

**For the Week Ending  
March 10, 2017**

**Upcoming Town meetings\***

- **Selectboard:** Tuesday, March 14, 6:30 PM
- **Selectboard, Special Meeting:** Wednesday, March 15, 6:30 PM Public Hearing on Possible Vicious Dog
- **Conservation Commission:** Monday, March 20, 7:00 PM at Bayside Activity Center
- **Planning Commission:** Tuesday, March 21, 7:00 PM
- **Cemetery Advisory Committee:** Wednesday, March 22, 8:00 AM, Champlain Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

\*All meetings take place at the Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road in the Outer Bay Conference Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, unless otherwise noted.

**Notices:**

- **Taxes are due Wednesday, March 15.**
- Be sure to use the correct mailing address for the Town if you pay your taxes by mail. Address to:

Colchester Town Clerk  
P.O. Box 55  
Colchester, VT 05446.

**Message of the Week:**

**A Thank You to Our Residents**

The staff at the Town of Colchester would like to extend a sincere thank you for supporting the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget that was approved by voters on March 7. The 2.4% budget increase was not only lower than six years ago; it was among the lowest in Chittenden County.

The Selectboard worked closely with Town staff to prepare a budget that would continue to provide the high-quality services Colchester residents count on while exercising fiscal prudence for all taxpayers. Over the past several years we've diversified our revenue sources and striven to keep spending down. Of course we'll continue to seek out new efficiencies to help keep our tax increases as low as possible.

We're proud of our list of accomplishments for FY 2016-17 that were realized with the support of the community. We look forward to engaging residents in our upcoming

projects and initiatives that will enhance the quality of our lives and help protect the economic investments and recreational opportunities that depend on a clean lake.

We'd also like to express our appreciation to those who helped make the Annual Meetings and Election Day a success:

- The Colchester Selectboard
- CSD School Board of Directors
- Amy Minor, CSD Superintendent
- Colchester High School cafeteria staff
- CHS student sound booth volunteers
- Election volunteers
- Scott Barrett, Town Moderator
- LCATV
- Our legislators
- Katie Reed, for stepping up on short notice

We look forward to seeing you again next year at the 2018 Colchester Town and School Annual Meetings.

**Office of the Town Clerk**  
**Karen Richard**

The Colchester Annual Town Meeting was a straightforward event this year and the FY18 Budget and Charter amendments all passed. Twenty-one percent of Colchester registered voters exercised their right to vote; six people registered to vote the day of the election.

**Local Election Results:** We welcome Jacki Murphy, our newly elected Selectboard member; Herb Downing was re-elected to another three year term. Jessica Leary Clarke was elected to the Board of Library Trustees, and Curt Taylor and Lincoln White were re-elected to the School Board. Angela MacDonald is our new Lister on a board of three. Angela is a seemingly tireless volunteer who serves on many other Colchester boards and Commissions. Scott Barrett was re-elected as our Moderator. He did a fine job moderating our Town Meeting on Monday evening. I will be serving another two years as your Town Clerk.

I'd like to thank the staff in the Clerk's office and the election volunteers who worked a very long day on March 7<sup>th</sup>, as well as the administration and staff in the town offices that assist with the coordination and assistance in moving a lot of equipment from the town office to the school in a short amount of time. A special thanks to the administration and staff at the High School for accommodating all of us and our equipment.

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

The third installment of taxes is due on Wednesday March 15<sup>th</sup>. The clerk's office will be open until 5 pm on Monday and Tuesday for your convenience.

Remember to file your homestead when you file your Vermont taxes. The homestead information that you need to file can be found on our website at:

<http://www.colchestervt.gov/329/Property-Taxes>

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

**Office of the Deputy Town Manager/CFO  
Aaron Frank**

**FY17 Budget Update**

- Seven months through the fiscal year, revenues are higher than expenses by \$395,464, a net positive of 3%.
- Expenditures are 1% under budget and revenues are 2% over budget.
- Charges for services are down \$23,000 from last year, mostly due to State Wastewater permits and Building/Zoning Permits. State payments in Lieu of Taxes are \$168,578 over last year, increasing overall revenues.

Town Departments with significant non-tax revenue through January:

- Town Clerk & Civil Board earned 65% of expenses
- Planning and Zoning earned 63% of expenses
- Rescue earned 71% of expenses
- Recreation earned 94% of expenses
- Public Safety Dispatch earned 21% of expenses
- Wastewater earned 140% of expenses

Local Option Tax Receipts for the quarter ending February 9, 2017 were \$357,519. This is an increase of \$73,625 from the same quarter a year ago. Local Option Taxes are kept in a special fund and used only to pay for Voter Approved Debt and Voter Approved Capital Projects.

For more information about the Finance Department, please visit <http://colchestervt.gov/finance> or call (802) 264-5509.

**Notify Me:** Subscribe to Town news that matters to you most. Visit [www.colchestervt.gov](http://www.colchestervt.gov) to sign up.

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