

**Town of Chester  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Municipal Complex  
Approved Minutes**

**I. Preliminaries**

Call the Meeting to Order  
Roll Call  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Additions and Deletions  
Public Comment  
Approval of Minutes  
Items for Signature  
PACT – Bob Grimm  
Maintenance Position - Update  
Budget Meetings Schedule  
Roundtable  
Non-Public Sessions  
Adjournment

*1.1 Call to Order*

Chairman Owens called this meeting for the Town of Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:01pm.

*1.2 Roll Call*

Selectmen present:

Cass Buckley (arrived at 7:02pm)  
Steve D’Angelo  
Joseph Hagan (arrived at 7:05pm)  
Stephen Landau  
Jeremy Owens

Members of the Public present, at various times:

Aaron Berube, Police Chief  
Sandy Clark  
Nancy Myette  
Fred Sullivan  
Penny Williams, Tri-Town Times  
And other persons unknown to the Recording Secretary

*1.3 Pledge of Allegiance*

Chairman Owens led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

*1.4 Chairman’s Additions and Deletions*

Agenda Item 3.3, *Transfer Station Pavement Bids – Update*, has been postponed until next week as corrected bids have yet to be received.

*1.5 Public Comments*

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:02pm.

## **II. Old Business**

### *2.1 Approval of Minutes*

An approval sheet for the previous weeks’ meeting minutes is in the signature folder.

### *2.2 Items for Signature*

All members should review and sign items in the Signature Folder.

## **III. New Business**

### *3.1 PACT – Bob Grimm*

Bob Grimm, Chairman of the PACT Committee, appeared before the Selectmen to discuss three items to do with the Cable TV Station.

Firstly, he would like the Selectmen to revisit their discussion from September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018, when they voted against allowing liaisons to the PACT Committee to vote. They are down to four members, and having the liaisons, Selectman D’Angelo and Mike Romick from the School Board, be voting members would help in achieving a quorum. Selectman D’Angelo remains in favor of this.

**Chairman Owens moved to allow the liaisons to the PACT Committee to vote; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion.** Selectman Landau is not in favor of this, as he believes that a liaison should not be personally involved in the decisions made by a Committee. The question was called. **The vote was four in favor with Selectman Landau opposed; motion carried.**

Secondly, Mr. Grimm stated that the TV station’s On Demand contract will expire in July, and he would like to be sure that funding for the renewal is placed into the PACT budget. This service is what allows the TV station to be streamed on the internet. It is a two-year contract at the same rate as the previous contract. As this is a multi-year contract, it must go in front of Town Meeting.

Finally, Mr. Grimm wished to discuss the CIP. The PACT Committee has procured three quotes to replace a special server that allows the TV station to broadcast; these quotes ranged from ~\$52k - \$60k. The current server is three years old, beginning to cause problems, and cannot be repaired. Unfortunately, the Planning Board decided against moving this item forward. It is unlikely that a new server can be leased, and there is no way to tell how much longer the current one will last.

Selectman Landau asked if perhaps Comcast would pay for the server; Mr. Grimm replied that they would, but they would then charge the Town for it. Selectman D’Angelo suggested asking them to amortize it over three to five years; Mr. Grimm will check into this. He also wondered if it would be possible to recruit sponsors.

There was some discussion about how those who pay a franchise fee as well as property taxes are in effect being double taxed for the TV station. Selectman Landau suggested possibly cancelling the franchise fee entirely, but Mr. Grimm pointed out that then the entirety of PACT would have to be funded via taxation.

The PACT Committee might have a new member to replace recently resigned member Terry Traynor; they also have a person willing to be a host, Jane Grimm.

The next PACT Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Mr. Grimm departed the meeting at 7:27pm.

### *3.2 Maintenance Position - Update*

This subject will be discussed in non-public session.

### *3.3 Budget Meetings Schedule*

Selectman D’Angelo asked to have the Budget Meetings Scheduled rearranged in order to put the Warrant Articles and larger departments first; this was done and the new schedule will be disseminated to the Department Heads.

## **IV. Selectmen’s Business**

### *4.1 Roundtable*

*Selectman Landau:*

- The CIP Adoption meeting will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in January – January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018.
- The ‘new’ stove has been moved to the Chester Kitchen and will be hooked up by tomorrow. The sprinkler system inside the hood has also been corrected. The kitchen will be ready to be used this weekend.
- Repainting of the highway garage is in the CIP at \$18k for the next fiscal year. He would prefer that the Rockingham County Jail trustees perform the work, as it will cost much less. This work is second on his project list after converting a shed on the Spring Hill Farm property into a garden center. Vice-Chairman Buckley suggested that funds be put into next year’s maintenance budget for paint.
- There is also \$22.5k in the CIP for FY19-20 for the Wason Pond Community Center ramp. The doorway and vestibule should both be enlarged when this work is done. Vice-Chairman Buckley suggested that a committee of stakeholders be formed and plans discussed before any money is spent on renovations or even an architect. Planning Coordinator Hadik will be asked to push this item out until FY20-21.

*Selectman D’Angelo:*

- The snow day procedure was discussed at this morning’s Department Heads meeting. Town Offices will continue to have a two-hour delay if Chester Academy is closed. For other snow events, it was decided that Chairman Owens would telephone Road Agent Oleson to discuss the weather and then would contact BOS AA Doda if a closing needs to be announced on WMUR. A messaging system such as Nixle should be researched.
- The Town Clerk’s office is collecting personal hygiene items to benefit the Chester Food Pantry through December 12<sup>th</sup>.
- The Employees are planning a Holiday Luncheon on Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm. Last year the Selectmen authorized \$250 towards this luncheon. **Selectman D’Angelo moved to authorize \$250 for the Employee Holiday Luncheon; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.**
- The Transfer Station now has three fully certified employees, the new Winter hours are working well, and the trailers have lights.
- The pension liability shown in the draft audit is incorrect; it is shown as over \$2m, when in actuality it is under \$200k. He also noted that the auditors continue to bring up the two sets of Cemetery Trustees as an issue; Selectman Landau stated that the Great Hill Cemetery Trustees were voted into existence by the Town in 1935, long before there was any requirement to only

have one set. The Village Cemetery Trustees were strictly historic cemeteries until they received a 2.5 acre donation of land.

*Selectman Hagan:*

- Nothing to report.

*Vice-Chairman Buckley:*

- Nothing to report.

*Chairman Owens:*

- Building Inspector Bunker will be unavailable until December 17<sup>th</sup> and then again from January 22<sup>nd</sup> through February 8<sup>th</sup>. There will be no building permits and no plan reviews during these dates. Inspections and trade permits can be arranged through the Building Department office.
- The IT Committee would like the Selectmen to create a policy for Cloud storage. Selectman D’Angelo is the IT Committee liaison.
- A resident offered to donate an 18’ inflatable snowman to be erected at the center of Town. The Selectmen thought it was a generous offer but are concerned that it would be a distraction at the 102/121 intersection. They suggested that the resident speak with Chester Academy instead.

#### *4.2 Public Comment*

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:58pm.

#### *4.3 Non-Public Sessions*

**Selectman Landau moved that the Board go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Public Employees, (b) Employment, and (c) Reputation; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.**

The meeting room was closed at 7:59pm. Sandy Clark remained in the meeting room.

Mrs. Clark departed the meeting room at 8:05pm; Police Chief Berube and Fred Sullivan entered at that time.

Police Chief Berube and Mr. Sullivan departed the meeting room at 8:33pm.

The meeting room was re-opened at 9:47pm.

**Chairman Owens moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.**

**Chairman Owens moved that the minutes to the first non-public session, on Reputation, be sealed for a period of one (1) year; Selectman Landau seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.**

**Chairman Owens moved that the minutes to the second non-public session, on Reputation, remain unsealed; Selectman Landau seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.**

**Chairman Owens moved that the minutes to the third non-public session, on Employment, be sealed for a period of one (1) month; Selectman Landau seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.**

**Chairman Owens moved that the minutes to the fourth non-public session, on Public Employees, be sealed for a period of six (6) months; Selectman Landau seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.**

**V. Adjournment**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**Selectman Landau moved to adjourn the meeting; Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:49pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra H. Doda  
Recording Secretary