

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Wednesday, December 18, 2019 – 6 pm
Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT**

Members Present: Steven M. Everett, First Selectman; Robert Hellstrom, Deputy Selectman; William O'Brien Selectman; Lisa Napolitano (arrived at 6:05pm), Selectman; Judy Ortiz, Selectman.

Also Present: Mark Walter, Town Administrator; Bernadette Derring, Senior Center Director.

CALL TO ORDER: S. Everett called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Agenda as written for December 18, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 4.0.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - 3.1 **BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for November 19, 2019.** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for November 19, 2019. The Motion did not pass because S. Everett was the only BOS member that could vote on approving the minutes. R. Hellstrom and J. Ortiz were not present at the November 19, 2019 meeting and L. Napolitano had not yet arrived (L. Napolitano arrived at 6:05pm). S. Everett MOVED to revisit the MOTION to Approve the BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for November 19, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 3:0 with J. Ortiz and R. Hellstrom abstaining.
 - 3.2 **BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for December 3, 2019.** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for December 3, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
4. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** Joanne Prague Doyle 145 Rte. 87 stated that she has spoken to Steven Everett and Mark Walter regarding hiring a part-time social worker to help residents in need and she would like the BOS to consider this request in the upcoming budget. She said that she has grown up in Columbia and has seen the changes in town. She stated that there is a need for services related to mental health issues, food issues and transportation issues. She felt that the social worker should not be housed in the Senior Center and she stated that it is difficult for people who are in need to find out how they would access the help that they need.

Millie Ramsey, 100 Hunt Rd. stated that she would like to follow up with what Joanne Prague said. She said the Congregational Church recently delivered food to 22 families and this past Monday, the church delivered food and gifts to 27 families. She stated that there is a definitely a need for any age group. She said that a social worker would be much needed and welcome in town.

Jeff Viens, 132 Route 66 stated that he does not think we should establish a Town Meeting to endorse the Town's participation in the expansion of the Mono Pond State Park. He said he has a problem with Trust for Public Land and giving our rights away for our citizens in the future. He stated we are not land poor and that we have a lot of open space. He said that in 2018 and 2019 we had 6 new houses and since July we have had 0 new houses. He stated that once we give up our ownership of the property and it becomes a State park it will not be a Columbia park and Columbia will no longer have a say on what we can do with the park.

Ann Dunnack, 103 Lake Rd. stated that the money that the State is using to fund the purchase of this particular annex to the State park does not come from taxpayers. She said the money is coming from a federal fund that comes from offshore drillers. She said there is a federal necessity that the offshore drillers must pay into and fund for the environment. That fund is then disbursed to all the states including CT and it is that fund that they are using, it is not the CT taxpayers. Therefore, because they are using those funds there is a stipulation that the land can only be used for open space, because this is the tradeoff if the oil companies take from the environment they must give back to the environment. She said that this is written into the deed language that the funds used is only for open space.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- 5.1 To establish a Town Meeting to approve the towns participation with the Trust for Public Land and others in the acquisition of land parcels within the Town of Columbia as part of the Mono Pond State Park expansion and in furtherance thereof to reserve the balance of the Town's Open Space Fund for this purpose and to specifically allocate \$15,000 of this reserve as the Town's contribution towards the acquisition costs of the Markell properties parcel, title of which shall be acquired by the State of CT, and otherwise on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectman shall subsequently approve.** S. Everett MOVED to establish a Town Meeting on January 21, 2020 at 6:00 pm in Yeomans Hall for the Town participation with the Trust for Public Land and others in the acquisition of land parcels within the Town of Columbia as part of the Mono Pond State Park expansion and in furtherance thereof to reserve the balance of the Town's Open Space Fund for this purpose and to specifically allocate \$15,000 of this reserve as the Town's contribution towards the acquisition costs of the Markell properties parcel, title of which shall be acquired by the State of CT, and otherwise on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectman shall subsequently approve. J. Ortiz stated that this should go to a Town Meeting. L. Napolitano said that she would like to have seen it on the ballot. She said that personally she loves walking through the park, but she emphasized that residents should have the option to attend meetings and be informed. R. Hellstrom and W. O'Brien both agreed that this should go to a Town Meeting. S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Resolution for Columbia BOS acquisition as written by counsel. MOTION CARRIED with 4 Votes Yes (S. Everett, J. Ortiz, R. Hellstrom & W. O'Brien) and 1

Vote No (L. Napolitano). S. Everett explained that there is a resolution available for the BOS to review in their BOS binder.

- 5.2 **Discussion Regarding Veterans Exemption Options.** S. Everett MOVED to table the discussion regarding Veterans Exemption Options until next BOS meeting on January 7, 2020. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
- 5.3 **Discussion Regarding Transfer Station Hours.** S. Everett MOVED to table the discussion regarding Transfer Station Hours until the next BOS meeting on January 7, 2020. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
- 5.4 **Amend Public Hearing Date on Tuesday, April 15, 2020 for the Standard Guidelines for Construction and Maintenance of Structures and Shoreline on Columbia Lake to Tuesday April 21, 2020.** S. Everett MOVED to Amend the Public Hearing Date on Tuesday April 15, 2020 for the Standard Guidelines for Construction and Maintenance of Structures and Shoreline on Columbia Lake to Tuesday, April 21, 2020 at 6:00pm. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 6.1 **Discussion concerning Senior Center Request for Additional Funds from Contingency for Senior Van Transportation.** B. Derring explained her original request was for a second vehicle for medical appointments to free up the Senior Center Van for more wellness trips. She was asked to provide a proposed transportation program schedule that would include both medical rides and wellness trips if she did not receive the funding for a medical car. She said that to accommodate the schedule for both medical and wellness rides she is asking for additional hours and a additional part-time driver as well as additional hours for the dispatcher which would increase the current scheduled hours from 18.75 hours per week to 35 hours a week. B. Derring explained that it is necessary to have the dispatcher there while the van is running. She said that the drivers are not scheduled if rides are not needed. She is requesting a total budget increase of \$16,000.

B. Derring shared the Transportation Program Schedule with the BOS. She said that the van schedule is from 8:00am to 3:00pm. She explained that the social wellness trips would include grocery shopping, banking, etc. on Tuesday and Thursday and medical rides would be on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

B. Derring explained where Dial-a-Ride fits in with Columbia's transportation program. She said that she makes sure the resident is referred to Dial-a-Ride first and if they cannot accommodate the request, the resident can come back to the Senior Center if the schedule works. B. Derring explained that medical rides have been a priority, but with Dial-a-Ride and the municipal grant program for out-of-region rides, they are now able to push out the medical rides and have more availability for social wellness trips. B. Derring explained that in the Beckish Sr. Center December and January newsletter they will advertise the wellness trips. S. Everett MOVED to Approve the additional funds of \$16,000 from Contingency to the Senior Van Transportation budget. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

6.2 **Discussion for Additional Appropriation of \$25,000 for Tree Removal from the General Fund and to Set a Town Meeting.** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Additional Appropriation from the General fund of \$25,000 for Tree Removal and to Set a Town Meeting for January 21, 2020 at 6:00 pm. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

7. **COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH:** None.

8. **APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS:**

8.1 **Reappointment of Ronald Wikholm, Thomas Archambault and John Allen to the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission.** S. Everett MOVED to Reappoint Ronald Wikholm, Thomas Archambault, and John Allen to the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

8.2 **Appointment of David Bull to Szegda Farm Management Committee.** S. Everett MOVED to Accept the Appointment of David Bull to Szegda Farm Management Committee. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

8.3 **Resignation of Todd Sheppard from FiPAC.** S. Everett MOVED to Accept the Resignation of Todd Sheppard from FiPAC. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

9. **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

9.1 **Solar Analysis.** M. Walter will explain in further detail at the next BOS meeting the results of the analysis for the solar arrays.

9.2 **Vacancy in Planning & Zoning Commission.** M. Walter explained that we have several vacancies in our boards and commissions. We have been posting the vacancies in the monthly newsletter.

9.3 **Vacancies for Alternates in: Planning & Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission.**

10. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

11. **BUDGET:**

11.1 **Transfers:** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Transfer of \$500.00 from Legal Notice to Professional Dues that encompassed the cost of employment advertisements. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Transfer of \$16,000 from Contingency to Van Services Salaries. MOTION CARRIED. 5.0.

S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Transfer of \$25,000 from the General Fund to Hazardous Tree Removal. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

11.2 **Refunds:** L. Napolitano MOVED to Approve Refunds totaling \$227.93. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

12. **APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS:** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Payment of Bills Totaling \$101,734.13 consisting of 2019-2020 Emergency, 2019-2020 Regular, Credit Card and Paychex. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

13. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS;** J. Viens 132 Rte. 66 stated his concern about information getting out to citizens ahead of time before Town meetings and anything to do with policy should be given more time to be addressed.

14. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: W. O'Brien stated that he would like the BOS to explore hiring a part-time social worker and that we this should be put on the next agenda for January 7th.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Real estate per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(D); Pending Litigation per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(B); Personnel per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(A). S. Everett MOVED to enter into Executive Session at 6:58pm and invited Mark Walter, Town Administrator and Carol Price, Tax Assessor. S. Everett MOVED to come out of Executive Session at 8:04 pm.

15.1 Tax Delinquency. No business was voted upon.

16. ADJOURNMENT: S. Everett MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:05pm.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted by Jennifer C. LaVoie

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, November 19, 2019 – 7 pm
Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT**

Members Present: Steven M. Everett, First Selectman; William O'Brien (arrived at 7:03 pm), Selectman; Lisa Napolitano, Selectman; Jeff Viens.

Members Absent: Deputy Selectman, Robert Hellstrom.

Also Present: Town Administrator, Mark Walter.

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. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Agenda for November 19, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 3.0.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - 3.1 **BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for November 12, 2019.** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for November 12, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 3.0. L. Napolitano stated that she would like to add that her point of her comments regarding U.S. Debt and CT's Fiscal Health was that we should be careful when taking grant money from the US Government due to the degree of debt.
4. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** None.
5. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - 5.1 **Dedication Annual Report.** S. Everett MOVED to honor Lou Scotti and dedicate the Annual Report to him. MOTION CARRIED 4.0
 - 5.2 **Continued Discussion on Medical Car.** S. Everett discussed scheduling options for the van that would include medical transportation and wellness trips. He stated that we could try using a new schedule to accommodate the various uses of the van before financing a new car and an additional driver. W. O'Brien stated that the original intention for the van was not for medical transport and he has concerns that there is wear-and-tear on the van with the use of medical rides. W. O'Brien stated that he was not opposed to a temporary fix by adding more hours. He also asked if the town could look into getting funds for the medical car through a grant or a donation/sponsorship by a local car dealership. J. Ortiz stated that if a resident is on Medicaid, they will pay for a cab. She stated that the BOS should be aware of all the options. J. Viens stated he would be in favor of expanding the hours but would be leery about buying another car. S. Everett stated that we have asked B. Derring to look into a Social Worker to help not just the seniors but other residents. L. Napolitano asked if the town has looked into a mobile trailer park for seniors. S. Everett stated that this discussion will continue to the next BOS meeting on December 3, 2019.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

6.1 Approval of Budget Schedule for FY 2020-21. S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Budget Schedule for FY 2020-21. MOTION CARRIED 4.0.

6.2 Set and Discuss Tri-Board Meeting on 12/18/19 at 7:00 pm.

6.3 Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance 23-1, Art. III, Justice of the Peace.

6.4 Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance 4-1, Art. II, Canvassers.

6.5 Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance 15-1, Art. I, Abandoned Refrigerators.

6.6 Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance 9-1, Art. I, Library Planning Commission.

S. Everett MOVED to Repeal Ordinance 23-1, 4-1, 15-1 and 9-1. MOTION CARRIED 4.0.

6.7 Signage at Rec Park, Transfer Station and Roadway Signage. S. Everett stated that the DPW Director and Rec Director have asked for permission to place signage at Rec. Park stating that there are to be no pets allowed on athletic fields.

S. Everett stated that fines will be levied against the town if we don't comply with recycling mandates. To help residents with what's recyclable and where it should go at the Transfer Station, we will be putting up more signage at the Transfer Station to help residents. S. Everett stated on Macht Rd. there is a problem with speeding and people using the road as a thru-way to the Transfer Station. He said that we are looking into different options for signage to help with this problem. S. Everett stated we are also looking at installing larger stop signs at 66 and 87 and at other major intersections. S. Everett MOVED to add signage at Rec Park, "No Animals Allowed on Athletic Fields." MOTION CARRIED 4.0.

7. COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH:

7.1 Application for Construction of a Structure on or Over Columbia Lake: Henry Beck, 41 Sleepy Hollow Road. W. O'Brien MOVED to Approve the application as set forth by the LMAC Committee with the listed conditions. MOTION CARRIED 4.0.

7.2 Distribute Overview of Changes Recommended for Standard Guidelines for Construction and Maintenance of Structures and Shoreline on Columbia Lake. S. Everett stated that there is a 2-page summary of the changes to the standard guidelines as well as the completed guidelines with the changes. S. Everett asked that the BOS take this information and read through it. L. Napolitano asked how the people who will be most affected be made aware of the changes. J. Viens stated that these are guidelines and that these guidelines can be changed. W. O'Brien stated that most importantly it should be fair, and he felt that it would be a good idea to have a Public Hearing. S. Everett stated that a continued discussion will be at the next BOS meeting on December 3rd

and the BOS will decide next steps. Mary Roickle of 34 Erdoni Rd. stated that the Columbia Lake Association (CLA) Board has reviewed the changes and have blessed the guidelines. She stated that there will be occasional issues and the Board would take into consideration those issues. She stated that we don't want to see the lake shrink by adding more buoys. She also stated that CLA is recommending no additional buoys and that in the guidelines there are no enforcement clauses.

8. APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS:

8.1 Resignation of Gary King from the Szegda Farm Management Committee. J. Viens MOVED to Accept the Resignation of Gary King from the Szegda Farm Management Committee. MOTION CARRIED 4.0.

8.2 Appointment for Antonio Tigeleiro to the Recreation Commission. S. Everett MOVED to Appoint Antonio Tigeleiro to the Town Recreation Commission. MOTION CARRIED 4.0.

9. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

9.1 CIRMA Update. M. Walter stated that CIRMA has had an incredible financial year. Net earned Premium is at \$79.1M, down 6%; Investment Income is at \$11.2M, up 10%; Total Revenue is at \$89.8M, a decrease of 4.5%; Loss and Expense is at \$44.6M, a decrease of 22%; Net Income is at \$35.8M, up 30%; Total Assets is at \$402M, and has grown by \$8.2M from prior year; Members' Equity is at \$177M up \$88.4M over the last 5 years; and Members' Equity Distribution is at \$5M, nearly \$30M over the last 9 years. M. Walter stated that we have received a member equity distribution for the 9th year. M. Walter said that he attended a recent safety meeting and that CIRMA is analyzing safety in all aspects of the town. He stated that cybercrimes are up and that the employees will be going to training. He said that we are having Novus Insight; our IT Consultant go over our IT security. CIRMA is at 98% retention.

M. Walter stated that at a recent CCM meeting the biggest problem that the State currently has is unfunded pensions.

M. Walter stated that the Trust for Public Land (TPL) has been approved for the Community Match Fund program through Sustainable CT. The Community Match Fund is a new program that provides matching funds to support sustainability projects in Sustainable CT-registered towns. TPL is leading the efforts to expand Mono Pond State Park. TPL is looking for funding to cover the costs of surveys, appraisals, environmental, and title & closing costs for the 99-acre property purchase.

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

10.1 CT State Police Monthly Report for October 2019.

11. BUDGET:

11.1 Transfers: None

11.2 Refunds: None

12. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS: S. Everett MOVED to Approve payment of bills totaling \$64,637.01, consisting of 2019/2020 Emergency, 2019/2020 Regular, Bond '01 Interest Payment, Credit Card, Paychex. MOTION CARRIED 4.0.

13. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** None.
14. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** S. Everett welcomed Judy Ortiz to the Board of Selectman. S. Everett expressed his appreciation for J. Vien's guidance on all the boards and that Jeff has always done what's right for the Town of Columbia and will be missed. W. O'Brien expressed his appreciation for J. Viens ability to drill down on issues and he has been very helpful. J. Viens thanked the BOS for having him on the board.
15. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**
 - 15.1 **Real estate per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(D); Pending Litigation per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(B); Personnel per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(A).** None.
16. **ADJOURNMENT:** S. Everett MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:05 pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted by Jennifer C. LaVoie

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, December 3, 2019 – 7 pm
Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT

Members Present: Steven M. Everett, First Selectman; Robert Hellstrom, Deputy Selectman; William O'Brien (arrived at 7:05), Selectman; Lisa Napolitano, Selectman; Judy Ortiz, Selectman.

Also Present: Mike Gnazzo, Chairman of LMAC, Henry M. Beck, Jr., LMAC Member.

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. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Agenda as written for December 3, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 4.0.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - 3.1 **BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for November 19, 2019.** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for November 19, 2019. 2.0.1 with R. Hellstrom abstaining. MOTION DID NOT CARRY.
4. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** None.
5. **OLD BUSINESS:** None.
6. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - 6.1 **Discussion Regarding Veterans Exemption Options.** S. Everett stated that recently the issue of Veterans exemption options was brought to his attention. He explained that there are 3 options that the Town should consider 12-81 h, 12-81 f and 12-81ii.

He explained Section 1281-h is an exemption to remove the total assessment on a disabled veterans motor vehicle that is specially equipped for someone with disabilities. S. Everett said that we currently have an exemption on personal property taxation on any motor vehicle specially equipped for a person with a disability, so the new ordinance would just have a change in wording to include disabled veterans.

S. Everett explained that Section 12-81f allows towns to offer a local exemption of up to \$25,000. There are maximum income limits of \$43,000 if married and \$35,300 if unmarried. We currently allow an exemption of \$6,000.

S. Everett explained that Section 12-12-81ii is an option to provide exemption for a parent or surviving spouse of person killed in action while performing active military duty.

J. Ortiz asked about Section 12-81j that provides exemption for veterans not eligible for certain other exemptions and what else would that offer? S. Everett stated that the Veterans office determines this.

S. Everett stated that he would do some more research on 12-81g(b) that offers 3x the current veteran's exemption for 100% disabled. J. Ortiz agreed we should look into this.

L. Napolitano asked to look at the exemptions some more.

S. Everett stated we will put this on the agenda at the next meeting to discuss and agree on amounts to offer, any changes, and the course of action.

6.2 Discussion Regarding Transfer Station hours. S. Everett stated that this discussion is informational. S. Everett said that he has spent some time at the transfer station and did some fact finding. He said that the Town may want to adjust the hours on Wednesday either an hour earlier or an hour later. He added that if we extend an hour later this may cause safety issues since it will be dark during the winter. S. Everett said in the next budget we would like to add a third person on Saturday. R. Hellstrom suggested the Town could do summer hours and winter hours.

6.3 Letter of Support for the formation of the CRCOG Economic Development District. S. Everett MOVED to Approve a letter of support from the Town of Columbia for the formation of the CRCOG Economic Development District. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

6.4 2020 Municipal Holiday Schedule. S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Municipal Holiday Schedule as written for 2020. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

7. COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH:

7.1 Standard Guidelines for Construction and Maintenance of Structures and Shoreline on Columbia Lake. S. Everett asked if the watercraft covering is part of the dock structure. Henry Beck, 41 Sleepy Hollow Rd. stated that is correct; the watercraft covering, or lift must be part of a dock.

S. Everett asked if the guidelines could include the definition of "grandfathered". H. Beck said yes, they could make that change.

S. Everett asked if the language in Section II-q could be changed from "shall join" to "must join"? H. Beck said we can change it to "must join."

S. Everett asked for clarification on the Town's obligation to a right-of-way owner regarding docks. H. Beck stated that the owner of the land can put in an application for a dock and agree to let everyone use it, but the right-of-way owners can not apply on their own. He added that the right of way person has the right to go back and forth to the lake to launch a boat, or swim but not to moor a boat.

Mike Gnazzo, Chairman of LMAC stated that any agreement between the right-of-way owner and the owner of the dock would be informal, none of this would bear on any formal agreement.

S. Everett asked about adding under the Special Conditions section of the guidelines that blowing leaves into the lake is prohibited. H. Beck stated that it would have to be a Town ordinance and added this does not have to do with construction on the lake.

S. Everett asked under the section on docks in the second to last line in the paragraph shouldn't it spell out "twenty-five" instead of "twenty"? H. Beck said he will clarify that.

S. Everett read Section 4 - Watercraft Coverings and Watercraft Lift Structures and asked for clarification. "There will be a maximum of one watercraft covering and one watercraft lift structure per lake front property; provided, however, that a conforming watercraft lift under a conforming watercraft covering will be counted only once. For each permitted watercraft covering or watercraft lift, the allowed capacity per structure is one watercraft". H. Beck stated that you could have one cover and lift. This does not allow you to have two.

S. Everett stated then you could have two lifts with one cover covering them on the same dock.

S. Everett asked about the 100 ft mean water line from the shore and do you have to stay outside that or at no wake speed. H. Beck stated this is a Town ordinance and has been enforced differently recently. He said that motorboats inside the 100 ft go in perpendicular for purpose of docking. He said that fisherman do that now and it has been condoned. He explained that motorboat operation is within 100ft to make it safe for swimmers. That is also why Lake Patrol has the swimmers within that safety zone.

Karl Then of Woodland Terrace stated that jet skiers also come in perpendicular and that the State regulates the water allowing steering speed within 100ft. S. Everett stated he will take a look at this.

S. Everett asked if we have towers on rafts? H. Beck stated that some are grandfathered. S. Everett asked who enforces this. H. Beck stated that this is usually brought up by Lake Patrol then to BOS. H. Beck stated that there may be 5 rafts that have towers on them. S. Everett stated we should get an accurate count. H. Beck stated we will get an accurate account.

S. Everett asked about rafts having some sort of identification marking them and is this new. H. Beck said that in the past rafts had registration numbers assigned to them and currently he thinks there are 5 on the lake that have numbers assigned to them. He said the purpose of identifying the raft is so if it gets loose from its mooring the owner can be identified.

S. Everett asked about Section 7 (b) in the guidelines that state "Watercraft coverings, watercraft lifts and rafts must be located so that all parts thereof are at least 15' from abutting property boundaries, including the imaginary extensions of those property boundaries over water." M. Gnazzo stated these are guidelines are at most practical and balance the needs of property owners and geography of property lines.

S. Everett asked if we allow buoys 100ft off the property owners line. H. Beck said this is an informal practice to mark 100ft. He said that there is a Town ordinance that the town can do this. There are 6 or 8 places around the lake that can have a Town buoy. It is not regulated by these regulations now and no one can have a grandfathered buoy.

S. Everett stated we have some changes to make to the guidelines before bringing this to a Public Hearing. He said he felt it is important that everyone in Town should be notified about what is happening to the lake.

H. Beck asked if we can limit it to the topics on the principal changes. Particularly respect to watercraft lifts, regards allowing electricity and so forth. There are few things here that are substantive in nature.

M. Gnazzo stated if we open this up, this will not go well. W. O'Brien stated he appreciates all the time LMAC has put into this, but he expressed he wants to put it out to the Town.

W. O'Brien MOVED to schedule a Public Hearing on Standard Guidelines for Construction and Maintenance of Structures and Shoreline on Columbia Lake on Tuesday April 15, 2020. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

8. APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS:

8.1 Resignation of Brian Pedersen from Columbia Recreation

Commission. S. Everett MOVED to Accept the Resignation of Brian Pedersen from Columbia Recreation Commission. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

8.2 Appointment of Brian Pedersen to FiPAC. Tom Currier, Chair of the Democratic Town Committee provided a letter of recommendation for Brian Pederson to serve on FiPAC. S. Everett MOVED to Appoint Brian Pedersen to FiPAC. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

9. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: None.

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

10.1 Connecticut Water Donation to Town of Columbia Social Services Account.

11. BUDGET:

11.1 Transfers: None.

11.2 Refunds: None.

12. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS: S. Everett MOVED to Approve payment of bills totaling \$39,623.93 as listed here. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

13. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS: None.

14. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: L. Napolitano stated that her daughter came home last night after midnight. and there was no plow on the Town roads. Is that standard? R. Hellstrom asked what is DPW's policy.

S. Everett stated that Mark Walter had a meeting with the department heads from Finance, DPW and Parks and Recreation on what to expect for the coming budget year.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

15.1 Real estate per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(D); Pending Litigation per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(B); Personnel per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(A);

16. ADJOURNMENT: W. O'Brien MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:32 pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



TOWN OF COLUMBIA

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE
323 Jonathan Trumbull Highway
Columbia, Connecticut 06237

To: Steven Everett
Selectman
From: Mary Lavalley,
Assessor
Date: October 24, 2019

Subject: Veteran exemption options

The Town of Columbia is currently not offering 12-81g(b), 12-81h, 12-81ii, 12-81ji, or 12-81(21)(c).

I emailed all the surrounding Towns of Andover, Coventry, Hebron, Lebanon and Windham to ask if they offer anything more than we do.

Andover offers 12-81h which is an exemption to remove totally the assessment on a disabled veterans motor vehicle that is specially equipped for someone with disabilities. There are 45 Towns currently offering this.

Coventry offers 12-81(21)(c) This exemption deals with special housing under Title 38. This allows for a total exemption for residences with respect to special housing under title 38 United States Code. There are currently 25 Towns offering this.

Hebron offers 12-81f for the amount of 20,000. There are 93 Towns offering this.

Lebanon currently offers the same veterans' exemptions that we do.

Windham currently offers the same veterans' exemptions that we do.

The other exemptions are as follows:

12-81g(b)- offers 3x the current veteran's exemption for 100% disabled. That equates to \$27,000. There are 21 Towns currently offering this.

12-81ii- provides an exemption for a parent or surviving spouse of a person killed in action. Similar in requirements for 12-81f in that the Town can offer up to \$25,000 and it has the same income requirements. There are currently 20 Towns offering this.

12-81ji- offers exemption to provide exemption for veterans not eligible for certain other exemptions. Currently there are no Towns are offering this.



TOWN OF COLUMBIA

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE
323 Jonathan Trumbull Highway
Columbia, Connecticut 06237

To: Steven Everett
Selectman
From: Mary Lavalley,
Assessor
Date: November 19, 2019

Subject: Veteran income based additional exemption

12-81f. This exemption allows towns to offer a local exemption of up to 25,000. There are maximum income limits of \$43,000 if married and \$35,300 if unmarried. We currently give these folks 6,000 off their assessment. There are 93 towns out of 169 offering this exemption. For example, nearby Hebron and East Hampton offer 20,000 in additional exemption off the assessment.

- **We had 23 veterans apply for additional veterans for the 2017 GL**
- **We had 27 veterans apply on the 2018 GL.**
- **Applicants apply for this exemption every other year.**

Using the 50 people who are currently are in the system multiplied by 20,000 which equals 1,000,000 in total exemption. This equates to \$29,330 in total tax revenue loss for all the applicants in the program. However, that \$29,330 would be lost within a two-year period because some file in an odd year and others in an even year depending on the year they first applied.

For example, if we had this program in 2017, then the 23 veterans that applied that year multiplied by 20,000 would be a revenue loss of \$13,491.80. In 2018 it would have been 27 multiplied by 20,000 which equates to \$15,838.20.

Additional Exemption for Veterans

(in accordance with Public Act 16-191)

(Pursuant to Section 12-81f of CGS under local ordinance Title X Sec. E.)

- 1. Any Veteran entitled to an exemption from property tax in accordance with subdivision (19) of section 12-81 of the Connecticut General Statutes shall be entitled to an additional exemption applicable to the assessed value of property up to the amount of twenty thousand dollars, provided such Veterans' qualifying income does not exceed the applicable maximum amount as provided under 12-81l.**
- 2. Any Veterans' surviving spouse entitled to an exemption from property tax in accordance with subdivision (22) of section 12-81 shall be entitled to an additional exemption applicable to the assessed value of property up to the amount of twenty thousand dollars, provided such surviving spouses' qualifying income does not exceed the applicable maximum amount as provided under 12-81l.**
- 3. Any such Veteran or spouse submitting a claim for such additional exemption shall be required to file an application on a form prepared for such purpose by the Assessor, not later than the assessment date with respect to which such additional exemption is claimed.**

Each such application shall include a copy of such Veterans' or spouses' federal income tax return, or in the event such a return is not filed such evidence related to income as may be required by the Assessor, for the tax year of such veteran or spouse ending immediately prior to the assessment date with respect to which such additional exemption is claimed.

Presented: Town Meeting: Month/Day/Year

Adopted: Month/Day/Year

Published: Month/Day/Year

Effective Date: Month/Day/Year

ORDINANCE FOR TAX EXEMPTION ON MOTOR VEHICLES EQUIPPED FOR DISABLED VETERANS

(in accordance with CGS 12-81h)

Section 1: Upon the Assessor's determination of adequate proof, there shall be exempt from personal property taxation any motor vehicle specially equipped for disabled veterans.

SECTION 2: Any person seeking an exemption as provided under this ordinance shall be required to file an application, on a form prepared for such purpose by the Assessor and approved of by the Board of Selectmen, not later than the date of the assessment list with respect to which such exemption is claimed.

Presented: Town Meeting: Date

Adopted: Date

Published: Date

Effective Dates:Date

Office of The Assessor
323 RT 87, Columbia, CT 06237
Phone: 860-228-9555 Fax: 860-228-235
mlavallee@columbiact.org

APPLICATION FOR TAX EXEMPTION FOR SPECIALLY EQUIPED MOTOR VEHICLES FOR DISABLED VETERANS
CGS 12-81h **2019 GRAND LIST**

LAST NAME _____ **FIRST NAME** _____

ADDRESS _____

1. Description of vehicle for which exemption is requested.

MAKE **MODEL** **YEAR** **REG.NO.** **V.I.N.**

2. Is this vehicle used exclusively for or by the disabled veteran applying for exemption?

Yes **No**

4. Describe any modifications or special equipment (i.e. lifts, hand controls, etc.) which were required to accommodate the incapacitated persons.

5. Estimate the cost of these modifications. \$ _____

6. APPLICANT'S AFFIDAVIT

The applicant herein claims a tax exemption under provisions of the State General Statutes and the Town ordinance and certifies that the above statements are true and complete.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: _____

DATE SIGNED: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

ASSESSOR'S AFFIDAVIT

Approved _____ **Exemption Amount Approved** _____

Not Approved _____

SIGNATURE OF ASSESSOR
OR MEMBER OF ASSESSOR'S STAFF _____ **DATE** _____

Town Administrator

From: John Allen <mjallen33@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 8:40 AM
To: Town Administrator
Subject: Fw: Message From John

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Tom Archambault <thomasarchambault@att.net>
To: John Allen <mjallen33@att.net>
Cc: "jvalente@columbiact.org" <jvalente@columbiact.org>; Ronald Wikholm <ron.wikholm@uconn.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 08:52:54 PM EST
Subject: Re: Message From John

Yes I can stay on

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 26, 2019, at 2:56 PM, John Allen <mjallen33@att.net> wrote:

Hi Ron and Tom,

I received a call from Mark Walters Re/ our term on the IWWC board expires on Dec.2. I intend to stay on and I hope you both are able to do so too. I have to write Mark a letter of our intentions before the Selectman's meeting on Dec 2. Please let me know via EMAIL.

Thanks,
John Allen

Town Administrator

From: John Allen <mjallen33@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 8:36 AM
To: Town Administrator; John Valente
Subject: Message From John Allen

Hi Mark,

Ron Wikholm, Tom Archambault and I would like to remain on the IWWC committee for another term. I will send you my EMAIL asking them their intentions and their positive response.

Best Regards,

John Allen

Jennifer LaVoie

From: John Allen <mjallen33@att.net>
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2019 9:43 AM
To: Jennifer LaVoie
Subject: Fw: Message From John

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Jen,
Here is Ron's
John

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Wikholm, Ronald <ron.wikholm@uconn.edu>
To: John Allen <mjallen33@att.net>; jvalente@columbiact.org <jvalente@columbiact.org>; thomasarchambault@att.net <thomasarchambault@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 04:29:17 PM EST
Subject: Re: Message From John

I'm ready to serve another term, John.

Ron

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: John Allen <mjallen33@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2019 2:56:34 PM
To: jvalente@columbiact.org <jvalente@columbiact.org>; thomasarchambault@att.net <thomasarchambault@att.net>; Wikholm, Ronald <ron.wikholm@uconn.edu>
Subject: Message From John

Hi Ron and Tom,

I received a call from Mark Walters Re/ our term on the IWWC board expires on Dec.2. I intend to stay on and I hope you both are able to do so too. I have to write Mark a letter of our intentions before the Selectman's meeting on Dec 2. Please let me know via EMAIL.

Thanks,
John Allen

Jennifer LaVoie

From: Steven Everett
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2019 12:38 PM
To: Town Administrator
Subject: Fw: FIPAC Resignation

From: Shepard, Todd <TShepard@BaystateFinancial.com>
Sent: Friday, December 13, 2019 9:14 AM
To: Steven Everett
Subject: FIPAC Resignation

Dear Steve,

Please consider this email my resignation from the Financial Planning and Allocation Commission effective immediately. I have enjoyed my time on the Board and respect its members and the commitment necessary to participate in the budget process. My family and business demands unfortunately are a competing factor that make this a prudent decision at this time.

Best Regards,

Todd Shepard

This e-mail transmission may contain information that is proprietary, privileged and/or confidential and is intended exclusively for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. Any use, copying, retention or disclosure by any person other than the intended recipient or the intended recipient's designees is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient or their designee, please notify the sender immediately by return e-mail and delete all copies.

Registered Representative of and securities offered through MML Investors Services, LLC, Member SIPC and a MassMutual subsidiary. Transactions may not be accepted by e-mail, fax, or voicemail

Solar Analysis – December 2019

The graph below includes the lifetime kWh production from the arrays, including Horace Porter School. The calculations are based on a using a blended rate of \$.115 for the Eversource equivalent column.

Location	Lifetime kWh Production	Equivalent Eversource Offset Cost	Cost of Solar	Total Savings
Town Hall	83,708	\$9,626.42	\$0.00	\$9,626.42
Fire Station	55,556	\$6,388.94	\$0.00	\$6,388.94
Town Garage	36,917	\$4,245.46	\$0.00	\$4,245.46
Transfer Station	67,557	\$7,769.06	\$0.00	\$7,769.06
Fire Department	82,164	\$9,448.86	\$0.00	\$9,448.86
Porter School	223,500	\$25,702.50	\$11,622.00	\$14,080.50
Total				\$51,559.23

REQUEST FOR ABATEMENT OR REFUND OF PROPERTY TAXES

Sec. 12-81(20), Sec. 12-124, 12-125, 12-126, 12-127, 12-127a, 12-128, 12-129 Rev. as Amended
 This is to certify that HYUNDAI LEASE TITLING TRUST

has presented satisfactory proof that he/she is entitled to an exemption on the assessment list of 10/01/2018

- Sec. 12-81 (20) Servicemen Having Disability Rating.
- Sec. 12-124 Abatement to poor.
- Sec. 12-125 Abatement of Taxes of Corporations.
- Sec. 12-126 Tangible Personal Property Assessed in more than one Municipality.
- Sec. 12-127 Abatement or Refund to Blind Persons.
- Sec. 12-127A Abatement of Taxes on Structures of Historical or Architectural Merit.
- Sec. 12-128 Refund of Taxes Erroneously Collected from Veterans and Relatives.
- Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments.

HYUNDAI LEASE TITLING TRUST
 PO BOX 4747
 OAK BROOK, IL 60522-4747

2018-03-0052783
 52783

/5XYPGDA33GG173817



2018030052783

To **CAROL W. PRICE CCMC** Collector of **TOWN OF COLUMBIA** State of Connecticut.

I hereby apply for refund* of such part of my tax as shall represent: *Tax paid in full*
 The ~~service exemption~~ or Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments. *Sold 2016 Kia Sorento*
 (State reason -- Cross out service exemption if it does not apply) *during the tax year*

		Tax	Interest	Lien	Fee	Total	Overpaid Tax
Total Due	07/01/2019	303.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	303.21	
Total Paid	07/22/2019	363.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	363.99	-60.78 ***
Adjusted Refund		-60.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.78	

PLEASE READ, SIGN, AND DATE BELOW:

I am entitled to this refund because I made the payments from funds under my control, and no other party will be requesting this refund. I understand that false or deliberately misleading statements subject me to penalties for perjury and/or for obtaining money under false pretenses.

x Carole Whithouse
 Print Name

x [Signature] x 12/3/19
 Signature of Taxpayer Date

COLLECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNING BODY

To the First Selectman, or _____
 It is recommended that refund* of property taxes and interest in the amount of 60.78
 be made to the above-named taxpayer in accordance with the provisions of Section (s):

Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments.

DATED AT TOWN OF COLUMBIA, CONNECTICUT THIS 25 DAY OF November 2019

[Signature]
 CAROL W. PRICE CCMC
 (860) 228-0230

ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNING BODY

The First Selectman, as authorized by the Board of Selectman, or _____
 approved on the _____ day of _____ 20____. It was voted to refund
 Property Taxes and Interest amounting to \$ _____ to _____.

First Selectman

Other Governing Body

Mail To : CAROL W. PRICE CCMC
 TOWN OF COLUMBIA
 323 ROUTE 87
 COLUMBIA, CT 06237-1156

Solar Analysis – December 2019

The graph below includes the lifetime kWh production from the arrays, including Horace Porter School. The calculations are based on a using a blended rate of \$.115 for the Eversource equivalent column.

Location	Lifetime kWh Production	Equivalent Eversource Offset Cost	Cost of Solar	Total Savings
Town Hall	83,708	\$9,626.42	\$0.00	\$9,626.42
Fire Station	55,556	\$6,388.94	\$0.00	\$6,388.94
Town Garage	36,917	\$4,245.46	\$0.00	\$4,245.46
Transfer Station	67,557	\$7,769.06	\$0.00	\$7,769.06
Fire Department	82,164	\$9,448.86	\$0.00	\$9,448.86
Porter School	223,500	\$25,702.50	\$11,622.00	\$14,080.50
Total				\$51,559.23