

**Town of Chester
Selectboard’s Meeting
Thursday, September 21, 2023
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)
Grants: Chief Berube
Great Hill Cemetery Roadwork and Signs
Review of Non-Public Minutes Unsealing Procedure
Review Property Repurchase Procedure
Consent Agenda
Chairman’s Announcements
Roundtable
TA Report
Action Items
Potential Non-Public Sessions
Adjournment

1.1 Call to Order

Chairman Myette called the meeting of the Chester Selectboard to order at 6:14pm.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectboard Present:

Chuck Myette
Steve Couture
Dick Trask

Selectboard Absent:

Dana Theokas
Stephen Landau

Town Administrator Debra Doda

Members of the Public Present at various times:

Aaron Berube, Police Chief
John Colman, GHC Trustee (via Phone)
Mark Keddy, GHC Trustee
Nancy Myette
Darrell Quinn, GHC Trustee

and other persons unknown to the Recording Secretary.

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Myette led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.4 Chairman’s Additions or Deletions

Chairman Myette added Great Hill Cemetery Roadwork and Signs to the agenda.

1.5 Public Comment

Chairman Myette opened the meeting to public comment at 6:15pm.

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 6:15pm.

II. Appointments

2.1 Grants: Chief Berube

Chief Berube presented the Highway Safety grant in the amount of \$10,238.13 and the Body Worn Cameras grant in the amount of \$50K. Chief Berube mentioned the benefits of the new body worn cameras and equipment.

The Board discussed the funding of the body worn cameras prior to the release of funds from the grant.

Selectman Trask motioned to acknowledge and vote to accept the Department of Safety Body Worn Camera Grant in the amount of \$50,000.00. Vice Chairman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –absent, Couture –aye, Landau – absent. With three in favor, the motion passed with Theokas and Landau absent.

Vice Chairman Couture motioned to acknowledge and vote to accept The Department of Safety FY24 Highway Safety Patrol Enforcement and Speed Equipment Grant in the amount of \$10,238.13. Selectman Trask seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –absent, Couture –aye, Landau – absent. With three in favor, the motion passed with Theokas and Landau absent.

Chief Berube mentioned the Critical Incident Stress Management MOU was discussed at a prior meeting. The MOU is now ready to sign. Chief Berube has already begun preparing the budget for FY 24-25 and will add the funding needed into the budget. Chief Berube explained where the funding could be taken from in this fiscal budget.

Chairman Myette stated the Board felt this was a great opportunity.

Selectman Trask motioned to allow Chief Berube to sign the Critical Incident Stress Management Team MOU. Vice Chairman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –absent, Couture –aye, Landau – absent. With three in favor, the motion passed with Theokas and Landau absent.

101
102 *2.2 Great Hill Cemetery Roadwork and Signs.*
103

104 Mr. Quinn explained the Great Hill Cemetery Trustees are asking for consideration to expend funds
105 from the Great Hill Cemetery Maintenance and Future Expansion Fund for new signs and roadwork
106 in the cemetery.

107
108 Mr. Quinn explained the Trustees are trying to improve the roadways in the cemetery a little at a
109 time. The proposal is for \$4,594.00 from the same vendor as the prior year’s roadwork.

110
111 Mr. Quinn presented the second invoice for new signage at the Cemetery in the amount of \$4,550.00.
112 The signs being replaced are from 2009. The same vendor will be used, and they have the information
113 from 2009 so they are able to make identical signs.

114
115 ***Vice Chairman Couture motioned to approve the expenditure of up to \$10K for roadwork and***
116 ***signs at Great Hill Cemetery. Selectman Trask seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken***
117 ***Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –absent, Couture –aye, Landau – absent. With three in favor,***
118 ***the motion passed with Theokas and Landau absent.***

119
120 Although not all five Trustees could be in attendance, Mr. Colman, Mr. Keddy, and Mr. Quinn approved
121 this expenditure.

122
123 **III. New Business**
124

125 *3.1 Review of Non-Public Minutes Unsealing Procedure*
126

127 Vice Chairman Couture thanked Town Administrator Doda for putting the procedures together
128 quickly.

129
130 ***Vice Chairman Couture motioned to adopt the Non-Public Minutes Unsealing Procedure.***
131 ***Selectman Trask seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye,***
132 ***Theokas –absent, Couture –aye, Landau – absent. With three in favor, the motion passed with***
133 ***Theokas and Landau absent.***

134
135 *3.2 Review Property Repurchase Procedure*
136

137 Town Administrator Doda mentioned this is for the repurchase of property by the original owner.

138
139 Vice Chairman Couture inquired if the document should be sent to Town Counsel for review. Town
140 Administrator Doda asked for any changes from the Board prior to being sent for review. This will be
141 placed on the agenda in October for approval.

142
143 **IV Consent Agenda**
144

145 *4.1 Minutes August 17, 2023*
146

147 *4.2 Intent to Cut*
148

149 ***Vice Chairman Couture motioned to approve the consent agenda with the revisions to the***
150 ***minutes as requested via email by Selectwoman Theokas. Selectman Trask seconded the motion.***

A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –absent, Couture –aye, Landau – absent. With three in favor, the motion passed with Theokas and Landau absent.

V. Selectmen’s Business

5.1 Chairman’s Announcements

Chairman Myette announced the following meetings and upcoming events:

Friday September 22, 2023	Conservation Commission Meeting at 6:00pm
Wednesday September 27, 2023	Planning Board Meeting at 7:00pm
Monday October 2, 2023	Recreation Commission Meeting At 6:00pm Wason Pond Commission Meeting at 7:00pm
Tuesday October 3, 2023	Solar Working Group Meeting at 7:00pm
Wednesday October 4, 2023	Planning Board Meeting at 7:00pm School Board Meeting at 6:00pm
Thursday October 5, 2023	Selectboard Meeting at 6:00pm
Saturday September 23, 2023	Spring Hill Farm Fall Fest 10am to 4pm.
Tuesday September 26, 2023	Register to vote or change your party affiliation before Primary Elections. Room #6 from 7pm to 8p

5.2 Roundtable

Selectman Trask
Nothing to report.

Vice Chairman Couture
Nothing to report.

Chairman Myette mentioned the Spring Hill Farm Fall Fest is on Saturday September 23rd and there will be a lot of vendors attending this year.

5.3 Town Administrator’s Report

Town Administrator Doda was asked by Primex to send photos of the Post Office foundation and submit a claim.

5.4 Action Items

None

5.5 Non-Public Session(s)

Chairman Myette announced one non-public session.

Vice Chairman Couture motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to 91-A:3(II) (c) reputation. Selectman Trask seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –absent, Couture –aye, Landau – absent. With three in favor, the motion passed with Theokas and Landau absent.

The meeting was closed to the public at 6:48 PM.

Vice Chairman Couture motioned to come out of non-public session. Selectman Trask seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –absent, Couture –aye, Landau – absent. With three in favor, the motion passed with Theokas and Landau absent.

The meeting was reopened to the public at 6:57 PM.

Selectman Trask motioned to seal the minutes of the non-public session on Reputation. Vice Chairman Couture seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –absent, Couture –aye, Landau – absent. With three in favor, the motion passed with Theokas and Landau absent.

VI. Adjournment

Vice Chairman Couture moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Trask seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Trask– aye, Theokas –absent, Couture –aye, Landau – absent. With three in favor, the motion passed with Theokas and Landau absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janis A. Jalbert
Recording Secretary