

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, June 18, 2019 – 7 pm
Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT**

Members Present: First Selectman, Steven M. Everett; Deputy Selectman, Robert Hellstrom; Selectman, Lisa Napolitano; Selectman, William O'Brien; Selectman, Jeff Viens.

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 added to the Agenda under New Business 5.1- Waive Permit Fees for Crumbling Foundations. S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Agenda as revised for June 18, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - 3.1 **Approval of BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for June 4, 2019.** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for June 4, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
4. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - 4.1 **Town Administrator's authorization to sign all proposals and agreements for Town's retirement plan services.** S. Everett MOVED to approve Steven Everett, First Selectman or Mark Walter, Town Administrator in Steven Everett's absence be able to sign all proposals and agreements with MML Investor Services, LLC and Great-West Financial and Empower Retirement regarding the transfer of the town's retirement plan services to Empower Retirement. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
 - 4.2 **Security Project at Horace W. Porter School.** S. Everett explained that part of the school's 19/20 budget included an anticipated Security Grant for \$57,000. The school did not receive the grant. Maria Geryk, Superintendent and BOE Chair, Christopher Lent are seeking guidance from the BOS regarding how best to proceed with these necessary safety upgrades. S. Everett stated that he did a walk through to look at the security cameras and noted that the cameras are old or broken and will need to be replaced. L. Napolitano asked if there was anything that will not be funded in this round. S. Everett explained that two items from the security upgrade had already been purchased, which included the Repeater for the radio communication and the visitor management system. S. Everett explained that the \$16,000 for the upgrade to the classroom phone systems will not be spent this year. He explained that the RFP for the security cameras will have a no guarantee work bid to see how much it will actually cost before any work is done and will include a request from the bidding firms for alternative options which may change the overall cost of the project. J. Viens stated he would like to see the purchase

agreements. W. O'Brien asked why this is being brought to the BOS if it has already approved in the budget from the BOE and FiPAC. S. Everett explained that M. Geryk wanted to be transparent about the grant and was looking for guidance on how best to proceed. The consensus was that the BOE is in charge of their budget and that they should proceed as they see best.

4.3 Update on Road at Rec Park. S. Everett stated that Eversource has asked us to keep a certain distance from the powerline which will result in having to cut off part of the proposed road in Rec Park. This will mean that we will have to move the basketball court.

4.4 Review and act upon the agreement for sale and purchase of real estate regarding the strip of land owned by the Town that extends from the present cul de sac at the end of Tunxis Dr. W. O'Brien MOVED to authorize the First Selectman to sign the sale and purchase agreement in 4.4 and set a Town Meeting for July 16, 2019 at 7:00 pm. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

RESOLVED: That the Town enter into the Agreement for Sale and Purchase of Real Estate reviewed by the Selectman at this meeting whereby the Town will sell the strip of land it owns at the cul-de-sac end of Tunxis Drive to Alison and Glen Nicholes, which Agreement was prepared by Town Council and previously reviewed and signed by the Nicholes; and that the First Selectman is hereby authorized to date such Agreement today, sign it on behalf of the Town and deliver a copy to the Nicholes.

RESOLVED: That the Town Administrator is requested and authorized to present the proposed sale of the Town's land at the end of Tunxis Drive in accordance with the Agreement referenced in the prior resolution to the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission for review and appropriate action with a request that the Planning and Zoning Commission do so at its meeting on June 24, 2019.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Selectman call for a Special Town Meeting for 7:00 pm on July 16, 2019 for the purposes of taking action under Town Charter Section 2.4(e) upon the proposed sale of land to the Nicholes referenced in the previous resolutions in accordance with the Legal Notice that has been presented to this meeting for this purpose.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

5.1 Waive Permit Fees for Crumbling Foundations. M. Walter explained that most of the surrounding towns have made these waivers for residents who have had issues with crumbling foundations. S. Everett MOVED to Approve waiving the permit fees that fall within the guidelines within this paragraph. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

Notwithstanding, the Town Administrator is authorized to waive all town fees related to building permits for work on crumbling foundations which, based upon the judgment of the Town Administrator, are casually related to a reaction to Pyrrhotite or related reasons rather than improper workmanship. Said waiver may include fees for electrical, plumbing or similar fees at the discretion of the building official.

Any such waiver shall only apply to work related to the direct replacement of the existing foundation. Upon waiver of any such fee, the Town Administrator shall notify the homeowner in writing that such fee has been waived, including an itemization of all fees waived.

6. COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH:

6.1 DEEP Recommendation to Protect Eaglet. S. Everett explained that we have received a letter from DEEP recommending no fireworks to protect the young eaglet in the nest. He stated that the Town will be sending out a letter from the First Selectman and the DEEP letter to residents around the lake next week.

7. APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS:

7.1 Appointment of Joan G. Levine, Columbia Recreation Area Gate Keeper. S. Everett MOVED to appoint Joan G. Levine, as the Columbia Recreation Area Gate Keeper. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

8. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

8.1 Dam Inspection Report. M. Walter explained this is the latest Dam Inspection Report. We have tried to change the classification of the dam but have been denied, but we will try to appeal.

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

9.1 Monthly State Trooper Report.

10. BUDGET:

10.1 Transfers: S. Everett MOVED to Authorize Transfers \$7,807.00 to the departments listed contained therein.

TRANSFER #/AMOUNT	FROM A/C# DESCRIPTION	TO A/C# DESCRIPTION
2019 #045 / \$3,035.00	10-4113-515 / Contracted Services	10-4113-500 / Professional Tech (\$2,400)
		10-4113-811 / Mach/Equip < \$5,000 (\$635.00)
2019 #046 / \$750.00	10-4410-500 / Professional/Tech	10-4410-300 / Supplies
2019 #047 / \$2,500.00	10-4410-600 / Repairs & Maintenance	10-4410-610 / Bldgs/Grounds Rep/Maint
2019 #048 / \$1,500.00	10-4136-120 / Telephone	10-4610-500 / Professional/Tech
2019 #049 / \$22.00	10-4420-500 / Professional/Tech	10-4420-630 / Rental

MOTION CARRIED 5.0

10.2 Refunds: None.

11. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS: S. Everett MOVED to Authorize the payment of bills consisting of \$169,183.64 for a total payment 18/19 Regular. MOTION CARRIED 5.0. S. Everett MOVED to Authorize the 2018-2019 Emergency, 2018-2019 Regular, Credit Card and Paychex totaling 72,735.02 on the stated attachments. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

12. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** Paul Kubala of 37 Lake Rd. asked if there are any plans to do anything if fireworks are used this year. S. Everett explained that fireworks are illegal and to notify the State Trooper and if he is notified, he will notify the resident that fireworks are illegal.
13. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** None.
14. **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 7:40 pm for real estate with Mark Walter present. MOTION CARRIED 5.0. S. Everett MOVED to end the Executive Session with no action taken at 7:55 pm. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
15. **ADJOURNMENT:** S. Everett MOVED to ADJOURN the meeting at 7:56 pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted by Jennifer C. LaVoie

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, June 4, 2019 – 7 pm
Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT**

Members Present: First Selectman, Steven M. Everett; Deputy Selectman, Robert Hellstrom; Selectman, Lisa Napolitano; Selectman, William O'Brien; Selectman, Jeffrey Viens.

Also Present: Town Administrator, Mark Walter.

CALL TO ORDER: S. Everett called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** S. Everett added the following to the Agenda: Town Administrators Report, 8.4 - Public Informational Meeting for State Project No. 30-97 Hop River State Park Trail; Old Business, 4.3 - Continuation of Public Hearing to adopt new schedule of Zoning Fees Ordinance 22-1 and Zoning Board of Appeals Fees for Application 22-2, and Old Business, 4.4 - Acting Upon Fee Schedule Ordinance per Outcome of 4.2. S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Agenda as revised for June 4, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - 3.1 **Approval of BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for May 21, 2019.** W. O'Brien MOVED to Approve the BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for May 21, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 5.0. J. Viens asked to correct the spelling of his last name.
4. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - 4.1 **Town of Columbia 401(a) & 457(b) Plan Vendor Change.** M. Walter explained that we originally hired Integrity Benefit Partners to look at our retirement plans and put it out to bid. He stated that the BOE has done their due diligence with multiple presentations and at last night's meeting the BOE approved to go forward. M. Walter noted that the Town has done multiple presentations for the Town employee's as well. M. Walter explained that with the BOS acceptance he can move forward with the contracts. M. Walter provided a legal analysis from the BOE attorney, Shipman & Goodwin that confirmed that the review and bidding process followed best practices and due diligence. M. Walter explained that both the Town and the BOE have performed reference checks.

S. Everett MOVED that the BOS find that it is in the best interest of the Town to terminate the services of AXA Advisors, LLC with respect to the Town's 401(a) & 457(b) retirement plans; and that, in conjunction with the Board of Education with respect to the 403(b) Retirement Plan for which the Board of Education is responsible, the Town utilize the Town's and Board of Education's combined market strength to obtain financially beneficial retirement plan services with a combination of providers

consisting of MML Investor Services, LLC and Great-West Financial in accordance with such agreements and other documentation as Town Administrator Mark Walter shall negotiate; (1) with respect to the Town's 401(a) and 457(b) plan in conjunction with the Board of Education's negotiation of similar documentation with respect to its 403(b) plan; (2) with the assistance of William DiCristofaro, as the Town's Financial Advisor, and legal counsel for the Board of Education and/or Town and; (3) for presentation to the Board of Selectman/First Selectman for final review, approval, execution and delivery. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

4.2 **Fee Schedule Ordinance Amendment.** S. Everett stated that in looking at the updated draft ordinance the subdivision fees seem to be in the neighborhood or in parallel with surrounding towns. L. Napolitano stated that she had a problem with the subdivision fee's being excessive when it applies to subdividing property for a family member. Discussion ensued.

4.3 **Continuation of Public Hearing to adopt new schedule of Zoning Fees Ordinance 22-1 and Zoning Board of Appeals Fees for Application 22-2.** S. Everett MOVED to re-open the public fee schedule and changes proposed. S. Everett opened the discussion to the audience. There were no comments from the audience. S. Everett MOVED to close the public hearing. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

4.4 **Acting Upon Fee Schedule Ordinance per Outcome of 4.2.** S. Everett MOVED to adopt the amended and restated Town Ordinance 22-1 entitled "Ordinance for a New Schedule of Zoning Fees", presented at the March 19, 2019 public hearing, excepting that no fee on page one would increase or be added, and to repeal Town Ordinance 22-2 entitled "Zoning Board of Appeals Fees for Application" because it has been superseded by Ordinance 22-1; changes effective July 1, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

5. **NEW BUSINESS:**

5.1 **Discussion of filling the Temporary Position as The Building & Land Use Administrative Assistant.** J. Viens MOVED to authorize Mark Walter, Town Administrator to take steps necessary to fill the position with Terri Lasota on a temporary basis. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

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

7. **APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS:**

7.1 **Resignation of Phil Levine, Gatekeeper at the Columbia Recreation Park.** S. Everett MOVED to Accept the Resignation of Phil Levine as the Gatekeeper at the Columbia Rec Park. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

8. **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

8.1 **Open Space Fundraising for Trust for Public Land.** M. Walter explained that on June 7th at 8:00am the Open Space Committee will discuss and strategize fundraising efforts for the Trust for Public Lands (TPL) to help offset costs incurred for legal, billing and personnel. L. Napolitano and J. Viens stated that they were concerned about what the final outcomes will be in the contract. M. Walter explained that in the contract all assumptions would be included in the contract. A. Dunnack explained that one option may be that the State holds the title, not the Town.

- 8.2 Clarification on Zoning Regulations Language for Prohibited Uses.** M. Walter was asked to report back to the BOS on a question that they had on the language in the zoning regulations pertaining to prohibited uses. He explained that he spoke with the Zoning Enforcement Officer and the Town Planner to get clarification and they explained that the language provides protection for the Town and stated that in essence, the language says that because the Town didn't prohibit it, does not mean it is permitted.
- 8.3 Sustainable CT Trex Bench Community Challenge.** M. Walter stated that we will be participating in the Trex Bench Community Challenge for Sustainable CT. The challenge includes a 6-month collection period to recycle 500 pounds. There will be 5 locations (Transfer Station, Town Hall, Library, and the Sr. Center) for residents to drop off their plastic bags. Trex will then make a park bench out of the bags collected for the Town of Columbia.
- 8.4 Public Informational Meeting for State Project No. 30-97 Hop River State Park Trail.** M. Walter explained that there will be a public informational meeting on the State Project No.30-97 - Hop River State Park Trail in Yeomans Hall held on Tuesday, June 25, 2019. The meeting starts as an open forum at 6:30pm for individual discussion with DOT representatives and a formal presentation at 7:00pm. Preliminary plans will be available for review. The purpose of the project is the creation of a trail section of the larger multi-modal East Coast Greenway Trail System. Department personnel will be available during the meeting to discuss the project. BL Companies would like to know what town officials (and or elected officials) will be attending and if they wish to speak.
- 9. CORRESPONDENCE:**
- 9.1** State Trooper Monthly Report.
- 10. BUDGET:**
- 10.1 Transfers:** None
- 10.2 Refunds:** None
- 11. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS:** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Payment of Bills totaling \$225,091.95 for the payment of bills to 2018-2019 Emergency, 2018-2019 Regular, Bond '01 Principal & Interest, Credit Card, and Paychex. MOTIONS CARRIED 5.0.
- 12. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** A. Dunnack asked if the Hop River Trail project will be utilizing the existing structure. M. Walter explained that the plan includes the construction of a new, prefabricated bridge.
- 13. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** S. Everett stated we had a very nice Memorial Day ceremony with the inclusion of 2 buglers that played echo Taps.
- 14. 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 Statues Section 1-200(6)(A).** S. Everett MOVED to enter into Executive Session at 7:52 pm for pending litigation matters with M. Walter present. MOTION CARRIED 5.0. S. Everett MOVED to end

the Executive Session with no action taken at 8:02 pm. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

- 15. ADJOURNMENT:** S. Everett MOVED to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:03pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted by Jennifer C. LaVoie

Memo

To: Steven Everett, First Selectman

From: Maria Geryk

cc: Brenda Morey
Christopher Lent

Date: 06/11/2019

Re: Security Grant Update

As you are aware, earlier this year we applied for funding through a Security Grant from the State of Connecticut, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. Unfortunately, our request for \$125,509.50 was not funded in this round of applications. The following improvements were requested through our grant application:

- Upgrade interior and exterior cameras to provide coverage. The system would update from analog to an IP system with sixty day storage capacity and greater clarity (\$100,800)
- Installation of a Repeater to ensure radio communication across the building by internal staff and EMS personnel (\$5,963.50)
- Upgrade classroom phone system from analog to IP, which will allow for calls to be directly transferred into classrooms and emergency numbers to be programmed (\$16,910)
- To implement a visitor management system to allow screening for sex offender status, to track and record visitors, and to provide school visitor badges with a picture of the visitor (\$1,836)

While FiPAC supported the entire request of \$125,509.50 through the capital planning process, there was an expectation that a reimbursement in the amount of \$57,370.39 would be received.

Given the situation, I am seeking guidance from the Board of Selectman regarding how best to proceed with these necessary safety upgrades.

341 Milford Street • P.O. Box 1550 • Burlington, CT 06013
Opportunity Employer

www.ct.gov/deep

Affirmative Action/Equal

June 06, 2019

Mark Walter
Town Administrator
Town of Columbia
1832 Rose Lane
Columbia, CT 06237

Re. Recommendations for Bald Eagle Protection and Fireworks

Dear Mr. Walter:

Columbia has been fortunate to be one of the towns our recovering bald eagle population has chosen to nest in. The landowner where the nest is located, many of the local residents, and the Town have all worked together to make the nest successful. One additional step would help to avoid disturbing the active nest on Columbia Lake: We strongly recommend a seasonal restriction on fireworks displays on and near Columbia Lake between February 1 and July 15. The recommended period encompasses the onset of breeding behavior to when any young will have successfully left the nest. Disturbance of active bald eagle nests is prohibited (C.G. S. 26-93 and the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act).

Loud, prolonged, and unpredictable noises like fireworks can cause young to leave the nest before they are able to fly, often leading to the bird's death. To avoid harm to nesting eagles from fireworks, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published guidelines recommending measures including a half mile restrictive buffer. The ultimate intent of these guidelines is to limit harm to eagles. If there is a reason to believe a prescribed buffer will not meet this intent, a larger buffer should be used.

While parts of Columbia Lake fall outside of the half mile buffer, the combination of the shape of the land, openness of the vegetation, and sound-conductive property of water will not minimize noise and light from fireworks. We are aware of two instances last year where the previous eaglet did not tolerate loud noises before and just after it began flying. This behavior is adequate reason to believe that a half mile buffer is insufficient and that the seasonal restriction should encompass the entire lake.

With the exception of sparklers and fountains, fireworks are illegal in Connecticut, and any displays must be permitted by the local fire marshal. As such, we request that you consider these recommendations when issuing those permits. Please be advised that should state permits be required or should state involvement occur in some other fashion, specific restrictions or conditions relating to the species discussed above may apply. In this situation, additional evaluation of the proposal by the DEEP Wildlife Division should be requested.

Sincerely,



Brian Hess
Wildlife Biologist



6/17/19

Dear Columbia Resident,

The Town of Columbia has received the enclosed letter from CTDEEP, Brian Hess, Wildlife Biologist, with his recommendation for the protection of the nesting eagles and the restriction of illegal fireworks on Columbia Lake.

The Board of Selectman has authorized the distribution of this letter to residents around Columbia Lake. We have confirmed that sparklers and fountains that can be purchased legally may be enjoyed at any time. Any other forms of fireworks are illegal in CT.

We wish you a safe and happy 4th of July and would like to thank you for your help in protecting our nesting eagles.

Sincerely,

Steven M. Everett
First Selectman

Enclosures

Steven M. Everett, *First Selectman*

DAM INSPECTION REPORT

COLUMBIA LAKE DAM

CT DAM ID #3001

MAY 16, 2019

INSPECTION by

CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES, LLC

203 BOSTON HILL ROAD

ANDOVER CT 06232



PART I: SUMMARY OF DAM INSPECTION

CIVIL Engineering Services, LLC, conducted an inspection of the Columbia Lake Dam on May 16, 2019. The dam is located just south of CT Route 87 and east of the intersection of Route 87 and Whitney Road in Columbia CT.

Weather on the afternoon of inspection was clear and warm (70°) although it should be noted that recent weather has been very rainy and groundwater elevations are very high.

Columbia Lake Dam was registered with CT DEP on 6/28/91 but no registration number has been assigned. An Emergency Action Plan has been prepared and was last updated May 6, 2017.

Columbia Lake Dam is used to control the elevation of Columbia Lake which is primarily a source of recreation. As such, the lake is lowered during the winter months to protect docks and piers and raised again in each spring. Pool level at the time of inspection was full, and water over the spillway was running at a depth of about four inches (0.33 feet).

Various engineering firms have done hydraulic analysis of the dam and have concluded that the dam will pass a 100-year storm event with more than one foot of freeboard. We are not aware of an existing Stability Analysis for the dam, but a Phase II Engineering Investigation was conducted under the National Dam Inspection Program in 1979. In 2014 the dam underwent significant work to revitalize various components. At that time standard rip-rap was placed along upstream side of dam face and downstream of training wall extensions; grouted standard rip-rap placed between training walls, behind south training wall and south of spillway; several deteriorated concrete wave wall blocks were replaced; concrete block wave wall was extended easterly; a timber wave wall was added to the top of concrete block wave wall; a staff gauge installed; and a clean-out to grade was added to the west end of the existing toe drain.

The overall condition of the Columbia Lake Dam at this time is good. All major components are in good shape, and some ancillary items are relatively new.

A physical inspection of the dam was conducted on May 16, 2019 by Gerald Hardisty, P.E., from Civil Engineering Services, LLC, and George Murphy, Public Works Director, Town of Columbia. Mr. Murphy is the primary operator of the dam although the Town has other personnel assigned as assistant "gatekeepers" in accordance with the Emergency Action Plan. Contact information for Mr. Murphy and the assistant gatekeepers is as follows:

George Murphy, Public Works Director Office: 860 228-4270 Mobile: 860 428-1107

David Vanderbilt, Assistant Gatekeeper Home: 860 228-1771 Mobile: 860 942-1943

Dan O'Neill, Assistant Gatekeeper Mobile: 860 337-0048

PART II: GENERAL DAM INFORMATION

(Information from Columbia Lake Dam EAP 5/3/2017)

Columbia Lake Dam is an earth embankment dam composed of loose silty sand and gravel. It is approximately 300 feet long, 28 feet high, 14 feet wide at its crest and 75 feet wide at its base. The downstream slopes are 2:1 with a rubble wall at the base and rubble near the stone box culvert that runs from the spillway under Route 87. An intake structure with a wheel-operated sluice gate is located towards the east side of the dam and extends out into the lake about 40 feet. The intake structure is east of a pier with nearly vertical stone walls that extends about 55' into the lake. The sluice gate is the primary structure for regulating the elevation of the lake.

The principal (and only) spillway is located at the west end of the dam with an average spillway elevation of 498.6 feet as determined by Nathan L. Jacobsen & Associates, Inc. (Jacobson) and is shown on drawings of the dam produced by Jacobson in 2013.

Dam statistics:

Year Built: 1939 (current dam configuration) Dam Owner: Town of Columbia

Height: 28 feet Dam Operator: Town of Columbia

Drainage Area: 3.1 sq. mi. Lake Surface Area: 276 acres.

Hazard Classification: C Dam Designer: Unknown

Latitude: 41° 43' 07" Longitude: 72° 19' 56" Outflow Location: Northwestern end

Record Water Surface Elevation: 1938; elevation rose to 1'ft below dam crest

History of the Dam

1865 Dam is constructed by American Thread Company of Willimantic.

1933 The dam and watershed/watershed rights are purchased by Town of Columbia.

1938 Largest storm ever recorded in Columbia. Water rose to within 1' of overtopping dam. Maximum discharge calculated to be about 270 cfs.

1939 Spillway expanded from 13' to current 26'.

1968 Second spillway constructed at the recommendation of outside consultant.

1968(August) Second spillway removed at the recommendation of the State of Connecticut DEP.

1978 Dam is brought to configuration present prior to 2014 work.

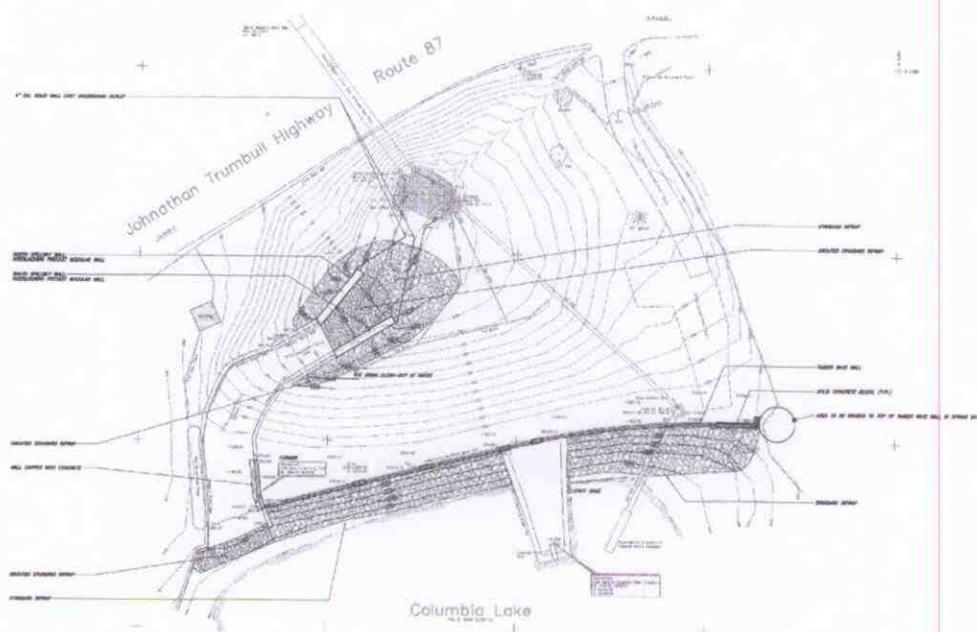
1979 Phase II Engineering Investigation under National Dam Inspection Program.

- 2014 Spillway training walls extended; standard rip-rap placed along upstream side of dam face and downstream of training wall extensions; grouted standard rip-rap placed between training walls, behind south training wall and south of spillway; several deteriorated concrete wave wall blocks replaced; concrete block wave wall extended easterly; timber wave wall added to top of concrete block wave wall; staff gauge installed; clean-out to grade added to west end of existing toe drain.

Drainage Area & Watercourse

The drainage area (watershed) of Columbia Lake is approximately 3.0 square miles all of which is contained within the town of Columbia and most of which is north of Route 66. The vast majority of the contributing area is unimproved hilly woodlands and swamp.

Outflow from Columbia Lake is only through the Columbia Lake Dam and that outflow forms Columbia Lake Brook which flows through a steep and well defined stream channel to the north, eventually leading to the Hop River.



PART III: AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH/LOCATION MAP



AERIAL PHOTO FROM GOOGLE EARTH – 10/10/2016 NORTH/SCALE AS SHOW



LOCATION MAP

PART IV: DAM / EMBANKMENT / DIKE INFORMATION

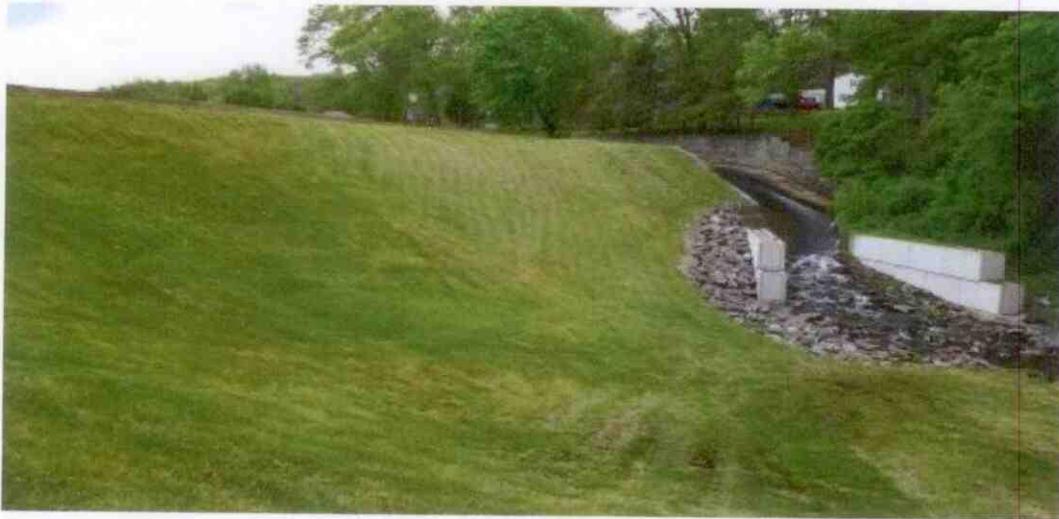
Columbia Lake Dam consists of a single earthen embankment and a single concrete spillway. The face of the embankment (upstream side) is armored with standard rip-rap (as defined by CT DOT FORM 817, M.12.02), and appears entirely stable. The embankment is topped with a block wave wall comprised of 2'x2'x6' concrete blocks laid end to end and buried in the embankment so that the top of the block only shows about 4 inches. An additional wave wall comprised of 12"x12" wooden beams has been installed atop the concrete block. A few of the concrete blocks have been replaced in recent years, and one block presently shows signs of spalling or other surface distress.

There were no indications of settlement or alignment movement in the embankment; and no cracking, sloughing or undulations were observed.

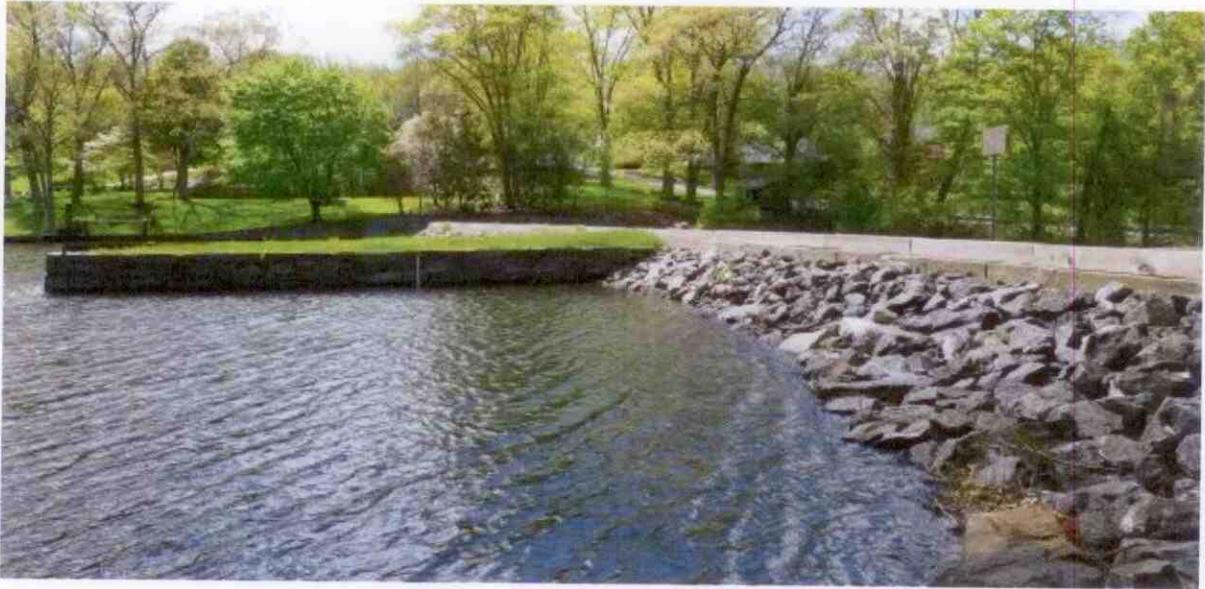
Seepage was observed in an area downstream of the embankment though it appeared to be more from the hill adjacent the embankment than the embankment itself (see photo below). The area of seepage was approximately 35 feet across, somewhat uniform, and appeared to be minor.

One recently repaired burrow hole is evident in the top of embankment between the wave wall and the sluice gate housing (see photo page 12); no other burrows or holes appeared in the embankment or downstream slope.

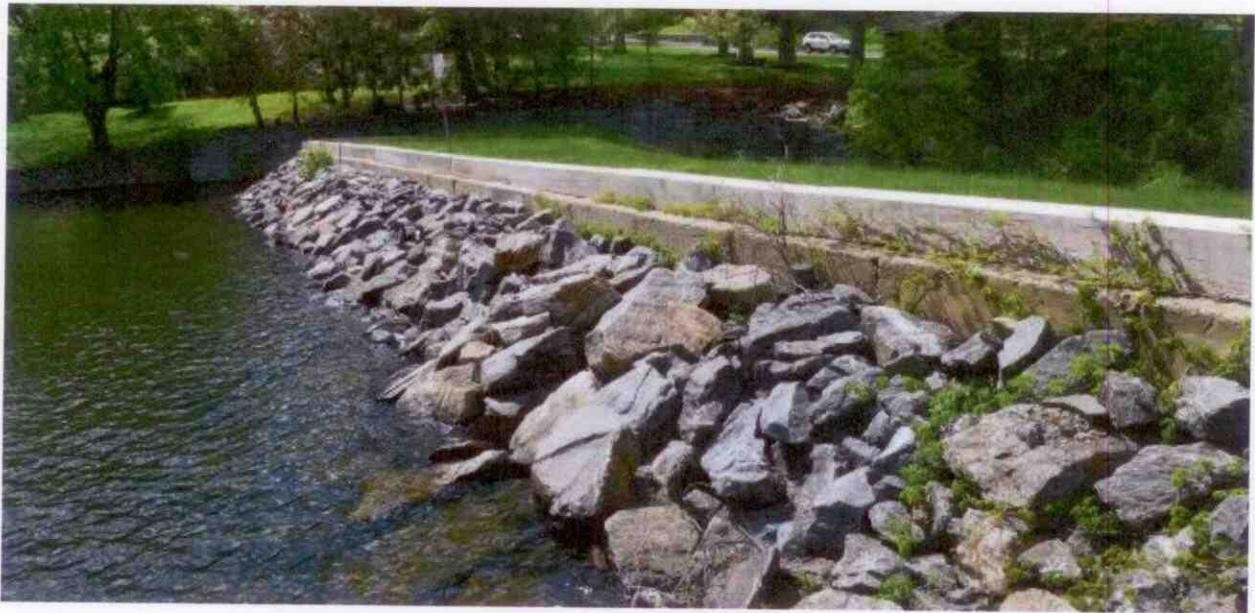
Grass cover on the embankment and slope was fully established and thick. There are no shrubs or trees growing on the embankment or downstream slope. Footing drains were running about 15% full, water was clear, and there were no indications of silt or cloudiness.



DOWNSLOPE EMBANKMENT – SLIGHT WEEP



VIEW FROM EAST ABUTMENT

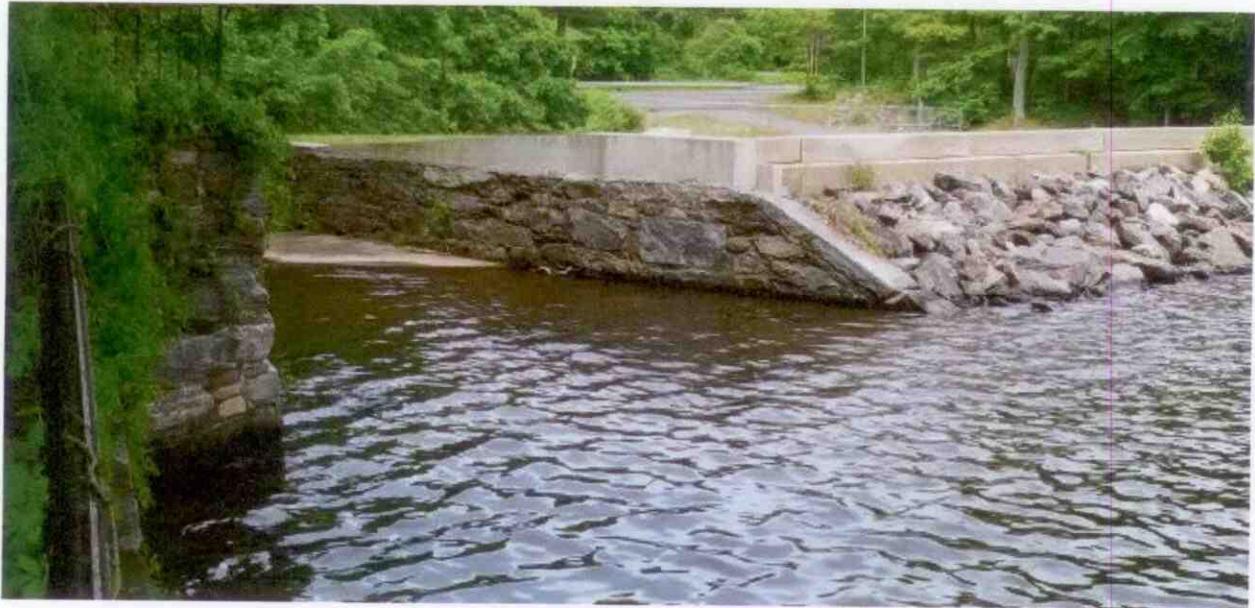


VIEW TOWARD SPILLWAY FROM PIER

PART V: PRINCIPAL SPILLWAY, TRAINING WALLS, APRON

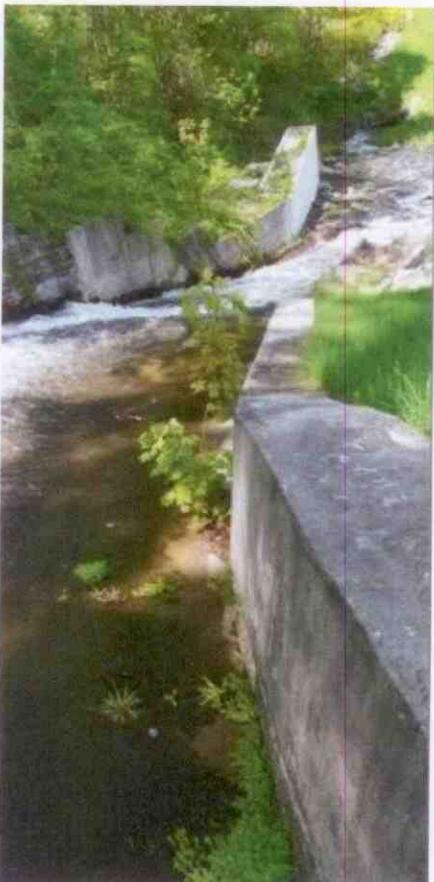
Columbia Lake Dam has one spillway located on the left end of the embankment. The spillway lip is a concrete slab and has a width of about 32 feet. The left side training wall is stone and mortar and the right training wall is stone encased in poured concrete. These walls provide the spillway a full depth of about 5 feet. The general condition of the spillway is good, with no observed spalling or cracking.

There are no indications of settlement or misalignment in either of the training walls or the spillway, and no indications of any seepage or drainage issues.

**WEST WALL OF SPILLWAY****EAST WALL OF SPILLWAY**



SPELLWAY ENTRANCE



SPELLWAY AND EAST WINGWALL

PART VI: AUXILIARY SPILLWAY, TRAINING WALLS, APRON

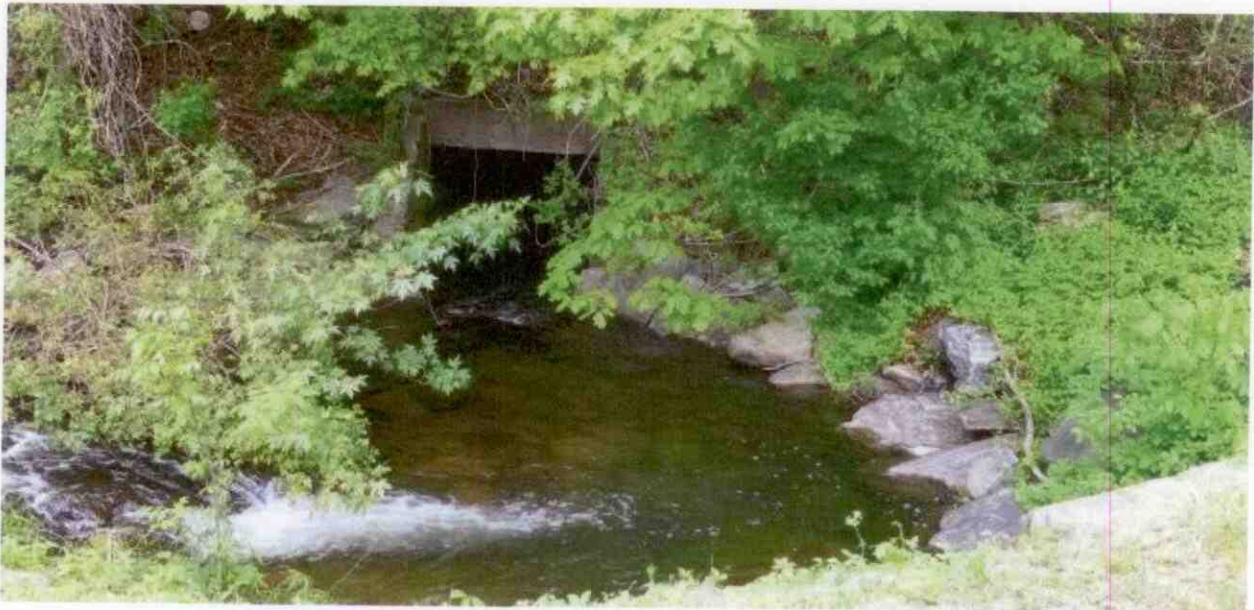
N/A

PART VII: DOWNSTREAM CHANNEL

The single downstream channel associated with Columbia Lake Dam is Columbia Lake Brook. This brook starts at the end of the spillway and travels only about 90 feet before it flows through a box culvert under CT Route 87 and then continues down through a steep and well established channel to another box culvert under CT Route 6. The brook is very rocky, with stone typically 24-30" in maximum dimension. The short segment of channel above Route 87 is monitored and kept free of tree limbs and detritus.



SPILLWAY AND DOWNSTREAM



BOX CULVERT UNDER ROUTE 87

PART VIII: INTAKE STRUCTURE

Aside from the spillway, Columbia Lake Dam has one intake structure which is typically closed in the summer, but utilized in conjunction with a gate valve to control lake surface elevation during the winter. The structure is made up of a 30" RCP, the entrance to which is covered with precast concrete galleries to provide screening at the entrance.

The gate valve itself is enclosed in a concrete vault with a metal grate bolted over the top and is only accessible if the grate is removed. We did not physically inspect the gate valve, but it is apparently working correctly as no water is issuing from the 24" RCP outlet.

**GATE VALVE HOUSING****GATE VALVE MECHANICALS – GOOD CONDITION**

PART IX: OUTLET STRUCTURE

The outlet structure is a 24-inch RCP culvert with a concrete endwall that discharges to a small pool immediately upstream of the box culvert leading under CT Route 87. The southern wingwall incorporated with the culvert endwall contains the outlets from the dam toe drains. The culvert and endwall are in good condition. There are no signs of settlement, movement, or undo scouring.



PART X: MISCELLANEOUS FEATURES

The Columbia Lake Dam has a short paved access road and chain-link security fence. These features appear to be relatively new and in excellent condition.



PART XI: DOWNSTREAM HAZARD CLASSIFICATION REASSESSMENT

Columbia Lake Dam is currently listed as a Class C dam by the DEEP.

As recently as 2003 the Columbia Lake Dam was listed as a Class B dam.

A recently completed Emergency Actions Plan (2017) reviewed the unique geography surrounding Columbia Lake Dam (i.e., the proximity and construction of CT Route 87), the box culvert located immediately downstream and the downstream brook leading to the Hop River. As there has been no new construction within the flood path of the Columbia Lake Brook, this office feels strongly that the present classification is in error, and we recommend returning Columbia Lake Dam to its previous classification as a Class B dam.

PART XII: RECOMMENDATIONS

In accordance with the observations made on 16 May, 2019, we recommend the following actions be taken by the Town of Columbia:

1. Virginia creepers growing along the west side of the pier and at the intersection of the pier and the dam face (see photo page 17) should be removed.
2. A small bush growing at the base of the west wall of the spillway (see photo page 8) should be removed as soon as possible.
3. A maple sapling growing at the base of the east wall of the spillway (see photo page 9) should be removed as soon as possible.
4. Seeps at base of embankment should be monitored on a regular (weekly) basis and any changes noted.

Part XIII: Professional Engineer Certification

The following certification must be signed by a Professional Engineer

"I hereby certify that the information provided in this report has been examined by me and found to be true and correct in my professional judgment."



6-3-19

Signature of Professional Engineer

Date

Gerald E. Hardisty

PEL

15974

Printed Name of Professional Engineer

Title

CT P.E. Number

Civil Engineering Services, LLC
Name of Firm

Affix P.E. Stamp Here



Part XIV: Owner Signature

The following statement must be signed by the Owner(s) of the subject Dam.

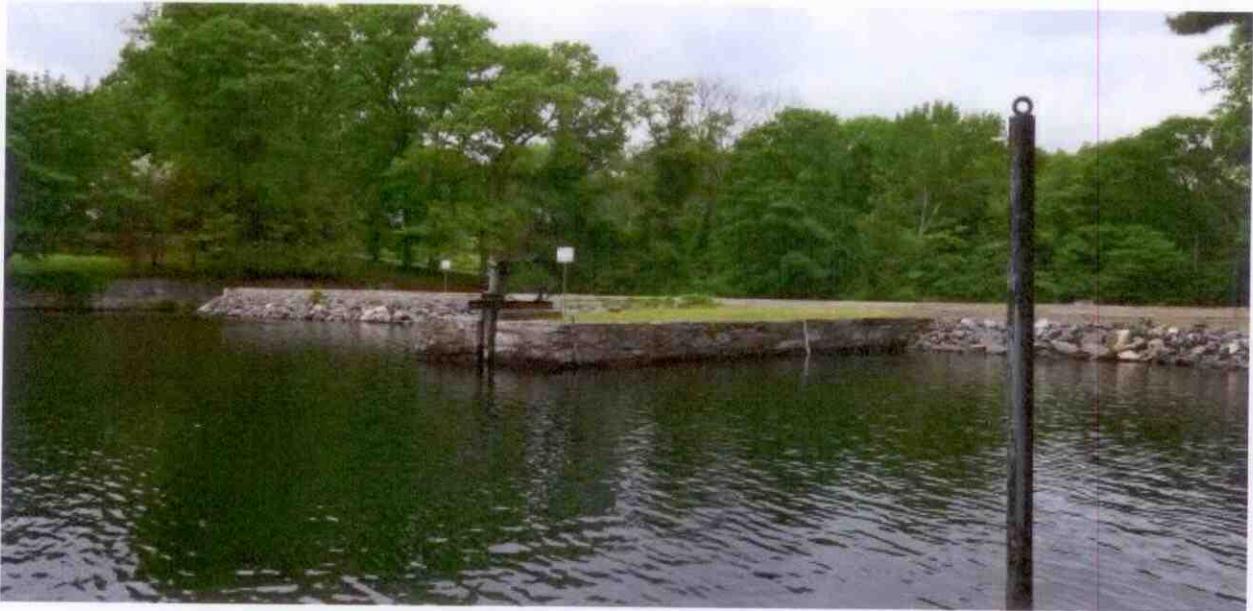
"The information provided in this report has been examined by me."	
Signature of Owner	June 3, 2019 Date
Mark Walter Name of Owner (print or type)	Town Administrator Title (if applicable)
 Signature of Owner	6-3-19 Date
Name of Owner (print or type)	Title (if applicable)
Signature of Owner	Date
Name of Owner (print or type)	Title (if applicable)
Signature of Owner	Date
Name of Owner (print or type)	Title (if applicable)

Note: Mail the completed inspection report to:

DAM SAFETY PROGRAM
INLAND WATER RESOURCES DIVISION
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
79 ELM STREET
HARTFORD, CT 06106

In addition, please send this completed report converted to Adobe portable document format (pdf) including a scan of the signature page via email to: DEEP.DamSafety@ct.gov

APPENDIX A
ADDITIONAL PHOTOS



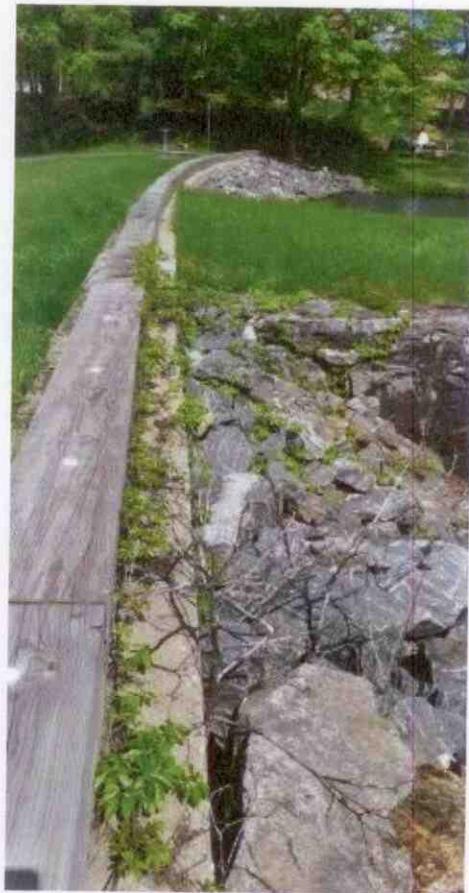
FACE OF DAM FROM EAST UPSTREAM

FACE OF DAM FROM WEST UPSTREAM

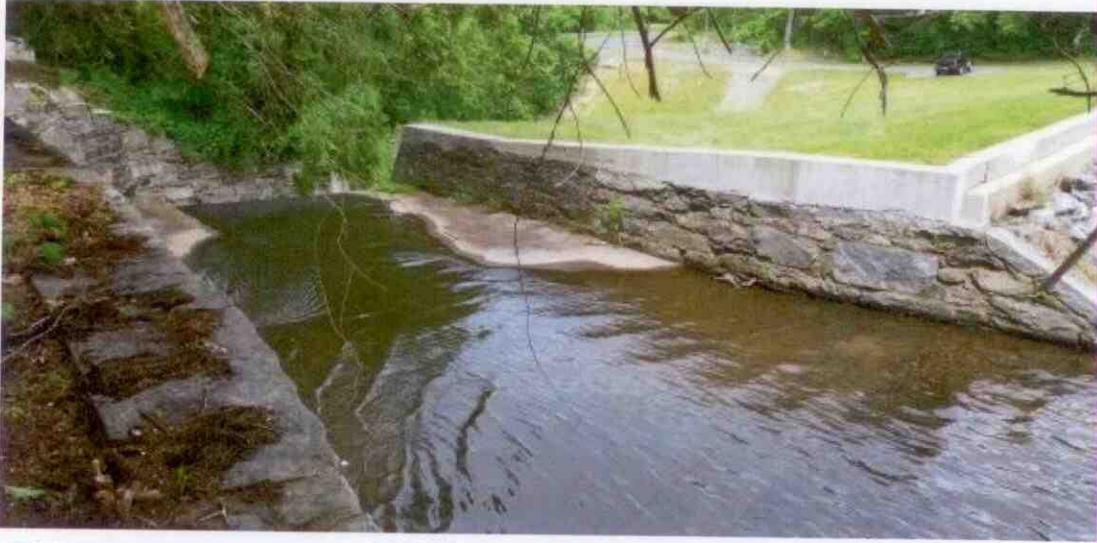




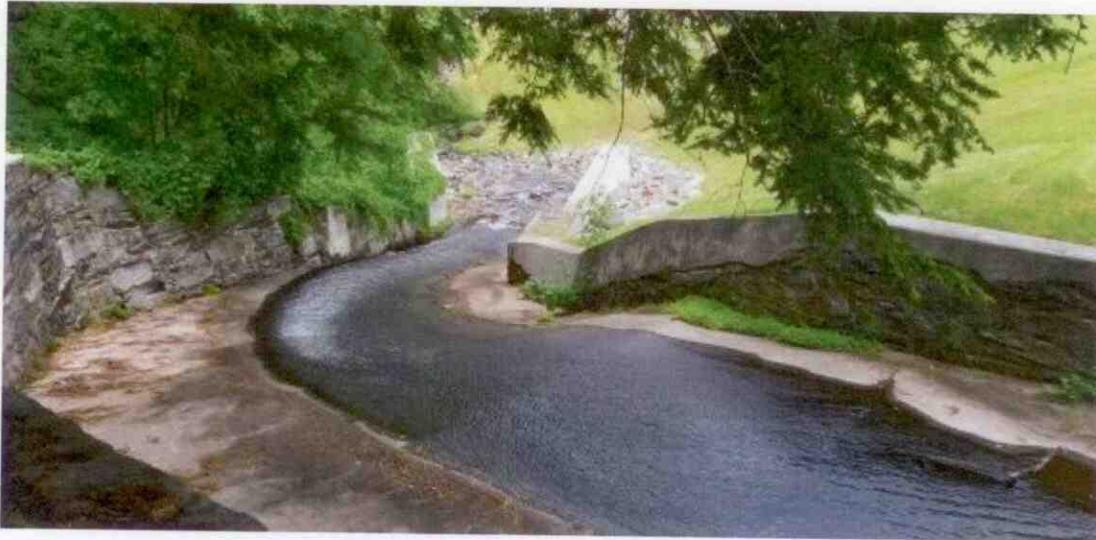
WAVE WALL FROM EAST
ABUTMENT



WAVE WALL FROM WEST ABUTMENT



SPILLWAY FROM WEST SIDE



SPILLWAY FROM WEST SIDE

APPENDIX B
DAM INSPECTION CHECKLIST

DAM INSPECTION CHECKLIST

DAM NAME: Columbia Lake Dam
OWNER: Town of Columbia, CT
DAM ID. No.: 3001 **INSPECTOR:** G.E. Hardisty, P.E.

Directions: Mark an "X" in the YES or NO column. If an item does not apply, write "NA." If possible, identify any changes since the last inspection in Section 11 - Other Comments/Observations.

	DATE:	6-2-17	5-16-17 ^{EH}						
	WEATHER:	clear, calm	clear						
	TEMPERATURE:	68°	71°						
ITEM		YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO

ITEM	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
1. TOP OF DAM										
a. Any visual settlements?		X		X						
b. Misalignment?		X		X						
c. Cracking?		X		X						
2. UPSTREAM SLOPE										
a. Adequate grass cover?		N/A		N/A						
b. Any erosion?		X		X						
c. Are trees growing on slope?		X		X						
d. Longitudinal cracks?		X		X						
e. Transverse cracks?		X		X						
f. Adequate riprap protection?	X		X							
g. Any stone deterioration?		X		X						
h. Visual depressions or bulges?		X		X						
i. Visual settlements?		X		X						
j. Debris or trash present?		X		X						
3. DOWNSTREAM SLOPE										
a. Adequate grass cover?	X		X							
b. Any erosion?		X		X						
c. Are trees growing on slope?		X		X						
d. Longitudinal cracks?		X		X						

DAM INSPECTION CHECKLIST (Cont.)

ITEM	DATE:		5-16-19							
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
e. Transverse cracks?		X		X						
f. Visual depressions or bulges?		X		X						
g. Visual settlements?		X		X						
h. Is the toe drain dry?		X		X						
i. Are the drainage wells flowing?	X		X							
j. Are boils present at the toe?		X		X						
k. Is seepage present?		X	X							
l. Soft or spongy zones present?		X		X						
m. Are foundation toe drain pipes:										
(1) Broken, bent, or missing?		X		X						
(2) Corroded or rusted?		X		X						
(3) Obstructed?		X		X						
(4) Is discharge carrying sediment?		X		X						
4. ABUTMENT CONTACTS										
a. Any erosion?		X		X						
b. Visual differential movement?		X		X						
c. Any cracks noted?		X		X						
d. Is seepage present?		X		X						
5. PRINCIPAL SPILLWAY INLET										
a. Do concrete surfaces show:										
(1) Spalling?		X		X						
(2) Cracking?		X		X						
(3) Erosion?		X		X						
(4) Scaling?		X		X						
(5) Exposed rebar?		X		X						
b. Do the joints show:										
(1) Displacement or offset?		X		X						

DAM INSPECTION CHECKLIST (Cont.)

ITEM	DATE:		5-16-19							
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
(2) Loss of joint material?		X		X						
(3) Leakage?		X		X						
c. Metal appurtenances:	N/A									
(1) Rust present?	↓									
(2) Broken components?										
(3) Anchor system secure?										
d. Trashrack operational?	↓									
6. PRINCIPAL SPILLWAY CONDUIT										
a. Is the conduit concrete?	X		X							
b. Do concrete surfaces show:	X									
(1) Spalling?	N/A									
(2) Cracking?	↓									
(3) Erosion?										
(4) Scaling?										
(5) Exposed rebar?										
c. Do the joints show:										
(1) Displacement or offset?	↓									
(2) Loss of joint material?										
(3) Leakage?										
d. Is the conduit metal?	X									
(1) Rust present?	N/A									
(2) Protective coatings adequate?	↓									
(3) Is the conduit misaligned?										
e. Is there seepage around the conduit?	↓									
7. STILLING BASIN										
a. Do concrete surfaces show:	N/A									
(1) Spalling?	↓									

DAM INSPECTION CHECKLIST (Cont.)

ITEM	DATE:		5-16-19							
	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
(2) Loss of joint material?		N/A								
(3) Leakage?										
c. Is the spillway in rock or soil? (circle one)										
(1) Are slopes eroding?										
(2) Are slopes sloughing?										
d. Is the discharge channel:										
(1) Eroding or back cutting?										
(2) Obstructed?										
(3) Is vegetative cover adequate?										
e. Has discharged water:										
(1) Eroded the embankment?										
(2) Undercut the outlet?										
f. Is the weir in good condition?										
9. VALVES/GATES										
a. Are the valves/gates:										
(1) Broken or bent?		X		X						
(2) Corroded or rusted?		X		X						
(3) Periodically maintained?	X		X							
(4) Operational?	X		X							
b. Is there a low level valve?	X		X							
c. Is the low level valve operational?	X		X							
10. AREA DOWNSTREAM										
a. Recent downstream development?		X		X						
b. Seepage or wetness?		X		X						

DAM INSPECTION CHECKLIST (Cont.)

11. OTHER COMMENTS/OBSERVATIONS (Include Date): 6-2-17

Dam, spillway, control gate all look in great shape. Water level at about 3" above spillway elevation with control gate fully closed. Toe drains running clear water at about 15% capacity.

5-16-19

Dam embankment, control gate, spillway all looked in very good shape. Some maintenance requirements were noted: 1. Maple sapling growing in spillway should be removed as soon as possible. 2. Virginia creeper vines should be removed from west side of stone pier and face of embankment. 3. A small bush has started growing at west side of spillway.



Commanding Officer
Lt. Marc Petruzzi #037

State of Connecticut



Connecticut State Police Troop K - Colchester



Executive Officer
Master Sergeant Eric Peck
#085

Date: 06-01-2019

Mr. Steve Everett
Columbia First Selectman
323 Jonathan Trumbull Highway
Columbia, CT 06237

Dear Mr. Steve Everett,

This correspondence is an effort to keep you apprised of the monthly police services occurring within the Town of Columbia.

During the month of May 2019 the Columbia Resident Trooper as well as Troop K Troopers responded to 309 Calls for Service in the Town of Columbia. Of these Calls for Service the most notable are:

Accidents:	5
Burglaries:	0
Larcenies:	1
Other Criminal:	4
Other Non-Criminal:	0
Non Reportable Matters:	204
Other Noteworthy Events (List):	
Juvenile disturbance at EastConn	
Narcotic arrest	
2 Domestic	

In addition to the above investigations Troopers conducted the following motor vehicle enforcement:

On-Sight DWI:	1
Traffic Citations:	61
Written Warnings:	31

Sincerely,

LT Petruzzi #037

Lt. Marc Petruzzi #037
COMMANDING OFFICER
Troop "K" Colchester, CT

15A Old Hartford Road
Colchester, Connecticut 06415
Phone (860) 537-7500
FAX (860) 537-7550