

For the Week of December 18, 2017

Manager's Message of the Week

New Parks and Recreation Winter Event

Introducing a new Winter Sprint Triathlon: The Balaclava Blitz! It will take place Sunday, February 18, 2018, 9:00 AM at Bayside Park. Test your competitive race skills with this new addition to Colchester's race series. Brave the cold, snowy conditions in this sprint Winter Triathlon, featuring a 3K running course, 5.6K mountain biking course, and 5K of Nordic skiing around the Bayside Park area. Racers must be 16 years of age or older. Divisions include Individual Men (Ages 16 - 29); Individual Women (Ages 16 - 29); Individual Men (Ages 30+); Individual Women (Ages 30+). Entry fee is \$45 per person. All racers receive overall finish time and refreshments. Registration opened December 1, 2017 and you can register online at: <http://colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2904>

Office of the Deputy Town Manager/CFO

Aaron Frank

Proposed Formation of a Regional Dispatch: Chittenden County Public Safety Authority, a Union Municipal District

At their December 12 meeting the Selectboard approved and adopted the Resolution for Formation of a Union Municipal District to be placed before voters on the March 6, 2018 ballot. The proposed new organization would deliver regional public safety dispatch service in Chittenden County.

A regional dispatch center combined with a 911 call center can reduce the response time for many emergency calls by about 70 seconds per call! When every second can make a difference in emergency outcome, this is a significant improvement.

Nineteen public safety officials representing eight communities in Chittenden County support the formation of a Regional Dispatch Center. Voter approval will authorize formation of the Chittenden County Public Safety Authority (PSA) but **will not** obligate municipalities to pay for or receive services. You may read further about this issue at The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission's website at: <https://www.ccrpcvt.org/our-work/emergency-management/regional-dispatch/>

On the Financial Front: FY 18 Budget Update

Five months through the fiscal year, revenues are higher than expenses by \$704,160. This is a net positive of 6%.



- Expenditures are 3% under budget primarily due to the Public Works-Highway, Planning & Zoning, and Police departments, as well as the Manager's office.
- Revenues are 3% over budget. Primary contributors include property taxes and state, rescue, and police revenues.
- Expenditures may trend closer to budget in the coming months due to increased seasonal staffing (winter and spring/summer) and some supply items that have been ordered but not yet received and paid for.

Local Option Tax Fund: As of November 30, the balance of the Local Option Tax Fund (restricted to voter approved capital projects) is \$1,005,937. In FY 18, we have received \$457,980 in revenue and made \$548,266 in payments for such projects.

**Office of the Town Clerk
Karen Richard**

- As this year winds down it is time to gear up for the next election, which is Town Meeting on Tuesday March 6, 2018. As we prepare to advertise the expired terms for the many elected positions it is appropriate to thank all of the elected officials. They are our dedicated citizens that volunteer their time and efforts for the betterment of our community. The Town could not survive without our loyal volunteers.
- The following positions will be on the ballot in March: Selectboard member, 2 Year, currently held by Jeffrey Bartley; Selectboard member 3 Year, currently held by Nadine Scibek; Moderator, 1 Year, currently held by Scott Barrett; School Board, 2 Year, currently held by Lindsey Cox; School Board, 3 Year, currently held by Michael Rogers; and Library Trustee, 5 Year, currently held by Leora Black; Lister, 3 Year, currently held by Geri Barrows. We thank these people for their past service.
- To run for any of the offices mentioned above you need to submit a petition stating the office for which you wish to run, the length of the term, and collect the signatures of 30 registered voters. **We cannot accept petitions that do not state the term of office.** If you have questions or would like a blank petition please contact us. The **deadline** to submit a petition is **5 pm on Monday, January 30, 2018.**
- There will be a proposed charter change amendment on the ballot: to change the elected clerk and treasurer to an appointed position. I support the proposal and will go into more detail with the reasons in my report next month.

- Please remember that both voting districts, District 9-1 and District 9-2, are voting at the Colchester High School Gymnasium for all elections.

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

Upcoming Town Meetings:

- **Planning Commission:** Tuesday, December 19, 7 PM
- **Selectboard:** Tuesday December 26: meeting has been **cancelled**.
- **Planning Commission:** Tuesday, January 2, 2018, 7 PM
- **Selectboard:** Tuesday, January 9, 2018, 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.)

Notices:

- The Town Offices will **close at noon on Friday, December 22** in observance of Christmas Eve and will be closed on Monday, December 25 in observance of Christmas.
- The Town Offices will **close at noon on Friday, December 29** in observance of New Year's Eve and will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2018 in observance of New Year's Day.
- Burnham Library will **close at 2 pm on Friday, December 22** and will be closed **through Monday, December 25** in observance of the Christmas holiday.
- Burnham Library will be closed on **Monday, January 1, 2018** in observance of New Year's Day.



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