

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, July 7th, 2011
Municipal Complex
Approved Minutes**

I Preliminaries

1.1 Call to Order

Chairman Landau called this meeting of the Town of Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:08pm.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectmen present:

Jack Cannon
Joe Castricone
Joseph Hagan
Stephen Landau
Michael Weider

Members of the Public present, at various times:

Rich Antoine, Fire Chief
Susan Rand King, Granite State Telephone
Bob Latham
Matt Rittenhouse, Tri-Town Times
Carolyn Scott
Leroy Scott
Kevin Wunderly, Fire Lieutenant
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

Two non-public sessions were added, both on reputation; Fire Chief Antoine will be bringing the new Fire Truck for inspection; and the Planning Board Appointment session has been canceled.

1.5 Public Comment

Leroy Scott stood and was recognized. He noted that the cannon has been removed; will it be repaired? Chairman Landau stated that estimates are needed; he had contacted Gettysburg about replacement wheels, but was unable to obtain any. He will continue to pursue the matter.

48 As no other members of the public wished to speak, Public Comment was closed at 7:11pm.

50 **II. Old Business**

52 *2.1 Approval of Minutes*

54 *June 30th, 2011:* Selectman Weider moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Selectman
Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Vice-Chairman Cannon abstaining due
56 to absence from the meeting in question; so moved.

58 *June 28th, 2011:* Selectman Weider moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Chairman
Landau seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectman Castricone and Selectman
60 Hagan abstaining due to absence from the meeting in question; so moved.

62 *June 23rd, 2011:* On line 175, the actual amount of donations received was \$980, not \$890.
Selectman Hagan moved to accept these minutes as amended; Selectman Weider seconded the
64 motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Castricone abstaining due to absence from the
meeting in question; so moved.

66
June 16th, 2011: Selectman Weider moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Selectman
68 Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Vice-Chairman Cannon and Selectman
Castricone abstaining due to absence from the meeting in question; so moved.

70
June 9th, 2011: Selectman Weider moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Vice-Chairman
72 Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Castricone abstaining due
to absence from the meeting in question; so moved.

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June 2nd, 2011: Selectman Weider moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Selectman
76 Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Vice-Chairman Cannon abstaining due
to absence from the meeting in question; so moved. Although the minutes are not to be amended, it
78 was noted that two different attorney opinions have been solicited about how long one has to
become current after a property is taken; one says two, the other says 10.

80
May 26th, 2011: Selectman Weider moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Selectman
82 Castricone seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

84 *April 28th, 2011:* Selectman Weider moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Vice-Chairman
Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Hagan abstaining due to
86 the meeting in question being prior to elections; so moved.

88 *March 31st, 2011:* Selectman Weider moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Vice-Chairman
Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Hagan abstaining due to
90 the meeting in question being prior to elections; so moved.

92 *March 24th, 2011:* Selectman Weider moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Vice-Chairman

94 Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectman Castricone abstaining due
to absence from the meeting in question and Selectman Hagan abstaining due to the meeting in
question being prior to elections; so moved.

96 *March 17th, 2011:* Selectman Weider moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Vice-Chairman
98 Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Hagan abstaining due to
the meeting in question being prior to elections; so moved.

100 **III. New Business**

102 *3.1 New Fire Engine - Fire Chief Richard Antoine & Fire Lieutenant Kevin Wunderly*

104 Fire Chief Antoine & Fire Lieutenant Wunderly arrived at the meeting with the new Quint Fire
106 Engine. The meeting moved outside at 7:26pm and reconvened at 7:38pm.

108 *3.2 Phone System Proposal - Susan Rand King, Granite State Communications*

110 Mrs. King, the President of Granite State Communications, appeared before the Board to discuss
renewing the telephone/internet service contract. She gave a brief and interesting history of the
112 company from its start as the *Chester & Derry Telegraph Company* in 1877 to its fiber build-out in
2008.

114 There were three proposals in her handout: the first was a 5-year renewal of the current contract,
116 which would not involve the need for any new wiring or equipment, nor training, dedicated floor
space, server, climate controlled space, etc. It is 'hosted service', formerly known as Centrex, and
118 would include 24/7 tech support, with 80% of all repairs completed within 4 hours. The rate, which
was 33 lines @ \$16.90/each, would be 27 lines @ \$24.90/each.

120 The two other proposals require new equipment (either leased or purchased) and wiring; one
122 difference between them is the type of Internet service provided.

124 Various discussions ensued. One topic was whether the Town would be better served by purchasing
vs. leasing the new equipment. Chairman Landau asked if equipment could be upgraded before the
126 contract expired should new and improved equipment become available. Vice-Chairman Cannon
believes that the payback time, which is 30+ months, is too long. He would prefer reduced material
128 and labor costs, resulting in a payback time of 12-18 months instead. Selectman Weider would like
all lines scrutinized to see what special options each line has that can or should be removed to save
130 money, and also wondered if the Town really needs the highest Internet speed available. There was
also a discussion about whether or not the wiring in the Municipal Complex was sufficient for new
132 equipment needs, or if it would need to be improved.

134 On other topics, there was also some discussion about whether or not Granite State provided cable
television service (they do not), if persons in Chester served by Fairpoint instead would be able to
136 change to Granite State (those customers should call the Public Utilities Commission; if the
necessary equipment is in the customer's neighborhood, GSI will contact Fairpoint on their behalf),
138 and if it was possible to get a consolidated bill (it is).

140 In general, new Option 1 was the most popular. Incidentally, the current contract expired 18
142 months ago. Mrs. King will look at the proposals to see what can be amended to satisfy all concerns.
Selectman Castricone will work with her.

144 Mrs. King departed the meeting at 8:22pm.

146 3.3 *Fire Chief Antoine*

148 Fire Chief Antoine appeared before the Board to give an update on miscellaneous situations.

150 The new Engine will not be in service for another week. Both old trucks are out of service; #1 is
152 back on Ebay, as it only received bids of \$2500 against a \$3000 reserve. #2 is listed with a
broker, and will be posted locally. The broker is nationwide, and takes 10% of the sale price as his
commission. Fire Chief Antoine will provide Chairman Landau with all new Engine documentation.

154 The alarm panel at Stevens Hall was hit by lightning, and needs ~\$6k of work, according to Bob
156 Pepper. There are five buildings not connected right now. Chairman Landau suggested calling LGC,
and asked that Mr. Pepper be asked to provide an estimate.

158 Vice-Chairman Cannon asked how it was that Stevens Hall seems to get hit by lightning more often
160 than other buildings in Town. Apparently it is on ledge, which is prone to hits. There is a panel in
the library; can that be upgraded? Fire Chief Antoine will research the issue.

162 There are three Abdallah-built houses at the end of Emerson Road that are not being recognized by
164 911, as the Town has not accepted and will not be accepting or maintaining that portion of the road.
Selectman Weider reported that they were off of a shared driveway, which is no different than
166 Muskrat Circle, and that the situation is an issue between Abdallah and the Planning Board.

168 Selectman Weider asked why a particular invoice was being coded to the dispatch line, when it had
170 nothing to do with the Derry contract. Chairman Landau asked that a new line be created to handle
dispatch related expenses that are not Derry contract related.

172 Fire Chief Antoine departed the meeting at 8:34pm.

174 **IV. Selectmen's Business**

176 4.1 *Roundtable*

178 *Vice-Chairman Cannon*

- 180 ● He received a letter from a resident asking if the skatepark and basketball court by
Chester Academy could be swapped. The asphalt is rough on the skatepark section, which
182 makes it difficult to roll. Chairman Landau stated that the skatepark had been equipped
~15 years ago as an Eagle Scout project, and the Eagle Scout had purchased all 'portable'
184 equipment at that time. The basketball hoops would need to be moved. Chairman Landau will
speak with the Rec department about this.

- 186 ● He spoke with School Board Chair Royal Richardson about the plowing of Chester Academy. It was suggested that the Town do the work and the School reimburse them. Vice-Chairman Cannon would like a 'should-cost' analysis, which can be done by Road Agent Oleson. At that point Mr. Richardson could meet with the Board, review bids, review their historic costs, and review the 'should-cost' analysis.
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- 190 ● He asked if the PACT meeting room was set up for broadcast; it is not - just recording. He asked that a reminder be sent out that, per vote of the selectmen, all meetings taking place in the Meeting Room must be televised. The Board approved him speaking to Administrative Assistant Pat Martin about this.
- 192
- 194 ● He referred to a letter from Town Counsel Diane Gorrow about Earned Time. One issue he had is the changing in the middle of the year from Earned Time to granted Vacation Time, and would like a listing of what vacation time has already been taken this year by persons affected by the change. He will have a final draft next week for posting.
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- 198

Selectman Weider:

- 200 ● Dubois & King finished their assessment on North Pond Road, and the Planning Board submitted it to DOT. The Town will now be eligible for grants in the future. Some suggestions made were a roundabout (not feasible), traffic lights, and turn lanes, which were the best option. It was also suggested to petition the State to drop the speed limit at that intersection by 10mph by extending the 30mph limit at the 102/121 intersection to that area. From 2005-2009, there were 14 incidents at the North Pond Road intersection. Road vegetation is also an issue at the intersection.
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- 204
- 206 ● Maureen Lein will be in next week for her appointment to the Planning Board.
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Selectman Castricone

- 210 ● He will be sending out the RFP for oil and propane bids; the entire Town will be under one contract. There was a question as to whether it would be cheaper if the Town and School went in together; Selectman Castricone reported that the issue was that the School was able to realize a savings by taking a bulk delivery, whereas the Town could not. Selectman Weider suggested that the Town meet with the School Finance and Maintenance heads; Selectman Castricone will handle this.
- 212
- 214 ● After July 1st, he would like to hire a seasonal employee to mow lawns. This will not necessarily be a beneficiary of the Town's Welfare department.
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- 218 ● He thanked Fire Chief Antoine, the Board of Selectmen, and the people of Chester for the new Fire Engine.
- 220

Selectman Hagan:

- 222 ● Nothing to report.

Chairman Landau

- 224 ● He received a subpoena this morning from Shaheen & Gordon, about the State case of *New Hampshire vs. Hess Corporation*. He has already contacted the Attorney General; Shaheen and Gordon want documentation about the well at the Wason Pond Community Center; Administrative Assistant Martin is gathering them. They are checking on all wells funded by grants. Apparently they think Chester put in the new well because the old one was contaminated by MTBE; the actual situation was that the old well was contaminated, but
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232 with coliform bacteria, not MTBE. Chairman Landau will be giving a deposition on August
30th.

- 234 ● The resident who organized Town Fair last year has asked permission to do it again this
year.
- 236 ● More fireproof file cabinets, and a new desk for the Selectmen's office, are needed.
Administrative Assistant Martin will research.
- 238 ● He received a letter from an attorney who came to Town to see Building Inspector Thom
Roy while Mr. Roy was on vacation. He is in need of some records, and plans to come in next
240 Monday again. Selectman Weider pointed out that one needs to provide a written request
and the Town has 72 hours/5 days to comply.
- 242 ● A letter on the new Fire Engine was received from Soule Leslie.
- 244 ● The Planning Board and the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission will be updating
the Master Plan on July 13th.
- 246 ● He has asked Peter Broom to put up a bulletin board in the hallway.
- The door to the vault in the basement of Stevens Hall should be removed; he would like it
moved to the Municipal Complex as it is a historical item.

248 4.2 *Public Comment*

250 Leroy Scott stood and was recognized. He asked why the wheel chocks were not put in place when
the new Fire Engine was parked outside of the Municipal Complex.

252 Bob Latham stood and was recognized. He asked who should be spoken to in order to have the
254 brush at the intersection of North Pond Road and 102 removed. Selectman Weider stated that
that area is a state road, but he would ask Road Agent Oleson to handle calling the state.

256 As no other Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 9:23pm.

258 4.3 *Non-Public Session*

260 Chairman Landau moved that the Board go into Non-Public Session for three items under RSA 91-
262 A:3 II (c), Reputation; Vice-Chairman Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the
affirmative; so moved.

264 The Meeting Room was closed at 9:24pm. Fire Chief Antoine remained in the meeting room.

266 Fire Chief Antoine departed the meeting room at 9:36pm.

268 The Meeting Room was reopened at 10:13pm.

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

274 Chairman Landau moved that the minutes to the first non-public session be sealed for six months;
Selectman Castricone seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved.

278 Vice-Chairman Cannon moved that the minutes to the second non-public session be sealed for an
indefinite period; Selectman Weider seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the
affirmative; so moved.

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282 Vice-Chairman Cannon moved that the minutes to the third non-public session be sealed for six
months; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; so
moved.

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V. Adjournment

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288 Chairman Landau moved to adjourn the meeting; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote
was unanimous in the affirmative; so moved. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15pm.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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Debra H. Doda