

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, May 20, 2014
Meeting to commence at the conclusion of the
Special Town Meeting scheduled for 7 pm in Yeomans Hall

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

Members Present: First Selectman Carmen Vance, Selectman William O'Brien, Selectman Robert Hellstrom, Selectman Robert Bogue.

Also Present: Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz, Finance Director Bev Ciurylo, Ann Dunnack.

CALL TO ORDER: C. Vance called the meeting to order at 8:20 pm.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the Town Meeting earlier in the evening.
2. **MINUTES: 4/15/14 Regular Meeting:** R. Bogue MOVED to approve the minutes of the 4/15/14 BOS Regular Meeting. W. O'Brien stated that he thought the Transfer Station permit fees issue was not going to be decided until later in the year and is wondering why it is on the agenda for discussion this evening. C. Vance stated that the item was on the agenda for discussion and that a decision on the matter could be made at any time. MOTION CARRIED 3:1:0 with W. O'Brien opposed.
3. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** None.
4. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - 4.1 **Transfer Station Permit Fees:** R. Bogue MOVED to TABLE this item until September, 2014. R. Hellstrom asked J. Luiz when it would be a good time to discuss this. J. Luiz stated it would be helpful from a budget standpoint to have the matter concluded in time for the budget to be presented to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) in late January. Discussion followed. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.
 - 4.2 **Proposals from health insurance carriers for FY 14-15 coverage:** J. Luiz stated that the Board of Education (BOE) wants to stay with Anthem in Fiscal Year '14-'15 based on the company's latest health insurance offer. He recommends that the town also remain with Anthem. J. Luiz then went on to explain the various plan offerings that the town provides to union and non-union employees. J. Luiz recommended that for Fiscal Year '14-'15 eligible non-union employees be given the opportunity to participate in either the Century Preferred Plan that features the \$5 office visit co-pay or the Century Preferred H.S.A. Plan that features the \$2,000/\$4,000 deductible with a 75% deductible contribution from the town. J. Luiz went on to recommend that the BOS offer to eligible non-union employees effective July 1, 2015 just an H.S.A. Plan that features the

\$2,000/\$4,000 deductible with a 75% deductible contribution from the town. J. Luiz suggested that the high deductible contribution of 75% would exist for FY '15-'16 and then go down to 50% for FY '16-'17. W. O'Brien MOVED that, based on J. Luiz's recommendation, the town remain with Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield for its insurance provider during FY '14-'15. Discussion followed, with some BOS members suggesting that a motion might not be necessary because the town would be staying with Anthem. W. O'Brien WITHDREW the MOTION.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- 5.1 Annual Steeple Chase Bike Tour Fundraiser:** W. O'Brien MOVED to approve the Steeple Chase Bike Tour to travel through portions of Columbia for its annual fundraiser taking place on Saturday, August 16, 2014. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

6. COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH

- 6.1 Application for Constructing Structures on or over the Lake by C. Foster:** J. Luiz explained that the Lake Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) gave a verbal approval but nothing has been put in writing. Discussion followed. R. Bogue MOVED to approve the application from Carl Foster contingent upon the usual conditions set forth by LMAC. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

7. APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS

- 7.1 Hire of Connor Yanicky as Lifeguard:** C. Vance MOVED to hire C. Yanicky and E. Antler as Lifeguards for the 2014 beach season contingent on completed background checks. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.
- 7.2 Hire of Elliot Antler as Lifeguard:** See MOTION under item 7.1.
- 7.3 Hire of Mary Latour as Floater:** R. Bogue MOVED to hire M. Latour as a Floater. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.
- 7.4 Resignation of Accountant Paula Fernald**
- 7.5 Hire of Assistant to the Assessor:** C. Vance MOVED to hire Kerilynn Lewis as the part-time Assistant to the Assessor at an hourly rate of \$17.70, contingent on a completed background check. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

- 8. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** The Connecticut Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is in the process of establishing a new GIS system for all member towns, including Columbia. New Maintainer Kyle Hooper has begun work and things are going well. The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities held a Legislative Wrap-Up online. It indicated that the past legislative session at the State Capital did not negatively impact Columbia in a major way. A date has been set for the real estate closing for the Ellis/Mund Property. The Board of Education has hired a consultant to help develop a strategic plan for the school district. J. Luiz attended a meeting at the school where the consultant interacted with several members of the community in an effort to help develop the strategic plan. J. Luiz attended the retirement event for Roberta Dwyer, the Executive Director of the Northeast Connecticut Economic Alliance. Also, the school held a walk-thru regarding the security updates and that the project appears to be close to

completion. J. Luiz told the BOS that the Windham Region Transit District has several issues that need to be addressed.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Correspondences between P. Shepard and C. Vance

9.2 “CL&P Files to Raise Rates,” *NBC Connecticut*

10. BUDGET

10.1 Transfers: R. Bogue MOVED to approve the following transfers:

AMOUNT	FROM A/C #	TO A/C #
\$185	10-4410-300, Gen. Supp.	10-4410-710, Prof. Development
\$500	10-4570-600, Repairs/Maintenance	10-4570-811, Mach/Equip.
\$145	10-4570-600, Repairs/Maintenance	10-4570-811, Mach/Equip.

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

C. Vance MOVED to approve the following transfer:

AMOUNT	FROM A/C #	TO A/C #
\$1,000	10-4800-900, Contingency	10-4420-011, Salaries/OT

MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

10.2 Refunds: None.

10.3 Suspense List: This ITEM has been TABLED.

11. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS: R. Bogue MOVED to approve the regular payment of bills in the amount of \$34,199.86 and the MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: C. Vance apologized for the confusion regarding the Transfer Station Permit Fee discussion with W. O’Brien. C. Vance said that she did not intend for item 4.1 on tonight’s agenda to be an action item as was indicated in the backup materials provided to the BOS.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

13.1 Real estate per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(D); Pending Litigation per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(B); Personnel per State Statues Section 1-200(6)(A); C. Vance MOVED to enter into Executive Session at 9:26 pm with J. Luiz present. Executive Session ended at 9:34 pm.

W. O’Brien MOVED to give the Town Administrator a 2% general wage increase for FY ’14-’15 in accordance with the adopted budget for Fiscal Year ’14-’15. The MOTION CARRIED 4:0.

- 14. ADJOURNMENT:** C. Vance MOVED to adjourn at 9:40 pm and the MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The next BOS meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kimberly A. Bona