

First Selectman

From: John Chaponis
Sent: Monday, May 22, 2023 12:44 PM
To: First Selectman
Cc: thoresco@ceui.org
Subject: Finance Director Position
Attachments: town_administrators_signed_contract_2021-2024.pdf

GM Andreas

I see where you were working on an MOU to include some new positions in my MEUI bargaining unit. Please be advised that the position of "Finance Director" is already in my MEUI unit.

When I was hired in 1992, there was no administrators unit and I started this union in 1994. At that time, I requested the positions of "Assessor, Engineer, Fire Marshal, Fleet Maintenance Supervisor, Finance Director, Park & Recreation Director, Highway Department Supervisor (later changed to Director of Operations), Social Service Director, and Youth Services Director (later changed to Director of Youth & Social Services).

The First Selectman, Jenny Contois, objected to the inclusion of the position of "Finance Director" and on May 18, 1998, we had a hearing before the CT Department of Labor. On December 3, 1998 the CT Department of Labor issued Decision No. 3560-B which included the position of Finance Director in my unit. Subsequently, the Town appealed that decision to Superior Court and on September 7, 2000, a memorandum of decision was issued that stated the Finance Director would be included in my unit. The position has remained in my unit ever since.

Some years later, the town merged the town and the BOE finances together and created the "Chief Financial Officer" position. That position was never in any union. In past contract renewals, the town requested deleting the "Finance Director" position from my MEUI unit since no one was employed under that title. However, I refused and said "there could come a time when the town and BOE go back to the way it used to be and if it does, that position still belongs in my unit". Because it had been a contested position, and had a Labor Board hearing as well as Superior Court trial, I did not dare remove it.

As you know, recently the town and BOE bifurcated their financial departments. The town eliminated the CFO position, the BOE hired an accountant to run their side while the town has reinstated the position of "Finance Director". My MEUI unit already includes the position of Finance Director as you will see in the attached contract that was approved by the BOS on November 8, 2021 and expires on June 30, 2024. If the employee has already signed the MEUI union membership inclusion form, then the town should begin subtracting union dues as soon as is practical.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

JC

First Selectman

From: First Selectman
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 1:44 PM
To: Deborah Bates; Denise Turner; Rosemary Coyle; Jason LaChapelle
Subject: FW: Positions currently in Administrative Unit

FYI

From: Theo Horesco <thoresco@ceui.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 12:38 PM
To: First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>
Subject: Re: Positions currently in Administrative Unit

I believe the below list is current -

Theo

Sal Tassone – Town Engineer

Jason Nowosad – Building Official

Carol Szymanski – Wetlands Officer

Kate Byroade – Director of Library Services

Patty Watts – Director of Senior Services

Val Geato – Director of Youth and Social Services

Tiffany Quinn – Director of Parks and Recreation

Steve Sharpe – Fleet Maintenance Supervisor

Sean Shoemaker – Fire Marshal

John Chaponis - Assessor

Finance Director – Mary Williamson

Water Department Supervisor – VACANT

Director of Operations – VACANT

Zoning Enforcement Officer/Assistant Planner - VACANT

On May 17, 2023, at 2:51 PM, First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov> wrote:

Hi Theo,

The BOS is looking for a list of positions currently part of the administrative union. Could you please send me a list at your earliest convenience. Thanks.

Sincerely,

Andreas

From: Rosemary Coyle <rcoyle@colchesterct.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 2:17 PM

To: First Selectman <selectman@colchesterct.gov>

Cc: Denise Turner <dturner@colchesterct.gov>; Deborah Bates <dBates@colchesterct.gov>; Jason LaChapelle <jLaChapelle@colchesterct.gov>

Subject: Positions currently in Administrative Unit

Would you please send us a list of the positions that are currently part of the Administrative Union?

Thanks so much,
Rosemary

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First Selectman

From: First Selectman
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 1:44 PM
To: Jason LaChapelle; Denise Turner; Deborah Bates; Rosemary Coyle
Subject: FW: Colchester Administrator's Union

FYI

From: Theo Horesco <thoresco@ceui.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 12:41 PM
To: Andreas Bisbikos <abisbikos@colchesterct.gov>
Subject: Re: Colchester Administrator's Union

Andreas,
My apologies for the multiple errors I made the MOU. In reviewing I realized we already represent the finance director position. Please amend the MOU again to only reflect the Accountant and Fire Chief positions.

Theo

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