

For the Week of:
October 9, 2017

Manager's Message of the Week
Dawn Francis, Town Manager

COLCHESTER PLANNING COMMISSION - Be a Part of Your Local Government

The Planning Commission is seeking a new member! The commission is principally responsible for drafting the Town Plan and the Town's land use bylaws and participates in regional planning issues. The Planning Commission works with the Director of Planning and Zoning, who staffs each meeting. The Planning Commission consists of seven volunteer members appointed by the Selectboard. The Commission tries to be as informal and comfortable as possible while keeping in mind that all meetings are recorded and public.

The Commission's agenda is generally set by staff in consultation with the Commission, Selectboard, and Planning and Zoning staff. Topics covered include land use, building, housing and other studies to the Selectboard. The Commission solely functions as a planning body with no authority over development review projects.

Requirements

- Cognitive reasoning is required to think through a variety of policy, legal, and community impacts of any Commission decision. Familiarity with local and state land use regulations, building design, or natural resources is preferable.
- Must be able to meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7PM at the Colchester Town Offices in the Outer Bay Conference Room for generally 1-2 hours. (Meetings may be added or rescheduled as needed.)
- On the Friday prior to the meeting, each planning commissioner is responsible for downloading and reviewing their meeting packet that includes an agenda, staff notes, and other enclosures prepared by the Director, usually with recommendations for action. (This takes roughly 1-3 hours)
- Must be able to interact with other commissioners, staff, and members of the community.

Recent and Upcoming Projects

- Recently, the Commission has revised the Zoning Regulations for West Lakeshore Drive and the Official Map as well as a Town Plan amendment.
- The Commission is currently working on revising the Subdivision Regulations.

Interested in joining the Planning Commission? Contact Sarah Hadd, Director of Planning and Zoning, at (802) 264-5602.

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

Police Department
Jennifer Morrison, Police Chief

It has been an incredibly busy fall at the Colchester Police Department. Calls for service have been consistently high and all the activities surrounding back to school have kept us running. We had an outstanding Awards Ceremony in September thanks to the Colchester-Milton Rotary club and our 50th Anniversary Celebration was nothing short of spectacular. Over 250 people came by to see our displays, watch a K9 demo, get a temporary tattoo or face painting, and have a bite to eat. We are grateful that our employees had the luxury of time to visit with community members in a relaxed environment and we were delighted to have nearly 15 former Colchester officers join us at this event! Guest appearances from the Governor, Senator Mazza, the Commission of Public Safety, and the Secretary of Transportation made the event extra special

We would like to dedicate this newsletter to the community and all the partners who made the 50th celebration so special. Our deepest appreciation goes to: Dick Mazza's General Store, the Colchester Lions' Club, Baker Distributing, Hazelett Strip-Casting Corp, McKenzie's, Friehofer, Rhino Foods, McDonalds, Costco, Shaws and Price Chopper. These businesses made the event possible through their generous donations of products, time, and talents. Most importantly, to the community members who took the time to stop in or toot your horn as you drove by, thank you! This event wouldn't have been possible without deep and consistent support from the Colchester community.

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

Rescue and Technical Rescue Squads
Amy Akerlind, Rescue Chief

Did you ever wonder about the training required to become a volunteer Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)? Here's a look at some of the trainings we do at Colchester Rescue while not on calls. We have various levels of training for volunteers members. These include:

- Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Certification Levels:
 - **EMT (Emergency Medical Technician)**
 - Advanced EMT (AEMT)
- Paramedic:
 - Ambulance Driver Training (You do not have to obtain an EMS certification to become a driver)
 - Crew Chief Training (charge of all aspects of the EMS call)

Continuing education must be completed every two years. Hours required vary, with EMTs completing 40 hours; AEMTs, 50 hours; and Paramedics, 60 hours. Members have the following training options for continuing education:

- Weekly Crew Training
- Monthly Squad Training
- Monthly District Case Reviews
- Monthly Paramedic Training

In addition to the above, we have continual training related to equipment and medications, as well as other conferences and training opportunities throughout the year. All of this training ensures that our patients will get the best care possible!


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

Upcoming Town Meetings:

- **Selectboard:** Tuesday, October 10, 6:30 PM.
- **Development Review Board:** Wednesday, October 11, 7 PM
- **Planning Commission:** Tuesday, October 17, 7 PM.
- **Recreation Advisory Board:** Wednesday, October 11, 7 AM at the Town Offices, Champlain Room, 2nd floor.
- **Selectboard:** Tuesday, October 24, 6:30 PM

(All meetings take place at the Colchester Town Offices, 781 Blakely Road, in the Outer Bay Conference Room on the 3rd floor unless otherwise noted.)

Upcoming events:

-  **The Town is having a photo contest! Go like our Instagram to view details and send us your entry!**
- **LEGISLATIVE FORUM at Burnham Library:** Monday, October 23, 6:00 PM. Residents will have the opportunity to share their views with state lawmakers. Legislators will provide a brief update and a moderated open question and answer period. Admission is free and registration is appreciated. Call the Library at 264-5660 for more information.
- **Rape Aggression Defense:** Colchester Police Department will offer a **FREE** 5-week self-defense training course on Wednesday nights, beginning on October 11, from 6-8 PM at the Meeting House on Main Street (next door to Burnham Library).
- **Colchester Cansurvive Shoe Drive:** Through the end of October your gently used shoes in good condition can help raise funds for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer AND help those in need of shoes in developing nations. It's a win-win! Rubber-band pairs and drop them off at the Colchester Town Offices on Blakely Road, Burnham Library on Main Street, or Fleet Feet at 77 Pearl St. in Essex Junction. Our goal is to collect 2500 pairs of shoes. Call Robin Parry at 264-5620 if you would like more information.

Notices:

- **Colchester Conservation Commission: New Location/New Night!** The Conservation Commission meetings are moving to the Kirker Room at the Colchester Police Department on Blakely Road, and they will now be on the 4th Monday of the month.

Traffic Notices:

- **I89-Colchester to Swanton:** Week of October 9: General cleanup will be done throughout the project limits during daytime hours. Question: Contact Stephanie Barrett at 802-862-6085.
- **Route 7/2/2A:** Week of October 9: Work will take place on Columbus Day, but 2-lane traffic will be maintained. Drainage pipe installation will likely cause lengthy traffic delays



Colchester - What do you want to do today?

for the rest of the week, with daily single lane closures and alternating one-way travel. Plan accordingly, especially during peak AM and PM hours. Questions? Contact Jill Barrett at 802-272-1248.

 Remember to follow us on Facebook ([@TownColchesterVT](#)) to get the latest about what's happening in your community!

 Share your photos of Colchester with us on Instagram ([@colchestervt](#))

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