

For the Week of June 3, 2024

Manager's Message

Aaron Frank, Town Manager

We were deeply saddened by the news of Senator Dick's Mazza's passing last weekend. Senator Mazza publicly served the Town of Colchester, Grand Isle, and the State of Vermont with dedication and humility for 42 years, and his impact on our community will not be forgotten. A copy of the [resolution](#) honoring him and his service will be permanently displayed in the Outer Bay Room on the third floor of the Town Offices. We send our heartfelt condolences to his family during this difficult time.



New Hours at the Town Offices: Beginning today, the Town Offices will now be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To learn more about this change, please visit this link:

https://clerkshq.com/Content/Attachments/Colchester-vt/240514_05a.pdf?clientSite=Colchester-vt.

Town-wide Reappraisal Information: The State mandates reappraisals if a town's Common Level of Assessment (CLA) decreases below 85%. Since 2020, the real estate market has increased significantly, and the Town's CLA has decreased to 66.8 %, falling below this threshold. In 2022, the State mandated a Town-wide reappraisal for Colchester. At last week's Selectboard meeting, Bob Vickery, Town Assessor, shared that Town staff has composed and mailed out a Request for Proposals (RFP) to qualified reappraisal firms in hopes to acquire a firm to complete the reappraisal by April 2026, to be put in effect for the 2026-2027 Town and State fiscal year. The reappraisal itself will not increase property taxes, and instead, adjusts property to the fair market value. Assuming the same level of municipal service or State Education Tax funding needs, tax rates are simply lowered to yield the same amount of taxes. Taxes would not increase to yield the same amount of municipal service or State Education Tax Funding. If a property or properties increase in value more than other properties the tax for that property will increase because of the increase in value above and beyond other properties. This generally happens by property class, very broadly, such as residential vs. commercial properties. To learn more, please visit: https://clerkshq.com/Content/Attachments/Colchester-vt/240528_04a.pdf?clientSite=Colchester-vt



Department Updates

Cemetery Monument Resetting & Repairing with the Town Clerk's Office: Help preserve history and learn a new skill by attending a training from the VT Old Cemetery Association on **Saturday, June 15th at 8:00 a.m. at Munson Cemetery** (next to McClure Miller Respite House on Roosevelt Highway). Choose from several volunteer jobs (do what suits you best!):

- Repair Team Workers (getting your hands dirty)
- Repair Team Heavy lifter (need to be able to lift 50 lbs.)
- Repair Team Gofer (provide support as needed)
- Help with parking, food/drink table and sign-in table
- Help with landscaping (cutting back bushes, etc.)
- Record keepers (keep track of monuments fixed)



Annual Book Sale: The Friends of Burnham Memorial Library will be hosting the Annual Book Sale this month at Colchester High School. If you are interested in donating books, please drop them off at the school on the dates listed below:

Drop Off Dates

- Monday, June 24, 3 to 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 26, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Then plan to attend the sale on the following dates:

Book Sale Dates

- Friday June 28, 4 to 8 p.m.
- Saturday June 29, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Sunday, June 30, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Upcoming Town Meetings & Agendas

Selectboard Meeting: Tuesday, June 11, 6:30 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Alternatively, send a note, up to 1,000 words, to 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

Planning Commission: Tuesday, June 4, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=PLANAGENDA>

Recreation Advisory Board: Wednesday, June 12, 7:00 a.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd floor, Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=RecAdv&path=BOARDS%2CRecAdv%2C>

Development Review Board: Wednesday, June 12, 7:00 p.m. at the Colchester Town Offices, 3rd Floor Outer Bay Conference Room, 781 Blakely Road. Residents are welcome to attend the meeting or public comments can be submitted prior to the hearing by email to zmaia@colchestervt.gov or by mail to Town of Colchester, c/o Development Review Board, 781 Blakely Road, Colchester, VT 05446. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=DRBAgenda>

Library Board of Trustees: Thursday, June 20, 4:00 p.m., in the Burnham Room of the Burnham Memorial Library. Agenda: <https://clerkshq.com/Colchester-vt?docId=LibBoard&path=BOARDS%2CLibBoard%2C>

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For more information or to comment, call 802-264-5509 or email townmanager@colchestervt.gov