

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, January 20, 2015, 7 pm**

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

Members Present: Deputy Selectman Steven Everett, William O'Brien, Selectman Rob Hellstrom, Selectman Robert Bogue

Members Excused: First Selectman Carmen Vance

Also Present: Interim Town Administrator Mark Paquette, Town Attorney Duncan Forsyth, Finance Director Beverly Ciurylo, Town Planner Paula Stahl, Director of Public Works George Murphy, Facilities Manager Bud Meyers, Recording Secretary Linda McDonald, Ann Dunnack, Nikki Keldsen, Gary Littlefield, Millie Ramsey, William Ross, Keith Herzig, Jocelyn Dunnack, John Schroder, and others

CALL TO ORDER: S. Everett called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **MINUTES:** 1/6/2015 Regular Meeting: R. Bogue MOVED to approve the regular meeting minutes of 1/6/2015 as presented. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.
3. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** No audience of citizens.
4. **OLD BUSINESS**
- 4.1 Request from Walter Tabor to acquire town property:

P. Stahl distributed a map of the property and presented background information for this property. There are grassland easements on the property. The property would be used for agricultural purposes (blueberry farm) as per email from W. Tabor. P. Stahl explained the options of the town to sell or grant a license.

W. Tabor explained the limitations put on the easements. He said he has plans to bring in utilities from Roberts Drive. He said there was an ancient right-of-way that pre-dates the road and town access of the land to allow agricultural access.

W. Tabor explained that the use of the land has been hay production with limited vehicular use. He plans to build two barns for hay storage on the parcel.

S. Everett suggested that there could be opposition from neighbors. W. Tabor said the easiest option for him is to get a driveway permit and put a driveway in.

R. Hellstrom stated for the record that he does work for W. Tabor and will be recusing himself from any vote on this matter. He said W. Tabor wishes to purchase a right-of-way to put in a farm and would hope the Board could find a way to make this happen.

S. Everett MOVED to AUTHORIZE the Town Administrator and Town Planner to work with Mr. Tabor to bring a resolution to the BOS next meeting. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:1 with R. Hellstrom abstaining.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- 5.1** 2014 Audit: B. Ciurylo reported that the audit went well and the town ended with a positive balance for the year.

6. COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH:

6.1 Concrete dock at town beach:

A. Dunnack, speaking as Chair of the Columbia Recreation Commission (CRC), said she as appointed by the last Town Administrator to form an AdHOC committee comprised of members from the CRC and the Lake Management Advisory Committee (LMAC). The charge of the committee was to make a recommendation to the BOS on the replacement of the concrete dock. The committee recommended replacement of the dock to serve the following functions: 1) to separate the boat launch from the swimming area for safety reasons, 2) to somehow mitigate the migration of sand from the beach, and 3) to serve the public for swimming. The committee also recommended that the dock be in the same location, "L" shaped, and a stable, not floating dock preferably constructed of concrete.

Facilities Manager Bud Meyers reported on meetings with a contractor from Earthworks. In order to have a 26' "L" shaped concrete dock, a coffer dam would have to be made. Some options are to come straight out 90' with concrete, extend the 90' feet to add a concrete "L", or to add an "L" floating dock.

Discussion followed on how to fund a dock replacement.

In order to replace the dock, a formal written bid would be needed, the project would have to be approved by FiPAC, the BOS and Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission (IWWC) and a town meeting would be required. The project would have to be done during the lake drawdown.

B. Meyers will prepare cost estimates for the next BOS meeting.

7. APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS:

- 7.1 Resignation of Maureen Allen from Commission on Aging (CONA):** R. Bogue MOVED to accept the resignation of Maureen Allen from CONA. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

- 7.2 Appointment of Jill Livingston (R) to CONA:** R. Bogue MOVED to APPOINT Jill Livingston to the Commission on Aging. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

- 8. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** M. Paquette updated the Board on the employment search for Town Administrator and said interviews are planned for February 18, 2015. He reported on an open space grant, repairs to town bridges, the library renovation, the school roof replacement, Town Clerk's office software, and STEAP grants. M. Paquette informed the Board that the Governor's budget will be released on February 18th.

- 9. CORRESPONDENCE:** There was no correspondence.

10. BUDGET

10.1 Transfers: R. Bogue MOVED to APPROVE the following transfer of funds.

AMOUNT	FROM	TO
\$ 65.00	10-4112-500, Admin-Gen Supplies	10-4112-750, Admin-Conferences/Seminars
\$100.00	10-4330-811, Machine/ Equip<\$5000	10-4330-110, Postage
\$300.00	10-4330-811, Machine/Equip<\$5000	10-4550-300, Printing
\$25.40	10-4550-750, Conf/Seminars	10-4550-550, Misc Service Charges

MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

10.2 Refunds: R. Bogue MOVED to APPROVE the following refund:

TO	FROM	AMOUNT
Richard & Luisa Lenzi	Town of Columbia	\$1,465.02

MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

11. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS: R. Bogue MOVED to APPROVE payment of regular bills totaling \$22,737.10. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 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 Statues Section 1-200(6)(A): S. Everett MOVED to enter Executive Session at 8:08 p.m. with Interim Town Administrator M. Paquette, Town Attorney D. Forsyth, and Finance Director B. Ciurylo present. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0. D. Forsyth left the Executive Session at 8:24 p.m. The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

S. Everett MOVED to add the following item to the agenda: Consideration and possible vote on resolution of the workers’ compensation and CHRO claims of Marlaine Martin. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

S. Everett MOVED that the Town Administrator be authorized to resolve the workers’ compensation and CHRO claims of Marlaine Martin. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

S. Everett MOVED to return to Executive Session at 8:27 p.m. with Interim Town Administrator M. Paquette and Finance Director B. Ciurylo present. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0. The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:34 p.m.

R. Bogue MOVED to add the following item to the agenda: Appointment of George Murphy as Interim Blight Enforcement Officer. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

R. Hellstrom MOVED to APPOINT George Murphy as Interim Blight Enforcement Officer effective immediately. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

14. ADJOURNMENT: R. Bogue MOVED to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

The next regular meeting of the BOS is scheduled for Tuesday, February 3, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted by Linda H. McDonald

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.