

**For the Week Ending  
August 26, 2016**

**Upcoming Town meetings:**

- **Planning Commission:** Tuesday September 6, 7:00 PM at the Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road, Outer Bay Conference Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor
- **Selectboard:** Tuesday, September 13, 6:30 PM at the Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road, Outer Bay Conference Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor
- **Recreation Advisory Board:** Wednesday, September 14, 7:00 AM at the Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road, Champlain Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

**Notices:**

- Malletts Bay Avenue construction has been completed more than two weeks ahead of schedule and the road is now open to all traffic.

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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**

A busy summer is drawing to a close. Every department has provided important services and programs for our taxpayers over the past few months. A snapshot of some of our activity follows:

- The third local option tax (LOT) payment was received and we collected \$927,249. Annualized, this is \$1,236,332 and close to our projection of \$1,290,000.
- The first of three tax billings was collected on August 15th to begin FY 17, with the average number of late payments. We billed \$14,067,311, collected \$13,623,906, leaving \$443,405 outstanding. Of 4,390 parcels taxed, 3,998 are paid and 392 are delinquent.
- The Clerk's office oversaw the August state primary, including voter registrations, ballots, and voting.
- Public Works oversaw the early completion (17 days earlier than planned!) of a 20 foot deep culvert on Malletts Bay Avenue; line striping of various intersections; and paving of 12 streets. Planning and designing of new projects is always taking place.

- Our dedicated Parks and Recreation crew and Public Works department assisted in cleaning up the Munson Cemetery. Thanks to the generosity of Bobby Miller, more land was acquired for the cemetery and a new fence installed which delineates the new boundary.
- Parks and Recreation served over 500 children in our day camps and other various programs. The department hosted over a dozen large events and concerts that brought over 11,000 people to our community.
- Burnham Library held a book sale and offered numerous summer programs for all ages.
- Planning and Zoning prepared a rezoning of the Lakeshore Drive area with extensive public outreach and it was adopted by the Selectboard.
- Our emergency responders, including Rescue, Technical Rescue, Police, and Fire Departments, planned and participated in a large-scale mock emergency exercise. Federal and state evaluators determined our team to be well organized and prepared to protect our residents.
- The Colchester Police Department Honor Guard presented the colors at a Red Sox game at Fenway Park and Chief Morrison attended a White House briefing on 21st Century Policing.
- Our Finance Department is closing out the last fiscal year in which we finished under budget, plus completing paperwork for several grants, and getting ready for the audit and budget.

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

### **Police Department Jeffrey Barton, Operations Lieutenant**

As the new school year begins, the Colchester Police Department would like to introduce the new DARE instructor. Officer Christian Mellen will assume the duties previously performed within our schools by Cpl. Jeffrey Fontaine. Officer Mellen joined the Colchester Police Department in 2010; he worked for the Shelburne Police Department for 3 years prior to joining our department. Christian was certified as a DARE instructor earlier this year.

The Colchester Police Department would also like to remind everyone that the beginning of the school years means the return of the 25 MPH speed limit within school zones, in effect during school hours. Please take extra caution when traveling through these areas, as there will also be increased pedestrian traffic.

As we get closer to the Labor Day weekend, the Colchester Police are participating in the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign to reduce drunk and drugged driving. Enforcement of aggressive driving, speed, and distracted driving, including

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the use of electronic hand held devices, will also be part of these patrols. Please drive safely.

Lastly, the department would like to remind people to remove all valuable items from their vehicles when unattended, and lock their cars overnight. We continue to experience larcenies from motor vehicles, particularly those that are left unlocked with property left in plain view. Please be watchful of your surroundings and report any suspicious activity to the police.

For more information about the Colchester Police Department visit <http://colchestervt.gov/police> or call (802) 264-5556 (non-emergency).

### **Rescue and Technical Rescue Squads Amy Akerlind, Rescue Chief**

Since July 27th Colchester Rescue and Technical Rescue Squads:

- received 104 calls for service
- turned over 10 calls while on a call
- gave mutual aid to other communities 17 times
- transported 57 people to the hospital
- encountered 32 male and 42 female patients
- Motor vehicle crashes accounted for the most calls (11.43%)

Our paramedics attended training on a new medication we now carry for use with extremely combative patients who are at risk of hurting themselves or the responders trying to help them. Chemical sedation is safer than physical restraints for combative patients and reduces the risk of injury to the patient and others nearby including family members, caregivers and law enforcement. Ensuring the safety of our personnel and our patients is always first and foremost; the more tools we have for that purpose, the better!

For more information about Colchester Rescue, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/rescue> or call (802) 264-5990.

### **Highlights of the Selectboard Meeting of August 23, 2016**

- A Resolution of Appreciation was passed for Robert E. Miller for his philanthropy to the Town.
- Bayside Park integrated with the Bayside Hazelett property was chosen as the preferred location for a Community Center and expanded recreation area per the Bayside Park Master Plan, subject to further public input and plan refinement.

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- The Selectboard rejected a proposed trade of a 1.7 acre parcel of Town-owned land in exchange for lease of Acabay radio tower space.
- Local option tax receipts have come in slightly under projection for the first 3 quarters.

**Volunteers Needed:**

**Recreation Advisory Board:** Do you enjoy sports activities and Town social events? Is physical fitness an important part of your family's lifestyle? If so, the Recreation Advisory Board still needs one more new member! Meetings take place on the 2nd Wednesday morning of the month from 7-8 AM at the Town Offices on Blakely Road.

**Development Review Board:** A position has opened for a new member to review site plans, subdivision, and conditional use applications, plus variance requests and appeals. Currently meetings are once a month on the 4th Wednesday, 7PM, at the Town Offices. Depending on case load, twice-monthly meetings (2nd Wednesday of the month) are a possibility. No experience is necessary. Come attend two meetings to see if this volunteer position is for you.

**Board of Ethics:** There are two vacancies on this board. Members meets occasionally on an as-needed basis when questions related to ethics or conflicts of interest arise.

Volunteer applications are available at the Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road or may be downloaded online at: <http://colchestervt.gov/383/Volunteer-Opportunities>. Call 264-5509 for more information about any of these boards or commissions.