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Sent: Wednesday, September 2, 2020 12:01 AM

To: Robert Tarlov <BOFChair@colchesterct.gov>; First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>; Andrea Migliaccio <amigliaccio@colchesterct.gov>; abisboks@colchesterct.gov <abisboks@colchesterct.gov>; Mike Hayes <mhayes@colchesterct.gov>; Bernard Dennler <BDennler@TownofColchester.onmicrosoft.com>; Tiffany Quinn <RecDirector@colchesterct.gov>; Mike Egan <megan@colchesterct.gov>; ekundahl@gmail.com <ekundahl@gmail.com>; Taras Rudko <trudko@colchesterct.gov>; Denise Mizla <dmizla@colchesterct.gov>; Denise Turner <dturner@colchesterct.gov>; Rosemary Coyle <rcoyle@colchesterct.gov>; Board of Finance <boardoffinancemembers@colchesterct.gov>; Board of Selectmen <BoardofSelectman@colchesterct.gov>

Subject: B.O.F,B.O.S Meeting Minutes, Clarification on Field Issues and Inaccurate Meeting Minutes

To whom it may concern; I am asking that my letter be read and entered into the official minutes of the next Board of Finance Meeting, Park and Rec Commission and also the Board of Selectman Meeting. First and foremost I am questioning the accuracy of the minutes from the 8/3/2020 Recreation Commission Meeting that I attended in person. Upon review of the Recreation Commission Meeting and the discussion and statements made at the Board of Selectman Meeting I am concerned that information is being misconstrued and twisted. During the Recreation Meeting the present League Presidents had a discussion regarding the fields and more specifically the field sustainability fund. The Presidents as well as REC Commission members including the Chair of the Commission that our Board of Finance Liaison Andreas Bisbikos go back to the Board of Finance and ask that a matching amount of (\$45,000) money being taken out of the Unassigned Funds Balance to match the money currently collected from the sports leagues to begin phase 1 of the field irrigation project. It should be noted that this was at our request of our Liaison. We discussed other options and this one was what we wanted to be brought back for discussion and action at the next meeting. Hearing the comment made that Andreas was making this request unilaterally and on his own is absolutely false. This is and has been a discussion and plan amongst the presidents for some time. We all agree that we need sprinklers installed at the rec complex to get our fields into better condition and to maintain them moving forward. We understood the removal of the money out of the budget with the idea of a "0" budget but the issues and needs of the fields didn't just go away because the money was removed. This was our idea to find another way to get the irrigation started. I am formally asking the Board of Finance as well as the Board of Selectman to revisit this and take action on it. I would also like the minutes from the Rec Commission to be amended to show what was actually said and discussed at the meeting as they currently are inaccurate. As Sports leagues we have spent money in the past and some leagues as recent as last year to help with and maintain the fields as well as donate items (Sheds) to the town. Our families are already being charged \$10.00 per player per sport to put money into the field sustainability fund so it is unrealistic to ask the families for more money. With the amount of money in the Unassigned Funds Account there should be no reason we can't get the \$45,000 needed to start the irrigation project and also show an act of good faith on the towns side for doing what's right for our fields that so many residents use on an almost daily basis. The fields are a disgrace when compared to the surrounding towns that our sports leagues play on and against. Its time for Colchester to put some money into them and get them to a status that we can all be proud of again. With almost an entire year of rest due to COVID canceling most sports leagues seasons this would be the perfect time to get the irrigation started. It would go along way with our families that have been contributing to this fund and have yet to see anything for their contributions. We get asked alot if we will see anything done with the fund while our children are still in the league. I would like to mention that I have asked a few different times about the town doing the work in house with a collaboration of the different departments(Highway,Parks, Water Department) as this would allow the money to go a lot farther than hiring a private contractor to do the work. As working for another town myself I have been part of several projects similar to this, and by us doing the work internally we are able to do a lot more with less. After sitting through both in person and virtual meetings throughout the past year I have heard that the fields were a top priority this year and it would be nice to see that actually happen. Seeing that we just allocated \$43,034.00 for project management for the Senior Center this should be no problem, let's put our children at the same priority as the seniors. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or follow up. Tim Daniels