

## **For the Week of December 25, 2017**

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

#### **Stormwater Billing Reminder By Karen Adams, Technical Services Manager**

Colchester has the most shoreline along Lake Champlain (27 miles!) than any other community in Vermont, so we have a vested interest to protect and preserve the water quality of the lake. To that end, Colchester's goal to improve water quality was taken another step with the adoption of a stormwater utility by the Select Board in May of 2017. This means that each property owner will receive a stormwater bill in mid-January 2018; it will be due February 15, 2018. Payments will be accepted on-line. In previous years stormwater program funds were collected through property tax payments; property taxes were adjusted downward accordingly for 2018.

The utility is responsible for funding all public stormwater activities, including continued maintenance and repairs on the 2,282 stormwater pipelines, 53 stormwater ponds, and 279 stormwater outfalls owned by the Town. Also funded through the utility is the Town's street sweeper, which cleans paved streets in the spring and fall to limit the amount of sediment and debris entering our waterways. The Town's water quality sampling program is also funded through the new stormwater utility, with over 250 tests conducted during the 2017 sampling season.

If you have questions about the stormwater utility information can be found on our website at: [colchestervt.gov/1837/stormwater-utility](http://colchestervt.gov/1837/stormwater-utility). The page also features a database showing stormwater fees for every property in Colchester. Thank you all for supporting the health of Lake Champlain and the legacy of clean water for future generations.

#### **Planning and Zoning Department Sarah Hadd, Director**

- The Colchester Development Review Board met on December 13th and has issued draft motions of approval for three seawall projects.
  - Bruce Mongeon seawall project consists of a lower and an upper wall, 550' long, located at 841, 857, 869, 877, 885, 903, 913, 927, 937, and 883 East Lakeshore Drive; tax map 68, parcel 1, Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.
  - The Lee and Ashley Klein seawall consists of a large dimensional stone seawall, approximately 95' long along the 98 elevation contour with approximately 70' in length along the 100 elevation contour; 105 Chase Lane, tax map 44, parcel 24.

- The Christopher Mason and Jessica Bridge seawall consists of re-armoring an approximately 220 feet long existing seawall to fill voids: 210 Ledge Road, tax map 59, parcel 3.
- The Development Review Board will meet again on January 10th to consider continued applications of David Powell for a final plat on Forest Trail and of Severance Corners Village Center LLC to revise the existing exit onto Blakely Road, to include an option to turn left; and modify the existing right turn only exit from Perimeter Drive, to include an option for southbound traffic on Route 2/7; 2588 Blakely Road. New applications will also be heard on January 10th.
- The Planning Commission met on December 19th and began reviewing the existing Town Plan. The Commission focused on demographics and population projections. The Commission will meet again on January 3rd to review the existing land use chapter. A formal visioning process is anticipated to kick off the 2019 Town Plan in May with subsequent issue and place based forums.

For more information visit <http://colchestervt.gov/planningz> or call (802) 264-5600.

#### **Upcoming Town Meetings:**

- **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 3<sup>rd</sup> floor unless otherwise noted.)

#### **Notices:**

- 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 be closed on Monday, January 1, 2018 in observance of New Year's Day.

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