

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen’s Meeting
Thursday, July 30, 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
Recreation Commission Reconfiguration and Appointments
Solid Waste Committee
End of Fiscal Year Encumbrances
Roundtable
Potential Non-Public Sessions
Adjournment

1.1 Call to Order

Chair Owens 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):

Stephen Landau
Steve D’Angelo
Joseph Hagan
Chuck Myette
Jeremy Owens

Present: Town Administrator Deb Doda (Remotely)

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

EMD Phil Gladu
Town Clerk/Tax Collector Elizabeth Lufkin

BOS Admin. Janis Jalbert
Transfer Station Foreman Jack Cannon
Recreation Director Corinna Reishus
David Webster
Marie Davies
Kathy Dircks
Michael Willinsky
Eric Emerson
Ken Biel
Penny Williams
Chester CTV

and other persons unknown to the minute taker.

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Owens led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.4 Chairman’s Additions or Deletions

None

1.5 Public Comment

Chair Owens opened the meeting to public comment at 7:01 PM.

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 Recreation Commission Reconfiguration and Appointments: Corinna Reishus

Mrs. Reishus presented three candidates for appointment to the Recreation Commission, Marie Davies, Kathy Dircks, and David Webster. Mrs. Reishus indicated the reconfiguration of the Commission would be more deliberate in structure and function and smaller. Mrs. Reishus indicated three categories which were important to have representation: events, programming, and parks and land. Ms. Davies has experience with the Town Fair Committee. Ms. Dircks has experience with the Seniors and Boot Camp. Mr. Webster, who lives in the log cabin across

93 from Wason Pond, spends a lot of time with stewardship at the property, and is an avid hiker
94 and has conservation experience.

95
96 Vice-Chair Myette asked how the representatives would work with Mrs. Reishus, with Wason
97 Pond and others? Mrs. Reishus noted they would give program guidance and advice to the
98 Recreation Director. Mrs. Reishus indicated she met with the three of them and went over CIP
99 and Impact Fees as well as the revolving fund and programming. Mrs. Reishus noted the
100 Commission would meet quarterly.

101
102 Vice-Chair Myette asked if she would bring the Commission back up to seven members and
103 Mrs. Reishus noted no, it had always been five when the coordinator position was part-time it
104 became seven. There would be two more openings for members at large.

105
106 Selectman D’Angelo indicated he was surprised it was moving so quickly to reinstate the
107 Commission without a discussion on the future goals and objectives. Selectman D’Angelo
108 recommended working with the Town Administrator to come up with a plan since everything is
109 cancelled and there is no rush and also recommended the Selectmen review the RSA and defer
110 the appointments until they have had the opportunity to do so. Mrs. Reishus indicated
111 recreation programming, including the summer program, is still happening.

112
113 Selectman Landau indicated he could see where Selectman D’Angelo was coming from, but it is
114 not very often that we get volunteers willing to do this. The terms are staggered, the longest is
115 three years. Recreation is a large financial contribution for this Town. COVID has been going
116 on for eight and a half months and not sure how much longer people are willing to go without.

117
118 Selectman Hagan recommended accepting the three appointments and letting it develop and go
119 from there.

120
121 Chair Owens indicated the Commission was formed in 1983 by Town Meeting and didn’t see
122 how the Selectmen could not appoint anyone.

123
124 Ms. Davies introduced herself. Ms. Davies has experience with the Town Fair. Her sons have
125 been involved in recreation programs, soccer, baseball, and basketball. She has been a
126 resident for 16 years. Ms. Davies is a project manager, event planner for major corporate
127 events, and has a small business in Town.

128
129 Mr. Webster indicated he grew up in Andover/North Andover and was a member and Vice-Chair
130 of the ZBA there, is a Scout Master and likes hiking, kayaking and the outdoors. Mr. Webster
131 works with a medical device company and is army veteran. Mr. Webster visits Wason a couple
132 of times a day. Started cleaning up bags of trash. Mr. Webster noted Wason Pond is the jewel
133 of the community. He has gotten to know the Ranger.

134
135 Ms. Dircks has been a resident since 1989, 31 years and retired from the post office. She is
136 employed with the Town as a ballot clerk. Ms. Dircks indicated the Town should keep small and
137 help better programs and keep up with surrounding towns.

Mrs. Reishus indicated Mr. Webster will be leaving soon to go on vacation. Selectman Hagan recommended moving the appointments forward while we have people willing to serve with good ideas.

Selectman Hagan moved to appoint Marie Davies, David Webster and Kathy Dircks to the Recreation Commission with a one-year term for Ms. Davies, a two-year term for Ms. Dircks and a three-year term for Mr. Webster, as well as appointing Mr. Webster as a Recreation representative to the Wason Pond Commission with a two-year term. Vice-Chair Myette seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Landau – aye, Myette – aye, Hagan – aye, Owens – aye and D’Angelo – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

3.2 Solid Waste Committee

Selectman Landau indicated he met with someone while volunteering at the Swap Shop who expressed an interest in restarting the Solid Waste Committee. The question is how the Committee would interact with Mr. Cannon. Vice-Chair Myette indicated the Committee could be advisory or volunteers or an ad hoc committee. One of the responsibilities of the volunteers could be to help with the Swap Shop. Changes have to be reviewed from time to time to see what is working with recycling and what isn’t.

Selectman Hagan indicated he was not against it so long as the committee or volunteers are supporting Mr. Cannon by the process.

Selectman D’Angelo recommended posting a sign that the Town is looking for volunteers. Mr. Cannon could vet them and see if they are someone who wants to work with him. Selectman D’Angelo volunteered to go on a Wednesday night, put a sign up that volunteers are needed to keep the Swap Shop open.

3.3 End of Fiscal Year and Encumbrances

Town Administrator Doda indicated the fiscal year encumbrances closed this week with \$355,000 left and \$354,000 encumbered. Road work will be able to be done on Harantis and a portion of Fremont Road. The unassigned fund balance is 10.95%, 11% being midpoint, with 5% minimum and 17% maximum being recommended.

IV. Selectmen’s Business

4.1 Roundtable

Selectman Landau indicated he had one non-public under liability/security.

Selectman D’Angelo asked if the evaluations were received on the Police Department promotion and Town Administrator Doda indicated they were. Selectman D’Angelo indicated he observed some activity at Wason Pond with rescue apparatus and Officer Gladu noted it was water rescue training.

Vice-Chair Myette asked about water quality testing at Wason Pond and Mrs. Reishus noted the water quality was tested monthly. June’s results were good. July results are waiting to be received. The area was reopened right after the June testing on June 11th so the next results will show use. Bad results are posted, good results are not posted.

Selectman Landau noted there was a meeting of the Pay Matrix Committee to discuss pay grades and levels. The next meeting will be August 18th.

Chair Owens noted the following meetings were coming up:

Technical Review Committee – Monday, August 3, 2020 – 9 AM

Wason Pond Conservation & Recreation Commission – Monday, August 3, 2020 – 7:00 PM

Planning Board – Wednesday, August 5, 2020 – 7:00 PM

Board of Selectmen – Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 7:00 PM

4.2 Potential Non-Public Sessions

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

The meeting was closed to the public at 8:19 PM.

Town Clerk Lufkin entered the meeting at 8:21 PM and departed at 8:39 PM.

Fire Chief Bolduc and Captain Gladu entered the meeting at 8:40 PM and departed at 9:02 PM.

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

The meeting was reopened to the public at 9:15 PM.

Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the first non-public session, on Reputation, for a period of six (6) months. Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Hagan – aye and Owens - aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman D’Angelo motioned to seal the minutes of the second non-public session, on Employment, for a period of six (6) months. Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Hagan – aye and Owens - aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the third non-public session, on Legal Advice, for a period of one (1) week. Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. A roll call

vote was taken Myette – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Hagan – aye and Owens - aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

V. Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hoijer, Recording Secretary