



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Bernie Dennler, First Selectman

Board of Selectmen Meeting Regular Meeting

January 18, 2024 – 7:00pm

Minutes

Town Hall Meeting Room 1 & Via Zoom

Members Present: First Selectman Bernie Dennler, Selectmen Art Shilosky, Rosemary Coyle, Denise Turner, and Cliff O'Donal

Others Present: Joe Leone, Director of Public Works; Rob Battaglia, ClearGov (via Zoom); Steven Hoffman, Fire Chief; Brad Bernier, Deputy Chief; and Tim Vaillancourt, Board of Finance liaison

1. Call to Order

First Selectman Bernie Dennler called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Dennler led the pledge of allegiance.

3. Correspondence

Email from M. Dubreuil regarding FOI Log

Email from B. Dennler regarding approval of bid waiver for salt purchase from DRVN Enterprises

Email from B. Dennler regarding approval of bid waiver for well redevelopment from SB Church

4. Citizen's Comments

Mr. Egan, Board of Finance spoke about the implementation of ClearGov at this time.

5. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

R. Coyle MOVED to add the Memo from Steve Hoffman, Fire Chief regarding Fire Apparatus - Ambulance as item 11 and remove the existing item 11 on Norton Park that will be postponed for another day. A. Shilosky SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

6. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Minutes of January 4, 2024 – Special Meeting*
- b. Approval of Minutes of January 4, 2024 - Joint Special Meeting*
- c. Adoption of a Board Resolution authorizing First Selectman Bernard Dennler and Michelle Marceau as signatories on VOYA Plan ZHUC08*
- d. Adoption of a Board Resolution to the Department of Economic Community Development regarding the Senior Center Building Project*

R. Coyle MOVED to approve the consent agenda as presented. D. Turner SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

7. ClearGov Presentation

Rob Battaglia made a presentation the ClearGov financial transparency software.

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding ClearGov

Discussion by the Board followed. No action was taken. The board will review an updated contract at the next meeting.

8. Discussion and action on Memorandum of Understanding between Joint Facilities Committee

Administration and Colchester Fire & EMS for Confined Space Rescue Services.

Presentation by Fire Chief Steven Hoffman and Deputy Fire Chief Brad Bernier.

R. Coyle MOVED to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Joint Facilities Committee Administration and Colchester Fire & EMS for Confined Space Rescue Services with the correction to page 2, Payment of Cost: Joint Facilities Committee pays the onetime fee of \$15 000. C. O'Donal SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

9. Discussion and action on approving the Private Duty Medical Standby Contract

Chief Steven Hoffman and Deputy Chief Brad Bernier presented a proposed contract.

Discussion by the Board followed. No action taken; the Board will revisit at the next meeting.

10. Fire Apparatus Update

B. Dennler explained four trucks are being delivered this month, the vendor for the fifth cancelled the contract. S. Hoffman and B. Bernier are working with the first selectman on sourcing alternative options.

11. Memo from Chief Steven Hoffman regarding Fire Apparatus – Ambulance

S. Hoffman reported on a contract that was signed in October for the purchase of an Ambulance. The contract had not been approved by the Board of Selectmen and the funding source had not been identified by the Board of Finance. The contract was cancelled; however, the Town may still be billed for the chassis. S. Hoffman is investigating options.

12. Discussion and action on request by the Water & Sewer Commission to reallocate ARPA funding for water tower improvements from the 70' tower to the 40' tower.

Joe Leone, Director of Public Works, presented a request from the Water & Sewer Commission to reallocate ARPA funds because the cost of the 70' tower was higher than the allocated ARPA funds.

By consensus the Board agrees for Joe Leone to get bids on the 40' tower, so the Board can review the numbers that are submitted.

13. Town Hall HVAC/Furnace Update

B. Dennler and J. Leone reported on ongoing issues with the furnace. The Board requested J. Leone get pricing on an engineering plan of the HVAC system.

14. Discussion and possible action on Ad-Hoc Committees

a. Recreation Needs and Coordination

Consensus on 5 members, 2 alternates. One spot will be designated to Park and Rec Commission. B. Dennler will ask T. Quinn to serve as a staff liaison.

b. Facilities Planning

Consensus on 5 members, 2 alternates.

The Board will consider forming the committees at the next meeting.

15. Liaison Assignments

Meeting dates will be added for Board Members to finalize their assignments.

16. Liaison Reports

Liaison reports were shared by R. Coyle, D. Turner, and B. Dennler.

17. Scheduling special meeting to do interviews for Boards/Commissions

By consensus the board agreed to hold a Board of Selectmen Special Meeting for Board and Commission interviews at 6:00pm on February 1, 2024.

18. First Selectman's Report

B. Dennler provided an update that the Finance Office, currently run by Acting Director Michelle Marceau with the help of Maggie Cosgrove continues to work through making corrections in the accounting system.

19. FOIA Log

B. Dennler shared an updated FOIA log.

20. Citizen's Comments

Mr. Dubreuil, Woodbine Rd, spoke about the Memo submitted by the Fire Chief regarding the Ambulance.

21. Adjournment

A. Shilosky MOVED to adjourn at 9:36pm. C. O'Donal SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Taryn Scott

Executive Assistant First Selectman