

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

Topic: Board of Selectmen

Time: Sep 3, 2024 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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CALL TO ORDER:

- 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - 3.1 BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for August 20, 2024.
- 4. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:**
- 5. OLD BUSINESS:**
- 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.
 - 6.2 Set Public Hearing for Tuesday, October 1, 2024, Regarding Handicap Accessible Ramp at the Boathouse Pavilion.
 - 6.3 Bid Waiver for Columbia Lake Dam Repair.
- 7. COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH:**

- 8. APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS:**
- 9. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**
 - 9.1 Marine Patrol Activity Log.
 - 9.2 Yellow Trail Bog Bridge.
- 10. CORRESPONDENCE:**
- 11. BUDGET:**
 - 11.1 Transfers:
 - 11.2 Refunds:
- 12. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS:**
- 13. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:**
- 14. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**
- 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 Statues Section 1-200(6)(A).**
 - 15.1 Personnel:
- 16. ADJOURNMENT:**

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, August 20, 2024
5:00 PM
Town Beach/Murphy House
18 Lake Rd, 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, Peter Dunnack, Facilities Manager, Jake Lebrun - Guy LeBrun Home Improvement.

CALL TO ORDER: S. Everett called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Agenda as Presented. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - 2.1 **BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for August 6, 2024.** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes for August 6, 2024 as Presented. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
3. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** Jim Thompson, 109 Lake Rd. said that he would advocate for a handicap ramp as opposed to a lift because a lift would be exposed to the weather and there would be the cost for maintenance upkeep. He said he is advocating for handicap access not only because his son is in a wheelchair, but also with the aging population the stairs leading up to the pavilion would be difficult for an elderly person to navigate.
4. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - 4.1 **Update on Town Beach Boathouse/Pavilion.** P. Dunnack updated the Selectmen on the two options for handicap access to the pavilion. The first option is for a mechanical lift at an approximate total cost of \$70,000 to \$75,000, which would include running electricity, the emergency power source and the dog house that would surround the lift. The lift would require a structure to be built over the mechanicals which would affect the current look of the building. A lift would require an annual service contract of approximately \$500 to \$700 annually and would require electricity and emergency power source. The second option is a ramp with paver walkway from the parking lot. The paver installation estimate is \$53,600. This cost may be reduced if the Town supplies some materials and labor for fill. The ramp estimate for 20' wooden ADA ramp from the walkway to the pavilion deck is \$20,000.

M. Walter said our insurance company, CIRMA stated that the ADA standard is the cost should not be more than 20% of the building cost and the boathouse does not meet the code requirements for ADA since it is less than 3 stories tall and less than 3,000 square feet.

If the Building Official requires the ADA compliance due to code, CIRMA will need a written statement, why it is needed as well as references to the ADA compliance standards.

J. Ortiz said she feels that the pavilion should be open to all the public, or not at all. C. Lent agreed.

Jake LeBrun explained that he was concerned about the stability of the roof under high wind conditions. He met with the Architect and they agreed that the acceptable solution is to add additional metal bracing beams to the structure. S. Everett asked if the original plans called for extra support. J. LeBrun said no, but that the extra support can still be easily put in. The cost for the extra steel braces and labor will be \$10,000.

Discussion ensued about a metal roof verses asphalt shingles. The consensus was to go with the asphalt shingles and to match the color of the Murphy House shingles.

S. Everett said that currently there is \$40,000 in ARPA funds that could be used for the extra support.

S. Everett MOVED to Approve the cost of the additional support beams and fund with ARPA funds. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

S. Everett MOVED to Approve the asphalt shingles to be used instead of a metal roof. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

S. Everett said the issue with ADA accessibility will be tabled at this point for further consideration.

5. NEW BUSINESS: None.

6. COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH:

6.1 Two Applications for Shoreline Repair and Dock Repair for Michael Dobush, 17 Sleepy Hollow Rd. S. Everett MOVED to Accept the Recommendation set forth by Lake Management Advisory Commission to Deny both Permits for Michael Dobush at 17 Sleepy Hollow Road until further notice from LMAC. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

7. APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS:

7.1 Appointment of Martha Carter, Columbia Lake Association President to Lake Management Advisory Commission. S. Everett MOVED to Appoint Martha Carter as the Columbia Lake Association President to the Lake Management Advisory Commission. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

8. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: M. Walter provided a brief summary on the request for participation in the Reconnaissance Survey from the Salmon River Watershed Partnership. He said this is a very early step in what would be a years-long process toward formal designation of a new “Wild & Scenic River.” The goal of this survey is to solicit participants from the watershed towns to identify key natural resources and gather information about town land use patterns, etc.

Participation at this stage does not obligate the Town to future commitments. The results of this survey and other preliminary work would form the basis of a future application for Wild & Scenic Designation. That would be a separate decision for Columbia on participation. If the Salmon River ultimately proceeds with a Wild & Scenic Designation, it would bring resources (staffing, grants, planning, etc.) to the area, but would also require an additional layer of environmental review for federally-funded projects in the watershed. This would be similar to having a National Register Historic District or endangered species in an area targeted for federal funding. Projects funded locally or through the State would not be subject to that additional review. It does not force any extra regulations on the watershed municipalities unless they voluntarily choose to apply them. Some towns have formed conservation compacts and have ramped up certain development criteria (like stormwater management, etc.) but those are voluntary decisions of the Towns in the future and Columbia is considered a “fringe” town in the Salmon River Watershed and is unlikely to warrant the level of attention in any case that the towns along the core of the River corridor itself.

9. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

10. BUDGET:

10.1 Transfers: S. Everett MOVED to Approve Transfers Totaling \$202.00 as Presented.

TRANSFER #	AMOUNT	FROM ACCOUNT #	DESCRIPTION	TO ACCOUNT #	DESCRIPTION
2024-058	\$36.00	10-4112-040	Group Insurance	10-4115-120	Payroll Taxes
	\$166.00	10-4112-040	Group Insurance	10-4112-050	Pension Expense

MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

10.2 Refunds: None.

11. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS: S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Payment of Bills Totaling \$64,436.84 Consisting of 2023-2024 Regular, 2024-2025 Regular, Credit Card, and Paychex. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

12. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS: None.

13. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: None.

14. 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).

15. ADJOURNMENT: S. Everett MOVED to ADJOURN at 5:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer C. LaVoie

TOWN OF COLUMBIA
MARINE PATROL ACTIVITY LOG
MAY 2024

- BOAT INSPECTIONS -	96 TOTAL
- MP BOAT INSPECTIONS -	10
- OPEN GATE -	4
- FAILURE TO SWIM WITHIN 100 FEET FROM SHORE -	3
- NO PFDS ON WATER -	1
- VESSEL TOW -	1
- EXPIRED REGISTRATION STICKER STOP -	1

TOWN OF COLUMBIA
MARINE PATROL ACTIVITY LOG
JUNE 2024

- BOAT INSPECTIONS – (REC & MP)	<u>66 TOTAL</u>
- MP BOAT INSPECTIONS	22

MISCELLANEOUS

- OPEN GATE	28
- ASSIST RESIDENT / GOOD INTENT / PHONE CALL	15
- VESSEL TOW	2
- SUNKEN WATERCRAFT	1
	<u>48 TOTAL</u>

STOPS - (VERBAL WARNING)

- OPERATING ABOVE BARE STEERAGE (SUNSET) JET SKI	1
- OPERATING ABOVE BARE STEERAGE (SUNSET) BOAT	1
- FAILURE TO MAINTAIN SWIMMERS 25 FT FROM VESSEL	1
- FAILURE TO ILLUMATE RUNNING LIGHT AFTER SUNSET	1
- OPERATING RC/REMOTE CONTROL VESSEL	2
- JET SKI PASSENGER VIOLATION	2
- HORSEPOWER VIOLATION	3
- FAILURE TO DISPLAY CURRENT CT REGISTRATION DECALS	4
- FAILURE TO DISPLAY CURRENT TOC STICKER	4
- FAILURE TO ILLUMINATE AFT LIGHT AFTER SUNSET	4
- JET SKI OPERATING CLOSER THEN 200 FEET OF SHORE	4
- FAILURE TO CARRY PFDS ON VESSEL	5
	<u>32 TOTAL</u>

TOWN OF COLUMBIA
 MARINE PATROL ACTIVITY LOG
 JULY 2024

- **BOAT INSPECTIONS – (REC & MP)** **20 TOTAL**
- **MP BOAT INSPECTIONS** **9**

MISCELLANEOUS

- **OPEN GATE** **46**
 - **ASSIST RESIDENT / GOOD INTENT / PHONE CALL** **16**
 - **VESSEL TOW** **4**
- 66 TOTAL**

STOPS - (VERBAL WARNING)

- **OPERATING ABOVE BARE STEERAGE (SUNSET) JET SKI** **1**
 - **OPERATING ABOVE BARE STEERAGE (SUNSET) BOAT** **1**
 - **JET SKI PASSENGER VIOLATION** **1**
 - **HORSEPOWER VIOLATION** **1**
 - **FAILURE TO STOP VESSEL OR TAKE TO DESIGNATED AREA UPON COMMAND** **1**
 - **FAILURE TO CARRY BOAT REGISTRATION** **1**
 - **RECKLESS OPERATION OF A VESSEL** **1**
 - **FAILURE TO CARRY BOATING CERTIFICATE** **2**
 - **MOTORBOAT OPERATING CLOSE THEN 100 FEET OF SHORE** **2**
 - **FAILURE TO CARRY PFDS ON VESSEL** **2**
 - **ILLEGAL ANCHORING TO NAVIGATIONAL BUOY** **3**
 - **JET SKI OPERATING CLOSER THEN 200 FEET OF SHORE** **3**
 - **FAILURE TO DISPLAY CURRENT TOC STICKER** **3**
 - **FAILURE TO ILLUMATE RUNNING LIGHT AFTER SUNSET** **4**
 - **FAILURE TO SWIM WITHIN 100 FEET FROM SHORE** **4**
 - **FAILURE TO DISPLAY CURRENT CT REGISTRATION DECALS** **4**
 - **FAILURE TO ILLUMINATE AFT LIGHT AFTER SUNSET** **6**
- 40 TOTAL**

STOP – (WRITTEN WARNING)

- **FAILURE TO CARRY BOAT REGISTRATION** **1**
 - **FAILURE TO CARRY BOATING CERTIFICATE** **3**
 - **FAILURE TO DISPLAY CURRENT CT REGISTRATION DECALS** **1**
 - **FAILURE TO ILLUMINATE AFT LIGHT AFTER SUNSET** **1**
- 6 TOTAL**

