

For the Week of December 10, 2018

Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

Selectboard Holds Public Meeting on Malletts Bay Sewer Project:

The Colchester Selectboard held a special meeting at the Colchester High School to share information about the Malletts Bay Sewer project. The purpose of the project is to remove human waste bacteria from the inner Bay, which is the location of our primary Town beach and where our youth learn to swim. Property owners and residents in the proposed sewer service area were all directly invited to the meeting.

In 2010 the Town of Colchester completed an Integrated Water Resources Management Study which documented through DNA testing that human waste bacteria is in the inner Bay. The Town has identified multiple septic systems that have failed due to: lack of replacement areas, distance to surface waters, poor soil, rocky land, and/or depth to groundwater. The State of Vermont determined that the Town was eligible for state and federal funding for a sewer project due to the contamination of the Bay caused by septic systems adjacent to the Bay.

The Town has identified funding for the project including state and federal grants; a 2% federal loan; user fees; connection fees for future development; and use of the local option tax, which would be paid back over time from the sewer system fees. No property taxes would be needed to fund the project.

This project has been considered for over 50 years. The Selectboard will be receiving updates on project details and financing from Town staff until their January 8, 2019 meeting, at which time they will consider whether the matter should go before the voters for consideration on Town Meeting Day 2019. This would be a significant project for Colchester – I urge all residents to stay informed on this issue.

Visit <http://colchestervt.gov/3025/Malletts-Bay-Sewer-Project> for more information.

Finance Department
Lara Aley, Director

- **FY 19 Budget Update:** Five months through the fiscal year, revenues are higher than expenses by \$229,876, a net positive of 2%. Expenditures are 2% under budget and Revenues are right on budget.
- **Local Option Tax Fund:** As of November 30, 2018 the balance of the Local Option Tax Fund (with use restricted to voter-approved capital projects) is

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

\$2,329,893. In FY19, we have received \$784,667 in revenue and made \$522,883 in payments for such projects.

Office of the Town Clerk | Treasurer
Julie Graeter

- Thank you to all the volunteers and voters who participated in the VT General Election on November 6.
- Looking forward to the New Year, we are making preparations for the “Your Dog is #1” contest, to be held in January.
- We will be ready to assist tax payers and preparers with their annual VT Homestead Declaration/Property Tax Adjustment filings.
- In the coming weeks, check out the Town Clerk’s web page for tax information: <http://www.colchestervt.gov/322/Town-Clerk>

For more about the Town Clerk’s Office visit <http://colchestervt.gov/townclerk> or call 264-5520.

Assessor
Robert Vickery

- Working on the 2019 Town property evaluation (Grand List) changes
- Inspecting new construction
- Contacting property owners who have taken out permits for interior renovation to arrange building inspections
- Supporting the Malletts Bay Sewer Project
- Assisting the stormwater utility by supplying and analyzing parcel ownership data
- Analyzing income and expense data of commercial real estate

You may view the online Web Map and Assessment Data at <http://www.axisgis.com/ColchesterVT/>

For more about the Assessor’s Office visit <http://colchestervt.gov/assessor> or call 264-5671.

Upcoming Town Meetings:

- **Planning Commission:** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 7:00PM: Next meeting: 12/18
- **Development Review Board:** 2nd 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. **The December meeting has been canceled.** Next meeting: 1/21/19

- **Selectboard:** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month, 6:30PM. **The Selectboard meeting on December 25 has been canceled due to the holiday.** Next meeting: 1/8/19

(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:

- **Colchester's Got Talent! Auditions:** 1/17/2019 from 2:30 PM with auditions every four minutes. Fill out an Entry Form at: <http://bit.ly/ColchestersGotTalentEntry>
- **36th Annual Winter Carnival:** February 1, 2, & 3, 2019. Theme: "Myth & Magic" Entry bracelets are \$7 per person. A full schedule will be available in January

Notices:

- The Town Offices will **close at noon on Monday, December 24 and be closed on Tuesday, December 25** in observance of the Christmas holiday.



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)

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