

**February 17, 2022**

**Manager's Message**

Aaron Frank, Town Manager



The Town of Colchester has completed its Annual Town Report. This year's report honors the people who make up the Colchester community, from its residents and those involved with its local businesses and services, to its curious visitors and passionate volunteers. It is dedicated to the Colchester Historical Society for researching, preserving, and sharing the community's history.

The report includes directories of local officials and services; shares challenges and successes from the past year from your Selectboard, boards, and commissions and staff, and reviews proposals for the upcoming year. You can read more online here: <https://colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/7174/20-21TownReportFINALColor>

---

**From Your Selectboard Regarding the Malletts Bay Sewer Project**

***Dear Colchester Resident:***

We, as your elected Colchester Selectboard, are writing to ask for your support in the Malletts Bay Sewer Project, Article #7 on the upcoming Annual Town Meeting Election Ballot.

The Selectboard values the Bay and its future, which is why we are asking for Colchester Residents to consider this proposal. The project's purpose is to preserve, protect, and ensure the community's vision for the Bay by removing human waste bacteria from Malletts Bay and eliminating failed septic systems.

This proposal is backed by a 4-year, \$2 million water quality study funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and a detailed alternatives analysis completed by the Colchester Planning Commission. The State of Vermont's Agency of Natural Resources has deemed the project eligible for \$10,000,000 in grants and a 2% 30-year loan. Research documents the continued failure of septic systems along the shoreline of inner Malletts Bay and concludes that the most effective and efficient way to address human waste bacteria in Malletts Bay and protect the public health is to construct a municipal sewer. These systems fail at 3-4 times the rate of other on-site wastewater systems in our community.

We remain focused on fiscal restraint for the benefit of all taxpayers, which is why a benefit of this project is funding. Town Residents outside the project area will have no cost associated with this project, as it will be funded solely by grants and user fees from the 289 properties within the service area. This results in no property or local option taxes being used.

With these grounds for the project in mind, the Selectboard encourages you to consider approving this ballot item, as our overall goal is to improve the water quality in the Bay for our Town residents now and its future generations.

We also encourage you to contact Bryan Osborne, our Town's Public Works Director, at [bosborne@colchestervt.gov](mailto:bosborne@colchestervt.gov) or 802-264-5625 with questions or for more information.

Once again, thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Your Colchester Selectboard**

*Pam Loranger, Chair*

*Tom Mulcahy, Vice Chair*

*Jacki Murphy, Clerk*

*Herb Downing, Member*

*Charlie Papillo, Member*

---

**Colchester's Burnham Memorial Library:**

**Hours:**

Mondays & Thursdays: 12 pm – 6 pm

Tuesdays & Wednesdays: 10 am – 4 pm

Fridays: 10 am – 1 pm

Saturdays: 10 am – 3 pm



**Available programs:**

Outdoor Storytime: Tuesdays & Fridays in February at 10:30 am. Join us on the library lawn for stories, songs, and lots of giggles.

Young Writers & Storytellers: Wednesday February 9 & 23. Join us for our writing club for children from kindergarten to 5th grade. Let's create stories! Call 264-5660 for more information, and to sign up.

Crafts for Kids: Thursday February 10 & 24. Kids 5 and up get to work on a new craft project every session.

---

**Colchester Parks & Recreation Update:**

The Colchester Parks and Recreation Department released the 2022 Summer Program Brochure on January 28<sup>th</sup>. There are tons of summer camps, programs and events for all ages. You can find the brochure on the Parks and Recreation website or by clicking on this link: [2022-Summer-Brochure \(colchestervt.gov\)](https://www.colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6606/2022-Summer-Brochure)



Pavilion reservations for the summer of 2022 began on Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup> for residents. You can reserve the pavilions at Bayside Park and Airport Park in-person at the Colchester Parks and Recreation office after filling out the Pavilion request form: <https://www.colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6606/2022-Pavilion-Request-Form> or online at: [Catalog - Colchester Parks & Recreation \(rec1.com\)](https://www.colchestervt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6606/2022-Pavilion-Request-Form)

---

**Upcoming Town Meetings**

**Selectboard:** Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Masks are required. Alternatively, send a note, up to 1,000 words to [townmanager@colchestervt.gov](mailto:townmanager@colchestervt.gov) with "Citizens to be Heard" in the Subject and your name. As with in-person Citizens to be Heard, we ask that you SHARE YOUR ADDRESS. The email will be shared with the entire Selectboard prior to the meeting and included in the information packet at the next meeting.

- Watch the Meeting Online via Live Stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>



- Agenda: [www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas](http://www.bit.ly/Colchester-SB-Agendas)

**Development Review Board:** Wednesday, March 9, 7:00 PM at the Colchester Town Offices, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. The Development Review Board will likely be participating remotely. Members of the public will have the option to choose either remote or in-person attendance. Masks are required for in-person attendance. Public comments can be submitted prior to the hearing by email to [zmaia@colchestervt.gov](mailto:zmaia@colchestervt.gov) or by mail to Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446. Alternatively, participate in the public comment periods during the hybrid meeting.

- Participate by Phone: 1-929-205-6099
- Meeting ID: 871 3561 5437 (US – New York)
- Link to meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87135615437>
- Watch Meeting Online via Live Stream: <http://lcatv.org/live-stream-2>
- Agenda: [https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=DRBAgenda&path=DRB%2CDRB\\_Agendas%2CDRBAgenda%2C](https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=DRBAgenda&path=DRB%2CDRB_Agendas%2CDRBAgenda%2C)

**Library Board of Trustees:** Thursday, February 17, 4:30 PM. This will be a fully remote Zoom meeting. The public may join by dialing (929) 205-6099. Enter Meeting ID: 835 3713 1958 and passcode: 206902

Agenda: [https://clerkshq.com/Content/Colchester-vt/Boards/LibBoard.htm#\\_CPA1](https://clerkshq.com/Content/Colchester-vt/Boards/LibBoard.htm#_CPA1)

**Conservation Commission:** Monday, February 21, at 6:00 PM in the Bayside Activity Center. Masks are required during the meeting with adequate space between seats.

**Recreation Advisory Board:** A meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 9 at 7:00 AM at the Colchester Town Offices.

**Subscribe to the Town Newsletter:**

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/jkMAO2v>

For more information or to comment, call 802-264-5509 or email [townmanager@colchestervt.gov](mailto:townmanager@colchestervt.gov)