

Colchester's Weekly Town News

For the Week of
January 12, 2015

While by no means a total representation of all the work performed by the Town, the following information highlights some activities which occurred:

Town Manager's Office—Dawn Francis, Town Manager

Your Legislators, led by Rep. Maureen Dakin are working hard on the town's behalf to shepherd the charter changes through the legislative process. Karen Richard, Town Clerk and I joined Reps. Brennan, Condon, Dakin and Purvis to testify before the House Government Operations Committee in Montpelier. The Committee, chaired by Donna Sweaney, voted the changes out of committee the same morning we presented them and they will now go to the House floor for consideration. We appreciate our Legislator's support and the expedited action on our charter changes. If they are passed before the Selectboard finalizes the ballot for Town Meeting, we will avoid confusion as we transition from elected Cemetery Commissioners to a new Cemetery Advisory Board.

For more information about the Town Manager's Office, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/Manager/index.shtml> or call (802) 264-5509.

Economic Development Department—Kathi Walker O'Reilly, Director

Here are some of the initiatives on which the Economic Development Department is currently working:

- Researching marketing and tourism venues and partnerships
- Met with Chamber regarding marketing opportunities
- Met with local developer regarding initiatives
- Continued work on new website
- Updating and expanding new mobile app
- Finalizing Resident & Visitor Guide
- Assisting with LOT research and business outreach
- Continued work on Marketing Plan assessment and research
- Participated in webinar on Civic Engagement
- Attended CCDC meeting
- Attended Chamber Legislative Breakfast
- Attended Vermont Economic Outlook Conference
- Continue work with businesses looking to expand in Colchester
- Continue work with LIFE Board
- Attended Rotary Meetings
- Attended SSTA Board Meeting

For more information about the Community and Economic Development Office, please visit <http://www.colchestervt.gov/CommEconomicDev/index.shtml> or call (802) 264-5508.

For further information or comment, please call Linda Kingston at 264-5509.

Planning and Zoning Department—Sarah Hadd, Director

The Colchester Planning and Zoning Department reports the following for the week of January 12, 2015:

- The Colchester Development Review Board met on January 14th and approved following applications:
 - 1) Conditional Use application of Doug Neede and Heidi Tappan for a silvicultural operation in the R1 District at 607 Brickyard Road, Tax Map 76, Parcels 002010, 026020 and 040000; and
 - 2) Site Plan application of SP Cove for a dimensional stone seawall 5' to 8' high encroaching in the Shoreland District setback at 278 West Lakeshore Drive, Tax Map 65, Parcel 17. It should be noted the Variance Application of CVCF Colchester LLC for encroachment in the front yard and Shoreland District setback located at Thayer Beach Road, Tax Map 52, Parcel 15 was withdrawn and the Appeal Application of Vladamir Smirnov of a notice of violation for a commercial vehicle exceeding the allowable length and height in a residential district at 23 Tanglewood Drive, Tax Map 34, Parcel 6 was continued to allow for the Planning Commission to continue its efforts to change the regulation of commercial vehicles in residential districts.

- The Planning Commission met on January 6th and voted to warn a public hearing to be held at 7PM on February 3rd at the Kirker Community Room at 835 Blakely Road to consider the following changes to the Colchester Zoning Regulations:
 - 1) Amend Section 10.13B to allow commercial vehicles exceeding the size requirements of 10.01M as part of a home business.
 - 2) Amend Section 12.02 to add a definition of Hospice Care Home.
 - 3) Amend Appendix A-1, Table of Uses, to add 1.720 Home Business as a Conditional Use in the R1, R2, and R3 Districts.
 - 4) Amend Appendix A-1 to add 7.900 Hospice Care Home.

- The Planning Commission will meet again on January 20th to continue its review of the West Lakeshore Drive and Town Services neighborhoods.

For more information about the Planning and Zoning Department, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/PlanningZ/planningZHome.shtml> or call (802) 264-5600.

Public Works Department—Bryan Osborne, Director

Highlights of the Department of Public Works recent activities include:

- Review comments have been submitted on the energy audit of Town owned buildings.
- The department is continuing work on the development of a long term strategic sustainability plan
- Continuing to work with the CCRPC on the development of a warrant analysis protocol for the installation of rapid flashing beacons
- Have assembled a Storm Water Advisory Committee for the development of a Storm Water Utility
- Working on amendments to the inter-municipal wastewater agreement between Colchester and South Burlington
- Developing flow restoration plans for the Sunderland Watershed as required under the Town's MS4 Storm Water Permit
- Developing Stream Flow Monitoring plans as required under the Town's MS4 Storm Water Permit

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- Providing design, right-of-way and permitting assistance to VTrans for the Exit 16 interchange project and the Rt. 2/Rt. 7/Creek Road intersection project
- Received proposals for a temporary repair of a large diameter culvert on East Road. Contract has been awarded to Engineers Construction, Inc. of South Burlington
- Right-of-way acquisition is continuing for the River Road sidewalk project
- Design work is continuing on the Morehouse Brook box culvert replacement project
- Design work is continuing on the Fort Ethan Allen sidewalk replacement project
- Retained engineering design services for the Mountain View Drive sidewalk project and held kick-off meeting
- Design work is continuing on the West Lakeshore Drive Multi-Use Path project
- Design work is underway for the reconstruction of Mill Pond Road north of the bridge. Project is to be bid in 2/15
- Developing scope of work and request for proposals for a design build to replace the Airport Park maintenance facility
- Developing technical specifications for the replacement of the Town's ambulance, scheduled or replacement in FY16
- Working with the CCRPC on various roadway re-alignment plans through the Bay area to improve traffic flow
- Developing the FY16 Wastewater Department Budget for approval by the Board of Sewer Commissioners in March, 2015
- Updating 5-year Capital Program for Select Board review in later summer of 2015
- Working with Police Department and communication consultants to address deficiencies in radio communications for emergency services and DPW
- Developing scope of work and bid documents for the replacement of the roof on the Town's Rescue Building.

For more information about the Public Works Department, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/PublicWorks/Home.shtml> or call (802) 264-5620.

For further information or comment, please call Linda Kingston at 264-5509.