

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen’s Meeting
Thursday, September 24, 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

Conservation Commission Reappointment: Deb Munson

Great Hill Trustees Appointment: Chris Carolan

Wason Pond Commission Reappointments: Chris Hadik, Darrell Quinn, John Dalrymple

Eversource – Bridle Path Usage: Elizabeth LaRocca

Review of Transfer Station Plow Bids

Review of Fuel Oil Bids

RTK Policy

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):

Stephen Landau

Chuck Myette

Jeremy Owens

Steve D’Angelo

Joseph Hagan

Town Administrator Debra Doda (Remotely)

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

Fire Chief Greg Bolduc
Town Clerk/Tax Collector Elizabeth Lufkin
BOS AA Janis Jalbert
Darrell Quinn
Chris Hadik
Victor Chouinard
Deb Munson
John Colman
Chris Carolan
Elizabeth LaRocca
Matt Flanders
Jeni Menendez
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 Conservation Commission Reappointment: Deb Munson

Victor Chouinard, the Chair of the Conservation Commission, indicated that Ms. Munson has stepped up for another term. Ms. Munson has been dedicated and is highly recommended. “We are grateful to have her on our team.”

Vice-Chair Myette indicated he has known Ms. Munson for years and endorses her also. Ms. Munson has researched many items over the years and is an active member and they are glad to see her continuing on.

Selectman Landau motioned to reappoint Deb Munson to the Conservation Commission with a term to expire on May 31, 2023. Vice-Chair Myette seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Owens – aye, Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Landau – aye and Hagan – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

3.2 Great Hill Cemetery Trustees Appointment: Chris Carolan

GHC Trustee Chairman John Colman indicated that Don Brown will be stepping down and Mr. Carolan will be replacing him. Don has done a tremendous job for the Great Hill Cemetery and Mr. Colman indicated he is in favor of the new gentleman.

Selectman Landau indicated the term would be for one year, until the elections of 2021. Mr. Quinn indicated that Don’s term runs through 2023. The way it would work is Mr. Carolan will run for election in March and, if elected, fill the remainder of Don’s term.

Mr. Carolan indicated he lives across the street from the cemetery and Mr. Quinn has given him a good background of the position.

Selectman Landau motioned to appoint Chris Carolan to the Great Hill Cemetery Trustees with a term to expire on Town Election Day 2021. Vice-Chair Myette seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Owens – aye, Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Landau – aye and Hagan – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Landau indicated he received a letter of resignation from Don Brown and would like to thank him for his service and all he has done. He has worked extremely hard for this. Chair Owens agreed.

3.3 Wason Pond Commission Reappointments: Chris Hadik, Darrell Quinn, John Dalrymple

Vice-Chair Myette indicated he knows all three members quite well and they have worked hard every day on the committee for a number of years and all contribute. Mr. Quinn has a wealth of knowledge about the Town and Mr. Dalrymple is a great asset who knows the fields better than anyone.

Vice-Chair Myette motioned to appoint Chris Hadik as a regular member of the Wason Pond Conservation & Recreation Commission with a term to expire on May 31, 2023. Selectman Landau seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Owens – aye, Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Landau – aye and Hagan – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chair Myette motioned to appoint Darrell Quinn and John Dalrymple as Alternate members of the Wason Pond Conservation & Recreation Commission with terms to expire on May 31, 2023. Selectman Landau seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Owens – aye, Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Landau – aye and Hagan – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

3.4 Eversource – Bridle Path Usage: Elizabeth LaRocca

Matt Flanders indicated there is a permanent gate to the FAA facility that accesses Bridle Path. The project is to replace two structures supporting 345 kv in Chester, Derry, and Auburn to Pingree Hill Road. Optical ground wire will be in frame of structures which allow the substations to communicate in a more modern way. Mr. Flanders indicated he didn’t believe they would need to come back to do line stringing as that can be done by helicopter or by spooling. Approval has been obtained from the FAA.

Ms. LaRocca indicated the 373 line is located where the transmission line hugs this part of the Town.

Vice-Chair Myette indicated Eversource has met with Conservation and the Planning Board concerning issues with other access improvements which are allowing more traffic. Discussions have been had with Fish & Game, State, and Police also. Bridle is locked and the gate needs to be locked when not in use and not left open. Mr. Flanders indicated he will work to make sure the gate is locked each night. They are only constructing a drivable route to access the structures they are working on. Reseeding will be applied.

Ms. LaRocca noted Eversource has ordered five gates for the locations they were asked to block. It is very frustrating when gates are installed, and people go around them. Signage has been ordered and will work with their attorney and Fish & Game and the police department. Planning Board and Conservation are in support of the seed mixture which will obscure the access roads they have created.

Selectman D’Angelo asked who issues permits? Vice-Chair Myette indicated the Planning Board overall and Conservation will weigh in with a recommendation on wetlands permits. Ms. Menendez explained that if a disturbance is greater than 100,000 SF they have to apply for an AOT permit and with the EPA.

Selectman D’Angelo asked if they were all transmission lines and not 5G? - correct. Mr. Flanders indicated they will be improved for lightning strikes.

Selectman Landau asked if the boat on the Candia Road parcel could be removed. Mr. Flanders noted Eversource has left notes with the abutting homeowner.

Vice-Chair Myette motioned to allow Eversource to use Bridle Path to access the project described above contingent upon implementation of proper security measures. Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Myette – aye, Landau – aye, Hagan – aye, Owens – aye and D’Angelo – nay. The motion passed 4-1-0.

187
188 *3.5 Review of Transfer Station Plow Bids*
189

190 Chair Owens indicated bid sheets have been provided and two bids were received.

191
192 Bid #1 is \$6,700 good from today through May 15th with loader work an additional \$125/hr.
193

194 Bid #2 is \$6,500 from December 1 to March 31st with \$100/hr. outside that time frame and
195 \$100/hr. for loader work.
196

197 Selectman Hagan indicated Bid #1 is for a longer time period and just one storm outside of Bid
198 #2’s time frame could cost hundreds of dollars. Vice-Chair Myette asked how often the loader is
199 needed? Selectman Landau noted not often and the Town has a skid steer which acts as a
200 small loader.
201

202 ***Selectman Hagan motioned to award the 20-21 Transfer Station plow bid to Bidder #1.***
203 ***Selectman Landau seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken Owens – aye, Myette***
204 ***– aye, D’Angelo – aye, Landau – aye and Hagan – aye. With all in favor, the motion***
205 ***passed unanimously.***
206

207 Town Administrator Doda will notify the winning bidder tomorrow.
208

209 *3.6 Review of Fuel Oil Bids*
210

211 Chair Owens indicated bid sheets have been provided and four bids were received.
212

213 Bid #1 is \$1.199 for propane and \$1.54 for fuel oil from October 1 to May 31st, with an employee
214 discount and limit of 13,500 gallons on propane and unlimited oil. Based on last year’s usage
215 the total could be \$32,808.89.
216

217 Bid #2 is \$1.39 for propane and \$1.649 for fuel oil from October 1 to September 30th with an
218 employee discount of 15%. Usage outside of the contract period is rack rate less .10 cents a
219 gallon on oil and less .40 cents for propane. Based on last year’s usage: \$36,546.29.
220

221 Bid #3 is \$1.287 for propane and \$1.769 for fuel from October 1 to September 30th with an
222 employee discount. Usage outside of the contract period is rack rate less .30 cents a gallon.
223 Based on last year’s usage \$36,483.03.
224

225 Bid #4 is \$1.269 for propane and \$1.506 for fuel from October 1 to September 30th with an
226 employee discount of .10 cents for oil and .15 cents for propane from rack rate. A limit of
227 10,923 gallons of oil and 13,334 for propane. Based on last year’s usage \$33,370.88.
228

229 Chair Owens indicated there is a limit on propane and oil on a couple of these. Vice-Chair
230 Myette asked if this was based on last year’s usage – yes. Town Administrator Doda noted
231 Bidder #4’s limits represent last year’s usage. Selectman D’Angelo noted it was a mild winter.
232 Selectman Landau agreed there was less usage last year.
233

Selectman D’Angelo asked when the Town buildings were closed down? Town Administrator Doda noted March 17th for Wason Pond Community Center and Stevens Hall, but other buildings remained open. Selectman D’Angelo recommended looking at the past 3-4 years for a better trend and putting off until next week. Town Administrator Doda will perform the necessary research and indicated the prices may change; she will solicit new quotes.

Selectman Landau asked about the post office. Town Administrator Doda noted they have been managing themselves. Selectman Landau indicated the Town has space in the back and on the second floor and wants to know if they are heating those spaces.

Selectman D’Angelo recommended tabling review of the fuel oil bids until the next meeting to allow Town Administrator Doda to gather data from the previous 4-5 years.

3.7 RTK Policy - Tabled

IV. Selectmen’s Business

4.1 Roundtable

Selectman Landau indicated he had three non-publics.

Selectman Hagan thanked everyone for being so understanding the past few weeks when he had numerous things going on including the loss of his nephew.

Vice-Chair Myette indicated the Planning Board CIP process will begin shortly with meetings scheduled for the stakeholders and requested the link for the Zoom meeting be sent out to the members. Spring Hill Farm Advisory Committee would like to meet with the BOS to find an engineer to advise them on ADA compliance. The Trust met on Tuesday night. Things are going well with the Ortins at the high tunnel. Vice-Chair Myette thanked Julia Webb, a resident who is a physical therapist who made masks and only asked for donations which she donated to the Trust for restoration of the barn. She presented a check to the Trust for \$2,445. A couple hundred bales of hay have been sold to go toward the barn restoration. The Trust would also like to work on the garage and small structures to get everything looking good for the 300th Anniversary.

Chair Owens announced that while the Town of Chester doesn’t prevent residents from celebrating Halloween on private property, the CDC has issued guidance earlier this week that indicated the usual Chester Street tradition would include three out of seven high risks. The Town will not be providing police, fire, cones or bathrooms. There is no lighting and people travel at high speeds. The CDC encourages other outdoor activities like scavenger hunts. Town Administrator Doda indicated it is posted on the website. Superintendent Lockwood will be sending a copy to parents. Selectman Hagan noted with a lot of non-residents that attend, a sign should be put up that the Town is not doing it this year. Chair Owens noted the big electric sign can be put up.

Chair Owens announced that at the 54th annual meeting of the SNHPC, Andrew Hadik was awarded the James W. Tethers Award for significant contribution above and beyond his

professional duty. Vice-Chair Myette noted he has worked with Mr. Hadik on the Planning Board and represents Chester very well. He is very deserving and is making a difference at the local and state level.

Chair Owens noted the following meetings were coming up:

Thursday, October 1, 2020 – Board of Selectmen’s Meeting – 7 PM

4.2 Potential Non-Public Sessions

Selectman Landau indicated he had three non-public sessions, one under employment and two under reputation. Selectman D’Angelo indicated he had one under reputation.

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

The meeting was closed to the public at 7:55 PM.

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

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

Selectman Landau motioned to leave the minutes of the second non-public session, on Public Employees, unsealed. Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, Owens – aye, Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Landau – aye and Hagan – aye. With all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

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

Selectman Landau motioned to seal the minutes of the fourth non-public session, on Public Employees, for an indefinite period. Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, Owens – aye, Myette – aye, D’Angelo – aye, Landau – aye and Hagan – aye. 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 Hagan seconded the motion. A

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hoijer, Recording Secretary