

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, September 6th, 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)
Approval of Minutes
Wason Pond Athletic Fields
Fire Chief Antoine
Darrell Quinn
Road Agent Oleson
Town Fair Schedule
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 Hagan
Stephen Landau
Richard LeBlanc
Michael Weider

Selectmen absent:

Jack Cannon

Members of the Public present, at various times:

Richard Antoine, Fire Chief
John Colman
Jamison Graham
Michael Oleson, Road Agent
Darrell Quinn, Supervisor of the Town Chronometer

48 Leroy Scott
Shawn Santuccio
John Sullivan, Field Of Dreams
50 David Veale, Field Of Dreams
Maria Veale, Field Of Dreams
52 And other persons unknown to the Recording Secretary

54 *1.3 Pledge of Allegiance*

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

58 *1.4 Additions and Deletions*

60 Fire Chief Antoine, Road Agent Oleson, and Darrell Quinn are present and each wishes to be seen;
62 the Primary Elections of September 11th need to be discussed; Selectman Weider requested a non-
public session under Reputation.

64 *1.5 Public Comment*

66 As no members of the public wished to speak, Public Comment was closed at 7:07pm.

68 **II. Old Business**

70 *2.1 Approval of Minutes*

72 *August 30th, 2012:* Selectman Weider moved that these minutes be approved as drafted;
74 Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectman Cannon
absent and Vice-Chairman Hagan abstaining due to absence from the referenced meeting; so moved.

76 **III. New Business**

78 *3.1 Wason Pond Athletic Fields*

80 John Sullivan, David Veale, and Maria Veale of Field of Dreams appeared before the Board to
discuss funding of the proposed Wason Pond Athletic Fields.

82
84 Selectman Weider met with the Auditors this week to discuss this subject. As the Warrant
Article from this year's Town Meeting only raised and appropriated \$45k, that is the maximum that
86 the Town can spend on leveling these fields. If Field of Dreams were to give the Town their \$45k
match, it would go into the unexpended fund balance. The Town has already expended \$5,500 on
88 this work. Therefore, the plan is that Field of Dreams will pay the next \$5,500 incurred, and then
thereafter each entity will pay 50% of each invoice. All parties were in agreement that this was
the best way to proceed.

90
92 Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Veale, and Mrs. Veale departed the meeting at 7:13pm.

3.2 *Fire Chief Antoine*

94

96 Fire Chief Antoine appeared before the Board with Shawn Santuccio, who is interested in joining
98 the Fire Department. Mr. Santuccio is an electrician and Certified EMT who lives just over the
100 Chester line in Auburn. Allowing him to join the Department would bring the total number of
102 members to 38 of the 40 allowed, and the Department is always in need of volunteers. Fire Chief
104 Antoine estimated that the Department is staffed by ~15 Firefighters and ~20-25 EMTs, some
persons performing both duties. If Mr. Santuccio continues his education, the Town will pay for it;
however, he will then owe the Town a certain amount of time in return. This obligation is backed by
a contract between the Fire Department and Mr. Santuccio; Fire Chief Antoine reported that the
Department has much success with this type of arrangement.

104

106 Chairman Landau moved that Shawn Santuccio be accepted as a volunteer member of the Chester
108 Fire Department; Selectman LeBlanc seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with
Selectman Cannon absent; so moved.

108

110 Mr. Santuccio departed the meeting at 7:17pm; John Colman joined Fire Chief Antoine at the
meeting table.

112 Mr. Colman reported that he has yet to receive the plaque for Saturday's Fire House dedication,
but expected it soon. All invoices received have been given to Bookkeeper Duffy.

114

116 Leroy Scott stood and was recognized. He stated that he had been under the impression that the
118 new sign was going to be equal in size to the existing sign, but that it was considerably smaller. Fire
120 Chief Antoine stated that the new sign was 2/3rds the size of the existing sign, due to the sign
company's recommendation and the size of the space it was going into. Mr. Scott expressed
dissatisfaction with this explanation; Fire Chief Antoine stated that if the Board had issues with
the new sign, they could discuss it with him after the dedication.

122 Fire Chief Antoine and Mr. Colman departed the meeting table at 7:21pm.

124 3.3 *Darrell Quinn*

126 Mr. Quinn appeared before the Board to discuss the Town Clock.

128 To the best of his knowledge, the clock dates from 1882, and was updated with an electric motor in
~1976-77. He has been its keeper since the 1980's.

130

132 He estimates that each motor lasts ~2 years, and its demise is usually due to a lightning strike. The
134 last time he purchased replacement motors was in 2008; he bought two at \$184 each. As these
136 motors are becoming obsolete, the price has increased. His usual supplier only has four left in
stock, at over \$300 each; he would like to buy all four. He has purchased another of these motors
on Ebay for \$85, as well as some limit switches; he would also like to purchase a point-of-use surge
suppressor. In total, he would need to spend ~\$1,400.

138 It may be possible that damaged motors can be rebuilt; he has contacted the factory to ask this, as

140 well as to receive an estimate of how long a motor should last and if there is a replacement for the
141 obsolete motor. He has yet to receive a response.

142 Selectman LeBlanc moved to allow Mr. Quinn to purchase four electric motors and a surge
143 suppressor for the Town Clock; Selectman Weider seconded the motion.

144 Vice-Chairman Hagan asked if there were sufficient funds in the budget for these purchases; it will
145 be managed. Selectman Weider stated that he knew a UL/LPI listed lightning specialist who is
146 willing to look at the clock and provide assistance. Selectman LeBlanc asked Mr. Quinn if he had
147 spoken to a specialist from Goffstown - Mr. Quinn stated that he had, but the person did not
148 appear to be interested in continuing to partner with him, as he never provided a promised estimate.

149 The question was called. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Cannon absent; so moved.
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151 Mr. Quinn departed the meeting at 7:31pm.
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153 *3.4 Road Agent Oleson*
154

155 Road Agent Oleson appeared before the Board to discuss various Highway Department issues.
156

157 Three bids had been received and opened today for the Fremont Road Culvert work, as follows:
158

159 Lowest Bidder	\$57,814
160 Middle Bidder	\$75,000
161 Highest Bidder	\$292,000

162 These bids do not include an additional \$12k of engineering work from Dubois & King.
163

164 The Warrant Article for this work raised \$50k, \$30k of which came from FEMA and \$20k from
165 the Town; even the lowest bid will come to ~\$20k more than the amount appropriated. The
166 estimate used to write the Warrant Article was apparently too old to be of any use now.
167

168 Road Agent Oleson then spoke with Dubois & King, Lance Harbour of FEMA, and Selectman Cannon;
169 they are of the opinion that the work can be done in-house. The two smaller culverts are on hand
170 and could be installed right away, but according to the culvert vendor, the larger one has a 4-6 week
171 window. Doing the job in-house would allow for savings on both culverts (no mark-up) and
172 engineering (Dubois & King will charge less as they expect Road Agent Oleson to oversee the work
173 rather than themselves).
174

175 Road Agent Oleson stated, in response to a question by Vice-Chairman Hagan, that he expected
176 doing the job in-house would cost ~\$50k, which includes the reduced engineering fees.
177

178 Selectman LeBlanc moved to not accept any of the received bids, and instead do the work in-house;
179 Vice-Chairman Hagan seconded the motion.
180

181 Chairman Landau asked if it was possible to procure the culverts in-house for the contractors to
182 use, therefore saving money on materials mark-up; Road Agent Oleson stated that contractors
183
184

186 wouldn't go along with that. Chairman Landau then recommended not awarding the bid, and waiting
187 until next year, as the FEMA money is good until November 2014 and the Town's money is good until
188 2017.

189 Selectman Weider is opposed to doing the job in-house, as the Town would then assume the liability
190 if any damage is caused by failure of these culverts. He suggested waiting until next year and
191 asking the legislative body for additional funds. He is concerned that doing the job in-house is a
192 circumvention of the Town's bidding policy.

194 The question was called. The vote was two in favor with Selectman Weider opposed and Chairman
195 Landau abstaining; the motion fails. No decision will be made tonight on the received bids.

196 Road Agent Oleson departed the meeting at 7:49pm.

198 *3.5 Town Fair Schedule*

200	7:30am	Trail Race registration
202	8:00am	Start setup
	9:00am-2:00pm	Blood Drive at Chester Academy
204	12:00noon	Parade
	12:30pm	Fire House Dedication, then Fire House open until 4pm
206	12:30-4:00pm	Town Fair
	4:00pm	American Legion BBQ, \$10/person
208	9:00-9:30pm	Fireworks

210 **IV. Selectmen's Business**

212 *4.1 Roundtable*

214 *Selectman Weider:*

- 216 • The Auditors are done. The MS4 is completed; they suggest an overlay of \$10k. There is
217 no update on the unexpended fund balance. Assessing has submitted their costs, and their
218 document will be ready to sign next week.
- 219 • The next Area Selectmen's Meeting is in Danville on Thursday, September 20th at their new
220 Community Center. Therefore, there will be no Board of Selectmen's meeting in Chester
221 that night.
- 222 • There is some confusion in the Planning Board about a motion at Town Meeting in the
223 mid/late 80s for a CIP study. The motion was tabled; however, at the next year's Town
224 Meeting \$5k was appropriated to develop the CIP. The Town Meeting minutes are not clear.
225 If they cannot be deciphered, this subject will need to be discussed at next year's Town
226 Meeting. Chairman Landau, who was on the Planning Board at this time, will review his
227 personal notes.
- 228 • The Wason Pond/Field of Dreams group plans to attend the next Planning Board meeting on
229 September 19th to discuss site plan.

230 *Selectman LeBlanc:*

- 232 • Maintenance Man Amato had drafted the suggested RFP for the MPR single and double doors. Selectman Weider requested that Administrative Assistant Martin be asked to work with Mr. Amato to put the document into the Town's approved RFP format.
- 234 • Selectman LeBlanc also spoke with Mr. Amato about the Town's cannons. They will be moved into the garage behind Stevens Hall, after moving the antique mail cart aside. This way they will be conveniently located for the Historical Society's work.
- 236 • He suggested that next year's Boy Scout Yard Sale be moved to the empty two acre field behind the Municipal Complex next year. Although Selectman Weider stated that traditionally this sale is held at Wason Pond, next year the expected newly laid grass should not be disturbed. Chairman Landau suggested having a representative of the Boy Scouts come before the Board to discuss this issue. He would be interested in seeing this empty field used as ball fields, also.
- 238 • The motion detector lights at the Police Station have been installed.
- 244 • Ken Scott is replacing the flashing by the chimney on the Ruth Ray building; the flashing needs to be replaced on the loading dock roof as well. Bids will be procured this week to put a new roof on the loading dock. Selectman LeBlanc has also received a bid for \$30k to paint the Ruth Ray building, or \$12k to only paint the one wall facing Spollett's. He suggested that perhaps the Town should consider vinyl siding the building, as it is not historic. Chairman Landau suggested he get an estimate.

250

Vice-Chairman Hagan:

- 252 • Nothing to report.

254 *Chairman Landau:*

- 256 • Administrative Assistant Martin would like to join the Southern New Hampshire Human Services Commission; there is a \$15 membership fee. All members were in agreement.
- 258 • He contacted both the Town of Sandown and the State Public Health department about the Triple-E found in Sandown. Apparently Sandown's sampling found a small number of the type of mosquitos that normally bite birds, and that are normally active between 3:30pm and 6:00am. However, he suggested that in addition to suggesting long sleeves and pants at Town Fair, that the Town have mosquito repellent on hand in case residents do not bring their own. He was informed that 36 cans of repellent had been bought.
- 262 • There has been no response from DOT about the 102/121 intersection situation.
- 264 • A thank-you note was received from Elaine Parsons.
- 266 • The Granite State Communications Open House will be on September 15th. Sharon Welch has been nominated as a Hometown Hero.

268 *4.2 Public Comment*

270 John Colman stood and was recognized. He stated that the Boy Scouts had done a great job at the center of Town, but there was currently no flag on the flagpole. There had been one previously, with lighting, but it had been taken down as the lighting was deemed insufficient. Chairman Landau stated that the flag had been lit by a solar unit which had broken; the Cemetery Trustees were in the process of procuring another one. He will follow up on this issue.

276 As no other Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 8:17pm.

278 4.3 *Non-Public Session*

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

284 The meeting room was closed at 8:19pm.

286 The meeting room was re-opened at 9:21pm.

288 Selectman Weider moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Selectman LeBlanc
290 seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Cannon absent; so moved.

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

V. Adjournment

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

300 The meeting was adjourned at 9:23pm.

302

304 Respectfully Submitted,

306 Debra H. Doda