



## **For the Week Ending February 5, 2016**

While by no means a total representation of all the work performed by the Town, the following highlights some Departments' activities:

### **Town Manager's Office Dawn Francis, Town Manager**

Colchester voters have an opportunity to continue their investment in our community's future and reduce costs. On the Town's ballot (available now from the Town Clerk's office) voters will see three articles authorizing capital plans that will continue to help us build a better Colchester. Previous administrations have been forward thinking in their approach to planning for our infrastructure needs. Existing capital tax rates for equipment and facilities (\$0.019), transportation (\$0.035), parks (\$0.005) and reserve funds for technology and communications have helped us avoid borrowing costs and spikes in the tax rate.

Two of our capital rates are proposed to be reauthorized by the voters by Australian ballot. Together with state and federal grants, as well as development impact fees, these rates assist us in paying for improvements and repairs to roadways, stormwater structures, buildings, parks, equipment and vehicles and bike/pedestrian infrastructure. Our long range capital plans, however, project over \$100 million in unmet capital needs to sustain our future. (Refer to our FYE 2016-21 Capital Budget Program and Plan on our website for details.) Taxpayers will continue to see lower costs if these plans are reauthorized and a new public safety reserve fund is approved, at no additional cost.

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

### **Town Clerk's Office Karen Richard, Town Clerk**

The Presidential Primary and the local Town/School Election will be held on Tuesday, March 1st. We expect a heavy turnout that day. If you want to avoid the rush or will be out of town at that time please exercise your right to cast your ballot early. You can request your ballot as you have done in the past: by calling the office, emailing us or stopping by the office to vote. Or you can take advantage of the newly rolled out Elections Management System (EMS) which includes:

- A New "My Voter Page" – which is an online resource that allows every registered voter to login and have access to a unique, voter-specific web page where they can request an absentee ballot, track its status, update their voter

For further information or comment, please call Linda Kingston at 802.264.5509



## Colchester Town News

*Colchester – What do you want to do today?*

registration record, find their polling place, view a sample ballot, and much more. The My Voter Page login can be found at: <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us>.

- Do you want to verify if you are registered to vote or where you were last registered? Check My Voter Page. If you are not registered in Colchester you may register with: the New Online Voter Registration Tool – which allows all eligible Vermonters to submit their voter registration application online anytime and anywhere they can access the internet; the online voter registration page can be found at <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us>
- The Annual Town Report has arrived. Hard copies are available now at the Town Offices, at the Burnham Library, the lobby of the Colchester Police Dept. and online <http://colchestervt.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/359>
- Look for the Budget and Voting special insert in the February 4th issue of the Sun. It's also online: <http://colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1420>. The insert contains important information about the Ballot Articles, Capital Plans, upcoming Community Dinner & Town Meeting. Additional information about the Ballot and Capital Plans may be reviewed online at: <http://colchestervt.gov/344/Ballot-Items>.
- If you have questions about voting, the budget, the Community Dinner or Town Meeting visit [www.colchestervt.gov](http://www.colchestervt.gov) or call 264-5500.

For more information about the Town Clerk's Office call (802) 264-5520 or visit <http://colchestervt.gov/townclerk>

### **Finance Department Aaron Frank, Assistant Town Manager/CFO**

#### **FY 16 Budget Update**

Six months through the fiscal year, revenues are higher than expenses by \$207,410, a net positive of 1%.

- Expenditures are 1% over budget
  - The Town prepaid Colchester Center Volunteer Fire Company to assist with cash flow related to building improvements at the fire station in the Village. This caused an increase in Town expenses that will balance out by the end of the year.
  - Other expenses contributing are prepaid insurance, and the seasonal nature of expenses in the Parks department.
- Revenues are 2% over budget, due to tax collections, Clerk and Planning and Zoning fees, Rescue revenues, and funding from other governments.

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## Colchester Town News

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*Colchester – What do you want to do today?*

Town Departments with significant non tax revenue earned through December include:

- Town Clerk and Civil Board, 75% of expenses
- Planning and Zoning, 72% of expenses
- Rescue and Technical Rescue, 64% of expenses
- Recreation, 84% of expenses
- Public Safety Dispatch, 26% of expenses
- Wastewater, 187% of expenses

For more information about the Finance Department, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/finance> or call (802) 264-5650.