



# Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Mary Bylone, First Selectman

## Board of Selectmen

### Minutes

Special Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, July 6, 2021 @ 6:30 PM

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

**Also Present:** Brad Bernier, Kate Byroade

1. CALL TO ORDER – First Selectman Mary Bylone called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS - NONE
4. CORRESPONDENCE: ATTACHED
5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Senior Center Requests for Approval of programming contracts

B. Approve Minutes of the June 28 Board of Selectmen Special Meeting

D Turner moved to approve the Consent Agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Coyle. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. Motion to amend resolution for Fire Apparatus : R. Coyle motioned RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of Colchester appropriate \$4,500,000 and authorize borrowing in the same amount for costs related to the acquisition of Fire apparatus including three Engine Tanks, one Tanker, and one Tower Ladder. The appropriation may be spent for acquisition and equipment, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project or its financing.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That such recommendation, if approved by the Board of Finance, be presented to a Special Town Meeting to be held at Bacon Academy, 611 Norwich Avenue in the Town of Colchester, Connecticut, on 14 day, July, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., and acted upon at referendum to be held on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. FURTHER RESOLVED, That the aforesaid resolution shall be placed upon the paper ballots or voting machines under the following heading:

"SHALL THE TOWN OF COLCHESTER APPROPRIATE AND AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO EXPEND A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$4,500,000 FOR COSTS RELATED TO THE ACQUISITION OF FIRE APPARATUS AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE PORTION OF THE APPROPRIATION NOT DEFRAIDED FROM GRANTS?"

Voters approving said resolution will vote "Yes" and those opposing said resolution shall vote "No". Electors and persons qualified to vote in town meetings who are not electors will vote at the following polling place: Colchester Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue in Colchester. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's office.

[Selectman@ColchesterCT.gov](mailto:Selectman@ColchesterCT.gov)

860-537-7220

[www.ColchesterCT.gov](http://www.ColchesterCT.gov)

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COLCHESTER, CT  
2021 JUL -7 PM 3:35  
*Mary Bylone*  
MARY BYLONE  
TOWN CLERK

- FURTHER RESOLVED, That the actions of the Town Clerk and any other Town officials in providing notice of the Special Town Meeting and referendum are hereby ratified and confirmed, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Mizla. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
7. Approve Minutes of the June 17 Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting – R. Coyle moved to approve the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Turner. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
  8. Motion to set new meeting date for Town Budget Meeting and Referendum – D. Mizla motioned to move the proposed Town budget in the amount of \$15, 783,341 to the special budget meeting on Wednesday July 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm to be held at Bacon Academy, 611 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, and for a referendum for on the Town Budget on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 between the hours of 6 am and 8 pm to be held at Colchester Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Coyle. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
  9. Appointment of Samantha VanZilen as Member to the Youth Services Advisory Board for a term to expire 12/1/2023 – D. Mizla moved to appoint, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Coyle. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
  10. Appointment of Joseph Mathieu as Blight Hearing Officer with a term to expire on June 15, 2023 – Due to Joseph Mathieu also serving on the Planning & Zoning Commission, the topic of conflicts of interest was discussed. Mr. Mathieu will recuse himself if situations arise that may result in a conflict. R. Coyle moved to appoint, 2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Rudko. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
  11. Job Description for Fire Chief – Brad Bernier discussed the development of the new job description to be used in the search for a permanent Fire Chief. It was recommended that the essential functions of the Chief position be expanded to include the need to serve as a Fire Department spokesperson and to drive strategic planning for the department. R. Coyle moved to accept the job description with those additions, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Turner. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
  12. Fireworks Contract – D. Mizla moved to approve the contract for Legion Fireworks Company to provide fireworks on October 30, 2021, with a rain date of October 31, 2021, at a cost of \$7,150.00, and to authorize the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents, 2<sup>nd</sup> by T. Rudko. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
  13. Concession Stand Contract – Anton Smith will come before the Board of Selectmen again when his Chatham Health certificate is received, and the details of his business structure are defined.
  14. Discussion and Possible Action on four (4) union contracts:
    - A. Municipal Employees Union "Independent" (MEUI) Local 506, SEIU, AFL-CIO, CLC Representing Town Administrators – **Tabled**
    - B. Municipal Employees Union "Independent" (MEUI) Local 506, SEIU, AFL-CIO, CLC Representing Transfer Station, Parks & Recreation, Highway Crew, Fleet Maintenance and Water Department Employees – R. Coyle motioned to approve contract, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Turner. **Motion carried 4-1 with T. Rudko voting no.**
    - C. Colchester Firefighters Union UPPFA, IAFF, Local# 3831 – D. Turner motioned to approve contract, 2<sup>nd</sup> by R. Coyle. **Motion carried 4-1 with T. Rudko voting no.**
    - D. Local 1303-254 of Council 4 American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees AFL-CIO Representing Town Hall Employees – R. Coyle motioned to approve contract, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Mizla. **Motion carried 4-1 with T. Rudko voting no.**

15. Library Internet Safety Policy & CIPA – Discussion and Possible Action – Library Director Kate Byroade discussed CIPA - compliance and internet filtering software that is currently in place. Kate will request a detailed listing of specific categories and levels of restrictions to bring to the Board for further review and discussion at the next meeting.

16. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS - NONE

17. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT – Connecticut is currently #1 in the rate of COVID vaccines administered. There are few remaining restrictions still in place.

In-person meetings are returning, and a hybrid meeting model is being worked on.

The new playground equipment is starting to be installed.

18. LIAISON REPORTS – D. Turner – Ad Hoc Committee for Diversity & Inclusion is preparing its presentation for the Board of Selectmen. They will present on the need for a permanent commission to be established at the next BOS meeting.

R. Coyle – Chatham Health is attending local events and offering vaccinations to anyone eligible who would like one.

T. Rudko – No reports.

D. Mizla – No reports.

19. ADJOURN – T. Rudko moved to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Turner. **MOTON CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.** Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Submitted By,

Stacey Kilgus, Clerk