

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, February 21, 2017 – 7 pm
Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT**

Members Present: First Selectman Carmen Vance; Deputy Selectman Steven Everett; Selectman William O'Brien; Selectman Robert Hellstrom; Selectman Robert Bogue.

Also Present: Town Administrator Mark Walter; Finance Director Beverly Ciurylo; Library Director Su Epstein; Library Board Chairman Hank Stockmal; Library Board Treasurer Denise Egan; Shirley King; Jennifer Bright; Wayne Diedrich; Ann Dunnack.

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

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **MINUTES: BOS Regular Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2017 and BOS Special Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2017** R. Bogue MOVED to approve the BOS Regular Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2017. MOTION CARRIED 5:0. C. Vance MOVED to approve the BOS Special Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2017. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.
3. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** None.

4. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- 4.1 **Budget workshop – Library:** M. Walter stated that the Library is requesting an overall increase of 5% for FY 2017-18. D. Egan explained that the majority of the 5% increase is due to a proposed 3% wage increase for staff, healthcare costs, and an anticipated increase in electricity/utilities as a result of the new addition. S. Epstein explained that three library employees are eligible for health care however, only two of the three receive it. She explained that Library staff contributes a higher amount to healthcare than town employees. D. Egan stated that last year staff paid 25% of healthcare and this year they are proposing to reduce that to 20%. M. Walter asked if they feel that a reduction from 5% is possible if it must be done. D. Egan stated that she feels that the library and the town can work on reducing the 5% increase request if need be. C. Vance asked if changing the library's operating hours would help with savings. S. Epstein stated that a reduction in hours would create savings. Discussion followed. S. Everett asked whether or not solar panels have been considered for the Library. M. Walter said not at this time. C. Vance stated that if the BOS decides to make any changes to the proposed Library budget, they will contract them to inform them before the budget is sent to FiPAC.

M. Walter discussed three possible mill rate scenarios with the BOS. He explained that he BOS must make further cuts in the operating budget, or push out capital projects in order to reduce the mill rate at this time. M. Walter explained that borrowing from the Undesignated Fund Balance (UFB) is also option to help offset a mill rate increase. B. Ciurylo stated that one mill is approximately \$472,000. Currently, there is approximately 3.2 million in the UFB. C. Vance feels that the Capital Budget should be looked at and suggested changes should be recommended to FiPAC. R. Bogue feels that the BOS should leave the proposed budget as is until further information is received from the state. Discussion followed.

S. Everett recommended moving some large capital projects around to help even out annual expenditures.

C. Vance suggested checking to see whether or not one of the Fire Engines can be pushed back. M. Walter will talk to Chief Starkel about this possibility.

C. Vance spoke to Facilities Manager Bud Meyers concerning Town Hall projects. He feels that the heating/cooling system can be pushed out but the vinyl siding on Town Hall must be done in FY 2017-18.

C. Vance stated that she spoke to Superintendent Lol Fearon regarding the proposed FY 17-18 BOE capital projects. He said that it would be possible to hold off on several proposed items.

C. Vance mentioned it may be possible to eliminate the proposed beach project for this FY 2017-18.

C. Vance, M. Walter and B. Ciurylo will take all the nights discussion, re-look the budget, and prepare a proposal for the meeting n March 1, 2017. Items needing feedback will be emailed to the BOS during the process.

- 5. **NEW BUSINESS:** None.
- 6. **COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH:** None.
- 7. **APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS:** None.
- 8. **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** None.
- 9. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

10. BUDGET:

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

AMOUNT / TRANSFER #	FROM A/C #, DESCRIPTION	TO A/C#, DESCRIPTION
\$40 / 2017-029	10-4570-300, Land Use General Supplies	10-4570-770, Land Use Transportation
\$186 / 2017-030	10-4670-300, Rec General Supplies	10-4670-120, Rec Telephone
\$6 / 2017-031	10-4345-770, Emergency Management Transportation	10-4345-300, Emergency Management General Supplies
\$3,970 / 2017-032	10-4112-040, Admin Group Insurance	10-4112-022, Administration Unemployment

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

10.2 Refunds: S. Everett MOVED to approve the following refunds:

AMOUNT	FROM	TO
\$1,721.86	Town of Columbia	Corelogic on behalf of Jason Chilly
\$100	Town of Columbia	Nancy and Jean Purvis, Life Use
\$4,327.29	Town of Columbia	Corelogin on behalf of Key Bank on behalf of Jon and Darra Stephens
\$1,572.47	Town of Columbia	Corelogic on behalf of Nationstar Mortgage LLC on behalf of Carmen Sullivan
\$16.27	Town of Columbia	Lauren LeBlanc
\$42.34	Town of Columbia	Richard Paro

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

11. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS: C. Vance MOVED to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$26,269.42 including emergency bills, regular bills, credit cards and paychex. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: S. Everett asked what the outcome was with the individuals who vandalized the beach area and Marine Patrol boat. M. Walter will speak to Trooper DeCarli about this.

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 Statutes Section 1-200(6)(A); C.

Vance MOVED to enter into executive session at 8:10 pm with M. Walter and B. Ciurylo present. B. Ciurylo exited executive session at 8:30 pm. Executive session ended at 8:40 pm.

14. ADJOURNMENT: C. Vance MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:55 pm. and the MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted by Kimberly A. Bona.