

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen’s Meeting
Monday, April 6, 2020
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)
Approval of Minutes
Items for Signature
Emergency Management Update
Transfer Station Recycling Update
Potential Non-Public Sessions
Adjournment

1.1 Call to Order

Vice-Chair Myette called the meeting of the Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:04 PM and read the declaration of emergency order.

Under the emergency provisions of RSA 91A, this meeting is being conducted electronically and will be recorded, via dial-in, (929) 436-2866, internet at <https://zoom.us/j/770832311> as well as broadcast on Channel 20 and streamed on <http://vod.chesterctv.com>.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectmen Present:

Stephen Landau (Remotely)
Joseph Hagan (Remotely)
Chuck Myette (Remotely)
Steve D’Angelo (@7:07 PM) (Remotely)

Selectmen Absent:

Jeremy Owens

Present: Town Administrator Deb Doda

Members of the Public Present, at various times:

Aaron Berube, Police Chief (Remotely)
Gregory Bolduc, Fire Chief (Remotely)
Corinna Reishus, Recreation Director (Remotely)
Penny Williams, Raymond Area News (Remotely)

51
52 *1.3 Pledge of Allegiance*
53

54 Vice-Chair Myette led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
55

56 *1.4 Chairman’s Additions or Deletions*
57

58 Vice-Chair Myette added a student doing a study on trees at Wason Pond.
59

60 *1.5 Public Comment*
61

62 As no members of the public wished to be heard public comment was closed at 7:14 PM.
63

64 **II. Old Business**
65

66 *2.1 Approval of Minutes*
67

68 An approval sheet for the previous meeting’s minutes was sent electronically this afternoon.
69

70 *2.2 Items for Signature*
71

72 All members reviewed and signed the items in the signature folder submitted electronically
73 earlier this afternoon
74

75 **III. New Business**
76

77 *3.1 Emergency Management Update*
78

79 Fire Chief Bolduc indicated everything was on track and the Department was keeping ahead of
80 things.
81

82 Selectman D’Angelo noted a FEMA grant can be applied for with a targeted start date of
83 January 20th to recover funds spent on COVID-19 related expenses. The funds could
84 potentially be used to improve the security of Town Hall.
85

86 Vice-Chair Myette reviewed Executive Order #25 which gives municipalities the discretion to
87 apply blanket abatements on interest charges. Selectman Landau noted the dates need to be
88 effective when the order was issued. Selectman D’Angelo recommended Town Counsel
89 provide interpretation. Town Administrator Doda will contact Town Counsel.
90

91 *3.2 Transfer Station Recycling Update*
92

93 Selectman Landau reported maintenance was able to find gloves for the Transfer Station;
94 goggles are on order and masks may arrive Friday. The Fire Department will provide some
95 masks for Wednesday as well as a box of gloves that they cannot use.
96

97 Selectman D’Angelo asked about cones to guide traffic.
98

Selectman D’Angelo motioned to order up to a pallet of cones. Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Hagan – aye, Myette – aye, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chair Myette advised he, TA Doda, and Transfer Station Supervisor Czarneck had a conference call with ABI, and determined that in order to handle the backlog of recyclables, ~5 tons of recyclables (except glass) could be put into a truck provided by ABI and taken to the Auburn single-stream recycling center, thus avoiding throwing them into the trash. A separate container will be used for glass. The cost to dump the recyclables in Auburn could be \$100/ton and may be reimbursable; ABI will not charge to haul. ABI is unable to provide service on Wednesday nights but is available on Fridays. The plan is to open the Transfer Station for recyclables on the next two Fridays and Saturdays, and perhaps by then the backlog will be handled; they may be able to fully open by April 22nd. Selectman D’Angelo noted starting this Friday could have low volume as it is Good Friday; it is therefore an ideal day to test out the new process.

Selectman Landau suggested having a second compactor for glass and tin cans or renting a truck from Waste Management, as several businesses depend on the Town’s recyclables and could be supported. For the time being, however, this plan will address the backlog. The Selectmen were amenable to the plan and residents will be notified as soon as possible.

IV. Roundtable

Vice-Chair Myette asked for an update from Town Administrator Doda on the number of employees discussed at the last meeting who were looking to carry over their unused vacation time. There are about 20 employees on the list ranging from 24-200 hours. Selectman Landau asked if any time was reimbursable. Selectman Landau recommended allowing a maximum of three weeks roll-over and to pay out over three weeks. Selectman D’Angelo recommended running it by Town Counsel. Selectman Landau indicated he will ask at the legal meeting tomorrow. Town Administrator Doda noted FEMA will not reimburse for vacation time. Vice-Chair Myette noted only two on the list had more than three weeks.

Selectman D’Angelo noted that the school is currently running a surplus and that will help offset taxes going into the fall. Finance’s latest projection showed the Town running a \$492,000 potential surplus.

Selectman D’Angelo noted that the Fire and Police Departments will host an Easter Bunny Ride, much like the Fire Department’s Santa ride, on Sunday April 12th from 2PM to 6 PM.

Selectman D’Angelo motioned to allow Town resources to be used for this. Vice-Chair Myette seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Hagan – aye, Myette – aye, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman D’Angelo noted the Fire Department and Police Departments are helping celebrate kids’ birthdays and if anyone wants to join the parade in their vehicle they are welcome to do so. No candy is being passed out.

Vice-Chair Myette indicated volunteers are reaching out to help with deliveries. Mitchell Decker, a student here in Town, is doing an environmental services project and went to the Wason Pond property to survey trees. He sent a report concerning the Hemlock problem we saw in South Woods which has invaded some species at Wason.

There is an issue with off road vehicles speeding down Pomp Road to access the power lines, and people shooting guns along there close to homes. Town Administrator Doda and Police Chief Berube advised that as Pomp Road is a Class VI road, it is a public way and although it cannot be posted as “No Trespassing”, it is subject to gates and bars. Selectman Hagan recommended putting a gate and signage up, although there is concern that the gate should be easily visible at all times to avoid persons running into it, and it should allow horses access. The Selectmen were amenable to this recommendation.

TA Doda indicated State Senator Morgan’s office is asking for BOS members’ personal phone numbers to discuss COVID-19. All members were willing to provide their contact information.

Vice-Chair Myette advised the following meetings are coming up:

Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 7:00 PM – Recreation Commission Meeting
Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 7:00 PM – Board of Selectmen’s Meeting

V. Potential Non-Public Sessions

Vice-Chair Myette indicated he had one under reputation.

Selectman Landau motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to 91-A:3(II)(c), Reputation; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Hagan – aye, and Myette – aye, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting room, teleconference and internet were closed to the public at 8:49 PM.

The meeting room was reopened at 9:00 PM.

Selectman Landau motioned to come out of non-public session at 9:00 PM and seal the minutes. Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was taken, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Hagan – aye, and Myette – aye, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes to the non-public session on Reputation for a period of ten (10) days; Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was taken, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Hagan – aye, and Myette – aye, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Adjournment

Selectman Landau moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Hoijer
Recording Secretary