

**For the Week Ending
January 6, 2017**

**Upcoming Town meetings (All meetings take place at the Colchester Town Offices,
781 Blakely Road):**

- **Selectboard:** Tuesday, January 10, 6:30 PM in the Outer Bay Conference Room on the 3rd floor
- **Development Review Board:** Wednesday, January 11, 7:00 PM in the Outer Bay Conference Room on the 3rd floor
- **Recreation Advisory Board:** Wednesday, January 18, 7:00 AM in the Champlain Room, 2nd floor. (This change to the 3rd Wednesday of the month is for January only).
- **Planning Commission:** Tuesday, January 17, 2017, 7:00 PM Outer Bay Conference Room 3rd floor

Upcoming events:

- Boy Scouts Troop 658 Christmas tree pick-up and recycling Saturday, January 7th and Saturday, January 14th, from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. A \$10.00 donation per tree is appreciated; make checks payable to Boy Scout Troop 658. Trees must be free of tinsel, ornaments, and tree stands; no plastic bags. Leave tree at the base of your driveway by 8:00 am on pick-up day. (You MUST SCHEDULE pick-up; trees will not be taken if pick-up was not requested.) To schedule or for more info call Ken Bell at 655-6258 or 598-0892. Requests will be accepted until 10:00 AM, Saturday, January 14th.

Message of the Week

Upcoming March Elections

Happy 2017 from the Town of Colchester! Now that the holidays are over it's time to start thinking about upcoming local elections. The following Town elected positions will be on the March 7, 2017 ballot:

- **Selectboard, 2 Year**, currently held by Marc Landry
- **Selectboard, 3 Year**, currently held by Herb Downing
- **Moderator, 1 Year**, currently held by Scott Barrett
- **School Board, 2 Year**, currently held by Curt Taylor
- **School Board, 3 Year**, currently held by James Lincoln White
- **Library Trustee, 5 Year**, currently held by Betsy Ferry
- **Lister, 3 Year**, currently held by Hugh Bemis
- **Town Clerk/Treasurer, 2 years**, currently held by Karen Richard

If you would like to run for an office, you must submit a petition stating the position and its length of term, along with the signatures of 30 registered voters. *We cannot accept petitions that do not state the term of office.* Deadline for petitions is 5 PM on Monday, January 30, 2017. For more information visit our website: <http://colchestervt.gov/683/Upcoming-Election> or contact the Town Clerk's office at 264-5520. Petition forms may be picked up at the Town Clerk's window at the Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road.

Also on the March 7th ballot will be proposed amendments to the Town Charter and the Town's proposed FY2018 General Fund Operating Budget (for budget info visit <http://www.colchestervt.gov/367/Proposed-Budget>). We encourage voters to attend the following public hearings for these important ballot items:

- Budget hearing: Tuesday, January 10, 2016 at 7:15 PM
- Charter Amendments 1st public hearing: Tuesday, January 10, 2016 at 7:00 PM
- Charter Amendments 2nd public hearing: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 6:30 PM

All will be held at the Town Offices at 781 Blakely Road in the Outer Bay Conference Room on the 3rd floor. Be an informed voter! Please join us for these informative hearings.

Finally, mark your calendars for the annual free Community Dinner on Monday, March 6th at 5:30 PM in the Colchester High School cafeteria; Colchester's state representatives will be there to discuss their 2017 legislative priorities and to answer your questions. Dinner will be followed by the Annual Meeting (Town and School) at 7:00 PM in the Colchester High School auditorium.

The following highlights some Town Departments' activities:

Police Department
Jennifer Morrison, Police Chief

The Colchester Police Department wishes you peace and safety in 2017.

Chief Jennifer Morrison was honored to sing at Governor Scott's inauguration on January 5. She performed a beautiful, a cappella rendition of "America the Beautiful." You can see video on our website here: <http://colchestervt.gov/664/Accolades-Awards>

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

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

Rescue and Technical Rescue Squads
Amy Akerlind, Rescue Chief

Colchester Rescue totaled 1299 calls for service in 2016. We almost hit the 1300 mark.

While last year started a bit slowly, with only 78 calls in the month of January, by the beginning of May we saw an increased need for our services. September was our busiest month with 130 calls; we had three months with over 120 calls each.

December was one of these busy months with 121 requests for service. We turned over 6 calls while on calls, but we responded in mutual aid to surrounding communities 24 times. We transported 69 people to the hospital last month.

We wish everyone a happy and safe 2017.

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

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