

For the Week of October 14, 2019

Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

Good News for Lovers of Pickleball

On Tuesday, October 8 the Colchester Selectboard approved an amendment to the FY20 Parks Capital Plan for a new Airport Park Pickleball Project to include four dedicated courts, plus resurfacing of two tennis courts that also serve as pickleball courts. Colchester pickleball players raised \$26,000 dollars to put toward the project and the Parks and Recreation Department will delay a \$150,000 drainage project to open an additional playing field at the back of Airport Park and put \$125,000 dollars toward fast-tracking the pickleball project instead.

Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the U.S. and Colchester has a large group of enthusiasts as evidenced by the large group who attended the Selectboard meeting and spoke on behalf of the benefits of the sport. All appreciated the **Selectboard's** approval of the project and the Selectboard expressed their appreciation of the pickleballers' fundraising efforts.

Pickleball fan, Inge Schaefer stated, "It [the new and refurbished courts] will be a benefit to a wide assortment of citizens both those living in our town and also some surrounding communities. ...These courts as proposed for Airport Park will be the envy of the area - hands down. They will offer regulation tournament play and...will also bring in folks from surrounding communities and they will enjoy getting to better know our town in the process.

"What is special about this project is that it has truly been a grass-roots effort bringing local residents and the Town together to cooperatively bring the project to fruition. It's inspirational really and a fine example of how things can get done if we **work together.**"

The Parks and Recreation Department are aiming to have the Request for Proposals for the work posted in November and hope that work will begin as early as possible next spring. The additional courts will allow even more pickleball fans to play in Colchester next year!

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

Economic Development Department
Kathi Walker O'Reilly, Director

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

- Met with a local developer on available space and future plans for expansion and redevelopment.
- Working with Colchester company looking to expand in our community and reviewing possible locations that would meet their needs.
- Ongoing with an existing business looking to purchase another property in town. We were able to secure additional Brownfields funding for Phase II Supplemental assessment that will assist with determining the course of clean up in the future.
- VTrans has launched their outreach for the Exit 16 DDI. I have been working closely with them to make sure Colchester residents and businesses are aware of the project, proposed timeline, and general questions are answered. In that regard, I attended the two presentations to at the Town Offices and assisted with the coordination of the events. They will be hosting more meetings with Colchester businesses and residents.
- Assisting local food manufacturer who wants to diversify and coordinating resources that are free of charge.
- Met with building owner regarding tenant's future needs and how to alleviate restraints on the site.
- On SSTA's succession committee and involved in hiring of a new Executive Director.
- Met with another local food manufacturer who is considering an expansion and reviewing possible locations in our community.

For more visit <http://www.colchestervt.gov/econdev> or call (802) 264-5508.

Planning and Zoning Department Sarah Hadd, Director

The Planning Commission continues to work on the Malletts Bay Initiative Wastewater Solutions and is working on a report to the Selectboard summarizing its findings. A formal report out is anticipated at a November meeting of the Commission. The next Commission meeting will be October 15th at 7PM at 781 Blakely Road for continued work on this report.

For more information see tinyurl.com/ColchesterMBI

The Development Review Board met on October 9th and approved:

1. The preliminary plat application of Ireland Industries to subdivide a 33.7 acre parcel into 37 lots in size from .13 acres to 8.86 acres to be comprised of mixed uses to include office commercial space, restaurant space, daycare space, retail space and residential units to be served by public streets at 242 Severance Rd., tax map 4, parcel 30-1.

The Board also approved the following applications:

1. Final plat application of Carl Lankin for one additional lot for a single family residence at 362 Middle Road and Village Drive, tax map 11, parcel 36 and tax map 25, parcels 22 and 23
2. Site plan application of Handy Investment Group and Lazure Enterprise LLC to establish a deli in an existing retail business at 25 Raymond Road, tax map 16, parcel 8.

The Board also considered the sketch plan applications of:

1. Steven Stizel, Pati Page, and Winooski Valley Park District for a four lot subdivision at 1980 East Road and O Curve Hill Road, tax map 12, parcel 29 and tax map 9, parcel 26
2. Katrina Fitzgerald and Ryan Gardner for a four lot subdivision at 340 Watkins Road, tax map 14, parcel 20-4.

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

Department of Public Works Bryan Osborne, Director

- We are continuing to advance the design for the reconstruction of the Prim and West Lakeshore Drive Intersection project.
- Discussions with the CCRPC and VTrans are continuing to advance the design of a roundabout at the Bayside intersection.
- We are continuing the design for stormwater improvements in Shore Acres and the surrounding area to improve water quality in Malletts Bay.
- Work is continuing on the development of a phosphorus control plan to improve water quality in Malletts Bay.
- We are continuing to advance 30% engineering for the replacement of culverts beneath Lower Mt. View Drive.
- Winter preparations are underway including street sweeping, gravel road grading, marking of key drainage structure and preparing snow and ice removal equipment.

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

Upcoming Town Meetings:

- **Planning Commission:** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 7:00 PM. Next meeting: 10/15
- **Development Review Board:** 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 PM. November meeting: 11/13
- **Recreation Advisory Board:** 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 AM, Champlain Room, 2nd floor. November meeting: 11/13
- **Conservation Commission:** 3rd Monday of the month, 7:00 PM, at the Bayside Activity Center or per agenda. October meeting: 10/21
- **Selectboard:** 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm. Next October meeting: 10/22

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

(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: Fri., Dec. 13, 6:15–7:15 PM at the Colchester Middle School. Registration is now open – get your tickets early!

Notices: Colchester Historical Society

- The autumn issue of the Colchester Historical Society is now available and includes information about upcoming events and programs.
- Our membership drive is underway, so please sign up. New members are always welcome and there are several interesting volunteer opportunities. Please visit <https://colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5450/Autumn-2019-Historical-Society-Newsletter?bidId>

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