

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, November 21st, 2019
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
300th Anniversary Committee Update
Census Presentation: Richard Perrin
PD Space Needs Schematic
Highway Updates
Roundtable
Non-Public Sessions
Adjournment

1.1 Call to Order

Vice Chair Myette called this meeting of the Town of Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:01 pm.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectmen present:

Stephen Landau
Steve D’Angelo
Joseph Hagan
Charles Myette

Town Administrator (TA):

Debra Doda

Selectmen absent:

Jeremy Owens

Members of the Public present, at various times:

Jean Methot
Jim Spotts, Census Presentation
Mike Oleson, Road Agent
D. Richard Perrin, Census Presentation
Penny Williams, Tri-Town Times
And possibly other persons unknown to this Recording Secretary

1.5 Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chairman Myette led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.6 Chairman’s Additions and Deletions

No Additions.

The PD Space Needs Schematic was deleted.

1.7 Public Comment

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

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 300th Anniversary Committee Update – Jean Methot

Mr. Methot appeared before the Board to request a minute taker be assigned to the 300th Anniversary Committee. He explained that the current minute taker, Judy Peppers (not present), will not be taking the minutes for the next four months. Mr. Methot said that he needs a minute taker starting in January, for the third Wednesday of each month.

TA Doda advised that Daniel Hoijer will be the minute taker for the meetings.

Mr. Methot said that he had appeared before the Board a few years ago to request to have old documents digitized. He explained that he would like to revisit the request to get the old documents digitized as it was not done.

Mr. Methot, the TA, and the Board discussed digitizing the old documents. They agreed to digitize births, deaths, marriages, historical events, and other historical and critical documents up to the year 2000, in the next fiscal year.

TA Doda noted that she can talk to some contacts about possible grants to fund the digitizing, as well as, from what year the vital statistics were digitized.

Mr. Methot pointed out that he had put in a work order to have two inches of soil two feet wide covering the 2000 newly planted daffodil bulbs to protect them from the road salt this winter. He requested that this be done.

TA Doda said she would talk to the Town groundskeeper.

Mr. Methot departed the meeting at 7:17 pm.

3.2 Census Presentation: Richard Perrin

Mr. Perrin and Mr. Spotts appeared before the Board to give a presentation on the 2020 Census.

Mr. Perrin explained that the census is done every ten years, is mandated by the US Constitution, and will be taking place in 2020. He said that every person needs to be counted and the information is vital to communities to determine representation in government and federal government funding to communities.

Mr. Perrin asked the BOS to be a partner with the census to be a “trusted voice” to spread the word about the census.

Mr. Perrin said that there is an opportunity to work for the census in a variety of different jobs, including census takers and data entry. He said that the hiring begins the first of the new year and runs through September.

Mr. Perrin departed the meeting at 7:43 pm.

3.3 PD Space Needs Schematic - Harriman

Deleted.

3.4 Road Agent Mike Oleson – Highway Updates

Road Agent Mike Oleson appeared before the Board to give a highway update.

Road Agent Oleson said that the stop signs on East Derry Road are installed. He said that the road work is wrapped up for the season. Road Agent Oleson noted that the gate for the Fire Department access road has been installed and the plow trucks have a button to open the access road gate.

Road Agent Oleson gave a quick review of road work coming in the spring.

The Board and Road Agent Oleson discussed the savings of approximately \$20,000 by having the Town do all the road work on the access road to the Fire Department.

IV. Selectmen’s Business

4.1 Roundtable

Selectman Landau:

- Discussed the PD Space Needs.
- He noted that there was an issue from a phone call this morning that was handed off to TA Doda.
- He noted that the cab has been purchased for the tractor.

Selectman D’Angelo:

- Nothing to report.

Selectman Hagan:

- Nothing to report.

Selectman Myette:

- He noted that there is an email from Eversource advising of the structure replacement program. He explained that Eversource has received permission from the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission to move forward with structure replacements on the B-172 transmission line, located in the southeast part of Chester.

Selectman D’Angelo said that there should be an ordinance in place that requires the utility to pay for a permit.

TA Doda said that the ordinance is not written or designed in that way. She said she would discuss this with the Town Building Inspector (not present).

- He read a news release from Eversource regarding “scammers” who are finding unique ways to exploit customers. He noted that Eversource is urging their customers to be on the lookout for scams and contact Eversource immediately should they suspect a scam.
- He said that the Recreation Department (not present) has asked for the release of the funds for the picnic tables. He read a letter from the Planning Board’s Coordinator Andrew Hadik (not present) giving approval for the money to be released.

Selectman D’Angelo moved to release the Recreation Impact Fees of \$5000.00 for the purpose of purchasing picnic tables made of steel and recycled plastic for Wason Pond Conservation area; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. After discussion, Selectman Hagan moved to amend the motion with the condition that the picnic tables must be anchored to the ground; Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

- The Board agreed to cancel the BOS meetings on November 28, 2019, December 26, 2019 and January 2, 2020.

Selectman Hagan departed the meeting at 8:09 pm.

4.2 Non-Public Session

Selectman Landau moved that the Board go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Employment, RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Compensation and RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation; Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

The meeting room was closed at 8:10 pm.

The meeting room was re-opened at 9:01 pm.

Selectman Landau 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.

Selectman Landau moved that the minutes to the first non-public session, on Compensation, remain unsealed; Selectman D'Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

Selectman Landau moved that the minutes to the second non-public session, on Reputation, remain sealed for an indefinite period; Selectman D'Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

Selectman Landau moved that the minutes to the third non-public session, on Employment, remain sealed for an indefinite period; Selectman D'Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

V. Adjournment

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 9:01 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Molly Qualters,
Recording Secretary