

**Town of Chester  
Board of Selectmen’s Meeting  
Thursday, September 10, 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  
Appointment to Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee: Maria Oakley  
Spring Hill Farm Lease Addendum  
Roundtable  
Town Administrator’s Report  
Potential Non-Public Sessions  
Adjournment

*1.1 Call to Order*

Chair Owens called the meeting of the Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:00 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  
Stephen Landau  
Steve D’Angelo  
Jeremy Owens

Selectmen Absent  
Joseph Hagan

Town Administrator Debra Doda (Remotely)

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

Road Agent Mike Oleson  
EMD Phil Gladu  
Fire Chief Greg Bolduc  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector Elizabeth Lufkin  
BOS Admin. Janis Jalbert  
Recreation Director Corinna Reishus  
Bill Rohr  
Maria Oakley  
Christy Ortins  
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*

Bill Rohr – Flag Project at Busche Academy  
Impact Fees – Highway Department

### *1.5 Public Comment*

Chair Owens opened the meeting to public comment at 7:02 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 Appointment to Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee: Maria Oakley*

Vice-Chair Myette indicated Ms. Oakley has served previously on the Committee as a representative of the Recreation Commission and always had great ideas and been a valuable member. Ms. Oakley would like to serve on the Committee as a member-at-large.

**Selectman Landau motioned to appoint Maria Oakley as a member of the Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee with a term to expire May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Vice-Chair Myette seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Owens – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Myette – aye, Landau – aye, Hagan – absent. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.**

### *3.2 Spring Hill Farm – Trust Insurance, Lease Addendum*

Chair Owens indicated the amendment to the lease at Spring Hill Farm with the Ortins was discussed at the last meeting. Town Counsel recommended an Addendum rather than a whole new lease. The current lease will be extended from its expiration date, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021, until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 so it can be renewed in the future on a calendar year basis.

Ms. Ortins indicated the lease addendum looked good to them.

**Vice-Chair Myette motioned to approve the lease addendum. Selectman Landau seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Owens – aye, D’Angelo – abstain, Myette – aye, Landau – aye and Hagan - absent. The motion passed 3-0-1.**

Selectman D’Angelo noted he abstained because he was in favor of having a clean lease drawn up for the renewal period.

### *3.3 Bill Rohr – Flag Project at Busche Academy*

Mr. Rohr stated that an arrangement of 660 flags would be installed at Busche Academy on Sunday, September 20, 2020 at 3:00 PM to commemorate the 22 veterans who commit suicide each day. Mr. Rohr noted September is suicide awareness month and this is a national crisis that needs to have attention brought to it. Mr. Rohr noted that with September attracting many visitors to Town to view the scarecrows, he feels it would get a lot of visibility and there is plenty of parking. Mr. Rohr is a Vietnam Veteran and this project means a lot to him. He has reached out to Chester Academy, the Police and Fire Departments. A flyer will be handed out which provides information on organizations who provide support. He is hoping Chester Front Porch Chatter will post the event for the next 30 days.

Vice-Chair Myette noted he is also a veteran but was not aware how serious an issue this really is and thanked Mr. Rohr for doing this. Vice-Chair Myette asked if this event had to go before the Technical Review Committee and Town Administrator Doda noted it is private property. Mr. Rohr has made Police and Fire aware in case it attracts a crowd.

Selectman D’Angelo indicated perhaps Penny Williams could follow-up with an article. Mr. Rohr added he is hopeful that CCTV will come out and do something.

Mrs. Reishus asked Mr. Rohr to call her tomorrow as she has a yoga instructor who works with meditation in this field for a group in Manchester.

Chair Owens thanked Mr. Rohr for talking with the Board and taking this on.

### *3.4 Impact Fees – Highway Department*

Chair Owens indicated the Planning Board provided a letter from their September 2, 2020 meeting authorizing the release of Highway Impact Fees for Quadrant D for engineering and design work on Halls Village Road. The ROW will be surveyed, geotechnical soils and hydrologic will be reviewed. Road Agent Oleson expressed concerns about upsizing culverts and environmental permitting. Road Agent Oleson explained this is a busy cut-through road and he is hoping to save \$300,000 for the two 48’ culverts with headwalls. The use of the impact fees was verified with Town Counsel as a qualified cost.

Selectman Landau asked if this was the culvert next to Hart Roberts Road and Road Agent Oleson indicated that is the most expensive part of the project. Selectman Landau noted in the past there was a bridge there that washed out. It was not discontinued entirely, and it was reopened with a culvert.

***Vice-Chair Myette motioned to authorize release of \$44,562 in Impact Fees plus accrued interest to the Road Agent for Highway Quadrant D. Selectman Landau seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Owens – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Myette – aye, Landau – aye and Hagan – absent. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

#### **IV. Selectmen’s Business**

##### ***4.1 Roundtable***

Selectman Landau indicated he may not be able to be at the Transfer Station on September 19<sup>th</sup>. He has asked Maintenance Supervisor Cavanaugh to investigate some lighting for the Swap Shop and Book Building as it is getting dark now by 7:15 PM. Selectman Landau asked the Board to consider the Town Meeting date which has already been moved in the past due to COVID. The reason the meeting was moved to March by petition Warrant Article was to coincide with the School District meeting. Selectman Landau noted he would be in favor of a petition that the Town Meeting occur within the same seven days as the School District Meeting so the taxpayers will have a full picture of the funds being expended. The Town got stuck having to have a revaluation every five years and there has been a lot of downsizing by folks who can’t afford to stay here. The 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee would like to attend an upcoming meeting. Selectman Landau noted he has a couple of non-publics as well.

Selectman D’Angelo indicated he was surprised there were two voting stations at the Primary Election, one for masks and one optional, especially with safety measures taken to keep people out of the building who weren’t wearing masks. Mrs. Lufkin noted it was not required and those without masks were only allowed in one room. Moderators were authorized to make that determination. Selectman D’Angelo indicated the BOS should have been made aware. Mrs. Lufkin stated that the Selectmen **had** been alerted in advance; additionally, there were emails sent to all residents and it was also posted on the town website. Selectman D’Angelo noted there was an incident with police officers responding to a rescue of trapped baby skunks. That turned out to be an expensive undertaking after the officers were sprayed and their uniforms are now unsalvageable. Selectmen D’Angelo expressed concerns about having police officers responding to wildlife calls when they could be bitten by a rabid animal. The question then becomes of what to do with them after they are captured.

Vice-Chair Myette thanked all the people who worked at the Primary Election. Vice-Chair Myette agreed there is the same housing issues with the youth in Town as there is for the seniors.

Chair Owens asked about Halloween on Chester Street, not many Chester Street households have indicated whether they will participate. Selectman Landau asked how people could be notified? Chair Owens recommended the website and the newspaper. Selectman Landau noted even though it is not town-sponsored, something could be done with signs a day or two before (due to the popularity of the event and people coming from out of town). Selectman D’Angelo indicated it could be discussed with the school also. Ms. Reishus noted on the NH Parks & Recreation meeting today it was recommended that many municipalities be eventless.

Chair Owens noted the following were coming up:

Monday, September 14, 2020 at 7:00 PM – Budget Committee  
Monday, September 14, 2020 at 7:00 PM – Wason Pond Conservation & Rec. Com.  
Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 7:00 PM – Zoning Board of Adjustment  
Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 7:00 PM – 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee  
Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM – Board of Selectmen  
Friday, September 18, 2020 at 6:00 PM – PACT Committee  
Saturday, September 19, 2020 at 9:00 AM – Scarecrow Pick Up at Bittersweet Blessings

#### *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, &(e) Pending Litigation. Vice-Chair Myette seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, Myette – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – aye and Hagan - absent. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting was closed to the public at 8:01 PM.

Fire Chief Bolduc and Emergency Management Director Gladu remained in the meeting.

Fire Chief Bolduc and Emergency Management Director Gladu departed the meeting at 8:38 PM; Road Agent Oleson entered the meeting at that time.

Road Agent Oleson departed the meeting at 8:53 PM.

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

The meeting room was reopened to the public at 9:28 PM.

**Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of 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 Myette – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – aye and Hagan - absent. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the second non-public session, on Public Employees, for a period of thirty (30) days. Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – aye and Hagan - absent. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the third non-public session, on Employment, for an indefinite period. Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – aye and Hagan - absent. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the fourth non-public session, on Reputation, for an indefinite period. Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – aye and Hagan - absent. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the fifth non-public session, on Public Employees, for an indefinite period. Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – aye and Hagan - absent. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the sixth non-public session, on Reputation, for an indefinite period. Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – aye and Hagan - absent. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the seventh non-public session, on Litigation, for an indefinite period. Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Landau – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Owens – aye and Hagan - absent. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.**

## **V. Adjournment**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hoijer, Recording Secretary