

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Monday, September 9th, 2013
Municipal Complex
Approved Minutes**

I Preliminaries

- 7:00 PM Call the Meeting to Order
- Roll Call
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Chairman’s Additions or Deletions
- Public Comment (10 minutes)
- Approval of Minutes
- Wason Pond Athletic Fields and Driveway Entrance Relocation
- Roundtable
- Public Comment (10 minutes)
- Richard Antoine, Fire Chief
- Non-Public Session
- Adjournment

1.1 Call to Order

Chairman Landau called this meeting of the Town of Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:07pm.

1.2 Roll Call

- Selectmen present:
- Joe Castricone
- Jack Cannon
- Joseph Hagen (arrived at 7:10pm)
- Stephen Landau
- Richard LeBlanc

- Members of the Public present, at various times:
- Richard Antoine, Fire Chief
- Patrick Connelly, Wason Pond Commission
- Bill Gregsak
- Ed Karjala, Wason Pond Commission
- Sabrina Londrigan
- David Veale, Field of Dreams
- Michael Weider
- And other persons unknown to the Recording Secretary

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Landau led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.4 Additions and Deletions

There were neither additions nor deletions.

1.5 Public Comment

54 There was no public comment.

56 **II. Old Business**

58 *2.1 Approval of Minutes*

60 This subject was not addressed tonight.

62 **III. New Business**

64 *3.1 Wason Pond Athletic Fields and Driveway Entrance Relocation*

66 Tonight’s meeting is to discuss the Wason Pond Athletic Fields and Driveway Entrance Relocation Bids
 68 that were opened on Friday, September 6th, 2013. Patrick Connelly, Bill Gregsak, Ed Karjala, and David
 70 Veale joined the Board at the meeting table.

72 As a reminder, these were the bids:

Bidder Number	Proposed Athletic Fields Amount	Driveway Entrance Relocation Amount	Total Amount
#1	\$177,000	\$18,000	\$195,000
#2	\$86,300	\$37,500	\$123,800
#3	\$92,475	\$10,100	\$102,575
#4	\$220,000	\$15,000	\$235,000
#5	\$193,500	\$18,500	\$212,000
#6	\$183,400	\$16,200	\$199,600

74 Mr. Connelly stated that the Group reviewed each bid for completeness (relevant experience noted,
 76 equipment listed, proof of insurance coverage included, and timeframe agreed to/not disputed), and
 78 created a bid-tab for the Board to peruse. Not all bids are complete. They are not making a
 recommendation. However, he noted that Bidder #3’s proposal was the lowest, and was complete.

80 \$90k was originally available for this job (\$45k from Field of Dreams and \$45k raised and appropriated
 at the 2012 Town Meeting); \$7250 has been spent on Engineering costs so far, with a total of \$13k
 82 expected to be spent on same. That leaves \$77k to do the work. It was noted that this \$77k is only for
 the field leveling; the funds for the driveway relocation should be found elsewhere. Be that as it may,
 \$77k is still not enough money to perform the field leveling.

84 According to Mr. Gregsak, each section of the bid should have been created independently of the other;
 86 therefore, should the driveway relocation not take place, the field leveling amount will not change.

88 Chairman Landau asked if there were any funds available from the Conservation Commission or the
 Recreation Department to do this work, or if there were any grants available. Another ~\$25k is needed.
 90 The driveway must be done, as it is a safety issue; it is also better to perform all the work at the same
 time.

92 Selectman LeBlanc asked if it was possible for Field of Dreams to hold another fundraiser. Mr. Veale
 94 stated that it was not, but noted that they had another ~\$25k in their account that they were saving to
 be put towards Phase II of the project. Should they add those funds to the \$77k available, they would
 96 have enough money to select Bidder #3’s proposal. He noted that Field of Dreams funds could only be
 used for the field work, not the driveway work.

98

100 Mr. Connelly stated that the Conservation Commission had already earmarked some funds towards the
102 driveway engineering, but as the Town had paid for that, those funds could be made available for the
actual work; they might be willing to find more from the rollover money. He will attempt to get a
decision in time for this coming Thursday’s Board of Selectmen’s meeting.

104 Selectman Cannon asked how change orders would be handled; Mr. Veale stated that there was
106 apparently only a ~\$10k cushion, which is small.

Selectman LeBlanc asked about lowering the elevation, as had been suggested by two bidders and
108 queried by three others. Mr. Gregsak stated that in his opinion, the elevation chosen was the proper
one.

110 Selectman Castricone suggested waiting to award the bid until availability of funds is certain; Selectman
112 LeBlanc and Cannon agreed. Mr. Karjala urged stepping away from the road question and concentrating
on the fields.

114 Chairman Landau stated that as the driveway was a Town road, funds for its relocation should be taken
116 from the Highway Budget.

118 Chairman Landau moved that the Wason Pond Athletic Fields and Driveway Entrance Relocation project
120 be awarded to Bidder #3 at a cost of \$102,575, with the driveway relocation cost of \$10,100 taken from
the Highway Budget if necessary; Vice-Chairman Hagan seconded the motion.

122 Selectman Castricone would like Road Agent Oleson to be consulted first; Chairman Landau stated that
124 this is a bottom-line budget.

Selectman LeBlanc stated that the Town has many roads and he is loath to have funds diverted away
126 from them; he asked if the Conservation Commission would be able to commit to providing funds for the
driveway relocation. Mr. Connelly stated that the Conservation Commission is indeed in favor of
128 relocation the driveway, but that he would have a firm answer by Thursday; he asked rhetorically,
however, where the Board had thought that the Driveway Relocation funds would come from?

130 Mr. Veale stated that the Field of Dreams organization has ensured that enough funds are available for
132 the Field Leveling work to be awarded. Mr. Karjala stated that Recreation does not have excessive
funds, but he will look to see what can be done in order to lessen the impact on the Highway budget.
134 He also stated that many organizations have worked well together, and will continue to do so, in order to
find a solution.

136 The question was called. The vote was three in favor with Selectmen Cannon and Castricone opposed;
138 so moved.

140 Mr. Gregsak will notify Bidder #3, who was revealed as Remi-Sons.

142 Mr. Connelly, Mr. Gregsak, Mr. Karjala, and Mr. Veale departed the meeting table at 7:59pm.

144 **IV. Selectmen’s Business**

146 *4.1 Roundtable*

148 *Selectman Cannon:*

- Nothing to report.

150

Selectman Castricone:

152 • Nothing to report.

154 *Selectman LeBlanc:*

156 • He thanked the Recreation Department for their work on the Town Fair, including setup,
156 takedown, and cleanup. Mr. Karjala in turn thanked Selectmen Castricone and LeBlanc for their
158 help, and stated that Town Fair 2014 would be even better.

158 *Vice-Chairman Hagan:*

160 • Nothing to report.

162 *Chairman Landau:*

164 • He has been served by the “Granite State Telephone Incorporated vs. Town of Chester” and
164 “Fairpoint Communications vs. Town of Chester” cases. These documents will be sent to the
166 proper attorneys. Town Clerk Gagnon has not been served.

166 • Palmer Gas/Ermer Oil has offered a 25% savings program for Town Employees and Volunteers
168 via use of a Promo Code. Chairman Landau estimates that this program will apply to ~40% of
168 the Town; more information will be shared when it is available.

170 4.2 *Public Comment*

172 Michael Weider stood and was recognized. He stated that he had seen the Town of Chester’s Command
174 Vehicle on the Monday morning news on WMUR. Fire Chief Antoine had taken it and his dog to
174 Gilmanton to search for a missing child. Mr. Weider stated that he had been under the impression that
176 no Town resources were to be used in support of Fire Chief Antoine’s dog. He asked if the Board of
176 Selectmen had known the vehicle, which was full of Town owned equipment, was in Gilmanton, and
178 stated that the Chester taxpayer should not be funding this work.

178 As no other members of the Public wished to speak, Public Comment was closed at 8:02pm.

180 4.3 *Richard Antoine, Fire Chief*

182 Fire Chief Antoine appeared before the Board along with Sabrina Londrigan, the selected candidate to fill
184 the Fire Department Part Time Administrative Assistant position.

186 Ms. Londrigan was chosen by the Hiring Committee from 57 applicants. She lives in Hampstead, where
188 she is a volunteer fire fighter as well as an EMT. She also has secretarial experience.

188 Chairman Landau moved to go into non-public session under RSA 91A:3 II (b), Compensation; Vice-
190 Chairman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

192 The meeting room was closed at 8:05pm. Fire Chief Antoine and Ms. Londrigan remained in the
194 meeting room.

194 Ms. Londrigan departed the meeting temporarily at 8:10pm.

196 Ms. Londrigan rejoined the meeting at 8:20pm.

198 Ms. Londrigan departed the meeting at 8:21pm.

200 4.4 *Non-Public Session*

202 Chairman Landau moved to remain in non-public session under RSA 91A:3 II (c), Reputation; Vice-
204 Chairman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

206 The meeting room was re-opened at 8:34pm; Fire Chief Antoine departed the meeting at this time.

208 Chairman Landau moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

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Chairman Landau moved that the Board seal the non-public session, on Compensation, for a period of six months; Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

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Chairman Landau moved that the non-public session, on Reputation, remain unsealed; Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

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218 **V. Adjournment**

220 The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is Thursday, September 12th, 2013 at 7pm in the Meeting Room.

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Chairman Landau moved to adjourn the meeting; Selectman Castricone seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

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226 The meeting was adjourned at 8:36pm.

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230 Respectfully Submitted,

232 Debra H. Doda

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**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Monday, September 9th, 2013
Municipal Complex
Non-Public Session #2 – Reputation**

Chairman Landau moved to remain in non-public session under RSA 91A:3 II (c), Reputation; Vice-Chairman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

The subject of this non-public session was Fire Chief Antoine’s trip to Gilmanton this weekend with his search & rescue dog in a Town-owned vehicle.

Chairman Landau had asked Fire Chief Antoine to write up an incident report on this issue, which he did. Fire Chief Antoine stated that he had been out and about with his search & rescue dog in the Command Vehicle/Chief’s Car when the call came in for the missing child search; he went straight to Gilmanton and paid for his own fuel and tolls. If he had been at home with the dog, he would have used his own personal vehicle. Chairman Landau suggested that should this sort of thing happen again, he should notify a member of the BOS on his way to the call.

Fire Chief Antoine also noted that any equipment in the vehicle was either surplus to that already on site in the Town, or his own possessions.

Selectman Cannon would like to read the minutes of the meeting where the search & rescue dog was originally discussed. Chairman Landau would like a policy written up; he suggested that Fire Chief Antoine and his liaison draft a policy to be submitted to the BOS within the next three weeks.

Fire Chief Antoine noted that per RSA, a Town’s Fire Chief has the right to send equipment wherever he sees fit; he noted that other Town’s emergency vehicles were in Gilmanton also.

The meeting room was re-opened at 8:34pm; Fire Chief Antoine departed the meeting at this time.

Chairman Landau moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

Chairman Landau moved that the non-public session, on Reputation, remain unsealed; Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra H. Doda