

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, November 1, 2011, 7 pm

Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT 06237

Selectmen Present: First Selectman Carmen Vance. Selectmen Richard Szegda, Robert Hellstrom and William O'Brien.

Also Present: Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz.

CALL TO ORDER: C. Vance called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **MINUTES:** R. Szegda MOVED to approve the minutes of the BOS 10/11/11 special meeting with the following corrections:
 - Page 1, item 4.1, 3rd line states, "Szegda feels the town should begin taking the necessary steps required prior to enter into" and it should state, "Szegda feels the town should be taking the necessary steps required prior to entering into"
 - Page 2, item 6.1, 13th line states, "contacts applicants if it has questions about applications and that this application may" and it should state, "contacts applicants if it has questions about applications and that this application may be"
 - Page 2, item 6.2, 1st line states, "J. Luiz explained that the town's" and it should state, "J. Luiz explained that the Town's" MOTION CARRIED 4:0.
3. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** None.
4. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - 4.1 **Memorandum of Agreement with WINCOG for Mapping Services (GIS):** W. O'Brien MOVED to authorize the First Selectman to execute the agreement with WINCOG for Mapping Services (GIS) as presented. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.
 - 4.2 **CL & P street light midnight shut-off option:** R. Szegda told the BOS that he discussed whether or not Columbia should participate in the street light midnight shut-off option with Public Works Director George Murphy. He explained that both he and G. Murphy feel it is a good idea for the street lights to remain on throughout the night, especially during the winter season when the roads require plowing. The BOS reached a consensus to not participate in the midnight shut-off program.
5. **NEW BUSINESS:** None.
6. **COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH**
 - 6.1 **Application for Constructing Structures on or over Columbia Lake by Elaine Mrosek:** R. Szegda MOVED to approve the application of E. Mrosek to repair an existing seawall contingent upon the conditions recommended by the Lake Management Advisory Committee (LMAC). MOTION CARRIED 4:0.
 - 6.2 **Application for Constructing Structures on or over Columbia Lake by Carl Foster:** W. O'Brien MOVED to approve the application of C. Foster to repair an existing dock contingent upon the conditions recommended by LMAC. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.
7. **APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS**
 - 7.1 **Resignation of Keith Herzig from the PZC:** The BOS accepted the resignation of K. Herzig. R. Szegda clarified that K. Herzig is not only resigning as the PZC Secretary but as a member of the PZC itself.
8. **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** J. Luiz provided the BOS with an update from CL and P about residences in town that are still without power due to Storm Alfred. He explained that all roads are clear to the point that cars, emergency vehicles and school buses are able to travel as needed. J. Luiz told the BOS that the Senior Center has been opened as a "warming center" during the hours of 9 am – 8 pm since Monday, October

31, 2011. He explained that bottled water and “Meals-Ready- to- Eat” (MRE’s) are available at the Sr. Center for those families in need. J. Luiz stated that RHAM High School in Hebron is currently offering showers all day long and is serving as a shelter from 5 pm on. J. Luiz informed the BOS that the Transfer Station will not charge for brush disposal on Wednesday, November 2 and Saturday, November 5, 2011. J. Luiz explained that the town discouraged individuals from “trick or treating” on Halloween night due to the potential danger presented by downed power lines, damaged trees and the lack of lighting due to power outages. J. Luiz expressed thanks to the Public Works road crew for doing a great job of snow plowing and clearing up debris after the storm. J. Luiz told the BOS that showers are expected to be made available at H.W. Porter School beginning Thursday morning at 5 am. J. Luiz explained that the audit began on October 31, 2011 and is going smoothly.

C. Vance stated that Library Building Committee is getting ready to hold a meeting with residents on Rose Lane regarding the possible re-routing of the road/driveway. She explained that they anticipate holding a referendum regarding the “Library Expansion Project” in March or April of 2012.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Columbia Conservation and Agricultural Commission 10/6/11 Regular Meeting Minutes: W. O’Brien inquired about the intense discussion that led the Commission to vote to discontinue the Farmer’s Market. J. Luiz explained that last year Linda McDonald stated she was going to step down from taking the lead in organizing the Farmer’s Market because of the lack of help. He explained that the individual who was paid to be the “Market Master” ended up becoming employed full time and was unable to dedicate as much time and help to the Farmer’s Market as needed. Ann Dunnack explained that a lot of work fell on L. McDonald and it got to be too much for her to run the Market on her own. She stated that the Commission hopes for someone to step up in the future so the Farmer’s Market may resume. Discussion followed.

9.2 Letter from Anthem BCBS to Town of Columbia

9.3 Email from Ian Dann

9.4 Thank you note to C. Vance from United Way’s Libby Richardson

9.5 Letter from DEEP’s W. Warzecha to B. Clayton

9.6 Correspondences between C. Vance and B. Mahoney

9.7 Willimantic Chronicle article published 10/21/11

9.8 Memo to CROG Electricity Consortium Members from J. March-Wackers: J. Luiz discussed this with the BOS. He explained that by participating in this, Columbia will achieve a 20% rate reduction in generation price beginning January 1, 2012.

10. BUDGET

10.1 Refunds: R. Szegda MOVED to approve the following transfers:

TO	FROM	AMOUNT
Columbia Manufacturing	Town of Columbia	\$575.64
Columbia Environmental Drilling	Town of Columbia	\$19.73
Corporate Fleet Services	Town of Columbia	\$121.37
David or Mary Waller	Town of Columbia	\$8.79

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

10.2 Transfers: C. Vance MOVED to approve the following transfer:

AMOUNT	FROM A/C #	DESCRIPTION	TO A/C #	DESCRIPTION
\$62.56	10-4530-520	Printing	10-4530-750	Conf/Seminars

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

C. Vance MOVED to approve the following transfer:

AMOUNT	FROM A/C #	DESCRIPTION	TO A/C #	DESCRIPTION
\$1,000	10-4800-900	Contingency	10-4550-160	Legal Notice

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

11. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS: R. Szegda MOVED to approve the payment of emergency bills in the amount of \$31,082.37. MOTION CARRIED 4:0. C. Vance

MOVED to approve the payment of regular bills in the amount of \$63,833.76. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

- 12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** R. Szegda MOVED to reschedule the regular meeting of BOS from Tuesday, November 15, 2011 to a special meeting on Tuesday, November 22, 2011. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- 13.1** Real estate pursuant to CT State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(D); Pending Litigation pursuant to CT State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(B); Personnel pursuant to CT State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(A). C. Vance MOVED to enter into Executive Session at 7:40 pm with J. Luiz present. MOTION CARRIED. Executive Session ended at 7:55 pm.

C. Vance MOVED to add the following item under New Business, entitled, "Approval of Leave Without Pay for Sylvie Grenier." MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

NEW BUSINESS (continued):

5.1 APPROVAL OF LEAVE WITHOUT PAY FOR SYLVIE GRENIER:

C. Vance MOVED to grant S. Grenier's request for "Leave Without Pay" for the period of October 19, 2011 through December 19, 2011. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

- 14. ADJOURNMENT:** C. Vance MOVED to adjourn at 7:56 pm and the MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The next meeting of the BOS is scheduled for Tuesday, November 22, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Kimberly A. Bona