

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, May 14th, 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
- Baseball Shed
- MPR Floor
- Ryan Neal – Eagle Scout Project at Wason Pond
- New Hampshire Electric Co-op/Herbicides
- Roundtable
- Public Comment
- Non Public Session, including Michelle Trodella
- Adjournment

1.1 Call to Order

Chairman Landau called this meeting of the Town of Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:02pm.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectmen present:

- Jack Cannon
- Joe Castricone
- Joseph Hagen
- Stephen Landau
- Richard LeBlanc

Members of the Public present, at various times:

- Jim Neal, Scoutmaster
- Ryan Neal, Eagle Scout Candidate
- Matt Rittenhouse, Tri-Town Times
- Leroy Scott
- Michelle Trodella
- 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

The Baseball Shed will be discussed during Old Business; Herbicide application will be discussed during New Business; and there will be a nonpublic session on employment.

54 1.5 *Public Comment*

56 Leroy Scott stood and was recognized. He wished to thank whoever arranged the painting of the Post
58 Office porch, and whoever arranged the repair of the Village Cemetery wall on Raymond Road. He also
noted that the Rope Swing has reappeared at Wason Pond.

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

62 **II. Old Business**

64 2.1 *Approval of Minutes*

66 *May 7th, 2015:* Selectman Castricone noted that on line 116, his motion should include the requirement
68 that the Baseball/Softball League receive approval from the Building Inspector before installing the shed.
Selectman Castricone moved that these minutes be approved as amended; Selectman LeBlanc seconded
the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

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72 2.2 *Baseball Shed*

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Last week the Board voted, at the request of the Recreation Department, to allow the Baseball/Softball
74 League to install a shed at Nichols field. It has since been determined that, according to the State, the
Town must own the shed, and it must be open to all, not to just the Baseball/Softball League. Accepting
76 the shed as a gift would also mean that the Town would need to maintain it.

78 It has also been reported that the new shed would be used to house field maintenance supplies. The
original shed in that location is apparently not full, but there has been some discussion about moving
80 the ‘Snack Shack’ into the old shed.

82 Selectman Cannon suggested that Recreation and the Baseball/Softball League be invited to appear
before the Board to discuss this issue; there are no real objections, but explanations are needed.

84

86 2.3 *MPR Floor*

88

Chairman Landau has spoken with the Architect, David Laurin, about the two bids that were received.
88 The first vendor, American Sport Floors, would use Robbins flooring at a cost of \$81,255; the second,
Nelly Associates (?), would use GerFloor at an estimated cost of \$74,000. The vendor bid \$66,000 but
90 did not include removal of the existing floor; Architect Laurin estimated their revised bid to be \$74,000.

92 GerFloor is 7mm thick, with shock absorption of 22-33%; Robbins is 9mm thick, with shock absorption
of 20%. Architect Laurin prefers Robbins. He suggests that visits be paid to facilities with similar
94 installed floors. Selectman Cannon is also interested in comparing warranties.

96 According to John Plourde of Robert H Lord Company (a bleachers manufacturer), new bleachers wheels
are made of soft rubber, and work on both types of flooring, poured or laid. It is unlikely that the MPR
98 bleachers can be retrofitted, and unclear if they can be reinstalled if removed. Selectman Cannon would
prefer that new bleachers be obtained if at all possible. Mr. Plourde stated that one set, 50’ long, run by
100 electricity, and seating 350 people, would cost \$18,773. This is most likely too large for the MPR.

102 The Recreation Department wishes to revisit this subject after Town Meeting.

104 **III. New Business**

106 3.1 *Ryan Neal – Eagle Scout Project at Wason Pond*

108 Ryan Neal and Scoutmaster Neal appeared before the Board to solicit permission for Ryan’s Eagle Scout
110 Project, which is to build and install benches along the trails at Wason Pond. They have already
appeared before the Wason Pond Commission, and received their approval.

112 These four (4) benches will be built of pressure-treated 2x6 (seat) and 6x6 (legs) timbers, weigh about
100 pounds, be coated with a wood sealant, and will be cemented into the ground with rebar
114 horizontally through the legs to prevent removal. They will be located by the stream, at the four-way
intersection, and to the right of the beach. Ryan opined that they will be a nice resting spot for those on
116 the trails, especially older residents.

118 Once the Town accepts the benches, it will assume liability.

120 Vice-Chairman Hagan moved to allow Ryan Neal to continue with his Eagle Scout project to build and
install four (4) benches at Wason Pond; Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was four in
122 favor with Chairman Landau abstaining; so moved.

124 *3.2 New Hampshire Electric Co-op/Herbicides*

126 The New Hampshire Electric Co-op has notified the Town that they plan to use herbicides to defoliate
various areas along Fremont Road, Candia Road, and Old Sandown Road. Among the products used will
128 be Rodeo, Escort XP, Patriot, Krenite-S, and Garlon 4 Ultra. They expect the Town to notify any
impacted parties. There is conservation land near where the spraying is planned.

130 Chairman Landau has asked the Attorney representing the Town in the Utility lawsuit for advice; he has
132 suggested that they contact the Co-op’s Project Manager. Anyone with objections should be prepared to
speak up. This will be announced again at the end of Town Meeting.

134 **IV. Selectmen’s Business**

136 *4.1 Roundtable*

138 *Selectman Cannon:*

- 140 • He asked if anyone had been asked for approval of expenditures over \$500. There have been
142 two instances: one, repair of the cemetery wall; another, the Road Agent’s need to purchase \$2k
of gravel to repair roads damaged by snow and ice. Additionally, the Police Department will
144 need to equip its new officers. Chairman Landau thinks that he signed an invoice for this
equipment earlier this week.
- 146 • He has been informed that people are having difficulty hearing the Board during meetings.
- 148 • He received a call from a resident complaining that the Fire Department Command Vehicle had
come down his road at an estimated 70mph, well in excess of the posted speed limit. This
150 resident stated that per RSA, emergency response vehicles can only travel a maximum of 5mph
above the posted speed limit. Selectman Cannon spoke with Police Chief Burke, who informed
152 him that there had been an emergency medical situation with a member of the Highway crew;
Chief Burke and Officer Sable, who was off-duty, had responded. The Highway worker was
154 apparently in cardiac arrest and with a head injury. Police Chief Burke radioed Rockingham
Dispatch, asking them to have EMTs respond with haste. Fire Chief Antoine was responding to
156 this request.

158 Per RSA 265:8, “The driver of an emergency vehicle may...exceed the maximum speed limits so
long as he does not endanger life or property...when such vehicle is making use of audible or
visual emergency signals”. There is nothing in the statute that indicates that these vehicles can

160 only travel 5mph above the posted speed limit, and the Fire Department Command Vehicle did
162 have its audible and visual emergency signals activated.

164 *Selectman Castricone:*

- Nothing to report.

166 *Selectman LeBlanc:*

- He has been in touch with the Electrician; they are putting off ordering the boxes until June 20th,
170 2015. There is a four week lead time. The invoice will come due in the new Fiscal year. Hot
172 water heaters need to be picked up before July 1st, 2015, as new Federal Guidelines that take
effect on that date will raise the price 40%.

174 *Vice-Chairman Hagan*

- Primaries have been scheduled for Tuesday, February 16th, 2016.

178 *Chairman Landau:*

- The Supervisors of the Checklist wished to thank Colleen Towle for providing meals on Election
180 Day.
- Town Meeting will begin on Saturday, May 16th, 2015 at 9:00am.
- Hazardous Waste Day will be in Plaistow on Saturday, May 16th, 2015. A representative from
182 Chester will be on hand.
- The Transfer Station will be closed this Saturday; it will be open on Sunday, May 17th, 2015 from
184 7am to 2pm.
- He attended the Conservation Commission’s meeting on Tuesday, May 12th, 2015. There was
186 some discussion about Warrant Article 17, which is the Conservation Survey. The amount they
188 are requesting is 1/3rd of what is needed; as a result, they may table the article. There was
190 some concern that new developments may be encroaching on conservation areas, but it has
since been determined that this is not the case.
- He has spoken with the company that provides assessing services to the Town. They are of the
192 opinion that there may be sufficient funds in the account to perform the re-evaluation now, so
194 that Warrant Article may be able to be tabled as well.

196 *4.2 Public Comment*

198 As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:59pm.

200 *4.3 Non-Public Session*

202 Chairman Landau introduced Michelle Trodella, who answered an ad on the Town website looking for a
minute taker. She took minutes for the Budget Committee on Monday, May 11th, 2015, and comes
204 highly recommended.

206 Chairman Landau moved to go into non-public session for two items: one under RSA 91-A:3 II (b)
Employment and (c) Reputation, and one under RSA 91-A:3 II (j), Confidential Financial Information;
208 Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

210 The meeting room was closed at 8:00pm. Ms. Trodella remained in the room.

212 Ms. Trodella departed the meeting at 8:11pm.

214 The meeting room was re-opened at 8:23pm.

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

218

Chairman Landau moved that the minutes to the first non-public session, on Hiring and Reputation, be sealed for an indefinite period; Selectman Castricone seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

222

Chairman Landau moved that the minutes to the second non-public session, on Confidential Financial Information, be sealed for a period of sixty (60) days; Selectman Castricone seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

226

V. Adjournment

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The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Thursday, May 28th, 2015 at 7pm in the Meeting Room.

230

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

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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Debra H. Doda