

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen’s Meeting
Thursday, May 21, 2020
Virtual Meeting
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
Town Hall Renovations
Wason Pond Update
Roundtable
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 7:01 PM.

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 (Remotely):

Chuck Myette
Joseph Hagan
Stephen Landau
Steve D’Angelo

Present: Town Administrator Deb Doda (Remotely)

Members of the Public Present (Remotely), at various times:

Police Chief Aaron Berube
BOS Admin. Asst. Janis Jalbert
EM Director Phil Gladu

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Elizabeth Lufkin
Recreation Director Corinna Reishus
Chris Hadik
Jack Cannon
Penny Williams
Ken Biel
Eric Emerson
Chester CTV

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

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

1.4 Chairman’s Additions or Deletions

Selectman Landau indicated he had one non-public under reputation 91-A:3(II)(c).

1.5 Public Comment

Vice-Chair Myette opened the meeting to public comment at 7:03 PM.

Ken Biel read a quotation from C.S. Lewis:

“Of all tyrannies, a tyranny sincerely exercised for the good of its victims may be the most oppressive. It would be better to live under robber barons than under omnipotent moral busybodies. The robber baron’s cruelty may sometimes sleep, his cupidity may at some point be satiated; but those who torment us for our own good will torment us without end for they do so with the approval of their own conscience.” C.S. Lewis

II. Old Business

2.1 Approval of Minutes

An approval sheet for the previous meeting’s minutes was sent electronically.

2.2 Items for Signature

All members reviewed and signed the items in the signature folder submitted electronically.

III. New Business

3.1 Emergency Management Update

Emergency Management Director Phil Gladu reported he had a meeting Wednesday and the number of COVID-19 testing positive were approximately 3,721 with 1,275 active and 182 deaths. Mr. Gladu noted the State EOC offices will now close on Saturday and Sunday with

93 access to the duty officer and will be open regular hours Monday through Friday. The legal calls
94 that took place on Tuesdays have been moved to Wednesdays. There is no meeting on
95 Monday due to the holiday.

96
97 Mr. Gladu indicated the Agreement for the GOFERR grant is before the Selectmen for review
98 and signing and has to be authorized and approved to send to the State before June 1st. The
99 FEMA grant will be shortly thereafter. Mrs. Lufkin noted someone should be assigned as a
100 designee. Selectman Landau indicated the three Selectmen will sign it and Town Administrator
101 Doda will added as a designee with signing authority in addition to the three Selectmen. Town
102 Administrator Doda will be the designee after the three Selectmen sign it.

103
104 Vice-Chair Myette polled the Selectmen to see if everyone had a chance to review it and all
105 answered affirmatively.

106
107 ***Selectman D’Angelo motioned to authorize Emergency Management to proceed with the***
108 ***GOFERR grant. Selectmen Landau seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken***
109 ***Hagan – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye and Myette – aye. With all in favor, the***
110 ***motion passed unanimously.***

111
112 *3.2 Town Hall Renovations*

113
114 Vice-Chair Myette reported there were no responses to the RFP for the renovations at Town
115 Hall and questioned whether the deadline should be extended?

116
117 Selectman Landau reported at the Department Head’s Meeting on Wednesday it was discussed
118 that the work could be done in house by maintenance with some help from a small contractor.
119 Mr. Cavanaugh has the authority to bring in contractors if he doesn’t feel comfortable with the
120 woodworking. Town Administrator Doda noted the handicapped button would need to be
121 moved and the hardware can be re-used on the vestibule doors that are coming down.
122 Selectman D’Angelo recommended Mr. Cavanaugh bring any issues to the next BOS meeting
123 on Thursday.

124
125 Vice-Chair Myette questioned how soon the work could begin and Selectman Landau indicated
126 as soon as Mr. Cavanaugh has authorization.

127
128 *3.3 Wason Pond Update*

129
130 Mr. Hadik reported that in accordance with their discussion last Monday they have
131 accomplished most of the items needed to be ready to reopen the parking lot. Mr. Hadik
132 thanked the Town employees who helped and John Dalrymple. Mr. Hadik indicated 32 spaces
133 have been striped and are 10’ apart which is more generous than a regular parking stall. The
134 beaches have been roped off and a small pathway left for kayaks. The sign concerning kayaks
135 has not been put up yet.

136
137 Mrs. Reishus indicated the temporary signs are up, and she is waiting for six signs from the
138 state which should be here next week. There is signage for physical distancing and open and
139 close.

Mr. Hadik noted the Road Agent will have to put up the no-parking signs on Route 102 and the Commission would still like the big electronic sign stating the Beach is Closed. Mr. Gladu will handle the electronic sign tomorrow and be responsible for charging batteries and unplugging at night. Mr. Gladu noted the sign will be illuminated from sunrise to sundown. Mr. Hadik noted that sign could be placed to the right of the handicapped sign in the ballfield parking lot. Mr. Hadik believes it will be visible from the road going one direction and if visitors pull into the lot they will see it right away before they have unpacked their cars. Mr. Hadik noted visibility going the other direction, on the Raymond side, may be obstructed by the barn.

Vice-Chair Myette asked Chief Berube for the Department to be ready to monitor and patrol. Chief Berube noted there were already calls for service at the location today. A new applicant from the Summer Program who is over 18 has applied for a ranger position and if acceptable will be presented at next Thursday’s BOS meeting.

Mrs. Reishus reported she has four or five candidates that will work with her and maintenance.

Vice-Chair Myette thanked Mr. Hadik and the Commission for putting everything in place. Vice-Chair Myette cautioned the public if they feel ill not to go to the facility and to use common sense and stay safe and don’t bring the virus home to your families and loved ones.

Selectman D’Angelo asked Vice-Chair Myette if Mr. Lewis had finished the tree work. Vice-Chair Myette indicated Mr. Lewis has a couple more in back to do but won’t do anymore work with the lot opening until next week. Mrs. Reishus will talk to Mr. Dalrymple tomorrow about removing the caution tape near the tree cutting site.

IV. Selectmen’s Business

4.1 Roundtable

Selectman Hagan read a quote from a man he noted was a soldier, a Police Chief and a President, Theodore Roosevelt:

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.” Theodore Roosevelt

Selectman D’Angelo reported at the Department Head’s Meeting on Wednesday, Town Administrator Doda began working with the Department Heads on a plan for what is needed to

open Town Hall; renovations, etc. and asked for their thoughts and recommendations. Town Administrator Doda should have something ready by next Thursday.

Vice-Chair Myette reported the deadline for applying for the open positions at the Transfer Station, for attendants and foreman, is tomorrow at the end of the day. Vice-Chair Myette indicated the Board has received a number of candidates to review next week and hopeful to have them start the first week of June.

Vice-Chair Myette noted the following meetings were coming up:

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 – Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM

Thursday, May 28, 2020 – Board of Selectmen’s Meeting at 7 PM

4.2 Potential Non-Public Sessions

Selectman Landau motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to 91-A:3 II (a) Public Employees, (b) Employment, (c) Reputation, (j) Finance and (l) Legal Advice. Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Hagan – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo - aye. With all in favor the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was closed to the public at 7:31 PM.

The meeting was reopened at 8:25 PM.

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

Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes to the first non-public session, on Employment, for a period of thirty (30) days; Selectman D’Angelo 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 Landau motioned to leave the minutes to the second non-public session, on Legal Advice, unsealed; Selectman D’Angelo 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 Landau motioned to leave the minutes to the third non-public session, on Public Employees, unsealed; Selectman D’Angelo 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 Landau motioned to seal the minutes to the fourth non-public session, on Employment, for a period of thirty (30) days; Selectman D’Angelo 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 Landau motioned to leave the minutes to the fifth non-public session, on Legal Advice, unsealed; Selectman D’Angelo 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 Landau motioned to leave the minutes to the sixth non-public session, on Reputation, unsealed; Selectman D’Angelo 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 Landau motioned to leave the minutes to the seventh non-public session, on Reputation, unsealed; Selectman D’Angelo 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 Landau motioned to seal the minutes to the eighth non-public session, on Legal Advice, for a period of thirty (30) days; Selectman D’Angelo 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 Landau motioned to seal the minutes to the ninth non-public session, on Reputation, for an indefinite period of time; Selectman D’Angelo 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.

V. Adjournment

Selectman Landau moved to adjourn the meeting; Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Hagan – aye. With all in favor the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hoijer
Recording Secretary