

For the Week of November 19, 2018

Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

Abandoned Vessels

The Town of Colchester does not have the legal authority to remove sinking or sunken boats in Lake Champlain, including Malletts Bay. However, following the incident of the partially sunken boat in Malletts Bay last winter a new Vermont Statute was passed regarding boats left abandoned/sinking in public waters. It is now a criminal violation to abandon a gas-powered boat or one that poses an imminent threat to navigation or public health or safety. Such boats may be removed by the State and the owner will be responsible for the costs of removal, clean-up and disposal, storage, and costs associated with the enforcement of the law. In addition, the violator is subject to a fine of up to \$10,000. Read the full text of the statute, 10 V.S.A 48A, here: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/fullchapter/10/048A>.

Thanks to Senator Mazza who worked to help create the law. With its passage, the State was able to remove the abandoned boat that was caught in weeds at the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Fishing Access off West Lake Shore Drive on Thursday, November 15.

The Town thanks the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation for their assistance in the removal of the boat.

Happy Thanksgiving from the Town of Colchester Selectboard and Town staff. We wish you a holiday filled with the warmth of family, friends, and home. Safe travels everyone!

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

Planning and Zoning Department
Sarah Hadd, Director

Student Art Contest!

The Colchester Planning Commission wants to know what Colchester means to you! Do you have a picture of a special place, event, or everyday happenings in Colchester? Create an original work of art showing us and we might just publish it in the 2019 Town Plan!

Entry Rules: You must be 18 or under and a Colchester resident. Art forms accepted are: photography, paint, drawing, print, or original digital illustration.

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

Submissions: Accepted at <https://tinyurl.com/mycolchester> or at the Colchester Planning & Zoning Office, 781 Blakely Road, until December 14th at 4:30PM.

Judging and Winners: A panel of judges will review all entries for originality, interpretation of the theme, and skill. Top artists in the 0-6, 7-12, and 13-18 categories will receive \$50 gift cards. Winning works will be published in the 2019 Town Plan and winners presented with a certificate of merit from the Colchester Planning Commission. Questions? Email shadd@colchestervt.gov or call 264-5602

The 2019 Town Plan can be found at tinyurl.com/2019TownPlan.

The Development Review Board met on November 14th and approved a final plat application of Peck Investment Properties, LLC to add four units to an existing 12-unit residential complex for a total of 16 residential units at 961 Mill Pond Road, tax map 8, parcel 3-1. The Board also heard a sketch plan application from SH2 LLC and Vermont Information Processing for a 150 space automobile parking lot at 41 Water Tower Circle, Tax Map 3, Parcel 181 to serve an existing business known as Vermont Information Processing located at 402 Water Tower Circle.

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

Department of Public Works
Bryan Osborne, Director

- Ground survey for the Malletts Bay Sewer Project has been completed and the design has been sufficiently advanced to allow updating of the project cost estimates. A presentation of the Project will be given at a special Selectboard meeting for residents of properties within the project area on November 27, 2018 at 6:30 PM at the Colchester High School in the Performing Arts Center.
- Have met with Secretary Moore to explore additional funding opportunities for the Malletts Bay Sewer Project. Proposed and outlined three different options for her consideration and expect a response in the next week.
- The Technical Advisory Committee, (TAC) of the CCRPC has approved the inclusion of the Bayside Intersection upgrade in the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). This is the next procedural step in advancing the design of the intersection upgrade.
- Awarded a contract for a Town-wide condition assessment of the Town's stormwater system. The work is underway and about 30% complete at this time. We expect the work to be completed either this fall or in the spring of 2019. This project is being done through the Stormwater Utility with 80% grant funding.
- The replacement of the HVAC systems at the Library is underway. The project is expected to be completed this month.
- The Capital Paving Program is now substantially complete.
- We have awarded a contract for Resident Engineering services for the West Lakeshore Drive Multi-Use path project. The bid opening for construction is set for

November 15, 2018. This year's work will be limited to tree removal. The remainder of the work will be completed next summer with a projected completion date of late August.

- We are continuing to advance the design for the reconstruction of the Prim and West Lakeshore Drive Intersection project.
- We have awarded a design contract for stormwater improvements to Shore Acres and the surrounding area. The project is being done through the Stormwater Utility and funded with a \$350,000 grant.
- A consultant has been selected for the development of a phosphorus control plan as required under the recently released MS4 Stormwater Permit. The development of this plan is being funded with a \$50,000 grant.
- Continuing the design for the replacement of large drainage culverts that have failed under Hercules Drive. This project will be done under the Stormwater Utility.
- From the recent vote, the School district now has the authority to convey the necessary land to the Town to allow the Blakely Road and Laker Lane intersection project to proceed next summer.

For more about Public Works visit <http://colchestervt.gov/publicworks> or call (802) 264-5620.

Upcoming Town Meetings:

- **Planning Commission:** 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm: December meetings: 12/4 and 12/18
- **Development Review Board:** 1st Wednesday of the month, 7:00pm. Next meeting: 12/12.
- **Recreation Advisory Board:** 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00am, Champlain Room, 2nd floor. Next meeting: 12/12
- **Conservation Commission:** 3rd Monday of the month, 7:00pm, at the Bayside Activity Center or per agenda. Next meeting: 12/17
- **Selectboard:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month, 6:30pm. Tuesday, November 27: **Special meeting at Colchester High School in the Performing Arts Center at 6:30 PM** with update on the Malletts Bay Sewer Project. Next regular meeting: 12/11
- **Upcoming Annual Selectboard Budget Meetings:**
 - Tuesday, December 4, 2018 6:00-7:30 p.m. Selectboard Work Session with Administration - Champlain Room, 2nd floor

(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:

- **Dinner with Santa:** 12/14, 6:15 - 7:15pm at Colchester Middle School. Due to limited seating you must pre-register. \$10 adults, \$5 children, 2 & under free.

Notices:

- The Town Offices will be **closed on Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23**, in observance of Thanksgiving.
- **Winter Parking Ban** goes into effect on Thursday, November 15th.

 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.