

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, September 3, 2024
7:00 PM
Adella G. Urban Conference Room
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT**

Members Present: Steven M. Everett, First Selectman; Judy Ortiz, Deputy First Selectman; William O'Brien, Selectman; Lisa Napolitano, Selectman; Selectman; Christopher Lent, Selectman.

Also Present: Mark B. Walter, Town Administrator, Beverly Ciurylo, Finance Director; Carol Price.

Also Present Remotely: Beth Lunt, Department of Public Works Director, Bernadette Derring, Senior Center Director, Brittany Delessio, Sr. Center Program Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER: S. Everett called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** S. Everett MOVED to APPROVE the AGENDA with the Addition to New Business - 6.4, to Appoint Mark Walter as proxy for Steven Everett to Attend the Annual Region 4 Regional Emergency Planning Team CEO Meeting. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - 3.1 **BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for August 20, 2024.** S. Everett MOVED to APPROVE the Board of Selectmen Special Meeting Minutes for August 20, 2024. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
4. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** None.
5. **OLD BUSINESS:** None.
6. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - 6.1 **Set Town Meeting for Tuesday, September 17, 2024 for the purpose of purchasing the property at 330 Route 66 for the purposes of Open Space and Recreation.** S. Everett said the town has interest in this property because it borders land already owned by the Town in Rec Park.

M. Walter said that we have requested a new driveway cut with the State Department of Transportation (DOT). The DOT has already reviewed our request and has asked us to upgrade our design to include drainage under the drive entrance. Rob Hellstrom Land Surveying is confident that we will be able to address any concerns the DOT has.

W. O'Brien asked is this contingent upon State approval. S. Everett said yes, it does us no good if we can't get access to the property.

Ann Dunnack, 103 Lake Rd. and Chairman of Open Space asked where the proposed driveway will be located. M. Walter said the driveway will be opposite the rock wall and the access will be on the Town's property.

S. Everett MOVED to Set a Town Meeting for Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 6:30 pm for the following purpose:

CLAUSE 1: Shall the Town of Columbia appropriate \$44,680.00 from the Open Space Land Acquisition Account #20-6388-013 to be applied toward the purchase of that certain piece or parcel of land in the Town of Columbia, consisting of approximately 22.92 acres of open space land located at 330 Route 66, subject to negotiation of an acceptable access easement with the State Department of Transportation, and the simultaneous conveyance to the seller of an 0.58 acre easement parcel currently owned by the Town of Columbia. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

- 6.2 Set Public Hearing for Tuesday, October 1, 2024, Regarding Handicap Accessible Ramp at the Boathouse Pavilion.** S. Everett said the public hearing will be set so that we can get public input on whether we need to put in a handicap accessible ramp at the boathouse pavilion. He said there has been concern from some residents how the ramp would affect the beach area and the lawn.

S. Everett MOVED to Set a Public Hearing for Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 6:30 pm for the following purpose: To receive public comment on handicap accessible ramp at the town beach boathouse pavilion. MOTION CARRIED.

- 6.3 Bid Waiver for Columbia Lake Dam Repair.** E. Lunt said originally the bid project was to repair necessary components of the slide gates. There were eight or nine attendees at the pre-bid. Only one vendor submitted, but it was not clear what they were going to do. We went back out to WMC Consulting Engineers and sent divers down to inspect and to figure out what needed to be done. E. Lunt said we sourced out the parts from the only supplier we could find and that all the bidders use and proposed to purchase the parts ourselves. By purchasing the parts ourselves there will be no markup. We will be hiring the dive team to do the repairs and the dive team is off the state bid for Diving Construction Services. S. Everett MOVED to APPROVE the Bid Waiver for parts and labor to repair the slide gate at the Columbia Lake Dam. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

- 6.4 Appointment of Mark Walter as proxy for Steven Everett to Attend the Annual Region 4 Regional Emergency Planning Team CEO Meeting.** S. Everett MOVED to Approve Mark Walter to stand in his place for the Annual Region 4 Regional Emergency Planning Team CEO Meeting. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

- 7. COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH: None.**

- 8. **APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS:** None.
- 9. **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**
 - 9.1 **Marine Patrol Activity Log.** M. Walter included the marine patrol logs from May to August 2024. He said he provided the reports so that the Board of Selectmen could see the activity Marine Patrol does.
 - 9.2 **Yellow Trail Bog Bridge.** M. Walter provided a photo of the new walking bridge that was built by Tom McGrath. This is located at Rec Park in the wet portion of the trail and in the area of the Disc Golf course.
- 10. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None.
- 11. **BUDGET:**
 - 11.1 **Transfers:** S. Everett MOVED to APPROVE the Transfers as Presented, Totaling \$5,543.00.

TRANSFER #	AMOUNT	FROM ACCOUNT #	DESCRIPTION	TO ACCOUNT #	DESCRIPTION
2024-059	\$3,400.00	10-4420-010	Salaries-Waste	10-4420-500	Professional/Tech
	\$1,600.00	10-4420-515	Disposal	10-4420-500	Professional/Tech
	\$543.00	10-4420-600	Contracted Services Repairs/Maintenance	10-4420-500	Professional/Tech

MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

- 11.2 **Refunds:** None.
- 12. **APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS:** S. Everett MOVED to APPROVE the Payment of Bills as Presented, Totaling \$115,138.28, consisting of 2023-2024 Emergency, 2024-2025 Emergency, 2023-2024 Regular, 2024-2025 Regular, Credit Card and Paychex. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
- 13. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** None.
- 14. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** None,
- 15. **EXECUTIVE SESSION: Real estate per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(D); Pending Litigation per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(B); Personnel per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(A).** S. Everett MOVED to Enter into Executive Session at 7:25 pm and Invite Mark Walter, Town Administrator and Bernadette Derring, Director of Senior Services, Beverly Ciurylo, Finance Director, and Carol Price. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

At 8:17 pm Executive Session ended and the Board of Selectmen’s meeting resumed with the following actions taken.

15.1 Personnel:

- S. Everett MOVED to promote Brittany Dalessio to full time at 35 hours a week prorated to July 1, 2024, and accept the revised job description. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
- S. Everett MOVED to Terminate Michelle Manas effective 9/4/2024. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

16. ADJOURNMENT: S. Everett MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:20 pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted by Jennifer C. LaVoie