

**Town of Chester  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Municipal Complex  
Approved Minutes**

**I Preliminaries**

- Call the Meeting to Order
- Roll Call
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Chairman’s Additions or Deletions
- Public Comment (10 minutes)
- Approval of Minutes
- MPR Floor
- Warrant Articles Discussion
- Current Fiscal Year Budget
- Roundtable
- Public Comment
- Rich Antoine, Fire Chief – Proposed Non Public
- Adjournment

*1.1 Call to Order*

Chairman Landau called this meeting of the Town of Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:03pm.

*1.2 Roll Call*

Selectmen present:

- Jack Cannon (arrived at 7:36pm)
- Joe Castricone
- Joseph Hagen
- Stephen Landau
- Richard LeBlanc

Members of the Public present, at various times:

- Rich Antoine, Fire Chief
- Matt Rittenhouse, Tri-Town Times
- Leroy Scott
- 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*

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:08pm.

54 **II. Old Business**

56 *2.1 Approval of Minutes*

58 *April 23<sup>d</sup>, 2015:* Selectman Castricone moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

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**III. New Business**

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*3.1 MPR Floor*

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Email was received from the Architect; he has created an addendum to the RFP for the MPR floor. Those additional/edited documents are available on the Town website and he will be distributing them to vendors.

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There was much discussion about removal and return of the bleachers. Would they damage the new floor when opening/closing (the floor in that area would need to be extra heavy, and/or the steel wheels replaced with hard rubber), will they meet today’s safety standards (should they be welded open?), should they be refinished or replaced (replacement might be too expensive), does the Recreation Department wish to retain them at all or should chairs be used instead, could they be moved to the fields, etc. What is not known is whether or not they remain ‘grandfathered’ once they’re removed for the floor work. Selectman Castricone will speak with the Recreation Department to get their opinion.

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*3.2 Warrant Articles Discussion*

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The following Warrant Articles will be spoken to by the following Selectman:

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#4	Budget	Chairman Landau
82 #5	MPR	Chairman Landau
#6	Tractor	Selectman LeBlanc (must confirm if it’s an 18 or a 25 HP tractor)
84 #7	Winter Maintenance	Vice-Chairman Hagan
#8	Building Improvement	Selectman Castricone
86 #9	Revaluation	Selectman Cannon
#10	Unanticipated	Chairman Landau
88 #11	PACT	Selectman Castricone (with Bob Grimm)
#12	300 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Chairman Landau
90 #13	Police Communication	Selectman Cannon
#14	Edwards Mill Dam	Chairman Landau
92 #15	Recreation Director	Selectman Castricone
#16	Wason Pond Fence	Selectman Castricone
94 #17	Conservation Survey	Chairman Landau
#18	Animal Control Officer	Selectman Cannon
96 #19	Police Vehicle	Selectman Cannon
#20	Firefighter	Vice-Chairman Hagan
98 #21	CIP Update	Selectman LeBlanc
#22	Trustees of Trust Fund Fees	Chairman Landau
100 #23	CIP	All
#24	Highway Capital Reserve	All
102 #25	Wason Pond Bathhouse	Chairman Landau (will be tabled)

104 *3.3 Current Fiscal Year Budget*

106 Finance Director Smith provided an analysis of what was left in the budget for the current Fiscal Year;

there is 20.55% left prior to Debt Services, and there are two months left.

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Chairman Landau moved that any planned expenditure of more than \$500 must be approved by a majority of the Board of Selectmen before any funds are spent; Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. Selectman Cannon asked if there was a plan in place to handle any emergency purchases. The person in need should contact his or her liaison, who will then contact the remainder of the Board to get a decision. The question was called. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved. Chairman Landau will ensure that all Departments are notified.

116 **IV. Selectmen’s Business**

118 *4.1 Roundtable*

120 *Selectman Cannon:*

- Nothing to report.

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124 *Selectman Castricone:*

- He would like a Board of Selectmen’s meeting date before the end of the Fiscal Year reserved for Employee Reviews. The date of Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 was chosen.

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128 *Selectman LeBlanc:*

- Hazardous Waste Day is Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015, in Plaistow; Chester will not be participating, due to Town Meeting.
- A letter was received from Bartlett, quoting work on the Library trees. Selectman LeBlanc believes that handling this work is the responsibility of the Library. He does, however, plan to speak with Maintenance Supervisor Amato, who had previously done some pruning around the Post Office. Selectman Castricone opined that for the amount Bartlett is quoting, he’d rather fix the elevator.

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136 *Vice-Chairman Hagan*

- The Legislature killed gambling by 52 votes, up from last year when it only lost by one. Although the subject was heavily lobbied, there was much concern about the culture around gambling. The State does have revenue issues, though.
- The Legislature passed a concealed carry bill that mirrors that of Vermont. The Governor is likely to veto it, however, and there are probably not enough votes to overturn her veto.

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144 *Chairman Landau:*

- The Town Report will be available on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Some issues arose when the content was transmitted to the printer; he is currently correcting those items. Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 is Election Day. It is also the last day that the Town Clerk can accept completed absentee ballots; she will be doing so between 3pm and 5pm. Voters may register at the polls.
- Terry Knowles telephoned; she plans to attend the June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Board of Selectmen’s meeting in order to meet with the Board and the Great Hill Cemetery Trustees. According to Town Counsel Gorrow, when the Great Hill Cemetery Trustees were set up, having two sets of cemetery trustees was legal; however, things have changed. Chairman Landau believes that the Great Hill Cemetery Trustees were in charge of an ‘operating’ cemetery, while the Village Cemetery Trustees were strictly ‘preservation’, at least until they received additional land to sell plots. Selectman Castricone suggested having the Spring Hill Farm Trustees attend this same meeting, as they are currently dealing with a Trust issue themselves; Vice-Chairman Hagan will speak with Ms. Knowles before this meeting takes place.
- Trustee Seminars are scheduled for various dates in June, 2015, in the Holiday Inn Concord, as follows:
  - Cemetery Trustees: June 4<sup>th</sup>

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- 160       ○ Trustees of Trust Funds: June 16<sup>th</sup>
- Library Trustees: June 22<sup>nd</sup>, morning
- 162       ○ Advanced Trustees of Trust Funds: June 22<sup>nd</sup>, afternoon
- The New Hampshire Municipal Association has asked for an updated list of employees and
- 164       board/committee members who are allowed to contact them for legal advice. It was agreed
- 166       that Chester would go along with many other towns and eliminate the list, allowing employees
- and board/committee members to contact the NHMA as needed.
- One of the parcels taken by tax deed last week may be resolved by May 30<sup>th</sup>; the purchaser of
- 168       the condo was not informed that there was a piece of land attached with taxes due. Town
- Counsel will be handling this issue.
- 170       • Assistant Assessor Jean Packard reported that the town had 376 pickups, which translates to
- 172       \$9.1M added to the tax base. This breaks down to 15 additional units at Jenkins Farm, 12 at
- the Villages, 3 at Mill Pine, 5 scattered throughout Town, as well as updates and additions.
- These figures will be verified in September when the MS-1 is done.

174       4.2     *Public Comment*

176       As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:57pm.

178       4.3     *Rich Antoine, Fire Chief – Proposed Non Public*

180       Chairman Landau moved to go into non-public session with Fire Chief Antoine under RSA 91A:3 II (a),

182       Public Employees; Selectman Castricone seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the

          affirmative; so moved.

184       The meeting room was closed at 7:58pm.

186       Fire Chief Antoine departed the meeting at 8:27pm.

188       The meeting room was re-opened at 8:46pm.

190       Selectman LeBlanc moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Vice-Chairman Hagan

192       seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

194       Chairman Landau moved that the minutes to the non-public session be sealed for an indefinite period;

          Selectman Castricone seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

196       **V.     Adjournment**

198       The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7pm in the

200       Meeting Room.

202       Chairman Landau moved to adjourn the meeting; Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote

          was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

204       The meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm.

208       Respectfully Submitted,

210       Debra H. Doda