder months, it needs to be kept heated to maintain the building. She is working with J. Paggioli on ways to use that space but she will look into savings further. M. Cosgrove said there were some savings on the parade but some of the funds were still spent for the laying of the wreaths. Many of the training for her department was still held, just moved to virtual. She could not speak for other departments. J. Paggioli spoke regarding the paving budget. Bid amounts for asphalt are similar to last year. They were slightly cheaper per ton on the asphalt. He feels that \$50,000 could be taken from the TAR money without impacting any large equipment replacements. A. Bisbikos asked about savings from the Youth Services position not having been filled since February and could we get by without filling it. M. Bylone said V. Geato and her have talked and they do feel that while the approach might have changed due to Covid, the position is still needed. V. Geato spoke regarding filling the position and feels she could hold off filling until the end of August. Members agreed that by using TAR money and savings from the Youth Services positions the Town budget could be achieved with a zero dollar increase. A. Bisbikos wished to go on record that he still would like to have seen concessions and furlough days addressed. First Selectman Bylone also wished to go on record that she did consider concessions and furlough days but did not feel she should ask that of the employees when there is \$7 million in the reserve. Town employees are not being paid what other towns are paying yet remain committed to serving the town and its citizens. If in the future the financial situation becomes dire she will approach it with the unions.

Members turned their attention towards the BOE budget. R. Tarlov said the negotiated rate of the bus contract was in the budget for \$15,000 but ended up being \$101,000. That is \$86,000 that can be pulled out of the budget without impacting programming. He also said that J. Burt had previously removed from one of his proposals, \$254,000 for IT Hardware, as he said it could be purchased this year, but he later removed 105,000 of that reduction as he (JB) was concerned that the recurring expense would show as a budget increase next year. R Tarlov said that he sees this \$191,000 as unallocated and removing it from the budget will not impact any of the programming in the budget approved by BOE. M. Egan is concerned there will be upfront costs for Covid related items that directly impact the budget. He asked if there is a way to have a source of funding that is used for items directly related to Covid. M. Cosgrove reminded the Board they

have no authority on how the BOE uses their money. R. Tarlov said it is likely that COVID related expenses will be a lot higher than 191,000 and the BOE budget will not be able to absorb those costs. Rather than using the 191,000 in budget to fund the unknown, he said it should be removed and when COVID related costs are known, BOE should ask BOF for a special appropriation out of Unassigned Fund Balance. A. Domeika reminded members that 80% of the budget costs are contractual and they might not have enough money to fund COVID expenses upfront. R. Tarlov said that 15% of the BOE budget is 6 million dollars and amounts under 800K can be funded quickly by BOF. Superintendent Burt asked the board to give him a budget and he, along with the BOE, will work with it. He said there are so many uncertainties at this point as to what the next school year is even going to look like. He might not even know until August. He said if we don't go back to school or need to close mid year, there would be money that is not needed. He said we should not consider future COVID related expenses in the budget. M. Cosgrove agreed saying we should consider them at one time when they become known. M. Egan said at .43% it is one of the lowest increases in the DRG. R. Tarlov said you need to look deeper at other towns' budgets to see what's causing their increases or allowing us to come in lower, as in our BOE making capital reductions where other school districts could not. M. Egan said he would like to hear more from the BOE before making a decision. J. Burt said he has nothing more to add to the discussion. M Egan said BOF should not change the technology plan, which took a long time to develop. R. Tarlov said the 105,000 does not change the technology plan, the hardware will be purchased for use, on time. Only the timing for the funding is changed, as it would happen now instead of later. J. Burt reiterated that he really has no idea what the situation will be next year and therefore can't preplan for Covid related expenses. A. Bisbikos questioned savings due to no substitutes or sports in the spring. M. Cosgrove said those are the funds being used to purchase items this year instead of next year. She said the first thing that will need to be covered with any savings is the food deficit, potentially \$90,000, from supplying meals during Covid. A. Bisbikos questioned salary freezes and concessions again. J. Burt responded saying he echos what M. Bylone said. If we can work within the budget without cutting services, we are going to do that first. There is so much uncertainty next year that he feels concessions and freezes are premature this year. M. Egan said he would agree to removing the \$85,000 if it was just that that was removed. R. Tarlov recognized that anything that is a recurring expense and is removed this year will make the budget look inflated next year, but whether we reduce expenses or use general fund balance, the impact on the mill rate is the same, and taxpayers vote on the mill rate. J. Burt said to give the BOE a number and they will look to reallocate as needed when they know what they are facing. He said that this is a very difficult time and he will not have any better idea of next year's situation before the BOF meets again. M. Egan would like to touch on the revenue side before more discussion on the BOE budget.

8. CITIZENS' COMMENTS: Citizens spoke in favor of the BOE and it was questioned how the Medicaid funds are allocated.

9. OLD BUSINESS: None

10. NEW BUSINESS: None

11. LIAISONS' REPORTS: M. Hayes attended the CHVFD Exemption Revision Committee meeting. One of the speakers could not attend so the meeting was brief but they will be meeting again next week.

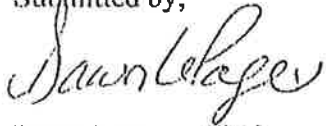
12. CITIZENS' COMMENTS: None

13. CITIZENS' DISCUSSION: None

14. BOF BUDGET DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: No additional discussion.

15. **ADJOURNMENT:** A. Bisbikos motioned to adjourn, seconded by A. Migliaccio. Vote was unanimous.
MOTION CARRIED. Chairman Tarlov adjourned the meeting at 9:37 p.m.

Submitted by,



Dawn LePage, Clerk

Attachments:

Correspondence

Program Grant Application Memo



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

95 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Patricia A. Watts, Director of Senior Services/Municipal Agent

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Finance
From: Patricia A. Watts, Director of Senior Services
Date: 05/20/20
Re: Section 5310 Program Grant Application

Section 5310 funding is used to fund the replacement of vehicles which have exhausted their useful life. Our 10 passenger 2010 Ford mini-bus is slated for retirement. Pending the approval from the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen, the grant application for the Section 5310 Program will be submitted to CTDOT by June 26, 2020. Should funding be awarded, it will be approved for up to \$60,000 of funding provided by CTDOT. This funding will be utilized for the procurement of a new 14 passenger mini-bus. This vehicle would accommodate up to 12 walk-on passengers and an additional 2 passengers in wheelchairs. It will be used to provide transportation services for seniors and disabled individuals ages 18 and older through the operations of the Colchester Senior Center in the Department of Senior Services. The cost of the bus will be approximately \$75,000, with \$60,000 (80%) of the funding provided through the DOT and \$15,000 (20%) required as local matching funds. Delivery of the bus is anticipated for fall of 2021 (FY 2021-2022).

Recommended Motion

Authorize the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$15,000 from the Vehicle Reserve Fund (FY 2021-2022) for the local match requirement for the acquisition of a 14 passenger wheel chair lift mini-bus.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Watts

Sent to TOWNBUDGET@COLCHESTERCT.GOV

From: Greg Cordova <gecordova@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 5:47 PM
To: Colchester Town Budget <townbudget@colchesterct.gov>
Subject: Town & BOE Budgets

Town:

I have always supported the Town budget proposals in the past. I am well aware of the hard choices that go into making the best budget possible for the whole of the Town. I am also well aware of the impacts good and bad that those final choices made to our town over the years. This year could potentially be one of the worst, if not THE worst years we will face due to COVID-19. None of us know how the country, let alone how our town will recover from this. So we hope the decisions we make at this time will not adversely impact the town when we come out the other side. With that being said, I hope the decisions we make will sustain our town's needs while we venture through this unknown.

I understand that every business small or large needs a good HR director especially with the ever changing rules and regulations coming out. Is it necessary to increase the salary as much as you put into it?

Can we just add 1 additional Fire/EMT at this time? Even though I believe this is one of the areas that will have an increase of activity even when all the dust settles from the COVID-19 period we are in.

Tree removal – I know we had several trees fall down this past year and we'll probably have more come down today. Can you produce the amount of money spent this year for this effort and if we had budgeted for that amount?

Not sure if there's anything we can do with insurance costs.

Is the Senior center oil tank replacement critical?

I know roads always take a hit, so if you plan on cutting this out can you please let the public know exactly what was planned to be worked on so they are informed before they complain about this.

Are the GIS improvements critical to IT improvement (I am all for IT improvement)?

Is the Code enforcement truck a must have? I am in favor of keeping the police and fire vehicles on the list.

I know fields are a hot item discussion. I am a huge proponent of the needs to make them better. However, since this is the first time that they have all had almost a full season to rest do we really need to add the irrigation at this time?

Now for the most important topic (Contractual workers) – As you have heard, the Town and the BOE were successful I believe twice since I have been in town to negotiate some sort of savings in the current years that they went to the tables. I don't remember the exact resolutions that were agreed upon, but I believe we need to try and work on this for both the Town and BOE. Maybe some sort of deal that would delay the current years increases and try to add them to another point in time. I know that would mean a larger increase in the future. But as I stated above, we do NOT know what the end of this new reality will be for us.

Board Of Ed

I am not sure other than the contractual negotiations I mentioned above can be done with this. I only hope that the Board will come up with a new version of their budget since they presented the Pre-COVID-19 version only.

Good luck.

Memorandum of Understanding for Section C-601 C of the Town Charter

The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance agree, by majority vote of each Board, that the budget process ~~for the Fiscal Year 2019—2020~~ shall be the same as that which occurred under the immediate past Town Charter (11/06/2007). This process is described on page 53, Town of Colchester 2020 - 2021 Adopted Budget document as follows:

“The First Selectman’s and Board of Education’s Proposed Budgets, and the Capital Improvement Plan are finalized and submitted for review by the Board of Finance. Budget meetings are held to examine the proposed budgets. The Board of Finance may adjust Town department budgets, and can adjust only the bottom-line total of the Board of Education budget.”

This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in effect until superceded by revision of Section C-601.C. of the Town Charter.