

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, August 18th, 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 7:02pm.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectmen present:

Jack Cannon

Joe Castricone

Joseph Hagan

Stephen Landau

Selectmen absent:

Michael Weider

Members of the Public present, at various times:

Rich Antoine, Fire Chief

Donald Brown, ZBA

Barbara Dolloff

Midge Gould

Hilary Hall

Cynthia Herman

Bob Latham

Bob Packard

Carolyn Scott

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

Two non-public sessions were added, one on Reputation and one on Litigation.

1.5 Public Comment

48 Chairman Landau expressed his thanks to the Board, Administrative Assistant Martin, and the
Town, for their kindnesses during his father-in-law's recent demise.

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As no other members of the public wished to speak, Public Comment was closed at 7:04pm.

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52 **II. Old Business**

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54 *2.1 Approval of Minutes*

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56 *July 14th, 2011:* Selectman Hagan moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Selectman Castricone
58 seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Weider absent; so moved.

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60 *August 11th, 2011:* Selectman Castricone moved to accept these minutes as drafted; Vice-Chairman
Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectman Weider absent and
62 Chairman Landau abstaining due to absence from the referenced meeting; so moved.

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64 **III. New Business**

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66 *3.1 Robert Packard - ZBA Appointment*

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68 Robert Packard appeared before the Board along with Donald Brown of the ZBA, who is
recommending that he be appointed to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. The Board thanked Mr.
70 Packard for his willingness to serve.

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72 Selectman Castricone moved to appoint Robert Packard as an alternate member to the ZBA for a
three-year term to expire on May 31st, 2014; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was
74 four in favor with Selectman Weider absent; so moved.

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76 *3.2 Hilary Hall*

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78 Ms. Hall requested a non-public session; this will take place at the end of the public meeting.

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80 **IV. Selectmen's Business**

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82 *4.1 Miscellaneous*

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84 There were a number of items to be discussed and/or signed.

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- The Workers Comp rate review from LGC is available.
- Insofar as a culvert to be installed on Orcutt Drive, Dubois and King reviewed the site and original plans. They do think a culvert is necessary; it is likely to cost less than \$5k, unless ledge is hit. Although the driveway was not placed where it was supposed to be according to the original plans (through no fault of the homeowner), it does not need to be moved; however, if it had been placed properly, no culvert would be necessary. The Board would like Road Agent Michael Oleson and the affected homeowner, Mr. Albano, to come in to discuss this situation, perhaps on September 1st. Vice-Chairman Cannon would recuse himself from

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this subject, as Mr. Albano is a neighbor. This situation only becomes a hazard in cold weather.

- No changes have been made to the MS4, which shows estimated revenue. Some of the items on it:

○ Timber Tax	7,500
○ Interest/Penalties	24,000
○ Excavation Tax	500
○ Business licenses/permits	750
○ Motor Vehicle licenses/permits	759,600
○ Building permits	46,280
○ Other licenses/fees	15,294
○ Meals & Rooms tax	205,250
○ Highway Block Grant	112,417
○ Railroad tax	240,000
○ Services	40,900
○ Other	89,740

This revenue offsets property tax rates, and is a step in setting of the tax rate. It ties to the budget.

Chairman Landau moved that the Board approve the MS4; Vice-Chairman Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Weider absent; so moved.

4.2 Roundtable

Chairman Landau

- He received a letter from Congressman Giunta (as did Vice-Chairman Cannon), asking that the Town feel free to contact his office with any concerns or if he can be of any assistance. Chairman Landau would like to know what the Federal Government can do to help the Town; Selectman Castricone mentioned restoration of the Post Office, for example.
- He attended the Spring Hill Farm meeting last night. A non-public session to interview the new potential tenants took place; they may attend next week's meeting. There was also some discussion about the barn roof, which needs replacing, and stumps. There are numerous stumps on Town property, which were generated when the wood was harvested to build the new Wason Pond Bridge. It is estimated that it will cost ~\$2-4k to remove these stumps. Miss Church had a 'stump dump' on a remote part of her property; Chairman Landau suggested using volunteers to transport the stumps to this area, where they could then be chipped or buried. In return for this savings to the Town, perhaps the Town could pay part of the barn roof replacement costs. Selectman Castricone was not in favor; he believes that the cost of stump removal should be borne by Conservation. However, he would be willing to be a resource to the Trustees. Vice-Chairman Cannon would be amenable to sharing the cost.
- He asked about the two fireproof, locking file cabinets ordered by Administrative Assistant Martin. Selectman Castricone reported that they were due to arrive Wednesday. Chairman Landau stated that all original documents should be kept in the Selectmen's office. For example, he has been subpoenaed with regards to the Wason Pond well; the law firm wants

140 original documents, but the Selectmen only have copies. Since they only had to be kept for
141 a year, some of the originals may have been destroyed.

142 *Vice-Chairman Cannon*

- 143 ● As an update to the School Plowing discussion of last week, it is estimated that it will cost
144 the Town ~\$12-13k to plow, sand, and salt the school. Road Agent Oleson will need to keep
145 detailed logs in order to determine full reimbursement, as there is no money in the Town's
146 budget for this work.
- 147 ● He asked for an update on the Skate Park situation as discussed in July. Chairman Landau
148 reported that he spoke with the Recreation Commission, and that because of the size and
149 location of the Basketball court, they would prefer to resurface the Skate Park instead.
150 When other paving is being done in Town, the contractor will be asked to resurface the
151 Skate Park. The equipment will also be examined for needed repairs. Chairman Landau
152 believes that the cost for this resurfacing should be borne by Recreation; it was not
153 budgeted for, so funds may need to be moved.
- 154 ● As an update to the Transfer Station picking discussion of last week, he and Selectman
155 Castricone spoke with the Transfer Station operators, who reported that they were
156 concerned about safety as well as the value of the metals. Apparently people have picked
157 valuable metals from the pile in order to sell them on their own, thus depriving the Town of
158 the revenue. Should someone ask for a particular item, Mr. Healey may be able to retrieve
159 it himself for the requester. Be that as it may, there is a formal policy in place, as well as
160 signage, that prohibits picking. The Swap Shop, Library, and Clothes Closet were mentioned;
161 the difference is that items that go there would otherwise end up in the landfill, thus
162 costing the Town money; metals can be recycled, and are revenue. Vice-Chairman Cannon
163 stated that the Renauds were welcome to return to the Board in order to discuss this issue
164 further.
- 165 ● He has been speaking to Gene Charron about getting presidential candidates to attend Town
166 Fair and perhaps march in the parade. Hilary Hall stood and was recognized. She stated
167 that in her experience of planning Town Fair, all one had to do was to invite the candidates;
168 they will most likely either attend or send a representative.

170 *Selectman Castricone*

- 171 ● The company responsible for the Septic Tank incident has taken full responsibility and will
172 be doing what is necessary to rectify the situation.
- 173 ● The Wason Pond Store roof will be completed by the end of September - the contractor is
174 charging \$2,600 for parts and labor. The roofing material itself is already paid for and on
175 site.

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177 *Selectman Hagan:*

- 178 ● He is working a mosquito issue with the Department of Health and the State. Apparently
179 there is ~\$20k in the fund, which was encumbered years ago; Selectman Weider will be
180 asked to confirm.
- 181 ● He wished to confirm that Mr. Renaud, who attended last week's meeting to discuss the
182 Transfer Station, wasn't picking metals to sell, but to tinker with. Vice-Chairman Cannon
183 agreed, stating that he had not been referring to Mr. Renaud when he mentioned people who
184 picked metals to sell. Selectman Hagan also stated that there appeared to be some conflict

186 between Mr. Renaud and the Transfer Station operators, which should be remedied if
possible.

188 *4.3 Public Comment*

190 Cynthia Herman stood and was recognized. She informed the Selectmen that Town Fair fireworks
had, at a point in the recent past, changed directions so that they were pointed towards her
192 property. As a result, there has been extensive noise, damage to her house and property, including
items broken inside the house, and she was now anxious about it happening again this year. She had
194 spoken to the Fire Department without result; she was informed that the Firework display had
originally been moved because ashes had fallen on Fire Trucks and left marks. She stated that she
196 would be willing to allow the Fire Department to park their Trucks on her property. She contacted
her Insurance Company about it, who recommended that she formally request the Board of
198 Selectmen to either redirect the firework display away from her property or to move them to
Wason Pond. The Board thanked her for her input.

200 As no other Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:54pm.

202 *4.4 Non-Public Session*

204 Vice-Chairman Cannon moved that the Board go into Non-Public Session for three items: two items
206 under RSA 91-A:3 II (c), Reputation, and one under RSA 91-A:3 II (e), Litigation. Selectman
Castricone seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Selectman Weider absent; so
208 moved.

210 The Meeting Room was closed at 7:56pm. Ms. Hall remained in the meeting room.

212 Ms. Hall departed the meeting room at 8:35pm.

214 The Meeting Room was reopened at 8:50pm.

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

218 Vice-Chairman Cannon moved that the minutes to the first non-public session with Ms. Hall, on
220 Reputation, be sealed for an indefinite period; Selectman Castricone seconded the motion. The
vote was four in favor with Selectman Weider absent; so moved.

222 Vice-Chairman Cannon moved that the minutes to the second non-public session, on Litigation, be
224 sealed for an indefinite period; Selectman Castricone seconded the motion. The vote was four in
favor with Selectman Weider absent; so moved.

226 Vice-Chairman Cannon moved that the minutes to the third non-public session, on Reputation, be
228 sealed for an indefinite period; Selectman Castricone seconded the motion. The vote was four in
favor with Selectman Weider absent; so moved.

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V. Adjournment

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Vice-Chairman Cannon moved to adjourn the meeting; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The
234 vote was four in favor with Selectman Weider absent; so moved. The meeting was adjourned at
8:52pm.

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238 Respectfully Submitted,

240 Debra H. Doda