

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, December 13th, 2012
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)
Fire Chief Antoine & Thomas Cannon
Tim White - CART
Phil Gladu - Emergency Management
David Preece - SNHPC
Roundtable
Public Comment (10 minutes)
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 7:05pm.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectmen present:

Joseph Hagen
Stephen Landau
Richard LeBlanc
Michael Weider

Selectmen absent:

Jack Cannon

Members of the Public present, at various times:

Richard Antoine, Fire Chief
Thomas Cannon
Barbara Dolloff
Phil Gladu
Midge Gould
Robert Piatkowski, SNHPC Planning Intern
David Preece, SNHPC Executive Director

48 Leroy Scott
Valerie Weider
Tim White, SNHPC Principal Transportation Planner
50 And other persons unknown to the Recording Secretary

52 *1.3 Pledge of Allegiance*

54 Chairman Landau led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

56 *1.4 Additions and Deletions*

58 There was one addition: a non-public session under Pending Litigation.

60 *1.5 Public Comment*

62 As no members of the public wished to speak, Public Comment was closed at 7:06pm.

64 **II. Old Business**

66 *2.1 Approval of Minutes*

68 This subject was not addressed tonight.

70 **III. New Business**

72 *3.1 Richard Antoine, Fire Chief*

74 Fire Chief Antoine appeared before the Board with Thomas Cannon, a candidate to join the
Chester Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Cannon is working for the Highway Department in town
76 during the day, and will be going to the Fire Academy during the evening this coming Spring. He is
working on obtaining his CDL, which will be useful for both Departments. Chairman Landau asked
78 that he remain in close contact with Fire Chief Antoine, Road Agent Oleson, and Andy Higham.

80 Selectman Weider moved to accept Thomas Cannon as a probationary firefighter; Selectman
LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Cannon absent; so moved.

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3.2 Tim White, Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

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Mr. White, the Principal Transportation Planner for SNHPC, appeared before the Board to discuss
86 CART (The Cooperative Alliance for Regional Transportation). There is \$6,019 in this Fiscal Year's
budget for CART; he asked formally that it be level funded for the upcoming Fiscal Year.

88

CART is demand-response public transportation formed in 2006 to serve Chester, Derry,
90 Hampstead, Londonderry, Salem, and Windham. It operates Monday through Friday, 9am - 5pm, on
a zone-fare system. Their statistics show that overall in FY2012, 14,100 rides were arranged; this
92 is an increase of 28.5% over FY2011, and an increase of 82% since its inception. 33% of the rides

94 are for medical purposes; 25% for social purposes. There were 216 rides arranged in Chester,
each an average of 7.2 miles. This is an increase of 39% over FY2011's numbers.

96 There was some discussion as to whether or not the demise of Chester College would affect the
need in Town, and if CART could operate like a shuttle service should there be a need. Mr. White
98 will check with his executive director and report back; as CART is federally funded, there may be
restrictions on its usage.

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Mr. White departed the meeting table at 7:22pm.

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3.3 *Phil Gladu, Emergency Management Director*

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Mr. Gladu appeared before the Board to discuss the Emergency Management Plan.

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108 The School Board has requested again that the School be the backup, rather than the primary,
shelter in case of emergencies. Using the School as a shelter can affect the length of the school
year, and that can affect teacher contracts; this is undesirable. The Legislative Body funded
110 generators for the MPR in order that it could be used as the shelter; the Board would like this to
happen as soon as possible.

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114 The Selectmen would like the Emergency Management Plan amended to reflect this change, and
asked if there was anything that needed to be done to the Multi Purpose Room before it could be
used as the primary shelter. Mr. Gladu stated that the ADA Checklist for Shelters recommended
116 that shelters have two separate areas (one for sleeping, the other for eating/recreation), a
certain amount of space per person depending on how many days the shelter is open, one toilet per
118 40 people, specific parking considerations, enough food stored for five days, etc. These things are
all available at the School, but not necessarily the MPR.

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122 Selectman Weider noted that ADA only applies during construction or renovation of a property,
and that the five days of food available now belongs to the School, not the Town. Most
importantly, the School does not want to be the primary shelter; its main function is education.

124

126 Some items mentioned were that the walk-in freezer in the MPR kitchen needs repair, and it was
suggested that dividers be put into the showers. The old playground area could be paved over for
parking, or a shuttle could run from the School lot. Food for storage will need to be budgeted.
128 There is space in the Municipal Complex for storage of emergency supplies. Mrs. Dolloff pointed
out that the Mother Hubbard Cupboard could supply clothing, should it be necessary.

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132 Mr. Gladu stated that he would make a prioritized list of needs and provide it to the Board. Mr.
Gladu will work with Selectman LeBlanc and Maintenance Man Tony Amato.

134 Mr. Gladu departed the meeting at 8:00pm.

3.4 *David Preece, SNHPC*

138 Mr. Preece, Mr. White and Mr. Piatkowski appeared before the Board to discuss Mr. Preece's new

140 responsibilities as a member of Governor-elect Maggie Hassan's transition team. He has been
asked to determine what pressing challenges are facing New Hampshire; how we are dealing with
them; and what ideas does the Board have for the future of New Hampshire.

142

144 Chairman Landau expressed his dissatisfaction with the widening of Route 93; by the time the
work is finished, in ten years, it will be outdated. He would like to see rail service from Boston to
the White Mountains. He also wondered why New Hampshire did not offer gambling (other than
146 lottery tickets), instead choosing to subsidize Connecticut. Both rail service and gambling would
encourage employment and revenue.

148

150 He would also like to see DES divided up; the Department is too large, and does not service towns
properly. There is no consistency or policy.

152 Vice-Chairman Hagan would prefer to see more ride share and carpooling. He would also like to see
energy costs kept down in order to attract business to the Northeast. He asked Mr. Preece to be
154 sure not to kill charter schools.

156 Selectman LeBlanc is not in favor of trains, stating that they tend to need to be subsidized. He is
also dissatisfied that New Hampshire creates too much power, and then exports it. He agreed
158 with Chairman Landau about problems with DES.

160 Selectman Weider was interested in seeing more regionalization, believing that municipalities
operate alone on items that should be handled county-wide. He is in favor of incentive programs
162 for developing new technology. Insofar as transportation was concerned, he noted that the
Amtrak Downeaster allows college students along its route to easily visit other towns; students in
164 other large cities, such as Keene and Nashua, have no such benefit. He mentioned charging
stations for electric cars, solar grids on parking garage roofs, and light rail to take cars off of the
166 road, allowing for more green space.

168 Selectman LeBlanc mentioned a boy in the Goshen/Newport area who had opened an ice cream
stand using solar power, funded by his parents' money. These solar panels run both the ice cream
170 stand and their home, and in the off season, they sell the extra power. Mr. Preece noted that the
SNHPC had applied for a grant two years ago for electric charging stations, but they were denied.
172 Selectman Weider opined that the power companies are not in favor of solar power, and the US in
general is not in favor of diesel engines.

174

176 Leroy Scott stood and was recognized. He would like to see manufacturing jobs returned to New
Hampshire.

178 Chairman Landau thanked Mr. Preece for his help with LeClair's junkyard.

180 Mr. Preece, Mr. White, and Mr. Piatkowski departed the meeting at 8:34pm.

182 **IV. Selectmen's Business**

184 *4.1 Roundtable*

186 *Selectman Weider:*

- He has provided a copy of Building Inspector Roy's monthly report to all Board members.

188

Selectman LeBlanc:

- He thanked Fire Chief Antoine for having the Rescue Vehicle marked in the manner the Board had requested.

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Vice-Chairman Hagan:

- Nothing to report.

196 *Chairman Landau:*

- He has received two estimates for the Transfer Station roof; however, one is only a partial, and the other, which is complete, is over twice as expensive as the partial.
- He has received a letter from Jean Methot, resigning from the SNHPC, Conservation Commission, and Wason Pond Commission effective January 1st, 2013. He will remain as an alternate to the ZBA. He plans to focus his time on planning Chester's 300th Anniversary celebration.
- The Deputy Fire Chief will be out of commission for a few days; a card was circulated for signature.
- There are a number of abatements and the Police Department's Boston Systems agreement to be perused.

208 *4.2 Public Comment*

210 As no members of the public wished to speak, Public Comment was closed at 8:44pm.

212 *4.3 Non-Public Session*

214 Chairman Landau moved that the Board go into non-public session under RSA 91A:3 II (e), Pending Litigation; Selectman Weider seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Cannon absent; so moved.

218 The Meeting Room was closed at 8:45pm.

220 The Meeting Room was re-opened at 9:06pm.

222 Selectman Weider moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Vice-Chairman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Cannon absent; so moved.

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Chairman Landau moved that the minutes to this non-public session be sealed for an indefinite period; Selectman Weider seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Cannon absent; so moved.

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V. Adjournment

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232 Selectman Weider moved to adjourn the meeting; Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The
vote was four in favor with Selectman Cannon absent; so moved.

234 The meeting was adjourned at 9:08pm.

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238 Respectfully Submitted,

240 Debra H. Doda