

**TOWN OF COLEBROOK
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Monday February 13, 2023

7:00 PM

Selectman's conference Room

Board Members Present:

Christopher Johnstone
Kate Kennedy
Ernie Marmer

Board Members Absent:

(none)

Others Present:

- 1) Meeting called to order at 7:00PM.
- 2) A motion was made by Christopher Johnstone seconded by Kate Kennedy to add the following items to the agenda; Approval of 19 January 2023, Special Board of Selectman meeting, Appointment of Regular members to the Inland Wetlands Commission, Approve GM-2 Associates billable rates for Project #0029-0104, Review Capital Improvement Plan, Discuss Affordable Housing Trust, Correspondence and Memorial Contributions.
- 3) The minutes of the January 9, 2023 regular meeting, the January 19, 2023 special meeting and the January 27, 2023 special meeting were distributed and read, there being no changes the minutes were approved as written.
- 4) No Public comment.
- 5) Road Foreman's report: No discussion
- 6) Inland Wetlands Commission:
 - a) A motion was made by Christopher Johnstone seconded by Kate Kennedy to appoint Dennis Gomez and Erich Fritz as regular members to the Inland Wetlands Commission for a three year term. Motion passed by unanimous vote
 - b) A motion was made by Christopher Johnstone, seconded by Kate Kennedy to appoint Edna Travis as an alternate member to the Inland Wetlands Commission for a three year term. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- 7) A motion was made by Christopher Johnstone seconded by Kate Kennedy to enter executive session at 7:10 pm to discuss legal issues. A motion was made by Ernie Marmer to exit executive session at 7:23 pm. No motions were made, no votes were taken.

- 8) Legal Issues: The following topics were discussed and Chris Johnstone explained that he has requested assistance from attorney Pat Power to prepare the proper wording and format in order to present these items for a vote at a special town meeting.
 - a) Historical Society License
 - b) Farm Building Tax Exemption
 - c) Eno Hill property.
- 9) STEAP Grant: OPM has approved the project. DOT required additional information which has been submitted now we are just waiting for the final approval of the three projects from the DOT.
- 10) A motion was made by Ernie Marmer to select and award Project No., 0029-0104, Replacement of Sandy Brook road Bridge No., 05141 and Preservation of Old Creamery Road Bridge No., 05146 to NJR Construction, LLC contingent upon the Town receiving the Project Authorization Letter from Connecticut DOT. Seconded by Kate Kennedy. Motion Passed, Unanimous vote.
- 11) Pinney Street Bridge: Chris Johnstone explained that the contract for funding has been signed and sent to attorney Pat Power for legal review. Once the legal opinion is complete, the contract will be sent to the Connecticut DOT for their action.
- 12) Contaminated Wells: Chris Johnstone discussed the meeting with the CT DEEP, refer to minutes of the Special Selectman's meeting held on January 27th, 2023. Chris Johnstone will inquire about cost of small reverse osmosis water filters and a filtration system for the Town Hall.
- 13) Discussed FY 23/24 budget.
- 14) Reviewed FY 22/23 budget.
- 15) A motion to approve Fire Department Tax Abatement for Colebrook Fire Department member who have met the minimum 60 point requirement (list Attached) by Ernie Marmer, motion seconded by Kate Kennedy. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- 16) A motion was made by Kate Kennedy seconded by Ernie Marmer to approve tax refunds to (Danielle Carver \$282.37) Motion passed unanimous.
- 17) Paid bills as presented.
- 18) Capital Improvement Plan: Chris Johnstone discussed the Capital Improvement Plan that was recommended to the Board of Selectman by the CIP committee. A motion was made by Kate Kennedy to reject the CIP and send it back to the CIP Committee for review and possible adjustment. Motion seconded by Ernie Marmer. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- 19) Correspondence: Chris Johnstone discussed the Letter of support that he wrote for the Colebrook Conservation Commission, letter received from the law firm of Andrea Doyle Asman, regarding Gail V. Adams, and the letter received from Connecticut DEEP regarding the 2023 Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy Amendment. See Attachments.
- 20) Affordable Housing – Housing Trust: Ernie Marmer stated that he is working on establishing a Housing Trust and will give an update at the next Selectman's meeting.
- 21) Memorial Contribution: On a motion by Kate Kennedy, to contribute \$50.00 to the St. Thomas Church in Thomaston and \$50.00 to the Seth Thomas-Bradstreet House Society, Town Hall in Thomaston, in memory of Thomas P. Calvello (Catherine Norton's Father). Seconded by Ernie Marmer, motion passed by unanimous vote.
- 22) All other business: None

23) A motion was made by Ernie Marmer seconded by Kate Kennedy to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Christopher Johnstone
First Selectman

Attachments:

- 1 – Colebrook Volunteer Fire Department Tax Abatement letter
- 2 – Colebrook Conservation Commission Letter
- 3 – Attorney Andrea Doyle Asman Letter
- 4 - Connecticut DEEP Letter

COLEBROOK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.



COLEBROOK CENTER
 PO BOX 82
 COLEBROOK, CT 06021
 (860) 379-8989

FORGE COMPANY
 300 COLEBROOK RIVER RD
 COLEBROOK, CT 06021
 (860) 379-1551

January 15, 2023

The Following members of the Colebrook Fire Department have met the minimum 60 point requirement for active member status and abatement requirements for the year 2022. This abatement should be applied to Grand List 2022 that comes out in July 1, 2023.

MEMBER:

Sean Barry	\$2,000
Benjamin Bartlett	\$2,000
Maureen Bascetta	\$2,000
Robert Bull	\$2,000 (10 of 21.5 Credited Years) Points Earned 2015, 2016, 2021, 2022
Robert Carfiro	\$2,000
Craig Carfiro	\$2,000
Todd Corell	\$2,000
Benjamin Dehey	\$2,000
John Fredsall	\$2,000
Jon Gray	\$2,000
Todd Hiller	\$2,000
William Hiller	\$2,000 (9 of 12 Credited Years) Points earned 2021, 2022
Chris Kesl	\$ 750 (3 rd Year)
Paul LaRocque	\$ 250 (1 st Year)
Hannah McCaw	\$2,000
Susan McAllister	\$2,000
Elizabeth Norman	\$ 500 (2 nd Year)
George O'Brien	\$2,000
Kevin Robichaud	\$ 750 (3 rd Year)
Steve Sartirana	\$2,000
Rick Tillotson	\$2,000

HONORARY MEMBERS:

David Sweeney	\$2,000 (10 of 10 Credited Years)
Jeff Coleman	\$2,000 (3 of 16.5 Credited Years)
Gordon (Mike) Coleman	\$2,000 (3 of 14 Credited Years)
Tom O'dell	\$2,000 (1 of 15 Credited Years)
Total	\$44,250.00

Respectfully submitted,



Benjamin Bartlett, Chief
Colebrook Volunteer Fire Department



TOWN OF COLEBROOK

562 Colebrook Rd. * P.O. Box 5 * Colebrook Connecticut 06021 * Telephone 860-379-3359

6 February 2023

To Whom it may Concern:

The Board of Selectman fully supports the Colebrook Conservation Commission in their quest to apply for a grant in the amount of \$8,000., to fund the Town of Colebrook Natural Resources Inventory.

The award of this grant would enable the Colebrook Conservation Commission to update the Natural Resources Inventory which would be included in the next publication of the Colebrook Town Plan of Conservation and Development.

Respectfully,

Chris Johnstone, 1st Selectman

Colebrook.

MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 698
Bantam, CT 06750

OFFICE ADDRESS:

1047 Bantam Road
Bantam, Connecticut 06750

(860) 567-0877
Fax (860) 567-3080

February 2, 2023

Town of Colebrook
Christopher Johnstone, Selectman
Laura M. Barlett, Tax Collector
David Dietsch, Assessor
562 Colebrook Road
P.O. Box 5
Colebrook, CT 06021

Dear Ms Barlett;

My office represents Gail Adams in regards to the Estate of William Adams. Gail is working towards finding a Realtor to sell some of the acreage at 82 Riverton Road. At this time Gail does not have the resources to pay more than \$4,000.00 per year in real estate taxes.

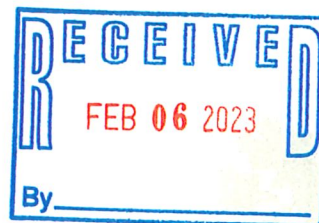
This letter is to inform you she will pay the \$4,000.00 per year in good faith and once some of the acreage is sold she will fulfill her tax obligations.

Sincerely,


Andrea Doyle Asman, Esq.

ADA/ej

CC: Gail Adams





**DRAFT 2023 COMPREHENSIVE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AMENDMENT
(DRAFT 2023 CMMS AMENDMENT)**

SECTION 22A-228 OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES

NOTICE OF WRITTEN COMMENTS AND PUBLIC HEARING

Issue Date: January 24, 2023



DEEP is initiating an amendment to the 2016 Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy (CMMS) as a result of the closure of the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) Hartford resources recovery facility in July of 2022, including the cessation of waste to energy (WTE) activities, and the subsequent loss of disposal capacity. This loss of capacity has resulted in insufficient in-state capacity for recycling, processing, and managing disposal of waste generated in state and is expected to result in the exportation of an estimated 860,000 tons per year or 40% of the State's generated Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). As a result, there is an urgent need to identify actions consistent with the State's waste hierarchy to restore self-sufficiency in Connecticut's waste management practices. The draft 2023 CMMS Amendment outlines the self-sufficiency imbalance and highlights several potential solutions to address this urgent public policy challenge.

The CMMS, effective July 19, 2016, is the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan ("Plan"), adopted pursuant to sections 22a-228 and 22a-241a of the Connecticut General Statutes. In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes section 22a-228 and section 22a-228-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection may prepare an amendment to the statewide solid waste management plan and may schedule a hearing on the proposed amendment.

While the Plan is not itself a statute or regulation, statute and regulation do give the Plan the force of law in certain, specified circumstances. Most generally, Conn. Gen. Stat. section 22a-229 provides that "any action taken by a person, municipality or regional authority that is governed by this chapter shall be consistent with such plan."

Draft 2023 CMMS Amendment: Stakeholders can access a copy of the draft document at the following link: [Public Notices \(ct.gov\)](#)

Public Hearing: Pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies section 22a-22a-1(b)(4), the Commissioner has determined that, in her judgement, a hearing is in the public interest. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) hereby provides notice that a public informational hearing will be held on **February 16, 2023, from 10 am** until the

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completion of public comments from all stakeholders who wish to provide comments that are participating in the meeting. DEEP will also accept written comments on the Draft 2023 CMMS Amendment until **March 10, 2023**. DEEP welcomes comments from stakeholders on any topic, including: data and assumptions utilized in the Draft 2023 CMMS Amendment; the policies and strategies recommended; and any conclusions or observations included in the document.

DEEP also welcomes responses to any or all of the following questions:

1. The Draft 2023 CMMS Amendment projects that 44% of the 860,000 TPY “self-sufficiency” deficit can be addressed or eliminated through diversion programs: extended producer responsibility (“EPR”) for Packaging and accelerated organics diversion by 2028. Do you agree with this conclusion? Are there different programs or approaches that DEEP should consider that to achieve the same or greater tonnage diverted than the programs recommended in the 2023 CMMS Amendment, and if so why do you feel an alternate approach is preferable?
2. The Draft 2023 CMMS Amendment concludes investment in new waste disposal infrastructure should be pursued to address the 475,000 TPY remaining after implementation of diversion programs. Do you agree with this conclusion?
3. Do you feel that equity and environmental justice considerations are adequately reflected in the 2023 CMMS Amendment? How could the analysis and recommendations in the document better address equity and environmental justice priorities?
4. The draft CMMS Amendment suggests a measure to provide universal access to source separated food scrap collection for all residents and businesses. What factors should be considered in preparation for providing this service? What legislation, programs, or policies might be needed to incentivize participation? Are there alternatives to this strategy DEEP should consider, such as adding food scraps to the list of designated recyclables?
5. What models are there for successful food donation programs or policies? Does Connecticut have any unique barriers or challenges for improving food donation efforts? What specific food waste reduction and recovery strategies should the state consider? What legislative action might be needed? What could be done through administrative or programmatic efforts without the need for new legislation?
6. What strategies best support efforts to collect and transport food scraps (and other recyclable materials) for multi-family residences, apartments, and condominiums?
7. What is the right mix of organics processing infrastructure needed in Connecticut to achieve the diversion goals of this draft CMMS Amendment? How can DEEP support new organics processing infrastructure?



8. Should additional materials be prioritized for diversion, including through EPR programs? What materials?
9. DEEP has been working with municipalities and regional entities through the Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) Grant Program to support the development of food scrap collection and unit-based pricing pilot programs. How could DEEP revise or expand the SMM Grant Program to best accelerate and scale up cost-effective diversion strategies?

Zoom or Teams Info: The February 16th public informational hearing will be held via Zoom. Individuals wishing to attend are required to register via the link provided below.

bit.ly/2023cmmsupdate

Recording: DEEP will record the hearing; copies of the recording will be made available.

Public Comment Period During the Informational Hearing: There will be an opportunity to provide oral comments (3 minutes per person) at the informational hearing. Participants may sign up in advance by emailing Elly Moore at Elizabeth.Moore@ct.gov by **February 13, 2023**

Written Comment Period: Written comments may be filed via email on or before **5:00 PM on March 10, 2023**. Comments should be emailed to DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov with the subject line "Draft 2023 CMMS Amendment." Any questions may be directed to the same address.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact us at (860) 418-5910 or deep.accommodations@ct.gov if you: have a disability and need a communication aid or service; have limited proficiency in English and may need information in another language; or if you wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint. Any person needing a hearing accommodation may call the State of Connecticut relay number - 711. Requests for accommodations must be made at least two weeks prior to any agency hearing, program, or event.

