

For the Week Ending February 3, 2017

Upcoming Town Meetings*

- **Planning Commission:** Tuesday, February 7, 7:00 PM
- **Development Review Board:** Wednesday, February 8, 7:00 PM
- **Recreation Advisory Board:** Wednesday February 8, 7:00 AM, Champlain Room, 2nd floor
- **Selectboard:** Tuesday, February 14, 6:30 PM
- **Conservation Commission:** Monday, February 20, 7:00 PM, at Bayside Activity Center
- **Planning Commission:** Tuesday, February 21, 7:00 PM
- **Cemetery Advisory Committee:** Wednesday, February 22, 8:00 AM in the Champlain Room, 2nd floor

*All meetings take place at the Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road unless otherwise noted.

Upcoming Events:

- **Lake Champlain Pond Hockey Classic:** Friday-Sunday, February 10-12. Participants and spectators will experience an unparalleled tournament in “nature’s arena” on the ice at Malletts Bay. If you’re a hockey fan, or just a fan of a good time and gorgeous scenery, head down to the Bay next weekend to enjoy this very popular event!
- **Community Dinner and Annual Meeting:** Monday, March 6th. Mark your calendars now for this important event! Join your neighbors, legislators, and Town staff for a tasty meal at 5:30 PM in the Colchester High School Cafeteria; Annual Town/School Meetings to follow at 7:00 PM.
- **Election Day:** Tuesday, March 7th. Vote on local elected officials, the proposed Town and school budgets and amendments to the Town Charter at the Colchester High School Gymnasium from 7 AM to 7 PM. Early/Absentee voting will be available at the Town Clerk’s office by February 15.

Notices:

- Beginning February 6, 2017 passports will be processed by **appointment only** on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, Friday. No appointment necessary for a photo only. **No passport or photo processing on Wednesdays.** For appointment call 264-5520.
- **The Town Offices will be closed on Monday, February 20** in observance of Presidents’ Day.

**Selectboard Meeting Highlights:
January 24, 2017**

- Second Public Hearing on proposed Charter amendments was held: ballot language and full Charter language were approved for vote by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 7 and Town Meeting Warned for Monday, March 6
- A Quit Claim Deed for an inactive gravel pit, specific location unknown but recorded as near 846 Macrae Road, was approved. Property has undergone subdivisions since Town rights were obtained in the 1950s and current zoning regulations do not permit gravel extraction in the area.
- Amendments to Zoning Regulations (Supplement 40) were approved for first reading and public hearing will be warned for March 14.
- Elizabeth Hamlin-Volz was appointed as new a member to the Colchester Conservation Commission.
- Permanent Access Easement across Town-owned property granted to Acabay, Inc. on Water Tower Hill.

Message of the Week

The following Colchester residents have submitted petitions to run for elected Town offices. All are running unopposed, but all positions have a write-in line if you wish to cast a vote for someone else.

- **Selectboard, 2 year term:** Jacqueline “Jacki” Murphy
- **Selectboard, 3 year term:** Herbert Downing, incumbent.
- **Town Clerk/Treasurer:** Karen Richard, incumbent
- **Lister, 3 year term:** Angela MacDonald.
- **Moderator, one year:** Scott Barrett, incumbent
- **Board of Burnham Library Trustee, 5 year term:** Jessica Leary Clarke
- **For Grand Juror, one year term.** There will be a vote on the upcoming March ballot to eliminate this obsolete office from the Town Charter and no one is running for this position.

Good luck to all in this election.

And to those who have served the Town well and are relinquishing their seats, our most sincere appreciation and best wishes:

- Marc Landry, Selectboard member for 18 years, has decided not to run for re-election. We thank Marc for his many years of faithful service to the Town.
- Thank you to Hugh Bemis for his service as a Lister.
- Betsy Ferry will be leaving her position as a library trustee after five years. We thank her for her dedication to the library.

Police Department
Jennifer Morrison, Police Chief

In the past month CPD has responded to 823 calls for service. We arrested 27 people for a total of 31 criminal charges. Those charges range from unlawful trespass, driving with a suspended license, and DUI to domestic assault and felony drug possession.

This winter has brought relatively mild weather thus far. We have had a couple of icy or slippery mornings that saw dramatically elevated crashes and cars off the roadway. Please allow extra time on these occasional treacherous mornings. If possible, consider staying off the roadways until after the morning commute. Reduce your speed and increase your following distance when the roads are slick.

CPD is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2017. We will host an open house and celebration on Sunday, September 10th. More details will follow on this fun, interactive family event. Soon we will release a brief history of the department. And, in the coming months you will see new patches on the shoulders of CPD officers. We are excited about this milestone and we look forward to seeing you in the fall at our official birthday party!!!

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

In January we had 115 requests for service, and transported 71 people to the hospital. We continue to be busy, with no signs of slowing down!

Members have finished Annual Training that consists of several refresher modules that we do every November, December, and January. It makes for a busy time for everyone in addition to the holidays, so crews tackle their annual training packets while on duty, instead of our regular monthly squad training. A few examples of these refreshers include Hazmat Awareness, review of our Policies /Procedures, Respiratory Protection, Exposure Control, and more. All are good things to brush up on at least once a year!

We have transitioned to an updated version of our report software and everyone is still adjusting. As with all technological upgrades, there are a few bugs to work out and new navigation to get used to. So unfortunately, I won't be able to share any cool stats this time. Hopefully I'll have them next time around!

Stay warm and safe out there!

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



Colchester Town News

VERMONT

Colchester – What do you want to do today?

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

Notify Me: Subscribe to Town news that matters to you most. Visit www.colchestervt.gov and click on the Notify Me icon to sign up.

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